

Our Light

www.middleburyumc.org

*Your word is a lamp to my feet,
and a light to my path.
Psalm 119:105*

September 2011

The United Methodist Parish Newsletter
Middlebury ♦ East Middlebury

Whether you are a member of the Middlebury or East Middlebury congregation, a local resident, or a visitor to our area, you are invited and welcome to attend and participate in all activities and events mentioned in this newsletter.

From the Pastor

There are moments and days that change the world forever. You never forget where you were when you got the news about certain events. The first moon landing, for example, or the assassination of a world leader. I am too young to remember the day John Kennedy was shot, and much too young to remember Pearl Harbor. But the day that will always be vivid in my memory is September 11, 2001.

I was at my desk at home working on the church bulletin and doing some scheduling on the calendar. I had spoken with my dad the night before to confirm plans to travel to California to spend Thanksgiving with my brother, and I remembered that I needed to make kennel reservations for my dogs. When I called, the woman said, "I hope the planes are back in the air by then." I asked her what she meant. She told me that airplanes had flown into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and that all flights had been grounded.

I immediately turned on my television set and remained glued to the screen for much of the next week, like so many other people. For much of the first couple of days, I kept hoping that the rescue workers would find someone alive in the rubble of the World Trade Center, but there were only a couple of people brought out alive. I watched the coverage of the President visiting the site and declaring that those responsible would be brought to justice. And I watched the reaction of crowds in Arab nations, cheering because of the tragedy that had befallen us.

I couldn't believe that anyone would be so evil as to come up with such a scheme as to fly commercial planes full of innocent civilians into heavily populated targets. Why would anyone want to kill all those people? And I admit, my first reaction was to want to go after the people who

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were responsible and get revenge. But over the days and weeks that followed, I wondered more and more about how we could really ever prevent something like that from happening again if we only relied on military action, using violence to end violence.

I had church members with connections to people who died on 9/11. And I have had church members since that day who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan. While there is much diversity of opinion about the war on terror, I have been relieved to see that the support for our military personnel and their families has been good for the most part. I have nothing but admiration for the men and women who are willing to put their lives on the line for our country.

As we prepare to commemorate the tenth anniversary of 9/11, we are planning a memorial service for our regular morning worship on September 11. We will be remembering those killed on that day, and in the years of war since then. We will recognize any who are present who are firefighters, police officers, EMT personnel, or who serve in the military or are veterans. And we will celebrate Holy Communion together. I invite you to come and to share with us on this emotional day that has so changed our nation and our world.

- Pastor Elisabeth

9/11 Memorial Services

On this 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks on our country, we will have a memorial service during regular morning worship at both East Middlebury and Middlebury. Be sure to invite anyone who has served in the military or works as a firefighter, police officer, or EMT. We will have special music and prayers, as well as Holy Communion.

Contemporary Worship to Begin September 14

Members of both congregations are invited to our new contemporary worship service which will be held at the Middlebury church on Wednesday evenings at 7:00; the first of these services will be held on **September 14**. We will be using worship music videos and singing lots of contemporary praise songs. There will be prayer, scripture reading, and a brief message. Invite your neighbors or colleagues who don't attend church to give it a try!

Middlebury Potluck and Brainstorming

On **Sunday, September 25** the Middlebury church will have a potluck after worship. In addition to being a good time of fellowship, this will also be a time of brainstorming about the future. We will have some questions for discussion around the tables and a time to have some group reflection.

Spirituality Group Resumes

The first meeting of the new year for the Spirituality Group will be **Tuesday September 20th** at 1:00 at Mimi's Home. It will be a time to get together after a busy summer that seemed to fly by. At our meeting we will decide how often we want to meet and what topics we wish to discuss. It will be good to see you all again and to welcome Elisabeth to our group.

News from East Middlebury

Sunday School starts on **September 18.** Thanks so much to faithful Irene and Sandy; we trust it will be a good year for both the children and teachers.

Ron came and mowed the church's back lot. Thanks SO much! Then there's Doug who gave his all, including a trip to the ER, installing a light over the entry at church. And our other big hero is Rene Tougas who came and removed a huge limb after the big storm went through. Thanks, guys!

Middlebury United Methodist Women

Here it is almost September and time to begin all our church activities. It is exciting to have Elisabeth here and many new ideas to work with this coming year.

Our first UMW meeting will be at Mimi's house **Monday September 19th** at 2:00 pm. We have been asked to serve a dinner for a group of Prime Timers at the church the evening of September 28th. That will be on the agenda for the 19th. I have taken the liberty of scheduling the Fall Rummage Sale for the week of October 17th with the sale and bake sale on Friday and Saturday the 21st and 22nd. If this is not a good time we can reschedule it at our meeting. However, I will be in Germany from November 1st until the 30th. We will have a discussion of the monies we need to give to our various missions at the meeting also, so please try to be present. We now have a competition with the Men's group who are determined to keep up with us.

