

FAYETTEVILLE BRETHREN CHURCH NEWS
December, 2012

Pastor: Rev. Kay Polasek
705 Woodson Dr., Caldwell, TX 77836
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Email: revkaypolasek@yahoo.com

Church Mailing address:
P.O. Box 11, Fayetteville, TX 78940
Organist: Elizabeth Ripple

Sunday Worship Service: 10:45 AM
Sunday School: 9:45 AM

Website: Fayettevillebrethrenchurch.org

Upcoming Events:

Dec 1 – Church on Fayetteville C of C Home Tour – 1 to 5 p.m.

Dec 8 (Sat.) – Christmas Open House, 2-6 – Rev Kay & Ben Polasek's home in Caldwell

Dec 23 – Christmas Service; Holy Communion; Choir will perform "His Name is Jesus"

Dec 23 – Industry Brethren Church Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 3 PM; Choir will perform "His Name is Jesus"; Communion (stew will be served after the service)

Dec 24 (Mon) – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6:00 PM

Feb 2, 2013 (Sat.) – Four-church fellowship at Fayetteville Brethren Church –
(Watch for details!)

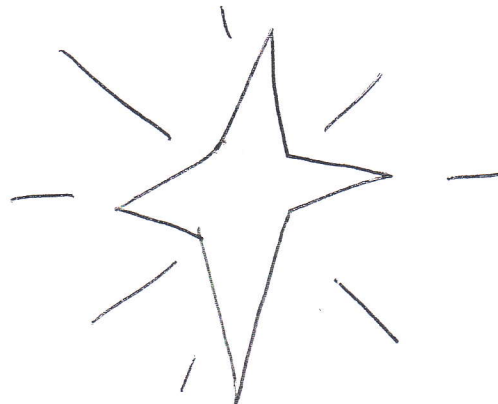
(There is no Pastor's report this month. Please read the following poem by Helen Steiner Rice. Reflect on God's love for us as shown through our Living Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ).

Rejoice, It's Christmas!

May the holy remembrance
 of the first Christmas Day
Be our reassurance
 Christ is not far away
For on Christmas He came
 to walk here on earth,
So let us find joy
 In the news of His birth.

And let us find comfort
 and strength for each day
In knowing that Christ
 walked this same earthly way.
So He knows all our needs
 and He hears every prayer
And He keeps all "His children"
 always safe in His care.
And whenever we're troubled
 and lost in despair

We have but to see Him
 and ask Him in prayer
To guide and direct us
 and help us to bear
Our sickness and sorrow,
 our worry and care.
So once more at Christmas
 let the whole world rejoice
In the knowledge He answers
 every prayer that we voice.



Prayer Concerns:

Burdine Divin	Barbara Roesler's granddaughter Candy
Our military	Our missionaries
Jerry Dove's mother	Rose and Dean, daughter and son of Doris
Mary Milan, friend to Shirley H.	and Laddie Ripple
Char Wright	Jerry Marshall
Barbara Roesler's grandson	Raymond, Jerry Dove's brother
Allen & Jeannie Stepan	Rusty Hight
Sue Stepan	Barbara Roesler's son after surgery
Guy Huffmann	Matthew Huffman & family
Brenda Hammond	

December Birthdays

8 - Jerry Marshall	8 - Char Wright
9 - Nancy Dorsett	9 - Nancy Vasut
15 - Rob Thiessen	16 - LeeRoy Cervenka

Flower and Communion Set - up: Holy Communion will be held on Sunday, December 23rd.

Church News:

Sunday School - Adult and Children's classes: Martha and Jerry Dove are leading the adult class which is reviewing the beliefs of other religions and how as Christians we can share the good news of Jesus Christ with those of other faiths. Please note, Sunday School class will not be held December 23rd or 30th

Pastor Kay's Christmas Open House: In place of our Progressive Christmas Dinner, this year we are invited to Pastor Kay and Ben Polasek's for a Christmas Open House on Saturday, December 8 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Everyone is invited. Mark your calendar as you will not want to miss the fun and food! The address is 705 Woodson Dr, Caldwell.

Memorials received – To the **Building Fund** – In honor of Shirley & Jim Herbst by Martha & Jerry Dove. If you would like to make a memorial for a friend or a loved one you may do so at any time. Please note it on your check

Board of Elders Report: The Elders and congregation are getting ready to have the church on the Fayetteville C of C Country Christmas Home tour on Dec 1 from 1-5 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer for volunteers to help that day. Visitors will be handed a bookmark provided by the Christian Sisters and a church history information sheet. Refreshments will be served in the fellowship hall. In other business, the Elders approved all active members to receive the Brethren Journal for 2013 and set the date for the annual Congregational meeting for Jan 20, 2013 after the worship service where we will be electing 3 Elders for a 2-year term. Those

Board of Elder's Report continued.....

interested in running for Church Elder may contact Joe Ripple. The deadline to have your name on the ballot is Jan 6. Beginning in 2013, all elected Elders will serve 2-year terms and we will elect 4 Elders in even years and 3 Elders in odd years. There are no term limits. To be eligible for the Board of Elders you must be at least 21 years of age and he or she must be an active member of the Church for at least one year and be in good standing. If you have any comments or concerns, please let the Elders know.

