



**Middleton Community UCC**  
**The Communicator**  
**November 2022**

***“The Dead Sea in the Middle East receives fresh water, but it has no outlet, so it doesn't pass the water out. It receives beautiful water from the rivers, and the water goes dank. I mean, it just goes bad. And that's why it is the Dead Sea. It receives and does not give. In the end generosity is the best way of becoming more, more, and more joyful.”***  
*(Desmond Tutu, The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World)*

MCC Beloved,  
As we move into another season of thanks- and gift-giving, I'm reminded once again how important the practice of gratitude is and want to remind you that it is a practice! The more we do it the better at it we become. The more we share the more we'll have.

Four years ago, a dear friend invited me into a weekly practice of gratitude. Every Monday (well, most Mondays! Sometimes life gets in the way...) we email each other with the following prompts:

- Today I am grateful for...
- I feel good about...
- I enjoyed...
- I'm looking forward to...

Some weeks this email is easy to send. Those are the weeks filled with good food, the chance to see good friends and a kid who is in good health. Other weeks all I can come up with is “Our family survived.” Still, there are other weeks that I open a blank email and must reference my calendar to remember if anything

at all had happened over the last seven days. But the weeks when the practice seems the hardest are also the weeks the practice makes the most difference – pulling me back to a stance of gratitude and grounding.

When we talk about giving and generosity in the church it is rooted in this idea of gratitude. Weekly worship is a chance to take note of all that God offers in this world: a way of love, peace, and justice. And that practice fuels a life of generosity – with our time, talents, and treasures – because it begs us to be a part of it. It frames our faith in abundance rather than scarcity, in fullness and richness that comes from a loving God and present community.

Might I make a suggestion? As you prepare to fill out your 2023 Pledge Card (Stewardship Sunday is November 13th!) take a minute to think about our church and our life together and reflect. What are you grateful for at MCC? What are you feeling good about? What do you enjoy at church? And what are you looking forward to?

Today I am grateful for the radical love of an inclusive God that is known in this community. I feel oh-so-good about our first seven months of ministry together. I enjoy worshiping with you every Sunday and working with committed, smart, passionate leaders. And I'm looking forward to a season of growth and renewal as we recommit to one another, our church, our neighborhood, and a more just and generous world.

Yours, Pastor Zayna



## Advent and Christmas Worship

### *From Generation to Generation*

*Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.*

*His mercy is for those who fear him  
**from generation to generation.***

*(Luke 1: 48b-50)*

*In the scripture above, Mary could glimpse the scale and scope of the good news she was part of bringing forth despite the challenges and vulnerability she faced. This good news transcends time and space—it was and is bigger than just her. Christ is coming for collective liberation: God’s redemption is at work for years to come. Therefore, the promise is meant to be lived out and passed on from generation to generation.*

*We are invited to look at the characters in our scriptures and wonder: What did each character pass on or contribute? How did each character participate in God’s liberation and love? Which characters try to thwart God’s justice and what can we learn from them? What is our role now? What is our generation’s task? What will we carry forth, and what should we leave behind?*

*The root word of “generation” is “gen” meaning “origin” or “birth.” Our theme is also a call to action: what are we being called to generate or bring forth? What have your ancestors and those who have come before you passed on for you to continue? Who are the spiritual elders in your community who planted the seeds for the things that are now blooming? What seeds are you planting for the future?*

**From Generation to Generation...**  
*reminds us of the ways our lives, histories, actions, and stories are interconnected and woven together. In the midst of narratives, policies, and rhetoric designed to divide us, what does it look like to practice belonging to one another? The work of God is always unfolding— in and through us. This Advent season, how will we carry it forth?*

## **The First Sunday of Advent is November 27th!**

c. A Sanctified Art, [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)

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### **Save the Date – Congregational Meeting**

There will be a brief congregational meeting immediately after worship on November 20 to elect officers and Board and Council representatives for the new year.

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## Upcoming Special Services...

