

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 4 and under meet in Room 204- the Ark room

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 March 8, 2020



COURAGE TO STAND ALONE

March 8, 2020

Theme: Loving the world

Welcome and Announcements Julie Bontrager

Opening prayer Julie Bontrager

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

*Praise music *God of the Bible* Handout/screen

Candle Liturgy

Unison Prayer: Loving God, as we journey through this holy season of Lent, give us strength and courage to make the changes that are needed in our lives. Open our hearts and minds to your steadfast presence and help us to put our trust in you. Amen.

Responsive Singing *Healer of Our Every Ill* vs 1 #377

Minute for Mission – One Great Hour of Sharing Britta Graber

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

Offering prayer WL

We honor you, O gracious God. Accept these gifts, we pray, as a sign of our obedience to you, our love for you and our desire to take your reign into the world. Transform them into your blessing for others, we pray. Amen

Prayer Response *Breathe On Me, Breath of God* #356

Readers' Theatre John 3:1-17
WL, Roger Copeland & Martha Huebert

Message Courage to Stand Alone Pastor Janet Shaver

*Hymn *Move In Our Midst* #418

*Blessing for the Road – WL

May the blessing of God fall on our church community, May it be a safe place, full of understanding and acceptance, where you can be as you are, without the need of any mask or pretense or image. May this place be one of discovery: discovery of the love of God, the peace of Jesus, and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit where, from the clay, all can emerge to deepen and refine their knowledge of your kingdom. 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.

March 8, 2020 Activities/ Announcement

Second Sunday of Lent

9:30 am – Worship – Pastor Janet Shaver
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

Ushers: Today: Ken & Dalis
Mar 15: Don A & Tom
Mar 22: Don M & Beth S

Tuesday, March 10th, 2pm - Women in Community at Bev Short's home.
Please let her know if you will be attending

Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 12th **has been canceled.**

If you can't be at church worship and would like to have a bulletin emailed to you for the livestreamed service please let Dalis know ahead of time, if possible. Or send an email or text on Sunday morning.

March 15, 2020 Activities/Announcements

Third Sunday of Lent

9:30 am – Worship – Pastor Janet Shaver
Worship Leader – Renee Black

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, March 15th Yvonne Riege will join us and be providing the prelude and offeratory response as a percussionist.

“Holy Envy” Book Study group will meet on Sunday, March 29th at 11:45 at Steve & Sheila Poyser's house. This will include a carry-in meal followed by discussion of the book. The paperback of this book should be available now. Please see Renee if you have more questions.



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.

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.