

# Sandpiper

## January Worship Schedule

**Sunday School 9:00am**  
**Worship 10:30am**

Child Care available during the Worship Service for ages infant through 5 years

## From the Pastor

### Happy New Year!

Ephesians 3:20-21 says, “**Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.**”

At the end of our worship services together since we began going through the letter to the Ephesians this has been our benediction. Did you realize that every week we leave our time of worship service this has been God’s blessing pronounced over you? If you did realize it, did you ever ask yourselves, “Why does this guy keep using the same benediction week after week?”

I greatly desire that I would believe it! I desire even more that we would all believe it! Let’s memorize it together. Let’s ponder it together! Let’s be in awe of it together! What is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords going to do in and through us this coming year? What new adventures does Jesus have in store for us as we enter into 2019? We can be assured that the result will be glorious “in the church and in Christ

Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

What can you expect at Middle Sandy Church over this next year? I think we can expect the following: a renewed vision for the church from the LORD; changes made within our church to align with this renewed vision; and a new call to a pastor that will help champion and promote our new direction. We’ve been praying that we would all know God, His heart, and His love more. I believe we will witness answers to these prayers as we step out in faith in new ways, repent from our sins, love one another and our community, and continue praying, praying, praying, that Jesus would do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think! Have a happy and blessed new year!

With Love,  
Pastor Eric

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### • **Article Deadline Note:**

- Please turn in any articles or announcements for the Sandpiper to Carolyn Slingerland by the **22<sup>nd</sup> of each month**. You can e-mail them to [middlesandy@frontier.com](mailto:middlesandy@frontier.com).



# Sands Through the Hourglass...

The 2019 sands that will be flowing from the hour glass tell that THINGS CHANGED at Middle Sandy through the years, and not all have been negative changes.

TIMES CHANGE---"But we've always had the Christmas service at 11:00." Yes, as long as I remember that was true. Do some of you recall the dozen or so youth choir members, wearing their white cottas with big red bows, staying awake and singing at the 11: service? Elaine Wagner was their director, accompanied by Lola Emmons. This year's 9:00 service was an apparent acceptable change because all of the pews were "packed" full.

This year's Cantata, directed by Linda McQuilkin, accompanied by B.J. Willis and narrated by Pastor Eric Phillips contained, as always, the inspiring story of the Christ Child's birth. It was followed by the Pastor's Eric's message of salvation for those who will accept Jesus as their Savior. Applause goes to the very faithful choir members for their hours of practice to present the Cantata.

TIMES CHANGE---I recall the trim-a-tree meals, and the years that the Christmas tree in the sanctuary was decorated with the white message inspired symbolic Christmoms. Some became bored with them, so changes were made, and families brought ornaments that were special to them and placed them on the tree, as we circled the sanctuary and sang carols. Pam Miller led the singing and Elaine Wagner accompanied. For the past couple years Roger and Diane Sanor have put up the tree and decorated it with lovely ornaments. No longer are trees decorated in the fellowship hall or in the parlor. For years the sanctuary windows were decorated with wreaths of various designs. Several years ago Carole Mathey and her family

purchased matching wreaths in memory of her mother, Evelyn Stewart Dickey, who served as our organist for many years. Because of their age, the wreaths have had some "fixing up".

TIMES CHANGE---The Trim-a-Tree program for many years was always presented by the children and young people with their songs, skits and recitations. For two years plays were given by the young people with Dorothy Burbick and Pam Miller directing.

TIMES CHANGE---There is no longer a candy treat ( and years ago an orange was added) because there are often no children in attendance, except for the faithfulness of Mary and Elizabeth Mason. I think it was decided that the adults didn't really need the extra sweets. I recall when my husband Ray was Sunday School Superintendent. On the way to S.S., we stopped at Butch and Bessie Emmons' store to pick up the oranges to add to the sweet treats..

TIMES CHANGE---We now alternate soup lunch meals with our friends from the Reading Brethren Church. We will host the January 13th fellowship meal. Some folks are still needed to contribute food. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

Some things DON'T CHANGE---Terry Slingerland has placed the Nativity scene in the front yard for years. A time or two someone stole the Baby Jesus out of the manger. Prayerfully it made a difference in the robber's life! Lynn Kidd continues to place her lovely decorations on the tables in the fellowship hall. Many contribute "behind the scenes"....burned out bulbs are replaced in the chandeliers before the Christmas Eve. service; somebody makes sure the candles for the Christmas Eve service are available; someone (s) control the sound system; somebody set traps so that the recent five visiting mice are no longer with us. Praise God for all who serve our congregation in so many ways.

**RESOLUTION for 2019-----WORK FOR  
THE LORD.>>>HIS RETIREMENT PLAN  
IS HEAVENLY>>>😊**



**Name - Date**

Joseph Smythe – 2  
John Hampe - 4  
Dorothy Burbick – 10  
Jessica Sands – 11  
Cynthia Lohnes – 13  
Darlene Martin – 25  
Barb McCain – 31

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**Anniversaries**

**Couple - Date**

None



**in our**  
  
**prayers**

*We encourage you to send a card or letter to one or two each month. Addresses are available in the church directory or in the church office.*

**Continuing health needs:**

Dorothy Smythe (Brookdale - Salem)  
Tim Hume (blood disease treatments)  
Dorothy McKinley (broken foot)  
Diane Sanor - (foot blood clot)

**Military Service:**

Brian Burbick (Navy - NY)  
Chad & Christina Gimmi (4823 Unit D Thomas Paine Circle, Scott AFB, IL. 62225)  
Eric W. Hampe (Ohio Army National Guard, Stow, OH)  
Jason Snyder (Ft. Drum, NY) (Carole & Don Mathey's grandson)  
Jon Pagnucco (Jane Stryffeler's grandson) - Navy (Alexandria, VA)  
-John Hampe (Marines)

**Our Missionaries - for Holy Spirit protection and great perseverance in their work.**

Jeff & Natasha B. (*EPC missionaries in Asia*)  
Abe & Diane Bible (*Missionaries to the Ukraine*)  
Lisa Smith (Indianapolis)  
Paul & Reinhild Sydnor (*ministry to refugees in Lille, France and Malta*)

**In Nursing Homes or Home-bound:**

Pauline Martin (*Crandall Medical Center*)  
Dorothy Smythe (*Brookdale, Salem*)  
Dorothy McKinley



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