

VISIONS

No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. Because Jesus has taught us to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind, and to love our neighbors as ourselves we declare Christ Reformed UCC to be an Open and Affirming church. We invite people of every race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, marital status, economic circumstance, and physical and mental ability into the worship, rites & sacraments, fellowship, and leadership of our church.



Pastor's Pen

Dear Flock,

In driving over the mountain this morning, the clouds were low and puffy and seemed to just "hang out" on the mountain. From a distance, they appeared to be surrounding all that was visible. It gave me a visual of how I feel surrounded by the Holy Spirit each day. We don't see God or the Holy Spirit, but we have to trust in the presence that surrounds us, loves us, and always looks after us.

My thoughts went from the clouds and Holy Spirit to how I feel the church should be. The church should do the same thing. The church should strive to "surround" its members with love and grace when physically together and also from a distance. My mind then went to the scripture from Hebrews 10: ²⁴Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good. ²⁵Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing. Instead, let us encourage one another all the more.

In the church, Fall brings harvest celebrations and a time of reassessment of our committees and financial situations. Both are necessary tasks for members and those who serve on these committees. And yet, to keep the legacy of Christ Reformed United Church of Christ going for our various ministries, being united and together with these committees is very necessary.

If you heard the sermon on September 22 the whole point was that we should be an institution of service in all that we do. And that commitment to service takes volunteers to serve on committees to help keep that momentum going. Yes, it involves being privy to the "nitty-gritty" happenings. Yes, it involves decisions, sometimes tough ones, to stay on track. And yet, Christ taught that we really need to look after one another.

Usually, in membership vows, there are words that say we will support our church through our gifts of time, talent, and resources to the best of our ability. To rework an old Army advertisement, we can say "Christ's Church Needs YOU!"

Can you help? Would you consider serving on Consistory or another important committee that loves and oversees the church? Now is the time to step forward in love and service for your church and for your God. If asked, please give it some serious thought. If you are interested, please speak with someone. Don't just dismiss the idea. Please give it some serious consideration and prayer. Yes, serving can be tedious, tiresome, and sometimes tumultuous. However, it is always necessary. Pray over it. Come and talk to me about it. I'll gladly meet with you to see where your gifts might best serve.

I leave you with these words from 1 Peter 4: ¹⁰Each one, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God. ¹¹Those who preach must preach God's messages; those who serve must serve with the strength that God gives them, so that in all things praise may be given to God through Jesus Christ, to whom belong glory and power forever and ever. Amen.

*Thanks be to God!
Pastor Greg*

Pastor's Pen	1
Search & Call Committee Update Fall Bible Study Congregational Budget Meeting School Donations Heifer International Plan Your Calendar	2
Plan Your Calendar (cont.)	3
Community Outreach	4
Community Outreach (cont.) Thank You Notes Around the Congregation	5
CCCC Highlights	6
August 2024 Financials	7
Fall Breakfast	8

Congregational Budget Meeting

Sunday, Nov. 3rd
Chapel @ 9:15am



Search and Call Committee Update

On September 24th, the Search and Call Committee shared the Local Church Profile with the congregation for review and feedback via email. Paper copies are also available in the Narthex. We kindly ask that you submit your comments by October 11, 2024. To help streamline the process, we request that you email your feedback to crucsearchcommittee@gmail.com. If you are using a paper copy, please hand your written comments to either JJ Bell-Godfrey or Diana Corl. After the review period, the Committee will meet to discuss any proposed recommendations before finalizing and submitting the Local Church Profile. As always, please feel free to reach out to the Search and Call Committee via email at crucsearchcommittee@gmail.com or during Coffee Hour.

Fall Bible Study

Join our discussion of the Parables at our weekly bible study hosted by Pastor Greg. The group meets on Wednesday's at 11:30am in the Parish House. Feel free to bring your lunch. Hope to see you there!

Congregational Budget Meeting

Our constitution calls for a meeting of the congregation on the first Sunday of November to adopt a budget for the next year. Copies of the proposed budget, along with voting options, will be mailed out soon. Copies will be available in the Narthex. You are encouraged to attend this meeting on November 3rd at 9:15am in the Chapel.

School Food Donations

With school starting last month, we have resumed collecting items for the Middletown Backpack Program (a list of requested items is on the table in the Narthex). As you shop this month, please pick up a few items and bring them with you to worship. Collection boxes are found in the hallway between the sanctuary and the chapel.

