



# Middleton Community UCC

## The Communicator

### March 2011



"These are the times that try men's souls." Those were words written by Thomas Paine in his influential pamphlet "The American Crisis." He was writing during the early years of the American Revolution, which were indeed trying times. Our time might not be as desperate and critical as those, but still they "try our souls."

In recent weeks, we've witnessed (and some have taken part in) the effort to balance our state's budget and the opposition of those who object to the proposed way to do that. We have seen our nation's financial situation begin to improve after the serious economic downturn of 2008 and 2009. But that recovery has been uneven, with certain parts of our country (and certain families in our own communities) feeling the pinch to a greater extent than others.

And when we add perennial life issues to these larger ones—kids, parents, schools, neighborhoods, illnesses, and other issues—it makes for trying times indeed.

It is easy, during times of stress, to let that stress overwhelm our beliefs and principles. In our anxiety and fear, it is easy to forget what we believe. Our church has always been a place that provides a place for all to worship, to learn, to share, to serve, and to grow. It has always been a place of open doors—a "church home to those who have no home"—and a church that seeks to make a difference in our community and our world. And leading it and guiding it is the hand of God, loving us, has saving us, and guiding us throughout life. It's what we believe. It's who we are.

We have been celebrating our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, honoring this congregation's past and appreciating the heritage that we have inherited. But this year, we also have an opportunity to help secure its future. The capital campaign that was approved by a vote of the congregation last fall is rapidly gearing up. Informational meetings have been held and more are planned. Information has been appearing through the mail and each week in our bulletins and weekly e-newsletter. Our leadership team has been selected and is meeting regularly. Teams have been put together and are being trained to make home visits to our members, starting in April.

In this campaign, we will all be challenged to reach farther than we have been asked to reach in the past. And while this process might make some feel more anxious and concerned, it is my firm belief that this will be a time of renewed commitment to the things we all believe in: sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, in word and in deed, with our community and our world.

The theme of the campaign is "Imagine the Possibilities." It is based on a passage from Isaiah 43. Isaiah was speaking during a time of disillusionment, offering God's word of encouragement and hope to his discouraged people. He said, "Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" We believe that God is doing a new thing in our midst, offering surprising good news in place of the bad. God offers us new possibilities and a new future!

My prayer is that we all work together, in whatever ways we can, to ensure that the new future that God is beckoning us to will come to pass, that the tantalizing possibilities that God has shown us will become real. The times that try our souls? Perhaps these are times that will reinvigorate them! Imagine the possibilities!

***See you in church!***

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**Sunday Worship**

9:30 am

Nursery care available

Refreshments  
and fellowship  
after worship**Very Cool  
Sunday School**(ages 3–9 years)  
9:45 am**Office Hours**Office hours are 8:00  
am to noon, Monday  
through Thursday. The  
church office is closed  
on Friday.**Visit our website:**[www.middletonucc.org](http://www.middletonucc.org)We welcome  
your comments,  
thoughts, and  
suggestions!**Worship in March****March 6****Last Sunday after Epiphany****Psalm 99:1-5; Matthew 17:1-9****“This Changes Everything!”**

The story of the Transfiguration (found in Matthew 17) is one of a number of hard-to-imagine stories about Jesus that push us to think hard about who Jesus is. What is the significance of his transformation on the top of that Galilean mountain? Why was he talking to Moses and Elijah? What do God’s words “This is my beloved Son; listen to him” mean for us today. On this Sunday, the Lord’s Supper will be celebrated.

**March 13****First Sunday in Lent****Psalm 32:1-7; Matthew 4:1-11****“In the Wilderness I Am Tempted”**

Jesus’ ministry begins with temptation—a strange thing. But it puts him in contact with each and every one of us when we are enticed to do the thing we know we shouldn’t do. In what ways was Jesus tempted? How did he avoid temptation and stay faithful?

**March 20****Second Sunday in Lent****Genesis 12:1-3; John 3:1-17****“God So Loved the World”**

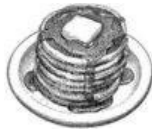
There is deep meaning in Jesus’ nighttime encounter with Nicodemus. What is Nicodemus seeking? What does he get instead? What does Jesus tell him (and us) about God’s love and Jesus’ mission in this world?

