

Fayetteville Brethren Church News

July, 2007

God is our refuge and strength!

Pastor: Rev. Milton Maly Sunday Worship Service 10:30 AM 1022 Kramr Rd. at Ross Prairie Church Rd.
Phone: 979-872-8762 Sunday School: 9:30 AM Mailing address: P.O. Box 11
Organist: Elizabeth Ripple Fayetteville, TX 78940
Website address: FayettevilleBrethrenChurch.org

Upcoming Events:

Jul. 1 & 15 (Sun.)	Faith Sharing, 7:00 PM
Jul. 5-7	Unity of the Brethren Convention at Wall Brethren Church
Jul. 8 & 22 (Fri)	Prayer & Praise, 7:00 PM
Jul. 22 (Sun.)	Fellowship lunch, Christian Sisters' mtg. after the lunch

Pastor's Corner:

Mr. Kent Laza has faithfully and diligently served as the president of the Unity of the Brethren for the past two years. The following is his perspective of the things that need to be considered at the upcoming Convention at the Wall Brethren Church near San Angelo. It is good for us, as members of one congregation, to see our denomination from the point of view of someone who has contact with all of the groups of the Unity. The following are his thoughts for the July 5,6 & 7 gathering:

Rev. Maly

Tasks That Lie Ahead

As President of the Synodical Committee, I have a somewhat unique perspective on the life of the entire denomination. The President is involved, either directly or indirectly, in a large number of activities that go on at both state and local levels. As such, I would like to offer the following ideas/suggestions regarding work that I believe needs to be performed by the Unity of the Brethren in the coming years. Some of these can be addressed at this convention, and others will need longer term involvement by the Synodical Committee. Many of these suggestions will be given to the various committees at this convention for discussion, recommendations and/or actions.

A. Permanent Funding Mechanism for the State Youth Director – At the present time, this position is funded through several sources. The primary source is the Contingency Fund, which receives 40% of the annual Brethren Fund assessments. My suggestion is that a new category be added to the Brethren fund for this program, and a percentage of that annual revenue be given directly to this program. Since the position is indirectly funded with Brethren Fund resources now, this action should have minimal impact on future budgets, but greatly clarify how those funds are channeled.

B. Long Range Planning for the Hus Scholl Encampment – Just as many local congregations attempt to dream or brainstorm about the direction of their church, the denomination, too, should make a plan, or a set of goals, for the Hus School Encampment. This plan should not only be for capital improvements, but also for programming and other potential uses of the facility.

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C. Expand the use of new technologies in communications to the membership. At present, most information from the denomination is disseminated to the membership through *The Brethren Journal* or the Unity's web site. This is sometimes cumbersome and slow. Perhaps it is time for the denomination to investigate using things such as digital newsrooms, text messaging, e-mails, video conferencing, and other common means of communications.

D. Support localized efforts in outreach to non-Christians -- One of the comments I often hear is that we don't do enough to reach out to non-Christians and share with them the Good News of Jesus Christ. While I don't profess to be an expert on evangelism, I know that efforts to reach non-Christians are often done in small, personal ways that normally don't get much attention. Results from these efforts are difficult to measure in quantifiable ways. Yet, we are compelled by God to continue such efforts by touching as many of these people as we can, then let Him take it from there. It is my hope that we can identify programs in communities where our denomination has a presence and support these efforts to reach outside of our church walls to the lost souls all around us.

E. Develop a new foreign mission program – With the conclusion of the Honduran Mission Program, the Unity's involvement in foreign missions is primarily as a partner with other organizations who have missionaries in the field. This is a good method to support missions because it maximizes the benefit that our limited resources have in this type of work. However, it is much less personal for the individuals who contribute to missions and it is more difficult to get direct feedback regarding the effects that are being realized. I would like to see the Unity's Mission Board seek out another program that we can get behind as a denomination. We have individuals from within our own ranks who are interested in this work and are either currently serving or making initial steps to serve in the mission fields. Perhaps we can take one of them under our wings and become their primary sending agency.