### Longest Nights Service - Dec 18th, 4:30 pm

*The holiday season isn't always "merry and bright." As we hang lights and put out extra candles, it is in recognition that we carry with us the weight of fear, grief, and sadness for a broken world. The Longest Nights service will be a simple service of sharing in prayer, song, and longing for a more just and generous world. Here you are welcome to bring all of yourself and know that we do not walk alone. When hope feels too hard, we carry the light of Christ together. It will **not** be live-streamed on YouTube.*

### Christmas Worship 4:00 pm and 7:30 pm

*Both Christmas Eve services will be full of classic carols, a telling of that most sacred and familiar story, and the singing of Silent Night as we pass the light of Christ among us. **They will both be less than one hour long.** The 4 pm service will be a little shorter and not have a traditional sermon. Instead, it will include a longer, interactive Children's Message. The 7:30 service will feature the MCC Choir and a short sermon from Pastor Zayna. Only the 7:30 service will be live-streamed on YouTube.*

### Christmas Morning Lessons and Carols with Communion 9:30 am

*Because Christmas Day is a Sunday this year, we will have worship at 9:30. This will be a simple Lessons & Carols service with communion. It will **not** be live-streamed on YouTube.*

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## Christmas Eve Choir

Add your voice to the Christmas Eve Choir for the 7:30 service. We will sing several pieces that reflect the beauty, joy and hope of the season. Rehearsals will begin in November. We welcome singers Grade 9 through Adult. (Interested 7th and 8th graders should talk to Deb.) This is a warm and welcoming group so sing with us!

From Generation to Generation...do you have memories of sharing music with cherished family or friends? Pass on that joy by singing in the choir with other family members.

Share in the JOY of making music with others, the BEAUTY of Christmas text set to music and the HOPE that touches the hearts of the congregation. Please email Deb Neuman so you can be on the email list to receive information on the rehearsal schedule. Also, reach out with questions you may have.

[mccmusic@middletonucc.org](mailto:mccmusic@middletonucc.org).



Like" our public page: [facebook.com/MiddletonCommunityChurch](https://www.facebook.com/MiddletonCommunityChurch)  
Join our Members & Friends group: [facebook.com/groups/mccmembersandfriends](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mccmembersandfriends)



Follow us: <https://www.youtube.com/MiddletonUCC>

# Annual Stewardship Campaign

*Renewing Community for our church, for our neighbors, for a more just and generous world.*

Two years ago at this time we were not worshipping in our sanctuary. The stewardship theme that year included “For such a time as this” from the book of Ruth. At that time in their history the Jews were in exile and trying to maintain a religious community without having a temple in which to worship.

Our theme this year is taken from Jeremiah 29:11, a time later in the exile. Jeremiah tells the people that God promises a future filled with hope. Metaphorically speaking, living under COVID may seem like a time of exile, but this is also a time of excitement and hope in our church. For instance, average attendance in September has been higher than the three Septembers prior to COVID.

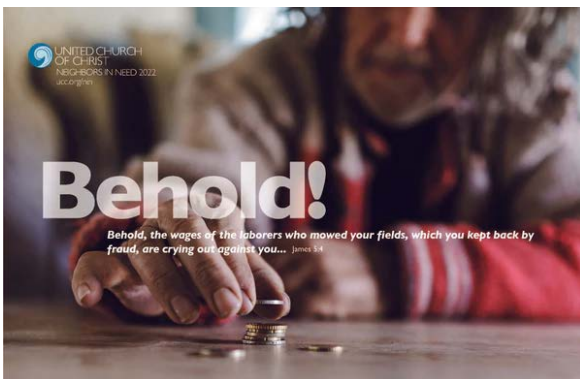
We have successfully completed ministerial and staff transitions, and our amazingly talented and committed staff will be indispensable in realizing our vision of a hopeful future. So this year we are making a big ask. We are asking members to consider a 10-12 percent increase in giving. This increase is based on initial budget numbers from the Board of Finance. Member

pledges make up the vast majority of our annual budget. Once we have pledge commitments we can then finalize a budget for 2023.

We hope to receive pledges by November 13 when we will celebrate the generosity of the congregation in worship. On September 24th we sent out a Stewardship campaign email detailing what is going on in our church and our hope for the future. It contains a link to an online pledge form. If you can't find it in your inbox, it is also on the [church website](#). All the Annual Stewardship packet materials can be found under the “Give” menu on the church home page.

Much of our stewardship outreach this year is electronic, but if we did not have an email address on file for you, your packet was mailed to you. If you would prefer to receive a pledge packet by mail, contact Anne in the church office and she can get you one. There are also packets on the Stewardship table in the fellowship area.

Thank you for your generosity to MCC.



## Neighbors in Need - Thank You!

Thank you for your generous contributions to the UCC's Neighbors In Need special offering! Together we raised **\$1,596.63** to support ministries of justice and compassion in the United States. This is just one way we can demonstrate our connection with denomination and extended faith community.