**March 27****Third Sunday in Lent****John 4:1-26****“Well-Spoken Words”**

This passage from John 4 is like an onion: each new word from Jesus goes deeper into the life of the Samaritan woman and the significance of his presence here on earth. What began as a request for water become the unfolding of the mystery of salvation!

## Mardi Gras Pancake Extravaganza!

It's become a tradition—the annual Mardi Gras Pancake Extravaganza from **5:30-7:00pm** on **Tuesday, March 8**. Mardi Gras (also known as Shrove Tuesday) is the day before Ash Wednesday and has been a time of celebration and fellowship before the more somber season of Lent.



Come for the food, and stay for the entertainment! After dinner,

there'll be a chance to “let your light shine.” We're looking for people with talent—if you have a good joke to tell, a song to sing, an instrument to play, or have any other “talent”, this is your shot at stardom! Volunteers to help with food preparation and clean up are also needed. Please see sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall. See you there!

## Ash Wednesday Worship—March 9

Ash Wednesday is the traditional beginning of Lent, a time of reflection, repentance, and renewal. We begin our Lenten observance with a worship service, beginning at 6:00 pm.



This service will include prayers of confession, the receiving of ashes as the sign of our

repentance, and hearing words of comfort and the assurance of pardon. The service will also include a short message, songs of faith, and the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

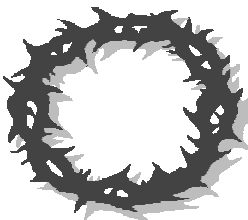
Make this worship service a part of your Lenten observance!

## Wednesday Night Worship in Lent

Join us for a time of fellowship and reflection on Wednesday evenings during Lent.

The evening begins at 5:30 pm, with a soup supper served in Fellowship Hall.

At 6:00 pm, we will gather in the sanctuary for a time of worship and reflection. Again this year, we will view selected video

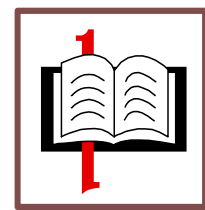


messages from Rob Bell, pastor of Mars Hill Community Church, from his “Nooma” collection. Following the video, there will be time for discussion and quiet reflection. Worship will conclude by 6:45. Child-care will be available following supper.

Make Wednesday night a part of your Lenten observance.

## Daily Bible Reading Guide for March

1 .....	Colossians 1:1-23
2 .....	Colossians 1:24-2:19
3 .....	Colossians 2:20-3:17
4 .....	Colossians 4:2-18
5 .....	2 Corinthians 1:1-11
6 .....	Psalm 27
7 .....	Psalm 51
8 .....	Psalm 57
9 .....	Matthew 6:1-18
10 .....	Joel 1:1-20
11 .....	Joel 2:1-17
12 .....	Joel 2:18-27
13 .....	Matthew 4:1-11
14 .....	Isaiah 38:1-20
15 .....	Isaiah 55:1-13
16 .....	Isaiah 58:1-14
17 .....	Jeremiah 32:1-15
18 .....	Jeremiah 32:16-44
19 .....	Lamentations 3:1-24
20 .....	2 Chronicles 1:1-17
21 .....	2 Chronicles 5:2-14
22 .....	2 Chronicles 6:1-17
23 .....	2 Chronicles 6:18-42
24 .....	2 Chronicles 7:1-22
25 .....	Nehemiah 9:1-38
26 .....	Daniel 9:1-19
27 .....	Habakkuk 1:1-17
28 .....	Habakkuk 2:1-20
29 .....	Habakkuk 3:1-19
30 .....	Psalm 115
31 .....	Psalm 116



## 75th Anniversary MCC Cookbook

2011 is the 75th anniversary of Middleton Community Church. Plans for a celebration are just beginning, but YOU can help NOW by contributing your favorite recipes to our cookbook. Look for the Recipe Shoebox in Fellowship Hall and drop off your favorites today!



### ADDRESS CHANGES

Dorothy Borst  
103 E. North Street  
Mazomanie, WI 53560

Gert Brunclik  
6205 Mineral Point  
Rd, Apt. 502  
Madison, WI 53705

## Women's Study Group

The Tuesday Morning Study Group invites you to come and get acquainted. We enjoy discussing a variety of books along with the opportunity to gain biblical knowledge from Pastor Jim's various bible series presented several times a year.

