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## Middle School Youth Upcoming Events

**MAY 22 - 6-8 PM**

DINNER & FELLOWSHIP AT THE CHURCH

**JUNE 5 - 2-4:30PM**

SOUP KITCHEN MEAL PREPARATION

Christ Reformed United Church of Christ

# 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 invite people of every race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, marital status, economic circumstance, and physical and mental ability into the worship, rites and sacraments, fellowship, and leadership of our church.*

## Markings: What Now?

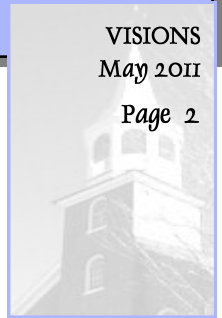
One of the fears plaguing the coach of a team which has been successful is the dreaded "letdown." Some contests or series take such an emotional toll on the victors that they feel unprepared for the next challenge. The history of sports and other human endeavors is filled with examples of those who "had nothing left in the tank."

I've wondered how the month of May will feel at church after the emotional highs of April. Returning to the sanctuary at the beginning of the month after the 13 month recovery from the fire was deeply moving. It was the culmination of much work and sacrifice by many people. It reminded us how we gather for worship not simply in a building, but in sacred space. The honoring of the first responders and contractors on the second Sunday was similarly moving. As they stood up front while we acknowledged them someone started to applaud and the congregation rose. Applause can sometimes be proforma, the polite or the expected thing to do. But this applause went on and on and seemed to grow louder, energized by the deep gratitude of the congregation. Palm Sunday with its celebration of the confirmands and anticipation of Holy Week was filled with tears and laughter. Each of the young people who joined the church is special, but witnessing Clark Zecher confirm his baptism left few dry eyes in the congregation. And last Sunday's celebration of Easter and the resurrection story had a special poignancy this year. Our recovery from last year's fire testified to the healing, strengthening spirit of God which brings life out of death.

How do you keep up the energy of such a powerful month? I'm afraid to say it, but you don't. At least not in the same way. While talking to Thomas Vesterling yesterday I described how energizing the last month had been and how I wondered what May would feel like. He said, "You may need to rest." His was a good reminder that running at full speed can only last so long. At some point the body and the spirit demand a breather.

May will be a great month in worship and around the church. Clergy sometimes joke that Mothers' Day is the third high, holy day after Christmas and Easter. On May 22<sup>nd</sup> our annual Bluegrass Sunday will take place and we'll praise God in a slightly different key than usual. The Senior High youth are gearing up to help lead worship later this month. On May 22<sup>nd</sup> the Growing Project will have a blessing of the seeds to kick off this year's effort at addressing hunger around the globe. The Girls' Night Out (Mother/Daughter Dinner) Basket Bingo on May 4<sup>th</sup> will provide fellowship, a great meal and support for the fire restoration project. There's no shortage of events that will create energy. But amidst the events there may be some needed time to pause and to catch our breath, to simply reflect on our blessedness and discern how the gifts of renewed facilities and congregational energy can be used for God's purposes.

~Mark



### **Children's Center News**

The Children's Center has started registration and sign ups for the upcoming summer. If you know of anyone who needs child care in the summer, please have them contact the Center at 301-371-0360. There are many field trips and special guests planned for the summer months, in addition to our annual children's summer festival. Summer session begins the week of June 20th. If anyone has a special interest/hobby (basketball, painting, etc.) they would like to share with the children, please contact Louisa at 301-371-0360.

Preschool graduation will take place on **Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>** with dinner at 6:00 pm and graduation at 7:00 pm in the main sanctuary. There will be 29 graduates entering kindergarten in the fall of 2011. If you would like to help with dinner set up or clean up, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Louisa at 301-371-0360 if available. The Center will be closed the following **Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>** for Memorial Day.

