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Middlebury Congregational Church  
1242 Whittemore Rd.  
Middlebury CT 06762



# CHURCH LIFE

JUNE 2011



Middlebury Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
The Green  
1242 Whittemore Rd.  
Middlebury CT 06762  
203-758-2671  
[www.middleburyucc.org](http://www.middleburyucc.org)



## SUMMER OFFICE HOURS



**Monday - Friday**  
**June 20 - August 19**  
**9:00 am - 12 pm**

## Summer Worship



10:00 A.M.  
June 26 until September 4  
Please join Pastor Ken  
for the Word, Prayer and Fellowship  
&  
Lemonade on the lawn  
following the service.

## CHURCH RECORDS

### DEATHS

*Betty Jane Ford on April 9<sup>th</sup>.*  
*William James Keys on April 16<sup>th</sup> in Hampstead, NC.*  
*Marion "Marcie" Makepeace Loomis on May 7<sup>th</sup>.*

## *The Deadline for July Church Life:*

*June 15<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 a.m.*

## ken's korner

Dear Friends,

The month of June brings us to the summer season which is a time of relaxation, traveling and rest. Our church will once again open its doors to St. George's church as their pastor vacations in July. The Middlebury Church will offer services to the community through the summer months. These summer services will take place at ten in morning and will take on an eclectic look.

We will trim down the service and invite guest musicians from the congregation to share their gifts of performance with us. What will remain a constant is our call to proclaim the Gospel to this community. Usually in the summertime, I offer sermons in series. A series will focus on a common theme that as a whole gives a greater picture of that theme but can stand alone.

As I write this letter to you, we are in discussion about purchasing a digital recorder so the sermons can be posted on the website. The cost of this recorder has been covered by a generous donation from a friend of Middlebury Church.

Our lectionary discussion group which took place during Lent was informative and uplifting. Shortly, I will resume this group as a permanent part of scripture study and lectionary understanding. If you have been considering joining please give me a call.

In closing, I wish to say that our church has gone through a transition these past two years. We now have a consistent attendance with enthusiastic participation by the congregation. In the months to come, our new membership committee will research ways for our church to be welcoming and inviting to those who seek a church home.

Have a wonderful summer. I look forward to seeing you in the fall. Remember your church is open each and every Sunday this summer. You are welcome and expected.

In the Peace of Christ,  
**Ken**

# The Sunday School Scoop

Throughout the month of June, our Sunday School students will have many different celebrations! First, on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, we will be having a “Sunday Fun day”. There will be many fun activities outside (as long as the weather cooperates) to celebrate the end of our Sunday School year. In honor of our yearly theme, “The Covenant”, we will be digging up our “Covenant Capsule” that we buried in September in our outdoor sanctuary. We will see if we have kept our covenants that we made at the beginning of the year.

On Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, the children will stay in church to witness the Confirmation of our eighth and ninth graders. The following Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, will be our annual Celebration Sunday. This year we have four third graders who will be receiving their Bibles: Thomas Alexander Kwashnak, Ekaterina Lee McKernan, Victoria O’Bar, and Sofia Bell Pattillo.

On June 26<sup>th</sup>, we will begin our Summer Sunday School classes. Please look for more information on the program in the coming weeks.

## Summer Sunday School

Now that our regular Sunday School year has ended, it’s time for Summer Sunday School! Classes begin on June 26<sup>th</sup>. There will be 8 class sessions for pre-K-5<sup>th</sup> graders. We are looking for volunteers to teach! It is only a one week commitment (unless you want to sign up for more, of course). Please look at your summer calendars to see if there is a week you are able to help out with Sunday School. If you have never taught before, it is a great opportunity to see if you are interested for signing up for a 4-week unit for next year! Please see Valerie Beard or any of the CE Committee members if you are interested or want to know more about teaching. Sign-ups are in the Social Hall. Thank you!

## Treat yourself to a fun evening out...

Middlebury Congregational Church, GWIM Delegate Groups, and Country Club of Waterbury invite you to attend a **SUMMER CROP** to raise funds for:



**Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries**



**Who/What:** Anyone interested in memory preservation (including but not limited to scrapbooking, photo album making, photo organizing, and card making). Beginners, laptops (CC of W has internet access), and Cricuts are welcome. Proceeds from prize drawing tickets as well as presale ([www.mycmsite.com/marneepalladino](http://www.mycmsite.com/marneepalladino)) and event purchases will be donated to GWIM.

**When:** Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 4PM-11PM

**Where:** Country Club of Waterbury, One Oronoke Road, Waterbury, CT

**Why:** To benefit **The Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries, Inc.**, a qualified non-profit organization which provides a daily Soup Kitchen, **offering 85,000 meals** and an emergency food pantry that **distributes nearly 200,000 meals** annually to the indigent people of the greater Waterbury area.

**Cost:** \$38pp (includes dinner, drinks, dessert, goody bag, use of CM tools, and demonstrations). Cash bar will be available.

**Incentive:** Bring a table of 4 & **take \$3 off each crop fee.**

**RSVP/Info:** [marnee@palladin.com](mailto:marnee@palladin.com), 203-758-8402



**Mail Crop Fee:** Marnee Palladino, 407 Southford Road, Middlebury, CT 06762, please make check payable to Marnee Palladino

**Direct Donation:** If you can't make the event, but wish to support GWIM, please feel free to mail a donation to Marnee Palladino. Make check payable to: Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries.