783 million people go to bed hungry every night. Let's change that.

Heifer International is working to end world hunger in 19 countries across four continents, including the USA. How can you help? - You can sponsor an animal or give a donation (one time or monthly). See information on the table in the back of the Chapel beginning October 6.

The Heifer project is sponsored by the Discipleship Board in memory of Cynthia and Carrollee Zecher.

Plan Your Calendar

Blessing of the Animals

COMBINED OUTDOOR WORSHIP

OCT. 6TH @ 10AM
CHURCH YARD/PARKING LOT AREA

Music, scripture & blessing to honor our "friends".

We will bless animals, photos, ashes and stuffed animals. Animal friends must be leashed or crated.

GUYS NIGHT OUT

10/28 @ 6pm
Brewer's Alley

JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP & FOOD.
IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND, PLEASE RSVP TO BOB GALEY AT ROBERTGALEY@HOTMAIL.COM OR TEXT OR CALL 301 712-8022.

Oct. 10th
12pm-2pm
Coffee Hour Space

No Need to Sign Up
Just Show Up!



B I N G O
BUDS

Monthly Info Meeting

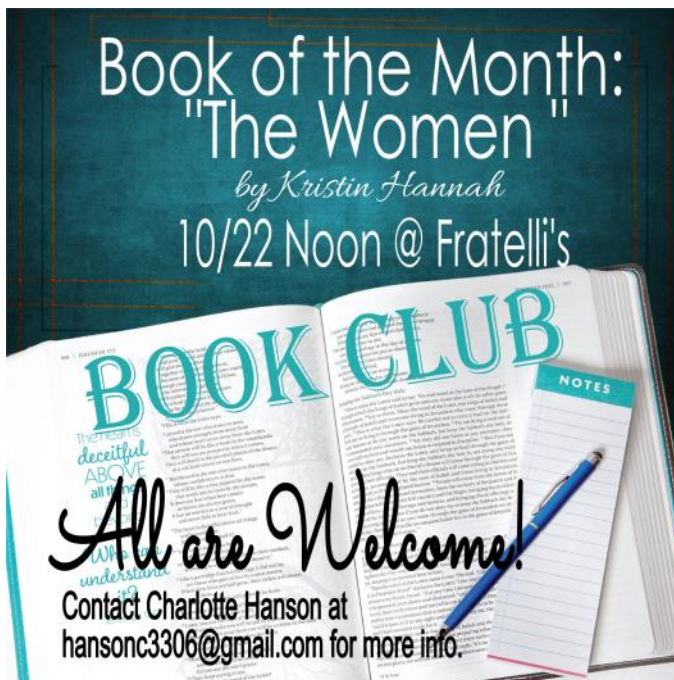
hosted by Consistory

Join us in the Chapel
10/20 @ 9:15AM

Book of the Month: "The Women"

by Kristin Hannah

10/22 Noon @ Fratelli's



BOOK CLUB

Notes

All are Welcome!

Contact Charlotte Hanson at
hansonc3306@gmail.com for more info.

Ladies Chill Night

10/25 @ 5:30pm
BJ's Brewhouse

Join Us!

Please add your name
to the sign up sheet by 10/20.

Fall ...into the Parables

BIBLE STUDY

WEDS @ 11:30AM
PARISH HOUSE



No gather
together

God on Tap

Tuesday 10/15 @ 6:30pm
Showroom

882 N East St, Frederick, MD

For more information, please contact
Christine at 97cfontaine@gmail.com.



METAL RECYCLING



Every Sunday from approximately 8:30am until 12:00pm in the Holy Family Catholic Community parking lot, Bill Traube and a core of volunteers collect any kind of metal, aluminum cans, steel, etc. All of the proceeds go to support 1) the local Middletown Ministerium Day of Service projects; and 2) local charities such as the Myersville Area Growing Project, Frederick Rescue Mission, Religious Coalition, Mission of Mercy, etc. In 2023, they donated over \$24K to these charities. All are encouraged to bring their scrap metal for a good cause. Small items can be left on the back porch of the Parish House. Arrangements can be made for picking up large items by contacting Bill Traube at 240-457-3953.

MIDDLETOWN FOOD BANK

FOOD ITEMS

- Beans (dry/canned)
- Canned Meat
- Instant Potatoes
- Pasta
- Baking Products
- Salad Dressing
- Tea Bags



PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Toilet Paper
- Body Lotion
- Bars of Soap



The mission of Hearty House is to end domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and child abuse, and to provide victims with safety, shelter, and supportive services.

