

THE MARGATE COMMUNITY CHURCH

"An Ecumenical Family of Faith"

8900 Ventnor Avenue
Margate City, New Jersey 08402

Visit our website for current news and information
www.margatecommunitychurch.com

Founded in 1929, MCC is an interdenominational congregation, with membership in the American Baptist Churches and the United Church of Christ. Through these affiliations, our church participates in national and global ministries. MCC is a sponsor of Margate Terrace, a seniors residence at 610 N. Fredericksburg Avenue, and is a Covenant Church with Habitat for Humanity. We are lifetime members of the Holocaust Resource Center, Stockton University, Pomona, New Jersey.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. - Service of Worship

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE - (609) 822-7147; FAX - (609) 822-5974

Reverend Victoria Ney, Pastor

Rob Tucker - Director of Music

Colin Walker - Pianist

Carmella Marcheski- Administrative Assistant

Betty Nathanson - Church School Coordinator

Luis Meneses - Sexton

Michelle Cook-Stewart, Soprano Soloist



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8900 Ventnor Avenue
Margate, NJ 08402

**THE
SPIRE**

September 1, 2026

A Message from the Pastor

I was so excited this summer when I received the news of the arrival of Rick and Maria Lasheid's twin grandchildren—a boy and a girl! Rick sent me their picture via text and I marveled at their absolutely beautiful, perfect little faces. What a gift God gives us in each child! Their lives are just beginning, and their unique stories are about to commence.

Each of us has our own unique story to tell, and yet each of us has one that fits all—we are all precious to God. No matter what we look like, no matter who we are or where we're from, no matter what we have done or will do, we are precious to God.

As Christians, our Bible is the great reference book about God's love. My favorite passage is one I've shared before: Isaiah 43:1-5a: But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, he who formed you. Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, and you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you ... You are precious in my sight and honored. And I love you ... Do not fear, for I am with you.

In essence, the whole Bible is God's love story to us. It's a story of a God who never leaves us, who always stands by us, who is always with us. When we wake in the morning and greet the brand-new day, a day we've never seen before, God is with us. When we set about our daily routines—at home, in the office, in the classroom, in the gym—God is with us. When we sit to eat our meal—at a table for one, in the midst of a large family, in the din of a cafeteria or restaurant—God is with us. When we get a phone call, or an email, or a text message, or a letter that contains good or bad news, God is with us. When our hearts break, or feel they cannot be mended again, God says, "I am with you."

We happen to be a church family in a wonderful church. And all the time, through all the work we do together, we have the sure conviction that God will be with us. This is God's promise to each one of us: "I am with you."

Let's begin this new program year praying more, learning more, participating more, and rejoicing more in the blessings of God. Thanks be to God!

~Pastor Vicky

Greeters List for September

September 6 Russ & Gail Forrest
September 13 Terry Shaw / Ingrid Previti
September 20 Lynne Daley / Celestine Perry
September 27 Dan Thoren & Rose Fitzgerald



Deacons' September Communion Offering

Our September Deacons' Communion Offering is designated for **Volunteers in Medicine**.

Please be generous in supporting the Deacons as they support those in need.



PB & J Project

Please join us!

We will be making our peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the Atlantic City Rescue Mission after Church on Sunday September 20, in Fellowship Hall.

WE GO TOGETHER LIKE



PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY

Ladies Lunch Out

Welcome Back Ladies!



This month's Ladies Lunch Out will be on
Thursday September 10
Lamberti's Sunset Marina & Restaurant
9707 Amherst Ave,
Margate

Ladies Night Out

Welcome Back Ladies!



This month's Ladies Dinner Out will be on
Thursday September 24
Little Italy Restaurant & Pizzeria
815 Tilton Road
Northfield

~ UPCOMING MEETINGS ~

Hope SNJ (Grief Group)

Mondays, 4:00 pm Parlor

Bell Choir

Wednesdays, 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall

Chancel Choir

Wednesdays 7:00 pm Fellowship Hall

Trustees' Meeting

Tuesday September 15, 7:00 pm Fellowship Hall

Advisory Council

Sunday September 27, 11:00 am Parlor

Deacons' Meeting

Monday September 28, 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall

~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~

Best Of The Press Voting Begins ~ Once Every Day

Wednesday September 2 ~ Wednesday September 23

Men's Breakfast

Thursday September 3, 8:00 am Fellowship Hall

Charity League

Tuesday September 8, 9:00 am Fellowship Hall

MCC Nursery School ~ Welcome Back

Wednesday September 9, 9:00 am-12:00 pm Nursery School

Ladies Lunch Out

*Thursday September 10, 12:00 pm Lamberti's Sunset Restaurant
9707 Amherst Ave, Margate*

Blessing of the Backpacks, Rally Day and Luncheon

*Sunday September 13, During Worship ~ Lunch to follow in
Fellowship Hall*

Ladies Dinner Out

*Thursday September 24, 6:00 pm Little Italy Restaurant
815 Tilton Road, Northfield*

