

**Today's Bible Lesson:** December 11, 2011

Listen or download current or previous messages ONLINE at our church website [www.nmfbc.org](http://www.nmfbc.org) Check it out and pass it on!

**THAT SOUNDS AMAZING!**

(The Sequel)

"When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed..." – Matthew 7:28-29

"When Jesus heard this, He was amazed..." – Luke 7:9

How to Amaze Jesus

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

We deserve it!

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

We DON'T deserve it!

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

**WELCOME TO FIRST BRETHREN**

Service times: 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 a.m.  
December 11, 2011

*Today is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of our  
ORANGE ADVENT - Respect*

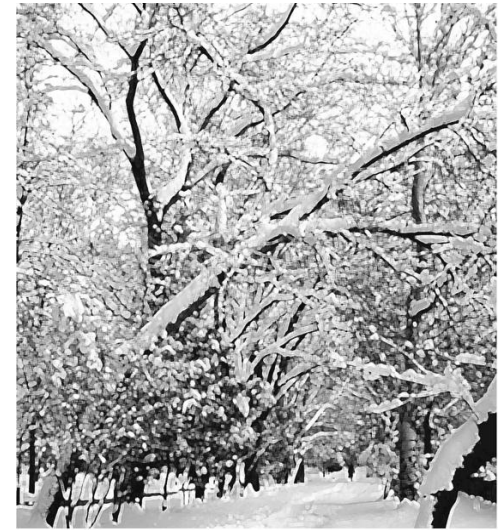
**Upcoming Special Services**

December 18 – Children's Christmas Program  
6:30 p.m. "Live From Bethlehem"

December 24 – Christmas Eve Services  
*An evening of Carols, Candles, and Communion*  
6:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

December 25 – Family Christmas at First Brethren  
10:30 Service ONLY  
There will be No SS classes or LOFT

January 1 – A New Year at First Brethren  
Usual Sunday Schedule  
8:00, 9:15, and 10:30 services



*He does not treat us  
as our sins deserve ...*" Psalm 103:10

**FIRST BRETHREN CHURCH**

407 N. Sycamore Street  
North Manchester, IN 46962  
260-982-6457 Fax: 260-982-1778

[www.nmfbc.org](http://www.nmfbc.org)



**Our Mission**

We are committed to leading the people of the North Manchester area community into a growing, personal relationship with Jesus Christ. God has gifted our congregation to help families at their point of need, primarily through children and youth.

- Kurt Stout, Senior Pastor
- Tim Bordeaux, Pastor of Youth
- Joe Burgos, Pastor of Hispanic Ministries
- Suzanna Hicks, Director of Counseling & Care
- Ron Burns, Discipleship Coordinator
- Teresa Mize, Children's Ministry Coordinator
- Trever Jones, Worship Coordinator
- Carl Petrie, Facility Coordinator
- Jim Mishler, Treasurer

**December 11, 2011**

**Orange Core Value #5: Gratitude**  
*Developing an Attitude of Gratitude: One Bold Idea*

*To help yourself and your family understand what living in an impoverished home is like, go on a "beans and rice fast." For one or more days eat a cup of oatmeal for breakfast (plain if you dare), a cup of rice/bean mixture for lunch, and the same for supper. No seconds. No snacks. And drink only water. You'll certainly learn to be grateful and save money. Now donate what you saved from eating simple, bland, and staple meals.*



**Buy a Poinsettia in Honor or Memory**

Poinsettias to decorate the church will be offered again this year. Anyone wanting to purchase a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone may do so by using an envelope available in the foyer, or contacting the office, or Cottage Creation. Prices this year are \$17, \$28 and \$43 depending on size wanted.

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## OUR CHURCH FAMILY CONCERNS

Illness	Illness/Recovery	Recovery
Penny Schutz	Dennis Dolby	Sandy Burch ( <i>Peab</i> )
Mary Rager ( <i>Eldon's Mom</i> )	Tom Steele ( <i>Goshen Hosp</i> )	Tayla Zartman
Vicki Sutton ( <i>Wendy Blocher's Mom</i> )	Charlie Miller	Jenae Renz ( <i>N. Allen's daughter</i> )
Regina Clay ( <i>Toni W. Mom</i> )	Velma Dean ( <i>Cynthia Johnson's Mom</i> )	

**Pray on Wed. mornings:** At 6:30 in the library, until about 7:15. Have a prayer need? Complete a green card located in the pews and put in the offering plate.

