

The Middleburg MESSENGER

May, 2020

Events/ Information: Middleburg United Methodist Church

WORSHIP IS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

This month's newsletter contains information on how we are operating and continuing the business of the church during this time with the governor's stay-at-home order.

By now, hopefully, you are connecting with us on our Middleburg United Methodist Church Facebook page where you can worship with us via Live-Stream at 9:30 AM Sunday mornings. We have been able to enjoy video footage of our children and youth during their time at home with their families and create as much of our "normal" worship experience as possible while we gather in this way. Once again, I want to say a huge thank you to our Media Team for all the extra hours they are putting in learning new equipment to help us in this online presentation. Fortunately, this was one of the goals of our church leadership for this year of 2020. We didn't know when we ordered the equipment and moved forward on this project just how important it would become for us now to continue to meet the spiritual needs of the congregation as well as the number of lives we may be influencing beyond our faith community. It's another concrete example of what God can do when he imparts a vision to his people for the future that is unknown to us. One little step of faith yields a far greater reach than anticipated from our limited perspective. This time is also allowing us to fine tune and work on some technical issues while people aren't present in the sanctuary. There are often hidden blessings to every challenge encountered in life.

We are also continuing to conduct small groups as much as possible. Heather Hawley is meeting with Kids Club on Facebook with activities for them every couple of weeks and we're hosting meetings and Sunday school class for adults using the Zoom mobile app.

I want you to know that the church is still here serving our community as always in the best possible way we can. Several may have tangible needs like help with supplies or prescriptions, financial help due to the increased unemployment in our area, or a spiritual need in dealing with the stress, the loneliness, anxiety, fear, or depression. If you hear of a need we can help with, please contact us. You can call me or leave a message on the church voicemail and we will respond as quickly as possible. Please continue to be the Body of Christ to one another, serving each other by calling and checking on your friends. Many of us are still able to respond and assist. We just need to be informed of the need.

Thank you also to those of you who have continued to send in your gifts to the church during this time. Things are rapidly changing every day and we appreciate your commitment in setting aside those funds for the continuing needs in support of our ministry. So many faithful and generous Christ-followers bless us in so many ways. Know that you are being lifted in our prayers from our home and I am sure by many others in the congregation. Trust that God loves us and is at work watching over us, protecting us, guiding us, and working things to his glory for those of us called according to his purpose (Romans 8:28). He is our peace in times of trial.

Blessings and Love,

~Pastor Carolyn

Adapted from Helpful ideas for families stuck at home by [Jonathan McKee](#)

Talk About It!

In the last week our country has navigated into uncharted waters: no March Madness, no church, and no toilet paper (first world problems). And now our kids are facing something that sadly, won't affect them even slightly as much as previous generations: *they have been ordered to stay home and just stare at screens.*

Nothing new for these kids.

Yes, Gen Z already [averages 9 hours and 49 minutes a day](#) soaking in entertainment media (not surprising, when [79% of them bring their phone into their bedrooms every night](#)). Sequester them to their homes 24/7 and that number is only going to go up.

So what can we do about this, if we don't want our kids just sitting around watching Netflix all day long?

Here are some ideas for families who all of a sudden have waaaaaaaaaaaaay too much time with each other.

1. Talk about the elephant in the room.

In a world where [teen anxiety and depression is already at an all-time high](#), the panic our world is experiencing doesn't help. So take some time to calmly address some of the fears and misconceptions your kids might be hearing.

Times like this are full of mis-information. So point your kids to places to get good information. If you want accurate information about health during this crisis, go to the World Health Organization (WHO) website. They've got a great page you can read with your kids about [how to protect yourself](#): simple practices of washing hands and covering your mouths when you cough. They also [dispel common myths](#).

And if you're looking for some encouragement in the middle of discouragement, here are five pastors [with very reassuring messages](#), like Rick Warren who was personally contacted by the director of the CDC talking about how his church could help respond to the pandemic, or Miles McPherson who gathered a panel of officials who discussed facts surrounding the virus in an attempt to dispel fears.

In a time of "fake news," tune into the real thing.

But don't just address life outside the house. . . dialogue about what life is going to look like in the house for the next few weeks. And the best way to do that is...

2. Call a family meeting. . .but don't call it that.

Order some pizza or cook something fun to give your kids a chance to talk about what's going on and dialogue about what the next few weeks will look like around the house. This will give you an opportunity to talk with them about screen time limits, chores and even fun activities you can all do together, but DON'T begin the meeting this way. In fact, if you happen to tell your kids you want to talk or have a family meeting, if they're like most kids they'll demand, *"About what?!!"*

If they do ask that, you can simply respond with, *"We're entering some unprecedented times here in the next few weeks and we'd like to hear your honest opinions and expectations."*

Start by asking a fun question around the table like: *If the power goes out and all our devices' batteries run empty, what would be something you would do for fun?* Get in the practice of going around the table and giving each person a turn to talk. This keeps the one gabby kid (or parent) from monopolizing the conversation, and it gives the shy kid a chance to be heard.

