

# Wabash Church of the Brethren

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## *Here is what I'm thinking...*

Only a week ago the trees in our yard were in full bodied beautiful color, made even brighter by rays of light from the sun. Now they are skeletons against the sky. Our newly mowed green grass is now covered with the fading brown and gold that fell from the sky like rain in the last couple of days. It must be November. It is cold and wet and gray. Not my favorite month.

But maybe this month, that we barely notice, tightly squeezed as it is between the commercial emphasis on Halloween and on the season of Christmas, is the perfect month for Thanksgiving. It is the pause we are offered from our many distractions, desires and dissatisfactions of life and notice the source of the gift of deeper joy that is with us even in ordinary times. I think Thanksgiving has the potential to be what Christmas would be if it were indeed observed primarily as a sacred Holy Day.

***So here's what I'm thinking...*** This year we have moved our Congregational Meeting to a later date, November 22, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. This has been a particularly difficult year as a congregation on many fronts so it will be easy as we reflect to get lost in justified lament. This is always a time when we not only look back but also look forward to the future. In preparation for that planning, we will spend our worship times this month focused on how we are called to participate in God's mission for the world even in a time of our own community uncertainty. My hope for this time is that, even as we mourn our losses and honestly confront our fears, we will, in this Thanksgiving season, come together from a place of gratitude.

Christine D. Pohl, in her book: *Living into Community; Cultivating Practices That Sustain us*, writes; "Gratitude begins with paying attention, with noticing the goodness, beauty, and grace around us. The practice of gratitude becomes more central to our communities when we stop feeding the cycles of complaint and orient our lives around praise, testimony, and thanks. Our communities flourish when we regularly tell stories of God's faithfulness and goodness and when we find opportunities to express gratitude and celebrate the gifts we have received. Because of God's grace and work in bringing us together in Christ and in building our congregations, we are able to participate in congregational life "not as demanders but as thankful participants."

Karl Barth writes, "*To believe in Jesus Christ means to be thankful.*" May it be so with us all.

**November 2015**

***Blessings,***

*Kay*  
A small, stylized blue bird icon, possibly a dove, positioned at the end of the signature.

# Worship Schedule

**November 1**

**Risen through faith**

**Scripture**

John 11:32-44

**Message**

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Strubble

All Saint's Day message of death and eternal life, as told through the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead and the parallel of this to his own death and resurrection.

**November 8**

**Proclaiming and Nurturing Faith and Mission in Community**

**Scripture**

2 Corinthians 4:5-6 Acts 2:42,46-47

**Message**

Pastor Kay Gaier

How do we as individuals, and as a particular faith Community, proclaim and nurture our faith and mission through our worship, our study and the structure of our life together?

**November 15**

**Living and Sharing Faith and Mission as a Community**

**Scripture**

1 John 3:11, 16-20, 23,24

**Message**

Pastor Kay Gaier

How is the Spirit of love and the embodiment of the healing presence of Christ made real and visible, not just in word or speech, but in truth and action, through the witness and mission of our congregation?

**November 22**

**Supporting and Caring for Faith and Mission as a Community**

**Scripture**

1 Corinthians 16:1-4

**Message**

Pastor Kay Gaier

Stewardship of our money as well as our energy and time are part of how we care for God's people. It is a covenant we make to each other to support, to the extent that we can, our shared ministry and vision to participate in God's purpose for the world. How do good practices in the care and use of our building and shared resources serve our calling as a congregation?

**November 29**

**Advent 1**

**Scripture**

Jeremiah 33:14—16

**Message**

Rev. Helen Beery

The prophets declare that God's justice is coming through the promised Messiah. A moment of moral and spiritual clarity awaits us in this Advent as we pray for God's Spirit to strengthen our hearts and lead us on pathways of justice. Freed from what keeps us captive, we can live in more caring and just ways.

## Special Offering—November 8



### New Community Project

NCP is a small organization with a big goal - to change the world by changing the way we relate to the planet and its people. We offer resources that challenge us, experiences that change us and a community that gives us hope. Join us!

## *Prayers for:*

**Stan Miller** has been receiving therapy for his constant headaches. If he does not get relief soon they will consider injections.

**Solomi Titus** is our girl from the group that was abducted from school in Nigeria. Please keep her and her family in your hearts and prayers.

**Colton Mullett** and family on the birth of their son, Carson Michael Mullett this week. Congratulations everyone!

## *World Kindness Day is Friday, November 13*

Be sure to do something nice for someone that day. Need ideas? Go here for inspiration! <https://randomactsofkindness.org/>



Youth Bake Sale is quickly approaching! There will be a meal and baking get together on Thursday December 3 starting at 5pm. The Bake Sale will be held at Big R on Saturday December 7.

