**EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM**

Please join the Worship Committee in decorating the sanctuary with flowers for Easter.

**Order forms and payments must be received by Sunday, March 19, 2023**.

Cost is $10.00 per plant. Please make your check payable to Sparta UMC and indicate “Easter Flowers” in the memo section. Place completed form and payment in the offering plate, or mail form and payment to the church office.

Thank you for helping us celebrate the resurrection of our Lord! Donors may choose to take their plants home after the 10:30 a.m. service on Easter or leave them to grace our sanctuary.

**NAME(S) OF DONOR(S)**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Please note: Name(s) will appear in bulletin exactly as printed below.)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lily | Hyacinth | Daffodil | Tulip | **CIRCLE ONE** | Dedication (please print clearly) |
|  |  |  |  | In honor ofIn memory ofIn celebration of |  |
|  |  |  |  | In honor ofIn memory ofIn celebration of |  |
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|  |  |  |  | In honor ofIn memory ofIn celebration of |  |

**March 19, 2023**

***The altar flowers are given by***

***Lynn and Barry Higgins***

***In celebration of Kate’s special birthday***

***Thank you to our Worship Leader this morning***

***Debbie Gilone***



***Prayers for Allen Koriakin’s brother, Paul Nielsen (Kristi Drew’s father),***

***Sue Gibson, Sharon Gordon, Karen Sutphen, Lester Hemphill, Rich Kelley, Linda Giammanco, Joel, Phoebe Rude, Brenda Losey, Pat Darnstead’s sister, Edith, and prayers for Pat and Tom, her caretakers***

**Before you place anyone on our prayer list, please make sure you have permission**

**from the person to do so.**

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**HUNGRY IN THE GARDEN STATE**

**An exciting program is taking place on Saturday, March 25th, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Denville Community Church (see flyer in the Narthex)** to explore issues of racial inequity and food justice. A highly knowledgeable speaker in this area from

CUMAC / ECHO, Kayann Foster, will explore with us the circumstances present in society that create a situation where populations that live in the “Garden State” can actually suffer from food insecurity. As concerned Christians, how can we approach the problem together?

**ALL ARE WELCOME!** Please RSVP to this invitation by contacting Sandy Svenningsen (sandra.svenningsen@gmail.com).

***For all Zoom Gatherings, you may use either the Video Link or the Phone in # with ID #***

**BEYOND THE BASICS - (ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL)**

Sunday Mornings at 9:30 a.m.

Join us in Room 8 **OR** Zoom Video Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/719693907

One tap mobile (from Smart Phone): +16468769923, 719693907#

Dial by your location (other phones: +1 646 876 9923 Meeting ID: 719 693 907

**Passcode: 7773**

**MONDAY NIGHT DISCUSSION GROUP**

The Monday Night Study Group will be reading and discussing ***The Cross and the Lynching Tree*** by James H. Cone. All are welcome to join as we begin this new book.The Zoom link for the group is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/771970415?pwd=bFdUQk9YQUIyZXRhYUZnNVhRVEZvUT09>

Come when you can – no need to register ahead of time. All are invited and all are welcome!

**NEW ZOOM LINK --HEALTHIER LIVING GROUP**

Every TUESDAY Morning at 10:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85294018790?pwd=bScXqgjh6RlCDFWN93l16_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

**UMW BOOK GROUP-**

THE 2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH IS UMW BOOK GROUP

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89033468706?pwd=M3FYTHZPcm55Sm1jdGlRckRXTjgrQT09

Meeting ID: 890 3346 8706 Passcode: 681008 -- One tap mobile +13017158592,,89033468706#

Dial by your location: 1 301 715 8592, Meeting ID: 890 3346 8706

**WEDNESDAY MORNING MEN’S STUDY**

Wednesday Mornings at 7:30 a.m.

**DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY**

Thursday’s at 7:15 p.m. - New Testament

Will be held in the Wesley Room or via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81867473915?pwd=V1NkMUJZQ0Vqckw3V1E1dDlEdVZsQT09>

Meeting ID: 818 6747 3915 Passcode: 603082

One tap mobile 13092053325,,81867473915#

Dial by your location 1 309 205 3325 Meeting ID: 818 6747 3915

**READING TOGETHER/BIBLE STUDY**

**NEW BOOK - starting on Friday, February 24th**

Friday’s at 10:00 a.m.