# SEASON OF GIVING

## Thanksgiving Special Offering: MCC's Own "Little Free Pantry"

With rising prices everywhere, our own Little Free Pantry (LFP) at the front of MCC's driveway is being used more and more frequently. Because of that, we thought Thanksgiving would be an especially appropriate time to invite you to contribute non-perishable food items or to make a financial donation specifically to be used to restock our LFP. Because cold temps will be with us for a while, we're asking you to stick to this very specific list of non-perishable items. We need to avoid jars and cans of items that contain liquid that could freeze, expand, and burst (e.g. jelly, canned tuna, sauces, etc.).

We'll be collecting food items and will have special offering envelopes in the bulletins during worship on the Sundays before and after Thanksgiving, November 20 and 27. There will also be an online giving option available using the yellow Donate Now button [on our website](#) from November 11-30.

Our LFP is one more way we can support our immediate neighborhood and the wider Dane County community. Thanks in advance for your support!

### Top 15 Items Needed for MCC's LFP:

- Olive Oil - small bottles
- Pancake Mix - boxes/bags, "complete" is best (add water only)
- Muffin Mix - boxes/bags of "complete" (or add minimal ingredients)
- Soup Mixes - boxes/bags
- Nut Butters (peanut, sunflower or almond) - small jars
- Crackers - boxes of any flavor/brand
- Granola Bars - boxes of soft or crunchy
- Pasta - boxes, all shapes
- Tortilla Shells - soft, corn or flour
- Cereal - "regular" not "family" sized
- Mac & Cheese - individual, microwavable cups
- Prepared Side Dishes - non-perishable bags or boxes (e.g. Scalloped Potatoes, Flavored Rice or Pasta)
- Flour (including GF alternatives) - 2 lb bags or smaller
- Sugar - 2 lb bags or smaller
- Brown sugar - 2 lb bags or smaller



## Road Home - Holiday Sponsorship

Middleton Community Church has committed to raising \$600 in donations to provide one \$75 gift card for every adult and child across two families in The Road Home's housing program.

We welcome contributions of any amount toward this \$600 goal. Donations can be made online by clicking on the "[Donate Now](#)" button on MCC's website, and choose "The Road Home".



Every child deserves a home

Contributions will be accepted through November so that we can purchase and deliver gift cards to The Road Home in early December.

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## MOM Winter Wishes

The Board of Missions and Stewardship is once again participating in the Winter Wishes program offered by Middleton Outreach Ministry. A \$50 donation sponsors one person and we have committed to sponsoring gift cards for 30 persons this year. To make a donation please go the [Winter Wishes Bitmoji room](#) and choose one or more of the snowflakes. Each



snowflake will list the gender and age of the recipient and a number that identifies them. The snowflake will also indicate up to three choices of gift cards they would like to choose from. You will purchase a single \$50 gift card for one or more individuals and put the gift card(s)

(with the gift card receipt) in an envelope with the number that identifies the recipient and drop it off at the church office. You may also add a greeting card or some treats in a small bag to accompany your gift card.

MOM clients come from all different nationalities and faith traditions so your message in the card should reference "Winter

Wishes" or "Happy Holidays" as the person (s) you sponsor may not celebrate Christmas.

**The Winter Wishes Bitmoji room will be operational by November 7th and the gift cards need to be delivered to the church office by December 1st at noon.**

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## Poinsettia Orders

Believe it or not, now is the time to think about decorating our sanctuary for the holidays! An order form for beautiful poinsettias can be found on the Welcome table, and will be in weekly bulletins starting November 6. It is extremely important to get your orders in by the due date, Nov. 27.

This year, you will be able to order red poinsettias in 6 ½" pots for \$13.50.



Flowers may be ordered in the memory of or in honor of family members or loved ones.

A list of donors will be published in the Christmas programs, and donors are welcome to take home their flowers after the evening (7:30pm) Christmas Eve service.

## The Crossing - November 9 Meal Hosts

MCC will be hosting a meal for college students at The Crossing Campus Ministry on Wednesday, November 9. We still need volunteers to prepare food for that meal. Food can be dropped off at church by 4pm. Sign up in Fellowship Hall or [online](#). We still need Vegan Chili, Meat Chili, Vegan Brownies, and Gluten/Nut Free Cookies or Brownies



**PARENTS OF HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS:** We are looking for 2-4 Youth who would go with us to set up, serve, and clean up the meal. We will stay and participate in the worship service.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our Youth to see what kinds of faith options can be available on campus when they go off to college themselves. Please reach out to Carol Bee or Darci and let them know your youth will join us.

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## Just Bakery Returns!