If you cannot make the get together to bake, donations will be accepted anytime!

## *Growing Grounds Thanksgiving Meal*

The Growing Grounds group that meets monthly at our church will be preparing a Thanksgiving meal for the men and their families who are in the work release program through Community Corrections. They will also be sharing this meal with them. If you have time to help prepare the food, would like to partake in the meal, or assist in any other way we would love to have you join us.

Marti and Kandy will be here starting at 12 to start preparing the food, and the meal will be served at 6:00pm



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# News from the Pew

## Marion Church of the Brethren

ANNUAL

# Swiss Steak Dinner

INCLUDING

Mashed Potatoes & Gravy  
Green Beans • Salad • Roll  
Dessert • Drink

Saturday Nov 14 4:00 to 7:30pm

Adults: \$ 9.00 Children 10 & under \$4.00

Call for  
orders to go!

662-1600

Marion Church of the Brethren  
2302 South Geneva Avenue Marion, IN  
(on 26th Street between the By-pass & Miller Ave.)

## Movie Time

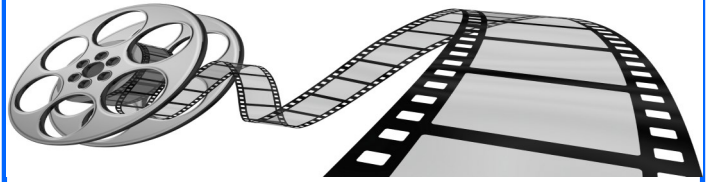
**When:** December 13 after service

**Movie:** Spare Parts

**Summary:** Four Hispanic high school students form a robotics club. With no experience, 800 bucks, used car parts and a dream, this rag tag team goes up against the country's reigning robotics champion, MIT.

**Who:** All are welcome to stay.

A light meal will be served and breakout discussion groups to follow.



## Can you help?

There is need for a group of volunteers in Loveland, CO the week of November 8-14. Volunteers will be working on repairs from flooding that hit that mountainous area nearly two years ago. The project there has been operating since early summer. Please note that the altitude in Colorado can really impact breathing and cause headaches so be prepared.

The rebuilding project has long term and short term project leaders to lead the work and prepare meals but teams should also be ready to assist with cooking and do a variety of building tasks. Tools are on site but bring bedding and flexibility!

South/Central COB District of Indiana is willing to help with travel expenses so don't let that be a barrier. If you and others can go on short notice like this, please be in contact with me by email above or call for the next two weeks at 260-982-2971.

Thank you for considering this important ministry!  
Cliff Kindy, District Disaster Coordinator



## Manchester University

- 11/3/15 3:30 PM VIA: What does it mean to be white? Cordier Auditorium
- 11/5/15 7:00 PM Fed Up: Documentary exposes truth about US food production. Cordier Auditorium
- 11/8/15 12:00 PM Celebrating Diversity Workshop. Speicher Room, Switzer Center
- 11/8/15 5:00 PM Power Hour: Homosexuality and Religion? Intercultural Center
- 11/10/15 3:30 PM VIA: Autism Awareness: My work with one extraordinary child. Cordier Auditorium
- 11/19/14 3:30 PM VIA: Militarization, Airstrikes, and ISIS. Cordier Auditorium

# CAMP MACK

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P.O. Box 158, Milford, IN 46542  
Phone: 574-658-4831 Fax 574-658-4765  
Email: info@campmack.org

Many sincere thanks to those who attended, donated items for the auction, provided a booth, did a demonstration, brought entertainment or helped in any way to make the 16th Camp Mack Festival last month a great success. Plan to be a part of the 18th Annual Camp Mack Festival on October 1, 2016!

Volunteer Work Days are November 2-4. Come for a day or the entire time. Meals and lodging are available. Contact the office for reservations.

Get-A-Way Days: Treat yourself to a “mini retreat”!

☑ November 14: Sand Hill Cranes trip to Jasper Pulaski FWA

Visit Camp’s website or call Camp for details.

Pastors: Plan to be camp’s guests at the fall Pastors’ Sabbath on Tuesday, November 3 to Wednesday, November 4. The guest leader, Jeff Carter. This event is no charge; it is our gift to you.

Camp Mack Alternative Gift Options: Consider a gift that could change a life! Give a child a gift of summer camp or give a Good as Gold certificate so that the recipient may choose the program of their choice. Or help to fulfill one of the wishes on the **Camp Mack Wish List**:

- A donation to the Growing from the Ashes Capital Campaign for Becker Retreat Center
- Funds for operation – as Camp serves without income from Becker Lodge.

