

THE MEADOWLARK

The Official Newsletter of the
MIDDLETOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

June-July, 2011

Rev. Dr. Glenn Ferguson, Pastor (732) 671-0489

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Church Office (732) 671-0707

The official web site of the Middletown United Methodist Church:

www.middletownumcnj.org

Regular Services

Praise Worship	9:00am
Traditional Worship	10:30am
Sunday School	9:15am

Summer Worship Begins	
June 26, 2011	10:00am



Middletown United Methodist Church
924 Middletown-Lincroft Road
Middletown, New Jersey 07748

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The Pastor's Message

June-July, 2011

Dear Members and Friends,

Question: How does a mouse eat an elephant? Answer: One bite at a time.

That's really how we tackle most of the tasks that lie before us, especially when it seems that there is just too much to do at a given moment. Right now, I have an elephantine pile of papers on my desk and even more electronic files in the computer that are awaiting my attention. Now that Annual Conference is over there is the usual amount of reporting and writing that needs to be done and all of the normal routine of running the church continues to demand my attention; so I need to remember the advice a friend of mine gives: right foot, left foot, breathe. It's her way of saying do one thing at a time, then another; take a breath and then do the next right thing. After a while, you'll have completed what needed doing.

It's a bit difficult for me to do things that way. I prefer to multi-task; doing a number of things at once and usually I can manage fairly well in that vein. We all have to handle a multiplicity of demands on our time and skills every day and most of the time, that's okay. There come times, however, when we simply run out of the ability to juggle so much and everything comes crashing down. One of the mitigating factors in such a crash is that we have learned how to make it look like we're doing just fine; we want the world to see that we have everything under control. People look at us and buy into the pretense that we're handling all of the pressures of life smoothly, so they have no reservation in piling something else onto our list of demands and expectations. At some point, we reach the critical moment where it's all just too much.

That's when we either crash and burn, drop everything and go on vacation, or ask for help. Asking for help is a good thing to do. It's partly why we're in the fellowship of the Church; because none of us can make it through life on our own. The biblical story tells us; "it is not good for the man to be alone." (Genesis 2:18) We are made in the image of God and part of what that means is that we are meant to be in community. Just as God is a Trinity, Three in One, so we are made to be in relationship with one another. We are at our best when we build community with one another. Asking for help and being ready to offer help is a crucial part of our fellowship. Sometimes the only help we can give is prayer. We can *always* pray. But there are many times when we can help in other ways; by contributing funds, by

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Pastor's News & Church Reports...

The Pastor's Message

(←Continued from Page 2)

giving our time, by holding a hand, by teaching a child, by calling someone who's ill, by visiting someone who's lonely, by lending a hand with the dishes, by taking the load off of someone else's shoulders.

We do these things because God has called us as a people of love and mercy to bear one another's burdens. We do these things because your problems are my problems and mine are yours. That's what it means, in part, to be people of the Church, people of Jesus Christ. So take some time each day to thank God for brothers and sisters of the faith; for those whose burdens we share, for those who, in turn, will help us eat the elephant.

Grace and Peace, Glenn Ferguson 

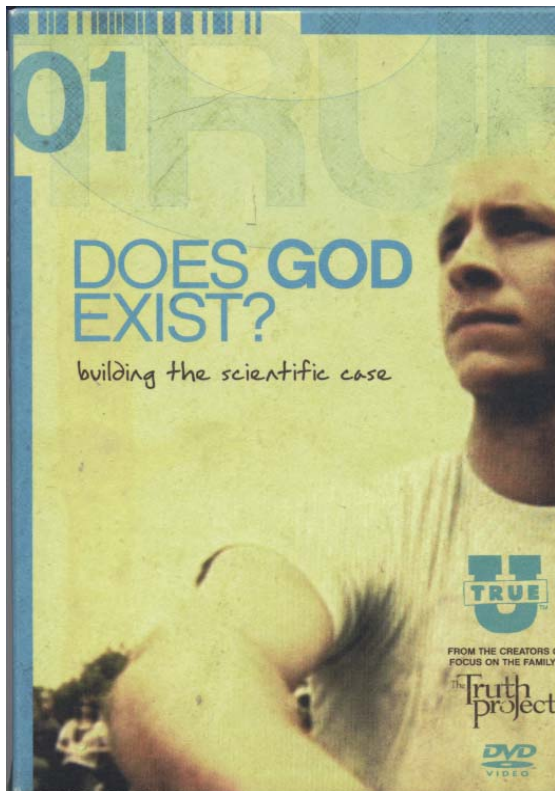
SIZZLING SUMMER SEMINAR SERIES STARTING SOON!

Is your belief in God a blind leap of faith? Do you attend church and claim Christianity because it was your family tradition? Have you ever had anyone challenge your belief using science as a reason?