The Board of Membership and Fellowship is thrilled to announce the return of Just Bakery. Just Bakery is confirmed to visit on Sunday, November 13 with their delicious baked goods available after service (in the past, cash or check payment only).



At this time, Just Bakery is scheduled to visit MCC on the second Sunday of every other month – therefore upcoming 2023 dates currently include January 8, March 12, and May 14 (Mother's Day).

For more information on Just Bakery and what your purchases support, visit <https://justdane.org/just-bakery/>.

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## Cribbage Tournament (and Uno, too!)

The Board of Membership and Fellowship (BOMF) is holding its first-ever Cribbage Tournament on Sunday, November 20, at 11:00 am. Varying skillsets are welcome though we ask participants to know how to play cribbage.

Separately (and not a tournament), we will have games of Uno and Uno Attack running for those that don't want to play cribbage and can even start some Go Fish games if need be!



[Registration](#) is requested for both the Cribbage Tournament and playing Uno/Uno Attack or Go Fish! by Monday, November 14.

The exact location at MCC will be determined by the number of participants that register. BOMF will provide sub sandwiches and drinks – please bring a snack or dessert to share.

# Adult Faith and Fellowship Opportunities

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**Adult Sunday School** – Have you ever wanted to talk about the sermon after worship? This month Zayna will be hosting talkback sessions on November 6 & 13. Please join us in the Gathering Room at **10:45 am each Sunday**.

If you'd like to be put on our mailing list, contact Lara Romine, [lararomine@gmail.com](mailto:lararomine@gmail.com).

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## Mind/Body/Spirit

This mindfulness group meets in the sanctuary every **1st and 3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm**. This month, we're going to share some articles related to mindfulness and self-awareness. Everyone is welcome! Please join us! [Contact Brian](#) for more information.

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## Choir

Join the MCC Choir! We are a welcoming group of individuals who enjoy singing and learning about music. Rehearsals are **Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm** and we sing in worship about twice per month. Come once to try it out if you're not sure. It's also a great way to connect with fellow MCC members!

Instrumentalists are needed for worship too! We can support and organize solos and ensembles. Contact Deb Neuman for more information: [mccmusic@mccucc.org](mailto:mccmusic@mccucc.org)

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**Adult Game and Craft Club** is a new Fellowship opportunity for adults to connect and socialize with relaxed and fun activities. Adults of all ages and abilities are encouraged to attend.

Join us in Fellowship Hall on the **third Wednesday of the month from 11:00 am-12:30 pm**. A light snack and beverage will be provided.

**Nov 16** – Holiday CARD MAKING with stamps

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**Tuesday Night Fellowship** - started a new book on October 25th. WHOLEHEARTED FAITH is a book begun by Rachel Hold Evans and finished after her death by Jess Chu. The book is

published by Harper One. Buy your own copy and join us **Tuesdays at 6 pm** in the Gathering Room for soup, bread, and dessert. Discussion starts at about 6:30, and we try to end by 7:30. Questions? Contact Dave Werner with questions at [davewerner86@gmail.com](mailto:davewerner86@gmail.com).

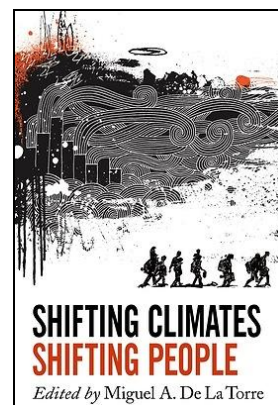
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## Coffee and Conversation



On **November 2**, we will finish our discussions on the book *Transforming* with the conclusion and the action items suggested.

We will start our new book, *Shifting Climates, Shifting People* from Pilgrim Press, edited by Miquel A. De La Torre. Each chapter is authored by a different “global voice for the continued study of environmental racism, it’s rootedness in colonialism, and it’s displacement of the poor and the colonized.”



### **November 16:** Introduction -Chapter 3

The group meets in a Hybrid format on the **first and third Wednesdays**. Church doors are open by 7:45 am, the discussion starts at 8:00. Coffee is brewed hot and fresh, hot tea is available also! Everyone is welcome at these discussions.

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**The Knitting Group** will start meeting again on Monday, November 7, using a hybrid style. Please contact Beth Michaels if you wish to join the group with Google Meet. We will meet in the Heritage Room and online at 6:30pm

If you enjoy any needlecraft and would like some fellowship while doing so, please email Beth at [bethmichaels57@gmail.com](mailto:bethmichaels57@gmail.com) to be added to the group’s email list. A link to join the hybrid meeting will be sent by email the day of the meeting.



