



SEP 27, 2026 • 11:45 AM • HOMECOMING • HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

• GATHERING •

INTROIT

Holy, Holy, Holy

(Richard Smallwood)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir, Band

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins

HYMN

We've Come this Far by Faith

(Albert A. Goodson)

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Dean Hubbard, Janine Borgrevink

SIYAHAMBA

We are marching in the light of God
We are marching in the light of God.
Marcharemos en la luz de Dios
Marcharemos en la luz de Dios

We are marching, marching
We are marching, marching
We are marching in the light of God.
Marcharemos, siempre marcharemos
Marcharemos en la luz de Dios
Marcharemos, siempre marcharemos
Marcharemos en la luz de Dios

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Amanda Hambrick

BAPTISM

Phil SaintDenisSanchez

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Amanda Hambrick

Ever-loving and holy 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.**

CHORAL AMEN

(Trad.)

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Amanda Hambrick

As you are able, please make your way to the microphone to also greet those worshipping with us online.

• REFLECTING •

ANTHEM

Use Me
Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir, Band, Soloist Helen White

(Dewitt Jones, Kim Jones)

SCRIPTURE

Luke 10:25-37

Robert P. Jones

²⁵ An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷ He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

²⁹ But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

SERMON

Take a turn at love; you'll find your way home

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

• RESPONDING •

POWER THIS MOVEMENT

Molly Armstrong & Laurie Weber

If you'd like to join our movement for love and justice, go to middlechurch.org/join.

OFFERTORY

God is Good

(Chester D. T. Baldwin)

Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir, Soloist Tina Owens

Donate at middlechurch.org/donate or Venmo [@MiddleChurch](https://www.venmo.com/@MiddleChurch)

DOXOLOGY

(Black Doxology)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

DEDICATION PRAYER

Molly Armstrong & Laurie Weber

HYMN

God Be With You

(Thomas A. Dorsey; Artelia W. Hutchins (attrib.))

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis



**middle
church**

Text BULLETIN to 833-786-0733 to receive this week's bulletin to your smart device.

PARTICIPATING IN THE CELEBRATION

Director of Music and Choirs • John Del Cueto

Musicians in Worship • Dionne McClain-Freeney (piano), Booker King (bass), Jonathon Peretz (drums)

August Playlist: Did you miss anything at Middle last month? Check out our monthly recap for a selection of moving musical performances and a touching sermon. Watch them again or share the playlist with friends.



PRAYER CORNER **We are praying for all our Middle family every day.**

Please pray with us this week for these people:

Donna and Elizabeth Johnson, Eddie Russo, Gene Smith, Sandy Hardwick-Pettis, Tina Cernero's sister Renee, the family of Nolan Wells, the family of Ralph Robertson, the Slazer family, Laci Beckett, Arthur Beckett, Daniel Bracken, Betty Jeanne Ruetters-Ward, Claudia Slazik, Steve, Briana, Cody, Luke and Faye, Hannah & Lane Serota, Lisa Rogers, the family of Lynn Harris, Paul & Nancie Carlson, Ryan Chapin and the birth of Laurence, Jennifer and Jamison, Mary Jo Brightley, Michele Rafferty, Billy Wallace and Caylin Capra-Thomas, and for all of those whom Melvin Cunningham holds in his heart.

To make a prayer request, speak to a minister, or inquire about financial assistance, visit middlechurch.org/prayer.

Welcome to Middle Church

We are glad you're here today! If you are visiting for the first time, we invite you to head to middlechurch.org/welcome to learn more about Middle and to get connected. We hope you'll come back often to be with us!

To learn more about the history of this church— we call it a movement — or to learn about New Members classes, or to get involved with our community groups, visit us at middlechurch.org.

By entering the Sanctuary, you grant Middle Church unrestricted right to use and publish, transmit, or telecast photographs or likenesses that might be taken of you this day for use in communications related to the church. You agree that all such material will be the sole property of Middle Church.

HERE ARE ALL THE WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT MIDDLE CHURCH

Back by Popular Demand! You can still leave a lasting mark on Middle Church's future in the very foundation of our renewed home. Bricks are a powerful way to honor loved ones, celebrate milestones, and show your commitment to love, justice, and joy. Each engraved brick will be placed on our Rising Wall or Freedom Wall, symbols of our collective story and our bold vision for the future.

Your gift not only secures your place in Middle's history, it fuels the fierce love that flows through our worship, justice work, art, and care for one another.

Give a brick today: bit.ly/4su4wHr Middle has always been more than a building—it's the love, justice, music, art, and community that flow within and beyond our sacred space. To keep that spirit thriving, we need your continued support for all the vital things that make Middle, Middle: our staff, programs, worship, justice work, and care for one another.

Please give at middlechurch.org/donate. Sunday Worship and programs happen thanks to our clergy, staff, musicians, volunteers, and all of you who participate in- person and online. We can't do it without you! We are the ones we've been waiting for and together, with you onboard, we will have enough!