Then ask your kids their opinion about their expectations for the next few weeks. Maybe ask them this: *Paint a picture of what you think your days should look like for the next couple weeks.*

This simple exercise nudges them to think through what their days actually look like—and verbalizing it forces them to almost admit how much "screen time" they expect. Most kids won't want to admit that they would like to get up at noon, start playing video games...maybe stop for dinner...then play until they pass out. So let them verbalize their expectations. Who knows, maybe you'll be excited about what they come up with.

After everyone shares, talk about what screen time will look like for the next few weeks. Instead of just "laying down the law," maybe suggest some options that will probably be a little different than [your normal screen limits](#). Like maybe...

- What if we allow more screen time each day, but no "individual" screen time after dinner, only "family" screen time where we all watch something together. (Helpful if parents are gone during the day and can't monitor. *"Live it up during the day, because when we get home it's family time."*)
- What if you can "earn" more screen time by doing more chores, more reading, etc.? For example. Every hour you read is worth an hour more screen time. Every chore completed is worth so much.
- Work first. Homework, chores and reading are done first. Then screen time when everything else is done.

Present some ideas and then open it up to your kids to suggest ideas. Who knows. They could come up with something better. Just set some expectations and reasonable ground rules, then plan a second family meeting a week later to see if you want to adapt anything.

But also give them the opportunity to do their part...

<https://thesource4parents.com/parenting-help/young-people-screens-coronavirus/>

Mark your calendars! We set the meeting dates for the Education team for the rest of the year. Times for the meetings will be **6:00 PM-7:00 PM**.

Dates are:

May, 7th

July 8th

Oct. 7th



Backpack Program 2020 Backpack Leader: Patty Curtis

Please continue to pray for this ministry. We have received some donations from people outside our church and some organizations. Pickrelltown Cub Scouts gave us some food donations. The FFA of Ben Logan High School organized a food drive. We are stocked up for the rest of the year. Thanks to these two groups. We only have a few weeks left. Mrs. Ridge is packing backpacks during this time school is not in session. The school has supplied food for all students through a local food pantry.

Operation Christmas Child Shipping fund!

We sent so many boxes we need to replenish this fund for the year of 2020! Continue to fill the pill contains with quarters. Each bottle will hold 36 quarters worth a value to \$9.00. Once it is filled you can place in the offering plate. This small bottle is enough to ship 1 shoebox and help the Gospel to be told around the world!



Please donate the items below for each month.

Remember toys must be new and no military toys or liquids.

May-Small toys (no glass, liquid or war related toys)

June - Combs, brushes, hair ties and headband, and hats

July - Wash Clothes & Bars of Soap

August - School supplies (crayons, markers, tablets, scissors, pencils, pens & erasers)

Sept - Toothpaste and tooth brushes

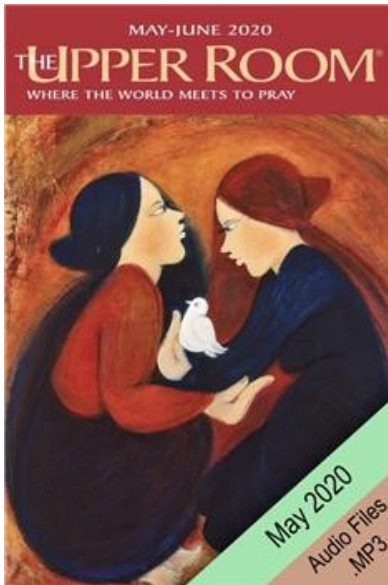
Sign-Ups LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.

⇒ **Groups to sign up and organize and execute the community meal Nov. and Dec. There will be no community meal in July due to the fair.**

⇒ **New Landscaping team**

You are invited to contribute articles, devotions, personal testimony, or other such information of interest in our church newsletter. Extra fun and humor are encouraged if it is appropriate. All entries will be subject to pastoral approval.

Please email articles to pastor or the church email at mumcoffice@embarqmail.com by the 20th of each month of every month.



The Upper Room daily devotional are free and is a *great way to help us focus on him daily*. **May, June** devotional books are available now in the narthex. If you do not currently read them, try them! Continue to spend time alone with God.



Do you love getting dirty outside in the dirt?

Do you have a talent of arranging plants to make the world a better place?

Come join our Landscaping team!

This group will be responsible for pulling weeds during the summer months, trimming hedges, watering plants, and planting new plants. There is a sign up in the narthex. If you have any questions contact the office.

Community Meal

We are organizing and planning the community meal a little bit differently. We are looking for groups of people to plan/organize/execute the meal. There is a fund for the community meal. If you purchase food for the community meal, you can fill out a reimbursement slip and get reimbursed. A list of duties and sign - up sheet is in the narthex. **We need a group of people to sign up for Sept. , Nov, and Dec.** The next community meal date is **Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 6:00 PM.**

KIDS CLUB— This group is for Children in grades K-4th. Leader is Heather Hawley. It meets the first and third Wednesday of every month at **6:00 PM.** The last meeting is **Wednesday, May 6**

Youth 58- Youth 58 meets twice a month on Sunday evenings **2:00-3:30 PM.** This is a casual, fun group for grades 5th-8th. Meeting location is the “Henry House” the home of Kevin & Mary Henry.

