

THE MEADOWLARK

The Official Newsletter of the
MIDDLETOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September, 2011

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

Church Office (732) 671-0707

mumc.pastor@comcast.net
pastor@middletownumcnj.org
mumc.admin@comcast.net

The official web site of the Middletown United Methodist Church:

www.middletownumcnj.org

Worship Service

Praise Service	8:30am
Traditional Service	11:00am
Sunday School	9:45am



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

The Inside Highlights...

The Pastor's Message	Rev. Glenn Ferguson, Page 2	mumc.pastor@comcast.net
2012 Pictorial Directory	Melvin E. Hooper, Page 3	webmaster@middletownumcnj.org
September Church Calendar	Church Admin, Page 4	mumc.admin@comcast.net
October Church Calendar	Church Admin, Page 5	mumc.admin@comcast.net
Adult Bible Study Starting	Phil Welch, Jr., Page 6	p2twelch@verizon.net
CBA Musical Production	Bardell/Ferguson, Page 7	fdjjmom@gmail.com
Announcements & Events	Church Admin, Page 8	mumc.admin@comcast.net

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The Pastor's Message

September, 2011

Dear Members and Friends,

As I write this letter, there are a couple of issues that are uppermost in my mind as we head into a new church program year. One is our need of a youth leader. You have seen the announcement in the bulletin if you have been in church lately. We are asking members of the church to do some networking. If you know of anyone who might be interested and who fits the criteria listed, please get them in touch with me ASAP. The job description is as follows:

Part Time Youth Pastor - Middletown United Methodist Church is seeking someone to coordinate and lead the church's junior and senior youth groups. The junior group meets on Wednesdays and the senior group (for now) meets on Tuesdays. The meeting night for the latter may be moved to Sundays. There is a budget for youth ministry as well as some extra funds available for special needs as they arise. The salary is set at \$600 per month and the expectation is that the youth pastor will be present for both meeting nights, Sunday mornings, and special events. Duties include planning, recruiting, coordinating, and leading fellowship nights. 10-12 hours per week. The youth pastor would work with senior pastor and be responsible to the Discipleship Team. Monthly Administrative Council meetings and semi-monthly Discipleship Team meeting attendance would be included in the 10-12 hours. Please contact Rev. Dr. Glenn Ferguson at telephone 732-671-0707, e-mail to mumc.pastor@comcast.net. Website is www.middletownumcnj.org. Facebook page is www.facebook.com/mumcnj.

The other issue is the **change of schedule for Sunday mornings**. Again, if you've been in church the last couple of weeks, you already know this, but the Administrative Council, acting on a recommendation from the Discipleship Team, voted unanimously at the August meeting to change the Sunday schedule. Beginning September 11, the Praise Service will be from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Sunday School will be from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. and the Traditional Service will be from 11:00 to 12:00 noon.

It is our hope that this new schedule will enable people to make choices they have not had under the old arrangement. This way, Sunday School teachers can be in the worship service of their choice without having to sacrifice teaching, children will have an entire hour of Sunday School time rather than just part of an hour, recruitment of teachers will be simpler, and there will be additional adult Sunday School classes offered. We know this new schedule won't make everyone happy but we hope

(Continued on Page 3→)

Pastor's News & Church Reports...

The Pastor's Message

(←Continued from Page 2)

you will give it a chance to succeed and that you will support it. One of the new adult classes will be a Christianity 101 course that I'll be teaching; starting later in September. Look for more information on that on the website and in bulletins.

I hope to see all of you as we move into the next part of the year, doing the work of God together.

Grace and Peace, Glenn Ferguson 

MUMC 2012 Pictorial Directory

This fall, we plan to launch a campaign to update the official MUMC Pictorial Directory. The **2012** edition is planned for distribution next Spring. This campaign will provide the following opportunities:

- Didn't like your photo last time? Submit your own NEW individual or family photograph or we'll take a new one for you; we can scan and use a photo print or you can send it in by email;
- Update your individual or family information, such as children's ages, new home address, new email address, new telephone or mobile number, etc.;
- List individual or family achievements & accomplishments, such as traveling ministries you've been on or will participate in, recent graduations, new employment opportunities, etc.

