

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,
Sharon Lemmon
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.

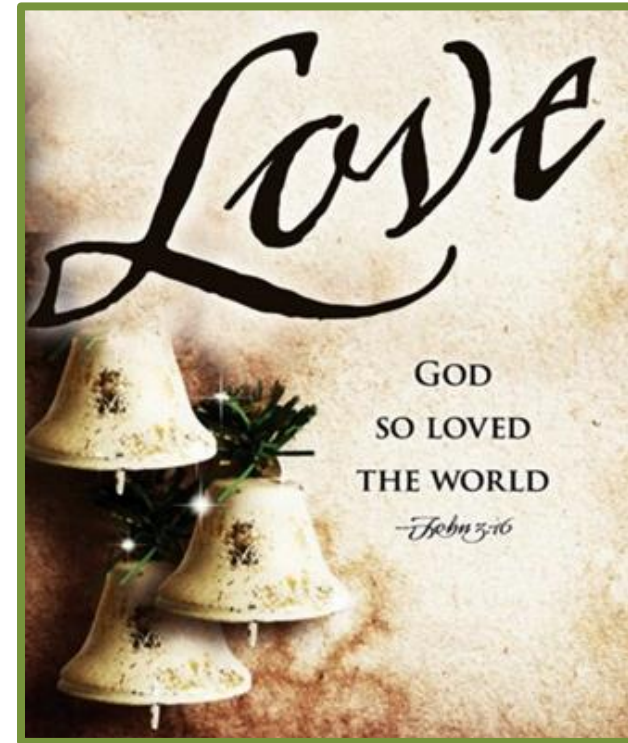
Pastoral Minister – Janet Shaver; cell 574-214-6741
e-mail: middleburypastor@yahoo.com
Worship – 9:30 a.m. Sunday School – 10:20 a.m.



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 December 22, 2019



OUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS MOVIES

December 22, 2019
Theme: Transforming Love

Welcome and Announcements		Keri Anderson
Hymn	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	#212
Opening prayer		Keri Anderson
Prelude - <i>Please quiet your hearts & minds</i>		Lorie Copeland

Advent Candle Lighting - Love (Luke 2:1-10) Matt Weaver & William Coffey
Reader 1: O God, now we light the candle of your nativity. The Light has come into the World.

Reader 2: With the company of heaven and with sounds of great joy, you come to us. This is the time of light and resplendent joy. God is with and within us.

Reader 1: The evangelist Luke painted the nativity sky and repeated the heavenly song of the angels, "Glory, peace on earth and good will!" God is with us and within us.

Reader 2: John declared that this great light is Christ, the Word made flesh. This great light lives among us. By it we behold God's glory—full of grace and truth. At Christ's nativity, we now rejoice.

People: God, our Life and Light, thank you for coming this day to us. Thanks for touching all heaven and earth with your splendor. In every corner of the world, shine with your peace. In every corner of our hearts, shine with your grace. Amen.

People (sing): Emmanuel

Emanuel, Emanuel
His name is called Emmanuel
God with us, Revealed in us
His Name is called Emmanuel

*Praise music	<i>Longing for Light</i>	Handout/screen
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You are invited to leave your church offering on the table as you leave the worship space.

Offering prayer WL

Let a band of angels watch over us. Send them now, Lord. Send them now so that fear may soon turn to rejoicing. And let our gifts flow freely, as though borne on angels' wings. In the name of the Child about whom the angels sing, Amen.

Hymn	<i>Mary, Did You Know?</i>	Handout/screen
Scripture	Luke 2:1-10	NT #58
Message	Our Favorite Christmas Movies	Pastor Janet Shaver

Holy Communion

Words of Institution
Blessing over the meal

The Bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ
Deacons will serve the plates of bread
The Cup which we bless is the communion of the love of Christ
Deacons will serve the cups of juice

Prayer of Thankfulness

*Hymn	<i>Silent Night, Holy Night</i>	#193
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*Blessing for the Road - WL

May the light that surrounds our Lord's birthplace illumine your spirit and warm your heart.

May you be spared, at least for a few hours, the static of the world and enjoy a clear reception of the angelic song.

And may the love of God revealed in the holy Child move you to feel and show love for others, especially for any you may find difficult to love. Amen.

*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.

December 22, 2019 Activities/ Announcement

Week 3 of Advent - LOVE

9:30 am – Worship – Pastor Janet Shaver
Worship Leader – Keri 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

Ushers: Today: Don M & Beth S
Dec 29: Ken & Dalis
Jan 5: Don A & Tom



TODAY – Matt & William have provided a hot dish and you are all invited to join in the carry-in Christmas lunch – even if you didn't bring anything.



PLEASE REMEMBER to take your poinsettia home today. Check your bulletin list if you aren't sure which color you ordered.

FOOD PANTRY

Supplies are always needed; however, these items are always **especially** needed: cooking oil, all personal hygiene items, and toothpaste. Also, you may donate money for milk vouchers.

December 29, 2019 Activities/ Announcements

9:30 am – Worship – Pastor Janet Shaver
Worship Leader – Keri 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



Fifth Sunday 12/29 – Magic penny offering
LOGO SHIRT SUNDAY – wear a logo shirt of your choice.



RECYCLES!! At the end of the mailboxes (near the office door) is a box with a slot for recycles. Please feel free to recycle your bulletins (NOT the music handouts) and other church papers that you have finished using.



TAKING DOWN THE GREENS – Sunday, January 5th immediately following Sunday school. Bring your own sack lunch if you want to eat before we get started. The more the merrier!!!