It has been a hard summer for our hard working friend Eileen and we hope that she will be back to join us in September. She has been in our prayers for many weeks and we still keep her there as she continues to recover.

See you all in church and on September 19th.
- Mimi

Middlebury Adult Choir Resumes in September



Choir practice begins **Thursday, September 8** at 7 p.m. at the Middlebury UMC. The choir will be singing for the first time on Sunday, September 11 under the direction of Dr. Kevin Parizo.

September is a good time to make a new commitment to the choir. Kevin and the choir do not only make music together, they support each other through prayer and Christian companionship.

You are invited to join the choir this September.

Good News! From Middlebury Finance

It is time to share some good news with our church families. The first item is the results, up to this date, of our request for contributions to replace half the parsonage roof (the other half is fine). The cost of this work is \$4,200. We have received \$5,232 so far, including the generous response of \$2,100 from the folks at the East Middlebury Church. They went over their financial allotted 25% of shared parsonage expenses, and provided half of the roof amount. As we total up the numbers, it is apparent that we could not have met our goal without this contribution.

When we wrote the letter asking our church family for this funding, we voted that any money that was over the amount needed for the roof would go into the parsonage fund. This fund, used for necessities that come up for the parsonage, is sadly depleted. There used to be a line item in the regular annual Middlebury church budget to put funds into this parsonage account. It is my understanding that this has not been an item in the church budget in some years. So, the balance of the contributions, \$1,032 will be a welcome and necessary addition to this account. Some of the previous balance was expended during the recent pastoral transition for carpet cleaning and drapery dry cleaning, etc, with other supplies being donated by volunteer workers. I think it is important that folks realize there is a lot "giving" going on, quietly behind the scenes. All the folks that helped financially and as volunteers really deserve "stars in their crowns". Many thanks to all!

Item number two of good news, is that we had been told to expect a monumental increase of 39% in the cost of our church building insurance, as of August 1st. We were stunned and upset about this possible percentage increase. BUT, we received a letter from the New England Conference Insurance folks this past week telling us that after a lot of hard work on their part, they have found a new insurance carrier, and the increase is only 4%. Hallelujah !!!

As we go into the fall, we still face some serious gaps in our regular budget. Please consider this in your prayers and hearts, especially as the heating season approaches. At the end of the year, we have to consider how we are going to meet our budget obligations. NONE of us likes to have to consider using our special savings account (the Arnold Fund, etc), so now is the time to be thinking how we can meet our budget without doing that. We would welcome your suggestions and help. I will try to give you a regular budget update in the next newsletter. Blessings to all !

Margaret Klohck
Finance Chairperson

"Our Light" Editor to head Westward

Linda Connor, our intrepid editor of "Our Light" will be moving from our area in early September. Her technological talents, her organizational abilities for both the mystery theatre ventures and the pancake suppers, her presence in the choir, and her role in the administrative council are several ways in which she has faithfully served our church in these past years. The friendly smile, the caring manner, the genuineness of who she is, will be part of the loss we will all experience as she moves to Bakersfield, CA, to live with her sister.

We will recognize Linda on Sunday, **September 4**, at the Middlebury church service and afterwards in a fellowship time together. We pray for God's blessings and strength as she travels to new vistas.

This article has been printed under Linda's protest, but with strong backing from her many friends to be sure it is included in this issue of "Our Light".

**Let the good times roll –
With a game of Bocce**

To benefit the special programs of the Counseling Service of Addison County (Equestrian Program, Summer Forest Program, Emergency Team)



Saturday, September 10, 2011 9:30-1 p.m.
Athletic fields next to Mary Hogan School, Middlebury

The Counseling Service of Addison County is pleased to introduce the game of Bocce as a fundraiser to Addison County. Middlebury's Rec Dept. will host our tournament on the athletic fields next to Mary Hogan's Elementary School. Players of all levels are invited to sign up as a team. Basic instruction will be included. Each team can have 2-4 players, 16 teams will compete for the top prize. **Our very own Men's Club will be participating as a team!** Everyone is invited to the games; there is no charge, but please consider making a small donation.

Let the games begin!

**Pictorial Directory Update:
September 15 is Next Date for Taking Pictures**



After two days of picture taking on August 15 and 16 over forty family units (1 to 5 people) had their pictures taken at the Middlebury Church. These persons will receive a free directory and one free enlarged photograph of the picture they choose to be in the directory.

