



Our Light

www.umcmiddlebury.org

The MIDDLEBURY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2017

Whether you are a member of the Middlebury congregation, a local resident, or a visitor to our area, you are invited to attend and participate in all activities & events mentioned in this newsletter.

November is the month of thankfulness and saints. We open with the celebration of All Saints Sunday, remembering the saints in our lives who guided us in our journey of faith and discipleship. We end the month with a “government” holiday that is rooted in our Jewish and Christian traditions of thanking the Creator for all good gifts around us.



*In that spirit, I'd like to share with you a meditation from *Fragments of Your Ancient Name* by Joyce Rupp. This book has been an inspiring companion for me across the years, and the “fragment” for November 1, All Saints Day, is an especially poignant reflection on the saints of our lives.*

A long ancestral line of women and men proceed ahead of us on our journey, leaving vivid traces of their history. They mark the path with their wisdom, fill the air with fragrant goodness and smile with jubilant satisfaction. You are [God is] at the head of this long line with innumerable people of good will. Your[God's] light spreads throughout all of them, a great love flowing from them to us.

Who do you see in this long line? What are the traces of history they have left you – and us? I imagine this great love flowing from them to me, to you, to all God's children and I am inspired and challenged to live as these saints lived.

During this month of thankfulness and saints, may we remember to give thanks each day for these saints whose lives hold so much meaning. May we also give thanks for the unknown ways we may be a saint for someone we encounter each day.

Peace to you.

—Mary Kay



Betty H with ongoing health issues

Scott N with ongoing health concerns

Sue T who has not been able to get to church

Lorraine M's mother

All who are living with and being treated for cancer

Friends at East Middlebury UMC,

Students at Middlebury College,

Lydia Johnson recovering at her daughter's from a stroke.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

On November 5th, the adult Sunday School class started a 4 week program with a DVD presentation by renowned UMC minister, Adam Hamilton. There are four 9-12 minute sermons based on the birth of Jesus as seen through the eyes of his earthly father, Joseph. The series title is called 'FAITHFUL'. Each class will start with a video followed by discussion of key points brought out in the sermon. This would be a good way to start thinking about Advent and Christmas in a slightly different way which could be uplifting to the spirit. All are welcome to attend. The more folks we have, the richer the discussion. We gather each week in the small room at the right front of the sanctuary at 10:00. We try to finish by 10:45!! This is a small friendly group setting which complements our regular worship time. Hope to see you there!

MISSION WORK

Our “Mission and Outreach Team” recently met to discuss how and who to support in our annual giving budget. A finalized breakdown of beneficiaries will be included in the next newsletter. The Mission and Outreach Team has an important job in the life of our Church. The Team is looking for people who feel called to serve others through our church mission activities. If you are interested in joining the team please speak to our Pastor, Mary K. or one of the team members. We may be small but our church is very active in a wide range of mission and outreach activities.

Did you know that on October 26 we had a Mission Worship Sunday? We gathered during our regular time of worship for” hands on” mission work. Folks in the Fellowship Room helped the local food shelf by dividing 50 lb bags of flour and sugar into 1 and 2 lb bags for distribution. Other folks moved downstairs to help organize coats for the Free Coat Giveaway coming up in November.



And again this year “Trick or Trunk” on Halloween – a fun mission project for our local neighborhood children



MIDDLEBURY UMC WORSHIP SCHEDULE - NOV-DEC 2017

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS:

5-Nov	Rinkers
12-Nov	Alfords
19-Nov	Colleys
26-Nov	Dotys
3-Dec	Jochums
10-Dec	Jordans
17-Dec	Alfords
24-Dec	Skip
31-Dec	Rinkers

LITURGIST:

5-Nov	Tom Colley
12-Nov	Art Doty
19-Nov	Don Jochum
26-Nov	George Klohck
3-Dec	Gus Jordan
10-Dec	Laurie Jordan
17-Dec	Eileen Rinker
24-Dec	Art Doty
31-Dec	Sue Colley

GREETER/HEAD USHER:

5-Nov	Don Rinker
12-Nov	Joyce Sargent
19-Nov	George Klohck
26-Nov	Sue Leggett
3-Dec	Don Rinker
10-Dec	Joyce Sargent
17-Dec	George Klohck
24-Dec	Sue Leggett
31-Dec	Don Rinker

OPENING WORSHIP:

5-Nov	Carmen Jochum
12-Nov	Tom Colley
19-Nov	Sue Leggett
26-Nov	Don Jochum
3-Dec	Julie Coons
10-Dec	Tom Colley
17-Dec	Carmen Jochum
24-Dec	Don Jochum
31-Dec	Sue Leggett

THANK YOU to all who volunteer for these ministries. We welcome new volunteers. If you feel called to do any of the above ministries please speak to Eileen Rinker to add your name to the list.

