

Middleton Community UCC The Communicator April 2023

MCC Beloved,

I love a wide variety of church music, as I know you do too! And I believe there is a place for all of it in the worship of our diverse congregation. But please allow me today to "geek out" a bit about traditional hymns for just a moment - I promise there is a point.

Throughout the 15th and 16th centuries it was common for christians to learn new hymns by singing new texts to familiar tunes with a matching meter. This is why we now have many hymns with different words but to the same melody. For example, the tune FINLANDIA provides the melody for both "Be Still My Soul" and "This is My Song" - both of which can be found in our hymnals at church (#488 and #591)

One of my favorite Easter hymns is actually a Christmas tune. "Now the Green Blade Rises" is set to the French NOEL NOUVELET from the 15th century. The original Christmas carol shouts "sing we now of Christmas!" and tells of shepherds in shock at the sight of angels, a virgin birth in a dusty barn, and stars that seemingly appear out of nowhere, yet somehow light the night. One miraculous sight after another.

The words for Easter's "Now the Green Blade Rises" (#238 in our hymnal), on the other hand, tell of a much quieter and far more mundane miracle - that of a single stalk of wheat coming back to life after an impossibly long winter:

Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain, Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain; Love lives again, that with the dead has been: Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

This has been an impossibly long winter (I write as I look out my window at the 13 inches of snow that fell on March 25th!). And yet I know under that frozen surface lies living, breathing earth: bulbs just waiting to burst open, worms turning over last year's soil, blades of grass waiting to spring back to their brightest greens.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

The promise of resurrection is on display all around us, year after year after year. The persistent drumbeat of God's "Yes" in a world of "No" never ceases. But empty tombs are quieter than full stables. And left-behind linens come with less noise than when they're wrapped around a newborn. As Easter Sunday approaches I give thanks for the quiet persistence of resurrection, the promise born anew more often than grains of wheat sprout in dark soil, ready once again to offer food in a world that thirsts and hungers for justice.

My prayer for you as we approach Easter Sunday is that you are greeted by the amazing promise of resurrection wherever you are, and that you are reminded ours is a God of second chances, late springs, and new life.

Christ is Risen, indeed! – Pastor Zayna

Pastor's Public Office Hours - Barriques on Old Sauk Road

Thursday April 20th - Only one opportunity this month!

Come share a cup of coffee, a quick treat, or just a conversation. Pastor Zayna will be working at Barriques from 11-1 and invites you to stop by for any (or no!) reason at all!

Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday: A kid's palm parade, the choir will sing, and we'll be making gluten free bread in worship with pastor and baker, Rev. Tisha Brown!

Holy Week Worship: The Board of Worship will host Holy Week Dinner Church on Wednesday, April 5th at 6:30pm. We will worship around tables in the sanctuary. We'll eat a simple meal, tell the story of Jesus' last days, and serve one another communion. Please RSVP to the office!

Good Friday: There will be a labyrinth in the sanctuary available for personal prayer and reflection from 4-7pm. Labyrinths are an ancient tool for mindful prayer using the whole body. Please enter the sanctuary in silence and plan to remove your shoes. The canvas Labyrinth has been generously loaned to MCC by First Congregational UCC in Janesville.

Easter Sunday: Once again we will celebrate Easter with two services on Sunday morning at 8:00 am and 9:30 am. The choir will be singing at both! Once again, Church members who are able to attend either service are encouraged to choose the 8:00am option to leave room for guests.



April Star Word Reflection Questions

- You received your star words in the dead of winter. If you pull it out now, what new life might you find in your word?
- Is your word related to resurrection? How or how not?
- How are you feeling about your word 1/3 of the way into the year?
 Take a few moments to write down your thoughts.





New this year! - Palm Sunday Singers

Meet in the sanctuary at 8:30 on Palm Sunday (April 2) and we will learn a song for the worship service that day. Families are encouraged to participate, though it is recommended that elementary students are readers for this one.

The song is unique, fun and easy for singers of all ages and experience. The regular choir will do the harmonies, and the rest will learn a short section that repeats.

Watch for more information. Email Deb with questions: mccmusic@middletonucc.org

Easter Offering

This year's Easter Sunday Special Offering will be collected to benefit <u>Solace Friends</u>, a new not-for-profit organization in Dane County.

The Need

Imagine having to face the end of your life without a roof over your head—sick and in pain, out in the elements with no bed, no bathroom, no medicine, and no one to help manage symptoms or provide even the most basic support and solace...

