



## Hosting Churches

First United Methodist  
Episcopal Church of the Ascension  
First Presbyterian Church  
Christ United Methodist  
First Baptist Church  
Spring Hill Church of Christ  
Breiel Blvd First Church of God  
Healing Word Assembly of God  
Yankee Road First Church of God

## SHALOM's MISSION

**To House, feed and nurture persons who are homeless through a network of faith based and community organizations.**

### **Ministry Profile: A ministry to the homeless**

SHALOM came into existence to offer food & lodging to the homeless of Middletown at a time when it was feared that the city's only homeless shelter would close. SHALOM is an acronym for Serving the Homeless with Alternative Lodging Of Middletown.

Now entering its sixth year of ministry SHALOM has become a network of local churches of various denominations that "*share their bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into their houses*". (Isaiah 58:7). Each week on a rotating basis, a church in the network provides meals and shelter within their church facilities. A van has been purchased to transport those in need of shelter from a central location to the host church. Guests have an opportunity to shower before dinner, and to relax after dinner in a safe warm environment.

Though participating churches have different traditions, worship styles, outreach programs and ministries, they have found common ground in enthusiastically serving the less fortunate and homeless of the community through this shared ministry. It is estimated that 300 church members and concerned citizens participate or contribute resources to make this ministry work.

When a new person comes to SHALOM for shelter, a written list of policies is provided so that each guest knows what to expect, and what is expected from them. Each person receives a supply of personal care items and a container for their personal items. Social workers meet weekly to interview and advise each guest on how to apply for assistance that might empower them to become self sufficient. This assistance may be in the form of medical care, food stamps, clothing, employment or housing. Some guests may require all of these areas, while others may need only a little encouragement and help to overcome their situations.

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