**NEW YEAR’S PARTY:** for those in 6th grade through high school. Theme: Fearless Faith Live DJs, dancing, pizza, popcorn, movies, awesome worship and camp’s own “Times Square countdown” with a ball drop and sparkling grape juice! Time: Dec. 31, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. to Jan. 1, 2016: at 12:30 p.m.

**PRAYER REQUEST:** Please pray the Staff and volunteers.

**A Quiet Place Quote:** “May our surrendered hearts reach out with an eager delight to discover and embrace the lovely will of our loving God.” Hannah Whitall Smith



# Wabash Church of the Brethren Board Minutes

## October 14, 2015

PRESENT: Laurie Kieffaber Cornett, Kay Gaier, Carol, Dennis Horn, Larry Jamerson, John, Laurale Kreps, Sharon Larrowe, Deb Mills, Karen Odiorne, and Michelle Roudebush

Updates were solicited about folks we know and hold dear.

Treasurer's report – Stan had developed the August financials and these were distributed. Insurance cost for 2015 was up \$600 over the 2014 year. Stewards have many expenses and projects that improve the building, but add up financially. The average offering amount for the month was almost \$1300. Karen/Larry, unanimous to accept

Minutes for September 9, 2015 were perused. It was suggested that last names be added to those listed on nominating committee and that would be Pam Little and Marcy Finnell. Church of the Brethren was also added to the outside sign. Laurie/John, unanimous to approve

Nurture Commission – Carol reported that the following speakers will be with us when Kay is gone.

Nov. 1 – Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Struble

Nov. 29 – Helen Beery

Dec. 27 – Doug Reichenbach (now not able to come this Sunday)

Jan. 3, 2016 – Elizabeth Struble

Highlights of each Sunday service are being placed in the Plain Dealer section of In the Churches. Persons who are willing to help with worship leadership are always needed. Sign up, please! We are interested in having the extra Upper Room booklets distributed. They could be stamped with our church name and address before distribution. Purchase requires a minimum number of booklets. Growing Grounds will go to Salamonie for the Oct. 21 meal and the church is invited. The Nov. Growing Grounds meal will include the men, and their families, who are with Community Corrections. Jr High/Sr High youth will be asked to help bring the service on Jan. 10 or 24. Another meal and movie could be scheduled for Dec. 13. We noted Michelle's accomplishment in passing her massage state test!

Stewards Commission – Larry reported on the following. The Saturday work day went great except for some bees. John Unger finished the second window well, but the bill has not been submitted yet. The new peace pole is up and cost \$115. The pine

tree at the parsonage is gone including the stump. It cost \$550 to remove the tree and \$100 to remove the stump. Water stains in the sanctuary and fellowship hall has been chipped, sanded, and painted. The church passed our boiler inspections. We still need Chuck Cable to finish the sign. Larry also reminded folks to finalize their budgets by next month.

Witness Commission –Laurale reported that she would like to start work on the 2016 church directory. The \$60 that was left from the previously assembled kits might be used to assemble new disaster relief kits.

Kay's Report – Kay has had seven hospital or home visits lately. Special services were prepared for International Peace Sunday and World Wide Communion Sunday. Her last official duty for the district was at district conference. Upcoming events include the Community Corrections Thanksgiving Dinner that will be held at our church on Nov. 18.

John/Larry, unanimous to accept all reports

New Business – Discussion was opened for envisioning the program, mission, and church building use. (This brainstorming list is in the Board file.)

We closed with a laying on of hands for Larry who will be attending the Brethren Way of Christ retreat on October 15 through October 18, 2015

Carol Horn, Clerk

Church Council Meeting is November 22, 2015, with a meal following the service.

Please come and share in our planning for the life of our church.

