

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 July 4, 2021



Ending Blame

July 4, 2021

Theme: Forget Whose Fault

Welcome and Announcements Beth Sholly

Opening prayer Beth Sholly

Prelude *Colors of the Wind* Lorie Copeland
Please see lyrics in your bulletin

Call to Worship

Leader: Welcome home, welcome in.

All: Here we find a song for our souls and healing for our wounds.

Leader: Welcome home.

All: Here find laughter that chases dark clouds away, and quiet prayers that lead us to still waters and green pastures.

Leader: Welcome to this holy space.

All: Here there are friends with a tender embrace, and here there are words that heal brokenness and reveal God's grace.

Leader: Welcome home. God has been expecting you. The candles are lit, and the door is open.

All: Welcome to this festival of renewal and hope.

Opening song *This Good Day*
Written and performed by Fernando Ortega

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

Offering prayer

God, your heart is wide open to us. You have given to us freely and taught us to return to you a portion of what we have. Grant us glad and generous hearts, and help us be as open to you as you are to us. Help us use your gifts wisely and for the benefit of all your people. May it be so, Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for the People

Prayer Response *A Channel of Your Peace* YouTube
Performed by Susan Boyle

Scripture Matthew 7:1-5 NT #6
1 Corinthians 13:4-7 NT #175

Message **Ending Blame** Pastor Janet Shaver

Closing song *Wonderful Grace of Jesus* YouTube
with Tommy Lee Walker, Sean Beck and The CBC Choir

Blessing for the Road:

May the God of amazing grace give us eyes to see beauty everywhere, hands to do good to everyone and hearts to bless all we meet.

Postlude

JOYS and CONCERNS

July 4, 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.

- Congratulations to **Jacob Cripe** on his team's Little League championship!
- Friends & Family of the deceased and missing victims of the Miami building collapse.
- **Michael Yutzky**, married to Alyssa, Roebuck's niece, has been diagnosed with cancer under his tongue.^{7/4}
- Peace and comfort for Jill Weaver's dad, **Don Weaver**, who has moved to Florida to live with her sister.^{7/4}
- **Nance Taege**, friend of Martha Huebert, whose husband died on Saturday, 6/26.^{7/4}
- Beth and Jill's neighbor and friend, **Kay Ferry**, had cancer in her arm removed earlier in February and has now been diagnosed with the same type of cancer in her skull. She had successful surgery on 6/28 where they discovered the cancer had not entered her brain.
- **Sharon Lemmon** for healing of a new infection in her foot. She had surgery on Tuesday, 6/22.^{6/27}
- Roger Copeland's mother, **Patty Copeland**, in the loss of her sister and her transition into healthcare.^{6/13}
- Roger Copeland's co-worker, **Tim Dahlenberg**, for recovery from having part of his foot amputated. Tim and his wife are also recovering from Covid.^{6/13}
- **Mike Sommer** as he recovers from hip replacement surgery.
- **Jeannie Berkey** in the loss of her mother^{5/14}
- **Sue Boggs**, sister of Bev Short and Deneise Weyhmler, was diagnosed with breast cancer several weeks ago. She will have surgery and further treatment will be necessary. See announcements page for Sue's address for cards.^{5/31}

July, 2021 Announcements

Sunday school Today - listening to and discussing stories from Phillip Gulley's book, *Hometown Tales: Recollections of Kindness, Peace and Joy*.

Envelopes are available at the back of the Sanctuary if you would like to make a donation to the **CAP Scholarship fund for Ethan Bickel**. We are hoping to raise \$750.00.

In your bulletin please find Janet's request for songs you would like to hear on July 18th and the scripture or theme you would like to hear her preach on from July 25th through August 22nd. Please place your requests in the offering plate.

Masking is no longer required

July 4th Distancing ends

July 18th Singing begins

*Anyone who wants to continue masking should feel free to do so.

Peace & Justice Group next meeting is Saturday, 7/31 at 10am. Cliff Kindy will speak on the racism of Potawatomi indigenous people and their Trail of Death.

Celebrating Sanctuary at Camp Mack Giving Day on 8/7. See bulletin board for more information.

Cards for Susan Boggs may be sent to:

15619 Hix
Livonia, MI 48154

Food Pantry – Supplies are always being collected or you may donate money for milk vouchers. Bring your donations to the church at the back of the sanctuary.

July/August The Upper Room devotionals are in the rack outside the office door. The other option now is to receive it online. Go to go to bottom section and find *The Upper Room* daily devotional.

All men are invited to coffee and conversation at the Poyser Farm on Wednesdays, at 1:00 pm. Call Steve Poyser with questions – 574 215-2158

All women are invited to coffee and conversation at the Poyser farm on Tuesdays at 10:00 am instead of 3:00 pm. Call Martha Huebert with questions – 574 825-4304

Office hours for Dalis: 9:30am – 2:00pm, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. Please know that emails and voicemails that come into the office Friday – Monday will not be seen until Tuesday.

THERE IS MORE!

Over →

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.

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.

- **Gary Black** is seeing a new wound care doctor and seeks peaceful understanding of this extremely difficult journey. His wound is now making some healing progress. ^{5/30}
- **Hanna Rhoads** for health concerns related to dementia
- Martha Huebert's daughter-in-law, **Lauren Zamora**, for continuing health issues
- 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