# Children and Youth Faith and Fellowship Opportunities

## Connect in Sunday School!

We are happy to offer Sunday School for all ages at MCC!

On non-communion Sundays, we offer classes, after Moment with Children for **Preschool** (3 years-preK), **Elementary** (K-4 grade), **5/6 grades**, and **7/8 grades**.

**High School Youth** meet for Faith Formation on the second Sunday of each month from 6:30-8:00 pm. We serve a snack, and spend time learning, but also allow time for fellowship.

Please register your children to help keep our records, and permissions, up to date. Thank you!

[Children: Birth-4th Grade \(2022/23\)](#)

[Youth: 5th-12th grade \(2022/23\)](#)

## Climate Hope Cards

*Calling all UCC children and youth*

The UCC is launching a national art contest for children and youth that will be part of a larger campaign that will generate hope in making a difference when confronting the climate crisis.

**How to participate?:** Draw or paint about climate hope, environmental justice, or protecting the Earth. Winners will be selected after the contest ends on November 29.

[Click here to learn more and register](#)



## Bible Sunday

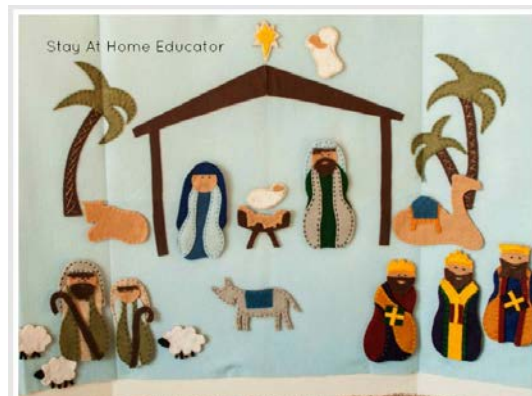
Do you have a child that is either 3 years old or in 3rd grade this year? (or do you have a 4-year-old or a 4th-grade student who has never received a Bible from MCC?) If so, we would love to gift them a Bible of their own, from the MCC congregation on Bible Sunday, November 6. If you would like your child to receive a Bible, please sign them up [here](#).

Getting your very own Bible is a special time for our children. Immediately following the presentation, we will take the older children, and any parents who wish to join us, to the Gathering Room as we begin to explore this very special book.



## Special Felt Nativity Set:

We are looking for a couple of crafty people to make a very special Nativity for our Preschool and Nursery friends.



I have received the free template from "Stay At Home Educator." Now I just need the talent to make this happen for our littlest little classrooms at MCC. If you are willing and able to make a set (or two) for us, please contact [Darci](#) for details **ASAP**.

## Family Advent Afternoon

December 4, 2:00-4:00 pm

Any who wish to join us – families with children, families with grown children or grandchildren, or those who are simply young at heart – are invited to join us for this fun, open-house style Advent Afternoon.

We will have stations where you can make a Nativity “gingerbread” Manger, special ornaments to add to our trees in the Sanctuary, and/or at-home Advent Wreaths. We will also have an array of storybooks available in the Heritage Room, Music and Movement (to



Christmas music, of course!), and an area for you to meet some new friends, or reconnect with old, putting together puzzles while enjoying a hot chocolate bar and cookies!

This event is open to the public! So invite some friends to join you. Bring along the Aunts, Uncles, cousins, or Grandparents! (there is NO age limit on this event. Seriously, everyone is welcome! You can even come by yourself.)

If you know you plan to attend, please RSVP by contacting Darci via email, text, or in person. You can also RSVP by signing up on the clipboard at the BOCE table in Fellowship Hall! We are also looking for people who would be willing to help with not only set-up and clean-up, but also to wander around tidying and restocking stations as needed. You can let us know you are ready to join the fun the same way: talk to, email, or text Darci, or simply sign-up at the BOCE table in Fellowship Hall!

## Advent Supply Requests:

Do you have any of these supplies just laying around your house taking up space? We'd love to put them to use making ornaments for our sanctuary trees this Advent season.

- Scrapbook paper or card stock in blues, purples, and gold (patterns are okay!)
- Card stock in dark blues, dark purples, or black. (Full sheets please)
- Scrap fabric, cut to 7 in x 10 inch, blues, and purples. (the darker the better)
- Cardboard pieces from things like cereal or cracker boxes (bonus if they are pre-cut into 6 in x 9 in pieces)
- Scrap ribbon (1/2 in-1 in) or scrap fabric that is full of blues, purples, and/or gold. (patterns are okay!)
- Watercolor paper

**Please deliver all items to church by Sunday, November 20.**

**New Items:** Stop by the BOCE table in Fellowship Hall and pick up cards with NEW items we need. We have one card for each item needed. Take one, or more. Once all the cards have been picked up, we know we can count on those supplies being brought to the church by November 20.

