

SUNDAY WORSHIP CELEBRATION

MAY 4, 2008 • 9:00 AM | 11:15 AM

~ GATHERING ~

PRELUDE Cameron Carpenter

INTROIT *Lift Up Your Heads, O Gates!* Louis Lewandowski

HYMN* *Crown With Your Richest Crowns*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING* Danifa Branam

~ Worshippers May Be Seated ~

ANTHEM *You Shall Be Witnesses* Jerry Kirk
You shall receive power when the holy spirit comes upon you, and you shall be my witnesses unto the ends of the earth. Jerusalem! Judea! Samaria, and the ends of the Earth!

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

MORNING PRAYER / LORD'S PRAYER Jacqui Lewis
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.

PASSING OF THE PEACE*

~ Children Go To Children's Worship ~

~ REFLECTING ~

SCRIPTURE John 17: 1-20

DANCE Rod Rogers Dance Company

SERMON *One is the Loveliest Number. . .* Jacqui Lewis

~ RESPONDING ~

OFFERING / OFFERTORY *Imagine* John Lennon
Solo: Pamela Warrick-Smith

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.

COMMUNION *I Am the Living Bread*

Michael McCabe

HYMN* *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE Cameron Carpenter

*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, Beth Hatton, Robert Hughes, Jostyn King, Eric Lamp, Vaughn Lindquest, Nedra Neal, Tami Petty, Mark Rehnstrom, Elisabeth Rodgers, Kristin Sampson, Pamela Warrick-Smith, Branch Woodman.

NEW MEMBER GATHERING

New member gathering today, May 11th and 18th at 10 AM. New members join on May 18th at 11:15 AM worship celebration.

SUNDAY CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

9:00 AM	Worship Celebration	Sanctuary
	Wee Care (under 4)	Downstairs Nursery
10:00 AM	Lectionary Bible Study with Dr. Charlie Haynes	Cancelled Today
	Living the Word	Church Parlor
	Church School	2nd Floor
	Middle Link Brunch	Social Hall
	Wee Care (under 4)	Downstairs Nursery
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 with Dr. Charlie Haynes	Cancelled Today
6:00 PM	Jazz on High	Sanctuary

VOLUNTEER FOR THE BUTTERFLY PROGRAM

It's Spring....and Butterflies are emerging from their winter hibernation. Longing to be free. Won't you help to free someone; from hunger, lack of nourishment, and feeling unloved? Become a Middle Butterfly!! Join the Preparation Team at 9am in the Afterschool (basement) or the Distribution Team at 12:45pm (Social Hall closet) to deliver throughout Tompkins Square Park. The more Butterflies, the more flowers we awaken and transform. Leave a note at the office for either Randy Minor or Danita Branam for more details.

THE CLOTHING CLOSET AND FOOD PANTRY

The Middle Church Clothing Closet is open on Monday evenings from 4:00–6:00 pm and is in need of volunteers. If interested in volunteering, please put your information on the sign-up sheet on the community table in the Social Hall. Donations are needed for the 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 undergarments and socks, and winter coats. All items should be clean, unsoiled, and folded neatly. Donations can be dropped at the main office daily.

The Middle Church Food Pantry, which feeds 65 people each week, needs volunteers to distribute food each Wednesday morning at 8:00 am. If you are interested, please email Melinda Cruz at mcruz@middlechurch.org

MIDDLE CHURCH COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S MUSIC

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 every other Saturday from 3:00 pm–5:00 pm. Please call the office for schedule. Gail Blache-Gill, Coordinator

7TH & 2ND GALLERY, SOCIAL HALL

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PHYLLIS HOFZIMER
May 4 – May 29, 2008

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

If you are interested in becoming a greeter, contact Brad Motta at bmotta@middlechurch.org or Melinda Cruz mcruz@middlechurch.org. Compassion, Training, Hugs.

COMMUNION AND VISITATION

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

MIDDLE PRAYS IS LOOKING FOR PRAYER VOLUNTEERS

If you are interested in joining the Middle Prays team, please contact Malia Blake at myprayercircle@yahoo.com

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

LEW SOLOFF FESTIVAL

- MAY 4 Lew Soloff, trumpet
Jean-Michel Pilc, piano
Boris Koslov, bass
- MAY 11 Lew Soloff, trumpet
Francois Montin, bass
- MAY 18 Lew Soloff, trumpet
Joe Locke, vibraphone
Francois Montin, bass
- MAY 25 Lew Soloff, trumpet
Francois Montin, bass

"DROP IN" FOR CARE

FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAYS AT 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

URBAN ANGEL AWARD PRESENTED TO JACQUI LEWIS

Congratulations from the staff and consistory to our Senior Minister, Jacqui, who was presented with an Urban Angel Award on April 15, 2008, at the New York Marriott Marquis. Friends from the Collegiate staff and Marble Collegiate Church joined us to celebrate Middle's ministry and to raise funds for New York Theological Seminary.

THE POWER OF STORIES ON SALE

Jacqui's third book, *The Power of Stories: A Guide for Leading Multi-Racial and Multi-Cultural Congregations* (Abingdon, 2008), was just published and will be available for sale on Sunday, April 27, for \$15.

SEEKING CARING PEOPLE TO BE STEPHEN MINISTERS

Stephen Ministry is a caring ministry. People (like you!) are providing healing and hope to fellow members. Applications are now being accepted for a new class to begin this fall. For more information or an application, contact Heather Juby at hjuby@middlechurch.org

SAVE THE DATE

- MAY 10 Second Avenue Street Fair, benefiting Celebrate Life
- MAY 18 Congregational Conversations (following each celebration)