



ourselves, these attitudes do show up from time to time in some churches. But notice that # 6 encompasses and transforms the other statements. God taught us...to love people when they deserve it the least. In fact, Jesus exemplified that.

As we come into a New Year, may our resolutions be one of the Spirit.

1. To clean up our hearts and minds to be in tune with God's desire for us.
2. To worship regularly and be faithful in prayer
3. Put some excitement into the church and one's life by participating and sharing in fellowship.
4. Explore and make use of our gifts and talents for the betterment of Christ's kingdom.
5. Be willing to give of ourselves or volunteer to fill a need.
- 6. And remember...that people need love the most when they deserve it the least.**

**That** is what God did for us...love us the most when we deserved it the least. And God still does love us more than we can even comprehend no matter what our lives have been. As we turn in acknowledgement of our transgressions toward God and others, we realize that God's love has always been there searching for us. God continues to search for us yearning for a deeper relationship with us.

May the New Year be for you one that is filled with yearning for God and finding that love and peace that passes all understanding.

Blessings for the New Year as we grow together in Christ,  
Pastor Carol M. Pfeiffer



***Mission Statement of Nettle Creek Church of the Brethren:***  
*As the body of Christ, we are Christ-centered in our caring, sharing, and service.*



### **All Church Birthday Party**

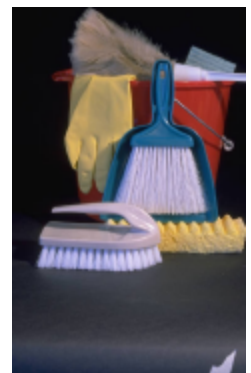
The Church of the Brethren Women's Fellowship (CBWF) invites you to carry-in and All Church Birthday Party after Worship **January 4, 2004**. Come join in the food and the fellowship.

### **Caring Like Jesus Study – January 4 at White Branch Church of the Brethren**

*Caring Like Jesus: The Matthew 18 Project* is co-authored by Daniel Ulrich and Jan Fairchild. Dan, a professor at Bethany Seminary, will be leading the study at **White Branch Church of the Brethren**, our sister church, **January 4, 2004, 7:00 p.m.** This study will continue for ten weeks. We are invited to share in this study. Cost of the book is \$10.00. Dan will also be speaking at Hagerstown Rotary, January 6 at noon. If you'd like to be a guest, contact Pastor Carol. Reservations need to be called in by 9:00 a.m., January 6 so that enough food can be prepared.

### **Scrub-a-dub-dub – Church Cleaning List Posted**

Have rubber gloves...will travel. The Trustees are requesting that you consider taking a turn on the cleaning schedule. You can sign up for a certain area to clean. You can designate the month in which you would like to clean. These persons have donated their time and elbow grease previously and currently: Teresa Renaker, Dee Reneau, Lucille Dilling, Jodi Johnson, Eloise Beeson, Marcia Stout, Kathy Denney, Carol Bullock, and Marjorie and Darrell Briar. There are surely some fellows out there who know how to use a sweeper or scrub brush. ? Be sure to thank those who have been cleaning as well as considering your own time donation. See the trustees if you have questions.



## Bread and Cup Communion



Come join in the remembrance of our Lord. We will have Bread and Cup Communion during Sunday morning worship **January 18**. Worship begins at 10:00 a.m. Nettle Creek has four opportunities to participate in Communion. Bread and Cup is held the third Sunday in January and July. Love Feast is held on Maundy Thursday during Holy Week and the first Sunday in October, which is World Communion Day.

## Thrift Shop - Church Women United

Have time on your hands? Want to volunteer but don't know where? Consider helping sort clothing on Mondays and on sale days at the Thrift Shop. You can play a vital part to help those in need in our community. Contact Carol Bullock for more information. 765-489-4372. The Thrift shop is located at 449 E. Main, Hagerstown, Indiana. Proceeds from the Thrift Shop go for scholarships for local students. This is part of Nettle Creek's ministry.

