



Middlebury Church of the Brethren February 24, 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 Muhlneckel & 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 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.

IT'S COMPLICATED

February 24, 2019
Theme: Forgiveness

Welcome and Announcements Mark Bickel

Opening Prayer Mark Bickel

Prelude Sherry Bickel

*Praise Team *Come to the Table/Sidewalk Prophets* Insert/screen

***Call to Worship:** Worship Leader only

The enemy: love them

The oppressor: walk the mile with them

The Master: turn the other cheek to them

This doormat faith seems too much to bear in a world where those who bully always seem to win

The enemy: imbalance them with love

The oppressor: shame the law that oppresses

The Master: turn the cheek as an equal

This rebellious faith seems too much to bear in a world where those who bully are loved back to justice by the bullied. But this is heaven's revolution and we are called into it come let us worship love's rebel, Jesus

*Hymn *Come, Thou Fount* #521

OFFERING PRAYER

Thank you, extravagant God, for your blessings in our lives. We offer ourselves in grateful response, seeking to live with such compassion toward others that your blessings will flow through us to bless our community and our world. May it be so through the life of Jesus. Amen

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

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn *Oh, Lord Hear our Prayer* Meditation led by Jill Weaver

Scripture Luke 6:27-38 NT #64

Message **IT'S COMPLICATED** Pastor Janet Shaver

*Hymn *Lord, I Want to be a Christian* #444

***Blessing for the Road:**

Go now, turning grudges into grace.

Turn fractures into forgiveness.

Turn hardness into hearts broken open by love.

*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 24, 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

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

Thursday, February 28th 7pm – Executive team meeting



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.

March 3, 2019 Activities/ Announcements

9:30 am – Worship – Pastor Janet Shaver

Worship Leader – Dalis Andrews

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



“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.