

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 March 7, 2021



Life-affirming Community of God

March 7, 2021

Theme: Life-affirming community of God

Third Sunday of Lent

Welcome and Announcements

Opening prayer

Prelude *Surely the Presence of the Lord* YouTube
Woodlands UMC Chancel Choir

Lent reading and extinguishing the candle Julie Bontrager

Lent Prayer – Unison

Draw us together in your love, O God. May our restless hearts not resist you, but continue to search until they find their rest in you. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen

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

Vision for ministry minute – Group activities at Camp Mack
Catherine Roebuck

Opening song *Brethren We Have Met to Worship* YouTube

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

God of grace, it is our delight and our devotion to give these gifts to you. All we are and all we have are yours alone. Accept this joyful offering as a token of our abiding love: use it to bring peace, justice and comfort to all the world. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for the People

Prayer Response *Spirit of the Living God* Youtube
Marble Anniversary Virtual Choir, comprised of members of The Marble Choir, The Festival of Voices, The Marble Community Gospel choir and choir alumni

Scripture John 2:13-22 NT #93

Message Pastor Janet Shaver

Closing song *Room at the Table* YouTube
Carrie Newcomer

Blessing for the Road:

Soft Eyes Blessing

"And all the believers met together constantly, and shared everything they had...." Acts 2:44

may the god who is community
be with us as we seek to be a community

may god bless our dreams
and may god shatter our dreams

may god help us to be real
and to find depth in weakness and brokenness

may god help us to face and grow through conflict
rather than pretend by being nice

may we look at each other through soft eyes
and truly respect each other as human beings

may god help us let go of control
and the need to fix one another

may god help us discover we are needy in our own souls
and give attention to our own hearts

may god grant us the gift of an extraordinary love
that flows from the heart of god
that covers a multitude of wrongs

Postlude

**March 7, 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 continues with Julie and *The Sermon on the Mount* lesson.

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.

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: <https://www.upperroom.org>, 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.

The **McoB Lenten devotionals** are available in your mailboxes.

Kay Ferry address:
2705 N. 900 West
Shipshewana, IN 46565

**JOYS and CONCERNS
March 7, 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.

- **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. Her address is in announcements.
- **Martha Huebert** in the loss of her brother, Bill Wagoner.
- **Tammy Houser** has her first great grandson, Vincent, weighing 7#6oz. He is the son of Sara Houser and grandson of Eric Houser.
- **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 the **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 Weyhmilller, 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