Men's Breakfast

Thursday September 17, 8:00 am Fellowship Hall

Recorder Group

Thursday September 18, 1:15 pm Sanctuary

PB & J Project

Sunday September 20, after Worship in Fellowship Hall

Book Club Meeting ~

Sunday September 20, 11:30 am Parlor

Rotz Baptism

Sunday September 27, during Worship Sanctuary

Services in September

Sunday, September 6th

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Worship - 10:00 am

Message by Reverend Victoria Ney

Sunday, September 13th

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Worship - 10:00 am

Message by Reverend Victoria Ney

Sunday, September 20th

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Worship - 10:00 am

Message by Kim Tucker

Sunday, September 27th

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Worship - 10:00 am

Message by Reverend Victoria Ney

Happy Birthday to all of our September Birthday

Thomas DeRitis (9/2)

Bobbie Mario (9/3)

Maureen Jones (9/3)

Sonya Bertini (9/5)

Stephen Gooden Jr. (9/13)

Mary Wagner (9/14)

Terry Haverstick (9/16)

Cynthia Gresham (9/16)

Nancy Young (9/17)

Joe Clark (9/17)

Heather Boyle (9/17)

Roger Steedle (9/17)

Christopher Connolly (9/17)

Karin Wren (9/18)

Kim Heyman (9/19)

Susan Lothian (9/20)

Wendy Lohs (9/21)

Pam Vockel (9/23)

Thorne Swift (9/23)

John Agner (9/23)

Heather Lovett (9/29)

Brenda Taube (9/30)

That we know of!



Book Club Meeting

Sunday September 20, 2026

11:30 Parlor

Circle of Days

by Ken Follett

From a bestselling author of epic fiction comes the deeply human story of one of the world's greatest mysteries: the building of Stonehenge.

A FLINT MINER WITH A GIFT

Seft, a talented flint miner, walks the Great Plain in the high summer heat, to witness the rituals that signal the start of a new year. He is there to trade his stone at the Midsummer Fair, and to find Neen, the girl he loves. Her family lives in prosperity and offer Seft an escape from his brutish father and brothers within their herder community.

A PRIESTESS WHO BELIEVES THE IMPOSSIBLE

Joia, Neen's sister, is a priestess with a vision and an unmatched ability to lead. As a child, she watches the Midsummer ceremony, enthralled, and dreams of a miraculous new monument, raised from the biggest stones in the world. But trouble is brewing among the hills and woodlands of the Great Plain.

A MONUMENT THAT WILL DEFINE A CIVILIZATION

Joia's vision of a great stone circle, assembled by the divided tribes of the Plain, will inspire Seft and become their life's work. But as drought ravages the earth, mistrust grows between the herders, farmers and woodlanders – and an act of savage violence leads to open warfare . . .

Truly ambitious in scope, Circle of Days invites you to join master storyteller Ken Follett in exploring one of the greatest mysteries of our age: Stonehenge.

Upcoming Book Club Meetings:

October 18 ~ Theo of Golden by Allen Levi

Special Thanks

2026 Summer Market Place

Our 2026 Summer Market Place was a huge success on August 8! With a record number of wonderful vendors and a beautiful day, it seemed all of the island turned out.

Nothing ever happens without a huge amount of effort. Special thanks go to our chairperson George Kyle and our wonderful volunteers for a job well done. Also many, many thanks to everyone who came to set up, break down, cook and sell food items for the church.

Thank you one and all!

The Summer Market Place!



Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to run the Sunday video livestreaming. This is not difficult and quick training will be provided.

Please call the office at 609-822-7147 if you are interested.



~Upcoming Events at MCC ~
Save the Date!

September 13 ~ Rally Day / Blessing of the
Backpacks and Luncheon after Church

October 4 ~ Blessing of the Animals

October 6, 13, 20, 27 at 6:30 p.m. Bible Study with
guest rabbi Dr. Laurence (Larry) Kotok

October 25 ~ Joe Mohan Piano Concert

Church Directory Update

The new church directory is almost complete.

We need you to check your picture and information before we make some printed copies. If you would like to have a printed version, rather than the one online, please call the office and let them know so that we will order enough copies.

If your profile is missing a photo, we'd love for you to upload one so everyone can put a face to the name.

<https://www.margatecommunitychurch.com/>

How to Access the Directory:

Website: Visit margatecommunitychurch.com and look for the link in the top right-hand menu.

- ♦ Getting Started: To log in, simply enter the email address we have on file for you.
- ♦ If your email isn't recognized or needs to be updated, please reach out to Greg Walters at: gregswalt@gmail.com.
- ♦ Once you enter your email, follow the on-screen prompts to create your login and secure your account. The online directory syncs in real-time, so you will always have access to the most up-to-date member information.

For any questions, feel free to contact Greg at the email address above.

For those livestreaming:

A special welcome to everyone streaming with us today! To help you engage with the service from home, you can now find our weekly Sunday bulletin directly on our website. It's a great way to stay connected and follow along with the liturgy and announcements.

**Congratulations to our
Wisznat/LaFave Scholarship Recipients**

MCC and our Scholarship Committee would like to congratulate the young people of our church who are the recipients of the Wisznat/LaFave Scholarship College Fund.