### **Homewood Benevolent Endowment Fund Collection**

The Homewood Foundation's Benevolent Endowment Fund was created to receive gifts from churches, families, friends, and residents and to provide support for residents who have depleted their assets through no fault of their own. The goal is to enable residents who need a little bit of help to continue to live at Homewood with dignity and in comfort. Collection envelopes are enclosed. Thanks for your support.

### **Graduation Information Needed**

If you or a member of your household is graduating from college or high school, please send the information to the church office. Please include the graduates name, school and any future plans. Pastor Mark will recognize graduates at worship service on **May 29<sup>th</sup>**.

### **DOXA Youth Choir Concert Cancelled**

Due to schedule conflicts, the Doxa Youth Choir from First United Methodist Church, Lakeland FL, has cancelled their planned tour and the concert that was scheduled for June 16 in our church. They hope to reschedule in Spring 2012.

### **Hospice Volunteer???**

Have you ever thought about being a Hospice Volunteer? Wondered just what is involved in being a Volunteer? There are many different ways in which you can volunteer with Hospice. You are cordially invited to join the Called to Care Ministry on **Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** to learn these answers. Dianne Khara, the Frederick County Hospice Volunteer Coordinator will be talking with us about this subject. We will be meeting in the Coffee Hour area of the Chapel with light refreshments served following the presentation. This is simply an informational presentation - no signing on the dotted line required! Hope to see you there.

### **Sanctuary Altar Flowers**

Is there a special person or event that you would like to remember or celebrate with flowers on the sanctuary altar? There are several open Sundays remaining in 2011 including *May 22 and 29, June 5, July 3, August 7 and 21, December 11 and 24/25*. Please add your name to any of these dates on the *Altar Flower Chart* posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. A member of the Altar Guild will contact you prior to

your Sunday with more information. Questions?? Please contact Diana Corl at 301-371-7737 or [dwcorl39@comcast.net](mailto:dwcorl39@comcast.net).

### **Bluegrass Sunday**

Our annual Bluegrass Sunday took a year off in 2010, but will take place once again this year on **May 22<sup>nd</sup>** at the 10:30 a.m. service. The Discipleship Board will provide a special coffee hour after the service. It's a great Sunday to invite a friend to join you to hear the gospel expressed in a unique form.

### **Spread the Word About the Spirit Stars Ministry Shining God's Light on Families and Youth Impacted By Disabilities**

**Spirit Stars** is a ministry for youth ages five years and up, designed to provide a substantive, sensory-rich, and worshipful experience for children with special needs. Based on a reverse inclusion model, **Spirit Stars** invites all children and youth to grow in their relationship with the Lord in a way that is meaningful and accessible for them, and provides families impacted by disabilities with additional support and fellowship. **Spirit Stars** is offered in the Social Hall, concurrent with our 10:30 Sunday morning worship service. Melissa Miller, a certified special education teacher with the Frederick County Public Schools, serves as our ministry leader, and Kim Bentz serves as our principle aide.

Many families impacted by disabilities wish that they could become part of a church community, but the possibility of encountering a less than hospitable environment can be overwhelming. Too often, they have had their children dismissed from classes and groups or have been on the receiving end of unspoken judgment or even fear. And many are simply tired from seemingly endless therapy sessions, doctor's appointments, educational consults, etc. But these families, more so than many, are in desperate need of Sabbath rest and renewal and of a safe place for their loved ones to worship. They too deserve a church home where they are not just embraced but also celebrated for who they are, just as they are.

Enclosed is a brochure describing the **Spirit Stars** Ministry. Please consider if there is anyone in your life who would benefit from this ministry and pass it along. This brochure and other information about our Disability Ministries is also available on our website at [christreformeducc.org](http://christreformeducc.org).

