

SPARTA

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

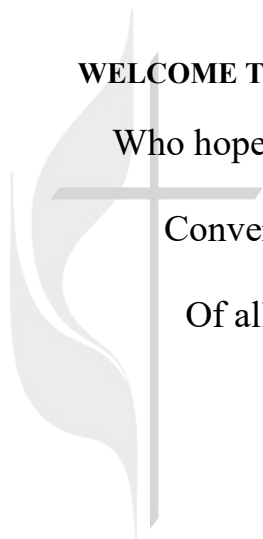
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

October 12, 2025, 2025 10:30 a.m.

			*Stand if able
Prelude	<i>The Gift of Love</i>	Based on "The Water is Wide" Arranged by The O'Neill Brothers The O'Neill Brothers © 2005	
Words of Welcome			
*Call to Worship			
We humbly come to you with grateful hearts, Loving God. Here are your children Loving God, ready to experience renewal! Discernment, determination, and commitment join us today. Here are your children Loving God, ready to experience renewal! We offer you a living sacrifice by reaching and touching those in need. Here are your children Loving God, ready to experience renewal! We bring our lives in presence and action as the offering you expect from us. Receiving what we offer, you will transform <i>all!</i>			
*Opening Song	<i>All My Days</i>	W & S 3011	
Congregational Prayer			
Enduring God, we gather in this special and sacred space prepared to experience your presence. Help us to focus and to set this time apart for worship. Open our eyes and our ears to hear your word, especially when it seems so different from what we hear in the world. May this time transform us, so we can see you and hear you more clearly. Unite us together as your people, your great human family, that together we might be a witness to our world of the joy and the hope that comes as we co-create your kingdom among us. With expectation, we pray, in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray:			
The Lord’s Prayer			Ian Good

Anthem	<i>Be a Candle of Hope</i>	Words & Music by Becki Slagle Mayo The Lorenz Publishing Co. © 2007
A Time for Young Disciples		
Song of Preparation	<i>Sanctuary</i>	FWS 2164
Scripture Reading	<i>Romans 12: 1-2</i>	
<i>I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God’s mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.</i>		
The Message	<i>Who Are You?</i>	
This Week in the Life of the Church A Word about the 2 nd Annual Art Show		
The Offering of Our Gifts and Our Prayers		
*Closing Song	<i>Take My Life and Let it Be</i>	UMH 399
*Sending Forth		
Postlude	<i>They'll Know We Are Christians</i>	Tune: St. Brendan's by Peter Scholtes Arranged by Mark Hayes Lorenz Publishing Co. © 2020

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WELCOME TO ALL *COME AS YOU ARE . . . YOU ARE WELCOME!*

Who hope for a better world & all who have lost hope:

Believers and seekers,
Conventional Christians & questioning skeptics
Women, men, youth and children
Of all sexual orientations & gender identities
Of all races and cultures,
Of all income levels,
Of all social classes
Of all physical & mental abilities.

SPARTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Ministry Team

MINISTERS Every member of Sparta UMC
PASTOR Rev. Dr. Steven Bechtold
PASTOR EMERITUS Rev. Dr. Alden Welch
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES Bonnie Pomeroy
SEXTON Eleanor Shumaker

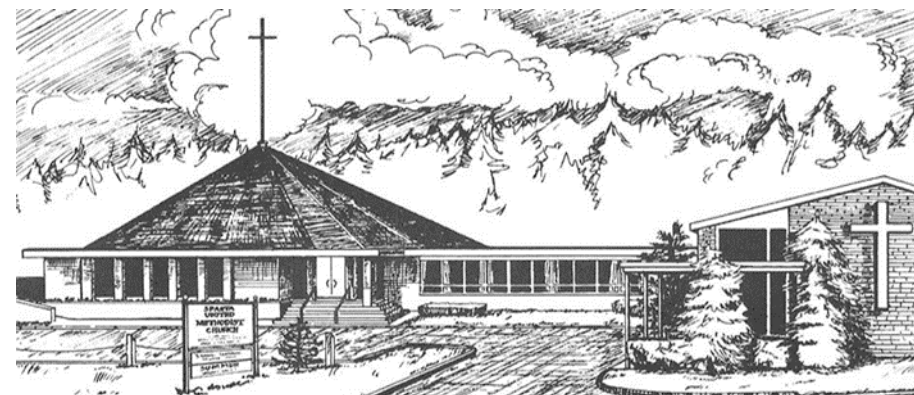
WEBSITE: www.spartaumc.org



*For your convenience, you may scan the QR Code to reach the Sparta UMC
On-line Giving Platform through Vanco.*

SPARTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A STEWARDSHIP & GENEROSITY SERIES
Counterculture



October 12, 2025
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

71 Sparta Avenue
Sparta, New Jersey 07871

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors:
Not Just a Tagline: This IS who we are