

SUNDAY WORSHIP CELEBRATION

FEBRUARY 17, 2008 9:00 AM • 11:15 AM

IN HONOR OF THE HISTORY OF AFRICAN AMERICANS

~ GATHERING ~

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Russell Suggs

INTROIT

Over My Head I Hear Music in the Air
solo: Pamela Warrick-Smith

Pamela Warrick-Smith

HYMN*

We're Marching to Zion

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jacqui Lewis

MORNING PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER/PASSING OF THE PEACE

Brad Motta

Ever-loving God, hallowed be your name. Your reign come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the reign, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

~ Worshipers May Be Seated as Children go to Children's Worship~

~ REFLECTING ~

SCRIPTURE

John 3:1-7

Brad Motta

SERMON IN THREE MOVEMENTS

ONE:

Slave Song

Adolphus Hailstork

Text By Frederick Douglass

Charles Brown, bass Zoe Hassman, cellist

TWO: *I Am Not Saved Until You Are Saved*

By Joel Peterson and Mary Ain Rashida

Lufin Tanner and Adrienne Hurd, Dancers

THREE

Reflections on Re-Conception

~ RESPONDING ~

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

I Want Jesus To Walk With Me

Spiritual, arr. Roderick Williams

DOXOLOGY HYMN/DEDICATION PRAYER

From all that dwell below the skies / Let faith and hope with love arise.

Let peace, goodwill on earth be sung / Through every land, by every tongue.

HYMN*

Guide My Feet

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE

*Indicates Please Stand If You Are Able.

WELCOME TO MIDDLE CHURCH

We are glad you are here today. If you are visiting for the first time, we invite you to return often and make Middle Church a home for you, your family, and friends. Complete the card from the pew in front of you or sign the guest book in the narthex to receive our newsletter or listserv. For more information visit www.middlechurch.org

COURTESY AND SAFETY IN THE SANCTUARY

Please silence your cell phone and leave food or drink outside. Please help us comply with fire safety codes: fold strollers or carts and store them carefully under a pew. Thanks for your cooperation. For the additional comfort of parents with restless young ones, the worship celebration can also be heard real time in our social hall.

MIDDLE CHURCH CHOIR

Gail Blache-Gill, Charles Brown, Matthew Deming, Beth Hatton, Robert Hughes, Joslyn King, Eric Lamp, Vaughn Lindquist, Nedra Neal, Tami Petty, Mark Rehnstrom, Kristin Sampson, Pamela Warrick-Smith, Junko Watanabe; Jonathan Dudley, Director

SUNDAY CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

9:00 AM	Worship Celebration	Sanctuary
	Wee Care (under 4)	Downstairs Nursery
10:00 AM	Living the Word – Relationships 101	3rd Floor
	Lectionary Bible Study By Charlie Haynes	Balcony A
	Church School	2nd Floor
	Middle Link Brunch	Social Hall
	Wee Care (under 4)	Downstairs Nursery
	MiddleCares	Social Hall
11:15 AM	Worship Celebration	Sanctuary
	Children's Worship	2nd Floor
	Wee Care (under 4)	Downstairs Nursery
12:30 PM	Middle Link Brunch	Social Hall
1:00 PM	The Bible for Dummies, by Dr. Charlie Haynes – Class is cancelled this week, February 17th	Balcony A
	Leadership Seminar: Becoming White in America, by John Janka	3 rd Floor
6:00 PM	Jazz On High Celebration Lew Soloff Trio	Sanctuary

Jacqui Lewis

PLEASE NOTE

MIDDLE CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED ON PRESIDENT'S DAY, FEBRUARY 18th, 2008

NEW MEMBER GATHERINGS

If you say Middle Church is your church, then it is. And if you have been wondering when you can officially become a Middle member, now is the time. For additional information, please contact Jacqui Lewis at 212.477.0666 or jlewis@middlechurch.org. The next new members gathering are March 2, 9, 16 and then join on the 16th.

