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United Methodist Church of Parsippany

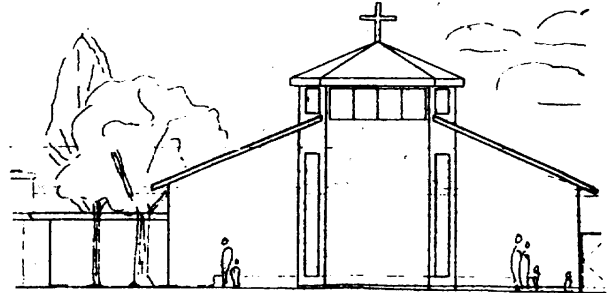
903 So. Beverwyck Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054 (973) 887-4657

<http://www.parsippanyumc.org> E-Mail: pastormarissavdv@gmail.com

Sunday Worship Celebration: 10:00 a.m.

In a hostile, hurting world we reach out to share kindness and laughter. Our spirituality is based on Jesus and his love and compassion. We provide a community of support and healing where all are welcomed and valued regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, disability, gender, or economic status. In a world where people feel they can love only those who are like themselves, we seek to celebrate the uniqueness of every human being.

"Making Room in the Circle"



MARCH, 2023



Greetings!

This week I was perusing some social media sites (okay I was mindlessly scrolling through Facebook), when I came across a clergy site where people were talking about the things they were going to do for Lent and Holy Week this year. There were a lot of good suggestions from pastors across the country. But as all things on social media go, one person posted a single comment. The comment was "Lent feels like it hasn't ended for three years."

I do not know if the person that posted was trying to add levity to the conversation or if he was lamenting that we have lived through a global pandemic, but the statement stuck with me, "Lent feels like it hasn't ended for three years."

In some ways, this statement might be true. We have been forced in the last three years to give up a lot of things in order to try and stay safe.

I was thinking that this year we should recognize the lament in that statement, but also focus on the hope. The resurrection hope that was brought to us as a baby in swaddling clothes born in a dusty manger. The hope of the all-encompassing love shown to us through Jesus. The hope of the resurrected Christ proving that death will never be the final answer.

God with us.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Marissa



Lent Mission Project

For Lent this year, we will participate in a Lenten Mission Project in conjunction with the Parsippany Food Pantry. We will be **putting together 75 bags filled with 11 non-perishable food items** (for a total of 825 items!) for the food insecure in Parsippany.

There are 4 ways you can help:

1. Print the list from the weekly email blast and bring your items to the church. There will be a designated place in the Narthex for the food items.
2. Go to the 'Amazon Wish List' (in the weekly email blast), purchase items and then select Gift Registry Address (Marissa van der Valk), this will send the items to the church.
3. Pick up a list at church. The lists will be available in the Narthex.
4. Come to the Maundy Thursday Service on April 6th when we sort and put all the food into bags.

Each week we will keep you updated on the how much we have and how much more we need. Have questions? Contact Pastor Marissa.

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Join us for our **Lenten Study** using the book, "**The Gifts of the Dark Wood**" by Eric Elnes. The book is about "seeing life through new eyes, recognizing that the experiences of failure, emptiness, and uncertainty are critical for finding our way through life as they are unavoidable." We will see how experiences of life through the "dark wood" are actually clues to our "calling" or "life path." How can the struggles be the seedbed of spiritual awakening to the fullness of life?

Monday night class starts Feb. 27th at 7pm in the sanctuary.
Tuesday morning class starts Feb. 28th at 10am on Zoom.

The class will be 5 weeks. Have questions? Please contact Pastor Marissa.

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EASTER FLOWERS: Easter is April 9 this year. It is early to be thinking of Easter flowers, but your **orders have to be given to Connie by March 17** to make sure that our supplier can get everything we order. **Enclosed with this newsletter is an order form for Easter flowers**, with instructions on how to place the order. There is a place to list dedications, if you wish on the back of the order form.

Connie will make sure to have a dedication bulletin for Easter Sunday. If you have any questions, please reach out to Connie Keller 973-568-5404 or email her at connie@mhmlender.com



Looking back... in February -we continued our women of the bible-bible study looking at Lydia from Acts.

Anyone not a member but would like to become one, please email me (betsyadams@live.com).

MARCH 1st – 7 p.m.
Program will be The Wonders of Double Helix DNA
presented by Pastor Marissa van der Valk.
All members of the church are invited. Refreshments served.