- ◆ Gift cards Only: Walmart, Giant, Weis, Safeway, Food Lion, Target, Sheetz, Shell, Giant Eagle, CVS, Walgreens, TJ Maxx, Marshalls, Wawa, Exxon, etc

Collection boxes are found in the hallway between the sanctuary and the chapel.
Gift cards for Hearty House can be dropped off to the church office.

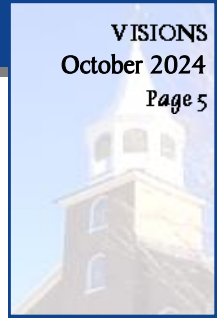
WEEKEND FOOD PROGRAM

Many children in the Middletown valley area are provided a free or reduced priced lunch on school days, but they face the prospect of hunger on the weekend. In partnership with area churches, the weekend food program helps to fill this gap by providing weekend bags full of food for children in these area schools: *Middletown Elementary, Primary, Middle and High School, Myersville, Valley and Wolfsville Elementary.*

How Can YOU Help These Children?

- ◆ SPONSOR a child for a year at a cost of \$300.00, in whole or in part – simply make out your check to CRUCC and indicate on the memo line that it is for the Weekend Food Program.
- ◆ PURCHASE the specific foods needed and put the items in the designated box located in the Narthex
- ◆ VOLUNTEER your time to pack the food.
- ◆ DELIVER the food to a school.





Walk to End Alzheimer's
Sunday, October 13, 2024
11:00am Registration

Nymeo Field at Harry Grove Stadium

To make a donation or to sign-up to walk with Beth Scott's Team, go to: <http://act.alz.org/goto/BethScott>. Check donations should be made out to the Alzheimer's Association and can be mailed to Beth or left in the Church Office. Please contact Beth at 301-788-3524 or BethOScott@aol.com.

Thank You Notes



There are not enough ways to say thank you to everyone for all of your hard work making the church's Heritage Day activities a success. I would not attempt to list the names of everyone who helped for fear of missing someone. Rather I will thank you for the many contributions of your time and talents - making signs, helping with set up, baking goodies for the bake sale, creating donations for the craft sale, monitoring our youngest visitors in the bounce house, helping our youngest visitors with crafty creations, greeting visitors, sharing your knowledge of the church, selling delicious baked goodies, inviting passersby to visit our church, running the scavenger hunt, and any other way you helped share our church with the community. As my grandma used to say "Many hands makes light work." Thank you for making the job of Heritage Day a little lighter.
~Nancy vom Lehn
P.S. Anyone interested in taking over as coordinator next year?

Around the Congregation

ALTAR FLOWERS

October 6	N/A
October 13	Mike Locke
October 20	TBD
October 27	Linda DeLauder/Bill Steigelmann

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

October 6	
October 13	Laura & Tony Verdi
October 20	Taylor Magda & Emily Mathis
October 27	Property Board

SOUND TECHS

October 6	N/A
October 13	Tony Verdi
October 20	Tony Verdi
October 27	Pat Joy

LAYREADERS

October 6	Laura Fontaine
October 13	Emily Mathis
October 20	Sue Wickless
October 27	Susan Thornton

USHERS

October 6	Pat Joy, Nancy vom Lehn
October 13	Debbie Locke, Mike Locke
October 20	Janet Stock, Nancy vom Lehn
October 27	Isaac Cummings, Laura Verdi

Church Attendance

August 2024

	8:15 am	10:30 am
August 4	26	51
August 11	22	45
August 18	22	48
August 25	26	46





CCCC HERITAGE DAY PARADE!

CCCC took 1st place in the Float category in the Middletown Heritage Festival Parade!

We want to say a special THANK YOU to Matt Adam's and family for bringing his tractor, helping us decorate and hauling us!!

We also want to say THANK YOU to the Geisler's for allowing us to use their trailer!

This year we dedicated our float to Rick Geisler, who was a lifelong farmer!

Thank you to all the staff who worked hard to put it together, and to all the Children's Center families who came and threw candy with us!



