

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 / Keri Anderson, Jill Weaver,
Sharon Lemmon, Beth Muhlntickel

Children 10 yrs and older meet in Room 401 / Mark & Catherine Roebuck

Adult Group Gathering

Adult Group Discussion – Room 105

Contemplative & Silent Meditation-Right 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.



Middlebury Church of the Brethren September 8, 2019



CELEBRATING THE BEAUTY OF CREATION

September 8, 2019

Theme: Stewardship of God's creation

Welcome and Announcements Britta Graber

Opening Prayer Britta Graber

Prelude - *Please quiet your hearts & minds* Sherry Bickel

*Praise music

*Collective Prayer: Unison

Let us pray to God,
that she will bring to fruition all that he desires for his creation.

You have created the universe by your eternal Word,
and have blessed humankind in making us stewards of the earth.

We pray for your world,

that we may share and conserve its resources,
and live in reverence for the creation
and in harmony with one another.

Father, Lord of creation, in your compassion, hear us.

You have given the human race a rich land,
a land of streams and springs,
wheat and barley,
vines and oil and honey.

We have made by sin a world of suffering and sorrow.

We pray for those who bear the weight of affliction, that they may come to
share the life of wholeness and plenty. In your love, hear us.

In Christ you call us to a new way of life, loving our neighbors before
ourselves. Help us to treat with care and respect the world as it is,
as we live in hope and anticipation of the world as it will be when your
kingdom comes and your will is done.

Thank you for those, living and departed, who have shown a true respect
for your creation. Help us to follow in their footsteps, until, with them, we
see you face to face, where all is made new in Jesus' love.

Faithful God,

Accept these prayers from the depths of our hearts
Amen

*Hymn *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* #71

Blessing of backpacks, teachers & staff

Prayers of the People – Sharing Joys and Concerns

Please keep your joys or concerns to approx. 30 seconds

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

Offertory prayer – WL

Wonder-working God, use all of who we are, and all of what we have, to
uproot what is unjust, and plant what is loving. Through our gifts, speak
your gospel to people we may never meet. May all come to hear your call to
prophetic living. Amen.

Hymn *Morning Has Broken* #324

Scripture lesson Genesis 1:1-31 Common English Bible

Message: **CELEBRATING THE BEAUTY OF CREATION**
Pastor Janet Shaver

*Hymn *This is My Father's World* #154

Blessing of our pets

*Blessing for the road:

May the blessing of light be on you, light without and light within.

May the blessed sunlight shine upon you and warm your heart till it glows
like a great fire and strangers may warm themselves as well as friends.

And may light shine out of the eyes of you, like a candle set in the window
of a house, bidding the wanderer to come in out of the storm.

May the blessing of rain be on you, to beat upon your spirit and wash it fair
and clean; and leave there many a shining pool where the blue of heavens
shine, and sometimes a star.

May the blessing of the earth be upon you, the great round earth.

Go in Peace!

*Postlude

*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 8, 2019 Activities/ Announcement

9:30 am – Worship – Pastor Janet Shaver
Worship Leader – Britta Graber

10:20 am – Fellowship time

10:45 am – Sunday school Class

Classes are listed on back of bulletin

2-4 pm – Pentecostal Church rents sanctuary

Tuesday 7pm – Board Rm rented

TODAY
is the
DAY

Outdoor worship to include:

Blessing of the backpacks, teachers & staff

Blessing of and celebrating our dogs (Dog Days of summer)

Carry in meal (Grilled burgers & hotdogs provided with sides & dessert)

FOOD PANTRY

Supplies are always needed; however, these items are always especially needed: cooking oil, feminine hygiene items, diapers, toothpaste and all personal hygiene items.

**Ushers: Today: Beth S & Ken
Sep 15: Dalis & Don A
Sep 22: Tom & Matt**

September 15, 2019 Activities/ Announcements

9:30 am – Worship – Pastor Janet Shaver
Worship Leader – Roger Copeland

10:20 am – Fellowship time

10:45 am – Sunday school Classes –

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FROM THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE

If you would like to let friends in our congregation know you are traveling or will be out of town, there is a calendar for you to share that information in the office.

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