March 12 – Daylight Savings Time Begins	March 17 – St. Patrick’s Day
March 20 – Spring Begins	

GET WELL wishes to those of you who are ill, and
HAPPY BIRTHDAY to those of you celebrating this month with Angela Nolan and Karen Wilk.

God Bless,
Betsy Adams
betsyadams@live.com

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Youth Group Meetings

The Youth Group meets every other Sunday from 6-8pm. We cook and eat dinner together, have a lesson, and play some games. All youth grades 8th-12th are welcome to attend. Please check the weekly newsletter for the upcoming March dates. Have questions? Please contact Aimee Letsch or Pastor Marissa.

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Prayers for a Hurting World Prayer Vigil

PUMC has been asked by the Skylands District to host a prayer vigil on **Saturday March 18th from 11am-1pm** in the sanctuary. Please stay tuned to the weekly newsletter for more information.

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Holy Week Events

- Palm Sunday** - April 2nd at 10am
- Maundy Thursday** - Interactive Service April 6th at 7pm
- Good Friday** - Tenebrae Service April 7th at 7pm
- Easter Sunday** - April 9th at 10am
- Easter Egg Hunt** - After Easter Service



The Roast Beef Dinner is back! Saturday, May 6th!!!
More info to come!!!!



Anyone aware of a **Prayer Concern** is invited to contact Doris Bradley at 973-887-3219 who will put the **Prayer Chain** into action. If Doris cannot be reached, please contact Pastor Marissa. If you would like to add your name to the people who receive the prayer chain, please speak to Betty Polen

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Church Offerings:

If you are more comfortable attending worship online, or live at a distance, please try to keep your pledge up to date. You can send your pledge to the church. The address is:

Parsippany United Methodist Church
903 So. Beverwyck Rd.
Parsippany, NJ 07054
You can also use our PayPal link ---



To make it easier for the Congregation to keep up with their financial pledges to the Church, a **PayPal link has been added to the PUMC Homepage**. If you've never used PayPal before, it's an easy and secure way to send a payment over the Internet. You can use your bank account or a credit card to make your payment, and PayPal takes a small transaction fee. For more information or a quick demonstration on how to use this new tool, please speak with Justin Cogan. You can use this link: <https://www.paypal.me/parsippanyumc>



FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS – If you want to remember or honor a special occasion in your life by putting flowers on the altar, please get in touch with Connie Keller. You are certainly welcome at any time to place flowers on the altar. Contact information: Connie's cell: 973-568-5404; email: connie@mhmlender.com

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CHURCH CALENDAR and SCHEDULING EVENTS

The church calendar on our website www.parsippanyumc.org has been updated. If you want to schedule an event, you need to look at the website calendar to see if the date is available. All requests for use of the church facilities need to be approved by the trustees. Please contact Pastor Marissa for more information

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Zoom Wednesdays at 1:00 pm and Fridays at 12:00 pm

Many people may still feel wary about the risks of visiting shops, church or even leaving our homes. This is especially true if you have a disability or long-term health condition that makes you more vulnerable to the effects of coronavirus. Losing face to face contact with people can feel stressful and worrying. That's why on Wednesdays and Fridays we join on Zoom in the hopes that seeing a friendly face can help us feel more connected. On Wednesday, Joanne Rich checks in with those online seeing how people are doing. On Friday, Betsy Adams leads the group with a question of the week to open discussions and maybe find out something new about your church family. We end asking if there are any prayer requests you have. If you are looking to make connection with people, our Wednesday and Friday groups may be ideal for you. **Emails are sent out the day before meetings for you to follow the link.** If you have any questions, please reach out to either Joanne or Betsy.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Parsippany United Methodist Church, where there's always room in the circle, is invited to speak to Pastor Marissa.

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Our church website is at ParsippanyUMC.org. You can find all the newsletters, as well as a calendar that gives the times of events held at the church. You can also find a little church history, a listing of all the plays we've produced at the church, and a summary of the various church fellowship and mission groups.

If you aren't presently on **Facebook**, consider joining with a secret identity so you can be a member of the Parsippany United Methodist Church Congregation Group and received day by day prayer concerns and announcements and other postings regarding the life of our church.

FACEBOOK LIVE – Our services are on Facebook Live every week. If you are interested in furthering the ministries of our church by helping out with our Live broadcasts, please reach out to Connie Keller or Darryl Sokolowski.



