

## Today's Bible Lesson: December 4, 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

"When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at His teaching, because He taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law." – Matthew 7:28-29

How NOT to respond to Jesus' message

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

How to respond to Jesus' message

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

## WELCOME TO FIRST BRETHREN

Service times: 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 a.m.  
December 4, 2011

Today is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of our  
**ORANGE ADVENT**

Remember to use the family advent resources throughout the week with your family. Available in foyer.

### 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 – Christmas Day 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

### Orange Core Value #5: Gratitude

*Interact with people less fortunate than you.*

- As a family volunteer at a community supper
- Discuss a family mission trip to KY next summer
- Deliver REACH Christmas boxes
- When you go to the city carry granola bars and water/juice with you to hand to the homeless
- Worship at a low income ministry
- Buy fewer gifts for your kids & together buy gifts for a family in need



### 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.



~ ... the crowds were amazed at his teaching ... as one who had authority. ~

Matthew 7:28-29

### 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 4, 2011

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY CONCERNS

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Illness</b>                              | <b>Illness/Recovery</b>                     | <b>Recovery</b>                           |
| Penny Schutz                                | Dennis Dolby                                | Sandy Burch                               |
| Mary Rager ( <i>Eldon's Mom</i> )           | Tom Steele                                  | 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.

### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>Today:</b>    | 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service ( <i>Pastor Kurt</i> )<br>9:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship ( <i>Pastor Kurt</i> )<br>9:15 a.m. Adult & Youth Classes<br>9:15 a.m. LOFT Children's Church<br>10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship ( <i>Pastor Kurt</i> )<br>10:30 a.m. Adult and Children's Classes<br>6:00-8:00 p.m. Ekklesia (HS Youth) @ Town Life Center  |
| <b>Mon:</b>      | 3:30 – 6:00 p.m. Coats for the Community at MCS<br>7:00-8:30 p.m. Christmas Cookie/Gift Exchange (Spons. By WMS)  |
| <b>Tues:</b>     | 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study in Room 103<br>9:00 – 11:00 a.m. MOPS<br>6:30 p.m. Prayer meeting in sanctuary<br>7:00 p.m. DLC meeting in room 103<br>7:00 p.m. Youth Coaches<br>8:00 p.m. Hope for Orphans ( <i>meet in foyer</i> )   |
| <b>Wed:</b>      | 6:30 a.m. Prayer meeting in library<br>10:00-11:00 a.m. Children's Spanish Classes<br>5:00 p.m. Hispanic Worship Service<br>6:15-7:45 p.m. CHAOS (JH Youth) @ La Casa<br>6:30-7:45 p.m. Children's Christmas Program Practice in the LOFT   |
| <b>Thurs:</b>    | Wedding Rehearsal   |
| <b>Sat:</b>      | 6:00 p.m. Wedding in Sanctuary/Fellowship Hall  |
| <b>Next Sun:</b> | 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service ( <i>Pastor Kurt</i> )<br>9:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship ( <i>Pastor Kurt</i> )<br>9:15 a.m. Adult & Youth Classes<br>9:15 a.m. LOFT Children's Church<br>10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship ( <i>Pastor Kurt</i> )<br>10:30 a.m. Adult and Children's Classes<br>2:00-3:00 p.m. Informational Mtg on Mission Trip to Dominican<br>6:00-8:00 p.m. HS Youth Christmas Party @ Town Life Center<br>6:30-7:45 p.m. Worship and Mission Night with guest from Uganda |

### 2012 Directory Updates

To confirm, add, correct, or delete information for the 2012 church directory please review the directory in the foyer.

### Children's Ministry

We kick off our Christmas preparations in LOFT and elementary classes learning about John the Baptist preparing the way for Jesus. Our point will be that we can welcome Jesus, too. Let every heart prepare Him room!

### Youth Ministry

**Informational Meeting** for those interested in the 2012 Mission Trip to the Dominican: next Sunday 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:** Next Sunday 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 on Wednesday, December 14. Same rules apply.

### Women's Ministry

**Christmas Cookie and Gift Exchange:** All women and girls invited on December 5<sup>th</sup> (7:00 – 8:30 p.m.) to an evening of caroling, cookies, and coffee (or hot tea/cider/chocolate or punch). Music and devotions provided by special IWU student Caryn Rehm. Bring a \$1 gift to exchange and 3 dozen of your cookies to trade. Church fellowship hall. WMS sponsored.

### Adult Ministry

**Through the Bible in Three** – Join the church Bible reading plan, to read the Bible in three years (including the NT twice), alternating between OT and NT books. December's Bible reading bookmark is available today. This week's reading: 1 Kings 15-22.

**Sunday School Class Name Change:** The Young Adults Class now known as the A.C.T.S. Class (*Allowing Christ To Shine*) meets at 9:15 in Room 105, and is now studying the topic "Discerning God's Will from a Biblical Perspective."

### Congregational News

**Want to be 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 paid staff.

### Financial Report for November 2011

|   |                  |               |
|---|------------------|---------------|
| Comparison of offerings/expenses for November | <b>2011</b>      | <b>2010</b>   |
| Worship Offerings                             | 31,572           | 34,444        |
| Adult Sunday School                           | 159              | 161           |
| Counseling                                    | 405              | 100           |
| Rental Income                                 | 550              | 550           |
|   | <b>Total</b>     | <b>35,255</b> |
|   | <b>Expenses:</b> | <b>30,394</b> |

FBC Benevolent Fund: gave financial assistance of \$1,165 to individuals/families.

Designated offerings were given to:

|                              |                                      |                                 |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Counseling - \$100           | International Justice Mission - \$30 | Memorial Fund - \$50            |
| Benevolent Fund - \$200      | Lost Creek - \$70                    | Brethren Retreat Center - \$350 |
| Children's Ministry - \$100  | Stephen Ministry - \$130             | Hope for Orphans - \$857        |
| Burgos China Mission - \$100 |                                      | Kids Against Hunger - \$162     |

Our average worship attendance was 313 compared to 321 for November, 2010.

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

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

#### VOLUNTEER:

**Coats for the Community:** Show up tomorrow and help people pick out a new coat. The Manchester Community School's Gift of Giving is tomorrow, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-6:00 at the new administration building (*former JH building*). Stop by Monday.

**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*.

**Compassion Corner Today** in the Gathering Area – Chocolate, coffee, jewelry, and other fair-trade handmade items.

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

**Dominican Republic (June 21 – 28)** youth apps from Pastor Tim

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

**LISTEN: Special Worship Evening** – TONIGHT 6:30-7:45 pm. A night of worship and a speaker from Uganda from the mission Trever and Jasmine serve with this summer in Uganda. Childcare provided.

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