<u>The Vision</u>

All people will have access to safe and comfortable environs and to tender, expert caregiving as they are dying.



The Mission

Solace Friends' mission is to provide a place of compassionate, safe, comfortable presence and caregiving to our community's most vulnerable people as they prepare for the end of their lives.

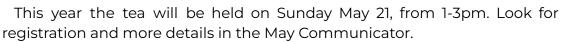
Solace Friends are in the process of renovating a local home they've purchased in which they will work to fulfill their mission. This is currently an unmet need in our community, and one that deserves our attention and support.

While much of the world has ignored these individuals throughout their lives, let us help them return to God's kindom with love, respect, and grace as they transition beyond this life.

Online donations can be made through April 12.

Celebrate Women's Tea – Save the Date

Spring is coming and that means it's time for the Celebrate Women's Tea! The tea is open to anyone and everyone who has a woman in their life they would like to celebrate.





Neighbor Day - Save the Date

Neighbor Day will be a true community event, a day of service and celebration and a chance to finally get to know our neighbors! Partners include Forward Garden, Pope Farm Elementary, the neighborhood assns, and more! Mark your calendars for **Sunday**, **August 27**, and watch for details!

100th Prayer Shawl!

Recently the 100 th prayer shawl was donated to our Prayer Shawl Ministry! Since 2013 knitters and crocheters have been busy creating shawls. Thank You!

These prayer shawls are available for you to gift to someone who might appreciate a "hug from God". Located on a rack in Fellowship Hall, please select a shawl to gift and sign out in the notebook by matching the number on the shawl tag with the number in the notebook.

Sometimes a shawl is too big! Also available are "pocket" prayer shawls. Pocket prayer shawls – or comfort cloths – do easily slip into your pocket. These PPS are located in a container next to the shawl rack. There are also kits available with knit and crochet patterns.

If you would like to help with this ministry, please know that any color, shape and design are warmly welcomed and appreciated. For more information, please contact Joan Richner.

#HATNOTHATE

Calling all who knit or crochet! #HATNOTHATE is an anti-bullying campaign that began in 2018. October is National Bullying Prevention Month. This campaign reaches across our nation by offering school assemblies and distributes hand-made blue hats to students.

Why blue? This color represents awareness, peace, and solidarity. It is the color chosen to wear in support of anti-bullying. The founder of this campaign, Shira Blumenthal, was bullied as an elementary student. Since 2018 over 106,000 hats have ####

Hats need to be made of 75% blue yarn. Hat circumference should be 16-20" to fit kids who are 5-18 years old. Pom-poms are optional. Any design is appreciated.

Hats for October 2023, Anti-bullying Month, need to be received by July 16. On display in Fellowship Hall are copies of Shira's story, knit and crochet patterns, and yarn that has been donated. A collection container for completed hats is also available. And, there is a basket on the table for any yarn donations.

Questions? Please contact Joan Richner at bjrichner@gmail.com or 608-228-2500.

Earth Day Every Day!!! EV Car & Sustainability Show

April 29, 2023 – 10am to 2pm Middleton Community Church, 645 Schewe Road, Middleton, WI

- Talk to Electric vehicle owners about what it is like to own and drive an EV!
- Learn about the short and long term benefits of Solar energy!
- Learn about the little things we can do in our daily lives that will help slow the negative effects of climate change!
- Bring the whole family and have fun learning about the many ways we can work together, towards a better, more livable future!!
- Free, freshly popped popcorn, kids games, food trucks!



Adult Sunday School – April 16-30 Who is Jesus: How Can Christians Relate to Other Faith Traditions

The first three weeks of this study we will watch and discuss brief videos by Carl Medearis, an international expert in the field of Arab-American and Muslim-Christian relations. We will also have a visit from Rabbi Bonnie Margulis on Sunday, May 21.

April 16 - "The Word 'Christian"

■ The Word "Christian"

What do we mean when we use the label "Christian"? Does the label mean we are actually following the way of Jesus?

April 23 - "If I Say 'Jesus', You Say ..."

■ If I Say Jesus, You Say...

Who is this man who by his word calmed the storm? Have we domesticated Jesus and lost the mystery and power of faith?