By picking up cards, it helps ensure we get “enough” of each item we need. If you are unable to make it to church to grab a card, contact Anne or Darci and we will help you pick one over the phone.

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***Masks are optional for church activities***

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# MCC Youth

## Middleton Community Church

### Crop Walk:

A huge THANK YOU to all who walked and donated to the CROP Walk.

The youth were well represented at the walk. The questions along the path inspired some lively conversations about hunger issues. The church raised \$2,681.00! (not pictured: Dave & Barb Werner who walked a route around MCC)



### November Youth Group - Challenge Night:

We will work in teams to accomplish some fun challenges! Which team will complete the challenges first? Join us for this fun-filled night! Invite your friends to join us.

[Middle School Youth Group](#) will meet November 20; [High School Youth Group](#) meets November 27, both from 6:30-8:00pm.

#### Remember:

#### **Middle School Youth Group**

is for Youth in 5-6-7-8 grades.

#### **High School Youth Group**

is for Youth in 9-10-11-12 grades!

**Friends are always welcome!**

### Opportunity for Interested High Schoolers:

Join with other local high schoolers for the Dane County High School Climate Action Conference: **Gen Z: Meeting the challenge of our changing environment.** It will be on Saturday, November 12, 8:30-4:30. [Click here to register and for more information.](#) Registration, lunch and parking are FREE. Please let Carol know if you are attending.



### SAVE THE DATES:

SERVING DINNER AT THE CROSSING

November 9

CHRISTMAS PARTY (MS & HS Youth Groups)

December 18

YOUTH GROUP RETREATS at Camp Balsams

January 20-22 (High School)

February 24-26 (Middle School)

**Thank You** to all the congregation for your kind welcome as your new Youth and Children Coordinator.

*We're off to a great start and I look forward to getting to know you better. Given there are many Carols in the congregation, my new nickname is Carol Bee. Bee is both for Bennington and because my family used to raise honeybees, so they are very special friends.*

## Camp Balsams News

Fall is a beautiful time of the year for a retreat at Camp Balsams, located 6 miles east of Eagle River on Bass Lake. The summer-only cabins are now closed for the winter, but Charlie's Cabin, a large modern accessible cabin with five bedrooms, is available year-round. There are multiple fall and winter outdoor activities to enjoy in the area. Church members may reserve Charlie's Cabin at a rate of \$100 per night by contacting Anne at the church office. MCC group retreat use is free. Healthcare services in the Eagle River area are limited. If anyone in your party has been exposed to COVID-19 or is experiencing symptoms, you should not travel to Camp Balsams.

In other news, the Camp Balsams Committee is working to make the camp more accessible to all. In early October, we installed a boardwalk that allows better access to the swimming pier (see photo). The boardwalk eliminates some steep slopes and crosses safely above some large tree roots. This coming spring, we plan to improve a new more gradual path leading down the slope from Charlie's Cabin toward the lake. Other accessibility improvements are under consideration.



## Adult Crafts and Games

Last month we hosted a great group of people and had a lot of fun making fall wreaths. This month, we'll gather on **November 16** for Holiday CARD MAKING with stamps.

Join us in Fellowship Hall on the **third Wednesday of each month from 11:00 am-12:30 pm**. A light snack and beverage will be provided.

## Save the Date – Pie Auction!

It's back!!

Start digging for those favorite pie recipes. The PIE AUCTION will return on February 12!

Save the date - more details to come!



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## Healing House Meals

The Healing House is a safe place for homeless families to stay while a family member recuperates after hospitalization. JustDane operates the facility providing supervision and limited medical care. Case managers from The Road Homework to help these families find permanent housing. The Road Home also coordinates the scheduling of many congregations (including MCC) that provide all dinner meals for those staying at The Healing House. A big thank you to those who provided

the October 9 and 10 meals. We served five family members.

MCC will next provide the January 15 and 16 meals, both to be delivered to the church on Sunday, January 15. Each cook provides a portion of one meal for at most 12 people. If you would like to join our team of meal cooks or have any questions, please contact Ross Michaels – [rossmichaels53@gmail.com](mailto:rossmichaels53@gmail.com). Watch for a sign-up sheet in early December for the January meals.

