



Colony Communiqué

**Monthly Newsletter
First Brethren Church
South Bend, IN**

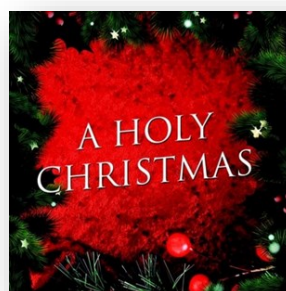
**Volume 3, Issue 11
December, 2017 -
January 2018**



From the Pastor's Office . . .

As another Christmas Celebration is upon us, and another year comes to a close, let's take a few minutes to look back and review this past year. Yet we can look forward with renewed vision to what God is going to do in the future for His FBC Colony.

First, I pray that each of us were challenged this year with the topic of "HOLINESS". Have you accepted positional holiness in Christ, and are you living the progressive holy life for Him today? My desire for FBCSB is to continue on this Holy Highway of life until we all meet in the full glory of the resurrection morning with Him eternally (Perfect Holiness). May I encourage you to stay true to our God by spending time with Him in prayer, reading His Word and allowing the Holy Spirit to speak to you.



Looking forward to the future can be wonderful, but also bring on apprehension. I am looking forward to seeing what God is going to teach us in 2018. Our topic for this year (and maybe for a few years) is going to be "AMAZING BIBLE CHRONICLES". We are going to look at some of the incredible accounts found in the Holy Scriptures. We will begin with creation, and Lord willing, some day finish with the new heaven and new earth in Revelation. I also am anticipating hearing the new stories that God is going to write in our present day lives for His glory.



Maybe the Lord will return before then, either or, we will still be saved by His grace and I pray, living in the victorious Holy Life that He

desires for us to live in spiritually.

As I look outside, at 50 degrees and full sunshine, it sure doesn't seem like winter yet, but I'm sure it is right around the corner. The cold air and snow will come someday, which sets up for me the wonderful Holy Days of Christmas and Chanukah. I look forward to these days as I focus on an Awesome God that provides for His people, whether with oil, food, air, etc, and especially a God that provides redemption and forgiveness to humanity through the incarnation of Jesus Christ.

With the busyness of the Holiday season, I pray that you take time to be with God and celebrate all that He is to you. If you ever need my assistance, please feel free to contact me. I will assist you in any way that I can. I can be reached at fyoungen@att.net or 574-291-4909 or 330-903-1044. Have a Blessed Christmas and a glorious new year. Keep your eyes on our Awesome God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Pastor Fred



Inside this issue:

December Volunteers	2
Dec. Birthdays/Anniv.	3
December Calendar	4
January Volunteers	5
Jan. Birthdays/Anniv.	6
Library News & More	6
January Calendar	7
Announcements	8, 10
Moody Concert Info.	9
News from Benjamin	11

Upcoming Events

- Friday, December 1,
Food Pantry 10am-12pm
- Saturday, December 9,
Men's Breakfast, 8:00am
- Friday, December 15,
Food Pantry, 10am-12pm
- Wednesday, Dec. 20,
Candles & Carols, 6:30pm
- Friday, December 22,
Friday Night Coffee
6:30pm
- Sunday, December 24,
Christmas Eve Walk-In
Bread & Cup, 5:00pm

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

- Friday, January 12, 2018
7:30pm, **Moody Sym-
phonic Band Concert**



December Volunteer Schedule

SUNDAYS

Greeters

- 12 - 3 Jeaniece Bumgardner & Arthur Barry
 12 - 10 Jeaniece Bumgardner & Karen Carson
 12 - 17 Jeaniece Bumgardner & Kathi Ginter
 12 - 24 Jeaniece Bumgardner & Sally Wagner
 12 - 31 Jeaniece Bumgardner & Sandy Sherrod

*** If anyone else is interested in being a Greeter, please contact Bonnie Coffman at 234-9921. Thank you. ***

Hosts

- 12 - 3 Bev Wolf
 12 - 10 Jan Kary
 12 - 17 Bev Wolf
 12 - 24 Jan Kary
 12 - 31 Bev Wolf



This is a ministry that expands hospitality to our Sunday morning guests. Please contact Bev Wolf, 251-1244.

