

## Calendar of events

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

**Today:** Sunday worship: Third Sunday in Lent, 10:30AM. Ordination and installation of new Deacons and Elders

**Today:** Confirmation class after coffee hour, 12PM

**March 9:** New Jericho Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 5:30PM

**March 9:** Consistory meeting in the Education Building, 6:30PM

**March 10:** Soup & Scripture with Pastor Trish in the Education Building, 12:30PM RSVP to Pastor Trish

**March 11:** Bayshore Lunch Program, 9:45AM

**March 12:** Joyful Noise Adult Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium 6PM

**March 14:** Garden Group work day, 10AM. All are welcome!

**March 14:** Woman's Club of Middletown meeting in the Education Building, 11AM

**March 14:** REVOLution Outreach meeting in the Education Building, 1PM

## Consistory

### Elders

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

### Deacons

Julie Hertzog  
Kim Larson, Clerk  
Dara Steele

## 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 [pastortrismrc@gmail.com](mailto:pastortrismrc@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:** Barbara Mannix; Tom Baldino; Diana V; Sherrill; Stephanie; Bob Bark; Henry Thorpe; a neighbor; Nancy Coffin; Diane Grady; Tom Smigel; Diana S

**For God's support, strength, & comfort:** the Hertzog family; 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: Joseph Petrone, United States Air Force; Michael Howlett & Lloyd Petrone, United States Marine Corps; and all those serving overseas now in the Middle East

## Social media

**Website:** [www.mrchurch.us](http://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](http://www.mrchurch.us/give)

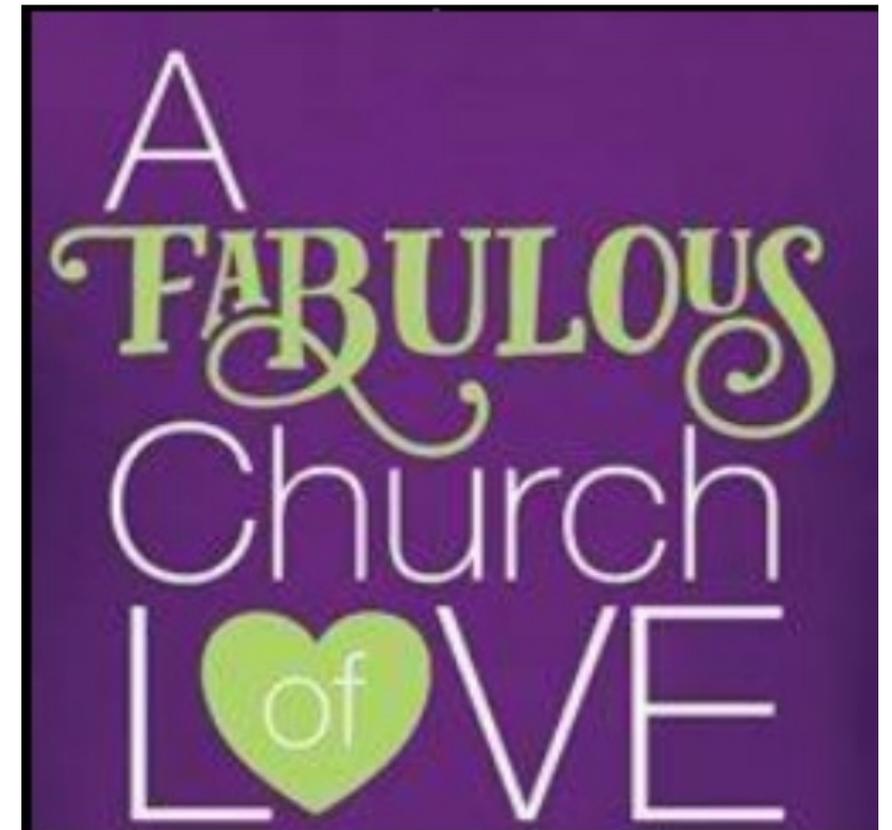
The flowers today are in honor of Robert's birthday, Peter's father with love from the Larson family

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 & Kim Larson.

Our 2026 RCA Annual Denominational Assessment of \$140.00 per member is due. The total amount for the year is \$5,992.58, which the church pays on a quarterly basis (\$1,492.15). This assessment supports the work of our Classis and the General Synod. The per capita dues of \$7 for the New Jersey Association, UCC is also due. These dues support the work of the Association. Total amount for both RCA and UCC is **\$147.00 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 treasurer 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

**Lent Theme: Tell Me Something Good (A Sanctified Art)**  
*Reflection for the week: When has God interrupted your life with abundance?*

Third Sunday in Lent

08 March 2026

## We approach God

Prelude

*The Earth May Move*

Votum & greeting

Passing of the peace

Message for all ages

*Girl Scout Sunday*

Call to worship

(from *unfoldinglight.net*)  
Deacon Julie Hertzog, liturgist

**All: Loving God, you gather us in your presence. You speak the Word of your love to us. You give us yourself and feed us with your Spirit. And you call us to love in your name. We open our hearts to you, that we may receive you with joy, be filled with your love, and go forth in the power of your Spirit to love and serve all in the name of the crucified and risen Christ, our Savior and our Lord. Amen**

\*Opening hymn

*What Wondrous Love* (164, v 1-3)

Prayer of confession

(adapted from *Worship Ways*)

**Spirit of Christ, we pause to give you what feels most vulnerable in each of us. We ask you to pour out compassion over us as you did water over the feet of your disciples. We may be prideful, uncomfortable, anxious, depressed. We may be grieving or overwhelmed, but we ask for your help attuning ourselves with your guidance, strength, and hope. 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*)

The Sovereign One humbles himself to wash us clean of burdens and barriers to life abundant, righteous, just, and flourishing. May we humble ourselves to receive the gift of forgiveness, grace, mercy, and service that Jesus offers each day. You are redeemed, chosen, and loved. Be refreshed, renewed, and transformed in Christ Jesus. Amen

Law of Love/Faithful living

\*Glory Be to the Father

Henry W Greatorex

Glo-ry be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly

Ghost; As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er

shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

**We listen to God**

Scripture reading

John 13.1-17 (NT page 94)

Anthem

*Chosen* Joyful Noise Adult Choir

Sermon

*When Jesus Washes Feet*  
Rev. Tricia Sheffield, PhD

## We respond to God

Invitation to the offering

Offertory

*Worthy of All the Praise*  
Amelia Caddle & Dominick Caddle

\*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**

Ordination & Installation of Deacons & Elders

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

*Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer*  
(43)

\*Benediction

Postlude

*\*Please stand as you are able*

*The baptismal font is filled with water every Sunday to remind us of the sign and seal of God's love for us in our baptism.*

*+ Our restroom is located downstairs through the entryway next to the filing cabinets.*

