

Our Light

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

www.middleburyumc.org

The United Methodist Parish Newsletter
Middlebury ♦ East Middlebury ♦ Ripton

June 2010

Whether you are a member of the Middlebury, East Middlebury, or Ripton 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.

Presenting...

Middlebury United Methodist Church's Mystery Theater Dinner

An evening of fine dining and captivating entertainment (with a faith-based message)

Friday, June 25—the Friday following Father's Day

What a wonderful way to celebrate the special man in your life

Appetizers will be served at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets will cost \$25 per person.

Reservations are required.

Call 388-2510 and leave a message as directed.

Seating is limited, so call today.

The proceeds of this event will go toward the mission share given by the local congregation to the national and global United Methodist Church.

For the Congregation

The following volunteer positions need to be filled as soon as possible in order to make this possible:

Set up, clean up, greeters, wait staff, actors, cooks, set designers

Call Rev. Jill at 388-2510 or Linda Connor at 758-2017 to volunteer today.

Volunteers will be served a complementary dinner.

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**Final Second Sunday of the School Season:
A Special Ministry for Busy Parents, Youth, and Children
and a Special Guest Preacher**

On June 13, Jill will step out of the pulpit in both East Middlebury and Middlebury and work with others to continue implementing a newer model of ministry for the family. The following schedule of education and worship at Middlebury UMC will be added to the existing worship services at 9 a.m. in East Middlebury and 10:45 a.m. in Middlebury. In one morning, your whole family will have the opportunity to study, talk, snack, and worship.

8:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

K-3rd and 4th-6th grade Sunday school, *led by Linda Connor and Erika Garner*

7th-12th grade youth breakfast, *led by Julie Coons and volunteer*

Adult Education: Spiritual Growth in the Summertime, *led by Jill C. Robinson*

9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Contemporary worship for the family, *led by Jill C. Robinson and volunteers*

10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

K-3rd and 4th-6th grade Sunday school, *led by Linda Connor and Erika Garner*

7th-12th grade youth group, *led by Jill C. Robinson and Julie Coons*

Adult Education: TBA

11:15 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Nursery and child care, *led by Linda Connor and Laurie Jordan*

If you need childcare for part or all of the morning for children younger than five years of age, contact Jill at 388-2510 as soon as possible. Younger children are welcome to and encouraged to attend the contemporary worship service.

For those of you who will be attending the regular worship services on the Second Sunday, the preacher and worship leader will be announced in upcoming bulletins and by email.

Ripton Lecture Series

The Friends of the Ripton Community Church, United Methodist have put together a fantastic line-up of lectures for the year. The topics are varied and unique to each of the speakers. Some of you were able to attend George Klohck's "Illustrated Talk on Sir Wilfred Grenfell: Adventurer, Sailor, Missionary Doctor, Minister, Humanitarian, Visionary" in April. This summer, the recently retired Middlebury College professor John Elder will speak about "Robert Frost and the Forests of Vermont" on **Sunday, July 25** beginning at 4 p.m. Elder writes: "I will look at some of the ways in which Robert Frost's poetry both explores and is illuminated by the forests of Vermont. Frost was an excellent naturalist, whose ability to perceive seasonal change in the landscapes around him also brought a measure of stability to his intense inner life. Those of us who are privileged to live in the same place where one of the century's greatest poets once worked are truly blessed." On **Friday, August 27** beginning at 4 p.m., Nadia and Ned Horning, also of Middlebury College, will lecture together on "The Science & Social Science of Deforestation in the World." We look forward to hearing Bill McKibben and Matt Dickerson lecture in September and October. Matt will discuss election issues and candidates. He will present the issues and candidates without taking any sides, and he will not divulge his personal preferences.

Spring Block Party on Sunday, June 6

For the fourth time in as many years, the Middlebury congregation will step outside our doors and host a block party for the neighborhood and greater community. The event has been rescheduled for Sunday, June 6 immediately following the worship service on Seminary Street. In the past, this exciting event has taken place in the fall. This year, the men of the congregation have been elected to breathe new life into this event as a special celebration of Pentecost. Bill Edson will be contacting all able-bodied, Spirit-filled men to help put on this simple meal and fun event. Even now, Bill and Administrative Council members are making plans for a special focus on bicycle safety in addition to the games we have had in the past--face painting, sidewalk chalk, crafts, etc. Mark your calendars now and plan on staying after church, rain or shine, to break bread with your friends and meet our church's neighbors.