Nursery

- 12 - 3 9:30am - Cindi Jewett
 10:45am - Cindi Jewett
 12 - 10 9:30am - Paula Freed
 10:45am - Connie Wood
 12 - 17 9:30am - Angela Scott
 10:45am - _____
 12 - 24 9:30am - Corinne Freel
 10:45am - Kathy Hollister
 12 - 31 9:30am - Kris & Claire Wright
 10:45am - Kris Wright



Please contact Peggy Baer (259-2912) if you are willing to help volunteer staff the nursery. Thank you.



Blood Pressure Screening

This will be available on Sunday, December 17 in the Conference Room next to the library starting at 10:30am.

Please call Sandy Sherrod at 298-7223 if you are interested in helping with this ministry. Thank you.

Trustee of the Month - Rich Hollister

SUNDAYS

Do you need a ride to church on Sunday mornings?



Please contact Paula Freed at (574) 259-6844 no later than Friday evening at 5:00pm so she can get you scheduled for a ride.

Financial Stewards

- 12 - 3 Glen Scott & Judy Rose-Walley
 12 - 10 Linda Kohman & Bev Wolf
 12 - 17 Jack Kary, Sr. & Becky Reynolds
 12 - 24 Glen Scott & Kathy Plaia
 12 - 31 Jack Kary, Sr. & Jack Kary, Jr.

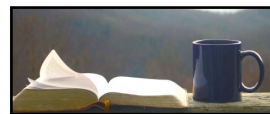
MONDAYS

Monday Morning Mailers

- 12 - 4 Sandy Sherrod
 12 - 11 Judy Rose-Walley
 12 - 18 Jan Smith
 12 - 26 Sandy Sherrod



Please contact Sandy Sherrod, 298-7223 with questions.



Friday Night Coffee December 22 - 6:30pm

Please join us for a great time of fellowship and discussion on Prophecy.

~ Men's Prayer Breakfast will be Saturday, December 9 at 8:00am. We hope many of you men will make time to be there to encourage one another and enjoy good fellowship.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Trustees Meeting
December 3, 2017
10:50am

God bless you richly this holiday season! Don't forget to thank Him for all He's done!





DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

12/1 - Brianna Freel
 12/2 - Ellen Marie
 12/10 - Amelia Taylor
 12/12 - Kathy Spenner
 12/14 - Sandy Gawenda
 12/15 - Kathleen Mitchell
 12/16 - Angel English
 12/17 - Carolyn Lawson
 12/22 - Brian McKee
 12/24 - Christopher Martinez
 12/26 - Arthur Barry
 12/28 - Chad Freel
 12/31 - Andy Holloway



Anniversaries

Remember one another!

EVERYTHING WINTER TREE is available again this year. We are asking for donations of hats, gloves, scarves or socks **FOR ADULTS**. We will be partnering with local agencies to benefit men and women in need. Your gifts will be greatly appreciated.



* * * * *

DEACON CHRISTMAS CARD MAILBOX

Is in the foyer of the church to help you with your distribution of Christmas cards to the church family. Please remember to donate any money saved in postage to the Deacon Fund to help with benevolent needs in our church throughout the year. Thank you!



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
THOUGHTFULNESS!**



DECEMBER YOUTH NEWS

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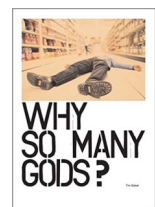
HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US!

- December 3 - *"Why so many gods?"*
- December 10 - Real Services—Elves for Elders gift delivery
- December 17 - Assistance for Friend's Class Christmas Party
- December 24 - Missional Class Christmas Party
- December 31 - "Noon" Year's Eve Party

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If you haven't been part of this discussion before, you will want to join us. It is very interesting and very relevant for today!