Parsippany United Methodist Church is now on Instagram. To find us, search - Parsippany_umc

Instagram



Consider becoming a part of one or more of our Musical Groups here at church:

Bell Choir – rehearses Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining us, please speak to Barb Bradley or Aimee Letsch - or just show up on Thursday and see what happens!

Choir – rehearses Thursdays at 7:45 p.m. We always have an "open robe" for anyone who loves to sing. We sing in 4-part harmony, so if you've sung in your high school chorus or any other equivalent, you have a great start! Speak to any choir member or Barb Bradley if you're interested.



Our Outreach to Those in Need



On the second Thursday of every other month our church provides a meal for the people living temporarily at **Homeless Solutions**. If you would like to volunteer as a server, please speak to Laurie Wilken or Connie Wallace. If you would like to help cook speak Tom Albert or Justin Cogan. Our next opportunity to serve is **April 13th**.



Parsippany Emergency Food Pantry – Denise White is now delivering our donations to the Emergency Food Pantry in Parsippany. You can bring your donations of non-perishable food items to the church any Sunday. Denise takes the food over as the bin gets filled up. Supermarket gift cards are also welcome. This is a very easy way to give back to the less-fortunate in our own township.

On **Saturday, TBD** our church once more takes its turn volunteering at **Interfaith Furnishings**. Please let Garrett Belanus or Pastor Marissa know if you can volunteer your time to help move donated furniture to the homes of people who could not otherwise afford it in Morris County.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS			
2 nd	Evan Nichols	20 th	Len Bostwick
5 th	Michael Weiss	20 th	Alexa Taylor
7 th	Ian Crawford	21 st	Eric Christiango
7 th	Christina Sakelakos	22 nd	Jared Gropper
7 th	Kristopher Hawkins	22 nd	Brianna Laux
9 th	Ryan Laux	23 ^d	Jim Simmons
10 th	Anna Gripp	24 th	Karen Wilk
10 th	Maya Roelofs	24 th	Angela Nolan
10 th	Daniel Duran	24 th	Frances DiPietro
12 th	Alex Hawkins	25 th	Nancy McAllister
12 th	Sue DeJessa	26 th	Kate Eiring
12 th	Amy Gripp	27 th	Amina Thomas
14 th	Debra Mortensen	28 th	Arlene Sklow
16 th	Paul Larsen Sr.	29 th	Sarah Roberts
17 th	Julia Sklow	29 th	Monica Hawkins
17 th	Daniel Wallace	31 st	Ron Gounaud
18 th	Anna Christal		
20 th	Andy Klekanos		



2023 EASTER FLOWER ORDER

Your name: _____

Please make your selection by entering the number of plants you want next to the color and size you want.

HYACINTH

3 bloom \$7.50

_____pink
 _____blue
 _____white

HYACINTH

5 bloom \$11.50

_____pink
 _____blue
 _____white

HYACINTH

8 bloom \$19.50

_____pink
 _____blue
 _____white

AZALEA

1 gallon \$13.75

_____red
 _____white
 _____pink

AZALEA

2 gallon \$28.00

_____red
 _____white
 _____pink

Grape Hyacinth

4" \$4.50

DAFFODILS

LARGE YELLOW

_____6" pot \$7.25
 _____8" pot \$12.25

MIXED TULIPS

_____3 bloom \$4.00
 _____6 bloom \$7.00
 _____10 bloom \$14.00
 _____15 bloom \$19.00

HYDRANGEA 8"

_____white \$30.00
 _____pink
 _____blue

EASTER LILY

_____6" pot 1 PLANT—4-7 BLOOMS \$12.00
 _____8" pot 2 plants \$25

SEE BACK FOR DEDICATIONS AND ORDER INFORMATION

DEDICATIONS: (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) (There will be a dedication bulletin)

IN HONOR OF:

IN MEMORY OF:

TOTAL NUMBER OF FLOWERS ORDERED _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: _____

Payment must be made at the time of order by cash or check. Please make checks payable to PUMC.

ALL ORDER FORMS AND PAYMENTS MUST BE TO CONNIE KELLER

NO LATER THAN MARCH 17

You can pay by cash, check—made payable to PUMC, venmo—@connie-keller-6,
Zelle - 973-568-5404

Email: connie@mhmlender.com fax: 973-265-2401 cell: 973-568-5404

March 2023

United Methodist Church of Parsippany

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
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