VOLUNTEER AT THE CELEBRATE LIFE MEAL

We need your hands and your hearts as we welcome those persons living with HIV/AIDS into our community every Monday. You can help with set-up, serving, registration, clean-up, or just making our guests feel welcome. Sign-up sheet is on the community table in the Social Hall for those interested.

MIDDLE PRAYS IS LOOKING FOR PRAYER VOLUNTEERS

If you are interested, please contact **Malia Blake** at myprayercircle@yahoo.com

THE CLOTHING CLOSET AND FOOD PANTRY

We will be open on Monday evenings from 4pm-6pm and are in need of volunteers. If interested please put your information on the sign-up sheet on the community table in the Social Hall. Our Food Pantry which feeds 65 people each week can also use volunteers to distribute food each Wednesday morning at 8:00 am. You may also email Melinda at mcruz@middlechurch.org

Donations are needed for the Middle Church clothing closet. All gently used items and sizes are accepted, but we especially need men's clothing of all sizes, larger women's sizes, work attire, new packages of under garments and socks and winter coats. All items should be clean, unsoiled, and folded neatly. Donations can be dropped at the main office daily.

MIDDLE CHURCH COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CLASS

Come join us as we begin a community children's chorus. Learn singing technique, movement through music, music reading and writing, multicultural music and so much more for free! Training is held Saturdays from 3:30pm-5:00pm. Gail Blache-Gill, Coordinator

RECRUITING FRIENDLY, WARM AND WELCOMING PEOPLE GREETERS NEEDED FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS

If you are interested in greeting, e-mail BradMotta@middlechurch.org or Melinda Cruz mcruz@middlechurch.org. Compassion, Training, Hugs.

7TH & 2ND GALLERY, SOCIAL HALL PHOTOGRAPHS OF NEW YORK BY RICHARD HOWE February 3 – February 29, 2008

COMMUNION AND VISITATION

Would you like a visit from your Middle family? For more information, please contact Heather Juby at hjuby@middlechurch.org

SUNDAY 'JAZZ ON HIGH' CELEBRATIONS AT 6:00 PM

FEBRUARY 17

Lew Soloff Trio
Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis, worship leader

FEBRUARY 24

Red Hook Ramblers Dixieland Band
John Del Cueto, worship leader

MARCH 2

Katie Bull, vocals
Frank Kimbrough, piano
Brad Motta, worship leader

"DROP IN" FOR CARE THIRD SUNDAYS 1:00 PM, 2ND FLOOR

Have a problem you'd like to get off your chest? Need a listening ear? Stephen Ministry is sponsoring a "Drop In" hour. Stephen Ministers along with Stephen Leaders Judith Brown-Leigh and Heather Juby will be available to provide support and helpful resources in your time of need. No appointment necessary but you can make one if you wish. For more information, please contact Heather Juby at hjuby@middlechurch.org

GULF COAST TASK FORCE NEW ORLEANS MISSION TRIP

Come with us to New Orleans, April 6-10, 2008, as part of our Gulf Coast Mission. This will be the third congregational trip that Middle Church, along with members of its Collegiate and Reformed Church in America siblings, have undertaken. **There are slots available.** Cost: \$700 per person for transportation, lodging, and materials. **A payment of \$300 is due by February 15.** For more information or to register, please contact Natalie Runyon at 212-477-0666 or nrunyon@middlechurch.org

LIVING THE WORD: FEBRUARY 2008 RELATIONSHIPS 101

How do our lives of faith affect our relationships with friends, family and lovers? Heather Juby, Laura Kogel and Jacqui Lewis will help us to have this theological and practical conversation over four weeks, beginning February 3, at the 10:00 hour in the parlor.

BECOMING WHITE IN AMERICA: FEBRUARY 10 & 17, 2008 UNDERSTANDING PRIVILEGE/SHARING POWER

Part of Middle's Leadership Seminar but open to all, this two-part class is an extension of the course "Race, Grace and the Reign of God, led by John Janka. During the first session participants will explore what it means to be white in a changing cultural landscape. The second session will concentrate on how whites and people of color shape community in the midst of diversity. For more information, please contact Brad Motta at 212-477-0666 or bmotta@middlechurch.org