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Church of the Brethren  
Prayer Calendar for the Season of Christmas to Epiphany 2012

Prayers for the month of January

**January 1**

Many of us are making lists for the new year. We long to better ourselves, make a new start, or even change certain patterns. At the same time there are those for whom the power to change has either been taken away by others or is inhibited by health. Pray for those whose longing cannot be satisfied. Pray that your own new beginning may also transform those around you.

**January 8**

This week a number of Youth and Young Adult programs begin the registration process. Pray for the young people of our denomination. Pray that gatherings such as National Young Adult Conference and Workcamps might be places of encouragement and of transformation. Seek out the young people of your community and covenant to pray for their experiences in the coming year.

<http://www.brethren.org/yya/>

**January 15**

This week many businesses and organizations will take a day off to remember the witness and life of Martin Luther King Jr. Though racism is no longer legally sanctioned, many people are still deeply effected by more subtle forms of prejudice. First, pray that the Spirit might reveal your own prejudices. Second, pray that obvious and subtle forms of racism might be removed both from our hearts and actions.

**January 22- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Martin Luther King Jr once commented that Sunday mornings are the most segregated hours of the week in America. Skim through the pages of your phonebook or do a Google search for churches near you. How might you reach out to these communities as part of the Body of Christ? Pray that the relationships that emerge between Christian congregations might transform your community.

**January 29**

Our physical warmth is often just a blanket or jacket away. Take a few minutes to count the number of winter coats and blankets in your house. Prayerfully discern how your own resources might be shared with those who are cold this week. How might your surplus be shared so that many might have enough?

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*