



ToTell



NORTH MIDDLETOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)

<http://www.northmiddletownchristianchurch.org/>

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Pastoral Word:

I regret that I didn't get to eat lunch with the children who gathered for the Munch Mobile as often as I would have liked to. By the time my classes were over and the move was (mostly) complete, the feeding program ended.

I did manage to break bread a few times at the picnic tables in our parking with the kids of North Middletown. I got to meet a few of the parents and grandparents. I know a few more names and made some good connections.

There were some who came not because they needed the food, but because they wanted what was being served and enjoyed coming up to the church to visit with other children and play. In my opinion, making the food available to all children is the best way to run the program. It removes the stigma of being poor. It makes the meal a time of enjoyment for equals, rather than a handout for those who can do no better for themselves. I remember as a school child, the poor kids received a different color lunch ticket. It confirmed our suspicions of who the poor children were, and it sadly made a difference in how they were perceived.

I share a few observations I made about my interactions at the picnic tables this summer. There were some very hungry children. There were hungry adults who brought them. Many of the adults were not the children's parents, but grandparents and aunts who have custody or who otherwise help raise the children. The women networked about how to get necessary resources. They shared information about when and where food was given out, how and when to get school supplies that were available. They sent the children through the line to get a second full meal so they could take the non-perishable items home to eat later; the rest of the meal had to be consumed on site. These were not attempts to "scam the system." These were hungry people being resourceful. They knew these children would be hungry later, and it seemed there was precious little to eat.

As we continue looking at miraculous feedings in the Bible this week (Exodus 16: 2-15), I think of how this pertains to our context. Manna from heaven, Elisha feeding 100 with 20 barley loaves, Jesus feeding the thousands with 5 loaves and two fish, and yet, there are still hungry people. We follow a man who was born in Bethlehem (literally: "house of bread"), and we remember him each week with a piece of grain made into a wafer. We EAT to acknowledge what he did for us, and there are still hungry people. There is a message for us in all of this. What is your response?

I am grateful to be your pastor,
Stephanie

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR NM ELEMENTARY

Our DWM service project for August is to buy school supplies for North Middletown Elementary. Although this is a DWM project, all from the church are welcome to participate. The supplies need to be at church before our general September 4th 2:00 meeting. Please choose from this list of supplies: 24 Crayola crayons; #2 pencils with attached erasers; one subject spiral bound notebooks; glue sticks; big erasers; pencil topper erasers; Kleenex; paper towels; Clorox wipes; Ziplock bags in sandwich, quart and gallon sizes; baby wipes. Also, Linda Rainey has purchased Trapper Keepers for each circle to donate at \$15.00 each. THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

MUSIC NOTES

Many thanks to the many fine folks who helped make the ice cream supper a huge success! Whether you churned home-made ice cream, baked or bought a dessert, helped organize, set up or take down tables, collected money, served, helped clean up, or attended and bought ice cream, WE THANK YOU! Our choir has sponsored this event for well over fifty years and it certainly seems to be a community favorite. Proceeds from this years sale totaled \$658.00.

The money raised from the annual ice cream supper is used to purchase choral music, tune our wonderful organ and piano, and pay the guest musicians that we enjoy at our fifth Sunday worship services. This saves our church budget a nice sum of money and enhances our congregations worship experience. Truly a blessing to us all and we appreciate everyone who helps make it possible.

I hope everyone enjoyed having The Sheridan Trio with us in worship this past Sunday. Dwana Stevens on flute, Claire Hess on violin and Nancy McKenney on cello provided a lovely program of classical and sacred favorites.

Our choir will be taking a well deserved break during the month of August. When you see our choir members sitting with the congregation, please use this as an opportunity to express how much you appreciate all this faithful group does for our church.

While the choir is on break we will be hearing from several of our talented church members, including: Stephanie Moon & Steven Osborne, August 5th, Sallie Evans, August 12th, Carolyn Kenton, August 19th, and The Dulcimer Dames, August 26th. Thanks to these individuals who have graciously volunteered to share their time and talent with us.

Choir rehearsals will resume on Sunday, September 2nd, 2018 at 9:15 a.m. in the sanctuary. New members are always welcome. No audition or previous experience is required, just make a joyful sound and match pitch with your part. We are a fun and informal group whose primary goal is to lead congregational singing and select a liturgically appropriate anthem for worship each week. Come and join us in song! We would love to have additional voices.

Attendance/Offering for 7/29/2018

Church Attendance:.....	59
Sunday School:.....	
Regular Offering: (Budget 2,573).....	\$1,121.00
Total Income for Week:.....	\$1,121.00
YTD Budget:.....	\$77,204.00
YTD Budget Income:.....	\$62,180.00
Difference:.....	\$-15,025.00

I am thankful...

for safe travels.
to have visitors.
for new beginnings.
for my grandmother.
for the Sheridan Trio.
for the beautiful music.
for successful surgery.
for starting my business.
for the beautiful service.
for Reeca and all she does.
for the delicious breakfast.
for those who help others.
for a great 5th Sunday Service!
for a moving and beautiful service.
that we have enough... and then some!
for a life full of wonderful people and love.
for the beautiful music by the Sheridan Trio.
for our special music and excellent sermon.
for breakfast, Olivia, good weeks and mom's
for Linda Faris and her willingness to always help.
for seeing my granddaughter Dahlia happily married.
for the Sheridan Trio sharing their beautiful music with us.
the creative team that put together our special worship this Sunday.

Our Prayer List

Local Prayer Partner: Those who need supplemental nutrition without the support of the Munch Mobile this week. Let us remember everyone on our prayer list with calls, cards, visits and prayers.

Our Church Family: Joe Manning, Anne Rogers, Mary Louis Evans

Long Term Care: *Morning Pointe:* Kenneth McFarland

Pine Meadows Health Care: Barbara Bowser

Bourbon Heights: Sue Davis, Bill Davis

Family and Friends: Jane Lyle, Rabbitt Hatton, Janice Biddle, Steve Monahan, Gina Sloane, Jim Hyska is at Cardinal Hill, Jerry Davies, Barbara Murphy and Sons, Steve Breslin, Steve Minnick, Joan Hines, Judy Landon, Liza Pennington, Terry Rudder, Foster child of Pam and Josh Tolson, Wyatt West

Sympathy and Prayers for the family of Lynn Ratliff. For the life of Holly Buckner Salisbury

SERVING LIST August 5, 2018

Sermon:.....It's Raining Bread!

Scripture/Reader.....Exodus 16: 2-15/Sallie Dailey

Worship Leader/Elders.....Patsy Rainey, Johnny Evans

Scripture at Table.....Luke 22:15-20(NT86)

Deacons:Steven Osborne, Reeca, Sara Evans, Dani Lemonade in the Breezeway.....Jeff and Sarah McFarland

Communion (August.....Mary Brown

Greeter:(Town).....Sallie Dailey

Greeter:(Cemetery).....Diane Evans

Scripture Readers AUGUST

5 - Sallie Dailey

12 - Bob Fuller

19 - Betty Long

26 - Polly Hawkins

SEPTEMBER

2 - Jeff McFarland

9 - Betty Allman

16 - Debbie Poynter

23 - Doug Price