The Christian Sisters' Society: The Christian Sister's met on Nov 4 with 6 members present. President Liz Ripple opened with a prayer. Martha Dove read the minutes from the Aug 12 meeting and Sandra Stepan presented the treasure's report; both reports were approved. Martha reported on Missions. Pauline reported on the Ladies retreat from Oct 12-13, the Women of Faith conference in San Antonio. 11 women attended the conference. Barbara Arambula will delivery the food collected from the food drive to AMEN this month. Kathy is collecting items for Operation Christmas Child. Martha is collecting gifts for the children of Cade Lake. The gifts will be delivered on Dec 2. Pauline has ordered bookmarks to hand out during the Fayetteville C of C Country Christmas Home Tour on Dec 1.

Raffle tickets are available from any Christian Sister - \$2.00 each; a book of 6 for \$10. There are 33 prizes. The drawing will be held on Feb 9 at the fundraiser on the square in Fayetteville. Breakfast tacos will be sold starting at 7:00 a.m. along with a bake sale and country store. A sign-up sheet will be in the church foyer to buy T-shirts with the Unity logo for all those interested to wear at the fundraiser or other events. Pauline gave a devotional on the Good Samaritan. The next meeting will be on February 24, 2013. If you would like to join the Christian Sisters' Society, please contact Martha Dove or Liz Ripple. **Dues are \$20 and are payable until January 27 for 2013.** You do not have to be a member of the church to join.

Joint "Honor our Veterans" Worship service at Industry Brethren Church:

Industry and Fayetteville Brethren Churches honored 115 veterans on Sunday, November 11, 2012 at the Industry Brethren Church 9:00 a.m. service. This was the third annual service of this kind for Industry Brethren Church and the first combined Industry/Fayetteville Brethren Church service. There were 109 veterans on the program and six guest veterans recognized. Each living veteran received a remembrance ribbon with red poppy with "thanks" on it as well as a small US flag that noted the event. The deceased veterans had representatives come forward and light a candle in their honor and receive a small flag. On hand to assist with handing out flags were 6 Cub Scouts with their Scout Leader Brett Galle helping and also 3 Girl Scouts.

The scouts also led the Pledge of Allegiance as the audience joined in. Lynn Davis sang "God Bless the USA" and "The Star Spangled Banner". The service message was delivered by Pastor Kay Polasek. Chord organ music by Liz Ripple of the Fayetteville Brethren Church and organ music by Sharon Spiess were provided for accompaniment to the singing and during the calling of the honored veteran's names. The church bell rang one time as each veteran's name was called. The church was decorated with many flags including all the flags of the different branches of the military. A large flag drape on a tripod was in the front of the church where a large flag bow held red streamer ribbons containing name labels of each

Veteran's Service, continued....

honored veteran. Liz Ripple called the names of the honored Fayetteville veterans and Martha Dove pinned on their ribbons; Liz Treybig called the names of the Industry honored veterans and Marian Branam pinned their ribbons on. Girl Scouts assisted pinning the ribbons on and Cub Scouts handed out the small flags and assisted with lighting candles. There was a wreath holding 62 red, blue and white flowers (representing the 62 deceased honored veterans) with a cross in the center, white dove below five small US flags and below the flowers the words "Thanks Vets" on a red ribbon with a white dove to each side.

Grace Holcomb of the Historical Commission of Austin County; Retta Chandler, President of the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center of LaGrange; Claren Kotlra former President of the Unity of the Brethren of Austin (also a veteran); and current President of the Unity of the Brethren, James Marek were in attendance. In addition, Unity of the Brethren ministers that are veterans and were honored included Rev. Nello Strickland, Rev. Lawrence Junek, Rev. Milton Maly and Rev. Henry Beseda, Jr.

Afterward everyone went to Fellowship Hall where a delicious brunch of many different foods was served. The hall had many displays and articles of several veterans. All branches of the service were represented in this group of veterans and all times of service dating back to the Civil War and current active service. There was also a picture of one veteran from 1874 who served in the Austro-Hungarian Empire in Moravia. People enjoyed viewing all the biographies of these men and women that served our country. Ernest Platte played the accordion to entertain the group while people ate and visited.

Commemorative Church Plate – \$25 donation - 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 Texas 78940.

Church Sesquicentennial Cookbook: \$20.00 donation of which all proceeds go to the building fund. If you would like to have one shipped to you, please send \$20.00 plus \$3.00 for shipping and handling to FBC, P.O. Box 11, Fayetteville Texas 78940.

Letter to the Editor: Liz Treybig, editor of the Industry Brethren Church newsletter, included a copy of the attached letter to the editor regarding the Industry/Fayetteville Brethren Church Honor Our Veterans Day in their newsletter. Please let it touch your heart and remind you to thank each Veteran that you meet.

**Remember to keep
Christ
at the
center
of
your
*Christmas!***