The next day for taking pictures if you missed the first two, will be on **Thursday, September 15**. The slots are filling up quickly, so be sure to contact Betty Davis for East Middlebury (388-7139) or Ann Rowell for Middlebury (388-8410). If we need a fourth day for picture-taking, we will apply for that, so it is important to know as soon as possible your choice of times for this date in September.

If you have any photos of activities in the past year or so at either church, we'd be happy to look at these for inclusion on our activity pages in the directory. (Bring your pictures to either church on **Sunday, September 27**, or email digital copies to Lconnor@gmavt.net) We will also have a military page to recognize those from our congregations currently serving in the military. If your son or daughter, grandson or granddaughter, niece or nephew is currently serving in the military we would like a picture. Please contact Linda Connor as soon as possible (388-0838 or Lconnor@gmavt.net)

Please let either Betty or Ann know if there have been any changes in your address, phone number and e-mail in the last year or so, in order that we have the correct listing for you in the directory.

It will be helpful and fun to have a new way of locating people in both churches.



We include the following in our prayers:



Adkins' cousin, Tim
 Betty Austin
 Mona Austin
 Jay Banta
 Marian Barnett
 Nathan Bilodeau
 Madeline Cone
 Julie Coons'
 mother, Joan

Terry DeYoung
 Cora Dragon
 Sue Flanagan
 Betty Hampel
 Jim Holden
 Bea Jochum
 Tammy Keller
 Burt Kimball
 Pam Ladeau

Joan Malloy
 Cara Marshall
 Murray family
 Myers family
 Zander Paige
 Caroline Perine
 Cliff Piper
 Mary Jo Richards
 Eileen Rinker

Len Rowell's
 sister, Andrea
 Chal Schley
 Doris Senecal
 Doug Tolles
 Bob Warner
 Marg Wesley's
 sister, Frances
 Barbara Wheelock

*Worship
 in September*

September 4

Pastor Away, Guest Preacher Clay Wagner

September 11

9/11 Memorial Service / Communion

“Is There No Balm in Gilead?”

Psalm 46; Jeremiah 8:21-9:1; John 15:12-13

September 18

“It’s Not Fair”

Psalm 114; Matthew 20: 1-16; Philippians 1:21-30

September 25

“Getting Water From a Rock”

Psalm 78; Exodus 17:1-7; Matthew 21:28-32

Outdoor Worship Service—September 17

Plans are underway to hold an outdoor contemporary worship service with communion, followed by a cook out and fellowship. This contemporary service will be held on Saturday, September 17 at 3:00 p.m. in the Green Mountain National Forest at Texas Falls Recreation Area, in Hancock, Vermont. A free will offering will be taken to help offset the cost of hamburgers and hotdogs—any excess will be donated to the Charter House. Please bring a dish to share along with your own plates and utensils. For more information, please contact Don Jochum (759-2471) or djochum@madriver.net.

*** *And Looking Ahead.....to October* ***



WHAT: 34th Annual Addison County CROP Hunger Walk.
WHEN: Sunday, October 2, 1:00 p.m.
WHERE: Middlebury Town Green
WHO: Addison County Townspeople and Middlebury College Students

Mimi Hardy is once again coordinator for the walk. She will be distributing registration forms soon. Please mark your calendars and plan to participate by walking or sponsoring someone from our church who will be walking.

Elisabeth von Trapp to sing at Middlebury UMC on October 9

Mark your calendars now for a special treat. On Sunday afternoon, **October 9**, at 4:00 p.m., Elisabeth von Trapp will present a song recital at our church. She is currently on a "Methodist" tour of churches throughout Vermont.

Ms. von Trapp is a granddaughter of the famous Maria von Trapp, whose life and that of her family, was captured in the stage play and movie "The Sound of Music". The von Trapp family settled in Vermont after leaving Austria prior to the second world war. They toured the country as a singing group. Elisabeth is a worthy descendent of that tradition.

We hope that you will plan to come, to invite friends and family, and to publicize this event in whatever ways you can. Ms. von Trapp will graciously share 10% of the money received for this concert with our churches and will give an additional 10% of any revenue received from the sale of her CD's and music.