**\*During summer vacation, many children will not receive school meals. Please bring a non perishable food item for GWIM's food pantry.**

# SUMMER SUNDAY BBQ and BERRIES FESTIVAL!!

Join us for a delicious

Barbeque

and

Strawberry Festival

on the Middlebury Green

Sunday, June 19, 2011

4:00-7:00 pm

Barbequed Chicken & Pulled Pork Sandwich platters *(\$6.50)*

with corn on the cob & coleslaw

Children's platter with chicken leg, corn on the cob & coleslaw *(\$4.50)*

ice cold lemonade *(\$1.00)*

Strawberry Shortcake *(\$5.50)*

with homemade shortcake biscuits,  
juicy fresh strawberries  
and real whipped cream

Musical Entertainment *(Priceless)*

*Sponsored by the Middlebury Congregational Church*

Well, as our year is approaching the summer recess, I am sad that Youth Group will be in its dormant stage. With summer vacations, camps, work, etc. it's nearly impossible to schedule any youth events. We will attempt to get together towards the end of August to reunite. I am honored to have been the leader of such a wonderful group of young adults this year. If you don't know the youth in our church very well, I suggest you get to know them, it is well worth your while. In fact, I am often looking for guest speakers, helper chaperones, drivers, etc. for all of our events. If you are interested in helping once or twice during the year, please let me know.

To wrap up the activities we had in April and May: The youth did a lot of hard work helping to clean up the outside of the church and parsonage in April, and helping with many aspects of our church auction in May. The youth also enjoy helping Val with the Sunday school program, as shepherds and master Easter egg hiders! We also had 8 youth come to Louisiana for our mission trip. Jenny Curry, Jake Brown, Erik Redline, Becca House, Sarah DiCorpo, Brooke Williams, and friends Emily and Taylor – worked very hard rebuilding homes and a youth center in Louisiana. Most teenagers choose family vacations or sleeping in during their school break. Not these kids – they are true leaders and incredible givers – taking to heart the statement, “go forth and serve”.

During one of the many rain storms in May, the youth went hiking at Kent Falls State park. I had thought we would wait in the cars while the rain blew over, but when the girls got out and started dancing in the parking lot – in the rain – I knew I was in for an interesting day! We hiked all around the falls in the rain, which was still very beautiful. (A big thank you to Lee DiCorpo for both driving and braving the hike!) Followed by a very wet and muddy game of ultimate Frisbee in a field at the park, and ice cream – we settled in for the night in tents in the Obar's back yard. (Thank

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you to the Obar's for hosting our group). During this camp out, one of the many things we talked about was our favorite things about camping outdoors. We had a variety of interesting and honest answers. Mine was the sounds of the birds in the morning, and the smell of fresh clean air. I have a new favorite thing now – falling asleep to the sounds of kids laughing hysterically! That's the best!

Faithfully yours,

Mary Brown  
Youth Group Coordinator

## Sunday School Grade Schedule June 2011

	<u>June 5</u>	<u>June 12</u>	<u>June 19</u>	<u>June 26</u>
Noah's Ark 	<b>Sunday Fun Day</b>	<b>Confirmation</b>	<b>Celebration Sunday</b>	<b>Summer Sunday School</b>  <b>TBA</b>
Storytelling Tent 				
Bibleland Theatre 				
Mary & Martha's Kitchen 				
	<b>End of the Sunday School Year Activities</b>			
		<b>All in Church</b>	<b>All in Church</b>	

# Benefit Concert

Saturday, June 11

at

7 p.m.



*Featuring performances by  
church members and friends.*

*Includes some  
Sounds of Joy favorites.*

*A collection will be taken  
to benefit the playground renovation*



Join us

**Before, During & After**

*the*

**Middlebury**

**Memorial Day**

**Parade**

**Sunday, May 29 at 5 pm**

*For*

*Food & Fun*

*Bring your chairs or blankets*

*Middlebury Congregational Church*

*Will be selling*

**Foot Long Franks, Chips & Drinks**

*On the parsonage lawn*

*(across from the green)*

## Wayne Gunther to Retire

Dear Members and Friends of Middlebury Church,

Recently Wayne came and shared with me that he would like to retire from the organ bench and spend more time with family and friends. Although we will miss Wayne's wonderful playing and his presence at church services and functions, we will wish him well in this new phase of his life.

He will be with us until the end of the year and will play the Christmas services. This gives all of us an appropriate time to chat with him and offer our thanks for his dedicated service to our church for more than thirty years.

The Board of Deacons has called together a Music Committee which will discuss the future of music at our church. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Shalom,  
Pastor Ken

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## Auction Update

Thank you to everyone who donated their time, talents, and goods to make this year's Auction and Flea Market a terrific success. The great news is that together we made approximately \$12,000 this year. All of your efforts demonstrated an amazing spirit of fellowship and commitment to the work of our church.

I'd like to extend special thanks to people who worked closely with me and went above and beyond to make this event a success. Honorable mention goes to Jeanine Bonaventure. Without her guidance and support this event would not be possible.

Again a huge thank you to everyone,

Andrea Douyard