



# Middlebury Church of the Brethren September 9, 2018

## MIDDLEBURY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN "PROMISE"

We promise to walk in the way of Jesus' love by: Looking for the God seed in all people while practicing healthy processes of inclusiveness, showing grace and honesty.

- Building-up community by showing Hospitality, Equality and speaking truth in love.
- Willing to be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit with our heart, mind, soul, and strength as we grow spiritually and are transformed in God's love, grace and peace.
- Study, Practice, and Commitment to Forbearance\* as we search for common ground.
- Joyously Celebrating Life.

\*Forbearance:

*Forbearance is a Biblical concept.*

*The Greek words in the New Testament translated as carry meanings of patience self-control, restraint, mercy, long-suffering and the refusal to threaten (EPH. 4:2; COL 3:13, EPH 6:9, 11COR 12:6)*

*Forbearance does not jeopardize or denigrate individual conviction, but it does place boundaries on the quality and character of individual responses.*

*Forbearance does not require one to accept what another believes, but it does require one listen and try to understand what another believes without demeaning, personal attacks, or acting to disenfranchise the other person.*

### GROUP GATHERINGS after Fellowship

Children under 9 yrs meet in classrooms west of kitchen / Beth Muhlneckel & Britta Copeland

Children 10 yrs and older meet in Room 207 / Mark & Catherine Roebuck

### Adult Group Gathering

*Wired Word & Sermon discussions.....Room #105 with Don Anderson  
Beth Snider, Beth Sholly*

*Contemplative & Silent Meditation-Rear of Sanctuary.....Self directed*

## MIDDLEBURY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

*Middlebury Church of the Brethren is a welcoming and inclusive congregation offering Christ's hospitality to the world.*

Pastoral Minister – **Janet Shaver**; cell 574-214-6741  
e-mail: [middleburypastor@yahoo.com](mailto:middleburypastor@yahoo.com)  
Worship – 9:00 a.m. Sunday School – 10:45 a.m.



# Closing the Gap



We have a Children's Play area set up in the sanctuary for parents with young children. We understand and accept that it isn't easy for young children to sit still throughout the service. The play area is along the back wall to your left as you enter the sanctuary. We ask that the parents sit close to the play area since this isn't supervised by anyone. God Bless the Children.

**September 9, 2018**  
**Theme: Creative justice**

Welcome and announcements Julie Bontrager

Opening Prayer Julie Bontrager

Prelude Sherry Bickel

\*Praise Team *If I Had a Hammer* Insert/screen

\*Justice Calls us to Worship: a responsive reading

Leader: Come and worship!

**People: We will praise the One between, within, and over.**

Leader: Trust in the One who co-creates the was, the now, and the will-be.

**People: Our hope is in the One who creates expansive love calling us to do the same.**

Leader: Follow the One who never breaks covenant.

**People: We follow the One whose extravagant love calls us to co-create justice for the oppressed, feed the hungry, unlock prisons, and welcome strangers, orphans, and widows.**

Leader: Praise the One whose justice is grace-full and inclusive.

**All: We praise the Spirit that spans the ages. Amen!**

\*Hymn *Praise, I will Praise You, Lord(A capella)* #76

\*Greet each other in Christ's love

Scripture Mark 7:24-30 NT #42

*You are invited to leave your offering on the table as you leave the worship space.*

Offering Prayer: Worship Leader  
God of grace, it is our delight and our devotion to give these gifts to you. All we are and all we have are yours alone. Accept this joyful offering as a token of our abiding love: use it to bring peace, justice and comfort to all the world. Amen.

Contemplative song prayer Led by Jill Weaver  
The kingdom of God is Justice and Peace,  
and Joy in the Holy Spirit.  
Come, God, and open in me,  
the gates of your kingdom.

Scripture James 2:1-17 NT #229

Message **Closing the Gap** Pastor Janet Shaver

\*Hymn *God of the Bible* Insert/screen

\*Benediction: Worship leader

As you have been fed, go to feed the hungry.

