

## 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  
Children under 9 yrs

**TEMPORARILY  
CANCELED**

Children 10 yrs and

/ Keri Anderson,  
Sharon Lemmon  
Catherine Roebuck

### Adult Group Gathering

Adult Group Discussion – 11:00 a.m. following Worship on ZOOM + Office  
Wired Word Lesson

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](mailto: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 20, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent



# Love Is All Around Us



## December 20, 2020 Announcements

**TO ACCESS OUR LIVESTREAMED SERVICE** go to mcob.org, bottom left of page where you will click on YouTube. Toward the top, click on “Live.” It doesn’t go live until Mark activates it, so if it isn’t there immediately, leave the page and try again.

**Today 11:00 am – Sunday school** continues with Julie and *The Sermon on the Mount* lesson.

Due to the increasing COVID numbers, the **Women’s group** has discontinued meeting on Thursday mornings.

**All men are invited** to coffee and conversation in the corncrib at the Poyser Farm on Wednesdays, at 1:00 pm. Bring your own drink. Chairs are provided. Call Steve Poyser with questions – 574 215-2158

You are invited to join the weekly **Tuesday Zoom discussion** from 10:30am – 11:30am. The host will pose a question and all can join in to discuss your answers. Next meeting is Tuesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Hosted by Keri, the topic is: Sharing a favorite Christmas memory.

**Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm we will have a Zoom Christmas Party!!** Wear your ugly Christmas sweater or crazy jewelry and join the fun. Lorie will play her piano from home and Byrl will play his ukulele while we sing carols. We will share our favorite traditions or fun stories of Christmas. Plan to join the party!! Accommodations will be made for those without internet.

**FOOD PANTRY** - Supplies are always being collected; however, these items are always especially needed: cooking oil, all personal hygiene items, and toothpaste. Also, you may donate money for milk vouchers. Bring your donations to the church.

**November/December The Upper Room** devotionals are in and you are welcome to stop in to pick up yours. The other option now is to receive it online. Go to: <https://www.upperroom.org>, go to bottom section and find *The Upper Room* daily devotional.

**Sunday school teacher opportunity:** The next quarter starts on March 1<sup>st</sup>; normally we would offer The Wired Word with Don Anderson during that quarter but he is offering the opportunity to anyone else who may be interested. It doesn’t need to be Wired Word – it would be your choice of curriculum if you would like a change. Please let Don know if you are interested.

## JOYS AND CONCERNS December 20, 2020

**Please notify Dalis Andrews in the church office if you would like to add a prayer request, share a joy, or if something should be removed.**

- **Pastor Janet’s sister, Carol**, as she recovers from knee replacement and bladder issues
- **Dan Reiff**, brother-in-law of Bev Short’s long-time coworker, has COVID and has been airlifted to Rush Hospital in Chicago; prayers for his lungs to recover
- **Gary Black** update: Surgery has been scheduled for 12/29
- **Gretchen Showalter** for depression
- **Bill Hawkins** for the loss of his sister, June Callahan, on Saturday, 11/7
- **Betty Hydorn** in the loss of her brother, John Saltzman
- **Martha’s friend** in Colorado who has a son who has been ill and recently attempted suicide.
- **Sherry Bickel** for teaching challenges due to the pandemic
- **Linda Byrd** recovering from shoulder surgery
- **Carolyn Ridenour** in the loss of her sister, Marlene Kimmel on 9/24
- **Mike Sommer** in the loss of his mother, Mary Patricia Wooten on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.
- **Jill Weaver & Beth Snider** in the loss of Jill’s mother, Dixie Weaver on Sunday, 9/6
- For all **health care workers** and prayers for the end of the Coronavirus
- **Bill Wagner**, Martha Huebert’s brother, whose myelodysplasia syndrome (MDS) is progressively worsening. He continues to need transfusions; however, there is a shortage of blood at this time.
- **Emilie Boggs**, niece of Bev Short and Deneise Weyhmler, who is out of rehab and continuing the process to reinstate custody of her daughter

over→

- Mike Byrd for declining health
- Andy, Dalton and Gretchen Showalter
- Eleanor Hawkins for leg pain
- Carla Hawkins, daughter of Bill Hawkins and Eleanor Hawkins, for her infusion treatments
- Our peaceful existence in the world
- Little Lites Daycare
- Middlebury Church of the Brethren in Community
- EYN Nigerian COB healing and restoration