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## Post-COVID Transition Team Update

MCC's COVID response is tied to the current COVID-19 Community Level in Dane County. When the level is LOW, masking is completely optional. When it rises to MEDIUM, masks are required while singing. [Find the current level here.](#)

The Post-COVID Transition team will continue to monitor COVID conditions and may reinstate stricter policies if COVID transmission worsens again.

**Our church strives to provide as many opportunities to connect as possible, and for that reason, we are continuing the live-streamed service as well as hybrid activities. We will also continue streaming the service to Fellowship Hall, where worshipers are welcome to sit and watch the service.**

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Weber at [moderator@middletonucc.org](mailto:moderator@middletonucc.org)



“Like” our public page: [facebook.com/MiddletonCommunityChurch](https://facebook.com/MiddletonCommunityChurch)  
Join our Members & Friends group: [facebook.com/groups/mccmembersandfriends](https://facebook.com/groups/mccmembersandfriends)

**Office Hours:**

**Monday-Thursday 8am to noon**

**Stay in touch:** Contact the staff via phone and e-mail. If we don't answer the phone, please leave a message; our voicemail messages are automatically forwarded to staff email.

**Office:**  
**(608)831-4694**

**Pastor Zayna Thomley**

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**Anne Tennies, Office Manager**

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**Darci Warner, Faith Formation Director**

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**Carol Bennington,**

**Youth and Children Coordinator**

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**Deb Neuman, Music Director**

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**Barbara Brown, Pianist**

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Manager**

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**Website:**

[www.middletonucc.org](http://www.middletonucc.org)

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## Ways You Can Support Our Mission Partners

### **Middleton Outreach Ministry**

For current pantry hours and procedures, [Click HERE](#).

[Current Top 10 most requested items](#)

To donate, visit [momhelps.org](http://momhelps.org) and click "Donate."

### **The Road Home Dane County**

Support vulnerable families (including Healing House, a joint ministry with Just Dane).

Visit [trhome.org/](http://trhome.org/) and click "Donate."

### **MCPASD School Feeding Programs**

[Click HERE](#) for more information or to donate.

### **Madison Schools Feeding Programs**

free meals to all children 18 and under

Visit <https://food.madison.k12.wi.us> for times and locations for food distribution.

### **Middleton Youth Center**

[Click HERE](#), and then click "donate to the Youth Center here."

### **Orion Family Services**

Orion Family Services can now accept online donations at [www.orionfamilyservices.org](http://www.orionfamilyservices.org). If you're interested in getting updates about their work, you can sign up to receive their newsletter.

### **Horizon High School**

Visit [horizonhs.org](http://horizonhs.org) and click "Donate."

### **Wisconsin Conference UCC**

Emergency Response Fund to support churches facing significant financial challenges

Give online at [wcucc.org](http://wcucc.org) by clicking the red "Donate" button at the top of the page.

### **Dane County COVID-19 Emergency and Recovery Fund**

Funds will be split into two approaches: Short-term emergency and Long-term response and recovery. [Click HERE](#), then click "Donate Here."

### **Red Cross**

There is currently a severe blood shortage. To make an appointment, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)

Financial donations are also appreciated. [Click HERE](#) for all the ways you can donate.

### **Voces de la Frontera Direct Relief Fund: COVID-19 Relief for Undocumented Workers**

Voces de la Frontera, is raising critical funds to ensure the most vulnerable members of our communities will be able to meet their basic needs. Donate at <https://bit.ly/VocesReliefFund>

## MCC Care Ministry

If you would like a telephone check-in, please contact Jim Neuman at [jneuman253@gmail.com](mailto:jneuman253@gmail.com) or 829-0698. We can also help you problem-solve to get your needs met. The card team sends cards to members, friends, and immediate family who are at home or on our church prayer list.

If you would like to be a part of our Care Ministry, receive services or make a referral, contact Jim Neuman at 829-0698.



### Jamaica Fellowship Trip Update

The Jamaica leadership team has come to the conclusion that the number of youth interested in a Jamaica Fellowship trip is too small for a successful trip in 2023. Watch next year's Communicators for information about a trip in 2024.