GEISLER FAMILY



ADAM'S FAMILY

Operating Finances Year to Date Ending August 31, 2024



CRUCC	Actual Aug 01, 2024 - Aug 31, 2024	Actual Year to Date	Annual Budget Remaining This Year
REVENUE			
Operating Income	\$ 16,469.00	\$ 169,517.39	\$ 107,214.61
Investment Income	\$ 5.37	\$ 14,326.54	\$ 12,167.46
Other Income	\$ 4,000.32	\$ 31,884.70	\$ 27,755.30
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 20,474.69	\$ 215,728.63	\$ 147,137.37
EXPENSES			
Compensation Expenses	\$ 13,088.68	\$ 106,513.69	\$ 172,228.31
Operating Expenses			
Program Expenses	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ (200.00)
Worship-Related Expenses	\$ 298.75	\$ 3,161.71	\$ 7,138.29
Education-SS/CCCC	\$ 209.94	\$ 684.82	\$ 2,315.18
Office & Supplies	\$ 1,245.86	\$ 15,789.29	\$ 10,232.71
Utilities	\$ 1,759.72	\$ 20,584.18	\$ 14,015.82
Building & Property	\$ 4,796.39	\$ 17,522.65	\$ 12,277.35
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 394.00	\$ 581.00	\$ 1,419.00
Insurance Expenses	\$ -	\$ 37,811.25	\$ (33,227.25)
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	<i>\$ 8,704.66</i>	<i>\$ 96,334.90</i>	<i>\$ 13,971.10</i>
Ministry Expenses			
Ministry - Outreach	\$ -	\$ 10,044.00	\$ 8,756.00
Ministry - Boards & Committees	\$ 454.44	\$ 1,705.67	\$ 4,994.33
<i>Total Ministry Expenses</i>	<i>\$ 454.44</i>	<i>\$ 11,749.67</i>	<i>\$ 13,750.33</i>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 22,247.78	\$ 214,598.26	\$ 199,949.74
Net Total	\$ (1,773.09)	\$ 1,130.37	\$ (52,812.37)
CCCC	Actual Aug 01, 2024 - Aug 31, 2024	Actual Year to Date	Annual Budget Remaining This Year
REVENUE			
Operating Income	\$ 65,817.00	\$ 633,397.50	\$ 368,391.50
Investment Income	\$ 3.82	\$ 2,760.08	\$ 155.92
Other Income	\$ -	\$ 5,083.27	\$ 1,843.73
Designated Income	\$ -	\$ 60.41	\$ (60.41)
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 65,820.82	\$ 641,301.26	\$ 370,330.74
EXPENSES			
Compensation Expenses	\$ 64,459.29	\$ 529,664.27	\$ 286,308.73
Operating Expenses			
Program Expenses	\$ 8,289.50	\$ 46,111.11	\$ 31,888.89
Education-SS/CCCC	\$ 253.00	\$ 925.82	\$ 2,574.18
Office & Supplies	\$ 3,721.20	\$ 22,076.10	\$ 23,123.90
Utilities	\$ -	\$ 2,035.78	\$ 1,629.22
Building & Property	\$ 6,342.97	\$ 38,812.87	\$ 23,687.13
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 225.74	\$ 1,595.32	\$ 2,404.68
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	<i>\$ 18,832.41</i>	<i>\$ 111,557.00</i>	<i>\$ 85,308.00</i>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 83,291.70	\$ 641,221.27	\$ 371,616.73
Net Total	\$ (17,470.88)	\$ 79.99	\$ (1,285.99)

*Christ Reformed
United Church of Christ*
Rev. Greg Shook

In-Person Worship
8:15am Contemporary Worship

In Person & On-Line Worship
Traditional Worship 10:30am
Coffee Hour 11:30am

Office Hours
Mon-Fri 10am-2pm
301-371-6610
Fax: 301-371-6912

12 South Church Street
P.O. Box 333
Middletown, Maryland 21769
christreformeducc@comcast.net
www.crucc.org

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
PERMIT 2202
Frederick, Maryland 21701

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Christ Church Children's Center

Mrs. Missy Payne, Director
6 Weeks—5th Grade
Mon-Fri 6:30am – 6:00pm
301-371-0360

www.christchurchchildrenscenter.net

*Reaching out to help people to know
God through Jesus Christ.
Equipping people to love God through
the community of faith.
Sending people to serve God
throughout the world.*



Fall Breakfast

hosted by Parish Life

**OCTOBER 27TH
8AM-10AM
SOCIAL ROOM**

Please place your name
and the number attending
on the signup sheet in
the Narthex.