

Focus

Spirit-Led Worship

With yielded and receptive hearts, we will worship God in joyous praise as a sincere expression of thanks.

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Our Core Values

- Healthy Loving Relationships
- Spirit-Led Worship
- Persistent Passionate Prayer
- Empowered Servant-Leadership
- Transformational Discipleship
- Need-Based Evangelism



Kids of Character *by Pastor Kurt Stout*

I have a big job. I'm not talking being your pastor, I talking about raising my kids. The other day I sat down and made a list of character qualities I pray my four kids learn. While I do hope they learn to read, I pray more they learn to read/study God's Word. I would like them to win on the scoreboard, but learning to win and lose well is a greater goal. My quick list included:

<i>Compassion</i>	<i>Kindness</i>	<i>Integrity</i>
<i>Honesty</i>	<i>Compassion</i>	<i>Generosity</i>
<i>Thankfulness</i>	<i>Respect</i>	<i>Patience</i>
<i>Sharing</i>	<i>Listening</i>	<i>Courage</i>
<i>Positive thinking</i>	<i>Gratitude</i>	<i>Wisdom</i>
<i>Obedience</i>	<i>Empathy</i>	<i>Selflessness</i>
<i>Joy</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Work ethic</i>
<i>Confidence</i>	<i>Thinking</i>	<i>Helpfulness</i>

Like other parents, Heidi and I, pray our kids discover the wonders of our God and learn to love Jesus with all their heart. But how will my kids learn this and embody the many Biblical qualities I pray they exhibit? It will happen when we as parents first determine to model these qualities. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 makes this clear. Go ahead read our 2011 theme passage. This is a daunting task, but thankfully as a parent I am not alone. My RED (heart) influence at home, when combined with the YELLOW (light) influence at church, can lead my kids in a direction where they are more likely to look like Jesus.

To help families take intentional steps in this direction, there will be five ORANGE Sundays in 2011. Next Sunday will be our first. The quality of **HONESTY** will be introduced and reinforced throughout the months of February and March. If possible, please sit together as a family on these special Sundays as we learn together what Jesus said in His sermon on the mount (Matthew 5-7) and learn how to incorporate His teachings into our day to day living. And feel free to wear your favorite orange shirt, sweater, or scarf.

2011 THEME VERSE and COLOR

“Impress Me.” Deuteronomy 6:7

“Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.”

ORANGE

See what happens when the church (**Yellow**) and the home (**Red**) partner together.

Ushers In February



8:00 a.m.

Todd Speicher**

Mark Westafer

Recruit

Recruit

Recruit

9:15 a.m.

Loren Blocher**

Mike McKinley

Marvin Gish

Mark Hill

Brett Miller

10:30 a.m.

Craig Haecker**

Tim McLaughlin

Chad Vawter

Chris Walters

Kyle Wood

** Denotes head usher for that service

Any questions, please call
Carl Petrie 260-417-2246.

Prayer Cards in Pews

The green prayer cards in the pews are available for any prayer request. A group meets to pray each Wednesday at 6:30 a.m. You may place the card in the offering plate or leave it in the church office.



BLOOD PRESSURE

SCREENINGS will be on the third Sunday this month (February 20th) in Pastor

Ron's office. They will be held after first and second services. Blood pressure cuffs are available for loan/check-out in the church office.



Check the bulletins for upcoming events.

WMS

Monday, January 7th

3:30 p.m.

At Timbercrest

Leader: Linda Warner

Committee: Sandy Burch &

Helen Conrad

Lesson: Perfection through Christ

By Vickie Taylor

All Women Are Invited

"Come see what we're all about!"



Library Lines

The library has a new look! Come in and see several of the new items we have recently added and enjoy the new furniture arrangement. Thanks to everyone who helped on our work day as well as those who donated books and videos. We have something for all ages, so start your February with a visit to the library and find something waiting for you.

Baptism



There will be a Baptism in the coming months. If interested please see one of the pastors.

