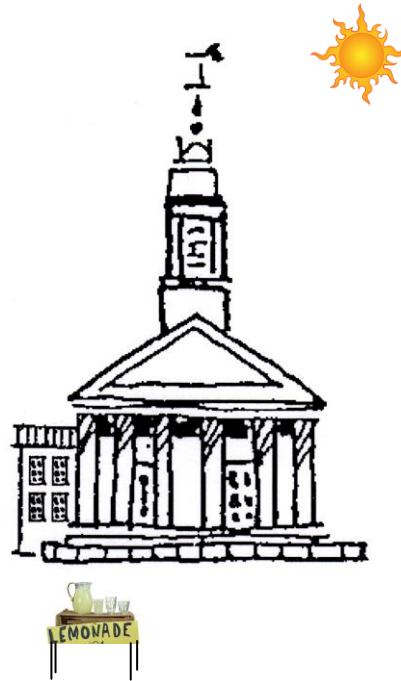


CHURCH LIFE

SUMMER 2011



Middlebury Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
The Green
1242 Whittemore Rd.
Middlebury CT 06762
203-758-2671
www.middleburyucc.org

Ken's Korner

Dear Friends,

We will have a unique experience this summer at Middlebury Congregational Church. For some time members have asked me to utilize the outdoor chapel in the back of the church property. Beginning on June 26 and going to September 4 we will hold a service at 8:30 AM.

These services are called SONSHINE gatherings and it indicates that they will only occur if it is NOT raining. It will be a time of Christian fellowship with scripture, prayer, maybe an a cappella hymn and music by any musician who wishes to join in and share. Sharing is the centerpiece of these services.

If you are looking for traditional worship services we will meet in the sanctuary at 10 am each Sunday morning for worship with the word and a sermon based in scripture. Music will be eclectic. We do not have regular musicians in the summer. Some weeks will have pianists; others will have music supplied electronically.

I realize some of us will be at the shore or in the mountains. I hope you have a wonderful time and I hope to see you in the fall.

Ken

The Sunday School Scoop

Throughout the 2010-2011 school year, our children learned the stories from our yearly theme "The Covenant". Our lessons this year came from the stories of Noah's Ark, The 10 Commandments, Messengers of the Covenant, The Good Samaritan, The Prodigal Son, Crucifixion and Resurrection, and the Early Church as the Body of Christ. Our yearly theme ran through each of these stories, showing us that if we love God with all of our heart, strength, and soul, he will always be there for us. We learned how people lived out the Covenant in Biblical times, as well as how it applies to our lives today.

This year we had over 15 different teachers. Without their dedication to volunteering in the classroom, our Sunday School program would not be successful. Thank you to all of our teachers! I would also like to thank our Christian Education Committee, who assist in curriculum planning, teach, and help create all of our fun "extracurricular" activities for our children, including our Christmas and Creation Pageants.


During the summer, there will be 8 class sessions for Summer Sunday School at the 10am service. Each Sunday, we will combine students going into kindergarten through sixth grade in one class. On the first Sundays of the month, the children will stay in the sanctuary for the church service. There will be nursery and preschool care available each Sunday. Our Summer Sunday School classes will focus on the lessons of the Beatitudes. We will also have other smaller lessons and time spent outside and on the playground!

I hope everyone has a relaxing and enjoyable summer!

Valerie Beard


Summer Sunday School

July, 2011

<u>July 3</u>	<u>July 10</u>	<u>July 17</u>	<u>July 24</u>	<u>July 31</u>
 All in Church	Summer Sunday School	Summer Sunday School	Summer Sunday School	Summer Sunday School

Summer Sunday School

August, 2011

<u>August 7</u>	<u>August 14</u>	<u>August 21</u>	<u>August 28</u>
 All in Church	Summer Sunday School	Summer Sunday School	Summer Sunday School

The Deacons' Bench

Here's some news we hope you'll like – and we hope you'll “Like” – the Middlebury Congregational Church has a new Facebook page! Check us out at www.facebook.com/pages/Middlebury-Congregational-Church/220926731257979. (Or when you're on Facebook, just search for “Middlebury Congregational Church.”)

If you're on Facebook we hope you'll check it out, “Like” it, and share it with your friends.

The new page is a quick, easy way to share news and photos of our events and missions with the rest of the world. While it may not exactly “go viral” – I was lucky number 13 to “Like” it – a Facebook presence is a way of sharing who we are with the people we know. Social networking is a great way of spreading the news in our community. You can comment and write on our “wall.” (And if you're like me, the profile pictures of people who comment on the page will help you link names with faces!)