March 1, we will watch the movie adapted from the book. EVERYONE is invited to come and watch the movie! Please bring a sack lunch on that day.



On March 8, we begin a new book, "The Sins of Scripture" by Bishop John Shelby Spong. Books are available at area book stores.

The Tuesday Morning Study Group meets at the church on Tuesdays from 9:30am-11:00am. Hope to see you soon.

If you have any questions, contact Rose Ann Sprang (831-6486) or Carrie Doersch (238-2386).

## Tuesday Night Fellowship

Tuesday Night Fellowship resumes on Tuesday, January 11, with the video series "DreamThinkBeDo." In the words of the video series's producers, "Christianity has been expressed in countless ways over the centuries. The 21<sup>st</sup> century is no different. DreamThinkBeDo is not about 'what' to believe. It's not about projecting someone else's 'truth.' It's a springboard for conversation about what's next for those who follow Jesus. 'Love God with all

your heart, soul, strength, and mind,' is the place to start. Come and engage your mind in what it's all about."

March 1

"Politics"

TNF begins at 6 pm each Tuesday with a soup supper (freewill offering appreciated), discussion will begin around 6:30. Childcare will be provided if requested.

Come to be inspired and challenged to examine your faith in a new way.

## Moses: The American Prophet?

Coffee and Conversation recently started a new book, "America's Prophet" by Bruce Feiler. Equal parts adventure story, literary detective story, and an exploration of faith in contemporary life, Feiler takes readers through the landmarks of America's narrative—from Gettysburg to Selma, the Silver Screen to the Oval Office—to understand how Moses has shaped the nation's character.

Coffee and Conversation meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday mornings of each month from 8:00-9:00am at TnT's Coffee & Cafe, Old Sauk & High Point Roads, (next to the Alicia Ashman Public Library Branch).

All are welcome! Join us for coffee and lively discussion. For more information or to obtain a reading schedule, please contact Laura Crow at [crows@chorus.net](mailto:crows@chorus.net) or 831-4694.

## MCC Men's Group—"Expressing our Faith in Today's Political Environment"

The MCC Men's Group will meet on Saturday, March 12, at 8:00 am to discuss two articles related to the recent events and demonstrations at the state capital. These events have generated strong responses from across the political spectrum. But what should our response be as Christians? Does our responsibility to voice our faith stop with our vote? Jim Wallis of Sojourners magazine calls budgets moral documents, has recently asked "What would Jesus cut?", providing readers on the Sojourner's web site the opportunity to send an e-mail to a Senator or Representative.

Our own responses and choices

are very personal. We will use the current budget controversy and the following two articles as starting points for a discussion and personal stories of how you have found and expressed your own voice:

- <http://news.medill.northwestern.edu/chicago/news.aspx?id=80883>
- <http://blog.sojo.net/2011/02/23/people-of-faith-united-in-wisconsin/>

The group is open to all who would like to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

## Camp Balsams Sign-Up Continues!

There are some good weeks still available for the coming season at Camp Balsams, our retreat in the north woods, 5 miles east of Eagle River, Wisconsin, on Bass Lake. The four cabins



have from one to four bedrooms and range in price from \$150 to \$300 per week (Saturday to Saturday). It's a wonderful place for an affordable family vacation while sharing fellowship with other members of your church community. The remaining schedule for sign-up is as follows:

### Monday, March 7

Members of the church can sign up for one cabin for one additional week.

### Monday, March 21

Members of the church can sign up for any cabin for additional weeks.

### Monday, May 2

Members of the church can sign up for individual days for any cabin.

Please note that a \$50 non-refundable deposit is required. Contact Bill Richner (831-6710) or the church office (831-4694) if you have any questions.

## Worship Design Team

You are invited to be a part of MCC's Worship Design Team (formerly the Worship Service Task Force). The Team will work during the first half of 2011 to design and lead a second worship service for MCC. They are looking for people to share in planning, worship leadership, music, hospitality, technical support, and promotion. Won't you be a part of this new and exciting initiative? Contact the church office (831-4694 or [mccucc@chorus.net](mailto:mccucc@chorus.net)) or indicate your interest on the Pink Sheet, available in each Sunday's worship program.