They are:

*Justin Gooden
Kal Heyman
Sadie Heyman
Gillian Lovett
Emma Karver
Margot Swift
Thorne Swift*



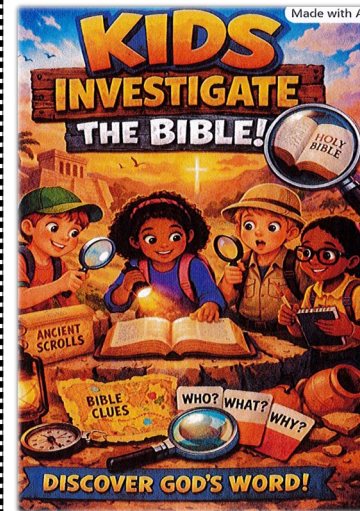
It is That Time Again!

Winners of the top 5 Best of The Press 2026 will be announced September 2, 2026

**If we make it into the top 5 in our categories,
We need to VOTE EVERYDAY!**

***Voting Phase: September 2 - September 23
Winners Publication: November 2026***

**Rally Day and Church Luncheon
The Start of a New Church School Year**



Rally Day is the traditional start of every Church School year. This year is no different for our children and young people. The theme for this year is a secret agent theme called K.I.D.S. (Kids Investigating Divine Stories!) So the upcoming Sunday School year will be a thrilling investigation into the Bible. We will encourage each student to get into the Bible and uncover amazing stories, hidden truths and incredible adventures. Every detective will receive their own clues to solve.

The children will be continuing our projects, such as the very successful Kids Making Change that resulted in our children presenting a check for \$3600 3to Casa—a charity that gives help to foster children, the Smile Train Christmas card project, and our Gratitude Café during a coffee hour in November.

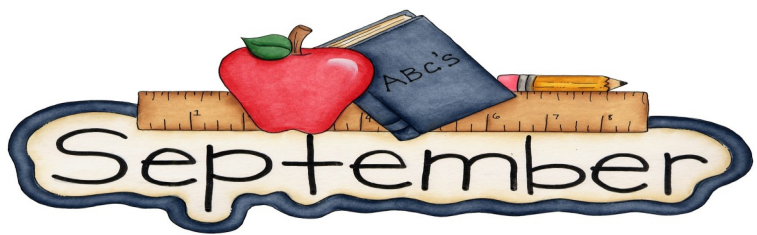
Our director, Betty Nathanson, and our teachers are all available for these classes and projects and we hope your children and grandchildren will take advantage of the wonderful Christian Education opportunities we have for our young people.

Let's start with the Rally Day Service in church, the Blessing of the Backpacks for children, teachers and any adults with brief cases that might need a blessing, and then enjoy a lovely church family luncheon to celebrate the beginning of a wonderful new program year at MCC.

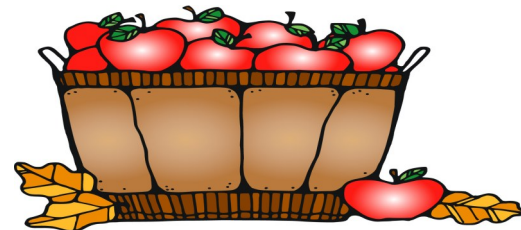


Blessing of the Backpacks

There will be a special Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, September 13 (Rally Day) at the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service. All students and adults are invited to bring their schoolbags, backpacks or briefcases to church and join us for a special blessing from Pastor Vicky as we get ready to start the new fall season. Feel free to bring friends and neighbors for this blessing. Let's start this fall season with a special blessing!



Margate Community Church 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00 Teacher Orientation 6:00 pm Nursery School Parent Meeting	2 Voting Begins for Best of the Press 12:30 AA	3 8:00 Men's Breakfast	4	5
6 10:00 Worship Communion Sunday	7 Happy Labor Day Office Closed	8 9:00 Charity League	9 9:00 Welcome Back MCC Nursery School 12:30 AA 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Chancel Choir	10 9:00 - Noon NS 12:00 Ladies Lunch Out	11 9:00 - Noon NS	12
13 10:00 Worship Blessing of the Backpacks, Rally Day & Luncheon 	14 9:00 - Noon NS 4:00 Hope SNJ	15 9:00 - Noon NS	16 9:00 - Noon NS 12:30 AA 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Chancel Choir	17 8:00 Men's Breakfast 9:00 - Noon NS	18 9:00 - Noon NS 11:00 Recorder Group	19
20 10:00 Worship PB & J Project 11:30 Book Club Meeting	21 9:00 - Noon NS 4:00 Hope SNJ	22 9:00 - Noon NS 7:00 Trustees' Meeting	23 9:00 - Noon NS 12:30 AA 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Chancel Choir	24 9:00 - Noon NS 6:00 pm Ladies Night Out	25 9:00 - Noon NS	26
27 10:00 Worship Advisory Council Rotz Baptism	28 9:00 - Noon NS 4:00 Hope SNJ 6:00 Deacons' Meeting	29 9:00 - Noon NS	30 9:00 - Noon NS 12:30 AA 6:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Chancel Choir			