What do the recent discoveries in physical and biological sciences say about God's existence? Let's find out together! It's going to be amazing, challenging and fun!!!

Who should attend? High School Seniors...College Age...Twenties...

What should I bring? All your friends plus an open mind to argue the possibilities.



When?

5:00PM-6:30PM on Sunday afternoons
June 26th, July 10, 17, 31, August 7 and 14.

Where?

June 26th Kick-off Cook-out!
11 Raven Rd. Colts Neck
Hosted by The Cline Family

July 10, July 17, July 31 and August 7. Church Fellowship Hall

August 14th Wrap it up Pool Party!
72 Dale Rd. Middletown
Hosted by The Furlow Family

Why?

Because you get to hang with your friends, make new ones + learn something about God and His Creation you've never known before.

For additional information text or call Kandis Furlow 908.267.3742, Russ Cline 732.939.3167, or Judy Lipke 732.768.6167.

JUNE, 2011

SUNDAY							MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY			
JULY, 2011							MAY 30		31		JUNE 1		2		3		4			
S							M		T		W		T		F		S			
											ANNUAL CONFERENCE		ANNUAL CONFERENCE		ANNUAL CONFERENCE		ANNUAL CONFERENCE			
											9:30: MDO in Session				9:30: MDO in Session					
											6:00:				6:00:					
											6:30:				6:30:					
											7:00:				7:00:					
											7:30:				7:30:					
COMMUNION SUNDAY							5		6		7		8		9		10		11	
9:00: Praise Worship 9:15: Sunday School 10:00: Fellowship Time 10:30: Traditional Worship							9:30: LAST MDO (Students)		9:30:		9:30: LAST MDO (Teachers)		10:00: Prayer Group		BLUE CLAWS GAME		9:30:		8:00: Walk In The Word Thompson Park	
6:00:							6:00:		6:00:		6:00: Jr. High Youth		6:00:		6:00:		6:00:			
7:30:							6:30:		6:30: Sr. High Youth		6:30: Babcock Bells		6:30:		6:30:		6:30:			
											7:00:				7:00:					
											7:30: Chancel Choir				7:30:					
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY							12		13		14		15		16		17		18	
9:00: Praise Worship 9:15: Sunday School 10:00: Fellowship Time 10:30: Traditional Worship							9:30:		9:30:		9:30:		9:30:		9:30:		9:30:		8:00: Walk In The Word Thompson Park	
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											7:30: Admin Council				7:30:					
											7:30:				7:30:					
FAMILY PROMISE							19		20		21		22		23		24		25	
9:00: Praise Worship 9:15: Sunday School 10:00: Fellowship Time 10:30: Traditional Worship							9:30:		9:30:		9:30:		9:30:		9:30:		9:30:		8:00: Walk In The Word Thompson Park	
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7:30:							6:00:		6:00:		6:00:		6:00:		6:00:		6:00:			
FAMILY PROMISE							6:30:		6:30:		6:30:		6:30:		6:30:		6:30:			
											7:00:				7:00:					
											7:30: Trustees Meet				7:30:					
											7:30:				7:30:					
SUMMER SERVICE BEGINS							26		27		28		29		30		JULY 1		2	
10:00: Summer Worship							9:30:		9:30:		9:30:		9:30:		9:30:		9:30:			
7:00:							10:00:		10:00:		10:00:		10:00:		10:00:		10:00:			
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Note: Calendar is based on the official MUMC Church Calendar and subject to change as per entries provided by the groups and committees represented.

JULY, 2011

SUNDAY							MONDAY		TUESDAY			WEDNESDAY			THURSDAY			FRIDAY		SATURDAY				
AUGUST, 2011							JUNE		27			28			29			30			JULY		1	
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20																		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27																		
28	29	30	31																					
COMMUNION SUNDAY 10:00: Summer Worship 7:00: 7:30:							3		4			5			6			7			8		9	
							INDEPENDENCE DAY Church Office Closed					9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:			9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:			9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:			9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:		8:00: Walk In The Word Thompson Park	
10:00: Summer Worship 7:00: 7:30:							10		11			12			13			14			15		16	
							9:30:					9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:			9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:			9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:			9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: <i>Meadowlark Items Due!</i>		8:00: Walk In The Word Thompson Park	
10:00: Summer Worship 7:00: 7:30:							17		18			19			20			21			22		23	
							9:30:					9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:			9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:			9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:			9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:		8:00: Walk In The Word Thompson Park	
10:00: Summer Worship 7:00: 7:30:							24		25			26			27			28			29		30	
							9:30:					9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:			9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:			9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:			9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:		8:00: Walk In The Word Thompson Park	
10:00: Summer Worship 7:00: 7:30:							31		AUGUST 1			2			3			4			5		6	
							9:30:																	

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Nancy Scharff

GOD & COUNTRY PATRIOTIC CONCERT!

