



Middletown United Methodist Church

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May 13, 2022

Hello Members and Friends of Middletown UMC,

As fellow sisters and brothers within the Middletown UMC family, thank you for taking the time to read this letter. As the Lay Leader and Pastor, we are writing to share with you about the mission and ministry of our church family and the financial needs that must be addressed.

Within the life of the Middletown UMC family, we have many things to celebrate. More people are attending our worship celebrations in person now than a year ago! New members have joined the fellowship. We have launched the Teen Service Group consisting of middle and high schoolers going out and serving God and others. Our church owned and run preschool is strong, faithful, and currently at almost 100% capacity for the next school year. Throughout the COVID pandemic our mission and ministries never stopped, and many greatly increased. We are thankful to share that we have no reported transfer of COVID throughout all of our ministries, including our preschool.

However, COVID has wreaked havoc on our families, jobs, and communities. Our church finances have also experienced major stress as well. To date we are anticipating a shortfall of **\$61,000**. This is the difference between what we expect to receive and what we need to spend. This number is larger than expected due to postponed but necessary repairs to the church building and parsonage, increased insurance costs, increased snow removal costs, and the continued cost of our vital missions and ministries. All of these and more are outlined in detail on the back of this letter.

Today, as Middletown UMC faces financial issues, we are requesting you support your church through the following:

1. Please continue to be in prayer for the mission and ministry of the Middletown UMC.
2. Please attend a congregational meeting on May 29 or June 12th, where the contents of this letter will be discussed.
3. With your family, please consider increasing your financial commitment to the mission and ministry of God through the Middletown UMC.

Thank you for being a valuable part of the Middletown UMC. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email either one of us. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. We look forward to seeing and hearing from you soon.

Peace and God's blessings.

In Christ,

Dianne Thompson
Lay Leader

Derrick L. Doherty
Pastor