Love— *Jacqui, Vickie Burns—Board Chair, and the entire Middle Church Board*

MAKE A DONATION TO MIDDLE CHURCH

Charitable Giving will require a search by EIN 90-0458939 Congregational Collegiate Collective in order to select Middle Church. Congregational Collegiate Collective is a nonprofit organization recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our new legal name is Middle Ministry, LLC, as a wholly owned subsidiary, but we are authorized to do business and be known as Middle Church. All donations should be written to Middle Church.

Please reach out to our Stewardship Office (stewardship@middlechurch.org) to discuss any questions about your giving plan.

To support our ongoing ministry, programs, operations, and rebuilding:

- Visit middlechurch.org/donate
- Venmo [@MiddleChurch](https://www.venmo.com/@MiddleChurch)

To mail contributions to Middle Church, please address them to:

Middle Church
Attn: Stewardship Dept.
50 East 7th Street, New York, NY 10003

DONATE BY PHONE

To make a donation to Middle Church, scan this QR code.



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MIDDLE COLLEGIATE CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis, Senior Minister, Public Theology and Partnerships
Rev. Macky Alston, Executive Minister, Operations and Development
Rev. Natalie Renee Perkins, Executive Minister, Hybrid Church
Rev. Amanda Hambrick, Community Minister for Justice & Organizing
Making it Happen: Middle Church Staff, and YOU!

MAILING	Middle Church 50 E 7 th Street New York NY 10003	Share our message on social media and invite others to like, follow, and connect with us.
WORSHIP	Sundays at 11:45 AM ET online & in-person at: Middle Church 50 East 7 th Street New York, NY 10003	Facebook.com/MiddleCollegiateChurch Facebook.com/Rev.Jacqui.Lewis YouTube.com/MiddleNYC Instagram.com/middlechurch Instagram.com/revjacquilewis Twitter.com/middlechurch Twitter.com/RevJacquiLewis Jacquilewis.substack.com/ Middlechurch.substack.com/
E-MAIL	middleinfo@middlechurch.org	
WEBSITE	middlechurch.org	
PHONE	(212) 477-0667	

DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION

Middle Church is part of New York's Reformed Association of the United Church of Christ (UCC) denomination. For more information about the UCC please visit ucc.org.

You can sign up for Happenings—the weekly newsletter—to stay abreast of what the New York Conference Association is doing. If you have signed up for Happenings, the eblast from the New York Conference, and you aren't receiving it, please check your spam folders. If you would like to sign up to receive Happenings every Wednesday, visit bit.ly/4cH3nHl.



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Middle Events Calendar

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

- 9:30 AM [Butterfly Outreach Ministry](#)
- 10:00 AM [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:00 AM [Just Love Family Programming](#)
- 10:00 AM [Voter Reform Meeting](#)
- 11:45 AM [Worship Celebration: Homecoming & Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir 40th Anniversary](#)**
- 12:00 PM [Just Love Kids](#)
- 1:00 PM [Talkback with Author Robert P. Jones](#)
- 1:00 PM [Butterfly Distribution](#)
- 1:15 PM [Village Chorus for Children & Youth](#)
- 1:30 PM [Community Social Hour](#)
- 1:30 PM Leadership Lab Reunion

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

- 6:30 PM [Acting Class – Hybrid](#)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

- 6:00 PM [Creative Writing: Live, Salmagundi Club](#)
- 7:00 PM [East Village Group – AA](#)
- 8:30 PM [East Village Group – AA](#)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

- 8:00 AM [Pray to Rise – Online](#)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

- 1:00 PM [New Adventures – Online](#)
- 6:30 PM [Creative Writing – Online](#)
- 7:00 PM [Jerriese Johnson Gospel Choir – Hybrid](#)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

- 9:30 AM [Butterfly Outreach Ministry](#)
- 10:00 AM [Bible in the Middle](#)
- 10:00 AM [Just Love Family Programming](#)
- 11:45 AM [Worship Celebration](#)**
- 12:00 PM [Just Love Kids](#)
- 12:45 PM [Chat & Chew – Hybrid](#)
- 1:00 PM [Community Social Hour](#)
- 1:00 PM [Butterfly Distribution](#)
- 1:15 PM [Village Chorus for Children & Youth](#)

All events are listed in ET unless noted.

Visit middlechurch.org for details and updates.

FOR MORE INFORMATION about Middle Church events, activities, and the latest updates, visit middlechurch.org/events or scan this QR code.



Want to get more involved? To learn more about programs, regular volunteer opportunities, and community groups, please reach out to our Director, Events and Community Center, **Elise Tiralli** - etiralli@middlechurch.org.

Want to host your next event at Middle?

Visit middlechurch.org/rentals or scan this QR code to find our rates and inquiry form here:



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