India Pastor Profile

Burna Bose G. (Guthula)* is the pastor at Bodasakarru village. He received a certificate of Theology and a diploma of Theology from the Brethren Bible Institute. He and his wife, Mrs. G. Mani, are the parents of three children, 1 boy and 2 girls. Burna Bose is good in preaching the Word of God and is a mighty prayer warrior. Among his weekly activities are: Sunday School, Sunday Worship Service, Friday Fasting Prayer Meeting, and Saturday Women Prayer Fellowship. This village has a prayer hut provided by the Brethren Mission with 60 baptized members (up from 53 last year). Continue to pray for their ministry and safety.

*Family Name

February Compassion Corner

This month Compassion Corner will be featuring items to benefit Uganda. Trever and Jasmine Jones are traveling to Uganda this summer. The Justice Team will be helping to raise funds for their trip by selling t-shirts at Compassion Corner. These shirts feature the verse from Micah 6:8, which reminds us to "Act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God." Compassion Corner will also feature paper-bead jewelry made by mothers in Ugandan refugee camps. As usual, you can also stock up on fair trade chocolate items. Beginning in February, Compassion Corner will begin offering fair trade coffee (whole bean, ground, and decaf). Proceeds from the coffee go to the orphanage in Peru.



David & Jenny Loi

David's birthday – February 8

Email – davidloimbc@gmail.com

David and Jenny lead the Brethren ministry in Malaysia and take the gospel message throughout their region, as God leads. Together they have established a church in Johor Bahru (near Singapore in the south) and one in Penang (an island near Thailand in the north). They also have a ministry in China where they train pastors in the underground church. Notes on David's birthday would be a great encouragement to them.

STS Florida – Tim & Jan Solomon

Tim's birthday – February 18

Email – monysim@yahoo.com

Tim and Jan are the directors and instructors at the Sarasota Theological Seminary in Florida. They have trained many pastors, youth workers and Christian laypeople to share their faith with the Hispanic population. Remember to encourage Tim on his birthday.



Our deepest sympathies to the family of Richard Jordan who passed away Thursday, January 13th. Services were held at Living Faith Church of the Brethren, Flora, IN. Richard is the uncle of Joanna Smith.

Safe Haven Marriage Conference

February 11-12, 2011

First Assembly of God Christian Center
1400 W. Washington Ctr. Rd.,
Fort Wayne

Join Sharon Morris May for an impacting weekend of marriage enrichment. Discover how you can make your marriage a haven of safety for you and your spouse.

Sharon has a Master's in Christian Leadership from Fuller Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in Marriage and Family Therapy from Fuller Graduate School of Psychology. She is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in California and Director of the Haven of Safety Relationships.

Friday and Saturday, she will be presenting her Haven of Safety message to area couples.

For more information, contact Nancy Williams, at Renew Counseling Center, 260-490-8585 or email nancywilliams@firstassemblyfw.org.

Thank You!

*First Brethren Church,
Your kindness and sympathy will always be held in grateful remembrance. We would like to thank everyone for your outpouring of sympathy, through your prayers, calls, visits and cards. Thank you so much for the memorial contribution to Toby's two sons, Bryce and Trevor for their educational fund. We sincerely appreciate what everyone has done for us during this difficult time.*

The Family of Toby Shepherd



Congratulations to Andy and Shannon Cook on the birth of their son, Joshua Andrew, born Friday, January 7th weighing 6 lbs. 7 oz., measuring 17½ inches long. He joins the family along with sisters, Karissa, Madison and Arianna.

It only takes a spark...

Proverbs 20:3 reminds us that it is honorable to avoid strife. When reading the Bible, I like to ask myself questions like, "Why was this God-chosen phrase preserved for my reading?" Then I enjoy trying to answer the question. "If the topic of strife is being addressed, the Lord knows that relational conflict is something we can expect outside Eden." Marriage joins two people of different genders, personalities, strengths and weaknesses, temperaments and backgrounds. And then we add children. Some conflict is *normal*. So how do I avoid something that is probable? One way to prevent a spark of disagreement from blazing into a hurtful argument is to time ourselves out. "Hon, I am beginning to feel hurt and angry. I'm going to time myself out for a little while so I can calm down. I am not walking away from you. I want to talk about this, but I want to avoid saying things out of anger." It's important to try and speak calmly. Just walking away is hurtful to the other party and can sometimes fan the flame of conflict. Disagreements arise. Time outs can preserve the honor of you and other family members.