### **Congregational Meeting- Audio/Video Proposal**

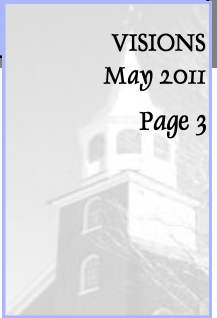
Last year's fire presented us an opportunity to make improvements to our worship space that increase its quality and versatility. Our present sound system, which served us well for nearly two decades, no longer is up to the task. Additionally, worship in most churches is increasingly visual as well as auditory. We see our worship as well as hear it. On **Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>** there will be a meeting of the congregation to vote on installing a new audio/video system in the sanctuary. The proposal has been done to minimize the visual impact of equipment while providing sound and video support to worship. A letter outlining the proposal will be mailed to the congregation next week. Please plan to join us at 9:15 a.m. in the Chapel on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

This month in **Children's Church**, we are learning about

**Forgiveness** *Letting go of the things that weigh you down*

**DECIDING THAT SOMEONE WHO HAS WRONGED YOU DOESN'T HAVE TO PAY.**

**Memory Verse:** "Forgive the things you are holding against one another. Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you." *Colossians 3:13NirV*



**Week 1: May 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Bible Story:** No Mercy (The parable of the unmerciful servant) • *Matthew 18:21-25*

**Bottom Line:** Since God forgives you, you should forgive others.

**Family Discussion:** Why does God want us to forgive others?

*"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." Matthew 5:7*



**Week 2: May 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Bible Story:** Making Change (Jesus and Zacchaeus) • *Luke 19:1-9*

**Bottom Line:** When people are forgiven, it can change them.

**Family Discussion:** When you forgive someone, what does that reveal about God?

*"The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong." Mahatma Gandhi.*

**Week 3: May 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Bible Story:** Getting Even God's Way (Joseph reveals his identity to his brothers) • *Genesis 45:1-15*

**Bottom Line:** When you want to get even, do the opposite.

**Family Discussion:** What does it feel like to be forgiven? What does it feel like when someone won't forgive you?

*"Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors." Matthew 6:12*

**Week 4: May 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Bible Story:** Go First (Jesus teaches about forgiveness) • *Matthew 5:1-2, 23-24*

**Bottom Line:** Don't wait to start making things right with others.

**Family Discussion:** Why does God want us to forgive (or to say we are sorry) quickly?

*"Forgiveness is the fragrance the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it." Mark Twain*

**Week 5: May 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Prayer:** *Dialogue with God (public and private)*

**Bible Story:** All Access (present your requests to God) • *Philippians 4:6-7*

**Bottom Line:** You can talk to God about anything.

**Family Discussion:** Can you think of three good things that could happen as a result of praying?

*"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31*

*Plan Your Calendar*

**You're Invited!**

As the growing season begins, please join the Growing Project Committee for the *Blessing of the Seeds*

**Sunday, May 22, at 3:00 p.m. in the growing fields of the Hurwitz farm  
11720 Wolfsville Rd., Myersville, MD**

Celebrate the anticipation as we continue working to reduce world hunger with this year's project in Mozambique

**All are welcome!**

Join the hayride leaving the Grossnickle Church parking lot at 2:30, or if you'd rather drive, there is ample parking at the farm. A Strawberry and Homemade Ice Cream social will be held in the parish hall following the service

Please note: there is no cell service at the farm

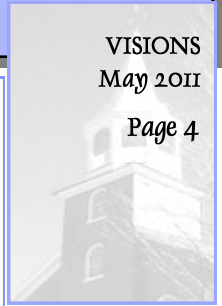
For more information on the Growing Project, please contact Linda DeLauder or Cynthia Zecher



**May Basket Class**



Basket classes resume this month with the Easy Oval Twill basket. This is a tote basket that is woven with an over 2 under 2 pattern which creates a beautiful twill pattern. The basket begins with a pre-finished wood base and is completed with a wrought iron handle. The classes will be held in the Parish House on **Tuesday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m. and Tuesday, May 24, at 12:30 p.m.** The cost for this class is \$20.00. Look for the sign-up on the narthex bulletin board. Please see Gail Johnson or Diana Corl for additional information.