### One Great Hour of Sharing-Coming in April

One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM), is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in more than eighty countries.



The UCC works with international partners to provide clean water, nutritious food, education, health care, small business micro-credit, emergency relief, and advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response. OGHS is this year's Lenten offering at MCC and will be received on April 3. Bulletin inserts and offering envelopes will be available during March worship services.

### Happy Anniversary!

Mike & Barb Falk

Haywood & Audrey Gilliam

Did we miss yours?  
Call the church office  
and let us know.

### Card Ministry

MCC has a Card Lay Ministry program. Once every three months someone in the program sends a card to a church member in need of a little cheer. Because we're short one person, we're looking for someone to help us. Could that someone be you? If so, please contact Delores Haak.

We're also in need of those cards

you receive for charitable giving. Delores has an ongoing project at Oak Park Nursing & Rehab where she takes them magazines and/or anything usable for BINGO prizes. In addition, she sends cards to twelve residents each month, so they receive some mail. If you have anything that you could contribute, it would be appreciated. Thanks!



### Join the Choir for Easter!

Our adult choir is offering you a chance to sing with them for Easter. The commitment includes three Wednesday rehearsals: April 6, April 13, and April 20. Rehearsals begin about 6:45 pm, immediately after the Wednesday evening Lenten worship services. This special opportunity is designed for those people who are unavailable to sing year-round but would like to be a part of our music during special holidays. We welcome all singers, high school age and older, to join us. Questions? Contact Bob Mirshak at 831-5354

## Stillspeaking Magazine

The latest edition of "Stillspeaking," the newest publication from the United Church of Christ, is now available in the Heritage Room. In this attractive, full-color publication, you'll read about Pastor Luis Gonzalez and his church, TOX Ministries, that seeks to reach people who traditional churches haven't reach. You'll read about military chaplains, who seek to serve God and soldiers in difficult situations and

circumstances. You'll see a beautiful visual depiction of the favorite hymn "Comd, O Fount of Every Blessing. And you'll read a one-on-one interview with Geoffrey Black, General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ. These and more articles are available to you in the Heritage Room. After viewing it, you may subscribe to this twice-yearly magazine for yourself at [www.ucc.org/news/voices.html](http://www.ucc.org/news/voices.html).

## What is "Our Church's Wider Mission"?

Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) is the name of the financial support we provide for the work of the UCC at state, national, and international levels. It supports national and international missions, ecumenical relationships, advocacy, resources for congregations, and more. OCWM is supported through MCC's annual budget and through special offerings such as One Great Hour of Sharing, Neighbors in Need, Strengthen the Church, and the Christmas Fund.

**One Great Hour of Sharing** channels resources for international programs in health, education on agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries and both international and domestic disaster response.

**Strengthen the Church** supports leadership for new and revitalizing

congregations, programs for youth and young adults, and leadership development for the whole church.

**Neighbors in Need** supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States, including the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM), justice and advocacy, and direct service projects supported by Justice and Witness Ministries.

**The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund** helps provide pension and health premium supplementation to low-income retired church workers, emergency assistance to clergy families in need, and Christmas checks to hundreds of annuitants, as administered by the Pension Boards.

Look for more details about our budgetary support in future mailings.

## Happy Birthday!

Ellen Acker  
 Angela Breitbart  
 Diane Bright  
 Madeline Brown  
 Jennifer Christensen  
 Tim Coughlin  
 Mary Dennis-Classen  
 Irvin Dennis  
 Brian Elmer  
 Edith Fox  
 Monica Gall  
 Abigail Gessler  
 Delores Haak  
 Andrea Klopp  
 Chester Larkpor  
 Barbara Lawrence  
 Bill Love  
 John Manderino  
 Brian Michaels  
 Ross Michaels  
 Deb Neuman  
 Ellen Opitz  
 Kim Patullo  
 Marci Paulsen  
 Brittany Phelps  
 Jessica Roach  
 Darcy Sage  
 Jamie Sage  
 Peter Schoenke  
 Julie Scott  
 Alex Snell  
 Cassidy Sullivan  
 Ellie Sund  
 Sarah Sund  
 Audra Ubersox  
 Mark Walther  
 Sarah Yeazel

Did we miss yours?  
 Call the church office  
 and let us know.



