



# THE WORK OF IMAGINATION

## Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Morristown United Methodist Church  
[MorristownUMC.org](http://MorristownUMC.org)



## OUR CORE VALUES

**AFFIRMING:** We welcome each person as they are, a beautiful child of God.

**SERVING:** We help and advocate for people and our environment, within our church, the community, and beyond.

**INSPIRING:** We celebrate God's role in our lives, embracing the examples and teachings of Christ, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

**CREATING COMMUNITY:** We foster joy in our midst and with our neighbors in everything we do.

**LOVING:** We reflect God's love and love each other, knowing we are loved and forgiven.

## PRELUDE

## WORDS OF WELCOME & GRACE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Come into God's presence,  
you who imagine and you who seek,  
you who disrupt and you who repair.

**By the Spirit, we gather in hope.**

Come into God's fellowship,  
you who are broken and blessed,  
you who show mercy,  
as God has first been merciful to you.

**In Christ, we gather in blessing.**

Come into God's presence,  
singing for joy and for justice;  
bringing prayer and worship, your most faithful acts of resistance.

**To God be the glory! We gather to praise!**

### OPENING PRAYER

**Generous God,  
you bless your people in every age:  
Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,  
Hannah, Elizabeth, and Mary,  
children and those who are vulnerable,  
all who know poverty, hunger, grief, and hate.  
May we follow your example  
in sharing and seeking blessing for others,  
not hoarding it for ourselves.  
Let us share your abundant life and love,  
offered to us and to all  
through the vulnerability and generosity  
of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.  
Amen.**

### OPENING HYMN #132 All My Hope is Firmly Grounded

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**MUSICAL OFFERING** *Ashes* (Tom Conry)

## **CHILDREN'S TIME**

**CHILDREN'S COIN COLLECTION** Benefitting the Heifer Project

## **INVITATION TO THE PRAYGROUND**

**Jesus loves me! this I know, for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me,  
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.**

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**You told us to bless the poor,  
to make peace with our neighbors,  
to share what we have with others,  
and to live our faith through quiet actions.  
Yet we often fail this calling.  
Forgive us, God, where and when we have slipped into the world's ways of hate, greed,  
and violence.  
Guide us into faithfulness once again, for your ways are loving, just, and compassionate.  
Amen.**

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

#### **SCRIPTURE** James 1:19-27

Inspired by God and entrusted to us, these are holy words for holy living.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### **SCRIPTURE** Luke 6:17-36

Inspired by God and entrusted to us, these are holy words for holy living.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **SERMON**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us affirm our faith as we participate in the holy work of imagination.

**We believe in the ways of Jesus.  
We believe in sharing food, water, shelter, and healing care with everyone.  
We believe in freedom for captives, justice for victims, and deliverance for all who are  
enslaved. We believe peace comes from justice, not violence.  
We believe everyone is our neighbor, without exception.  
We believe children are precious and worthy of care.**

**We believe, as Jesus did, that we find God among the poor, the marginalized, the weak, the imprisoned, and the rejected.**

**We believe Jesus came, not merely to point to heaven, but to teach us how to bring heaven to earth.**

**We believe and pray for God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**HYMN #515 Out of the Depths (Verses 1-3)**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** page 13, red UM Hymnal

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **SHARING OF THE BREAD & CUP**

### **MINISTRY MOMENTS**

### **OFFERTORY**

### **DOXOLOGY (Old 100th)**

**Praise God throughout these forty days.**

**Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.**

**And praise the Spirit who imparts**

**God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Generous God, we bring our gifts before you and your church like tiny seeds from a dandelion. Send out these gifts on the mighty wind of your Spirit, bringing growth, bearing fruit, and nourishing both our faith community and our neighbors. May each gift of every size bloom with your holy imagination. Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN #269 Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days (Verses 1-4)**

### **CHARGE**

**Beloved children of God, as you return to the wild wilderness of everyday life, as you encounter every kind of person, cling to the ways of Jesus who helps us imagine a world where love and justice thrive.**