**Cemetery Clean-up for Mowing Season**

*Spring is here!* ...and mowing season will soon begin. The Cemetery Board asks everyone to please remove all decorations from the cemetery to be ready for the mowing season. Please remove items **before Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>**, our Church "Clean-up Day". Call Mickey Keller at 301-371-5276 with questions.

**Church "Clean-up" Day — Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> — 8:00 am to Noon**

The Church Property & Cemetery Boards are hosting an Outdoor "Clean-Up" Day on **Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to Noon.** Everyone is welcome to come and help! The gardens need tending and winter debris needs to be cleaned up.

**The Book Club**

We'll meet at 7:00 PM in The Parish House on **Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>** to discuss *The Thirteen Tale* by Diane Setterfield. "This debut novel is a rich story about secrets, ghosts, winter, books and family. *The Thirteenth Tale* is a book lover's book, with much of the action taking place in libraries and book stores, and the line between fact and fiction constantly blurred."

**Church Softball League Game Schedule for May**

Date	Game Time	Opponent	Field
5/1/2011	5:00pm	13-St. Timothy's Red	Pinecliff #3
5/15/2011	5:00pm	19-Frederick Presbyterian	Middletown #2
5/22/2011		Bye Week	
5/29/2011		Memorial Day Holiday	

One God ~ One Voice  
presents

*Requiem*

by Gabriel Faure

**Sunday, May 22  
2:30 PM**

**Christ Reformed Church  
Middletown, Maryland**

A free-will offering will be donated to the Christ Reformed Capital Campaign Fund for costs associated with the restoration of the sanctuary and organ.

**Save the date!**  
**Father/Son Outing**  
**Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:30 P.M. Picnic at the Park**  
**7:00 P.M. Frederick Key's Game**  
**Tickets \$15 per person**



**Blood  
Drive**

**SATURDAY, MAY 7TH**

**8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.  
Chapel**

**Please give the Gift of Life!**

**You are eligible to give every  
56 days.**



**Save the Date!**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Sign-up to serve  
or provide a dessert!**

**Save the Date!**

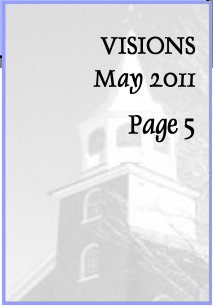
**AN ALL-CHURCH PICNIC  
SUNDAY, JUNE 12, FOLLOWING THE 10:30 SERVICE**

The Parish Life and Discipleship Boards are pleased to invite you to an all-church picnic to usher in the summer and to celebrate the culmination of a successful Sunday School year. Come and enjoy great food, fellowship, games and activities for all ages, and of course, strawberry sundaes. The picnic will be after the 10:30 service, and we certainly hope to have great weather and an exceptional turnout. Show off our wonderful church community and all we have to offer one another by bringing your family, friends, and neighbors. And don't forget to bring your appetite!



**You-Can-Two-Can Campaign Update**

The Youth Sunday School Program's *You-Can-Two-Can* campaign to collect food for the Middletown Food Bank brought in an additional 90 items in April, bringing our total to 502. That's about 74% of our goal of 697. Please be sure to leave your contributions with your Sunday School teacher or put them in the Sukkah in the coffee hour space to ensure they get counted with the *You-Can-Two-Can* totals.



**Think Summer! Think VBS!**

**SonSurf Beach Bash ♦ July 11-15, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**



*SonSurf Beach Bash* is an open invitation for all rising kindergarteners through 5th graders to celebrate the Good News of Jesus Christ simply by joining the party! We'll listen to gnarly music, tell most-excellent Bible stories, play radical beach games, create awesome crafts, and nosh on scrumptious snacks. A registration form is included in this *Visions* Newsletter or can be accessed online at [www.christreformeducc.org](http://www.christreformeducc.org).

