

### Church Family Fellowship



Mark your calendar for February 13 and plan to get together with all ages of our church family to enjoy a meal followed by games. Bring a dish to share and your family's favorite game(s). The event will begin at 5:30. This will be a great opportunity to become better acquainted with others in our church family. See you there!

**Financial Peace University-** a curriculum to help people handle money God's way, see more at: <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu>

Informational Meeting on Sunday, February 15th at 1 pm. Classes will begin in March- time and date will be determined at the info meeting. Childcare provided.

### Food Pantry

Please purchase the following during the month of February:

- canned fruit
- fruit juice

Thank you for supporting this ministry to our neighbors who are in need.

To learn about volunteer opportunities with the food pantry ministry, please see Russ or Stan. The food pantry is open on Wednesdays from 4:00 pm -6:00 pm, Saturdays, 9:00 am - 11:00 am. Full-time and substitute volunteers are needed.

### Sunday Worship Info

*February*

1st: Scripture Philippians 1:12-26

8th: Scripture: Philippians 2:1-11,  
Celebrating the Lord's Supper

15th: (No Sunday School) Scripture:  
Philippians 2:12-18

18th: Ash Wednesday (& Lent Begins)

**Camp Fowler** - Registration for the 2015 season is open. Check the website for details:

[www.campfowler.org](http://www.campfowler.org)

Camp Scholarships from the Billy Brown fund are available. See Shawn Smith or Pastor Jeff for more information.

**Cleaning the Sanctuary:** Thank you to everyone who has helped keep the Sanctuary clean. There are a few months later in the year that are available if you would like to take a turn. If a month is too much- partner with someone else.

**Consider becoming a member.** It's easy. The first step is baptism. If you are not baptized- get baptized! (see Jeff for more). Then one needs to make profession of faith before the Elders. If you are a member of another church a transfer would be requested, which we are willing to do that for you. See Pastor Jeff with questions.

Related to that- though not exclusive to membership... is a **class on the Apostles' Creed** sometime this Winter/Spring. A six-session class will give an overview of what Christians believe using the Apostles' Creed as our outline. We'll also touch on Reformed perspectives on various points. Maintaining membership and denominational distinctions do not seem to be popular, or make sense, in the common ethos today. But they both offer a place to start. After all, the only way to adapt and improvise, like in jazz music, is to first have a starting point and structure. If you are interested, contact Pastor Jeff by February 19th and we'll figure out the best time to meet.

### **Regular Happenings**

**Bible Study Tuesday:** 1 pm-2:30 at the Spencer's house, studying the Scripture for the coming week in worship.

**Bible Study Thursday:** 3:30-4:30 p.m. at Marian Lynes' house, studying the book of Acts.

### **Operation Christmas Child**



Have you checked out the map in the fellowship hall which shows where our shoebox gifts have been distributed since 2010? We have received

messages letting us know that some of the boxes we packed last fall have gone to Zimbabwe, Kenya, and Colombia. Please pray for the children who receive the gifts and for their families. May the gifts in the boxes fill physical needs of the children and may the message of hope delivered with the boxes fall on ears that are ready to listen and hearts that are ready to receive the Good News.

The Amani Children's Choir is on a US tour. Members of the choir are orphans from Uganda. Recently they visited the West Coast Office of OCC. All of the children in the group are shoebox gift recipients. When asked by staff members what their favorite items were, they answered: soap, washcloths, and school supplies. Imagine that! Not expensive electronics or clothing with the "right" label, but simple necessities were those gifts treasured by the children.

February is our month to purchase toothbrushes for our 2015 packing party. Please do not purchase toothpaste at this time. You may leave toothbrushes in the OCC basket in the foyer or make a monetary donation toward the bulk purchase of toothbrushes.

Thank you for supporting OCC all year!

*Mary Lou*

### **February Neighbors Eating Together (NET) Dinners**

Wednesdays, 5-6:30 pm.

4th: Here (Middleburgh Reformed)

11th: Our Lady of the Valley R.C.

18th: NO DINNER- Ash Wednesday

25th: St. Mark's Lutheran

To help in March see the Table for details.

### **Consistory**

Elders: Sarah Bramer (VP), Kim Smith, Joan Youmans

Deacons: Arleen Kingsbury, Leslie Hooper, Mary Lou Ryan.

Clerk of Consistory: Melissa Yung

www.middleburghreformed.org  
study phone: 518-827-5134

PO Box 112  
Middleburgh, NY 12122