

## 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](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 March 21, 2021



# LIFE AFFIRMING GIVING

**March 21, 2021**  
**Theme: Life Affirming Giving**  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

Welcome and Announcements

Opening prayer

Prelude                      Generous Giver                      YouTube  
   Monroe FUMC Praise Band

Lent reading and extinguishing the candle

Lent Prayer – Let us pray:  
Loving God, we open our hearts to you. We invite you into our inmost being, only to find you already there. Affirm us in our quiet places and then lead us into the work of justice and peace. Amen

Lent reading response song      *Christ is Alive*                      CD & PPT

Minute for Mission – One Great Hour of Sharing      Lorie Copeland

Opening song                      *Take My Life*                      YouTube  
   Tommy Walker Ministries

*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

Source of life, may the works of our hands bring you honor. May the life we live reflect the risen Word of life. May the service we offer be inspired by the Breath of life. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for the People

Prayer Response    performed by Jill Weaver

Scripture                      John 12:20-33                      NT #106

Message                      **Life Affirming Giving**                      Pastor Janet Shaver

Closing song                      The Fire of Our Commitment      YouTube  
   by Mary Katherine Morn and Jason Shelton  
   performed by Universalist Unitarian Charlottesville Virtual Choir

Blessing for the Road:

May we find the road that leads to life;  
may we take the turns that bring right relationships;  
may we pause to accompany others on the way;  
and may we journey with God through Lent,  
and long for the horizon and dawn.  
And the grace.

Postlude

## March 21, 2021 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 the loft activates it, so if it isn't there immediately, leave the page and try again.

**Today 11:00 am – Sunday school** with Beth Sholly. The topic is: *The Mayflower and What it Started*.

**Sunday school March 28<sup>th</sup>** moves to Wired Word with Don Anderson.

**All men are invited** to coffee and conversation at the Poyser Farm on Wednesdays, at 1:00 pm. They have moved inside for now instead of the corncrib. 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 week's topic: *What is the most daring thing you have ever done?*

**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.

**March/April 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 go to bottom section and find *The Upper Room* daily devotional.

There is now a **Puzzle and Book Nook** in the hallway leading back to the daycare, just outside the sanctuary. Bring your old puzzles and books to exchange or just take one; **you do not need to bring a book or puzzle to take one**. Do not bring any book or puzzle that you may not want to lose. Please do not bring magazines or periodicals.

**The Brethren Press Lenten devotionals** are available in the rack outside the office.

Join us for **Who Will Be a Witness** in person on Thursday morning 10 a.m. and Thursday evening on ZOOM 7 p.m.

## JOYS and CONCERNS March 21, 2021

**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.**

- **Cheryl Homan**, Katy Wilson's sister, who is suffering cirrhosis of the liver.
- **Jerry Bontrager** as he recovers from surgery to repair his broken arm following a fall on ice. Jerry also suffered a large cut on his face/head.
- **Kay Ferry**, close neighbor and friend of Beth & Jill, has undergone surgery to remove malignancy in her left arm. A prosthetic has been implanted to replace missing bone.
- **Martha Huebert** in the loss of her brother, Bill Wagoner.
- **Marj Miller** whose cancer is shrinking. Also, following shingles in her eye she may undergo an eye transplant.
- Please keep Martha Huebert's daughter-in-law, **Lauren Zamora** in prayer; she has been diagnosed with at least three auto-immune diseases
- Please keep **Carmon Cripe's family** in your prayers. Carmon was also Don Muhlnickel's brother-in-law.
- **Hanna Rhoads** for healing of her broken foot.
- **Gary Black** update: Prayer is needed that the drainage of his wound will stop so that it can heal.
- **Sherry Bickel** for teaching challenges due to the pandemic.
- For all **health care workers** and prayers for the end of the Coronavirus
- **Emilie Boggs**, niece of Bev Short and Deneise Weyhmiller, is now working and able to have visitation with her daughter.
- Mike Byrd for declining health
- Andy, Dalton and Gretchen Showalter
- Eleanor Hawkins for leg pain
- Our peaceful existence in the world
- Little Lites Daycare
- Middlebury Church of the Brethren in Community
- EYN Nigerian COB healing and restoration