Special Worship on July 4

Our congregation will have extraordinary representation at the New England Annual Conference this year. Rev. Lee Adkins and Rev. George Klohck will attend as retired clergy. Bonnie Totten Adkins, Margaret Klohck, and Don Jochum will attend as equalization members (lay people in attendance to balance the clergy vote). Clay Wagner will attend as our lay representative to conference. Rev. Jill C. Robinson will attend as our clergy representative to conference.

Don Jochum will lead worship on Sunday, July 4. He will lead us in celebrating our country's independence as well as bringing the highlights of his conference experience and that of the others to the congregation. We will not celebrate communion on this Sunday, the first Sunday of the month, but will celebrate on one of the later Sundays in July.

Summer Music

There will be a hymn sing at the beginning of each worship service in June, July and August in East Middlebury and in Middlebury. Come to church ready to sing your favorites from the United Methodist Hymnal and The Faith We Sing.

In addition, gifted musicians from the Middlebury congregation are invited to offer special music at one of the worship services this summer. This is a wonderful way to celebrate what God is doing in the church. If you are interested, contact Tom Colley at 388-9405 as soon as possible to sign up for the Sunday of your choosing.

Here is a summer schedule:

June 6	July 4 (Communion and	August 1 (Communion)
June 13	Independence Day Weekend)	August 8 (Vacation Bible School
June 20 (Father's Day)	July 11	Choir and Celebration)
June 27	July 18	August 15
	July 25	August 22

The Cookbooks are Here!

Our cookbooks have arrived and are available for sale. We have 220 recipes in categories from "Appetizers" to "This & That". At the price of \$10.00, that comes out to about 4 1/2¢ a recipe - what a bargain! Marg Wesley's recipe for Angel Food Cake alone is worth the price of the cookbook.

These books make great birthday, anniversary, shower, or wedding gifts. They are going fast - be sure to pick yours up after church any Sunday. Besides being cookbooks, they are memory books, with recipes from loved ones and old friends. Many of our great cooks have shared their favorite recipes, starting a legacy for years to come. Thank you to all who have contributed in any way to the cookbook project.

Outreach News

**As always, there is much going on in Missions/Outreach,
since this is church with a heart for Missions!**

Here's a quick update and some announcements for the summer:

1) **Charter House** closed for the summer on May 1, having served three families with small children (2 newborns!) and two individual adults this winter. A second successful season of helping local homeless comes to a close with a major celebration: our own Tom Colley applied for and secured a Troy Conference grant for Charter House in the amount of \$2,000! Thanks so much, Tom – that's so terrific!

2) **Community Lunches** are rolling along under the guiding hands and heart of May Podushnik. Thank you, May! As you may have heard May announce in church, we are signed up to take on a few different weeks this summer: June 7-10, July 5-8, and July 26-29. Can you help May serve folks in our community who count on this lunch? She'll need food and servers. Monetary donations are great too.

We are fortunate to have the partnership with Memorial Baptist Church. A precise schedule and plan for division of labor is to be determined but we look forward to working together with them, as well as the many other helpers that have stopped by to help, from all faiths and walks in life. Is your family interested in signing up for a day (we probably only need about 2 volunteers on a given day)? Youth group project? If you are interested in helping out, contact May at 388-6541, or mayandrik@yahoo.com.

3) **MiddSummer Camp** will be reaching out to kids again this summer who need a safe, happy, enriching place to be. This is an amazing opportunity to connect with a great outreach for children. Don Rinker will be looking for folks to help out. It's easy, it's fun, it's rewarding. Let Don know if you'd like to give it a try. Willie Glen helped out one day last summer by sitting and eating with kids on his lunch break and says he loved it!

4) **Migrant Farm Workers** Need Helpers/Drivers: In response to the needs of migrant farm workers in the area, the Addison County Farm Worker Coalition has initiated the Amistad Project to provide a volunteer transportation network for those workers. With an estimated 500 migrant farm workers living and working on dairy farms in Addison County, there is a great need to assist folks in getting to medical appointments, to go grocery shopping, and to get to Spanish language religious services, community suppers and other social functions. While it is hoped that workers and volunteers will eventually establish bonds of friendship and trust (thus the name, Amistad, which means friendship), the immediate task is to recruit volunteer drivers to assist with the most fundamental needs. If you, or anyone you know, might be interested in volunteering, or if you would like to learn more about the program, please contact our own Amanda Sheppard (amandasheppard26@yahoo.com) who is heading up our Migrant Farm Workers Outreach, or Louise Giovanella at 759-2529 or email: louise@addisongardens.com. Watch for more info from Amanda this summer on helping out at a Migrant Farm Workers Luncheon.



