



The Middleburg MESSENGER

Nov, 2019

Events/ Information: Middleburg United Methodist Church

GOD IS BIGGER

“Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish INFINITELY more than we might ask or think. Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.”—Ephesians 3:20-21 (NLT)

Where is everyone on Sunday mornings? Why aren't our churches filled with people who want to learn to know God more and understand the teachings of Jesus better; people who desire a deeper relationship with the Creator and Father of all? Where is the movement of the Holy Spirit? Is the growing tug on your heart and the commitment of God's call upon you making you just too uncomfortable? Are other priorities getting in the way?

Generally, I try not to make too much of periodic absences from corporate worship because there are times or even seasons when illness or family plans and travel, or even travel for work calls to us on the weekends. Sometimes we look to alternative options to our corporate worship setting. I wonder if part of the problem is how we understand Sundays. It's not just supposed to be a day off of work or a Sabbath day of rest. Since the time of the Lord's resurrection Sundays have served (as the first day of the week) to be "The Lord's Day"—a day set apart for God's message of love through Jesus Christ. And the main reasons we meet together as a church on Sundays, is to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. Each Sunday is a mini-Easter celebration, reminding us of the Good News of salvation that comes through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

While we can conjure up man-made reasons for worship, we come to church to sing praises to God together, to pray together, to hear and learn God's Word together, and to break bread together in Holy Communion. We come to strengthen our relationship with God. **WE COME TO BE EQUIPPED TO GO OUT AND SHARE THIS GOOD NEWS!!** God equips us for action, to live boldly, as he grows us into committed disciples.

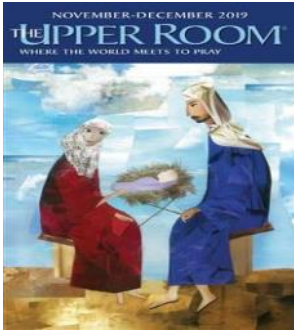
In America, we have a great deal of opportunity to enjoy life on so many levels. But, there are times when we all also encounter struggles in a variety of ways. And, we need each other. I think we've forgotten to include God or we set him aside at times when things are going well. Then in times of trouble, when we finally turn to him again, we've forgotten that God is bigger than ALL our troubles. And he has a broader perspective and a bigger future plan for us than we can imagine—a vision bigger than we can see. The Holy Spirit can do mighty things in believers than we realize individually and as a body. God's power resides in we who have received his gift of grace in Jesus Christ and so we have great potential. We have a greater power within us than any power in the world that may try to defeat us. God's Spirit works in us and through us to accomplish greater things than we can imagine. It's time we access that power more and pray for a mighty movement of the Holy Spirit to fill our church and to **MOVE US INTO ACTION!!**

We may be comfortable and content with the way things are as "hearers" of the Word, but God has a bigger and mightier future planned for us as "doers" of the Word. Obviously, I'm not just speaking of the future in heaven. I mean our future as Middleburg UM Church. Pray and pay attention to the promptings of the Spirit and put your faith into action as he leads you—even if it's to serve new people in new places. We can have an even greater impact in our community if we ramp up our enthusiasm for the Lord. We need to be a little hungrier for the Word and remember the most important matter is where we ourselves, our family and friends, and every other person will spend eternity. God has a big plan for you and your life and your role among us. We miss and need you because God loves others through you. You matter.

In Christ's Love,

~Pastor Carolyn

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 mumcof-fice@embarqmail.com by the 20th of every month.**



The Upper Room daily devotional are free and is a *great way to help us focus on him daily. Nov./Dec devotional books are available now* in the narthex.

All Saints Day Celebration Nov. 3

All saints Day is a day we honor those that have passed onto heaven this past year. During the Nov. service we will call their name and light a candle in their honor.

If you have any names of close relatives that have passed away since Nov. 11, 2018 and have not filled out the form. Contact the office ASAP to add a name to our list.