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO JOIN US!



First Brethren Church of South Bend

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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THANK YOU! - OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thank you again to all who participated in Operation Christmas Child this year. Our contribution of 46 boxes was part of a collection of 1344 shoeboxes at our local drop-off church (Trinity Evangelical Free). The Northwest Indiana area as a whole collected 35,655 shoeboxes! You were a part of God's big plan! Thank you for bringing the joy of gifts and the gospel to children who may never have experienced either one.



PLANNING SESSION

(held on Saturday, November 11)



Thank you to everyone that attended the Planning and Vision session. More details will be presented in the February newsletter as the Board of Directors have their January meeting and review what was presented. Please keep our church in your prayers, that we would be effective for God's Kingdom work in this area and around the world. Thank you.

Sunday, December 3, 9:30am, Annual elections and Budget approval



Due to the timing of this newsletter publication, the results of the Congregational Meeting and Budget approval could not be published. They will be in the February newsletter. If you have any questions, please see the December 10th bulletin at the church or check the church's website at www.firstbrethren.org, go to the Resource tab and look for the December 10 bulletin.



Christmas Offering . . .

Have you thought about what you would like to present to God as your Christmas offering? Please begin to pray now about what you can give. The Christmas Gifts for Jesus Tree is in the foyer with Gift tags with amounts from \$1 - \$100. If all the tags are used, a total amount of \$5050 would be given to pay down the mortgage on the church. . You are welcome to give as you like or take multiple tags. Would you pray about this with us? The remaining balance due on our mortgage is around \$109,000. Thank you for your prayers.

“His name shall be called Immanuel, which means God with us.” Matthew 1:23



January Volunteer Schedule

SUNDAYS

Greeters

- 1 - 7 Jeaniece Bumgardner & Bev Wolf
 1 - 14 Jeaniece Bumgardner & Connie Wood
 1 - 21 Jeaniece Bumgardner & Evelyn Zigler
 1 - 28 Jeaniece Bumgardner & Arthur Barry

** If anyone else is interested in being a Greeter, please contact Bonnie Coffman at 234-9921. Thank you. ***

Hosts

- 1 - 7 Bev Wolf
 1 - 14 Jan Kary
 1 - 21 Bev Wolf
 1 - 28 Jan Kary



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Nursery

- 1 - 7 9:30am - Cindi Jewett
 10:45am - Cindi Jewett
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 1 - 21 9:30am - Angela Scott
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 1 - 28 9:30am - Corinne Freel
 10:45am - Kathy Hollister



Please contact Peggy Baer (259-2912) if you are willing to help volunteer staff the nursery. Thank you.

Blood Pressure Screening



This will be available on Sunday, January 21 in the Conference Room next to the library starting at 10:30am.

Please call Sandy Sherrod at 298-7223 if you are interested in helping with this ministry. Thank you.

Trustees Meeting
 January 7, 2018
 10:50am

**BOARD OF
 TRUSTEES**

SUNDAYS

Do you need a ride to church on Sunday mornings?



Please contact Paula Freed at (574) 259-6844 no later than Friday evening at 5:00pm so she can get you scheduled for a ride.

Financial Stewards

- 1 - 7 Judy Rose-Walley & Linda Kohman
 1 - 14 Bev Wolf & Angela Scott
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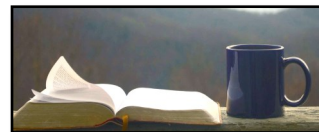
MONDAYS

Monday Morning Mailers

- 1 - 2 Sandy Sherrod
 1 - 8 Judy Rose-Walley
 1 - 15 Jan Smith
 1 - 22 Sandy Sherrod
 1 - 29 Sandy Sherrod



Please contact Sandy Sherrod with questions, 298-7223.



