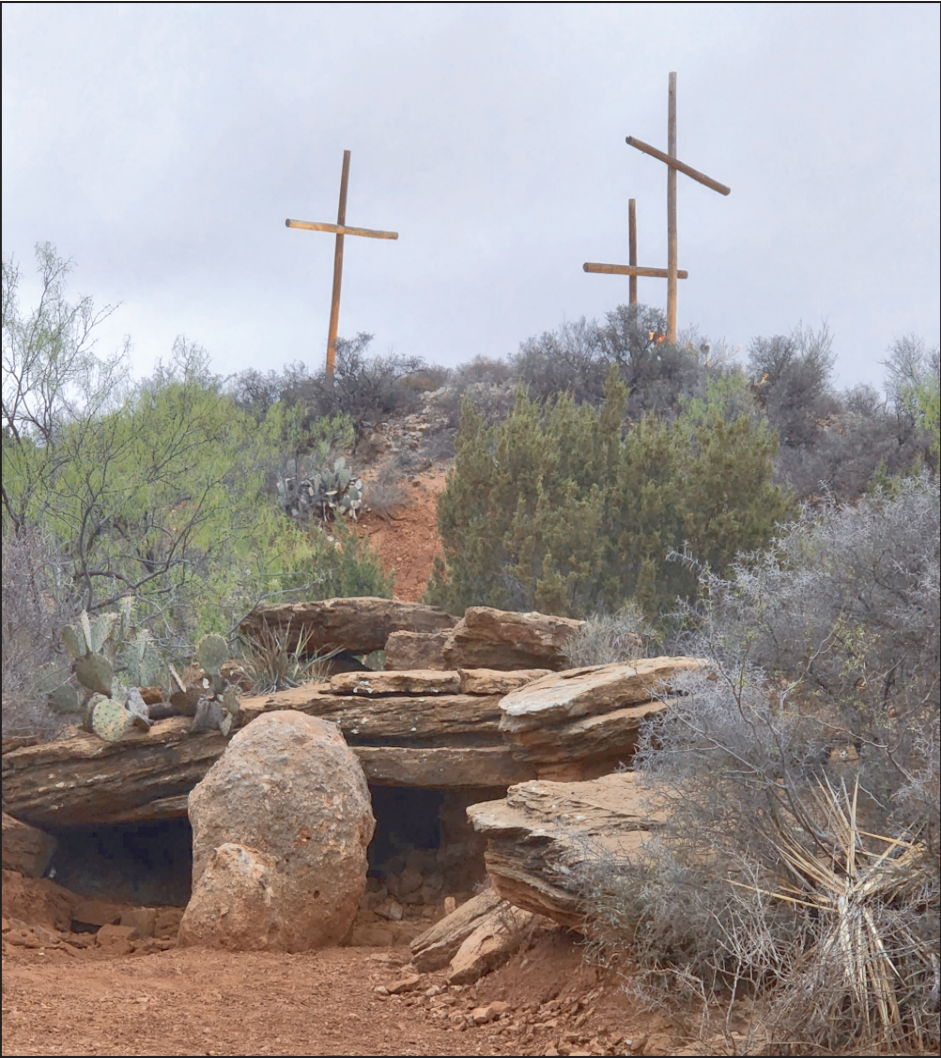


Easter Sunrise Service *at Gentry Ranch*



HE HAS RISEN INDEED! HE LIVES!

These truths opened the Sunrise Service at the Gentry Ranch west of Bronte. A large crowd declared “He is risen indeed”. Then sang He Lives, declaring that we do serve a risen Savior that is in the world today. A Savior that walks and talks with us, a Savior that lives within our hearts.

Brother Luis Hernandez (Bronte Church of Christ) led the singing and Pastor Stacy Sprinkle (Bronte First United Methodist Church) welcomed all and gave the opening prayer. Brother Robert Lemmond (Cowboy Church) read from John 20:1-18. This scripture tells of Mary Magdalene going to the tomb the first day of the week, while it was still dark and finding the stone rolled away. Peter and John ran to the tomb and found only the strips of linen cloth in the tomb. Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene, telling her verse 17 “I am going back to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God”. Brother Hernandez offered the pastoral prayer and led all in the Lord’s Prayer. Brother Dale Patterson (Central Baptist Church) asked everyone to stand, reach deep in their pockets, and share in the offering for the Bronte Community Chest. This organization helps those in need in our community.

Lanette Fletcher and Stacy Sprinkle sang “Easter Hallelujah”. This song tells of Christ the King being nailed to a wooden cross. Then He said I am coming home to you Father, and gave His soul to glory to save us. Hallelujah. Three days went by and they went to the tomb, finding they were not alone but Jesus Christ had risen. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Brother Patterson read Matthew 28:1-10, which also tells of Mary Magdalene and another woman named Mary going to the tomb. They say an angel of the Lord came down from Heaven and rolled the stone away. Verse 5: The angel said to the women, “Don’t be afraid. I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here. He has risen from the dead as he said he would. Go and tell his followers. Verse 10: Don’t be afraid. Go and tell my followers to go on to Galilee and they will see me there.

Juan Pena (New Life in Christ) also read Matthew 28:1-10 in Spanish. Following the singing of “The Old Rugged Cross”, Brother George Cooper (First Baptist Church) brought the devotional from 1 Corinthians 15:12-22. The tomb is empty. He is alive. Because he has risen, those who believe in him will also raise from the dead. If Christ was not raised, the gospel would be meaningless. Faith would be worthless. The Heart of the Gospel is resurrection! Resurrection brings forgiveness and hope. Christ has truly been raised from the dead - the first! The Tomb is Empty. Christ is Alive! He has given us eternal life. Jesus showed the way to victory.

We responded with praise, singing “Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine”! Brother Lemmond reminded us that before Jesus ascended to Heaven, he commanded “Go and make followers of all people in the world...” Following the service, all enjoyed fellowship and breakfast.

THANK YOU! THIS SERVICE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY MANY DEDICATED PEOPLE.

Participants in the service: the ministers and leaders of Bronte churches; Glenn-Bivins Insurance; those who set up the lighting, tent, sound system, and the breakfast area; the grounds crew, the parking crew, the photographers; the coffee cooks and all who brought food; the Sheriff’s Office, the Fire Department, the City of Bronte; and ALL who came to share in the Glory of the Resurrection

*Thanks to all of you,
Juanette Gentry*

