

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.

Christian Education at 11:00am

Children under 9 years of age meet in classrooms west of the kitchen with Keri Anderson & Sharon Lemon

Children 10 years and older meet in Room 401 with Mark & Catherine Roebuck

Adult Group Gathering

Adult Group Discussion meets in the board room next to the offices.

You are also welcome to stay in the sanctuary for quiet time of prayer and contemplation.



For children 6 years and under, we have a play area set up along the back wall to your left as you enter the sanctuary. Please sit close to that play area to supervise your children/grandchildren. Clipboards with activities are available for children of all ages.

You are invited to join us in the fellowship hall for refreshments following the worship service.

Would you like to get in touch with us?
Please call the office at 574 825-2955



Middlebury Church of the Brethren



December 26, 2021 Christmas Sunday

MIDDLEBURY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
a welcoming and inclusive congregation
offering Christ's hospitality to the world

Worship – 9:30am Fellowship – 10:45am No Sunday school today
December 26, 2021

Gathering Music

Carol Sing

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

based on Colossians 3:12-17

One: As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other;

All: Just as God has forgiven us, so also, we must forgive.

One: Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

All: We will let the word of Christ dwell in us, and teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in our hearts sing to our God.

One: And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him.

All: Thanks be to God who has come to us through Christ Jesus whose birth we celebrate this day.

Invocation

Solo

The Peace Carol

Candle Lighting

One: This morning, we light the Christ candle and acknowledge that Christ is born again.

All: The light of hope, the light of peace, the light of joy, the light of love, all shine through him.

One: And as we welcome him, that light shines through our lives into our world.

All: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for the People

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

Offering Prayer

Preparation for Hearing the Word

Joy to the World

#318

Reflections

Solo

Stille Nacht

Scripture

Luke 2: 1-20

Solo

O Holy Night

Communion

Confession

Unison Assurance of Pardon: Our God, through Christ Jesus, hears us, holds us, and heals us. Thanks be to God.

Response

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

#463

After receiving the elements, please wait to share in communion together.

Unison Affirmation of the Bread: The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

Unison Affirmation of the Cup: The cup which we bless is the cup of the new covenant in Christ's blood.

Unison Prayer #789

Hymn (with Bells)

Go Tell It On the Mountain

insert

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

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

Bulletin continued on insert

Bulletin continued

If you are new or visiting, you are most welcome in worship and to stay for a time of fellowship afterwards. 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.

Interim Pastor – Debbie Eisenbise Worship Leader – Dalis Andrews
Pianist – Lorie Copeland Song Leader – Tammy Houser
Soloists – Ginny Mock, Dennis Kreps Advent Candle Lighter – Beth Sholly
Ushers – Don Muhlnickel & Beth Sholly
Greeters – Beth & Don Muhlnickel
Communion Servers – Dalis Andrews, Steve & Sheila Poyser, Don & Keri Anderson
Sound Loft – Mark Roebuck, William Coffey, Matt Weaver

Upcoming in worship

January 2nd – Psalm 174:12-20, John 1:1-18 – New Year’s Sunday
January 9th – Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12 – Epiphany followed by a party and “unhanging” the greens
January 16th – Psalm 36:5-10
January 23rd – Luke 4: 14-30
January 30th – Guest Preacher

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**December 26, 2021
Announcements**

Pastor Debbie will keep the following schedule with some exceptions. Additional times in the office are noted on the calendar outside her office door.

Mondays Her Sabbath/day off
Tuesdays 11am-3pm
Fridays 11am-4pm

Pastor Debbie's email: pastordebbie@mcob.org

Office hours for Dalis: 9:30am – 3:00pm, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.
Bulletins are printed on Thursday and can't be adjusted after that. Please know that emails and voicemails that come into the office Friday – Monday will not be seen until Tuesday.

Please check your mailbox for the **Joys and Concerns** list.

The Little Lites' grant money has arrived!!! \$134,300.



An **Epiphany Party** will end the season on **Sunday, January 9th** right after Worship. Plan on staying for the party and then join in helping to unhang the greens.



Paper

mittens are still available on the trees if you would like to help with items for Little Lites Daycare.

Food Pantry – Non-perishable food and other items are always being collected or you may donate money for milk vouchers. Bring your donations to the church at the back of the sanctuary. Our supply of foods was depleted recently for a homeless person in need and we need to replenish. Also, canned goods should have the pop-top lids when possible.

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



To Dana and Nelda
December 18th



Do you have scarves or small table covers that you no longer use or want? Don't give them to the recycler or to Good Will – **we need them here at the church!** Please see Dalis with your cast-offs!! **These are for use all during the year for various events and displays and other decorating purposes.**

We are using to **individually packaged treats** that will be served during fellowship time. If you are planning to bring in a treat, please consider making sure they are individually packaged. If you have questions please contact Sherry Bickel.
Thank you, Fellowship Commission!

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. You can also access copies of the bulletin and links to past services on our website: www.mcob.org. And find us on Facebook at Middlebury Church of the Brethren.