### **Calendar of events**

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

**Today:** 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 4-7; 11-12: 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 Rey, 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:** Nancy Coffin; Judy Daugherty; Diane Grady; Tom Smigel; Diana S

For God's support, strength, & comfort: the Somma family; 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

**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.

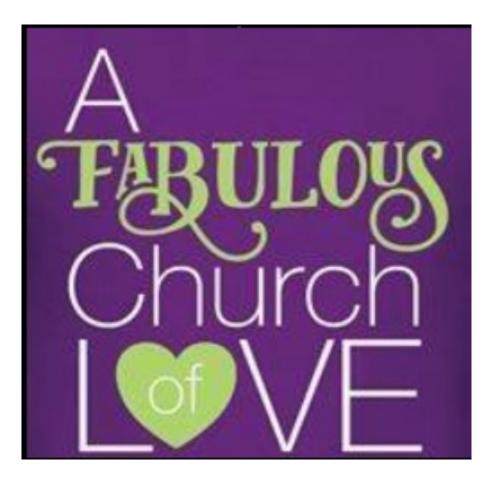
The flowers today are in loving memory of my sister, Clare from Dianne

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 Cindy Reya & Dara Steele.
Our greeters next week will be Dolores Hofmann & Lisa Leidecker.

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

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost** 

27 July 2025

# We approach God

**Prelude** More Than Enough

**Votum & greeting** 

Passing of the peace

Call to worship

(from Worship Ways) Deacon Dara Steele, liturgist

Leader: One Who Is Holy, make us like new,

All: show us your way, teach us to pray with our hearts and our hands.

Give us the word today that we need to know you.

Give us hope today to be a beacon in a world full of lost and confused.

Give us joy today to make your name known.

Give us peace today to respond with courage,
fortitude, and conviction. Give us love today to love
as you have loved us. Amen

\*Opening hymn

All Are Welcome (269)

Prayer of confession (adapted from Worship Ways) God Who Reigns in Glory and meets us in need, we seek your forgiveness and restoration. We live in a system that lacks compassion rather than generosity and kindness. You call us to be full of joyful confidence, to create community where all have enough for abundant life, but we hold back in fear and anger. Help us turn from sin and temptation as well as guilt and shame when we struggle to live generously in your kin-dom. God Who Reigns in Glory and meets us in need, we seek your forgiveness and restoration. 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*) Beloved ones of the Living God, live in the grace of the kin-dom. Receive the vision of restored creation: abundance, compassion, kindness, and inclusion. Live in your full humanity as image bearers of the Holy. Amen

# Law of love/Faithful living

#### \*Celtic Alleluia



### We listen to God

Scripture reading

Luke 6.27-28; 31–36 (NT page 56) Ephesians 4.31-32 (NT page 171)

Anthem

You Have Been There

Sermon

Do Something Kind Rev. Tricia Sheffield, PhD

# **Listening for God**

A silent time to reflect on the word you received from God in worship

# We respond to God

**Affirmation of Faith** The Heidelberg Catechism, Q & A #55 Q. What do you understand by "the communion of saints"?

A. First, that believers one and all, as members of this community, share in Christ and in all his treasures and gifts. Second, that each member should consider it a duty to use these gifts readily and joyfully for the service and enrichment of the other members.

# Invitation to the offering

Offertory

More Than Enough (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 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

You Have Come Down To The Lakeshore (116)

\*Benediction

**Postlude** 

\*Please stand as you are able.