**LIFE GUARDS Needed 'Apply Within'**

There's no doubt about it - pulling together an exceptional VBS program takes a great deal of effort! VBS is more than just a fun time for the kids in our church. It's an authentic encounter with the Lord that enriches them for life. In fact, when you volunteer your time and talents to help create and provide a VBS program, you bring a whole new meaning to the title "Life Guard." In order to make this year's *SonSurf Beach Bash* a success, we need your support. We need help both behind the scenes and out in front, during the event and in preparation for it. Please review the opportunities listed below and prayerfully consider how you could help this year and. There are plenty of positions open - simply listen inside for the call of the Spirit and apply within.

**SonSurf Beach Bash Volunteer Needs**

**Decorations (pre-event)** - We need to transform the Chapel into the ideal beachside get-away. If you have a gift for creativity - for color and texture and playfulness - and would like to help, please let me know. This is a perfect opportunity for someone who wants to help but can't be there for the actual VBS day program.

**Troop Leaders (by the day)** - Participants are organized into small groups by age (troops), each one of which needs a guide or leader to be their chaperon for the day. Troop leaders can volunteer to serve for the whole week or can designate a specific day(s). In total we have 30 slots to accommodate an estimated 6 troops (2 k/1, 3 2/3, and 1 4/5).

**Story Leader (by the day)** - If you have the gift for storytelling, this is the job for you! Share the Good News through creative and engaging presentations that you can adapt to fit your personal style.

**Craft Helpers (by the day)** - We will have two craft rooms running. Each day we need two volunteers in each room to provide assistance for the kids and to prepare the room for the incoming group.

**Snack Helper (by the day)** - This is as simple as it sounds - just help to feed and water (or juice) the kids as their troops visit the Social Hall for a snack.

**Recreation Leader and Coaches (by the day)** - The Recreation Leader and Coaches guide VBS participants in pre-planned and organized games and activities, helping to reinforce lessons while also getting some fresh air. The Leader will select and plan the week's activities and coordinate the activity center with the assistance of the Coaches.

**♦ Please contact Michelle Beadle at [301-371-6610](tel:301-371-6610)/[michelle.beadle@comcast.net](mailto:michelle.beadle@comcast.net) if you are interested in helping out. ♦**

*Thank You Notes*

Many thanks to all the members and friends that purchased Easter flowers for our holiday season. Dutch Plant Farm did a wonderful job providing beautiful plants. Thanks to Shirley and Mickey Keller and Cynthia and Carrollee Zecher for the use of their palms. Special thanks to the Decorating Committee for helping to set up and give out plants along with cleaning up afterwards.

~Sharon Thomas



Thank you for all the thoughts, prayers, and beautiful cards we received both during my Mom's (Virginia Myers) illness and after her death. The support from Pastor Mark, Called to Care, Parish Life Board, and the members of our church family was very caring and thoughtful, and was greatly appreciated.

~Blessings to you all,  
Connie and Gary Bell



**MIDDLE SCHOOL HELPERS**

May 1	Cody Huffer
May 8	Tyler Nice
May 15	Ethan Remsberg
May 22	Blake Dougherty
May 29	Logan Bramhall

**LAYREADERS**

May 1	Gail Johnson
May 8	Judy Brandenburg
May 15	Nancy vom Lehn
May 22	Margie Hurd
May 29	David Cutler

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS/GROUPS**

May 1	Lorena & Keith Zecher
May 8	Laura & Tony Verdi
May 15	Diana & Lewis Corl
May 22	Lynette & Bob Kaufmann Called to Care
May 29	Terri & Mark Boettcher

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

May 1	Chris Brandenburg
May 8	Gail Patrick
May 15	Andrew Corl
May 22	TBD
May 29	TBD

**SOUND TECHNICIANS**

May 1	Matt Anticevich
May 8	Tony Verdi
May 15	Luke Verdi
May 22	Chris Johnson
May 29	Nick Fink

**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS**

May 1	Nancy vom Lehn
May 8	Joyce Kefauver
May 15	Wendy Campbell
May 22	Paige Gorman
May 29	Pat Wiles