Friday Night Coffee
January 26, 2018
6:30pm

Please join us for a wonderful time of fellowship and a great time of discussion on Prophecy.

~ **MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST** will be Saturday, January 20 at 8:00am.

All men are invited for fellowship, good food and a time for prayer and Bible reading.



Trustee of the Month - Chad Freel



***PRAISE GOD FOR THE
 GIFT OF A NEW YEAR***



JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

1/4 - Albert Martinez
 1/5 - Sue LaGue
 1/5 - Barb Metzgar
 1/6 - Charlotte Meller
 1/8 - Eleanor Porte
 1/10 - Jennifer Baker
 1/13 - Merlin Seske
 1/14 - Veronica Martinez
 1/16 - Mason Hall
 1/16 - Linda Kohman
 1/19 - Shirley Ulbricht
 1/26 - Becky Reynolds
 1/28 - Bev Baker



Anniversaries

LIBRARY NEWS

I know with the holidays coming up most of us don't have a lot of time to sit down and read but how about checking out some of our movies or short devotional type of books and then there is always music. We have music DVDs and CDs.

We have several stories about Christmas (242.35)

- * First Christmas by Paul Maier
- * Our Christmas Story by Mrs. Billy Graham
- * Journeys to Christmas by Dorothy Van Worekom, a children's book
- * Two From Galilee by Marjorie Holmes, an adult fiction book about the birth of Jesus.

Do you need a craft idea for your class or your grandchild? Try Animated Paper Craft by Pat March (268.74). If you're like me you just like the beautiful pictures, inspired poems and creative ideas in the Ideal magazines found in the 242.35 section.

Some Christmas DVDs...

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ~ The Christmas Card | ~ Christmas Snow |
| ~ The Christmas Choir | ~ A Song for the Season |
| ~ Holiday to Remember | ~ A Hobo's Christmas |
| ~ The Man Who Saved Christmas | ~ The Great Rupert |
| ~ The Most Wonderful Time of the Year | |
| ~ Borrowed Heart | ~ A Miracle at Christmas |



Keep reading!

Suzanne Bush, librarian



JANUARY YOUTH NEWS

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HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US!

- January 7 - Take down Christmas Decorations
- January 14 - Purple Porch Co-Op
- January 21 - Lesson week - "The Case for Christ"
- January 28 - Shut-In visit



INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO JOIN US!

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*Set aside the date of
 January 28, 2018 for our
 next youth activity. More
 details will be coming!*

First Brethren Church of South Bend

January 2018

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Moody Bible Institute • Chicago, Illinois
Moody Symponic Band
(Featuring our own FBC member, Joshua Youngen!)

**Will be with us in concert on
Friday, January 12, 2018
7:30pm**

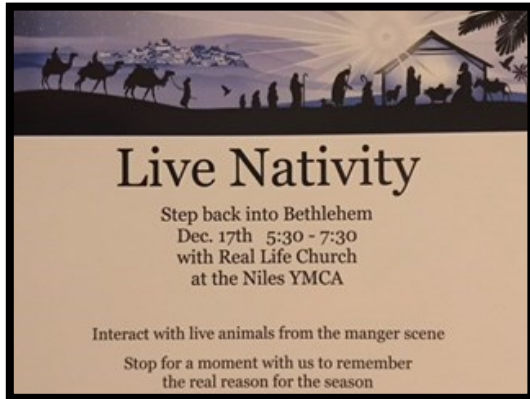
Be sure to invite your family and friends to this wonderful evening of music and ministry. You are sure to be blessed and encouraged. Plan now to attend!!

We are in need of host families willing to house some students that Friday evening until Saturday morning. Please contact Janna in the office if you are available to minister in this way!