Prayer Concerns:

Barbara Roesler

Leara Henneke

Pauline Ott

The upcoming Unity of the Brethren Convention in Wall

Safe travels for those on the road

Dottie (friend of Nancy Vasut)

Julia and Patrick Thomas in New York City

Brenda Hammond (daughter of Pauline and David Ott)

Mrs. Corinne Spacek and the family of Mr. J.D. Spacek

Matthew Kelly and fellow companions on their mission trip to Peru

Estelle Vasut (mother of Ed Vasut)

Rose Lundeen – daughter of Doris and Laddie Ripple

Charles and Millie Schiller, Anita Coufal and Edgar Dudensing of

Industry Brethren Church

Ed and Edna Krivacka and their son Mark and family (neighbor to Edith Rek)

The Thiessens (our missionary family in Mexico) and Jill Miller

For our military personnel serving in Iraq and other places

Ginger Marshall's sister and brother-in-law

Tamara and Cynthia – Crystal Thomas' sisters

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Mrs. Waldine Oncken – daughter of Henry and Sabina Elsik
This July 4th – thankfulness for the Lord's blessings on our nation.
Elroy Geisler (brother to Doris Cervenka)
Betty Favor (sister to Lee Roy Cervenka)
Joe Hayek and Evelyn Koehl
Matthew Boer and family (friends of the Malys)
The persecuted church
Gregory Maly (serving in the Air Force overseas)
John Ragsdale and his sons
For individuals who are overcoming alcoholism and maintaining sobriety

July Birthdays

11 – Barbara Roesler 21 – Burdine Divin 24- Lori Marshal 29 – Martha Dove

Flowers, Communion Set-up:

For July – Lillie Mae Brightwell - thank you!
Holy Communion will be observed on July 8th, Jan Hus Sunday.
Volunteers are needed for the month of October.

Church News:

- 1) **Lunch in July and August:** . We will have a pot luck fellowship lunch on the 4th Sundays in July and August: July 22 and August 26.
- 2) **Sunday Morning Adult Study on Hebrews** is being led by Mike and Elaine Kelly. Please come and grow in faith as we study God's world.
- 3) **Sunday School for young people:** Martha Dove and Louise Walker are leading this class each Sunday morning and invite all young people in the congregation to attend. Please bring your children, grandchildren and neighbors to this class led by these two special teachers!
- 4) **Faith Sharing: Sunday, July 1st and 15th at 7:00 PM at church.** Please come and be encouraged as members give testimony to Jesus' presence in their lives.
- 5) **Men's Prayer Breakfast:** Meets each Monday at 6:45 AM at the church. Please contact Jim Walker, Jerry Marshall or Ed Vasut if you have questions.
- 6) **Prayer and Praise Service: Friday, July 13th and 27th at 7:00 PM at church.** Please come ready to sing your favorite songs as we sing praises to our wonderful Lord! We have time of singing each person's favorite hymn followed by a brief time of prayer.
- 7) **Reese Danielle Longobardi,** daughter of Raina and Rick Longobardi, was baptized on Sunday, June 24th during the worship service. Her sponsors were Amy Jo Scott and Vince Barbaro.

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- 8) **Our 9th Annual Church Celebration on June 24th:** Our church celebration was a great success – we had a very nice turnout. We had ordered 550 plates and again had very few leftovers -- a total of 538 plates were served. The live auction had 120 items in it and brought in over \$5,800. The bake sale brought in \$517.60 and the country store \$310.50. The happy Czech music provided by Kovanda's Czech band was also enjoyed. The profit report will be in the next newsletter after all the bills have been paid. "Thank you" to everyone who helped in any way -- we appreciate all the support!
- 9) **62nd Convention of the Unity of the Brethren:** The convention is fast approaching. It will be at Wall Brethren Church starting July 5th through July 7. Liz Ripple will serve as our delegate at the convention; Crystal Thomas is the alternate and Ed Vasut represents our congregation and Industry Brethren on the Synodical Committee. The agenda is on our website www.fayettevillebrethrenchurch.org. Check-in is at 4:30 PM on July 5; worship and communion will begin at 7:00 PM with a business meeting afterwards. Breakfast on Friday is at 8:00 AM with meetings afterwards; lunch is at noon; guests speaker – Jon Huss; afternoon session – 1:30 PM; evening meal – 6:00 PM; worship – 7:00 PM. Saturday morning session – 9:00 AM; lunch at noon; a business meeting following lunch if needed. Convention reports will be made available on the Unity website by June 20 (www.unityofthebrethren.org).

