

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

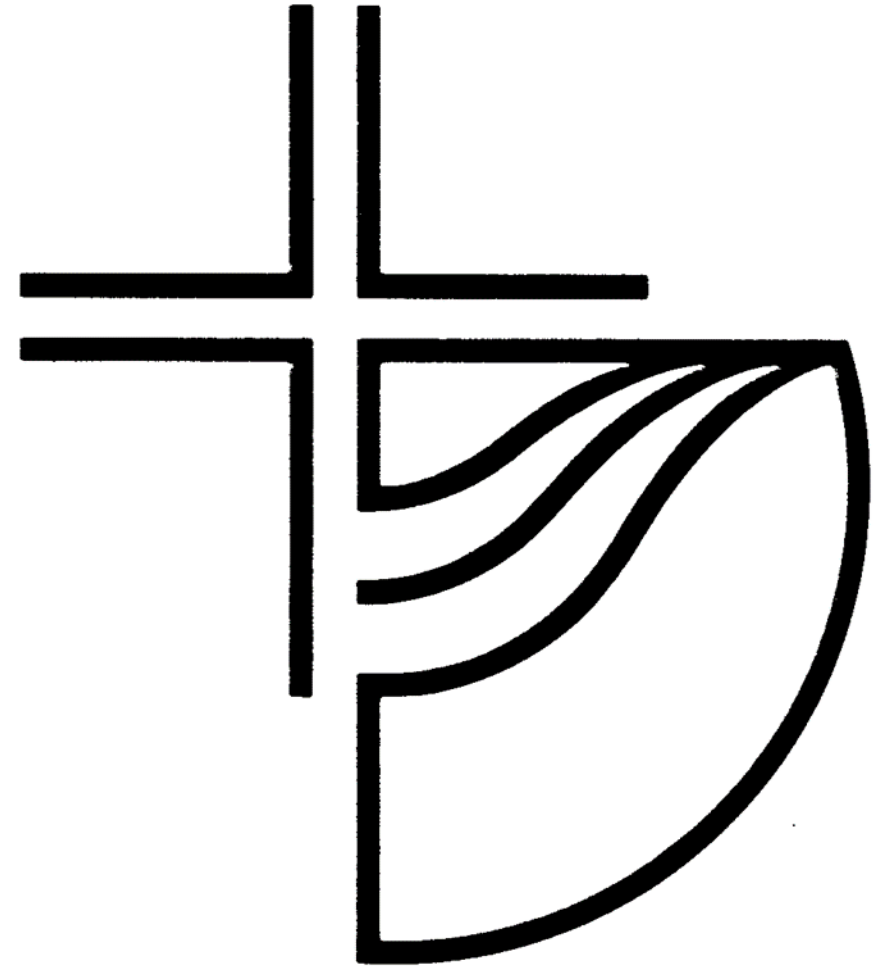
Believe God’s Word. Live Christ’s teaching.
Grow spiritually and share God’s love, peace, hope and joy.

Middlebury Church of the Brethren

**507 Bristol Ave.
Middlebury, IN 46540
574-825-2955
mcob@mcob.org**

The Church of the Brethren symbol on the cover upholds images of life in Jesus Christ. The cross recalls our baptism into Christ’s death and resurrection (Romans 6:4) and testifies to God’s plan to bring “all in heaven and earth . . . into a unity in Christ” (Ephesians 1:10 NEB). The circle, partially defined, represents the world into which we are sent by Christ (Matthew 28:19). The circle also affirms that as members of Christ’s body we are members one of another (Romans 12:5)—a people who confess “one Lord, one faith, one baptism” (Ephesians 4:5). The wave connotes new life in Christ, “born of water and the Spirit” (John 3:5). The wave further evokes the waters of justice (Amos 5:24), the cup of water offered in Christ’s name (Mark 9:41), the basin and towel (John 13:5), and “springs of living water” (Revelation 7:17). Images central to life in Jesus Christ thus are lifted up as images for Brethren to live by.

Middlebury Church of the Brethren



October 8, 2023

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

Worship—9:30am Fellowship—10:45am Sunday School—11:00am

October 8, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty #37

***Opening Prayer**
God of all who wander in the wilderness,
you go before us as beacon and guide.
Lead us through all danger,
sustain us through all desolation,
and bring us home to the land
you have prepared for us. Amen.

Interlude

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

Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People

Preparing to Hear the Word Thy Word is a Lamp
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (sing through twice)
Scripture Matt. 8:14-17, Mark 1:16-18, Luke 1:26-27 NT p. 8, 35, 56
Message Touching the Text – Galilee/Nazareth

***Hymn** Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore #229

***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!

Message – Beth Sholly
Worship Leader – Steve Poyser
Pianist – Lorie Copeland
Guitarist – Jill Weaver
Flutist – Sherry Bickel
Ushers – Jacob Cripe & Steve Poyser
Greeters – Julie Bontrager & Kent Bailey
Sound Tech – Mark Roebuck, William Coffey, Matt Weaver

The opening prayer is from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers copyright 2002 Consultation on Common Texts. “Thy Word is a Lamp” is from Voices Together.

Sunday School Schedule Upcoming

Today through Oct. 22: Q & A and continued discussion of teaching series with Beth Sholly

Upcoming in Worship:

Touching the Text series by Beth Sholly

- **Today** – Galilee/Nazareth
- **Oct. 15** – Bethlehem
- **Oct. 22** – Negev/Dead Sea

Happening this Week:

- Rental: Mon., 9-11:30am in fellowship hall
- Little Lites Daycare Fall Festival: Today, 2-5pm outside behind church
- Leadership Team: Tues., 4:30pm in conference room
- Rental: Fri., 9-11:30am in fellowship hall

Announcements

October 8, 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.

The **November/December** issue of **The Upper Room** can be picked up on the table outside the church office.

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

Fall is the time to restart our **sewing group**, and we might consider adding knitting and crocheting. Join us to make comforters and other items such as prayer shawls for those who could use a “hug” from the church family. **Contact Bev Short to get involved.**

The church will be mailing 4 **care packages to young adults** in the congregation. **Consider contributing** individually prepackaged snack items that are easy to grab. Boxes for donations are in the fellowship hall. **Deadline is Nov. 19.** See Bev Short for more details.

Members of the **Peace & Justice Action Group** are invited and encouraged to attend the **meeting on human trafficking at Union Center Church, 70535 CR 11, Nappanee on Oct. 15 at 2pm.**

Join the fun here 2pm this afternoon at the Little Lites Daycare Fall Festival!

Upcoming Service Opportunities:

- ✓ **Save the date** for giving blood at our Versiti **community blood drive: Dec 6.** Please plan on giving if you are able, and please get the word out by inviting family and friends to participate.
- ✓ **Weekly readers are wanted for Little Lites Daycare Ministry.** See Mike if you are interested.

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>