If you would prefer to get this newsletter by mail or wish to be removed from our email or mailing lists please let us know by leaving a message at:
The Church office, 388-2510 or by email, newsletter@umcmiddlebury.org



STEWARDSHIP 2018

The resources team is working on a budget for 2018, and it is always helpful to be able to estimate our income. We ask each of you to be in prayerful consideration of our church and its ministries. We cannot make these ministries happen without your help.

We have made great strides in the past two years – we have a quarter-time pastor, our bills are paid, and we are planning for the future. In our worship, congregational care, outreach ministries, and building use, we sustain local, regional, and global missions. Through the pledges and gifts of our members and friends, we hope to sustain these missions for years to come.

Please take some time to consider your pledges and gifts for 2018. Print the pledge card below and bring it to the church on Stewardship Sunday, November 19. There will be pledge cards at the church that day also. Thank you!



Middlebury United Methodist Church

Pledge for 2018

In thanksgiving for God's gift of life and love, I am glad to support the Middlebury United Methodist Church with my presence at worship, my prayers, my gifts, and my services.

Trusting in God, I pledge by faith to give the following financial support in 2018:

_____ weekly _____ monthly _____ quarterly _____ annually

I understand that this pledge may be adjusted at any time as circumstances may require or permit.

Signed _____ Date _____

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Thanks so much for all of you folks that contributed to our last rummage sale in any way. We had an abundance of wonderful items donated, from dishes to clothes and from lamps to beautiful old art work. Our basement was packed with all this great merchandise.

We appreciate the help of all the folks that came down to help us set-up and display our “merchandise” in the best possible way, that is not an easy task, when you have so many different types of items and so little space and only four days to do it in.

Many, many thanks to the folks that came in on the days of the sale to help our customers purchase, package and pay for their items. We could not have this sale twice a year if we didn't have all of your donating what ever you could to help us out. Thanks also to the “clean-up crew”.

Our customers appreciate what we do and once again---- several “shoppers” complimented us by saying “how organized and neat everything is at your sales”.

SPIRITUALITY GROUP

The spirituality group will be taking a trip to the Weston Priory on Monday, November 13, 2017. Please meet at Mimi's House at 10:30am for car pooling arrangements.

TRUSTEE NEWS



An inspection of our heating system, requested by the Trustees, was completed in August and the situation was worse than expected. Multiple water leaks, including a leak in the main boiler, were reported. It was advised that investing more money in the 1988 system would be unwise. The Trustees voted to install a new heating system and *our new system is up and running!!* The work included multiple upgrades required by current building codes. - the chimney required a full stainless steel liner, an emergency electrical shut off switch was installed - the combustible outside air intake was revised to allow a larger flow of outside air. Plumbing in the boiler room to all five heating zones in the church were replaced and designed for easier accessibility when repairs are needed in the future. All seems to be functioning well. For the first time in the 9 years that I have been here, the boiler room floor is DRY!! Funds from the sale of the parsonage will be transferred to our church general fund to pay for the project.

Many other projects have been completed over the past summer:

- A major water leak into the basement from the north face of the parking lot entrance was repaired.
- Three areas of water logged carpeting were replaced in the basement.
- A large crack on the front steps of the church repaired
- Installation of fire alarms,
- Spot repainting of kitchen drawers and cabinets, reinstallation of handles,
- Purchase of a new refrigerator to replace our old less energy efficient model.
- Several basement fluorescent light ballasts replaced.
- A new spotlight installed over the choir area.
- A major renovation of the basement area flooring is out for bidding. All carpeting in the large basement room and hallways will be removed and a vinyl floor covering (water tolerant) will be installed. The work will be funded from our capital budget fund from sale of the parsonage.

There is still a long list of work projects which have been prioritized. One must keep in mind that our church building had its 125th birthday this year.