A New Sunday School Class

Bible- Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth

I will be starting a class for those who struggle with reading the Bible and understanding what God is trying to say to them through His word. If you want to know how to study the Bible effectively, share in fellowship and be inspired, then please join us in the Library beginning **Sunday, November 3rd** after church. Please Bring your Bible, a journal book or paper notebook and a pen, Let's see where God takes us on a journey though His word.

Sincerely,

Sally Stierhoff

Community Meal—The next community meal will be **Nov. 21, 2019**. The menu will be Ham, Sweet potatoes, Green Beans, sides and desserts. Please sign-up in the narthex to donate items or help serve, set-up/clean-up.

Ladies Circle- Fall meal of Beef/chicken noodles, Mashed potatoes, Green Beans, Slaw drinks, & apple dumplings. We need a lot of help for this dinner to be a success. Please sign-up for the various job duties and shifts and donations. Thank you.

Date: Nov. 7 from 4:30 PM-7:00 PM

Cost: Adults \$10 kids 6-10 \$5 Under 6 FREE

Carry out meals available.

Workdays

Tuesday Nov. 5 at 6:00 PM- set up tables & chairs

Wednesday Nov. 6 at 6:00 PM peel potatoes, & bake dumplings

Thursday, Nov. 7 at 9:00 PM – prepare food, cover tables

Thursday Nov. 7 at 7:00 PM – Clean-up crew



Backpack Program---- Please continue to pray for this ministry. If you would like to get involved, please notify the office. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. We pack them on Fridays at 1:00 PM-1:30 PM with the help of kids from the Ben Logan Key Club and our Youth One80. We have received some donations from people outside our church and some organizations. Let's do what we can to keep this ministry growing! Volunteer to help pack!

Belle Center United Presbyterian Church has donated prepackaged rice and black beans single serving pouches to use for our ministry through and organization called Generosity Feeds.

Kids Club —All meetings start at 6:00PM. Meetings are held here in the fellowship hall. Kids club is for ages for grades K-4 led by Heather O'Donnell. Bring your friends for a prize! **Dates: Nov. 20 Dec. 4 Dec. 18**

Nov. 6– Shopping for OCC items.

***If your child is going to Nov 6 shopping trip and you did not receive the permission forms, it is in the narthex. Fill out and return one to Heather O'Donnell or Mary Henry. The other permission slip send into the school by Nov. 4-5. to allow Mary & Heather to pick up your child after school. If the school does not have this form, they will not be able to pick your child up.**



Operation Christmas Child-----One more month! We will be collecting items for Operation Christmas Child. Our goal is to collect enough items to fill 100 boxes!

Nov. - Donation item for Nov. -Money to help cover the shipping costs.

Operation Christmas Child Benefit Luncheon & Bake Sale. -raised over \$500. Thank you all who donated, organized and purchased items. **Thank you for helping us make this ministry possible!! We will be packing boxes during Wow and Sunday School Nov. 10.**

MUMC Youth have been busy! **Luke 18:16 "But Jesus called the children to him and said, 'Let the little**

KIDS CLUB—Youth in grades kindergarten through fourth met twice this month. Both times we learned about the love of God and how He has special names for us. Ask our kids how to end this sentence "Hello, my name is..." from God's perspective. Fall care cards were created for delivery to Green Hills Retirement Community. November 6 we will be getting together to go shopping for the Operation Christmas Child boxes. For more information on the shopping trip contact Heather at 937-539-6104. Anyone bringing a friend receives a prize and we have averaged 6 attendees each week. Three new youth joined us last week! Keep them coming! Special thanks to Patty Curtis, Mary Henry and Pastor Carolyn for their help with Kids Club!

Youth 58-Youth 58 meets twice a month on Sunday evenings 6:30-7:45. This is a casual, fun group for grades 5th-8th. We normally meet at the home of Kevin & Mary Henry. We have a discussion and then have time for a game or project. Last month, seven kids enjoyed an outing to Whit's Frozen Custard and Putt & Play Mini Golf in Bellefontaine. We played Laser Tag and Glow Putt, and our discussion focused on John 1:5 "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." Any middle school youth are welcome to attend!..... And Friends are welcome too!