April 30 - "Muslims, Christians, and Jesus"

■ 269: Muslims and Christians w/Carl Medearis We will view a short excerpt from this Holy Post Podcast interview by Phil Vischer with Carl Medearis (interview begins at minute 29; we will watch approx minute 38-48)

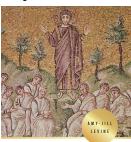
Thoughts on why "Do Muslims and Christians worship the same God?" is the wrong question and ways to engage positively with our Muslim neighbors

Tuesday Night Fellowship – Beginning April 11 Considering the Sermon on the Mount with Amy-Jill Levine

Beginning April 11th, we'll gather for a soup supper on Tuesdays at 6pm in the gathering room at MCC. Group members sign up to provide meal elements--soup, bread and beverage, and dessert. About 6:30, we move to discussion. We'll view a short video (9-13 minutes) and discuss it. About 7:30 we do the dishes.

The blurb on the DVD reads: "In Sermon on the Mount, Dr. Amy-Jill Levine takes a detailed and colorful overview of Matthew 5-7, collectively known as Jesus's Sermon on the Mount. Through her engaging method of biblical interpretation, readers will come away

with a solid understanding of the Sermon on the Mount in its historical and theological context." So we'll want to read Matthew 5-7. Maybe more than once.



SERMON on the MOUNT

Questions about TNF?
Contact Dave Werner at golfandpreach@juno.com or 608.826.0319. This is presently an in-person class unless Dave can be taught how to get the video onto the screen and out into the Vast Internet.

Volunteers Needed to Pre-Pack MOM Delivery Orders

Volunteers are needed Wednesday, April 12, at Middleton Outreach Ministry from 1:30-3:30!

Volunteers will pack grocery bags for M.O.M. clients who receive home deliveries. You can sign up at the Board of Mission & Stewardship table next to the Sanctuary doors, or you can sign up online at: http://bit.ly/40nlfgz

Note: Wed 4/12 is an asynchronous learning day for Middleton High School students (all but 10th grade), so this is a great opportunity for HS youth to give back.

Students aged 12-15 are welcome to volunteer with an accompanying adult. Any adults are welcome to participate, as well!

Adult Faith and Fellowship Opportunities

Adult Sunday School will meet in the Gathering Room after Sunday worship on April 16, 23, and 30 for a series on how Christians can relate to other faith traditions. See page 5 for more details. To join our mailing list, contact Laura Crow at laura4ever12crow@gmail.com.

Mind/Body/Spirit

This mindfulness group meets in the sanctuary every 1st and 3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm. In April, our schedule is adjusted to fit around Holy Week and we'll be having some guest speakers. Chris Roberts of The Foundry Spiritual Center will attend and lead our group on April 13. Sandy Salvo of Centered Connections will attend and lead our group on April 20.

Everyone is welcome! Please join us! <u>Contact</u> <u>Brian at BrianWKoenigl@gmail.com</u> for more information.

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

Adult Games and Crafts

This fellowship group meets on the **third** Wednesday of the month from 11am-12:30pm. Join us on April 19 to make decorative coasters perfect for graduation or Mother's Day gifts or just to add a splash of color and whimsy to your spring and summer entertaining! Snacks and beverages provided.

Tuesday Night Fellowship will begin considering *Sermon on the Mount* by Amy-Jill Levine. See page 5 for more details. Beginning April 11th, we'll gather for a soup supper on **Tuesdays at 6pm** in the gathering room at MCC. Group members sign up to provide meal elements--soup, bread and beverage, and dessert. About 6:30, we move to discussion. We'll view a short video (9-13 minutes) and discuss it. About 7:30 we do the dishes.

Questions? Contact Dave Werner at golfandpreach@juno.com or 608.826.0319.

Coffee and Conversation

This 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 and hot chocolate are also available!



We're currently reading See No Stranger: A Memoir and Manifesto of Revolutionary Love By Valarie Kaur. After our first discussion, we decided to slow the book down a bit. We will be discussing chapter 2 on April 5, and chapter 3 and 4 on April 19.

Everyone is welcome at these discussions.

The Knitting Group will meet twice in April. On Thursday, April 13 we will meet at 11:00am in the Heritage Room. On Thursday, March 27 we will meet at 6:30pm in the Heritage Room. If you enjoy any needlecraft and would like some fellowship while doing so, please email Beth Michaels at bethmichaels57@gmail.com or simply show up at one of our meetings.

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.

Our friends who are in 4th-12th grade are encouraged to reach out to <u>Rich Pleva</u> and sign up to do liturgy if they are interested. This involves leading the call to worship and reading scripture during worship.

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)

Masks are optional for church activities

Join us for the Easter Egg Hunt April 9, after the 9:30 Easter Service

Be sure to bring a basket or bag to collect your eggs! We will have a separate area for our friends who are under 3 to pick up eggs!



Vacation Bible School Camp Update:

The status of Vacation Bible School Camp is still being determined after the news of Darci's resignation. We will get information and registration information out to parents as soon as we know more. Thank you for your understanding. –Board of Christian Education

Summer Servants

June 12-15 | 12:30-5:00 pm | \$75

It's time to register your Youth for Summer Servants! This is a time when we come together to learn about various community programs around the metropolitan area, and to serve with them. We are still working out the details of what all we will be doing, but I can tell you it's going to be good!

Space is limited! So don't delay registering your Youth. Those who will be entering 5th

grade for the 2023-24 school year are welcome to sign up! They are officially part of the Youth Group in June! The oldest Youth that can participate are those who will be entering 9th grade next year.

Register here and watch for updates on what exactly we will be doing. As always, scholarships are available! Please talk to Darci if you need one.



April Youth Groups Celebrate Earth Day

Middle School Youth Group

Sunday, April 16 6:30 – 8:00 pm Sign-up here.

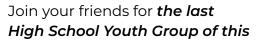
Sign-up deadline: Wed, April 12

Join your friends to celebrate Earth Day.
Our activity will be mounting the bird houses we made at a previous youth group meeting in our church meadow. We'll also enjoy some games, snacks and socializing.
Friends are welcome; they need to sign-up too.

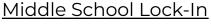
High School Youth Group

Sunday, April 23 6:30 – 8:00 pm Sign-up here.

Sign-up deadline: Wed, April 19



school year and to celebrate Earth Day. In addition to socializing with your friends and sharing a snack, we'll be planting a Bur Oak tree at church. There will be a contest to name "our" tree. Bring your ideas for names. We'll briefly discuss what you'd like the youth group to do regarding environmental action in the future, and review a couple of tools to help with climate anxiety. Friends are welcome; they need to sign-up too.



Friday, April 28, 5:30pm - Saturday, April 29, 10:00am



The lock-in will begin with making your own pizza for dinner, followed with games and a movie. It will conclude after breakfast at 10am. Then you and your family are invited to attend the EV & Sustainability Show at the church.

Size is limited so register early. A reminder will be

sent to registrants later with more details including what to bring with you.

Cost: \$10.00 per person.
Registration Required!

Register here.

Registration deadline, Sunday, April 23

Camp Balsams: Our Lakeside Retreat Online Summer Reservation Procedures for 2023

Camp Balsams is a personal, family and group retreat, owned by Middleton Community Church, United Church of Christ. Located on the shore of Bass Lake, five miles east of Eagle River, Wisconsin, it is perfect for active family fun: fishing, swimming, or hiking. Camp Balsams is also perfect for quiet spiritual retreat, cooking s'mores, singing songs, counting stars, and sharing faith around the fire.

We own five cabins rentable by MCC members for the summer season, this year from May 23 through October 5. One of those, Charlie's Cabin, is rentable year-round.

Cabin rental rates were raised for the first time since 2015 to help ensure our future financial viability. Beginning with the summer season, the weekly rates are as follows: Cabin 2-\$245; Cabin 3-\$420; Cabin 4-\$385; Cabin 5-\$490; Charlie's Cabin-\$805. No deposit is required.

It is the intention of the Camp Balsams Committee that the camp be accessible to all members. If the rates present a hardship, please contact <u>Pastor Zayna</u> or one of the camp co-chairs, <u>Ross Michaels</u> or <u>Joe Tennies</u>.

Sign Up Schedule

The weekly schedule will be updated online in real time through the end of March at the following link: http://www.middletonucc.org/2021/01/20/balsams-schedule/

*Currently: Member households may reserve any cabin for any 7-day weeks

*Beginning April 3: Member households may reserve any cabin for individual days

*Reserve cabin by emailing Anne Tennies mccucc@middletonucc.org

Spring Retreats at Camp Balsams

Camp Balsams is a great base camp for your personal retreat in the north woods during the late winter and early spring. Charlie's Cabin is open year-round and is a warm and inviting place for relaxing, reading, and sharing good fellowship.

Please contact <u>Anne</u> in the church office about spring openings.



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

mccpastor@middletonucc.org

Anne Tennies, Office Manager

mccucc@middletonucc.org

Darci Warner, Faith Formation Director

mccfaithformation@middletonucc.org

Carol Bennington, Youth and Children Coordinator

mccvouth@middletonucc.org

Deb Neuman, Music Director

mccmusic@middletonucc.org

Barbara Brown, Pianist

mccpianist@middletonucc.org

Gary Eckstein, Building & Grounds Manager

mccbuildingmanager@middletonucc.org

Website:

www.middletonucc.org

Middleton Outreach Ministry Needs Your Help

As a member of the MOM Community Service Council, I attended a meeting where Executive Director Ellen Carlson told the group that the food pantry really needs **food donations and plastic and paper bags**. The increased need for food is due to the 116% increase in households that use the food pantry and the same supply chain problems that have plagued every aspect of the marketplace.

In response to this request the MOM donation barrel will be placed in the front entry to the church so that you can leave your donations there and I will collect them weekly and take them to the MOM pantry.

Another easy way to donate food is to go to the MOMhelps.org website, select the

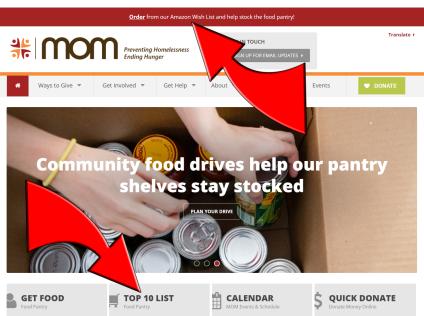
TOP 10 tab at the bottom of the main

page and then select "Wish List" at the bottom of the Top 10 needs page. You can then make your selections from Amazon with a couple of clicks that will be shipped directly to MOM.

MOM's Food Pantry Wish List

Thank you in advance for your continued support of MOM and the people they serve. –Jim Neuman

Questions? <u>ineuman253@gmail.com</u> or call/text 608-347-4911.





With Grief and Gratitude – Staff Update at MCC

MCC Beloved,

For five years Darci Warner has been a steady source of love and leadership in our congregation. She has served with passion and compassion through multiple pastoral transitions and a global pandemic. It has been my great pleasure to work with her in my first year as your pastor. And so it is with both great sadness and a deep sense of gratitude that I inform you of her resignation as faith formation director at MCC. Her generous spirit and hard work will be truly missed.

Darci's family has recently made the very difficult decision to move out of state for personal reasons. She has loved working with MCC and having to leave her work here will be a mutual loss. In her time as faith formation director. Darci has built a successful vouth ministry, supported Sunday school teachers through the many transitions of the pandemic, led multiple youth retreats, inspired kids through Summer Servants, and brought them iov at Vacation Bible School. She supports our adult education groups, shows up for families time and again, and even keeps the Free Little Pantry stocked. I imagine we will only learn more about the many things she does for our community as we reckon with her absence. But most impressively, Darci has shown the love of Christ in sincere and powerful ways to members of every age at MCC.

Darci's last day will be Sunday, May 14th. In the weeks ahead the Personnel Committee will work closely with the Church Council and the Board of Christian Education to begin the



hiring process as soon as possible. The good news is that we are well suited to hire, being able to offer a full time position with benefits in a stable and growing congregation. Exciting things are happening at MCC and while losing one of our best will be painful, the good work that Darci has done here will not come to an end. In the meantime your patience and help will be welcome and needed as we find creative ways to fill the gap over the summer.

For now I hope we will take this opportunity to celebrate and grieve all that Darci has been for our community. Please stay tuned for more information. Middleton Community Church is a strong, loving, and resilient community and I am confident we will remain so through yet another transition.

Yours.

Pastor Zayna, mccpastor@middletonucc.org Personnel Cmte: Brian Koenig and Karil Walther Moderators: Sarah Sund and Liz Fritz BOCE Chair: Stephanie Birmingham

MCC Care Ministry

If you would like a telephone check-in, please contact Jim Neuman at ineuman253@gmail.com or 347-4911. 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 347-4911.



LGBTQ+ Acceptance in Mainline Denominations in Western Wisconsin

This survey will explore specific effectiveness in language used in religious communities within the tri-state area in expressing acceptance and welcome for LGBTQ+ individuals and families

You are invited to take a confidential online survey that will take about 10 minutes if you:

- Over the age of 18
- Identify currently or historically with both/or LGBTQ+ identity, religious identity, or interest in either
- · Identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, or any sexual minority identity
- Identify as any gender identity (trans inclusive)
- · Reside within the Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa area

Scan the QR code to get instant access to the survey



Option to enter a raffle to win one of ten gift cards, valued at \$10

If you're unable to scan the QR code, please reference the link below https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SLV2P2V



A group of MCC members and friends gathered to watch a reading of Gavin Lawrence's "The Barber and the Unknown Prince" at American Players Theater, followed by a talk-back with the actors. APT's Artistic Director, Brenda DeVita, was so impressed with the size of our group that she joined our group photo!

Information about next year's Winter Words outing should be in the January Communicator.

Orion Family Services - Open House

Orion Family Services has moved, and they're hosting two open house celebrations. One of MCC's mission partners, Orion Family Services is a private, nonprofit organization that serves individuals, children, adolescents and families throughout southern Wisconsin through therapy and other critical outreach services.

<u>Click here to RSVP</u>: https://forms.office.com/r/sP5BUeEHna

East Office Open House:

Friday, April 14, 4-6pm 4726 E Towne Blvd, Suite 215, Madison

West Office Open House:

Friday, April 28, 4-6pm 26 Schroeder Ct, Suite 210, Madison



Ouestions? 608-270-2511



Like" our public page: facebook.com/MiddletonCommunityChurch
Join our Members & Friends group: facebook.com/groups/mccmembersandfriends



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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy April Birthday!

Logan Anderson Mark Opitz

Alexander Bergman Philip Petrowski

Claire Borchert Leilani Robertson-Hoyt

Peter Burke Emily Sage
Ryann Chandler Scott Sage
Amelia Crow Kevin Statz
Dave Fredrickson Bob Stoehr
Leona Fredrickson Grace Stolen
Mason Fuerst Gina Tank
Larry Gustafson Arno Vater
Gwen Hardy Steve Wallma

Gwen Hardy Steve Wallman
Dane Janikowski Kevin Walther
Marge Lorfeld Darci Warner
Janie Miller Mary Wilson

If we missed yours, please contact the office.

Happy April Anniversary!

Erica & Mike Avery

Jennifer & Shayne Fickling

Mark & Rhonda Gessler

Sherrill & Tom Giessler

Bob & Courtney Maher

Sue & Rick Olsen

Barbara & John Snell

Anne & Joe Tennies

Barbara Vater & Dale Slusser

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

April 2023

Click the links to join the online meetings. Visit our <u>Google Calendar</u> for dial-in instructions.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1.114	' ' '	
Sunday worship: 9:30am In-Person and LiveStream at <u>youtube.com/MiddletonUCC</u>						1
Palm Sunday 8:30am Pop-Up Choir 9:30am	3 10am Staff Meeting 6:45pm	4 Spring Election	5 8am Coffee & Conv H	6 6-8pm	7 Good Friday	8 9:30am Sanctuary Arts
Worship (<u>YouTube</u>) 10:30am Fellowship	Bd of Christian Ed 7pm Board of Worship	1pm Mad City Quilt Guild	6:30pm Holy Week Dinner Church	Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm A/V Tech Check	4-7pm Labyrinth	
9 8:00am Easter Worship with Communion 9:30am Easter Worship with Communion (YouTube) 10:30am Easter Egg Hunt	10 Easter Monday Office Closed 6:30pm Board of Finance Bd of Membership and Fellowship Board of Mission and Stewardship	6pm Tuesday Night Fellowship	6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm A/V Tech Check	13 Ilam Knitting Group 5:30pm SWA Mtg 6:30pm Mindfulness	14	15
9:30am Worship (YouTube) 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Fellowship Adult Sun. School 6:30-8pm MS Youth Group	17 10am Staff Meeting 6:45pm Council Mtg H	18 6pm Tuesday Night Fellowship	8am Coffee & Conv H Ilam Adult Game/Craft 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal Confirmation 7:45pm A/V Tech Check	9am Pastoral Relations Committee Mtg 11-1 pm Pastor's Public Office Hours 6:30pm Mindfulness	21	All Day Confirmation Retreat
9:30am Worship (YouTube) 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Fellowship Adult Sun. School 6:30-8pm HS Youth Group	24 10am Staff Meeting 7pm Mad City Quilt Guild	25 6pm Tuesday Night Fellowship 7pm Neighbor Day Meeting	6:30pm Confirmation Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm A/V Tech Check	27 6:30pm Knitting Group	6:30pm Middle School Lock-In (until 10am Sat)	29 10am-2pm Earth Day Every Day EV Car & Sustainability Show
30 9:30am Confirm. Youth & Mentor-led Worship (YouTube) 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Fellowship Adult Sun. School	"They came on one of April's most brilliant days – a day as sparkling as a newly-washed lemon a day when even the shadows were a melange of blue and orange and jade, like the shadows that poured from the tipsy brush of Monet." – Beverley Nichols					