Calendar of events

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

Today: Sunday worship: Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost, 10:30AM. After worship, come to the Education Building for Sunday brunch

November 10: New Jericho Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium. 5:30PM

November 10: Consistory meeting in the Education Building, 7PM **November 12**: Bayshore Lunch Program volunteer opportunity, 9:45AM

November 12: Adult Education in Coventry House, 7PM ONLY **November 13**: Joyful Noise Adult Choir rehearsal in the Lower Auditorium, 6PM

November 14: Youth Group Gift Auction in the Education Building, 5:30PM. All proceeds to support benevolence giving

November 16: Sunday worship: Twenty-third Sunday after
Pentecost with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, 10:30AM
November 17: New Jericho Choir rehearsal the Lower Auditorium,
5:30PM

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

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: Bob Bark; Henry Thorpe; a neighbor; Eric H; Nancy Coffin; Diane Grady; Joy Sheffield; Tom Smigel; Diana S For God's support, strength, & comfort: Michelle; Corey; Mike; 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



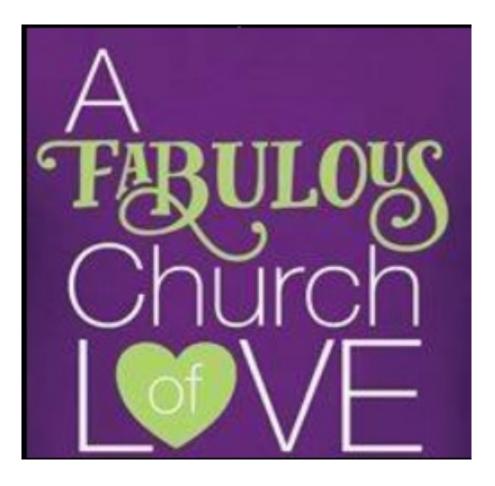
Scan the QR code for a link to our online giving opportunities, or go to www.mrchurch.us/give

The flowers today are 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 Dolores Hofmann & Cindy Reya. Our greeters next week are Kim Larson & Dara Steele.

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

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

09 November 2025

Prelude

Praise the Lord

Votum & greeting

Passing of the peace

Message for all ages

Call to worship

(adapted from *The Wee Worship Book, 4th*)
Elder Dolores Hofmann, liturgist

Leader: Among the poor, among the proud, among the persecuted, among the privileged,

All: CHRIST IS COMING TO MAKE ALL THINGS NEW. Leader: In the private house, in the public place, in the wedding feast, in the judgement hall,

All: CHRIST IS COMING TO MAKE ALL THINGS NEW. Leader: That the kingdom might come, that the world might believe, that the powerful might stumble, that the hidden might be seen,

All: CHRIST IS COMING TO MAKE ALL THINGS NEW.
Leader: Within us, without us, behind us, before us, in this place, in every place, for this time, for all time,

All: CHRIST IS COMING TO MAKE ALL THINGS NEW.

Opening song Rejoice

Prayer of confession (adapted, *The Worship Sourcebook*) Lord, you gave us arms that we might reach out to those who suffer; but too often we keep them wrapped around ourselves.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Lord, you gave us feet that we might take the first step toward those who feel alone, afraid, oppressed; but too often we stay planted where we are most comfortable.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Lord, you gave us ears that we might hear the stories people tell to know your work in their lives; but too often we fail to listen.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Lord, you gave us a mind that we might understand the brokenness of the world and be inspired to imagine a new way to live; but too often we are distracted, disinterested, disengaged.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Lord, you gave us a mouth that we might tell your truth in the world, that we might speak for justice where voices have been silenced; but too often we use our words to harm and not to build, or we remain silent, afraid of being judged.

Lord, have mercy on us. 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*)
A cord of love binds us to God. We are forgiven and saved by God's never-ending mercy and unconditional love for us. *Thanks be to God*

Law of Love/Faithful living

*Halle, Halle
Halle, hallelujah!
Halle, hallelujah!
Halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

We listen to God

Scripture reading

Amos 1.1-2; 5.14-15, 21-24 (OT page 803, 807)

Anthem

Angels

Sermon

We Are the River Rev. Tricia Sheffield, PhD

We respond to God

Invitation to the offering

Offertory

Instrumental

*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 song

Nobody Leaves the Same

*Benediction

Postlude

*Please stand as you are able.

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

A special thank you to musical guests, Sarah Hanvey & Brian Kolins