East Middlebury News

Our latest game day was a small but enthusiastic affair. We hope to take a short break for summer and have the next afternoon of fun in late August or early September.

We welcome two new little ones; Sadie Mae Chance and Evan John Gillett! Sadie was born May 5th and Evan joined us a few weeks prior on April 15th. We rejoice with their parents and older siblings.

The next bake sale will be the same day as the town-wide yard sale for East Middlebury, June 26th. There will be pies, beans, breads, brownies, and many more sweet treats for sale along with hot dogs and cold drinks. Come by from 9am to 2pm as you shop the sales. This event's proceeds will go toward our debt to the parsonage fund.

Thanks to all who were a part of our second bird species count. On May 7th and 8th we saw a total of 39 species from Kestrels to Goldfinches! Not bad for such a wet day to bird watch.

Register for Vacation Bible School

Join the FUN! Galactic Blast ... a cosmic adventure praising God! We are getting ready for a great week of drama, Bible stories, crafts, science and music. Join us each evening **August 2 - 6** at 5 pm for a light dinner; then enjoy Galactic Blast from 5:30 pm until 8:00 pm. Kids can now register online at www.middleburyumc.org or pick up a form at church. Spread the word, tell all of your friends and neighbors!

We are still looking for a few adults to help. Please contact Carmen Jochum at 759-2471 or cjochum@madriver.net if you would like to help or have questions.

Middlebury UMW

May 17th was the last meeting of the Middlebury UMW until next September. Our Spring Rummage Sale was a grand success. The total amount raised was \$1,557.78, \$225 of which came from the bake sale. We want to thank everyone who contributed items for sale and who purchased items. Also much thanks to all the men and women who worked hard setting up and taking down the sale items. Also much thanks for all the delicious baked goods. Our next Rummage Sale will be in October. The proceeds from our Rummage Sales enable us to fulfill our mission commitment both locally and abroad.

The Middlebury UMW will provide scholarships to those wishing to attend Skye Farm or Covenant Hills summer camps this summer. See Rev. Jill for more information about scholarships.

We are always looking for more members to join UMW. We are a small but mighty group!
Have a great summer.

Blessing of the Animals

If you are interested in bringing your pet to a special service of blessing for all God's creatures this summer, contact Rev. Jill at 388-2510 to convey your interest. If enough people are interested, this service will be planned and announced by bulletin and email.

Christian Summer Camp--It's not too late to register!

There are still spots available in most of the summer camp programs at both Covenant Hills in Cabot, VT and Skye Farm in Bolton Landing, NY. If you are a parent and are still trying to decide whether or not to send your child/ren to camp, or if you are a child or youth and you are still trying to decide whether or not to attend, consider doing the following:

- ⇒ Speak with someone from our congregation who has attended camp in the recent past (Erika, Christopher, Annie, and Anthony Garner; Larry, Dianne, and Claire Lawson; Nathan Doty)
- ⇒ Pick up a copy of the brochures that are located on the ushers' tables in both East Middlebury and Middlebury; or, take a look at Facebook, YouTube (www.youtube.com/watch?v=EToB8KESgTQ), and the websites (www.covenanthills.com and www.skyfarmcamp.viviti.com).
- ⇒ Read the following from Katie Taylor, Director of Covenant Hills...

There are many important and life changing reasons for children and young adults to attend Covenant Hills. Camp provides a place away from the pressures and distractions of daily life where one can listen for and hear God's voice. Children gain insight into what it means to be a Christian. At camp, everyone - children and staff - embrace each other through fun activities, worship, and fellowship.

Angela, active in her high school youth group in Burlington, says, "It was always the best week of my summer and it's my favorite place to go." Angela started attending Covenant Hills with her family at the age of four.

"I have seen faith at work every time I go there". This is truly a must-do for every child and is a treasure to be experienced and shared." says Cindy, a Sunday school teacher and camp volunteer. "I hope that many more children and youth will take advantage of this wonderful place. It's low-key and it's a wonderful get-a-way - a perfect place to explore God's world and our friends."

It is the goal of the Covenant Hills Executive board to have at least one child from every UMC and UCC in Vermont. There are also weekends available for youth groups to come up to camp. If you personally have never experienced Covenant Hills, please contact us, so we can set a visit up for you.

Please let me know your questions or if you need more camp brochures. Thank you so much for your support!

So many adults today attribute the beginnings of their faith life to positive, life-changing experiences at camp. Appreciating the importance of these formative experiences, both the Women's Group in East Middlebury and the United Methodist Women in Middlebury are once again offering scholarships to those who wish to attend camp and experience what so many have called "the best week of [their] summer" and so much more. It's not too late for you to go to camp this summer.