***Birth Announcement***

***Paityn Rileigh Shew*** was born on March 30, 2011.  
Congratulations to Matt & Nicole Shew

***Baptisms***

***Benny Greenberg*** was baptized on April 3, 2011.  
***Michael R. New*** was baptized on April 3, 2011.  
***Kristine E. New*** was baptized on April 3, 2011

***Memorials***

***Ronald "Ronnie" Kefauver*** died on April 5, 2011. A service celebrating his life was held on April 9, 2011.

***Weddings***

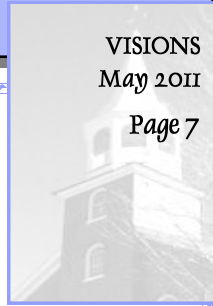
***Steven Hanson & Leah Anderman*** were wed on April 16, 2011.

**Church Attendance**

**April 2011**

	8:15 am	10:30 am
April 3	63	249
April 10	69	141
April 17	82	257
April 24	129	294
April Average	— 321	
2011 Average	— 221	

**Mike and Kris New** moved to Lovettsville, Virginia, from North Carolina three years ago. They are originally from Indiana and plan to move back there when they retire. Kris' son, Andrew, served a year in Iraq and moved back to Indiana after getting married. Mike has worked for the US Postal Service for 33 years and is currently a Real Estate specialist with them. Kris works as a teller for the PNC Bank in Brunswick. Mike and Kris love to go antiquing and are always looking for new places to visit. They enjoy weekend getaway trips and hope to start doing more hiking on the Appalachian Trail. They also go home for visits to Indiana every chance they get. Mike grew up in the Baptist Church and Kris in the Church of God. They feel they have found a home at CRUCC. Kris writes, "God has blessed us many times in our journey through life thus far. We are happy to be a part of the church family." Mike and Kris were both baptized at worship on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Welcome, Mike and Kris!



**Benny and Kelly Greenberg** and four of their children, John, Eric, Chase and Daniel, live in Middletown. Of himself, Benny writes, *"Introductions are always such an awkward thing to do, but as a member of CRUCC all of the awkwardness has gone away and has been replaced with a sense of family. I guess being born in the Holy Land and in the Holy City (Jerusalem, Israel) sort of makes me a natural fit for a Christian Lifestyle; though I have lived most of my life as a member of the Jewish faith. Coming to America when I was only 10 months old and spending most of my life in Brooklyn, NY makes me quite the Yankee (though a true Mets fan) and a proud American!"* Benny says he's blessed to combine his love of sports and his professional life. He is in sales and marketing with a company specializing in sports-related products. Kelly, a native of Maryland, works in real estate as a title processor. They have seven children between them. In their limited spare time they enjoy, traveling, exploring this area and looking for interesting places to eat. Both are interested in finding or starting activities in the church that connect them with people in their same life situation. They are anxious to build new friendships in the church so we invite you to walk up to them and introduce yourself. Welcome Benny and Kelly!



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## Congratulations 2011 Confirmation Class!



**Clark Douglas Zecher** is the son of Keith and Lorena Zecher. He attends eighth grade at Rock Creek School in Frederick. Clark plays baseball with Challenger Baseball Frederick for the St. Clair team. He also participates in Special Olympics in Frederick, competing in swimming and flag football. He also loves music and dancing. Clark enjoys spending time with his family, especially Craig and Caleb. He loves watching them play church softball and is their biggest fan.

**Logan McKenzie Bramhall** is the daughter of Robyn and George Bramhall. She attends Middletown Middle School, where her favorite subject is French. She is involved in the Student Government. She performs with the Liturgical Dance Group, participates in Youth Group and enjoys dancing at Dee Buchanan Studio.

**Olivia McCardell Remsberg** is the daughter of Mike and Lisa Remsberg. She attends Middletown Middle School, where her favorite subjects are Language Arts and Spanish and her activities include SGA and the All County Chorus. She has been dancing with the Dee Buchanan Dance Studio for 10 years. She is also a member of the Youth Group, the Teen Choir and the Liturgical Dance Group.

