



Fayetteville Brethren Church *March 2021 Newsletter*

2nd & 4th Saturdays at 10 a.m. with Rev. Mike Groseclose **Sunday Worship Service:** Not held at this time.

Pastoral Care: Rev Mike Groseclose
979-865-3026

Church mailing address:

PO Box 11, Fayetteville, TX 78940
Physical address: 1022 Kramr Rd.

Sunday School: Not held at this time.

Organist: Elizabeth Ryppl

Unity Website: UnityoftheBrethren.org

Website: FayettevilleBrethrenChurch.org
Church contact: 979-378-2239

Upcoming Services & Events:

Fayetteville Parking Lot Service – Saturdays – March 13 & 27 (Holy Communion) @ **10:00 a.m.**

March 13 – Annual Congregational Meeting after the parking lot worship service (see below)

Industry Parking Lot Service – Saturdays – March 13, 20 & 27 @ 3:00 p.m.

March 14 – Daylight Saving Time Begins – spring forward one hour!

LOOKING AHEAD:

July 13,14 & 15, 2021 – 69th Biennial Unity of the Brethren Convention, Camp Allen, Navasota.

Pastors Corner

REST by Pastor Jay L. Warren serves to remind us of the important need to make sure that we take care of ourselves as well as others.

I just read an article about sickness. It mentioned the truism that one of the principles of healing is rest. If you are sick, you need to rest. The opposite is also true. People who are constantly pushing or being pushed, who work long hours and who are stressed out by trying to constantly meet various demands get sick.

So, one of the best ways to stay well is to get rest. I don't just mean 8 hours of sleep. We all vary and some do just fine on less. What we all need is time to ourselves. We need time to re-create our inner selves, time to communicate with our Creator and Father. We need time to remember who we are by creation and redemption. Anyone who is too busy to know God is too busy for their own good. If you have not been in touch with God lately, something is wrong. Take time to meet Him. It is the healthy thing to do.

In Christ's Love, Bro. Mike

Faith Matters...

Homily by Dr. Jerry Terrill – **Psalm 147: 16-17 (NIV)**

“He spreads the snow like wool and scatters the frost like ashes.

He hurls down his hail like pebbles. Who can withstand his icy blast?

This past week is a reminder that God is in control of this world. The best efforts of mice and men, women, come to naught. I know that many of you have experienced a terrible week with no power, no heat, and no water. Several of you have experienced forty-eight to seventy-two hours without power. You truly have experienced the tempest of this cold, bitter storm.

Job 37: 9: The tempest comes out from its chamber, the cold from the driving winds

Job 37: 6: He says to the snow, ‘Fall on the earth,’ and to the rain shower, ‘Be a mighty downpour.’

This week we received the down pour from the skies filled with snow, ice, and freezing rain, reminding us that our strength and refuge come from God. The Apostle Paul writes: 27 I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. But the book of Psalms reminds us in chapter 1: 2 – 3... (our) delight is in the law of the LORD, and who (ever) meditates on his law, day, and night. ³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season.

Psalms 23: 4 – 5 Shares with us: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, you are with me...my cup overflows.

God desires for each of us to grow during the storms that life brings. John 15: 4 tells us that “we can not bear fruit unless we remain on the vine tied to the tree of life, our Lord Jesus Christ.” NKJV Isaiah 45: 3: “I will give you the treasures of darkness And hidden riches of secret places, That you may know that I, am the LORD, Who will call *you* by your name!”

Amid power outages, no electricity, no heat, no water, with broken pipes we are to call upon the name of the Lord meditating on *the treasures of darkness*. Exodus 14: 14 shares with us: “The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.” This winter storm brought us to our knees helping us to remember the words of Hebrews 13: 5 ... “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”

Even in times of darkness God shares his treasures with us. Praying for each of you and our churches. Dr. Terrill – Bro. Jerry

Prayer Concerns: For rain; All who braved the winter storm; Safe distribution of Covid-19 vaccine; Health, safety, and patience for everyone quarantined at home; Doctors, Nurses, and Caregivers; Nursing home and Assisted Living Center residents and their families; those who are traveling; those who are ill or hurting in any way; our active duty military personnel; Our country and its’ leaders; Unity of the Brethren Churches and the leadership; Our Missionaries; School Administrators, Teachers & Students as they meet the school year with challenges during this pandemic; Firefighters and police officers, and all who work for justice, peace, and understanding; First responders.