This year commemorates the 550th year of the formation of the Unity of the Brethren (Jednota Bratska). A special guest, Jon Huss, a direct descendant of a sibling of Jan Hus, will be the speaker. Jon Huss is a bit of a history buff, and is familiar with the history of the Unity of the Brethren. He has knowledge of his lineage and will be sharing his testimony as well as his insight into that lineage. Jon is scheduled to speak on Friday, July 6, right after lunch.

Please pray that God's will and agenda will be upheld and that the Holy Spirit will be present to guide and direct all participants. Pray that a spirit of unity will reside during the Convention and that all participants will be united in love and truth.

- 10) **Renting Fellowship Hall** – The following rates will apply for renting the fellowship hall: Funeral lunch – members, no charge; non-members, \$100.00. Weddings, reunions, parties, etc. \$100.00 for five hours, then \$10.00 each additional hour. To rent the small dining area, \$25.00 an hour. To rent the hall, please contact Liz or Joe Ripple.
- 11) **Board of Elders Report:** -- The Board of Elders met June 20. Items discussed were parking lot project - work had begun, church sign project, rental contract for church and fellowship hall and the June 24th celebration. The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 25th at 7:00 PM at the church.

Donations are being accepted to help fund the parking lot project. If you would like to make a donation for these and future projects, please make your check payable to "Fayetteville Brethren Building Fund."

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- 12) **Please remember our military personnel:** We averaging one box per month sent to our military. Some items needed are: Visine eye drops, beef jerky, hand sanitizer, candy of any kind except chocolate, instant drink mixes, Gatorade, foot powder, sinus medicine, mini-Bibles, lip balm, LETTERS OF ENCOURAGEMENT. A full list will be in the narthex. Call Martha or Jerry Dove if you would like for us to pick up items. THANKS SO MUCH FOR ALL WHO HAVE DONATED ITEMS.

- 13) **The Christian Sisters' Society:** The Christian Sisters' met Sunday, May 20 after the worship service with 7 members present. Items discussed were the silent auction and quilt show for the June church Celebration, the salad luncheon on May 26th to benefit the La Grange Hospice office and ways to spend some of the money we have raised. The next meeting will be July 22 after the noon potluck meal at the church. If you would like to join the Christian Sister's Society, please contact Beverly Mikeska or Liz Ripple. Dues are \$20. You do not have to be a member of the church to join.

- 14) **Sign for church:** The Board of Elders is making plans to get a new church sign for the Corner of Kramr Rd/Ross Prairie Church Rd. They would like your input about what kind of sign to put up. The Board invites anyone with an idea for a church sign to please submit it. A few examples of church signs are on a poster in the church foyer. If you have seen a sign that you like, please take a picture of it and give it to Joe Ripple or any other board member.

- 15) **Commemorative Church Plate:** We now have available a commemorative plate with a picture of the church from the 1890's on the front along with a brief history and a list of the pastors who have served. It is a 9" plate with a 24K gold rim. We are selling them for a \$25 donation. They would make excellent gifts or birthday presents and come in individual gift boxes – ready for wrapping. If you would like to purchase one, please contact Liz Ripple. If you would like to have one shipped to you, please send \$25.00 plus \$5.00 for shipping and handling to FBC, PO Box 11, Fayetteville, TX 78940

- 16) **Church Cemetery Plots:** The Board of Elders have discussed the cost of burial plots for members and non-members. The cost of a burial plot for an active member is now \$100 for each plot; for a non-member the cost is \$250. due to ever increasing gas and other maintenance costs, the board discussed that the price of plots be raised and suggests a cost of \$250 for members and \$500 for non-members for each burial plot. This suggestion will be brought to the next congregational meeting, perhaps in September, for the congregation to vote on.