**Taylor Nicole Long** is the daughter of Krista and Brian Long. She attends Middletown Middle School where her favorite subjects are Language Arts and Science. She is a cheerleader for her school. She is a member of the Youth Group and enjoys helping out with the Soup Kitchen.

**Jaxxon Ethan Montgomery** is the son of Tanya and Scott Montgomery. He attends Middletown Middle School where he enjoys Science and Gym. He likes to help out with ushering and greeting during Sunday's services.

**Trevor Reed McClure** is the son of Kim and Darrel McClure and Stephanie and Scott Mekkelson. He attends Middletown Middle School where his favorite subjects are Gym and Science. He enjoys weight-lifting, basketball and football. He also likes to help out in the Soup Kitchen and serving as an Usher and Greeter.

**Thomas Andrew Corl** is the son of Andrew and Tiffany Corl. He is an eighth grader at Middletown Middle School. He is active in Boy Scout Troop 476 where he holds the "Star" rank and is the Troop Guide responsible for teaching the new scouts basic Scouting skills. He plays the clarinet and has also participated in the Audience of One Choir. He loves math problems and has started to learn computer programming. Thomas has attended CRUCC for his entire life and enjoys Sunday School and participating in the Middle School Youth Group activities.

*Christ Reformed  
United Church of Christ*

Rev. Mark Wakefield, Pastor  
Rev. Michelle Beadle, Associate Pastor

Contemporary Worship 8:15 a.m.  
Sunday School for All Ages 9:15 a.m.  
Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Coffee Hour following Worship

Church Office Hours  
Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.  
301-371-6610  
Fax: 301-371-6912  
[christreformeducc@comcast.net](mailto:christreformeducc@comcast.net)  
[www.christreformeducc.org](http://www.christreformeducc.org)

P.O. Box 333  
12 South Church Street  
Middletown, Maryland 21769

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Frederick, Maryland 21701

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**CHRIST CHURCH  
CHILDREN'S CENTER**

301-371-0360  
Daycare – Early Learning Center  
Kindergarten thru 5th Grade  
6:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Monday – Friday

*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.*

**Be An Arty-Fact Explorer**

**Elementary Summer Sunday School Program ♦ June 12 – August 28**

God has already given you the perfect tools for exploring the Bible, and this year's **Arty-Fact Explorers** Elementary Sunday School Program is just the place to put these tools to use. Using your curiosity, creativity, imagination, and thoughtful questions, you will be able to dig deep into Bible stories and uncover ancient truths for yourself. Then you will share your discoveries with the world using all kinds of art such as painting, drawing, modeling, sculpting, and so much more! Explorers entering kindergarten through fifth grade are welcome to join-in from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the K/1 Sunday School classroom on the second floor (the one on the upper right when facing the front of the Chapel).

**A Few Notes About Arty-Fact Explorers**

Through the creative process, children can enter the Biblical story at their own level and respond in a way that is naturally meaningful for them. Using a menu of pre-selected scriptures, students will be encouraged to 'step inside' the Bible by discovering assumptions, encountering characters, and exploring context details. Each week new scriptures will be introduced. Students can linger on a single story or even a sub-element of a story, can merge stories, or can enter as many stories as they can get to in the course of the summer. Class leaders will come with an open mind and a desire to help the children learn how to enter the scripture and to confidently express themselves without fear of judgment. Some overriding ground rules will include:

- Efforts in class must stay anchored in the legitimate exploration of the Word as it is revealed in scripture, tradition, and personal experience.
- The objective of the creative process is that the final product be meaningful for the creator, not the audience. Peers are encouraged to support one another's efforts but are not welcome to criticize skill or style.
- Materials must be used appropriately: not wastefully and not destructively, and for the purposes for which they have been provided.



**♦ Please consider volunteering to facilitate a session or two this summer. ♦**