

Christian Education is at 11am: **children under 9 years of age** meet in classrooms west of the kitchen with Sharon Lemmon & Jill Weaver; **children 10 years and older** meet in Room 401 with Mark & Catherine Roebuck.



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.

To access our livestreamed service use this link <https://youtube.com/@PEASE507> or go to www.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.

Our Mission Statement

Believe God's Word. Live Christ's teaching.
Grow spiritually and share God's love, peace, hope and joy.

Middlebury Church of the Brethren
507 Bristol Ave.
Middlebury, IN 46540
574-825-2955
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Cover photo: zinnias growing outside the church. Many thanks to Dana Snider for tenderly, cheerfully and faithfully tending our landscape plants.



Middlebury Church of the Brethren



September 10, 2023

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

Worship—9:30am Fellowship & Farewell Meal with Interim Pastor Debbie—10:45am

September 10, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship** Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing #12

***Opening Prayer**

One: Wondrous Worker of Wonder, our God, we praise You
Two: Not alone for what has been, or for what is, but for what is yet to be,

All: For You are gracious beyond all telling.

One: We praise You that out of the turbulence of life

Two: A kingdom is coming,

One: Your kingdom is coming;

Two: It is taking shape even now

All: Out of our tiny bits of loving, trusting, hoping, laughing, crying, worshipping.

One: We praise You that out of our songs and struggles,

Two: Out of our griefs and triumphs,

All: We are gathered up and saved,

One: For You are gracious beyond all telling.

Two: We praise You that You turn us loose to go with You to the edge of Now and
Maybe,

All: To welcome the new, recognize possibilities, and accept our limitations;

One: To live into the limitlessness of passion and compassion, until released by joy,

Two: We open ourselves to others and Your kingdom coming

All: For You are gracious beyond all telling.

One: And for this, we give You, our God, our thanks and praise.

All: Amen.

Interlude

Reflections and Prayers for our Congregation

Offering You are invited to leave offerings, including our quarterly denominational offering for missions, on the table by the sanctuary doors.

Unison Prayer #725

Commissioning our District Conference Delegates

Unison Prayer of Commissioning:

**God bless our delegates. Give them patience and wisdom in discernment,
and joy in this service. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People

Preparing to Hear the Word

Scripture

Message

Hymn

Christ be in my Mind

Romans 13:8-14

Nothing is Lost on the Breath of God

insert

NT p. 162

insert

Communion

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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

***The Lord's Prayer**

***Hymn**

Move in Our Midst

#418

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

*Please rise in body and/or spirit.

If you are new or visiting, please fill out a visitor card available in the entryway and join us for fellowship. You are most welcome here!

Preacher – Interim Pastor Debbie Eisenbise

Worship Leader – Don Anderson

Guitarist – Jill Weaver

Flutist – Sherry Bickel

District Conference Delegates – Gary & Renee Black, Catherine Roebuck

Ushers – Jacob Cripe & Steve Poyser

Greeters – Julie Bickel & Kent Bailey

Communion Servers – Deacons: Bev Short, Julie Bontrager, Steve & Sheila Poyser, Don & Beth Muhlnickel

Sound Tech – Mark Roebuck, William Coffey, Matt Weaver

Our opening prayer is based on “I Praise You for What is Yet to Be” from Guerrillas of Grace by Ted Loder. Communion music is Joseph Haydn’s “Concerto in D Major” performed by Sara Sitzer, used with permission. “Nothing is Lost on the Breath of God” is from Voices Together.

Upcoming in Worship:

Sept. 17: Hymn Sing

Sept. 24: Guest Preacher

Oct. 1: World Communion Sunday

Happening this Week:

- Birthday Sunday; Farewell to Pastor Debbie: today after worship in fellowship hall
- Rental: 9-11:30am in fellowship hall
- Nurture Team: Tues., 9:30am in conference room
- District Annual Conference: Fri. & Sat. at Camp Mack

Announcements September 10, 2023

Office hours:

Treasurer / Daycare Business Manager Lorie: Mon.–Fri.: 8:30am–5:30pm.

Office Manager Colleen: Wed. & Fri.: 9am–3pm, Thur. 10am–2pm. Bulletins are printed on Friday and cannot be adjusted after that. Please know that emails and voicemails that come into the office Sat.–Tues. will not be seen until Wed.

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

Sherry Bickel is now one of the administrators of **our Facebook page**. Please text or email her any photos and information to be posted there.

A couple of weeks ago you received a **Memorial Preference form**. Please fill it out and return it to the church office.

To help beautify our worship center on Sunday mornings: please bring fresh flowers from your garden (live plants or cut flowers). Please let Sheila Poyser know if you can bring some or if you have any questions.

Snacks needed. Treats offered. Donations of prepackaged snacks are welcome for our Birthday Sundays. Just drop them off in the kitchen with a note. Also, in the bottom of the snack cabinet (under the window by the fridge) are dog treats left over from our pet blessings. If you have a dog, please take some home!

Consider nominating people for Annual Conference positions using the insert handed out on Aug. 20. This will be sent out electronically in the weekly email in Sept., too. And please be in prayer for the wider church.

Upcoming Service Opportunities:

- ✓ **Save the date** for giving blood: Versiti is again partnering with us to sponsor **community blood drives: Oct. 4 & Dec 6**. Please plan on giving if you are able, and please volunteer to help Service Team chairperson Mike Sommer promote the drive by posting and handing out fliers and inviting family and friends to participate.
- ✓ **Weekly readers are wanted for Little Lites Daycare Ministry**. See Mike if you are interested.
- ✓ **Share some of your financial wealth** – see flyers on bulletin board across from mailboxes for:
 - **Craft Bazaar** to benefit ADEC and Gaining Grounds coffee shop: Sat. Sept. 16, 9am-3pm at 1671 W. Vistula St, Bristol
 - **Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale:** Sept. 22-23 at fairgrounds in Goshen

Jill Weaver is looking for someone to be the **point person, or co-point person, for the Alternative Gift Market** that has been held, for over 10 years, on the 2 or 3 Sundays before Christmas. Jill is quite willing to help with information and contacts from previous years.

Little Lites Daycare is having a **fundraiser** until Sept. 29 to raise money for fun equipment to promote gross motor skills. A flyer is in your mailbox and posted on the bulletin board across from there. Please place orders with Lorie Copeland.

Getting Out of Doors

One of our “Three Kings,” Queen Sheila, commanded that we take our health seriously and get outside more.

- **First & third Sundays of every month at 4:30pm: Wild Church of Goshen** (on Facebook at Outdoor Sanctuary or call 574-903-4816): first Sundays: Ox Bow Park; third Sundays: Goshen Rieth Interpretive Center across the street from Shanklin. Bring lawn chairs and walking shoes.
- **Other local outdoor activities:**
<http://insideoutsidemichiana.blogspot.com/p/natural-resources.html>
- **Camp Mack Festival, Oct. 7**
 - **10am-2pm:** Food Booths, Activities & Entertainment
 - **2-2:30 Pm:** Ice Cream Social
 - **Oct. 7-13:** Online Auction