

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 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 – 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 May 2, 2021



WHEN WILL THE CHURCH HAVE ITS CONVERSION?

May 2, 2021

Theme: The conversion of Phillip

Welcome and Announcements Catherine Roebuck

Opening prayer Catherine Roebuck

Prelude *Holy Ground* Lorie Copeland

Opening song *For Everyone Born* YouTube
The Beyond the Walls Choir

You are invited to leave your offering on the table by the sanctuary doors.

Offering prayer

Wonder-working God, use all of who we are, and all of what we have, to uproot what is unjust, and plant what is loving. Through our gifts, speak your gospel to people we may never meet. May all come to hear your call to prophetic living. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for the People

Prayer Response *Spirit of Life* YouTube
Written by Carolyn McDade Performed by All Souls Choir

Scripture Acts 8:26-40 NT #127

Message **When Will the Church Have Its Conversion?**
Pastor Janet Shaver

Closing song *God Has Chosen Me* Screen
Sing the Journey CD & PP

Blessing for the Road:
Let your lives witness to Christ's love.
Let your words bring reconciliation.
Let your thoughts be of peace.
Let your touch bring healing.
Let your actions count for justice.
Be a sign of hope and a beacon of joy.
Go and may God's blessing go with you.

Postlude

May 2, 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.

Office hours for Dalis: 9:30am – 2:00pm, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. Please know that emails and voice mails that come into the office Friday – Monday may not be seen until Tuesday. **Dalis is out of the office the week of May 3rd.**

OEP (On Earth Peace) presentation will be held on **May 23rd**. Worship will include a good-bye to the Abbotts and end at 10:15. We will break for coffee and reconvene in the sanctuary at 10:30. Beverages may be taken into the sanctuary and a table of coffee and water, along with pre-packaged snacks will be at the back of the sanctuary. Matt Guynn with OEP will livestream the program "Congregational Peace Health Checkup". We will be finished at 12:30. You will find copies of the OEP program in your mailbox.

May 23rd – Abbott farewell during worship. As you know, Ken & JoAnn are relocating to Indy to be nearer to children and grandchildren. Pastor Janet will ask for memories or blessings to be shared and allow the Abbotts to say something.

With the new door system there is a delay when using the  paddle or when I open the door for you from the office. Please be patient.

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

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

All women are invited to coffee and conversation at Krider Gardens on Tuesdays at 3:00 pm. This is contingent upon the weather being 60° or above and dry.

May/June 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 a **Puzzle and Book Nook** in the hallway leading back to the daycare, just outside the sanctuary. Bring your old puzzles, books & magazines to exchange or just take one; **you do not need to bring a book, puzzle or magazine to take one.** Do not bring anything that you may not want to lose. **Publications are now accepted.**

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 at the back of the sanctuary.

JOYS and CONCERNS May 2, 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.

- **Hanna Rhoads** for health concerns related to dementia
- **Tom Miller**, who had cataract surgery on Thursday and will undergo his second surgery on Thursday, May 6th
- **Sue Boggs**, sister of Bev Short and Deneise Weyhmiller, has been diagnosed with breast cancer. She will be having surgery on Thursday, 4/29, at which time they will determine the extent of the cancer.
- Healing for **Don Muhlnickel** for his shoulder injury
- Healing for **Sharon Lemmon** following foot surgery on 3/23
- Martha Huebert's daughter-in-law, **Lauren Zamora** has been diagnosed with at least three auto-immune diseases
- **Gary Black** that the drainage of his wound will stop so that it can heal.
- **Sherry Bickel** for continuing teaching challenges due to the pandemic.
- 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