## Church Council Meeting

Church Council will be held **January 25** following worship and our carry-in meal. Curtis Heaton has resigned as Board Chair effective following the January 4 board meeting. We will need to elect another Board Chair. Also, we will need to vote for another Worship Chair as Valerie is resigning to pursue further experience in ministry via part-time or interim pastoral work. Please be present for this important council meeting. **Be in prayer and discernment** as we plan for the work of Christ's kingdom in our church and communities.



## Continuing to Pray for...



**\*Bob Klein** Fred Dilling Shirley Root Carl DeVinney  
Care Centers: Estella Hilbert, LuFreda Bowman  
Homebound: Ruth Crull, Viola Nicholson

## Coming Soon - Young Adults' Winter Retreat, Crosswalk 2004

This retreat is for **single and married young adults** on **January 9-11, beginning at 6:30 p.m., Friday** will conclude at 11:00 a.m. following Sunday's worship. Plan to bring money for a pizza party, your DVD or VHS movies, board games, snacks to share and your friends. The cost for this two-night/four meal retreat is \$65. Plan to enjoy the fellowship, devotions, music and worship with Christians of similar age. Call Camp Mack to pre-register at 574-659-4831 or e-mail [campmack@npcc.net](mailto:campmack@npcc.net). Check out the Camp Mack Website: <http://www.campmack.org>

## Manchester College Event Honoring the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



James Chinworth, Campus Pastor at Manchester College announces the Sixth Annual service of celebration and rededication honoring the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., **Monday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m.** The service will be held at Manchester College's Wampler Auditorium. The guest speaker will be Dr. John Stanfield, new chairperson of Indiana University's Department of African American Studies. He is an ordained Baptist minister, licensed with the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World and has a strong association with the Quakers.

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Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape. - Old Union Reminder

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Life is a constant battle between carrots and chocolate.

## Giving For December

Average Weekly Offering needed to meet budget.....	\$1,513.56
Average Offering for December was.....	\$1,010.68
Dec. 7.....	\$1,293.00
Dec. 14.....	\$ 990.50
Dec. 21.....	\$ 786.00
Dec. 28.....	\$ 973.20
Christmas Achievement Offering.....	\$ 180.90

Average Attendance..... 51  
Christmas Eve Attendance.....111



## January Birthdays

- 1 Janice Stout
- 2 Jean Gable
- 3 Sharon Swoveland
- 5 Gloria Goens, Robert Pfeiffer
- 6 Ryan Howell
- 7 Jessica Flanagan
- 8 Regan Klein
- 10 Alma Werking, Marcia Stout
- 13 Dee Reneau
- 15 John Andrew, Laneal Hilbert
- 17 Monty Reneau, Beth Stone
- 18 Cindy Reneau
- 19 Jeff Bach, Benjamin Reagan
- 20 Suellen Oakes
- 21 Teresa Renaker, Steven Stout
- 24 Todd Stout
- 25 Alan Briar
- 28 Steve Stone



## Camp Mack News



**Applications are being accepted for summer staff.** Do you know a young person who might want to share in the ministry at Camp Mack this summer? Summer staff are usually 18 years of age or older and are hired as general workers in the kitchen and facility areas. Those trained as lifeguards may also work at the waterfront. Summer staff earn scholarships of up to \$1,000, which are matched up to limits set by Manchester and a number of other colleges. Staff receive room, board and salary and enjoy special activities and outings. Interested person may call or e-mail camp for an application. Address: P.O. Box 148, Milford, IN 46542; Phone: 574-658-4831; Fax: 574-658-4765; E-mail: [campmack@npcc.net](mailto:campmack@npcc.net); Website: <http://www.campmack.org>

## New Summer Programs at Camp Mack

A **Beginners Camp** for those completing **first and second grades**, a **Fine Arts Camp** with drama and clowning, a **Bike Camp** riding in Michigan for **junior high and youth**, and a **Wilderness Journey** for **youth** seeking to deepen their spiritual lives—these great new opportunities are part of the 2004 summer schedule! See the Summer Camp Brochure for details.

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I am never a failure until I begin blaming others. -Anonymous