Don't forget...the first Sunday of the month is  
**FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY!**  
 Middleton Outreach Ministry asks you to contribute  
**100% Fruit Juice**

For more information, visit [www.mompop.org](http://www.mompop.org)  
 or contact the church office (831-4694).

### *Dates to Remember:*

- **March 6**—MS Sikh Temple Visit
- **March 8**—Mardi Gras Celebration & Pancake Supper
- **March 9**—Ash Wednesday
- **March 13**—HS Youth Group: College Care Packages
- **March 20**—MS Youth Group Movie
- **April 3**—HS Youth Group: TBA
- **April 10**—Confirmation Sunday
- **April 15-16**—MS Lock-In
- **April 17**—Palm Sunday; KIDS SING!
- **April 17**—HS Youth Group: TBA
- **April 22**—Good Friday Experience
- **April 24**—Easter Sunday
- **May 14**—Adult Faith Formation Discussion
- **May 15**—Youth Sunday
- **June 13-17**—Summer Servants
- **August 8-11**—Vacation Bible School

## Middle School—On the GO!

Our middle school class is incredible! They have great energy and great ideas! And they seem to be having a great deal of FUN, too! Here is a brief look at what they are up to...

- **March 6 @ 11:00am** Students are off to visit the Sikh Temple for a worship service with new and old friends we met when members of the Sikh Temple visited us in February. This visit is designed to help students understand our

Christian faith in a global context.

- **March 20 @ 6:00pm** Movie night! Bring a snack & a friend!
- **April 15-16** It is time for this year's MS Lock-In! Students will plan the theme for Youth Sunday as well as participate in a variety of activities: scavenger hunt, service project, games, movies, and MORE!!

Questions? Contact Laura Crow to learn about what's happening with our middle school programs.

## Confirmation Continues

Confirmation for the 2010-2011 program year continues! Confirmation at MCC is a two-year faith formation process, open to high school students, grade nine and older. It is a process that focuses on each student's faith journey and practice of the Christian faith. Together, students and adults discover ways to integrate their faith into their daily lives.

The focus of this year's class will be understanding the biblical story and

how it relates to our lives today. We will also participate in several service projects and ministry activities.

Confirmation meets on Sunday mornings at 8:30 am in the Heritage Room. If you have a high school son or daughter, or if you have any questions regarding participation in Confirmation, please contact Pastor Jim by phone at the church office (831-4694) or by email (jiliff@tds.net).

## Faith Five for March

"Faith Five" is a program for personal or family devotions that focuses on relationship—nurturing our relationships with one another and with God. It is a great tool for growing together in faith and exploring the connections between Faith and Life!

Gather everyone together at bedtime (or any time that works for you!) and simply follow these five steps:

1. **SHARE** the highs & lows of your day or week.
2. **READ** together the appointed bible passage.
3. **TALK** about how the verse relates to your own experience

4. **PRAY** for one another and the highs and lows that were shared.
5. **BLESS** one another by reminding ourselves that we are all beloved children of God.

Start today by using these passages for personal or family reflection...

- Feb 27-Mar 5: Ephesians 4:1
- Mar 6-12: Matthew 28:1
- Mar 13-19: Matthew 28:19
- Mar 20-26: Matthew 16:15
- Mar 27-Apr 2: Luke 10:36-37

Learn more about "Faith Five" at [www.faithink.com](http://www.faithink.com).

## Very Cool Sunday School News

Very Cool Sunday School in March brings lessons about the early church and church teachings. We will also talk more about Heifer International, this year's VCSS offering recipient. Children have contributed almost \$500 so far this year towards the purchase of animals for hungry families across the world.

Looking ahead to April, the FARM is coming to MCC again this spring. Young and old alike will have a chance to meet some animals up close and personal!

Friends and visitors are welcome to join our program any time. Bring a friend and share the Good News!

