

Calendar of events

Saturdays: Saturday Night Live Open AA meeting in the Education Building, 8PM
Today: Sunday worship: World Communion Sunday with the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, 10:30AM. After worship, we will have our First Sunday brunch in the Education Building
October 6: New Jericho Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 5:30PM
October 8: Bayshore Lunch Program volunteer opportunity, 9:45AM
October 8: Adult Education in Coventry House, 7PM ONLY
October 9: Joyful Noise Adult Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 6PM
October 11: Woman’s Club of Middletown meeting in the Education Building, 11AM
October 12: Sunday worship: Blessing of the Animals outside (weather permitting), 10:30AM
October 13: New Jericho Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 5:30PM
October 13: Consistory meeting in the Education Building, 7PM

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
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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.

Notes from Pastor Trish

In the event of a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Trish 212-729-9150 or e-mail at pastortrishmrc@gmail.com. You may also call the Church Office phone at 732-671-1786. Messages are picked up during the week. Pastor Trish’s office hours are Tuesday, 1-3, Wednesday, 2-4, Thursday, 1-3 or by appointment. Weekend and evening times are also available. Her day of Sabbath rest is Monday. She does not answer texts, emails, or phone calls on this day, unless it’s an emergency.

In our prayers

For the healing journey: a neighbor; Irv Beaver; Eric H; Nancy Coffin; Judy Daugherty; Diane Grady; Joy Sheffield; Tom Smigel; Diana S
For God’s support, strength, & comfort: Team June; the family of Dot Bradley on the recent death of her husband, Mike; Donna Arnold; Mercedes’ mother, Fran; Florence Horsman; Linda Grasso; Magdala; Fleming; Linda
For God’s guidance & discernment: Suzanne

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
Facebook: Middletown Reformed Church
YouTube: MRC: A Fabulous Church of Love
Instagram: middletownreformednj
Spotify: Middletown Reformed Church podcast



Scan the QR code for a link to our online giving opportunities, or go to www.mrchurch.us/give
The flowers today are in loving memory of the third anniversary of the losing of Bill Potter, from Marlys, Wendy, Herb, Brooke, Sean, & Tyler
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 Dolores Hofmann & Kim Larson.
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

World Communion Sunday 05 October 2025

Prelude Have You Met My Jesus

Votum & greeting

Passing of the peace

Message for all ages

Call to worship (adapted from unfoldinglight.net)
Elder Dolores Hofmann, liturgist

Leader: Creator God, Mother and Father of us all, your children worship you.
All: People of every tribe, nation, language and culture praise you!
Risen Christ, your siblings around the world give thanks to you.
People of every kind and status, in every hut and cathedral sing to you!
Holy Spirit, you make us one, the Body of Christ, throughout the World.
Loving Christ, we come to your table to be together with our siblings. May there be unity among us. May we be one in the love and faith of Christ, one in the Spirit, and one in ministry to all the world, to the glory of God. Alleluia!

*Opening hymn I Come With Joy (533, v1-4)

Prayer of confession (from unfoldinglight.net)
God, we give thanks for the diversity and unity of the human family, and for your grace in the ways we honor that gift. And we confess the ways we resist our unity, resist our diversity, judge those who are not like us, and ignore our siblings. Heal our fear, forgive our sin, and renew in us your loving Spirit. 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 (from Worship Ways)
Hear these hopeful words: God’s abundance is immeasurable. Though we may not understand it, we are yet worthy of basking in the undeserved goodness of God. **Praise be to God!**

Law of Love/Faithful living

*Halle, Halle (768)
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

We listen to God

Scripture reading Exodus 16.1-18 (OT page 58)

Anthem At This Table Joyful Noise Adult Choir

Sermon When in the Wilderness
Rev. Tricia Sheffield, PhD

We respond to God

Invitation to the offering

Offertory Have You Met My Jesus (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

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 God Be With You Till We Meet Again (944)

*Benediction

Postlude

*Please stand as you are able.