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### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<b>Today:</b>	8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service ( <i>Pastor Kurt</i> ) 9:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship ( <i>Pastor Kurt</i> ) 9:15 a.m. Adult & Youth Classes 9:15 a.m. LOFT Children's Church 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship ( <i>Pastor Kurt</i> ) 10:30 a.m. Adult and Children's Classes 2:00 p.m. Informational Meeting on Dominican Mission Trip 6:00-8:00 p.m. HS Youth Christmas Party @ Town Life Center
<b>Mon:</b>	REACH set-up in fellowship hall
<b>Tues:</b>	6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study in Room 103 4:30-6:00 p.m. Serving meal at Community Supper 6:00 p.m. Justice Team in library with special guest 6:30 p.m. Prayer meeting in sanctuary 6:30 p.m. Ministry of Nurture 7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry in Room 105
<b>Wed:</b>	6:30 a.m. Prayer meeting in library 10:00-11:00 a.m. Children's Spanish Classes 12:00 Peabody Luncheon 5:00 p.m. Hispanic Worship Service 6:15-7:45 p.m. CHAOS (JH Youth) @ La Casa 6:30 p.m. Adult Discipleship 6:30-7:45 p.m. Children's Christmas Program Practice in the LOFT
<b>Thurs:</b>	7:00 p.m. Ministry of Outreach in library
<b>Sat:</b>	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Delivery of REACH Christmas boxes
<b>Next Sun:</b>	8:00 a.m. Special Worship Service: "A Christmas Prayer" 9:15 a.m. Special Worship Service: "A Christmas Prayer" 9:15 a.m. Adult & Youth Classes 9:15 a.m. LOFT Children's Church 10:30 a.m. Special Worship Service: "A Christmas Prayer" 10:30 a.m. Adult and Children's Classes 5:30 p.m. Informational Meeting on Peru Mission Trip 6:30 p.m. Children Christmas Program "Live from Bethlehem"

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*Thank you to all who contributed by donating or helping with the Coats for the Community give-away. There were more than 190 coats given. One person in the community personally thanked the congregation for giving her a warm coat.*

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## Congregational News

**Get baptized on Christmas Day!** Speak with a pastor. Baptism is an outward response to an inward decision to become a follower of Jesus.



**Staff Love Gift:** To remember our Pastors and staff with a special Christmas time gift, please make your check or donation to the church (Memo: "Staff gift") or cash envelope. Funds will be collected through Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> and divided among all staff.

**Kids Against Hunger:** Please consider giving your spare change today. Tables are located in the foyer and in the children's wing. Also, it's not too soon to start bringing in the funds you have raised. Collection buckets are in the LOFT, La Casa, and outside the church office. Please turn in all funds by Christmas Sunday.

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## Children's Ministry

**God dwells with us** is our focus in LOFT & kids classes today. We will light a candle in our advent wreath and talk about how Jesus lives in us.

**Reminder:** Christmas Program dress rehearsal for elementary kids this Wednesday 6:30-7:45 p.m.

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## Youth Ministry

**Informational Meeting** for those interested in the 2012 Mission Trip to the Dominican: today from 2-3 p.m. in the library. Will discuss FAQ and fundraising plans. Deadline to commit to the trip is by end of this year.

**Ugly Sweater Christmas Party:** Tonight from 6 to 8 p.m. at TLC for senior high students. Bring snack and white elephant gift, and wear an ugly sweater! Junior High party is Wednesday, December 14. Same rules apply.

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## Adult Ministry

**Love and Respect Marriage Video Conference** – At our church Feb. 10-11. To register, go to our church web site (nmfbc.org) and follow the links, or go to loveandrespect.com. See the poster in the foyer for details. "The Love She Most Desires – The Respect He Desperately Needs." A revolutionary, simple message that works in marriage, based on Eph 5:33.

*Comment from someone in our church who went through the material: "Love and Respect is something we should have gone through many years ago. If we had, it would probably have saved many arguments and sleepless nights."*

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## Justice Team

**Special Guest from Cambodia: Tuesday, December 13,** at 6:00 p.m. in the church library the Justice Team will be meeting. All are invited to hear a special speaker, Heather Blanch, who will sharing her ministry of working to help children trapped in the sex trade in Cambodia.

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## Go M.A.D. (Make A Difference)

**Want to make a blessing IMPACT?** Here are some ideas

**VOLUNTEER: Kids Against Hunger:** January 14<sup>th</sup>. Spaces for 100 volunteers. Sign up now for a shift to package meals. We will also need some volunteers for set-up and tear-down. Find sign-up sheets outside the church office. A great opportunity for the whole family!

**CREATE: Crocheted/Knitted Scarves:** If you knit or crochet and would be willing to make a scarf for a homeless lady in Fort Wayne for Christmas, contact Kelly McKee, 982-6224.

**COOK/SERVE: Community Suppers** on Dec 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Help cook or help serve a meal to our community. Call Shannon Cook (982-7001).

**DELIVER:**

**REACH Christmas Boxes:** Saturday December 17, 9:00 am at FBC.

**Pork and Beef:** Know someone in crisis or financial strain? Some men have butchered and prepared some meat for you to distribute to someone God is leading you to bless and build a relationship. Available in kitchen freezer. Or contact a guy from the 10:30 men's SS

**GIVE: Peru Missions Team (*Esperanza* / "Hope")** is raising funds to help offset expenses of their trip (Dec 26 – Jan 2). Looking for 270 freedom partners to give \$27. (check to First Brethren, memo: *Esperanza*).

**Kids Against Hunger:** To prepare 20,000 meals we need to raise \$5000 (memo: *Kids Against Hunger*).

**SHOP: Advent Conspiracy or "Advent in Action":** buy one less gift this Christmas and give the money instead to *Kids Against Hunger*.

**GO: Peru 2012 (June 29-July 10)** informational meeting on Dec 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Dominican Republic (June 21 – 28)** informational mtg today.

**Riverside, KY (summer)** - great for your family to serve together.

**PRAY: Tuesday nights,** 6:30–7:00 in the sanctuary. Guided prayer time and spontaneous scripture reading Adults, teens & kids welcome.

**LISTEN: Cambodia missionary** - Tuesday 6:00 p.m. in church library. Heather Blanch sharing her ministry to exploited children.