We have a discussion and then have time for a game or project.

Youth One80 —We would like to thank you all who support this ministry. Without your financial donations, this ministry would not be possible.

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS...

The 2020 General Conference of the United Methodist Church scheduled for May 5-15 in Minneapolis has been postponed until 2021. Dates have not been confirmed yet.

New Path Pregnancy Center Update.

Website: www.newpathprc.com

If you encounter someone with needs for an infant see below.

The center is closed but they will make arrangements for supplies of diapers, formula, wipes if they are a current/active client.

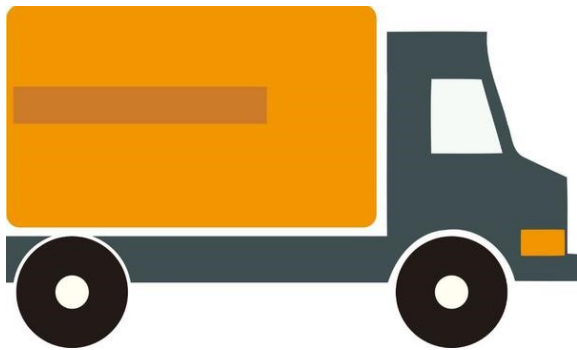
If someone is not a current client but has an emergency need for baby supplies please have them email with their contact information.

Email kshanks@newpathprc.com

If you are unable to email call (937) 642-5683 and leave a message with contact information

How Can I Still Give To The Church

You can continue your giving of your tithes and offerings by mailing a check to the church or by utilizing bill pay options online from your checking account. If you need assistance with this, please contact the church office.



Mountain Mission truck pickup scheduled for May 4 – 6 has been cancelled. We will reschedule in the fall.

Church Hours and Contact Information:

Please like us on Facebook and stay tuned to One call for instructions to join us online for services and meetings. We will be working from home during some office hours and limited office hours. The church building is closed until further notice.

Secretary: Patty Curtis Tuesday & Thursdays 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Pastor: Carolyn Christman Also available by appointment.

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. (Lunch from 12-1:00 PM) & 1:00 – 4:00PM

Website www.middleburgumc.com

Facebook Page: Middleburg United Methodist Church

Facebook Group: Middleburg Ohio UMC

Birthdays:

Ginger Shellenberger	5/1
Vicki Henry	5/3
Brook Chismar	5/8
Mya Burrey	5/9
Kylie Johnson	5/9
Frank Chismar	5/12
KimberLee Kinney	5/13
Caitlyn Baird	5/15
Charla Shellenberger	5/15
Kate Shellenberger	5/18
Bill Eleyet	5/20
Jack Nicholas	5/23
Don Jaunzemis	5/24
Mark Stierhoff	5/25

Anniversaries-

Bill & Alicia Eleyet	5/17
Cleon & Gerry Lininger	5/28

Graduation Sunday will be held on May 17th. Please turn in names of high school and college graduates so that we may include them in our recognition and celebration. The office will also need a small biography as to what their future plans are. If you have any questions please contact Mary Jaunzemis.

Graduates 2020

High School

Addie Barns
Rachel Mears
Christopher Raterman

College

Caitlyn Baird
Josh Hardman
Heather Hawley
Katie Johnson
Charla Shellenberger

GO2020 global Outreach Month May 2020 , Global Outreach Day is May 25

GO02– Every believer is a witness! Together we can reach one billion people with the gospel.

Every believer can reach 5 people

Every church can do various evangelistic activities

God is activating believes to participate in the biggest move of God in history.

It began in 2012, participation has grown to 250,000 churches in 140 countries who engage in personal evangelism, community outreach and church planting through God. This has resulted in over 6 million indicated decision for Christ.

Go to [www. GO2020.World/home](http://www.GO2020.World/home)

Or GO2020usa.com

Or Facebook GO2020 Team for Global Outreach Day

Logan County –Revive Ohio has joined GO2020. Logan County is in the planning stages.

May 2 7:00 PM GO2020 Kick off Service at the First Church of God located at Brown Avenue in Bellefontaine

May 31 7:00 PM Finale & Beyond Worship Service at the First Church of God located at Brown Avenue in Bellefontaine

Please review the calendar below for meeting times and times of worship. Contact the committee leader if you have any questions if your committee is meeting on a certain date. We are working on having some meetings via zoom, and streaming the services online. We will send out one call with instructions and cancellations as they are decided.

May 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 6:00 PM Trustee 7:00 PM Ladies Circle	6 6:00 PM Kids Club	7 6:00 PM Education Meeting	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 6:30 PM Finance 7:00 PM Ad Council	15	16
17 Graduation Sunday	18	19	20	21 6:00 PM Community Meal 7:00 PM Outreach 7:00 SPRC	22	23
24	25	26	27 6:30 PM Worship Planning	28	29	30
31						