You're Invited

*Two lives united in Friendship
Two friends united in Love
One Love United in Christ*

Teresa P. DeYoung
and
Ronald E. Bessette

request the honour of your presence
as they become united in Holy Matrimony
On **Saturday, the eighth of October**
at one o'clock in the afternoon
Middlebury United Methodist Church
Reception immediately following at the
Vergennes American Legion

September Calendar

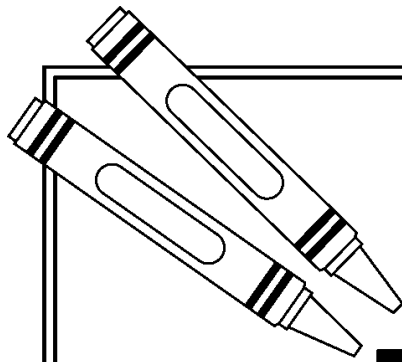
Sundays..	East Middlebury Adult Choir Rehearsal ...	8:30 a.m.	E.Middlebury UMC
	Sunday School (begins Sept. 18).....	9:00 a.m.	E.Middlebury UMC
	Family Worship	9:00 a.m.	E.Middlebury UMC
	Family Worship	10:45 a.m.	Middlebury UMC
Thursdays.....	Middlebury Adult Choir Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.	Middlebury UMC
	(Begins September 8)		



Sept. 2-5. Pastor Away			
Sun..... 4	Clay Wagner Preaching	9:00/10:45 a.m.	E.Midd/Middlebury UMC
Wed 7	E. Middlebury UMW	3:00 p.m.	Location TBD
Sat..... 10	Men's Breakfast	8:00 a.m.	Steve's Diner
	Bocce Tournament (<i>Men's group playing</i>).....	9:30-1:00.....	Mary Hogan School
Sun..... 11	9/11 Memorial Service	9:00/11:00.....	E.Midd/Middlebury UMC
	9/11 Town Observance	7:00 p.m.	Middlebury Town Green
Tues ... 13	Helen Porter Ministry	11:00 a.m.	Activities Room
	Project Independence Ministry	1:00 p.m.	Elderly Services
	Middlebury Trustees	6:30 p.m.	Middlebury UMC
Wed ... 14	E. Middlebury Administrative Council	1:00 p.m.	Location TBD
	Walk Fit	5:00 p.m.	Middlebury UMC
	Contemporary Worship	7:00 p.m.	Middlebury UMC
Thurs.. 15	Olan Mills Make Up Picture Day	2-9 p.m.	Middlebury UMC
Fri 16	Armchair Adventure	7:00 p.m.	Middlebury UMC
Sat..... 17	Outdoor Worship	3:00 p.m.	Texas Falls
Mon ... 19	Middlebury UMW	2:00 p.m.	Mimi's Home
Tues ... 20	Spirituality Group	1:00 p.m.	Mimi's Home
Wed ... 21	Walk Fit	5:00 p.m.	Middlebury UMC
	Contemporary Worship	7:00 p.m.	Middlebury UMC
Sun..... 25	Potluck Lunch and Brainstorming	12 noon	Middlebury UMC
Wed ... 28	Walk Fit	5:00 p.m.	Middlebury UMC
	Contemporary Worship	7:00 p.m.	Middlebury UMC
	East Middlebury Trustees	7:00 p.m.	Location TBD

***“Our Light”* Publisher Needed**

Interested in desktop publishing? Like graphic designing? Ready to take on a new role in your church? We are looking for someone to volunteer to take on the responsibility of publishing the monthly “Our Light” newsletter. No writing of articles necessary! Articles are sent via email and then put together in a newsletter format. Currently, the newsletter is created in Microsoft Publisher, but could be done using virtually any computer program that you are familiar with. Current time commitment is 4-5 hours once per month. If interested, please contact Linda Connor (388-0838 or Lconnor@gmavt.net)

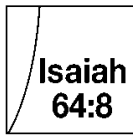


Just for **KIDS**

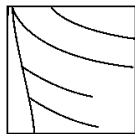
back to school

It is back to school time! You will continue to learn, grow and change. The Bible tells us that we are like clay and that God is forming us everyday.

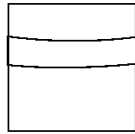
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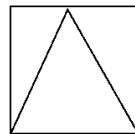
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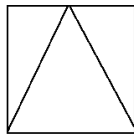
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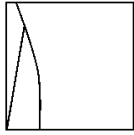
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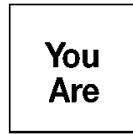
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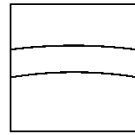
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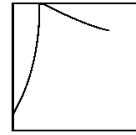
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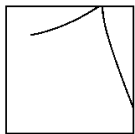
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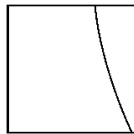
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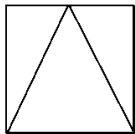
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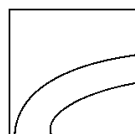
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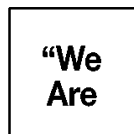
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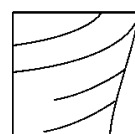
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47 North Pleasant Street
Middlebury, VT 05753

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Our Light,

the parish newsletter of the
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