## *Birthdays & Anniversaries!*

### Happy November Birthday!

Jon Audhya	Judith Nichols
Ryan Besadny	Bill O'Neal
Laura Crow	Carol Phelps
Peter Cupery	Jenny Pleva
Brook DesRivieres	Alin Pop-Vicas
Russell Doersch	Bethany Pottinger
Cristie Fredrickson	Alaina Ruffin
Eli Fredrickson	Chase Schoenke
Elane Frye	Emerson Schroeder
Tom Giessler	Evie Uminski
Nicky Hardy	Finn Uminski
Lauren Janikowski	Marisol VanDeWalle
Jeri Longino	Andrew Walther
Rebecca Lorfeld	Steve Wilson
Bob Mirshak	

*If we missed yours, please contact the church office.*

### Happy November Anniversary!

Geri & Peter Cupery  
Brook & John DesRivieres  
Jeff & Tamara Jackopin  
Cris Selin & Monica Stone  
Jessica & Tim St. Clair

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

# November 2022

Click the links to join the online meetings. Visit our [Google Calendar](#) for dial-in instructions.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>Sunday worship:</b> <b>9:30am</b> <b>In-Person and LiveStream</b> <b>at <a href="https://youtube.com/MiddletonUCC">youtube.com/MiddletonUCC</a></b></p>		<p>1 <b>10:30am</b> Pastoral Relations <b>1pm</b> Mad City Quilt Guild <b>6pm</b> Tuesday Night Fellowship</p>	<p>2 <b>8am</b> Coffee &amp; Conversation <b>H</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>7:45pm</b> A/V Tech Check</p>	<p>3 <b>11-1 pm</b> Pastor's Public Office Hours <b>6:30pm</b> Mindfulness <b>7:00pm</b> Elderberry Nbr Assn Mtg</p>	4	5
<p>6 <b>Bible Sunday</b> <b>9:30am</b> Communion Worship (<a href="#">YouTube</a>) <b>10:30am</b> Fellowship <b>10:45am</b> Adult Sun School <b>H</b></p>	<p>7 <b>10am</b> Staff Meeting <b>6:30pm</b> Knitting Group <b>H</b> <b>6:45pm</b> <a href="#">Bd of Christian Ed</a> <b>7pm</b> <a href="#">Board of Worship</a></p>	<p>8 <b>General Election</b>  <b>6pm</b> Tuesday Night Fellowship</p>	<p>9 <b>4pm</b> Food to church for The Crossing meal <b>6:30pm</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>7:45pm</b> A/V Tech Check</p>	10	11	12 <b>Diwali Festival</b>
<p>13 <b>Stewardship</b> <b>9:30am</b> Worship (<a href="#">YouTube</a>) <b>9:45am</b> Sunday School <b>10:30am</b> Just Bakery Fellow. <b>10:45am</b> Adult Sun School <b>H</b> <b>6:30-8pm</b> HS Sunday School</p>	<p>14 <b>10am</b> Staff Meeting  <b>6:30pm</b> <a href="#">Board of Finance</a> <a href="#">Bd of Membership and Fellowship</a> <a href="#">Board of Mission and Stewardship</a></p>	15  <b>6pm</b> Tuesday Night Fellowship	<p>16 <b>8am</b> Coffee &amp; Conv <b>H</b> <b>11am-12:30pm</b> Adult Game/Craft <b>6:30pm</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>7pm</b> Confirmation Mtg <b>7:45pm</b> A/V Tech Check</p>	<p>17 <b>11-1 pm</b> Pastor's Public Office Hours  <b>5:30pm</b> SWA Mtg <b>6:00pm</b> Condo Assn Mtg <b>6:30pm</b> Mindfulness</p>	18	19
<p>20 <b>9:30am</b> Worship (<a href="#">YouTube</a>) <b>9:45am</b> Sunday School <b>10:30am</b> Nominations Mtg <b>11am</b> Cribbage Tourn. <b>6:30-8pm</b> MS Youth Group</p>	<p>21 <b>10am</b> Staff Meeting  <b>6:45pm</b> Council Mtg <b>H</b></p>	22  <b>6pm</b> Tuesday Night Fellowship	23  <b>7:45pm</b> A/V Tech Check	24 <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>	25	26
<p>27 <b>9:30am</b> Worship (<a href="#">YouTube</a>) <b>9:45am</b> Sunday School <b>6:30-8pm</b> HS Youth Group</p>	<p>28 <b>10am</b> Staff Meeting  <b>7pm</b> Mad City Quilt Guild Meeting</p>	29  <b>6pm</b> Tuesday Night Fellowship	30  <b>6:30pm</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>7:45pm</b> A/V Tech Check			

*"Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all the other seasons." — Jim Bishop*

[BLUE](#) indicates online meetings/events

**H** indicates hybrid (in person or online)