



Middlebury Church of the Brethren February 17, 2019

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 Muhlcnickel & Britta Copeland

Children 10 yrs and older meet in Room 401 / 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
Worship – 9:30 a.m. Sunday School – 10:20 a.m.



WE ARE NOT ALONE



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.

February 17, 2019
Theme: Blessing each other

Welcome and Announcements Mark Bickel
Opening Prayer Mark Bickel
Prelude Lorie Copeland
*Praise Team *Ubuntu* Insert/screen

***Call to Worship:**

Leader: The poor, and those in solidarity with them –
People: God is on your side.
Leader: Those who mourn and feel grief about the state of the world –
People: God is on your side.
Leader: The non-violent, gentle and humble –
People: God is on your side.
Leader: Those who hunger and thirst for the common good –
People: God is on your side.
Leader: The merciful and compassionate –
People: God is on your side.
Leader: Those characterized by sincerity, kindness and generosity –
People; God is on your side.
Leader: Those who work for peace and reconciliation –
People: God is on your side.
Leader: Those who keep seeking justice –
People: God is on your side.
ALL: Those who stand for justice and truth as the prophets did,
who refuse to be quiet even when slandered,
misrepresented, threatened, imprisoned or harmed –
God is on your side!

*Hymn *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*

Heart of a Child storytelling Beth Sholly

OFFERING PRAYER

Benevolent God, you see those who are hungry, poor and marginalized, who too often we overlook.
You recognize their humanity and their suffering, and promise to overthrow the rejection they encounter in our world. Help us be part of that transformation.
Take our gifts to feed the hungry and sustain the poor. Multiply our gifts to erase the margins of our society, embracing us all in Your inclusive love.
Amen.

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

Hymn *Morning Has Broken* #648
Scripture Psalm 1 OT #489 Luke 6:17-26 NT #64
Message **We Are Not Alone** Pastor Janet Shaver
*Hymn *Bind Us Together* Insert/screen

***Blessing for the Road:**

We go out:
Blessed in the midst of God's love
Blessed in the midst of our world
Blessed in what we feel,
 see
 do
Blessed
Even in the times we find it hard
To see
 the blessing
Even then
We can know ourselves
As the children of God
Especially then
We can know
 see
 feel
God's presence in our lives
Blessed
God's love in our lives
Given by the One
Who came to save
Blessed are you

In the name of Christ

*Postlude

**Congregation stands in body or spirit*
New or Visiting.....WELCOME.....Please fill our Guest cards located in the pews and place in the offering place when finished.
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February 17, 2019 Activities/ Announcement

9:30 am – Worship – Pastor Janet Shaver
Worship Leader – Mark Bickel

10:20 am – Fellowship time

10:45 am – Sunday school Classes –
Classes are listed on back of bulletin

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

TODAY 11:30 – 5:00pm Fellowship Hall rented

Friday, February 22nd from 4:00 – 5:00 pm – Visitation for Abbi DiPietro.
5:00 pm – Memorial Service, followed by a meal.

Abbi died on Wednesday, February 6th, after contracting bacterial Meningitis from an ear infection. She was 10 years old.



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.



FROM THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE – With our small congregation, every person absent on Sunday is greatly missed. If someone is missing we always know it and find that it would be wonderful to know if someone is simply traveling or will be away for any reason.

If you would like to let friends in our congregation know you are traveling or will be out of town, there is now a calendar for you to share that information at the back of the Fellowship Hall beside the door.

Please be assured that the calendar will be in the office during any event with outside people; ie: during the Faith Mission meal.

COMING SOON!

A Give-and-Take table in the Fellowship Hall for both congregation & community. Bring those items of value you no longer want that may be someone else's treasure. *No clothing, no broken or damaged items, no furniture, etc.*

Unclaimed items will be removed after one month.

February 24, 2019 Activities/ Announcements

9:30 am – Worship – Pastor Janet Shaver
Worship Leader – Mark Bickel

10:20 am – Fellowship time

10:45 am - Sunday school Classes –
Classes are listed on back of bulletin

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

Tuesday, February 26th 6:00 pm – Faith Mission outreach in Elkhart

Thursday, February 28th 7pm – Executive team meeting



“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.**

Showalter Family Fund

If you want to contribute to this fund, please put your contribution in the offering plate marked "Showalter Family". **Any gift is helpful. Thank you!**



You may encounter this new face around our building and some of you may recognize him. **This is our custodian, Todd Bush.** He comes to us from the maintenance position at Crystal Valley Manor Apartments. Please make him feel welcome.

If you would like to use our Fellowship Hall and/or kitchen, it is important that you check in at the office and put it on the calendar. Any church member is welcome to reserve and use the building without charge; however, we do have liability to consider and need to know when it's being occupied. It's as simple as calling in or stopping in the office.