- 17) **Fellowship Hall Reminders:** Anytime the fellowship hall is used (fellowship lunch, church functions, etc.) volunteers are appreciated to help clean it before everyone leaves (take out all the garbage, reline garbage cans, clean kitchen, wipe tables, sweep, leave hall as it was found). Other things that need to be done whenever the church or hall is used: shut off the A/C (or heat), clean and unplug the coffee pot if it was used, remove trash and replace trash bags, cut off all lights, lock all church doors -- both top and bottom locks, shut off water in the pump house – making sure all switches are cut off, and lock the building. Thank you for your help in the efficient operation of our building.

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- 18) **Church Sesquicentennial Cookbook**: These cookbooks make ideal gifts and contain many special recipes. If you would like to order a cookbook, please let Liz Ripple know how many you would like. We are selling them for a \$20.00 donation of which all proceeds go to the building fund. If you would like to have one mailed to you, send \$20.00 plus \$2.00 for shipping and handling to FBC, P.O. Box 11, Fayetteville, TX 78940
- 19) **Memorials received** – Memorials were made to the building fund last month in memory of Anna, Arque and Elo Elsik and John T. Henslee. If you would like to give a memorial for a friend or a loved one you may do so at any time. Please note it on your check.
- 20) **August Newsletter deadline**: Articles are due **no later than July 25th**, please.

Closing Thoughts:

America! America!

God shed His grace on thee!

And crown thy good with brotherhood

From sea to shining sea!

Katherine Bates Ward

Remember, the Lord's hand was in the founding of our country. May we resolve to do His will in thankfulness for this great blessing and living in freedom. Many of our ancestors came to America seeking religious and political freedom. Many of our family members have served or made the ultimate sacrifice in defending her.

Thank you, Lord – for our nation and all you have given us!