Bereavement: Family of Evelyn Koslovsky (Bro. Larry’s mother); Family of Yvonne Claunch (Pastor Linda’s mom); Family of Garland Polasek

Church news:

From the Elders - We hope that you and your loved ones are continuing to stay safe and healthy. Thank you for your continued dedication to the work of the church and our mission to serve others. We are having parking lots services on the second and fourth Saturday’s of each month (schedule posted in “Upcoming Services”). **Starting in March, all services will now be at 10:00 a.m.** The services are led by Rev. Mike Groseclose – all are welcome. **For this service:**

You are welcome to drive up and stay in your car during the service.

You are welcome to wear a mask or any other personal protection equipment as you see fit.

The church facilities will not be open, please use the restroom before you leave home.

We will have Holy Communion once a month – you may use bread and wine/grape juice from home or receive a pre-packaged communion pack that will be handed out.

To worship at home: The Sunday Brethren Worship services and other messages are available through the internet - see the church website or the Unity website for the links.

Your Financial Contribution continues to be important during these times. Contributions may be sent to: PO Box 11, Fayetteville, TX 78940. Our mission focus for March: *Hus Camp Scholarship* - \$200.00.

If a member has any pastoral needs, you may contact Rev. Mike Groseclose 979-865-3026. As always, if you have any comments, concerns or suggestions, please let the Elders know.

A thank you was received for our contribution to the Deputy Santa Program: “Thank you for your generous contribution of \$250 to the 2020 Deputy Santa Program. The response from folks and businesses this year was overwhelming. Your donation helped to provide toys for over 677 children in Fayette County. It is both a joy and a pleasure for the deputies and volunteers to see the faces “light up” as the children and parents receive these gifts. For some of these families, it may have been the only gifts under their trees this past year. We are so fortunate to live and work in a community where volunteers and donors give so generously to help support programs like the Deputy Santa Program. Sincerely, Keith Korenek, Fayette County Sheriff ”

Lenten Services – The Lighted Cross has been put up near the fellowship hall. The cross will help remind those who pass by of the Lenten season and how blessed we are, for He died that we might

be forgiven. Weekly Lenten services will not be held this year. A Maundy Thursday service will be held at Nelsonville Brethren Church on Thursday, April 1 at 7 pm with Holy Communion. An early morning Good Friday service on April 2 will be held on Wesley Brethren at 6:30 a.m. followed by a fellowship breakfast. Everyone is invited to attend. Rev Mike Groseclose will lead the services. Fayetteville will observe Easter on Saturday, April 10 at 10 a.m.

Christian Sisters' Union Convention – The Christian Sisters Union Convention is tentatively set to be held on Saturday, April 24 at the Hus Encampment near Caldwell. Sandra Stepan has volunteered to be the delegate and Liz Ripple will serve as the alternate. More information available soon.

Church Cookbooks & Plates – Church cookbook - \$20.00 (+ \$6 if mailed) proceeds to the building fund. Commemorative church plate - \$25.00 (+ \$8 if mailed). FBC, PO Box 11, Fayetteville Texas 78940.



A Time of Reflection and Self-Examination for Lent:

If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million who won't survive the week.

If you hold up your head with a smile on your face and are truly thankful, you are blessed because the majority can, but most do not.

If you attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death, you are more blessed than almost three billion people in the world.

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 20 million people around the world.

If you can hold someone's hand, hug them or even touch them on the shoulder, you are blessed because you can offer God's healing touch. You are so blessed in ways you may never even know.

Unknown