Say it with Flowers

Your donation of altar flowers honors special people in your life, and can also brighten up someone's day.

Reservations for flowers are being taken for April 13, 27, May 11, 18, 25. Altar flowers cost \$30. We keep costs low by reusing containers and vases. (Donations of vases that are between 7 and 9 inches tall are needed!) Please pay the church directly, and include a note that the payment is for Altar Flowers and the date chosen.

Use this <u>link</u> to reserve flowers. Please provide your name, phone number, email address and dedication. Let us know if you plan to take the flowers after the 10:30 service, or if you want them delivered to someone needing a pick-me-up.

CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE

Contemplative Worship will be held on Wednesday, March 26 and April 2, 9



Please join us for Coffee Hour in Demarest Hall after the 10:30 a.m. Service.

We are in need of donations and people to help set-up for Coffee Hour.

Please text Eleanor at 973-715-7429. We are trying to get a rotating 6 week schedule together. Thank you!

WORSHIP LEADERS NEEDED

We are in need of Worship Leaders, please email <u>officeadmin@spartaumc.org</u> or call the office at 973-729-7773 if you are interested. Thank you!

March 23, 2025

The Altar Flowers are given by

Rich & Ruth Kelley

In celebration of the birthday of our granddaughter, Olivia and in memory of our parents, Arthur Jones & Margot Kelley

Thank you to our Worship Leader this morning

Mike Vrabel

We would like to thank--Yvonne Roux, Pat Harvey, and all those who help to make Livestream Worship Services possible by recording and posting the service for us to watch as they happen.

Thoughts and Prayers

Prayers for: Joseph Carella (Melissa Lambert's father); Barbara Tabak (undergoing surgery this week),

Continued prayers for: Nancy Starnes, Abbie Wright - She is still undergoing treatment for her cancer (and will be for quite some time), Maryanne Spence, dealing with multiple health issues, Edith VanHousen, Kelly Stites, Alba Haas, Diane Cironi, Judy Remo, Sue Gibson, Sharon Gordon, Lester Hemphill, Rich Kelley, Linda Giammanco, Brenda Losey

Before you place anyone on our prayer list, please make sure you have permission from the person to do so.

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

BEYOND THE BASICS - (ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL)

Sunday Mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Room 8

MONDAY NIGHT BOOK GROUP-

The Monday Night Group meets at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM. The Religion of Whiteness by Michael Emerson and Glenn E. Bracey II Zoom link for Monday Nights: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/771970415?pwd=bFdUQk9YQUIyZXRhYUZnNVhRVEZvUT09

HEALTHIER LIVING GROUP

Every TUESDAY Morning at 10:30 a.m. The Tuesday morning Healthy Living group is now reading: The Well-Lived Life by Gladys McGarey, MD Mother of Holistic Medicine Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85294018790?pwd=bScXqgjh6RlCDFWN93116_aMcguqxF.1 Meeting ID: 852 9401 8790 Passcode: 389789 One tap mobile +16465588656,,85294018790# Dial by your location +1 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 852 9401 8790

WEDNESDAY MORNING MEN'S STUDY

Wednesday Mornings at 7:15 a.m. Angelo's Franklin Diner*

READING TOGETHER/BIBLE STUDY

Friday's at 10:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Video Meeting: <u>https://zoom.us/j/389284226</u> Alternate Phone in #: +1 646 876 9923; Meeting ID: 389 284 226 -- Passcode: 7773

SATURDAY PRAYERS & CONVERSATION GATHERING

Join a ZOOM gathering on Saturday mornings at 10:30 a.m. just to touch base and connect with others from the congregation just to check in and share with each other. Join Zoom Video Meeting: <u>https://zoom.us/j/826747498</u> Phone in #: +1 646 876 9923; Meeting ID: 826 747 498 Passcode: 7773

SAVE THE DATE

The Watoto are coming! The Watoto are coming!! THE WATOTO ARE COMING!!!!

Save the date: Thursday April 24.



FROM TAGS TO RICHES

Our Sparta UWF is supported by Soup and Quiche sales and a new ministry called, **From Tags to Riches**

Jill, a member of our church, is turning old/used greeting cards into gift tags! These tags come in an assortment of festive themes. Imagine adorning your gifts with tags featuring delicate butterflies, winter wonderlands, or festive Christmas scenes.

Grab a selection of 20 tags for just \$2! Every penny supports the amazing work of United Women in Faith (UWF) at our church. It's easy! Gather your used cards, pop them in a bag labeled "Jill R.," and drop the cards off in the PFLAG mailbox.

Let's upcycle and support UWF together! If you are interested in supporting the UWF through the purchase of gift tags, please send Jill an email at <u>hugsnothate@yahoo.com</u>. Please write "Gift Tags" in the memo. Thank you.

YEAR END GIVING STATEMENT

Please contact the office if you would like your 2024 Year End Giving Statement. Thank you.

Mission u 2025 Study

July 18-20 (adults, children, and youth studies), Centenary University, Hackettstown, NJ. The theme is **HOPE.** Exciting things are happening!

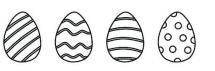
United Women in Faith: we believe love in action can change the world.

Church Mouse Changeover Day

Saturday, March 22nd is Changeover Day in the Church Mouse. The shop is closed to the public in the morning and persons from our non-profit ministry partners such as the Sparta Food Pantry, Family Promise, Project Self-Sufficiency and others are invited to come and take what they need for themselves and their homes free of charge. Then at 12:30, all the items left in the shop are bagged and boxed up to make room for our spring and summer items. **Extra Help is needed on Saturday afternoon, March 22nd**. If you can give some time on the afternoon of March 22nd, please come and help. All ages welcome!

EASTER EGG HUNT

The Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 19th starting at 11:00 a.m. We are looking for donations of individually wrapped candy to stuff the eggs. A container will be in the narthex for this purpose. Thank you!



Lenten Bible Study/Soup Supper

As a companion piece to our Lenten Worship, there will be a Lenten Bible Study/Soup Supper each Sunday evening from 5:45- - 7:15 p.m. in the Wesley Room. The study on the Gospel of Mark will include a short video from a series developed by Yale Divinity School, as well as conversation and fellowship. In order to be adequately prepared, you are asked to sign up, although if you find you have the time available at the last minute, please feel free to join us. There is always room in the circle for another person. While there is a specific outline of the parts of the gospel that we will cover, you are not required to do any homework as an outline of the gospel will be included each week for you to reference.

March 23rd: *What Kind of Kingdom* – Mark 3:7 – 6:29 March 30th: *Dense Disciples* – Mark 6:30 – 8:26 April 6th: *Who is He? Who are We?* – Mark 8:27-12:44 April 13th: *A Soldier's Epiphany* – Mark 14:1-15:47

If you are interested in participating in the Bible Study, please use this link or use the sign-up using the form below.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-

qmStgl5y6i9vkU801zT4qclhwrIUigS3SUZvYTjdzoAYLQ/viewform?usp=dialog

Sign up for Gospel of Mark Study – Sunday Evenings from 5:45 – 7:15

Name _____

Phone Number _____