## High Schoolers To Send Care Packages

On **Sunday, March 13** the High School Youth Group will assemble our **spring College Care Packages**. Students are asked to bring 18 individually packaged treats or small toys to put in the mailing boxes. We'll meet at 6:00pm to sort, fill, package, and get boxes ready to mail on Monday morning. This is a fun way to connect

with our college students, and one something they REALLY look forward to receiving!

We will also make plans for our final 3 youth group activities coming up on April 3, April 17 and May 1. Bring your ideas! Join the FUN! Contact Laura Crow to learn about high school youth group.

## Spring Is in the Air...

Yes, spring is in the air and ideas for great projects and activities are already popping up out of the fertile soil of our faith community. Here are a few that have sprouted in the last few weeks...

- Karil Walther and Christine O'Dell have both, independent of one another, suggested the very SAME sewing project! With a few simple stitches, you can turn a pillowcase into a beautiful dress for school children in Africa. And you can create personal pillowcases for children staying at Ronald McDonald house. What a great project for people of all ages and skill levels!
- Monica Yeazel has offered to teach a class (either 1 day or a se-

ries of days) on Ukrainian egg decorating. What a PERFECT idea to create something beautiful for Lent!

- Kim Patullo and Laura Crow are looking to gather a group of women to attend a special weekend program at Pilgrim Center on Green Lake. "Women Gathered at the Well" is a new retreat for "nourishment, refreshment, and community" led by UCC Pastor Rev. Debbie Payden on October 21-23. And you thought camp was only for kids!

What new idea is sprouting in your heart? Do any of these spark your interest? Look for new ideas popping up on the "Pink Sheets" in the weekly Sunday church program.

## Souper Bowl Success!

Whoo hoo! Not only did the PACKERS WIN the Super Bowl, but Middleton Community Church raised **\$2645.44 and 365 pounds of food** for MOM's food pantry. That's one and one-half TONS OF LOVE!!

Souper "thank you" to: our middle school class for creating BEAUTIFUL BOWLS for our auction and supplying a wonderful TAILGATE coffee hour on February 6, to Allison Yapp for giving our resident BEARS fan an EXTREME MAKEOVER, and to everyone for your GENEROSITY and GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP!

### Stay Connected With MOM

Join the e-mail list for MOM's monthly eConnections newsletter! Find out about their monthly needs as well as other fun ways to get involved in serving the community. Go to [www.mompop.org](http://www.mompop.org) and look for the "Join MOM's eConnections!" box. You can also send MOM an email at [econnections@mompop.org](mailto:econnections@mompop.org). Join now!

M i d d l e t o n  
O u t r e a c h  
M i n i s t r y



## NEW MCC Parent & Child Play Group

Middleton Community Church hosts a weekly gathering of parents and children ages 0-5 years at the church for socializing and play on Tuesdays from 11:00am - 12:30pm. This 90-minute weekly event offers parents a chance to socialize and commiserate and children a chance

to make new friends and play. The group is free and open to the public, so please spread the word to your friends and family with young children both within and outside the church. If you have questions, contact Tricia Reed at 608-577-8096 or [tritty1@gmail.com](mailto:tritty1@gmail.com).

## Fellowship Hour

Your help is needed to provide an important part of our church's ministry of fellowship: coffee hour! Light snacks and refreshments create a welcoming environment for members and guests. Thanks to all who

have already volunteered for this ministry. Won't you consider taking part as well? Check the sign-up sheet on the coffee hour table for available dates.

## The Road Home

Did you know? The Road Home needs your help to support new families in the Second Chance Apartment Project. With three new families moving in this month, we will need six new volunteer mentors to help parents and children reach their goals. We also need two more congregations who would be willing to furnish apartments by collecting and delivering gently used furniture from congregation members.

When "Donna" and her family moved into Second Chance two years ago, she remembers being both relieved and delighted to see all of the furniture and other items that had been set up for them. "It was wonderful to feel like somebody really cared about us and wanted us to have a nice home." The family's

mentors were also genuinely caring and helpful, getting the kids involved in school and sports and helping Donna reach some of her goals. The family is completing the program this month and moving into housing they can afford. They will bring all of their furniture with them, giving them a great start in their independent housing. And they'll bring their mentors too! Even though their program obligations have ended, both the family and the mentors know they want to stay in touch.