Suzanna Hicks

Mission Trip Fundraisers

Painting Services Offered

Trever and Jasmine Jones are planning to go on a mission trip this coming summer. In

preparation, Trever is offering to do painting to raise funds. Contact him at 260-228-0551 or

worship247@live.com to schedule your winter project.



Truffles for Sale

Stacy Bashore and her daughter Jordan are planning a trip to

Ecuador through the Never The Same Mission group the summer of 2011. To raise funds they will be selling homemade truffles from now until Valentine's Day. Call Stacy at 982-7325 to put your order in for six different varieties.



Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser

Outside of Pastor Tim's office, you may notice a big board filled with envelopes with numbers from 1 through 125. We are asking you to prayerfully consider choosing one of these envelopes and then giving the amount that is on it. For example, if you'd like to make a donation of \$25, you would take the envelope marked "25." We would ask that the lower numbers (1-10) be reserved for any younger people who might desire to be generous in their own way! Thank you for your help in giving us the chance to serve God this summer in the Dominican Republic.



Movie Showing

"The Dark Side of Chocolate"

Sunday, February 13th, 6:30 pm, there will be a showing of the movie, The Dark Side of Chocolate in the Blocher Room of the Manchester Public Library. The movie will be followed by chocolate tasting and give-aways. This 45 minute documentary raises awareness about the child slavery that taints the chocolate we consume. There is no cost for this event. Free childcare will be available at First Brethren Church. To reserve your child's spot, please call the church office.

Information Cards

As some of you perhaps have noticed, the red registration books that were at the end of the pews are no longer in use. The information obtained from these books was primarily for the purpose of knowing who might be newcomers. We have found a more effective way of obtaining that information through a visitor's card handed to them and asking them to fill it out. This gives a personal contact with an individual from the congregation. These welcome cards are on the foyer table by the bulletins and at the back of the sanctuary on the ledge of the projection booth. Anyone is welcome to hand these out to newcomers they may be sitting near in any service. With your help and the staff's collaborative awareness we are also able to visually monitor attendance patterns of other members of the congregation. If you notice someone absent from church please take initiative to give that person a call and/or inform a staff member so we may check in with our church family.

His Hand, or His Face?

When we pray, do we seek God's hand, or His face? In his book Fresh Encounters: Experiencing Transformation Through United Worship-Based Prayer, Daniel Henderson writes that there is a profound difference between request-based prayers and worship-based prayers. He said that it's really the difference between seeking God's hand and His face. As Henderson writes, "God is Spirit (John 4:24), so the idea of His 'hand' and 'face' are concepts designed to help us understand how He works and how we should relate to Him. In general, His hand refers to what He does for me. His face is who He is to me."

Someone has said, "The main thing God asks for is our attention." Henderson says that in a completely pure and holy way, God loves to be sought. The Bible urges us to seek the Lord. David writes in Psalm 27:4, 8, *One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple... You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek."* David was after only one thing; the Lord. David wasn't seeking what the Lord would give him, but the Lord Himself. God gives us great encouragement to seek Him in Hebrews 11:6 when He says, *And without faith it is impossible to please [God], for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.* (NAS)

Henderson says that the only enduring motive for prayer is that God is worthy to be sought. Whether we feel like praying or not, or whether we think we have time to pray or not, God is always worthy to be sought. Revelation 4:11 says, *"Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they existed and were created."*

Henderson writes, "I have learned over the years that when we limit ourselves to seeking God's hand, we may miss His face. He will provide because He is a loving and caring Father, but we may miss the intimacy He intends for us. Conversely, when we seek His face, He delights in opening His hand." Let's be seekers of God's face; let's seek Him for Himself.

Ron Burns, Discipleship Coordinator
(All Scripture references are ESV unless otherwise noted)

Thanks! Thanks! Thanks!



We want to say a special Thank-you to Keith Immel for being our "camp guy" for many, many years. Keith has answered many camp questions, helped us with our registrations, found many scholarships, and has just been an awesome go-between for countless years. As Keith is now serving our church in other ways, we are appreciative of all the time, energy, and love he has given us!

**LOOKING
AHEAD
MARCH**

Club RIOT/K.F.C.

Family Night

Wednesday, March 2nd
6:30-7:45 p.m.

Brethren Way of Christ

March 10-13 Men's
March 17-20 Women's
March 25-27 Youth

VBS

Coming In August

August 1st-5th
6:30-7:45 p.m.

Cancellations Due to Weather

If services should be cancelled due to winter weather, notification will be made by email, message on church phone, WBCL, or WANE TV.

ebruary

Birthdays

- 1 – Ralph McBride
Carol Collett
- 2 – Jason McIntyre
Becky Montel
- 4 – Lila McCann
- 5 – Jordian Wade
Dave McIntyre
- 6 – Joyce Walters
- 7 – Linda Immel
- 8 – Denaë Pyle
Heather Lauer
- 9 – Terry Sites
Harrison Nettleton
- 10 – Beletu Stout
- 11 – Nicole McKee
- 13 – Randy Moore
Carma Cummins
- 15 – Donna Beaver
- 16 – William Bellinger
Annette Clifton
Bill Frantz
- 17 – Kent Coble
- 18 – Robin Shepherd
Michael Willmert
- 19 – Kay Bellinger
- 20 – Tierney Leonhard
- 25 – Cara Blocher
Sophia Cumberland
- 26 – McKenna Egner
- 27 – Nancy Benton
- 28 – Myrl Frantz
Olivia Davis

Anniversaries

- 9 – Kim & Marcy Pratt '91
- 13 – Mike & Kelly McKee '88
- 14 – Martin & Rhonda Hernandez '04
- 24 – Matthew & Diana Nettleton '96
- 26 – Rodney & Susan Warren '77
- 27 – Cary & Laurie Walters '09

Band of Brothers

Men's Breakfast

Saturday,

February 19th

8:00 to 9:30 am

Church Fellowship Hall

Please join us for breakfast and
fellowship.

If you would like to help cook or
serve, be here at 7:00 a.m.

Steve Searles



Children's Ministry



The Beatitudes! As we take a look at Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, we will be focusing on The Beatitudes. We will be learning what these mean in our everyday life at Club RIOT as we work on memorizing them in the LOFT and Sunday School.

Garden 0-1 We are learning about each day of Creation!

Garden 2's We are learning about the Story of David and Goliath. Parents, make sure you check out the paper that comes home with your child. It has ideas and songs to reinforce what we are learning.

Garden 3-Kindergarteners It's a game of I Spy all month long as we learn that Jesus is Loving! Our verse that we are working on memorizing is Proverbs 17:17 as we sing it to the tune of "Here we go Round the Mulberry Bush":

A friend loves at all times
At all times
At all times
A friend loves at all times
Proverbs 17:17

LOFT - Our Children's Church program that focuses on ways we Love, Obey, Follow God and Trust His ways. This month in LOFT we will learn to "bee" like Jesus as we hear about being sold and light to help others see Jesus, that Jesus accepts everyone - even if they are short and no one likes them, and how we are important to Jesus. We will keep practicing our memory verse (Matthew 5:16) and challenge (The Beatitudes in Matthew 5:3-11) and those who can recite one or both on February 27th or March 6th will get a special award.

This is a great chance to learn these verses together and talk about what it means to be like Jesus, and what Jesus means as he teaches us about His kingdom.



Club RIOT- Come for a Really, Incredible, Outstanding Time!

