

Calendar of events

Saturdays: Saturday Night Live Open AA meeting in the Education Building, 8PM
Today: Sunday worship: Reformation/Reconciliation Sunday, 10:30AM
Today: Confirmation Class after coffee hour
October 27: New Jericho Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 5:30PM
October 28: Middletown Lions Club meeting in the Education Building, 6PM
October 29: Adult Education in Coventry House, 10AM & 7PM
October 30: Joyful Noise Adult Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 6PM
November 2: Sunday worship: All Saints Day with the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, 10:30AM. After worship, we will have our First Sunday brunch in the Education Building
November 3: New Jericho Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 5:30PM
November 5: Adult Education in Coventry House, 10AM & 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, 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

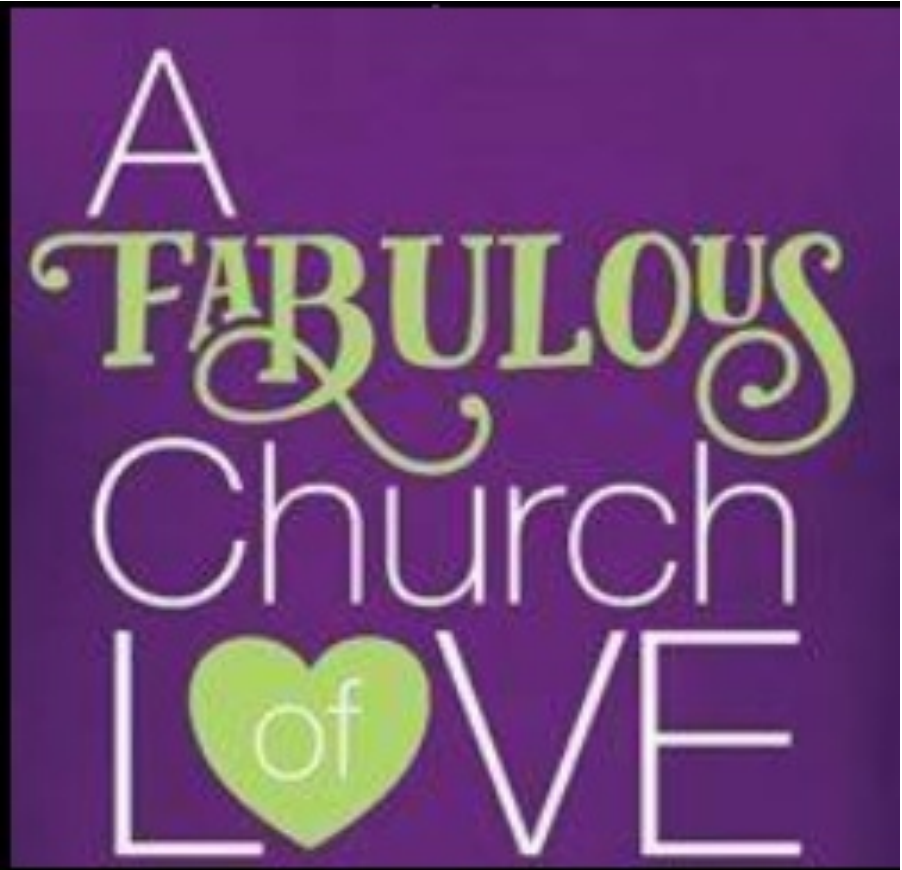


Scan the QR code for a link to our online giving opportunities, or go to www.mrchurch.us/give

The flowers today are In loving memory of
Kim’s father Richard’s birthday, 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 & Dolores Hofmann.
Our greeters next week are Dianne Asay & 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

Reformation/Reconciliation Sunday 26 October 2025

Prelude Testify to Love

Votum & greeting

Passing of the peace

Message for all ages

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

Leader: God, not by our strength,
All: but by your grace we come.
Not because of our righteousness,
but in your grace, you love us.
Not by our effort,
but by your Spirit in us, our praise overflows. We thank you. We bless you. We worship you.

*Opening hymn A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (776)

Prayer of confession (adapted from *unfoldinglight.net*)
Leader: Trusting in God’s tender mercy, we open ourselves in honesty to God.
God of love, help us to see ourselves with the eyes of love, to see all that is in us that is loving, and all that is not loving. By the grace you show us in Christ, forgive us, heal us, and perfect your love in us. 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
Leader: In each season of our lives, God’s grace continuously transforms our hearts. May we return our gratitude and celebrate the glory of God in our Alleluias and Amens.
All: Alleluia and Amen! Thanks 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 Hebrews 11.1-3, 8-16; 12.1-3
(NT pages 198, 200)

Anthem This I Pray Joyful Noise Adult Choir

Sermon By Faith We . . . Rev. Tricia Sheffield, PhD

We respond to God
Affirmation of Faith (The Five Solas of the Reformation)
Liturgist: Sola Scriptura!
All: Scripture Alone!
Liturgist: Solus Christus!
All: Christ Alone!
Liturgist: Sola Gratia!
All: Grace Alone!
Liturgist: Sola Fide!
All: Faith Alone!
Liturgist: Soli Deo Gloria!
All: Glory to God Alone!

Invitation to the offering

Offertory Testify to Love (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 For All the Saints (254, v. 1-3, 5)

*Benediction

Postlude

**Please stand as you are able.*