Signed for
the Deaf

With Ecumenical Choir, Children's Choir, St. Peter's Brass
& The U.S. Marine Motor Transport Battalion!



Friday, June 24, 2011 • 7:30 PM

PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE EMMANUEL CANCER FOUNDATION

King of Kings Lutheran Church
250 Harmony Road • Middletown, NJ

Free Will Offering • Refreshments served
For information call: 732-671-3348

Visit Nancy's web site at www.NancyScharff.com

In Our Church Family...

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2011 CONFIRMANDS!

The following young adults were welcomed into the fellowship of Christ's holy church, and the Middletown United Methodist Church at the 9:00am Service on June 12, 2011:

Sylvie Duthie Evarts
Brandon Alexander Figliola
Maggie Mackay Gaal
Samantha Nicole Hubner
Jacob Kernahan
Evan Forrest McCarthy
Karen Seta Moore
Ryan Forbes Oneidas
Samantha Christine Schultz

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2011 GRADUATES!

HIGH SCHOOL

Timothy Ballard - Middletown H.S. North
Thomas Henry - Marine Acad. Of Science & Tech.
Kyle Reid - Ranney School
Patricia Thompson - High Technology H.S.

ATTENDING IN THE FALL

Monmouth University, W. Long Branch, NJ
Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY
Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA
Michigan Technological Univ., Houghton, MI

COLLEGE

Cecilia J. Cummins - BA English, NJ City University
Ryan Moore - Brookdale Community

ATTENDING IN THE FALL

Graduate School, Library Science
Montclair State University, NJ

DEGREES & CERTIFICATIONS

Jim Bomersbach	Masters in Psychology	Central Michigan University
Melinda Bomersbach	Masters in Teaching	Monmouth University
Erik Myhrer	BS in Computer Science Minor in Economics	Rutgers University
Phyllis Thangaraj	BS with Honors in Physics	Yale University
Christopher J. Welch	BS Agribusiness Management & Rural Development	West Virginia University

Church Announcements...

PLEASE LIFT UP IN YOUR DAILY PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS:

- * Joe Anderson * Elaine Bardell * Mark Brittingham * Jeffrey Collier * Cleo Duncan * Matilde Kalbian *
* Kathy Hessinger * Traveling Mercies for Gary Kochman * Michael McCabe Family *
* Elsie Meagher * Jayne Moore * Linda Terhune * Eileen Thompson * Beverly & Emil Wrede *
* Our New Confirmands * New & Future High School & College Graduates *Peace in the Middle East *
* The Families of those serving in the Military * Our Brothers & Sisters serving in the Military *
-

Greater NJ Exploring a Call to Ministry Event!!!

Sponsored by the GNJ Board of Ordained Ministry
And the GNJ UM Camping Ministries
August 15-17, 2011 Pinelands Center at Mt. Misery

Are you active in church? Do you feel like God may be asking you to explore ministry deeper? This retreat will help youth and young adults explore what it means to be called to ministry. We will specifically explore what it means to be an Elder or Deacon in the United Methodist Church, as well as the other outlets for ministry within our denomination. This event will provide a space for young people to explore the call to ordained ministry through worship, prayer, networking and small groups.

Young people will be inspired by guest speakers who will help them explore and nurture their call into ministry. There will be times the whole group will be together, but small group work will allow for further conversation with people your own age.

A large part of ministry is networking and relationship building. With that in mind, there will be plenty of time for fun activities which will help young people get to know one another better. We will spend time on the lake in boats. Small groups will also have time to experience the low ropes course together. Following evening worship, there will be campfire time.

This retreat will be geared for all young people -- youth and young adults, whether they are just starting to think about ministry or it's a conversa-

(Continued in next column)

Upcoming MUMC Events:

- June 19, 2011 - Family Promise Week
June 24, 2011 - God & Country Concert
June 25, 2011 - Walk In The Word
June 26, 2011 - Summer Worship Begins
July 2, 2011 - Walk In The Word
July 4, 2011 - Church Office Closed
July 9, 2011 - Walk In The Word
July 15, 2011 - Meadowlark Items Due
July 16, 2011 - Walk In The Word
July 23, 2011 - Walk In The Word
July 30, 2011 - Walk In The Word
August 6, 2011 - Men's Breakfast
-

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tion they have already had with their pastor and church leadership. There is a \$35 registration fee, which will secure your spot. There is no other cost for meals or lodging associated with this retreat. Young people will leave with a copy of "The Christian as a Minister", as well as other valuable resources. For additional information or to register go to www.gnjmyp.org/specialevents and click on Exploring a Call to Ministry. 