

Calendar of events

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

Today: Sunday worship: Sixth Sunday of Easter, 10:30AM

May 11: New Jericho Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 5:30PM

May 11: Consistory meeting in the Education Building, 6:30PM

May 13: Bayshore Lunch Program, 9:45AM

May 14: Joyful Noise Adult Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 6PM

May 16: Italian Dinner for Pride in partnership with the Community Church of Keyport in the Education Building, 5:30PM. Adult, \$25; children under 12, \$5. All proceeds go to benefit our Pride ministries.

May 17: Sunday worship: Seventh Sunday of Easter with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, 10:30AM

May 18: New Jericho Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 5:30PM

May 19: Girl Scouts meeting in the Education Building, 5PM

May 21: Joyful Noise Adult Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 6PM

May 24: Sunday worship: Pentecost Sunday, 10:30AM

Consistory

Elders

Dianne Asay, Financial Secretary, Alt Clerk
Dolores Hofmann
Beverly Bova Scarano, Vice President
Jamie Zeller
Rev. Tricia Sheffield, President

Deacons

Pam Ehrlich
Kim Larson, Clerk
Dara Steele
Abbey Thorpe

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: Donovan Mikula; Nancy Coffin; Jim D'Amico; Dolores Hofmann; Maureen; Adrienne B; Barbara Mannix; Tom Baldino; Jamie Zeller; Diana Vitollo; Stephanie Curry; Bob Bark; Henry Thorpe; Diane Grady

For God's support, strength, & comfort: Cheryl & Charlie A; John & Patti Wilson; the family of Linda Grasso (Cindy & Lloyd); the Hertzog family; Mercedes' mother, Fran; Florence Horsman; Magdala; Fleming; Linda

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

Facebook: Middletown Reformed Church

YouTube: MRC: A Fabulous Church of Love

Instagram: middletownreformednj

Spotify: Middletown Reformed Church podcast



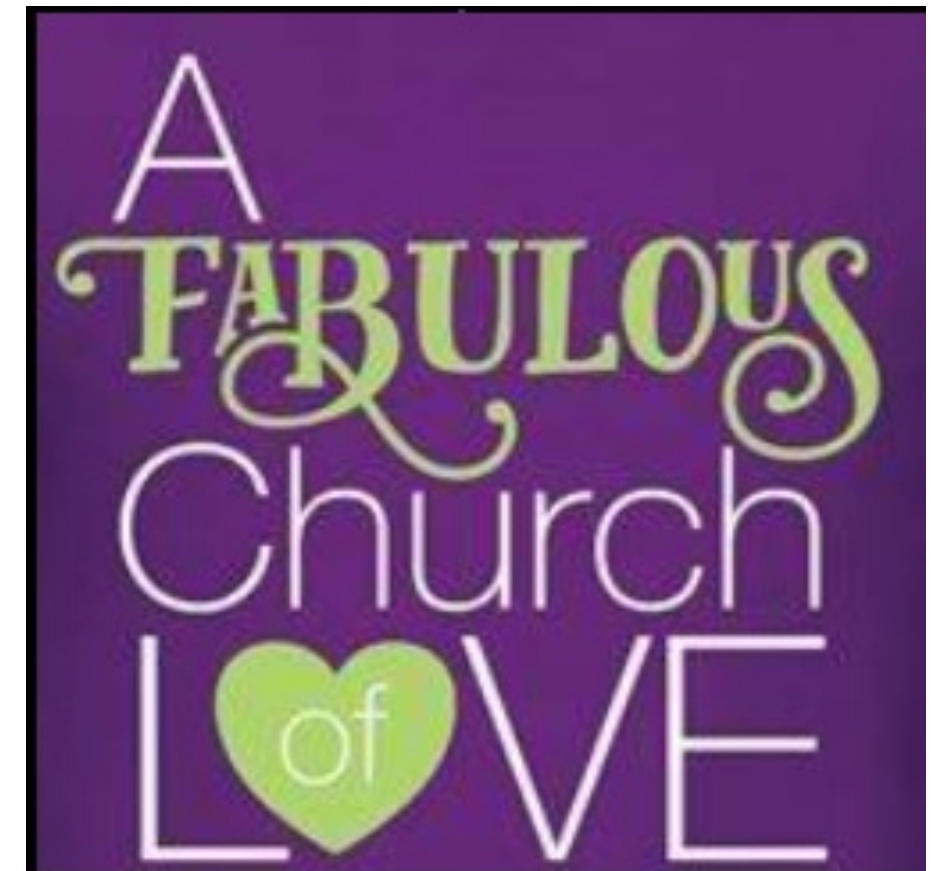
Scan the QR code for a link to our online giving opportunities, or go to www.mrchurch.us/give

The flowers today are 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 Pam Ehrlich & Dolores Hofmann.
Our greeters next week are Kim Larson & Brenner 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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

10 May 2026

We approach God

Prelude

The Father's House

Votum & greeting

Passing of the peace

Message for all ages

Call to worship

(from *unfoldinglight.net*)
Elder Dolores Hofmann, liturgist

Leader: Gracious Creator, you shower us with life, anew each day.

All: Risen Christ, your love beckons us to become your people.

Holy Spirit, you call us forth to shine with your light.
Alleluia! We worship as we live, in gratitude and praise!

*Opening hymn

O Day of Peace (487)

Prayer of confession

(from *Worship Ways*)

All: God of grace and mercy, we bring our fears, doubts, and despair, and lay them at your feet. We hold out our hearts and hands, minds and souls to feel your touch, and know the peace that only you can bring. God of healing and love, in this sacred moment, in your presence and through your power, grant us faith and confidence that by your Spirit our lives will be made whole. 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: Open your hearts and hear the good news. In the name of all that is, you are welcome into the grace, mercy, and forgiveness of the Creator of our hearts.

All: Glory to the Giver of Life, Amen

Law of Love/Faithful living

*Celtic Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

We listen to God

Scripture reading Philippians 1.1-18a (NT page 173)

Anthem

Your Love Never Fails

Sermon

Koinonia

Rev. Tricia Sheffield, PhD

We respond to God

Affirmation of Faith

(from *The Belhar Confession*)

We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another . . . together know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another . . .

Invitation to the offering

Offertory

The Father's House (reprise)

*Doxology

From all that dwell below the skies; Let faith and hope with love arise. Let peace, goodwill on earth be sung; Through every land, by every tongue! Amen

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

Amazing Grace, v4 a cappella (691)

*Benediction

Postlude

*Please stand in body or in spirit

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.*