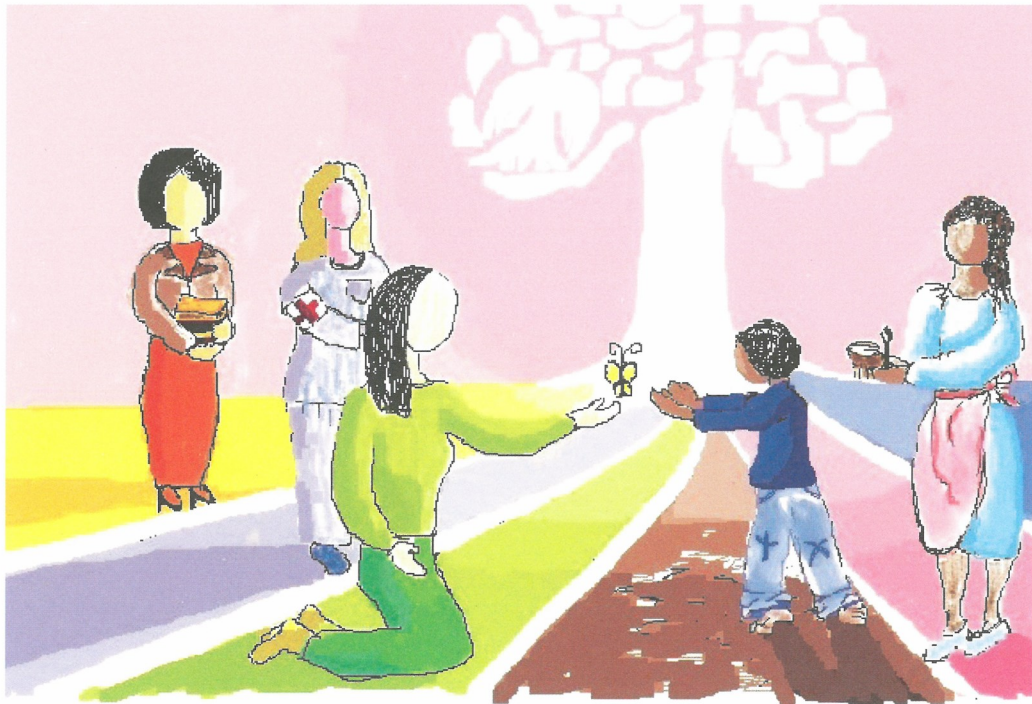




# 2015 Human Rights Celebration



## Journey Toward Peace



# Church Women United

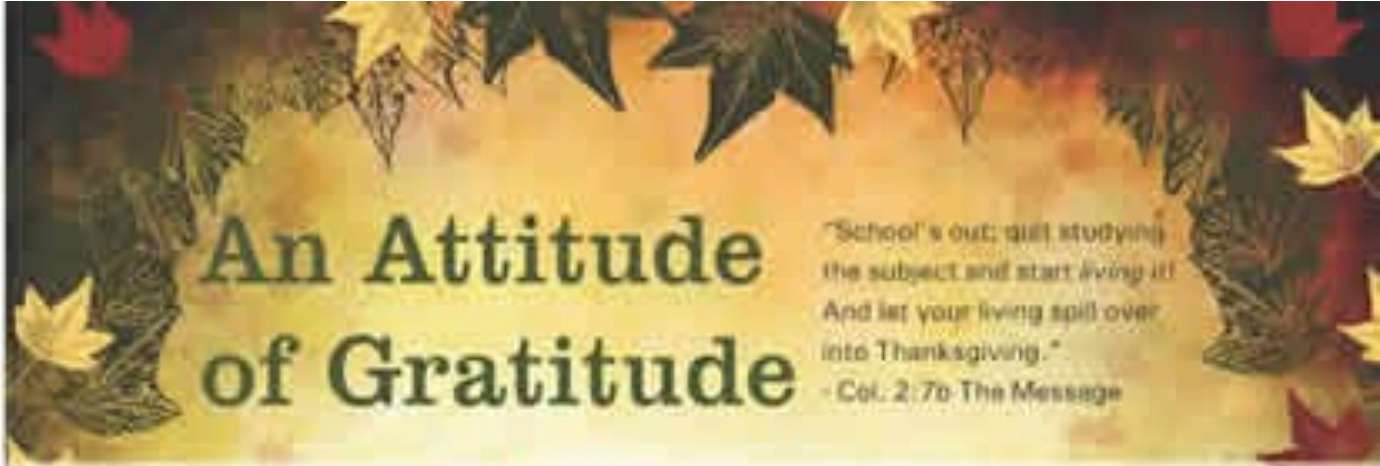
Friday November 6, 2015

9:00 AM at the Wabash CoB

© 2015 "Companions on a Journey" supporting text—Psalm 139: 1-3.

Sponsored by Church Women United ★ 475 Riverside Dr. #243, New York, NY 10115 ★ [www.churchwomen.org](http://www.churchwomen.org) ★ 212-870-2347 ★ [cwu@churchwomen.org](mailto:cwu@churchwomen.org).





# An Attitude of Gratitude

"School's out; girl studying  
the subject and start living it!  
And let your living spill over  
into Thanksgiving."  
- Col. 2: 7b The Message

# **POWER HOUSE 2015**

A regional  
conference for  
Church of the  
Brethren youth

## Nov. 21-22

Keynote speaker:  
Rich Troyer

Camp Alexander Mack  
Milford, Ind.

 **Manchester  
University**

[www.manchester.edu/powerhouse](http://www.manchester.edu/powerhouse)