***The Last Week: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus's Final Days in Jerusalem***

by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan

Join Zoom Video Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/389284226>

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: <https://zoom.us/j/826747498>

 Phone in #: +1 646 876 9923; Meeting ID: 826 747 498 Passcode: 7773

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****Jill, a PFLAG Sussex County board member, has volunteered to knit winter hats and make them available for people to buy. All of the profits will be donated to PFLAG Sussex County. Hats are $20 each and if you need it shipped there is a $6 postage charge.

Please reach out to Jill K. or Sue H. during coffee hour if you would like to order a winter hat from them. You may also contact Jill K. at hugsnothate@yahoo.com to place your order. PFLAG Sussex County appreciates your support.

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**CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP**

Contemplative Worship will be held each Wednesday during Lent

Please join us on March 22nd in the Sanctuary at 12:15 p.m.

**YOUTH NEWS….**

**CHRISTIAN OUTREACH PROJECT MISSION TRIP** will take place from June 25th - July 1st.

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**Pasta Luncheon:** Our next fundraiser for our Mission Trip will be a pasta lunch during Coffee Hour on Palm Sunday, April 2nd. Help will be needed to prepare as well as setup and clean up! Scan the QR code on the poster to access the sign-up sheet! Please come and enjoy a delicious lunch and make a donation to our team!

**Earthkeepers Day Camp 2023:** Youth Director Jack is starting to gather the team to prepare for our VBS-type program Earthkeepers in the summer! If interested in being a station leader, participating as a shepherd, or organizing in any way please see Jack soon! We will always need as much help as we can get!

**Youth Art Show:** As another fundraiser for the Mission Trip, our Youth Ministry will be collecting and framing art from some of our young people to present to the congregation after worship later in April. Spread the word to all our young artists in the community!

**College Care Package Donations Needed:**Our church will once again be sending out small care packages of dry snacks and treats and other goodies to our college students this semester!  As such, there will be a large bin in the Narthex to collect more dry snacks this month!  All snacks are due by the end of the month of March!

**Youth Group Continues:** Youth Group continues throughout the spring every other Monday evening at 6pm! Feel free to join our group!  Bring a friend!

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**Special Occasion? Altar Flowers**

Do you have a special occasion coming up? Acknowledge it with Altar Flowers! The following dates are available: April 16, 30 and May 14, 21 and 28. When requesting flowers please provide your name, phone number, email address, and dedication. Do you plan to take the flowers after the 10:30 service, or if you want them delivered to someone in need of a pick-me-up? Use this [link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScEmM6CWCoYHU7oc9GTbNWy8V8LvorgtyOnODCQoG2WS7xF0g/viewform) to reserve your flowers now.

Questions? Contact Yvonne Roux, yrouxrings@gmail.com, or 973-534-6129.

**FROM THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE**

PLEASE SAVE YOUR GREETING CARDS!

We are collecting the fronts of used holiday cards and all other types of greeting cards (NOT including Hallmark, American Greetings, or Disney due to copyright issues).  Envelopes are not necessary. We will be sending the collected card fronts to St. Jude’s Ranch for Children.

For over 4 decades St. Jude’s Ranch for Children has been helping youth who are neglected, abused, and experiencing homelessness by providing them with clothing, shelter, and foster care. This charity runs the Recycled Card Program which teaches youth small-business and entrepreneurial skills.  The youth make new greeting cards from your recycled ones and then sell them as a way to raise money to help fund the running of the Ranch.

Please save your used cards (Christmas, birthday, anniversary, get well, etc.) and leave them in the church’s Sussex County PFLAG mailbox. This collection will be ongoing. Thank you!

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**Children's Chime Choir**

The Children's Chime Choir for children ages 5-8 rehearses on Tuesdays, from 5 to 5:45 pm in the Music Room. We will rehearse on 3/21, and play during the 10:30 worship service on 3/26.

For additional information contact Yvonne Roux, yrouxrings@gmail.com or 973-534-6129.

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***We continue to thank Cullen Kempson, Pat Harvey, Anthony Hutchison, Chris Deery and Julia Juan for making Livestream Worship Services possible by recording and posting the service for us to watch as they happen.***