And something new!

We're now able to incorporate "Birthday" pages in the Directory. No, we don't want to know how old you are, just to share your birth month and day (NOT the year) with those who may have the same date! More importantly, you'll be able to make a happy wish on someone's special day.

Let's make the 2012 MUMC Pictorial Directory the best yet! **We need everyone to participate!** Watch for additional announcements in the Sunday bulletins, The Meadowlark, and on the Church web site and Facebook pages.



Thank you Russ Cline, Judy Lipke!

A special thank you to **Russ Cline** and **Judy Lipke** for initiating a program geared for our young adults, "Does God Exist?" Our group met on Sunday afternoons to watch the DVD lectures of **Dr. Stephen Meyer**. Dr. Meyer took us on a journey of scientific argument supporting intelligent design.

The course showed how God created our universe and continues to be involved in our daily lives. Dr. Meyer gave a practical structure to what can seem incomprehensible events, including the creation of our world by God, and the continued evolution of our world through God's elegant initial design and continued involvement in our world. He gave everyone something new to think about each week, expanding our religious horizons from a scientific perspective.

Russ's and Judy's efforts and support of this course are greatly appreciated.

Submitted by Kandis Furlow 

Help keep our church beautiful!



OCTOBER, 2011

SUNDAY							MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
NOVEMBER							SEPTEMBER	26	27	28	29	30	OCTOBER		1			
S	M	T	W	T	F	S												
6	7	8	9	10	11	12												
13	14	15	16	17	18	19												
20	21	22	23	24	25	26												
27	28	29	30															
WORLD COMMUNION							2	3	4	5	6	7	8					
8:30: Praise Worship 9:30: Fellowship Time 9:45: Sunday School 11:00: Traditional Worship 7:00:							9:30: MDO in Session 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:00: Finance Meets	9:30: MDO Board 2:00: Ministerium 6:00: 6:30: 7:00:	9:30: MDO in Session 6:00: Jr. UMYF 6:30: Babcock Bells 7:00: 7:30: Chancel Choir	RESOURCE DAY 9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00:		9:30: MDO in Session 6:00: 6:30: 7:00:	8:30: Men's Breakfast					
							9	10	11	12	13	14	15					
8:30: Praise Worship 9:30: Fellowship Time 9:45: Sunday School 11:00: Traditional Worship 7:00:							COLUMBUS DAY 9:30: MDO CLOSED 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30: Admin Council		9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:	9:30: MDO in Session 6:00: Jr. UMYF Meets 6:30: Babcock Bells 7:00: 7:30: Chancel Choir	9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00:	9:30: MDO in Session 6:00: 6:30: 7:00:	<i>Meadowlark Articles Due!</i>					
CROP WALK 2011							16	17	18	19	20	21	22					
8:30: Praise Worship 9:30: Fellowship Time 9:45: Sunday School 11:00: Traditional Worship 7:00:							9:30: MDO in Session 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30: Trustees Meet	9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:	9:30: MDO in Session 6:00: Jr. UMYF Meets 6:30: Babcock Bells 7:00: 7:30: Chancel Choir	9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00:	9:30: MDO in Session 6:00: 6:30: 7:00:	Nar-Anon Workshop						
							23	24	25	26	27	28	29					
8:30: Praise Worship 9:30: Fellowship Time 9:45: Sunday School 11:00: Traditional Worship 7:00:							9:30: MDO in Session 6:00: 6:30: 7:00:	9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:	9:30: MDO in Session 6:00: Jr. UMYF Meets 6:30: Babcock Bells 7:00: 7:30: Chancel Choir	9:30: 6:00: 6:30: 7:00:	9:30: MDO in Session 6:00: 6:30: 7:00:	<i>Meadowlark Online</i>						
							30	31	NOVEMBER		1	2	3	4	5			
8:30: Praise Worship 9:30: Fellowship Time 9:45: Sunday School 11:00: Traditional Worship 7:00:							HALLOWEEN 9:30: MDO in Session 6:00: 6:30: 7:00: 7:30:											

Note: Calendar is based on the official MUMC Church Calendar and subject to change as per entries provided by the groups and committees represented.


In Our Church Community...

First Corinthians Adult Bible Study Starting September 12th

On Monday, September 12th, from 7:00-8:30pm, the Adult Bible Fellowship will begin studying Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. You've probably heard Paul's words on the gift of love (Chapter 13) read during weddings. His teachings on spiritual gifts and Christian unity (Chapters 12 and 14) should also be familiar. Paul's words on purity, humility and love are as relevant for us today as they were when written to the early church at Corinth 2,000 years ago.

You're invited to join Christian brothers, sisters and couples from MUMC and other area churches in an Adult Bible Fellowship on Monday evenings here. On September 12th, our guest speaker, Pastor Tom Kalb of the First Baptist Church of Keyport, will present an overview of the entire book of First Corinthians. On October 17th, Pastor Glenn Ferguson will discuss the introductory chapters of this letter.

Besides the monthly presentations in the double classroom, we have weekly small group discussions, from 7:00-8:30pm, in classrooms of the Sunday School wing. These are based on questions in a study guide from the LifeChange Series and an optional commentary by J. Vernon McGee. Study books and commentaries are available for a modest price. A free-will offering is collected each week and used to compensate our church for the use of the classroom(s).

To sign up for this study or for answers to your questions, please contact Phil Welch, Jr., 732-747-5032 or p2twelch@verizon.net. 

WE NEED SINGERS & RINGERS!

All our choirs are still in *serious* need of singers and ringers! It's time to think about bringing your voices out of the showers and into rehearsals!


- You DON'T have to know how to read music,
- You DON'T have to be great, and

(Continued in next column)

- You DON'T need to worry about carrying a tune.



But! You DO have to be enthusiastic,


you DO have to attend rehearsals, and you DO have to be reliable. As we love to tell everyone, "COME SING WITH US!" If you have an interest to sing or ring, please speak with Kris Bomersbach. 

WE'RE LOOKING FOR MEADOWLARK, FACEBOOK, & WEBSITE APPRENTICES!

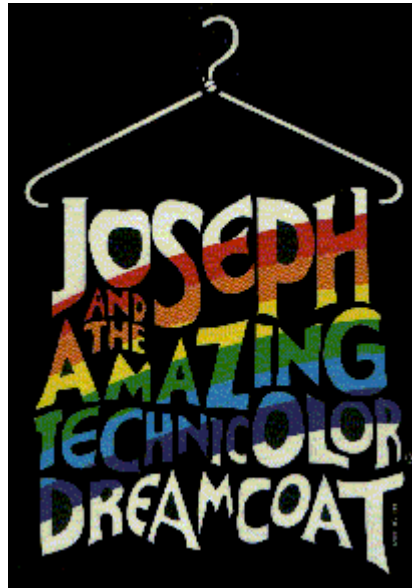
Attention MUMC Jr. High, Sr. High Youth, and Adults! Are you (or someone you know) interested in:

- Learning how our monthly newsletter is produced, published and distributed?
- Our new Church Facebook page, how it works and becoming an event planner?
- Our Church website, web design, electronic media, and internet ministry?

We're looking for a few apprentice volunteers to learn, help maintain, and improve our printed and electronic media, and internet presence. If you're pursuing a journalism or media career, this can be a prime opportunity to acquire valuable knowledge, insight and experience to build upon.

We want YOUR ideas, input and help to improve our electronic and internet church presence while helping to provide you with career benefits. If you or someone you know has an interest, for more information, or to get involved, please call the Church Office at (732) 671-0707, email Pastor Ferguson or speak with him personally. You can also email the [Webmaster](#). 

In Our Church Family...



JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

Henderson Theater at Christian Brothers Academy in Lincroft

Friday evening, October 14, 2011 at 8:00pm

The Sunday School is considering hosting a trip to see the play "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at Christian Brothers Academy in Lincroft on Friday evening, October 14th. Cost is \$25 for adults and \$15 for youth.

This is a great presentation of the story of Joseph and his brothers taken from the Book of Genesis in the Old Testament. It's an uplifting story of Faith with great music. If you've never seen it, this is a great time to see a live presentation.

We need payment in advance not later than Sunday, September 24th so we can get group tickets. If you have any questions, see any of the Sunday School Teachers or Linda Bardell or Barbara Ferguson. If you want to join us fill out the bottom form and put it with payment in Linda Bardell and Barbara Ferguson's mailbox.

Student's Name: _____

Number of Tickets: _____

Church Announcements...

PLEASE LIFT UP IN YOUR DAILY PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS:

- * Joe Anderson * Elaine Bardell * Linda Bardell's Cousin Jason * Robert Babcock * Cleo Duncan *
 - * Matilde Kalbian * Kathy Hessinger * The Phillip Sovinee Family * John Moricz * John Sullivan *
 - * Elsie Meagher * Jayne Moore * Linda Terhune * The Thompson Family * The Emil Wrede Family *
 - * Diane Nash's Son-In-Law Danny * D.J. Shannon * Barbara Philpot * Michael McCabe & Family *
 - * Hurricane Irene Victims, their families & Volunteers * Our Brothers & Sisters serving in the Military *
-

*Middletown United Methodist Church, its families and friends express their deepest condolences to:
Emil Wrede & Family on the loss of his wife Beverly.
Bill Thompson & Family on the loss of his mother Eileen.*

Ocean City Youth Weekend September 9-11, 2011

Where: St. Peter's United Methodist Church, 501 East 8th Street, Ocean City, NJ 08226

Who: Senior High Youth & Youth Leaders

Cost: \$40 per person (*Registration online starts soon*)

What's included in the cost:

- Registration to all events
- Breakfast Saturday morning
- T-shirt

Housing is up to each individual/group!

This downloadable [list](#) contains commonly used hotels in Ocean City, NJ. For more options visit the [OC Chambers of Commerce](#).

Workshops: New workshops for youth and youth leaders this year, including Mission Experiences!!

Saturday workshops will be replaced with over 30 mission opportunities for youth to participate in! Mission activities include (but are not limited to):

- "Random Acts of Kindness" on the boardwalk
- Preparation of flood buckets and troop kits
- Clean-up of UM Homes facility
- Trip to Atlantic City Rescue Mission
- Many more!!!


Youth Groups will be notified of the specific Mission Experiences available once completed registrations are received.

Special Guests: Agape & Jared Hall 

Upcoming Events & Meetings:

- Sept. 04, 2011 - LAST Summer Worship
 - Sept. 05, 2011 - **Labor Day**
 - Sept. 07, 2011 - Finance Committee Meets
 - Sept. 12, 2011 - Administrative Council Meets
 - Sept. 14, 2011 - MDO Begins
 - Sept. 19, 2011 - Board of Trustees Meet
 - Sept. 20, 2011 - Staff/Parish Meets
 - Sept. 27, 2011 - Ministry Team Meets
-

NEW BIRTH!

Oleana Valentine Zerras was born July 23, 2011 to Michael, Hanna, and brother Connor Michael and sister Evalina Bee Zerras and everyone is healthy. Congratulations on the birth of your new daughter! 

BLEND OF ART SOCIETY

Members Ernie Antholis, Helen Antholis, Mary Christenson, Sol Hara, Rose Korman, Marie Monahan, and **Carol Seip** will be exhibiting, photography, pastels, watercolor, and colored pencil at the OCEAN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY, 701 DEAL ROAD, OCEAN, NJ, from August 6 **through September 7, 2011.**

EXHIBIT HOURS: Mon, Tues, & Thurs. 10am to 9pm, Wed. 9am to 5pm, Fri. 1pm to 5pm, Sat. 9am to 5pm. The Library is closed on Sunday. 