

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

Children 10 yrs and

**TEMPORARILY
CANCELED**

/ 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

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 6, 2020



A Path to Peace

December 6, 2020

Theme: Peace

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

CoB Giving

Don Anderson

Opening prayer

Prelude

What Child is This
Albright College Concert Choir

YouTube

Advent Candle Reading and Lighting – Catherine Roebuck

Advent Musical Response: *The Candle Song* Graham Kendrick

Scripture reading

Mark 1:1-8

NT#34

Opening song *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day* YouTube
Slavic Chorale conducted by Pavel Kravchuk

You are invited to send your offering in or drop it off at the church. Please call ahead to make sure someone is available to receive it.

Offering prayer

As we dedicate our gifts to you, O God, we come to an awareness of the tasks set before us to bring peace to our relationships and peace to our world. Give us strength to be the one to offer the words of reconciliation. Let our hearts be so full of love that we can forgive — and reach out to others who have lost their way. Open our eyes that we may fully see the abundance that is ours as well as the poverty of the world around us. Embolden us to give freely so that others might know what freedom looks like. With gratitude for all that we have and all that we are, we offer our gifts and ourselves to you. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response
Sung by Jill Weaver

Peace Child
written by Bernadette Farrel & Shirley Murray

Screen

Scripture

Isaiah 40:1-11

OT#667

Message

A Path to Peace

Pastor Janet Shaver

Hymn

Do You Hear What I Hear
by Five Strings

YouTube

Blessing for the Road:

May joy and peace surround you, contentment latch your door, and happiness be with you now and bless you evermore!

Postlude

December 6, 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 - Julie and Pastor Janet will be using Matthew chapters 5-7 – Sermon on the Mount, an Old Testament perspective. Again, this will be Zoomed and there is a new ID and password.

Due to the increasing COVID numbers, the **Women's group** will discontinue 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 8th. The topic: Where and what year did you graduate high school and what was your class size? Name three notable events that happened that year, either that impacted you personally or historical/political trivia.

Cards for **Carmon Cripe** may be sent to:
Room 320 Dogwood, 2400 College Ave.
Goshen 46526

Cards for **Betty Hydorn's brother** may be sent to:
John Saltzman
9750 S. Avenue L
Chicago, IL 60617

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.

Advent Devotional Books have arrived and can be picked up from the rack outside the office door. You may use these in addition to the ones we are writing.

JOYS AND CONCERNS December 6, 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.

- Remembering **Ed Mercer**, former member of MCoB, who died two weeks ago in Tennessee
- **Gary Black** update: It has been determined that Gary is ready for surgery and is waiting to get a surgery date
- **Gretchen Showalter** for depression
- **Bill Hawkins** for the loss of his sister, June Callahan, on Saturday, 11/7
- **John Saltzman**, Betty Hydorn's brother, who is in the hospital for 14-16 weeks for radiation for bone cancer. Address for cards is provided.
- **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
- **Anna Yutzy**, great granddaughter of Caroline Ridenour is home from Riley and excitedly catching up on homework.
- **Mike Sommer** in the loss of his mother, Mary Patricia Wooten on Friday, September 25th.
- **Jill Weaver & Beth Snider** in the loss of Jill's mother, Dixie Weaver on Sunday, 9/6
- **Beth Snider** as she recuperates from a hip replacement
- **Elsie**, Martha's sister, who will be transitioning to a new healthcare facility
- 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