An Outreach Ministry to our Young People (that can be done from home)

Every year, the church family joins individual families in sending our graduating high school seniors to work, school, and the military. In many cases, we have known these young people for many years or even since their birth. In an effort to stay connected to them, to support them, and to therefore minister to them, we will now be listing at least one person out on their own for the first time, one undergraduate student, or one person in the military in *Our Light* each month during the school calendar. The list each month will be determined, when possible, by those who are having a birthday that month. You are invited to send them cards, care packages, etc. at the addresses that are listed. If you are not able to send anything by mail, please consider holding this person(s) in your daily prayers.

This month, we will write to
the one who celebrates a June birthday.

Asa Sargent, Birthday: June 8
P.O. Box 103
East Middlebury, VT 05740

Financial Peace is Coming Your Way!

What does it look like to handle money God's way? Many people focus only on giving when they think about honoring God with their money. They think about putting a check in the offering plate or sending money to fight hunger or AIDS.

What Does the Bible Say?

But handling money and thinking about money in a godly way is much more than a tithe check. The Bible tells us that we're stewards of God's resources. By definition, a steward is not an owner, but a manager, someone who takes care of the possessions of someone else. When we believe that God is the owner of all we have, we gain a new perspective on the way we handle all the resources we have been given – not just 10% of our income.

When you choose to handle money God's way, things that used to be difficult will become easier. Budgeting, compromising, saving, giving, sacrificing, making wiser decisions with your money – all of it will become clearer.

Financial Peace University (FPU), the 13-week program taught by Dave Ramsey, has helped more than 900,000 families positively change their financial future. This life-changing program teaches families and individuals how to handle their money through common-sense principles and small group accountability.

FPU classes will be held at the Middlebury church this fall. The classes will begin Monday, September 13, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Each class participant (family) needs a kit. Discounted rates are available if you order through the church. Included in the cost of the kit is a lifetime family membership to FPU, allowing the participant to return to any class at anytime for a refresher course. The kit also includes an FPU workbook, an FPU envelope system, 13 audio lessons, bonus CD, budgeting forms, and Ramsey's best-selling book – Financial Peace.

"FPU classes are changing lives across the country every day," says Louis Falzetti, executive vice president of Financial Peace University. "There is something for everyone in this program whether you are barely making ends meet, just trying to plan for retirement, or seeking to build wealth. No matter what your financial situation, you will find FPU to be the best motivational tool available across the nation to help you attain financial peace."

Contact Julie Coons at 388-2916 or jbcoons14@comcast.net for more information or to register.



We include the following in our prayers:

Betty Austin
 Marion Barnett
 Betty Hampel
 Madeline Cone
 Doris Senecal
 Cora Dragon
 Della Fenn
 Walt Peck
 Mona Austin
 Paul Steele
 Anne Cluss
 Larry Lawson

Chal Schley
 Eileen Bodette
 Marge Covey
 Ann Rowell
 Marg Wesley
 Kevin Parizo
 Linda Banta
 Sue Flanagan
 Marge Douglas
 Mary Jo Richards
 Mildred Stockwell
 John-Eric Robinson

Barbara Wheelock
 Family of Bob McClaran
 Willie Glen's sister, Betty
 All who are stationed overseas
 Sue and Tom Colley's friend, Al
 Carmen Jochum's mother, Pam
 Sherry Klinck's mother, Marjorie
 Gus and Laurie Jordan's friend, Crystal
 Terry DeYoung's sister-in-law, Susan
 Meredith Vanderminden's daughter, Grace
 Pat Tougas' mother, Theresa and cousin, Linda
 All of our graduates



Bible Readings for the Month

June 6 Psalm 146; 1 Kings 17:8-24; Galatians 1:11-24; Luke 7:11-17
 June 13 Psalm 5:1-8; 1 Kings 21:1-21a; Galatians 2:15-21; Luke 7:36-8:3
 June 20 Psalm 42; 1 Kings 19:1-15a; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39
 June 27 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20; 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

!! Blessings Abound !!

JOY

- ◆ We join the Gillett and Brown families in welcoming Evan John Gillett who was born on April 15.
- ◆ We join the Chance family in welcoming Sadie Mae Chance who was born on May 5.

CONGRATULATIONS

- ◆ Congratulations to Jenny Morse and all those who will graduate from high school this June.
- ◆ Congratulations to Alison Mehravari, Crystal Williams, and Lauren Vollmer and all those who graduated from Middlebury College on May 23.

