

CONGREGATIONAL CRIER



April 14, 2024

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Middlebury Congregational Church

203-758-2671 • www.middleburyucc.org

1242 Whittemore Rd.

Middlebury CT 06762

Welcome to Worship

To keep up with what's going on here at MCC, you can visit our website (middleburyucc.org), like us on Facebook, follow us on Instagram (@middleburycongregational), and subscribe to our YouTube Channel.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located down the stairs in the Narthex/entrance of the sanctuary. Accessible, single person restrooms, equipped with changing tables, are located on the Upper Level and may be easily accessed using the elevator. The elevator entrance is located through the exit door in the front of the sanctuary on the left. Please ask an usher for directions/assistance.

Sunday School & Nursery Childcare

Children are always welcome in worship. During the school year, Sunday School is available during worship for PreK-7th grade. School age children will begin Sunday in worship before heading out together with their teachers in the beginning part of worship. The first Sundays of the month are Communion and Family Sunday and Sunday School will not be in session. Staffed childcare for infants through preschoolers is available in the Nursery throughout the year, which is in the upper level Sunday School. If you need assistance, please ask an usher. For more info about Sunday School and childcare, contact the Church Office: office@middleburyucc.org

For More Info

For more information about the church, to sign up for our newsletter please email: (office@middleburyucc.org)

Communion

Communion is celebrated the 1st Sunday of the month and is open to all, including children, who wish to grow in faith in Jesus Christ.

This Service is Being Livestreamed

If you do not want to appear in the video please choose a pew downstairs in the back 5 rows.

Hearing Assistance

We have headphones to assist you in hearing the service. Please let an usher know, and they will set you up with a pair.

Spring Mission Projects

GWIM Food Donations

In order to try and make a bigger impact to help the GWIM soup kitchen we are going to have a food of the month collection. Below are the items for each month that we will appreciate if you can contribute to help supply the soup kitchen. These items can be left on the Multiplication Table to the left of the pulpit. Here is a list for the year so you can look for sales.

Thank you again for your generous donations.

April – Instant Potatoes

May – Jarred Spaghetti Sauces

June – Canned Chicken from BJ's or \$ Donations as they like this brand

July – Chicken Gravy

August – Cereal

September – Jelly

October – Peanut Butter

November – Dutch Egg Noodles and Elbows

Mitten Line

Mitten Line is hung in the Social Room for any new/gently used mittens, gloves, scarves, hats to be donated to GWIM.

A Message from Faith Formation

Thank you to our Volunteer Sunday School Teachers for March! Norma Solberg, Katie O'Connor, Amy Coughlin, Brittany Romaniello, and Kelly Pelletier, your time is always appreciated as you are an invaluable resource to the children of our community.

March was a whirlwind of activities for our Sunday School youth as we prepared for the joyous Easter season! The kids dove into lessons on discipleship and spreading God's love, just as Jesus commanded. They also explored the significance of the Passover meal and the fellowship it represents. Our youngsters assisted in crafting beautiful beaded garden stakes, which were used as examples during the family plant-a-bulb craft during coffee hour on Palm Sunday.

Speaking of which, what a wonderful success Palm Sunday turned out to be! Palm Sunday service commenced with the youth choir filling the sanctuary as they sang the introit. After service, the highly anticipated annual Easter egg hunt took off and was hopping good fun!

A huge thank you to Kristine Zold, Thomas Zold, Shaelyn Walsh, and Charis Hubbard for stuffing hundreds of eggs, making the hunt an egg-stravagant success!

I'd also like to give a huge shout out in gratitude to the Faith Formation Committee for facilitating the plant-a-bulb craft.

We are immensely grateful to all who donated funds towards the Easter egg fillers. Your generosity helped make the egg hunt a huge success!

As Pastor Katrina reminds us, we are all vital parts of this mission. Each person's unique gifts combine to create something beautiful and whole – a lesson we strive to impart to our Sunday School youth as we find their special roles in serving the church and community.

Happy spring!

Sara Hubbard, *Faith Formation Volunteer Coordinator*

Prayer Workshop Session 3

Sunday, April 14th after worship

Hope you all can join us for the next prayer workshop! So far we've had meaningful discussions on *adoration* and *petition* in prayer. In this next workshop, we will look at the elements and power of *lament*. Think lament is simply the act of complaining? Join us to find out that it is not! We will meet in the parlor. For questions, e-mail Michele Rowell Finn at michfinn@comcast.net.

MCC Spring Clean-Up

Troop 6 & 5 Spring Clean-up will be on April 20th from 8:00am to 12:00 noon. Volunteers are also most welcome to help the scouts finish weeding and edging, spread mulch, and battle the forsythia forest behind the parsonage. If you have questions, please text Greg Ecsedy at 203-512-6356. Thank you.

Potluck 4/21, after worship

We're having a potluck after worship on 4/21. A sign up sheet to say what you're bringing is on the bulletin board outside the kitchen. Join us for food and fellowship!

MCC Book Club

Please join us for our MCC Book Club on Thursday, April 25th, 2024 at 6:00p.m. In April, we will be discussing *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano. Middlebury Public Library has copies you can pick up. We hope to see you there!

Axe Throwing Event 4/27 @ 3pm

Join us for a fellowship event at Oxford Axe Throwing on Saturday, April 27th! Childcare is available at the church during the event. Sign ups for axe throwing and childcare are available on the bulletin board outside the Social Hall. Also, if you are interested in volunteering to help with childcare, please contact Pastor Katrina (kmanzi@middleburyucc.org)

Yoga at MCC!

What: Vinyasa Yoga for all fitness levels

Where: Our Social Hall

When: Mondays @ 5:30 p.m.

(No yoga on 4/15 or 5/6)

Why: Join us and RELAX!

How: Bring a mat and blocks. Bolster, water bottle, strap and blanket are optional. Please dress to move. Any questions, ask Cynthia Flisher @ 203-758-8454