As you have been set free, go to set free the imprisoned.

As you have been received – give.

As you have heard – proclaim.

And the blessing which you have received from the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit be always with you. Amen.

\*Postlude *On The Road Again* (suggested by Gordon Mock)

\*Congregation stands in body or spirit

**New or Visiting.....WELCOME....Please fill out Guest cards located in the PEWS and place in the offering plate when finished.**

## September 9, 2018 Activities / Announcements

**10:00 am** – Worship – Pastor Janet Shaver  
Worship Leader – Julie Bontrager  
**10:50 am** – Fellowship time – *Birthday Sunday!!*  
**11:00 am** – Sunday school class –  
*Classes are listed on back of bulletin*

2-4 pm – Pentecostal Church using Fellowship Hall today  
Tuesday 7pm – Board Rm rented

Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm – Board Meeting



**A special thanks to Nelda** for being a faithful “dead-header” of the flowers. The beds look great!!

**Please make these corrections** to your church directory:

Tom Miller’s new cell phone is 574 349-3068  
Eleanor Hawkins’s correct cell is 574 238-2042



**“Take a Break Thursday”** free community meal at 5:30 pm. Please come and enjoy the meal & fellowship. This is a partnership with Faith Mission of Elkhart. **With health issues among us, vacations and travel, volunteers are badly needed to help with the Thursday meal. Please come at 4:30 if you can help with setup, serving and clean up.**

Look for **NUMANA** poster on the board (**outlined in bright green**). Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> Pathway Church is hosting a meal packing service project of 60,000 meals. They need community & financial support. See the poster for more info on how you can help.



**FOOD PANTRY** Donations are always needed, especially hygiene products and household cleaning products. PLEASE PLACE THE ITEMS IN THE PLASTIC BIN AT THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY.

**AT THIS TIME THE FOOD PANTRY IS RUNNING OUT OF MONEY – CASH DONATIONS ARE MUCH NEEDED. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CHECK WITH THE OFFICE.**

**AT THIS TIME, cooking oil, toothpaste, laundry soap, frosting, condiments, and coffee are especially needed.**  
**Thank you for your continuing generosity!**

## September 16, 2018 Next Week Activities/ Announcements

**10:00 am** – Worship – Pastor Janet Shaver  
Worship Leader – Mark Bickel  
**10:50 am** – Fellowship time  
**11:00 am** - Sunday school Classes –  
*Classes are listed on back of bulletin*

2-4 pm – Pentecostal Church rents sanctuary  
Tuesday 7pm – Board Rm rented

## **SEPTEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup> – MINISTRY SUNDAY**

Please tell us about the ministry in which you are involved – in community and in the church

## **OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup> – TAILGATE CARRY-IN – STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY**

Worship will be in the Fellowship Hall from 10:00 to 11:00, followed by fellowship from 11:00 to 11:30; this will give us the opportunity to prepare the meal Communion will be offered at a station in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate World Communion Sunday.

Carried-in food will be served at 11:30 from the tailgates of the vehicles parked in a semi-circle near the kitchen.

There will be games to play at various stations in the Fellowship Hall,

**Assistance will be provided for anyone needing help getting or carrying plate or tray to the table.**



## **OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup> – TIME CHANGE**

**Based on the survey results, please note the following changes:**

**Worship service: 9:30 to 10:20**  
**Fellowship time: 10:20 to 10:45**  
**Sunday school: 10:45 to 11:30**

**September 23<sup>rd</sup> - Nappanee CoB is celebrating Byrl Shaver’s 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the church** by hosting a party on Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:30. All are invited.



**Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> – Bonfire at Beth & Jill’s. Details to come!**

**Little Lites Daycare** is hiring childcare staff for part-time or full-time hours. For hours, job description and salary please, contact Lorie Copeland or Director Mary Miller at 574-312-5369