WELCOME

- ◆ On behalf of the congregation, the Staff-Parish Relations Team and Rev. Jill are pleased to welcome Leslie Leggett as our new parish administrator. Leslie will begin working in June. Her hours will be posted in the bulletin, on email, etc. We extend our heartfelt and sincere thanks to Joyce Sargent for her four and one-half years of service to the congregation in the capacity of parish administrator, and we wish her well in this her 'second retirement'.

CELEBRATIONS

- ◆ Beverly and Louis Megyesi celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a trip to Hawaii on April 23. Congratulations Beverly and Lou!

THANKS

- ◆ Thank you to everybody! I saw my doctor today and he feels I am doing very well. I want to thank you for the many get well cards, thoughts, and prayers. They all really helped. God is good!
 - Marg Wesley

Summer Calendar

Weekly

East Middlebury Choir Rehearsal..... Sunday 8:30 a.m..... E. Middlebury UMC
Family Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m..... E. Middlebury UMC
Family Worship Sunday 10:45 a.m..... Middlebury UMC

Monthly

E. Middlebury Women's Group 1st Wednesday 7:00 p.m..... Contact: Irene Piper, 388-6823
Helen Porter Ministry 2nd Tuesday 11:00 a.m..... Contact: Mimi Hardy, 388-6016
Project Independence Ministry 2nd Tuesday 1:00 p.m..... Contact: Jill Robinson, 388-2510
Middlebury Trustees 2nd Tuesday 6:30 p.m..... Contact: Jim Coons, 388-2916
Middle Finance/Operations 3rd or 4th Tuesday 5:45 p.m..... Contact Julie Coons, 388-2916
Middle Administrative Council..... 3rd or 4th Tuesday 7:00 p.m..... Contact Bill Edson, 388-3433

When Scheduled

E. Middlebury Administrative Council Contact: Jess Rouse, 388-4417
Middlebury Communications Team Contact: Susan Sheets, 758-2772
E. Middlebury Trustees Contact: Margot Brown, 388-7350
Middlebury Mission & Outreach Ministry Contact: Willie Glen & Josie Masterson-Glen, 388-7197
Church Friends Soup Group Contact: Don Jochum, 759-2471



Special Events in June

Pre-Conference Vermont Gathering June 5 Montpelier, VT
Middlebury UMC Block Party June 6 Middlebury UMC
Second Sunday Ministry June 13 Middlebury UMC
New England Annual Conference June 17-19 Wendham, MA
Mystery Theater Dinner June 25 Middlebury UMC
E. Middlebury Bake Sale & Flea Market June 26 E. Middlebury UMC



Special Events in July

John Elder Lecture: "Robert Frost and the Forests of Vermont"
July 25 4:00 p.m..... Ripton Community Church, UM



Special Events in August

Vacation Bible School August 2-8 Middlebury UMC

Friends of the Ripton Community Church, UM Auction

August 6 or 7 Ripton Community House

Nadia and Ned Horning Lecture:

"The Science & Social Science of Deforestation in the World"

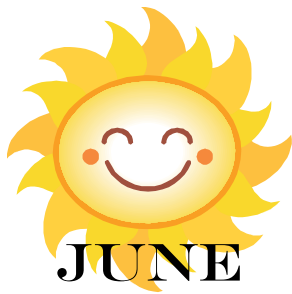
August 27 4:00 p.m..... Ripton Community Church, UM

Your Finance Committee wants to remind you that, although you might go on vacation this summer, our expenses do not! Please try to send in your tithes and pledged amounts ahead of time if you are going to be away. Payments can be mailed to the church office:

Middlebury United Methodist Church, Attn: Joyce Sargent, Fin. Secretary
47 N. Pleasant Street, Middlebury, VT 05753.

Thank you!

The United Methodist Church
Middlebury ♦ East Middlebury ♦ Ripton
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Middlebury, VT 05753



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the parish newsletter of the
Middlebury, East Middlebury, Ripton
United Methodist Churches
47 North Pleasant St.,
Middlebury, VT 05753
Telephone: 388-2510
email: revjill@myfairpoint.net
www.middleburyumc.org
www.troyconference.org/emrumc

PastorJill C. Robinson
Our Missionary in Mozambique.....Jeremias Franca
Parish Administrator Joyce Sargent (middumc@gmail.com)
Editor.....Linda Connor (newsletter@middleburyumc.org)
Production..... Betty Davis, Norma Duclos, Phyllis Richardson, Eileen Rinker, Joyce Sargent,
Margaret Wesley, Barbara Wheelock, Mary Wimett, Shirley Wisell