Ages 3 – 4th Grade

KFC – 5th & 6th grade Kids for Christ!!



Wednesdays in February, 6:30-7:45 p.m.

Parents join us for the closing session at 7:35.

Family Night – Wednesday, March 2nd 6:30 p.m.

Elementary Sunday School - Meets each week (except the 5th Sunday) at 10:30. This is time for us to read our Bible Story and learn to apply it to our daily lives in a small group setting. Be sure to bring your Bible!

Club de Niños (Kids Club) will start again mid February! Join us as we also "spy" our way into the Bible!

Camp Shipshewana - Look downstairs on the LOFT Door for information about Our Brethren Retreat Center's Summer Bible Camps. This is an incredible way for your child to experience God in an awesome way. We will be having our annual Camp Sign Up Day later this spring.

VBS - August 1-5, 2011 (A reminder) For the last several years we have held VBS at the start of June, with many conflicts with summer school and sports programs with several of our regular attendees let alone our many outreach kids. We want to reach as many kids and families as possible, so we are pushing the date to the first week in August. Almost all the weeks in June & July are taken by the Brethren Retreat Center and we just don't want to ask any of our kids to choose between VBS and Bible Camp. After having it this year, we will ask for your opinion and see if we want to keep it that week. So, mark your calendars now and plan on attending - just a bit later - our 2011 VBS!





Weekly Schedule

CHAOS (7th-8th Grades) meets on Wednesday nights from 6:15-7:45 at *La Casa*

Ekklesia (9th-12th Grades) meets on Sunday nights from 6 to 8 at the Town Life Center

****Through the end of this school year, Ekklesia will be meeting at the Town Life Center!***

Orange Parents (Parents of Teens) meets on Sunday mornings at 10:30 east end of the Fellowship Hall

Super Bowl Parties

Sunday, February 6

EACH PARTY WILL START AT 6 PM AND END WHEN THE GAME IS OVER (USUALLY BY 10:30), ALTHOUGH PARENTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO PICK UP THEIR STUDENTS AT ANY TIME.

JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS: PARTY @ COLLETT'S, 7402 N 400 E

SENIOR HIGH STUDENTS: PARTY @ McLAUGHLIN'S, 1505 VILLA COURT

BRING A SNACK TO SHARE OR A 2-LITER, BE READY FOR A POSSIBLE SNOWBALL FIGHT, AND INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

****NOTE TO JH STUDENTS: IF ATTENDING THIS PARTY @ THE COLLETT'S, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU PRETEND TO SINCERELY LIKE THE PACKERS!***

WINTER BLAST

February 18-20, For JH and SH – cost is only \$69!

****FYI: This is our only winter/spring retreat for High School Students. We will not be attending Dare2Share this spring, so join us and make "Winter Blast" a blast!***

D. R. Mission Team:

- Our next team meeting is in Huntington, on Monday, Feb 21. We will leave from our church at 7 p.m. and get back after 9.
- You need to have a minimum of 30 letters written and mailed out by the end of February.
- We will have a team meeting in March on Sunday, the 20th. This is a MANDATORY meeting!

ARE YOU 16-20 YEARS OLD? DO YOU WANT TO SIGNIFICANTLY DEEPEN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST? THEN CONSIDER ATTENDING FAIRX QUEST THIS SPRING, FRIDAY, MARCH 25 THRU SUNDAY, MARCH 27. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, TALK TO PASTOR TIM OR ONE OF THE STUDENTS WHO WENT THIS PAST FALL!

Stuck in the Middle Junior High Retreat

Finally, something *just* for junior high students!

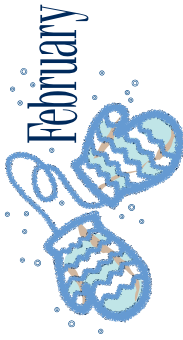
Friday-Saturday, April 29-30, Dayton, OH

Cost is \$85. Deadline to have your money turned in is Sunday, April 3rd.



First Brethren Church
407 N. Sycamore Street
North Manchester, IN 46962

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