

Calendar of events

**Saturdays:** Saturday Night Live Open AA meeting in the Education Building, 8PM

**Today:** Sunday worship: Fourth Sunday after Pentecost with the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, 10:30AM. The start of our Summer Sermon Series — Fruit of the Spirit

**July 13:** Sunday worship: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, 10:30AM

**July 19:** Bingo Fun at the Community Church of Keyport, 3PM. \$25 per person, or \$175 for a table of eight. 50/50 raffle, fun prizes, BYOB (beer & wine). To reserve your spot, email Terri Sadler at [tzgone2oz@aol.com](mailto:tzgone2oz@aol.com)

**July 20:** Sunday worship: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost with the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, 10:30AM

**July 27:** Sunday worship: Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, 10:30AM

**August 3:** Sunday worship: Eighth Sunday after worship with the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, 10:30AM. After worship, we will have our annual Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski, II Youth Group Memorial Scholarship Picnic & BBQ

**August 4-12:** Pastor Trish on vacation

**August 18-22:** Save the Date! We are combining with the United Methodist Church of Red Bank for a VBS program from 9:30-11:30AM Monday through Thursday and a Friday evening campfire celebration. We would love to see some MRC adult representation and assistance, if available. Julie Hertzog is the point of contact for this joint event.

Consistory

**Elders**  
Dianne Asay, Financial Secretary  
Dolores Hofmann  
Lisa Leidecker, Vice President  
Cindy Reya, Co-Treasurer  
Rev. Tricia Sheffield, President

**Deacons**  
Julie Hertzog  
Kim Larson, Alternate Clerk  
Dara Steele  
Taralynn VanBrunt, Clerk

Middletown Reformed Church Vision Statement

(Adopted by the Consistory 9 May 2016)  
Middletown Reformed Church is a welcoming and affirming congregation, where the inclusive grace of God is the guiding principle for all our ministries. We are people of faith committed to boldly proclaiming and intentionally living out God’s command to do justice, share love, show mercy, and walk humbly with our God in our local and global communities. We are a church on the side of love for all God’s people – providing for those who are in need, advocating for all oppressed peoples, and caring for our earth – we love because God first loved us.

In our prayers

**For the healing journey:** John Coffin; Diane Grady; Judy Daugherty; Chris Coll; Beverly Scarano; Tom Smigel  
**For God’s support, strength, & comfort:** Mercedes’ mother Fran; Florence Horsman; the Hertzog family; Pam Donohue as she grieves the loss of her husband, Steve; Linda Grasso; Linda G; Magdala; Fleming

**For God’s guidance:** Community Church of Keyport

Please continue to remember all those who have served our country, especially those who are serving: David Celeste & Joseph Petrone, United States Air Force; Michael Howlett & Lloyd Petrone, United States Marine Corps

Social media

**Website:** [www.mrchurch.us](http://www.mrchurch.us)  
**Facebook:** Middletown Reformed Church  
**YouTube:** MRC: A Fabulous Church of Love  
**Instagram:** [middletownreformednj](https://www.instagram.com/middletownreformednj)  
**Spotify:** Middletown Reformed Church podcast



Scan the QR code for a link to our online giving opportunities.

The flowers today are from the Flower Fund  
If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary for worship, contact Dolores Hofmann at 732.671.9308. The cost is \$25.

Our greeters today are Julie Hertzog & Dolores Hofmann.  
Our greeters next week will be Lisa Leidecker & Cindy Reya

Our 2025 RCA Annual Denominational Assessment of \$107.10 per member is due. The total amount for the year is \$5,569.55, which the church pays on a quarterly basis (\$1,392.39). This assessment supports the work of our Classis, Regional Synod, and the General Synod. The per capita dues of \$7 for the United Church of Christ is also due. Total amount for both RCA and UCC is \$114.10 per member. If you wish to contribute toward the assessment/dues, please mark your check in the memo section “Denominational assessment/ Dues.” You are welcome to request information at any time from the treasurers regarding the current fiscal status of the church.

Middletown Reformed Church



A welcoming & affirming congregation

Middletown Reformed Church

Rev. Tricia Sheffield, PhD, Pastor  
Thomas Martucci, Director of Music  
Julie Hertzog, Coordinator for Children & Youth

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 06 July 2025

We approach God

Prelude Reason I Sing

Votum & greeting

Passing of the peace

Call to worship (from unfoldinglight.net) based on Psalm 30  
Julie Hertzog, liturgist

Leader: We praise you, O God, for you have lifted us up.

All: We cried to you for help, and you healed us.

Weeping may tarry for the night,  
but joy comes in the morning.

You have turned our sorrow into dancing.

You have beautified us with joy. We thank you. We  
praise you! We worship you!

\*Opening hymn Jesus, Lover Of My Soul (424)

Prayer of confession (adapted from unfoldinglight.net)

God of grace, we confess we are in need of healing.

Immerse us in your grace.

We are in need of forgiveness.

Immerse us in your grace.

We are in need of the faith to heal and to bless.

Immerse us in your grace.

Heal our hearts, forgive our sin, and empower us to live

the fullness of your love and joy, in the spirit of Christ.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray, who became  
what we are to make us what he is. Amen

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of God’s grace (adapted from Worship Ways)

Liturgist: Hear these words of assurance: The Guiding

Spirit opens us to new life and leads us to right paths.

Hear the voice that continually calls, leads, and journeys

with us. Life in the Spirit is constantly renewed and

restored. Let the grace of God nurture us and allow our

flourishing.

Law of love/Faithful living

\*Celtic Alleluia



We listen to God

Scripture reading John 15.5-11 (NT page 96)  
1 Peter 1.3-9 (NT page 205)

Anthem Revolutionary

Sermon Got Joy? Rev. Tricia Sheffield, PhD

We respond to God

Invitation to the offering

Offertory Reason I Sing (Reprise)

\*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise  
God, all creatures here below; Praise God, above ye  
heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The Prayers of the People with the Lord’s Prayer

You are invited to pray the Lord’s Prayer in any version

or language you wish.

Ever-loving and holy God, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it

is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and

forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And

lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the

glory forever. Amen

\*Closing hymn O God of Every Nation (282)

\*Benediction

Postlude

\*Please stand as you are able.