Youth One80 Students in grades 9 through 12 have been meeting at Firehouse Pizza after each home Benjamin Logan football game. We created Fall care cards for Green Hills residents and enjoyed prayer time and game time. On October 11, Jeremy Liles provided the entertainment! Last week we provided "Don't Give Up" signs for students to put in their yards and discussed how God's love is always present. We have had nearly 20 students there each week and plan to continue 5th Quarter through basketball season. All are welcome! Pass the word! Special thanks to Ginger Shellenberger for her help!

Sign-Ups LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.

- ⇒ **We need greeters/communion servers/scripture readers for Nov./Dec.**
- ⇒ **Volunteers for lighting of the Advent candles, reading scriptures, during Advent**
- ⇒ **Community meal help/serve/clean up/donate items for Nov. meal**
- ⇒ **Volunteer to pack backpacks for backpack program**
- ⇒ **Order forms for poinsettias.**
- ⇒ **Ladies Fall Meal donations and shift/duty sign-up sheet**

Groups to Light the Advent Candles

We are looking for family or groups of friends to light the Advent candles. The reading will be a scripture, and a short explanation of what each candle represents, lighting of the Advent candle, and a prayer. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Groups can consist of families or friends. Dates needed are **Sunday Dec 1, 8, 15, 22 and Christmas Eve service on Dec. 24.**



Birthdays:

| | | | |
|------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| Destiny Henry | 11/3 | Jim Cox | 11/21 |
| Gabe VanDyke | 11/3 | Maggie Shellenberger | 11/23 |
| JoAnn Hines | 11/5 | Ryan Johnson | 11/23 |
| Bre Allen | 11/7 | Abby Hammer | 11/24 |
| Chuck Mally | 11/13 | Mary Jaunzemis | 11/24 |
| Alicia Eleyet | 11/15 | Seth Slemmons | 11/27 |
| Joyce Rice | 11/16 | Tom Reynolds | 11/28 |
| Chad Bahan | 11/18 | Garrett Henry | 11/29 |
| Hunter Deardurff | 11/19 | | |



Anniversaries

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|-------------------------|-------|
| Vince & Cindy Deardurff | 11/13 |
| Dennis & Linda Fisher | 11/20 |
| Mark & Carol Baird | 11/27 |

Church Hours and Contact Information:

Secretary: Patty Curtis Hours: Tuesday & Thursdays at 8:00AM - 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

Church Office Email: mumcoffice@embarqmail.com

Church Office Phone: (937) 666-2844

Pastor's Email: cjchrist4u@gmail.com

Parsonage Phone: (937) 666-0003

Cell phone (937) 248-8930

November 2019

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----|--|--|--|-----|-----|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 All Saints Day 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 Sunday School | 4 | 5 8:00 AM-Breakfast Der Dutchman 6:00 PM Trustees Meeting 6:00 PM Fall Meal work day | 6 Kids Club after school shopping trip. 6:00 PM Fall Meal work day | 7 9:00 Fall Meal Prep Fall Meal 4:30PM-7:00 PM 7:00 Clean-up | 8 | 9 |
| 10 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 Sunday School Packing OCC Boxes— during Wow & Sunday school 6:30 PM - 7:45 Youth 58 | 11 | 12 7:00 PM Bible Study | 13 7:00 PM Lay Leadership | 14 6:30 PM Finance Meeting 7:00 PM Ad Council | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 7:00 PM Bible Study | 20 6:00 PM Kids Club 7:00 PM Lay Leadership | 21 6:00 PM Community Meal-Ham, sweet potatoes/sides/ desserts 7:00 PM Outreach Meeting | 22 | 23 |
| 24 6:30 PM - 7:45 Youth 58 | 25 | 26 6:30 PM Worship Planning | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |