



# Middlebury Church of the Brethren March 31, 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](mailto:middleburypastor@yahoo.com)

Worship – 9:30 a.m. Sunday School – 10:20 a.m.



# Water Your Grass: Gaining Perspective



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.

**March 31, 2019**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

Welcome and Announcements Don Anderson  
Opening Prayer Don Anderson  
Prelude Lorie Copeland  
\*Praise Team *Come to the Table* (Sidewalk Prophets) Insert/screen

Candle Extinguishing Liturgy – WL and Sharon Lemmon

\*Hymn *Open My Eyes That I May See* #517

Congregational prayer response:

**All:** God of radiant light, your presence warms our hearts with peace and hope. Your wisdom illuminates the shadows of our fears and guides the way for us to follow. Your love made known in the life of Jesus inspires us to share our lives generously with the world you so love. As the Body of Christ, we gather to worship and give thanks and praise to you, O God. Amen

Bring your Symbols of New Life

Taize Meditation with Jill Weaver:  
*Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.*  
*Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.*



2¢ a Meal offering – Singing Magic Penny

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

Offering Prayer – WL

God of unending grace, although there are times in our lives when we question why, and when we wander from our path of faith, we still are forever grateful for this gift of life that is ours. And we now pray that what we give will make this world better. We give our gifts, therefore, with grateful hearts through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Genesis 21:8-14 and 22:1-18 OT pg#17

Message **Water Your Grass: Gaining Perspective**  
Deanna Beckner

\*Hymn *Obey My Voice* #163

\*Benediction – WL

Go in peace. Give up something if it brings you closer to our Lord, who gave up so much for you. But to feel still closer to him, take on something. Take on someone's guilt, sickness or fear of death and, by sharing it, offer it up to God as your Lenten sacrifice. And may God put your observance of Lent to work for your growth in faith, hope and love for the sake of him who bore our burdens and carried our sorrows, even his crucified and risen Son. Amen.

\*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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## March 31, 2019 Activities/ Announcement

9:30 am – Worship – Deanna Beckner  
Worship Leader – Don Anderson

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** our speaker is Deanna Beckner from Camp Mack



**TODAY - 2¢ A MEAL**

**Deacon Meeting** today – after Sunday school

**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 community meal.***

### **DONATIONS NEEDED**

Wrapped candy small enough to fit inside plastic Easter eggs for the Daycare Easter egg hunt.

You can place your donations in the box in the office. Deadline for candy is 4/12.

**THANK YOU!**



**“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.**

## April 7, 2019 Activities/ Announcements

9:30 am – Worship – Pastor Tim Morpew  
Worship Leader – Julie Bontrager

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

**SUNDAY, April 7<sup>th</sup>** speaker will be Pastor Tim Morpew



**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.

### **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!

**Pastor Janet** is now home. Any cards or visits go to  
304 Mack Dr.  
Nappanee, IN 46550

**PROJECT PROMISE EASTER PLAY** is here at MCOB this year. During this live drama, the actors will interpret the events leading up to Easter. Admission is free; a goodwill offering will be taken. Project Promise provides spiritual and social support for persons with disabilities. Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, 4/9 and 4/11 they will be rehearsing. Their performances will be on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm and 6:00pm.