STAMPS NEEDED PLEASE



Our P.A.C.E. ministry that sends out cards to our church family for such things as birthdays, anniversaries, sympathy, get well, thank you and thinking of you, is in need of additional stamps. If you are willing to donate stamps, you can place the stamps in the offering plate or put them in the church office. If you are willing to donate money to purchase stamps, please put it in an offering envelope and mark it for stamps. Thank you for supporting this ministry!



Support one of our Brethren Churches in their Christmas Outreach event. This is a great opportunity.

The address is 905 North Front Street, Niles, MI 49120.

**Please join us on
Sunday evening,
December 24, 2017
From 5:00 - 6:00pm
For a walk-in
Bread and Cup Opportunity**



You are welcome to come for all or part of this time to remember the gift of our Saviour and thank God for all He has given us.

There will be time for quiet time in prayer and worship.

Plan now to attend this special evening.

Upcoming webinar answers questions about Medicare

Most people approaching retirement age have questions about Medicare. An upcoming webinar presented by Everence Financial will provide answers.



Medicare made easy will be presented on Monday, Dec. 11, at 3 and 8:30 p.m. Specific topics will include Medicare plans, eligibility, deadlines and costs plus enrollment details. The webinar will be presented by Jim Smith, Everence Financial Services Representative.

To register, visit everence.com/MedicareMadeEasy or contact Melissa Short at (800) 222-5054, ext. 3392 or melissa.short@everence.com.

WISHING EVERYONE A BLESSED ADVENT



A big thank you to all the youth and everyone else who helped decorate the building for Christmas. Everything looks great.

Here are some of the events for the season:

Candles and Carols will be Wednesday night, December 20 at 6:30pm. I always enjoy this special program. Be sure to invite your family and friends. If they don't know the Lord, it will be a great service for them to hear the story of Christmas.

Yes, we will have worship service and 2nd Hour on Christmas Eve at the usually time so you can bring your family or guests.

There will be something new later on Christmas Eve. From 5-6pm, the church will be open for a walk-in Bread and Cup. Pastor Fred will be here and you are welcome to just come to take part in the Bread and Cup, or just sit and pray listening to God for a few minutes or the whole hour.

We also will have service and 2nd Hour on New Year's Eve and something later on that afternoon.

The Birthday presents for Jesus Tree will be different this year. The leadership would like to propose the idea of helping to pay down the mortgage. There are gift tags with different dollar amounts on them. You can take a tag and give that amount of money towards this project. Checks made out to the church will be fine. And if you want to get your church mouse a present, I still love cheese (But no traps please!).

The Deacons Christmas card mail box will be the same. You use one card to send greetings to all the FBC family and give the money you save on postage to the Deacon Fund. Remember, the Deacon Fund all year long as we use this to help those in our church family who have needs, so give extra if you can.

Because lots of people remember to help at Christmas, our Everything Christmas tree will be a little different. We will take hats and gloves of all sizes and give to different groups in need. Maybe it could be a mitten and sock tree!

If you need presents to give, the youth are selling the Disciple Crosses for \$10. Their money will be used for Camp and Youth Conference costs.

We will be hosting the Moody Symphonic Band on January 12 at 7:30pm. Remember when we hosted the students a few years ago? We will need people again to house the students overnight. Remember how much fun you had last time? These are different young people but you will enjoy them. More information will be coming.

We only gave you the highlights so be sure to come every week, read the whole newsletter and check the church's website online. Don't miss anything!

As we celebrate Christmas, remember the cross was already planned when Jesus came as a baby. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

God bless you,

BENJAMIN



South Bend
FIRST BRETHREN CHURCH

4909 S. Ironwood Dr.
South Bend, IN 46614
(574) 291-4909
E-mail: firstbrethren@att.net

Return Service Requested

We're on the web!
firstbrethren.org

"For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.."

~ Isaiah 9:6

Candles & Carols

Dec. 20, 2017, 6:30pm

*Come join us Celebrate the birth of
Jesus Christ with an evening of
music and candlelight.*



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