If you would like to help a family like Donna's, either by serving as a mentor or by spearheading a furniture drive, please contact Dana Palmer, Second Chance Case Manager, at 294-7998 x 304.

## Recycle the Warmth

St. Vincent de Paul was thrilled to receive such a generous donation for their 18th Annual Recycle the Warmth drive from MCC members and friends. The HUGE box was

filled to capacity, and then some! Thank you to everyone who contributed. Your thoughtfulness will be felt by many.

## Want to Walk for Health or Happiness?

From the website <http://www.ucc.org/news/ucc-congregations-lace-up-to.html>:

"Positioning its momentum squarely onto the trail blazed by First Lady Michelle Obama's 'Let's Move' initiative to battle obesity in America, the United Church of Christ is asking all of its churches to [get up and get going](#).

"As part of the [Three Million Walking Challenge](#),' the UCC goal is for at



least 250 churches and/or 2,500 UCC members to commit to walking 5 miles or 10,000 steps a week in two phases – Jan. 30-June 17, and July 11- Nov. 18." Would you like to be part of this challenge? (We may have to catch up a little....) If so, please call

Dave Werner at 608.826.0319 or email [golfandpreach@juno.com](mailto:golfandpreach@juno.com). We can participate as a church team or as individuals.

## The Crossing Campus Ministry

A local community group which focuses on positive solutions to climate change, Transition Madison Area, is partnering with The Crossing to offer a free day-long Skillshare on March 5th, 2011. Transition Madison Area (TMA) is part of a larger national organization Transition US ([www.transitionus.org](http://www.transitionus.org)) that has 77 initiatives across the country. Each initiative—be it a city, town, neighborhood, or rural region—shares a vision

that individuals in their particular community can harness the skills and energy to plan for a future less reliant on fossil fuels that supports their local economy, local food system, and respects the natural world.

To register to participate on March 5th please visit our online registration page at: <http://tmaskillshare.wufoo.com/forms/madison-2011-winter-skill-share/>.

## UCC Camp Information Now Available

Camp schedules and registration information booklets for Pilgrim Center (near Ripon, WI) and Moon Beach Camp (near St. Germaine, WI) are now available at church and online at [www.ucci.org](http://www.ucci.org). This year's schedule has something for everyone—camps for preschoolers through adults, family camps, work camps, and a wide variety of theme and hobby camps.

Give yourself or someone you love the opportunity to experience camp this summer—introduce them to the beauty, enrichment, and fun of our WI Conference UCC Camps!




MIDDLETON COMMUNITY  
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 645 Schewe Road  
 Middleton WI 53562

NONPROFIT  
 ORGANIZATION  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 MADISON WI 53714  
 PERMIT NO. 4006

PHONE: 608/831-4694 E-MAIL [mccucc@chorus.net](mailto:mccucc@chorus.net)  
 FAX: 608/836-3206  
 WEBSITE [www.middletonucc.org](http://www.middletonucc.org)  
 Address Service Requested

## Middleton Community Church Vision Statement

*As a faithful church, we will provide opportunities for  
 growth in our witness to the grace and love of God  
 through worship, fellowship, education, and outreach.*

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Middleton Community UCC</b>          645 Schewe Road, Middleton, WI 53562  <i>(2 miles west of the Beltline, at the corner of          Old Sauk and Schewe Roads)</i>  <b>9:30 am Worship Service &amp;          Very Cool Sunday School</b>   <i>Nursery Care Available</i>   <i>Handicapped-Accessible</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Staff</b></p> <p>Pastor .....James Iliff          Director of Music ..... Bob Mirshak          Faith Formation .....Laura Crow          Children's Choir              Director .....Mindy Nelson-Bergman          Keyboards ..... Barbara Brown          Secretary ..... Diane Koch          Custodian..... Irvin Dennis</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>How to Reach Jim Iliff</b></p> <p>Church office:               831-4694          Home:                         831-9581          Cell Phone:                 215-8924          Email:                         <a href="mailto:jiliff@tds.net">jiliff@tds.net</a></p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>CHURCH OFFICE HOURS</b></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Monday—Thursday</b>  <b>8:00 a.m. to noon</b>            (Closed Fridays )</p> </div> </div>