We've had such success with the Doodle calendar for scheduling liturgists that we're looking into a similar online scheduling tool for ushers as well. Stay tuned for details.

Although many churches slow down during the summer, we will be doubling up on our services. Pastor Ken will be offering informal “Son-shine Services” in the Garden Chapel, weather permitting, at 8:30 a.m. for early risers. We will also continue to have regular worship services on Sundays at 10:00 as usual, but services will be more casual and informal than usual. We may have hymn sings, guest organists or pianists, and other guest musicians. Summer gives us the chance to be more relaxed and experimental. If you have suggestions for music or summer worship, talk to Pastor Ken or one of the deacons.

Here's hoping to see you over lemonade and cookies after the services!

-- Howard Fielding for the Board of Deacons

Foot long Frank Fundraiser Update

Thank you to the DiCorpos, Douyards, Pattillos, Carringtons, Ballettos, Sal Sena, ShawnaLee Kwashnak, and Jeanine Bonaventure for making the Foot long Frank Fundraiser a success!

We made approximately \$425 this year and we had a great amount of fun.

Next year, "Get your hot dogs at the Middlebury Memorial Day Parade!"

Meg Sena

MISSION COMMITTEE SCHOLARSHIP

The Mission Committee is pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2011 Middlebury Congregational Church Mission Committee Scholarship is Rebecca House.

Rebecca's personal statement and glowing recommendation demonstrated her excellent character as well as her generosity of time and talents to her school, church and community. Rebecca will be attending Wheelock College in Boston in September where she will major in special education. CONGRATULATIONS, BECCA!

CALLING ALL WOMEN OF FAITH

Imagine being in the XL Center in Hartford with thousands of women who have one thing in common: FAITH. This year's Women of Faith event is called *Imagine*, and it's hard to imagine how this can be better than the 2010 event! The flyer says "Escape from the everyday at a Women of Faith weekend and be refreshed, encouraged, and inspired. Because the God who loves you can do far more than you can ever *Imagine*." The dates are Friday, November 11 and Saturday, November 12. A deposit of \$25.00 will secure a ticket in excellent seats for the event. For more information, please speak to Diane Barnard or Debra Balletto. We went last year and can't wait to return!

Simply Smiles

dedicated to providing bright futures while improving the daily lives of impoverished children

Simply Smiles



June 23, 2011

Dear Ken Hoyt, Mary Brown, and All of Our Friends at Middlebury Congregational,

It is with deep gratitude that I write to you today to thank you for helping us to *fill the truck* prior to Bryan's departure for the Reservation for the summer. Because of your help, we will be able to run summer camps, hold give aways and community meals, winterize homes, and begin building our first new home on the Reservation this summer.

We are honored and flattered that you have chosen to respond to our call for support in such a generous way. Your wonderful contribution is nothing less than vital for fulfilling our mission of providing "bright futures for impoverished children." But this compassionate act does so much more. You have given us the confidence to move forward with the work that we do... You've shown us that, together, we can right wrongs, that putting a smile on a child's face is indeed important, and that you are willing to join us in making a real difference in the world.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook this summer to see your generosity at work!

Thank you!

Wonderful!

Rev. Dr. Peter Allen
Vice President,
Simply Smiles Inc.

pete@simplysmiles.org
203.522.3685
www.SimplySmiles.org

Please Consider This Letter Your Receipt For Your Contribution to Simply Smiles Inc.
Simply Smiles is a 501c3 organization. Your donation may be tax-deductible as provided by law.

No good or services were exchanged for this donation

A yearly summary of your donations to Simply Smiles will also be provided for you in February

Simply Smiles - 1771 Post Road East - Westport, CT 06880
Simply Smiles Inc. is a 501c3 Not-For-Profit Organization

Fun, Fellowship & Food
At the 56th Strawberry Festival



Summer Worship

June 26 until September 4



Sonshine Services

8:30 AM

In the Garden Chapel
(no service if it rains)



Regular Worship

10:00 AM

Please join Pastor Ken
for the Word, Prayer and Fellowship
&

Lemonade on the lawn
following the service.

CHURCH RECORDS

NEW MEMBERS

Joined the Church on June 12th:

Megan Civitello

Nicholas Civitello

Kathryn Cole

Christopher DiCorpo

Sarah Douyard

Jake Pelczar



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS



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

If you take pictures during a service or a function please email them to me for the Crier, Church Life, Bulletin Board and/or website.

Thank you! Jeanine
(jbonaventure@middleburyucc.org)