Recommendations are being submitted for the following:

- Replacement of kitchen floor
- Replacement of flooring in upstairs bathroom.
- Purchase of new first aid kit
- Purchase of cardiac defibrillator
- Purchase of video security for all door entries with motion activated video
- Replacement of water damaged underlayment in church office
- Construction of pitched roof over office exit to prevent water infiltration
- Painting of ceiling in fellowship hall
- Replacement of leaking shingled roof over basement entrance from the parking lot

There are many other smaller projects too numerous to list but all are on our wish list of things to be done. If you are interested and motivated to get more involved with upkeep of our beautiful church, please speak to one of our church trustees. - Tom Colley, Trustee Chair



CHICKEN AND BISCUIT SUPPERS

The **CHICKEN AND BISCUIT SUPPERS** started up again in October with a large turnout of about 55 attendees. Although this function allows us to open our doors to the folks in our community and no one is required to pay, we generally see a profit from each supper that ranges from \$ 175.00 - \$350.00. All of this goes to outreach and missions for good causes locally and worldwide.

We provide a large number of food options for our diners. We are in need of additional food preparers for side dishes and desserts. Through coordination with Rev. Mary Kay, the Cornwall UCC has decided to contribute food to our suppers on a trial basis. They will be starting up with the next supper on **Nov 12, 2017 at 5:00pm**. Hopefully this will be the beginning of a collaboration which could be of benefit to both churches as well as to the communities we serve.

FREE COAT GIVEAWAY

To help many in our community stay warm this winter a free coat giveaway will be held at the Church on:

:

Friday	NOV 17	2 – 5 pm
Saturday	NOV 18	10:30 am – 1 pm

Friday	Nov 24	2 – 5 pm
Saturday	Nov 25	10:30 am – 1 pm

Can you help? Volunteers are welcome.
Call Margaret Klohck at 989-7363 for more information

EAST MIDDLEBURY UMC NEWS

- The annual **BAZAAR & SOUP/BAKE SALE** will be held Saturday Nov 11 from 9am-2pm.
- Warm clothing will collected at the Church on Nov 12 from 1-3pm.

CHANGES TO OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY

- Lee and Bonne Adkins: 100 EastView Terrace #215 Middlebury VT 05753
- Julie Coons : 12 Overbrook Dr. Middlebury VT 05753
- David Morse: dmorse13@yahoo.com
- Mike and Carol Waggoner: PO Box 124 Forrest Dale VT 05745 (summer)
15 Nimmons Rd, Newnan GA 30263(winter)
- Rev. Mary K Schueneman : 2377 Rte. 7 South; Middlebury, 05753; 989-3015;
revmkschue.129@gmail.com
- Lydia Johnson: c/o Lisa Wendell 18 Iroquois St Ticonderoga NY 12883
518-585-7509(H) 518-506-2225 (C) (winter)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Quite often members and friends of Middlebury UMC are hospital patients. Here is a listing of medical facilities for your convenience:

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

1 Medical Center Drive
Lebanon NH 03756

Fanny Allen Campus

790 College Parkway
Fanny Allen Campus
Colchester VT 05446

Helen Porter Healthcare and Rehabilitation

30 Porter Drive
Middlebury VT 05753

Porter Medical Center

115 Porter Drive
Middlebury VT 05753

Rutland Regional Medical Center

160 Allen Street'
Rutland VT 05701

UVM Medical Center

111 Colchester Avenue
Burlington VT 05401

SOME FUN??

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
AUTHOR UNKNOWN

Find and circle 20 books of the Bible found on this page. (Watch out for plurals.)

Someone showed me this story and remarked that there are twenty books of the Bible hidden here. I was challenged to find them. Sure, enough, they're all here. Still, this thing's a lulu – kept me looking so hard for the longest time! Some of you will get bogged down with acts and others are hit by them like they were some kind of revelation or something!

You may get in a jam, especially since the names are not capitalized and often leap the spaces between the words. This makes it a real job to find them, but it'll provide a most fascinating few minutes for you.

Yes, there are some real easy ones to spot, but don't get the big head, because truthfully you'll soon figure that it would take most federal judges and preachers numbers of hours to find one of them, and that it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and that it is not uncommon for there to be loud lamentations when it is pointed out. One lady says that when she is confronted with puzzles like this, she brews a cup of tea to help her concentrate better. But then, this girl's a real pro! Verbs, nouns, and all that stuff are her thing. See how well you can compete. Relax! There are really twenty names of Bible books in this story. If you fail to find them there's a penalty. You'll have to go fly a kite, sit on a banana, hum the Battle Hymn of the Republic, do a pro-man search or hose a dog (a real mean one). Get to it!

The Middlebury United Methodist Church
43 North Pleasant Street
Middlebury, VT 05753

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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The newsletter of the Middlebury UMC
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