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 Alpha Camp starts today. Ages 9-10. Lord, remind adult leaders to rely on Your power and wisdom. Prepare any who have not accepted Jesus that they might accept and receive Him.	2 Pray for the Unity Conv. Pray for our leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-3) Pray for leaders of your church; the leaders of the Unity; Pray for their discernment and understanding	3 Pray that Brethren all over the state will be drawn into a deeper relationship with the Father. Pray for His daily presence. Pray His power is manifested at the Unity Convention.	4 Father, infuse us with the divine energy to persist in prayer. Unfold Your wisdom to us as we seek to do Your will. Prepare us to go into our communities and harvest lost souls.	5 Church convention starts today thru Sat. Pray delegates will seek God's direction at the convention and that they will connect with Him. Pray for renewal and refreshment for all of us.	6 Pray that those at the conv. will cry out to God for power and wisdom to connect with people around us who do not know God. Pray this issue is centermost at our convention.	7 Pioneer Conf. starts tomorrow thru the 13 th . Ages 11 & 12. Lord, strengthen the faith of all who attend. Empower them to resist the temptation to become citizens of the world.
8 Father, forgive us when we simply make worship a program steeped in tradition. Let us instead make it our opportunity to tell You how awesome and wonderful You are. We praise Your Holy name.	9 Father, help me to see those things in my life that keep me from being the person You want me to be. Help me to overcome any unbelief with passion for You. Expose any dark corners with Your light.	10 Father, raise up a remnant of valiant prayer warriors in the Unity. Call Your prayer warriors to a deeper intimacy with You to not just pray little prayers but to seek Your will for our world.	11 Father, the world seeks to mold us to its standards; yet, we know that it is only thru intimacy with You that we discover what You are calling us to. Clarity of mind and our true identity we seek in You.	12 Jesus saved each of us when we didn't deserve it. Today, think about your relationships and choose someone who really doesn't deserve your love. Pray for that person that He will touch them and bless them.	13 Lord, help me to be open to hearing from You what I can do or say to strengthen, encourage and build up those who need it. Lord, show me someone who needs to be encouraged and give me the words to do just that.	14 Lord, I delight in You today. Let my actions bring You joy. Let my praise & worship of You bring You joy and may that joy be my strength. May awareness of Your joy give me strength to endure.
15 Father, touch our hearts that our worship is filled with passion for praise of You, our King of Kings. Today, we will not settle for simply going thru the motions. We seek intimacy and Your presence among us.	16 Those who walked with Jesus were not able to understand the unsearchable riches of Christ until they received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Allow the H.S. to help you understand the riches of the Bible.	17 Yes Lord, I'm opening the door to allow You to do thru me the things you want to do. You can do Your best work thru ordinary people like me. Lord, today, I'll try not to get in Your way. Here I am!	18 Whatever it is that is hindering you and you need to overcome, be assured that He has the power to help you do it. Pray for the desire to do so. Embrace God's transformation and power and victory in Him.	19 Whoever has betrayed or offended you in some way, pray for an unoffendable heart. Pray about setting aside thoughts of revenge and instead seek God's desire and power to be a peacemaker/reconciler.	20 Thank You for loving me, Dear Father God. Better is one day in relationship with You than a lifetime immersed in the things of the world. I pray for passion to love and serve You today and to know Your presence.	21 Summer BYF Retreat today and tomorrow. Lord, let there be someone empowered by Your Spirit to reach out to all who are struggling with their faith and the temptations of the world.
22 Dear Father, let our worship today be an offering and a reflection of Your glory. Wake us up Lord and engage us in the world that we may be inspired to reveal your love and redemption.	23 Father, we pray for those in our family or church who need healing, physical or spiritual. We pray for the sick and the brokenhearted for we know that You can set them free and heal all.	24 Dear Father, we seek to remove anxiety from our intercessory prayers. May our prayers flow as a joyful communion of our relationship with You. Father, You are our beloved; we come to You.	25 Father God, we pray that You will equip and empower Your church as never before. Release Your glory upon the church that we may advance Your Kingdom and spread the Gospel.	26 Lord, morning by morning, You are here giving me strength. You give meaning to an otherwise senseless existence. Prepare the way for us and help us hear Your direction.	27 Pray God awakens any friend or relative who is encumbered or entangled in some sin. May it be revealed and may they arise and shine in all of God's glory as He intended for them.	28 Lord, show me what You desire to change in me. Forgive me for resisting Your efforts to change me. Help me to mature so that I am fit and prepared to be Your Kingdom worker.
29 Father God, we pray for the beauty of Your presence with us as we worship. You say that we are Your temple and we pray that Your Spirit will be present in each of us. Our hearts and flesh cry out for You, Living God!	30 Begin your prayers with praise and adoration, confession, thanksgiving and intercession. Allow time for silence and listen to what God is saying to you. Father, come and be our welcome guest.	31 Lord, grant us ears to hear and eyes to see You and wisdom to use what we see and hear to walk in obedience to Your will. Continue to mold us and mature us until we are a finished work of perfection in You.	PRAYER FOCUS <i>Our word "church" comes from the original Greek word, "ekklesia" which literally means "outcalled ones". Pray that we in the</i>	<i>Brethren Church will fulfill the Greek word for church and live as "outcalled ones." Pray our churches, Christ's body, are completely filled with Christ.(see Eph.1:23)</i>	<i>View or download this calendar on the Unity website: unityofthebrethren.org Click on "calendar" and then "DPC".</i> <i>Subscribe at: dailypraycal@hot.rr.com</i>	THE DAILY PRAYER CALENDAR IS AVAILABLE BY MAIL OR EMAIL FOR A BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER. Daily Prayer Calendar Editor 100 Calvin Drive Temple, TX 76501 or email the following to subscribe: dailypraycal@hot.rr.com