

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 + Board room

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 August 8, 2021



Is God Progressive?

August 8, 2021

Theme: Why we believe in Progressive Christianity

Welcome and Announcements
Presenting Marcy Showalter's Art Project

Lorie Copeland

Opening prayer

Lorie Copeland

Prelude

Sherry Bickel

*Praise music Som'landela (We Will Follow) Insert/screen

*Call to worship

Leader: Another day is dawning.

People: The outline of trees against a starless sky gradually becomes discernible.

Leader: God of rising and setting,

People: God of birth and death,

Leader: God of breathing in and breathing out:

People: Thank you for newness, and freshness and beginnings.

Leader: Thank you also for age, and slowing down and leave-taking.

People: Clear [our] thoughts of yesterdays.

Leader: Open [our] eyes to the surprises of today.

People: Match [our] breathing in and breathing out to your rhythms.

All: Let a new oneness be born here this morning.

*Opening song *Come Let Us All Unite to Sing* #12

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

Offering prayer

O God, here is what we have. It is both visible and invisible. The visible are these tokens of our work represented by coins and paper. But the invisible is here, too. We are offering the fragile dreams and hopes by which we chart our lives. Receive them in love, and bless them to completion. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for the People

Prayer Response *I Will Come to You in the Silence* Insert/screen

Scripture

Isaiah 65:17-19	OT #696
Isaiah 43:18-19	OT #672
Revelation 21:5	NT #259

Message Is God Progressive? Pastor Janet Shaver

*Closing song *New Earth, Heavens New* #299

*May the blessing of God go before you.

May God's grace and peace abound.

May God's spirit live within you,

May God's love wrap you 'round.

May God's blessing remain with you always,

May you walk on holy ground. Amen.

Postlude

***Congregation stands in body or spirit, as you wish.**

If you are new or visiting.....WELCOME!

Please fill out the guest card located in the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary.

JOYS and CONCERNS

August 8, 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.

- **Jesse & Katie Rodriguez**, Tammy's neighbors, have both come down with Covid. They are a young couple in their 30s with two young daughters.^{8/8}
- **Sue Boggs**, sister of Bev Short and Deneise Weyhmiller, was diagnosed with breast cancer and now has infection in the surgery sight. Sue really appreciates all our prayers as she works through the new problems and discouragement from the setbacks.^{8/1}
- Celebrating with **Gary Black**. The new treatments have been successful and he has significantly less pain.^{7/25}
- Prayers for **Deneise Weyhmiller**. She has been diagnosed with three hernias and will be having surgery soon.^{8/1}
- Please keep **Bev Short** in your prayers as she travels back and forth caring for her sisters.
- Jill Weaver's sister, **Karen**, who has work challenges and asking for peace and calm.^{7/11}
- **Betty Hydorn** who was diagnosed with lung cancer and is going through extensive treatment while caring for herself.
- **Michael Yutzky update**: married to Alyssa, Roebuck's niece, has been diagnosed with cancer under his tongue that has metastasized into his tonsils. He will begin chemo and radiation next week.^{8/84}
- **Hanna Rhoads** for health concerns related to dementia
- **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}
- Martha Huebert's daughter-in-law, **Lauren Zamora**, for continuing health issues

Over →

August 8, 2021 Announcements

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



Outdoor Worship and carry-in brunch August 15th. No Sunday school.



Thank you for helping us celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary with cake and ice cream. We so appreciate all our friends at MCoB. Love, Keri & Don

Dear Church Friends, as we gear up for the upcoming holiday season, we'd like to invite you to check out our Vintage Villages Auction this year. This year is special because we are celebrating 75 years of being a Fair Trade Organization. With this auction, we have a special showcase item created by local ceramicist, Justin Rothshank. We partnered with him to create a platter that showcases our anniversary year, as well as showcases his creative work. Join us this year in celebrating 75 years of fair trade and sign up as a bidder for this years Vintage Villages auction at: <https://charityauction.bid/ttv-vintage-villages21>. 10% of funds raised will be donated to the Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale coming up in September.

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.

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 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.

- 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