### **BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

**Our *Worship* Is Now Over, and Our *Service* Begins**



## LEADERSHIP

### Liturgist

Vinita John

### Sound & Livestream

Katlyn Agostinelli, Ryan Terrone,  
Winifred Bunch

### Greeters

Holly Dinneny, Amy Scott

### Children's Sunday School

Nate Roark, Arnold Kamdem

### Morristown UMC Staff

#### Senior Pastor

Rev. Luana Cook Scott  
LCookScott@MorristownUMC.org

#### Director of Music Ministries

John Liepold  
JLiepold@MorristownUMC.org

#### Organist & Pianist

Jennifer Yang

#### Office Manager

Regina Heater  
RHeater@MorristownUMC.org

### Director of Family Ministries

Nate Roark  
NRoark@MorristownUMC.org

### Property Manager

Andrew Cattano  
ACattano@MorristownUMC.org

### Nursery

Tati Diaz

### Seminary Interns

Josephine Tunda  
Benin Shekawongo  
Arnold Kamdem

**OneLicense #A-711642**

MUMC Mission Madness kicks off on **March 1** and runs all month long, inviting youth into meaningful, hands-on service in our local community. Throughout March, youth will have opportunities to live out their faith through action—packing hygiene kits and meals, supporting local community centers, and serving as youth helpers during **Compassion Camp**. Each activity is designed to help young people see how compassion, justice, and service are woven into everyday discipleship.

In addition to service opportunities, youth are invited to gather weekly for **study and fellowship**. Beginning **March 5**, youth will meet in the **Youth Lounge at 6:00 PM** for a time of connection, conversation, and faith formation. These gatherings will offer space to reflect on where we see God at work in our service, build friendships, and grow together in faith.

Mission Madness is open to all youth 7th-12th grade and offers a meaningful way to deepen relationships, serve neighbors near and far, and experience the joy of being part of God's work in the world. Whether participating in one event or the entire month, youth are encouraged to come as they are and join in this season of service and community.



## This Week at Morristown UMC

### Sunday, March 1, 2026

*Rummage Collection Begins*

9:15 AM Adult Sunday School, WR

10:30 AM Children's Sunday School, PG

10:30 AM Worship

11:45 AM UWF Meeting, WR

### Monday, March 2, 2026

11:00 AM Staff Meeting, Z

7:00 PM AA, YL

8:00 PM Arise, Rm. 32

### Tuesday, March 3, 2026

11:00 AM Property Team Meeting, WR

2:00 PM Arise, K

4:00 PM Arise Delaney Hall Witness/Support -- Offsite Location

5:30 PM COG Staff Meeting, FH

6:00 PM Harmonium Rehearsal

### Wednesday, March 4, 2026

7:00 PM Handbells, FH

### Thursday, March 5, 2026

6:00 PM Youth Weekly, YL

7:00 PM Choir, MR

### Friday, March 6, 2026

6:00 PM Harmonium Rehearsal

### Saturday, March 7, 2026

12:00 PM AA, YL

2:00 PM Pioneer Acting Class, Rm. 32

7:30 PM Harmonium Concert

### Sunday, March 8, 2026

9:15 AM Adult Sunday School, WR

10:30 AM Children's Sunday School, PG

10:30 AM Worship

11:45 AM EarthAware Meeting, YL

11:45 AM Mission Madness Hygiene Kit Packing, WR

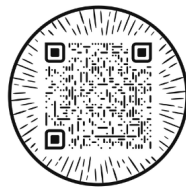
3:00 PM Harmonium Concert



**First Time  
Visitor Form**



**Give Online**



**Prayer Request  
Form**



**Ministry Updates**



**Altar Flower Form**



## United Women in Faith Meeting

Sunday, March 1 at 11:45am  
Wesley Room

United Women in Faith invites the congregation to join us at our meeting on Sunday, March 1st, following worship. We have a speaker from our local Battered Women's Shelter who will give us information about their program and advise us as to how we can help support this much needed program right here in Morris County. A light lunch will be served prior to the program. The presentation plus a question and answer session should last approximately 45 minutes.

# JOIN US FOR

Spring Break Compassion Camp!  
March 30<sup>th</sup> - April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2026

## Children's Program for K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade

\$45 fee for first child; \$30 for additional children

Drop Off: 8:30-9am

Pick Up: 2-2:30pm

Morristown United Methodist Church  
50 S Park Place, Morristown NJ 07960



COMPASSION  
CAMP

BE LOVED • BE KIND • BE YOU

Compassion Camp centers on learning how to notice, care, and respond with kindness in our everyday lives. Campers will explore what it means to follow Jesus by practicing empathy, justice, generosity, and inclusion. Each day includes Bible stories, interactive activities, and opportunities to reflect on how we can make a difference in our homes, schools, and community. This special week is designed to help children grow in faith, friendship, and love for neighbor through worship, storytelling, music, crafts, games, and yoga.

\*Partial or Full Scholarships Available\*

Registration Form: [bit.ly/compassioncamp26](https://bit.ly/compassioncamp26)

For more information please contact [nroark@morristownumc.org](mailto:nroark@morristownumc.org)



## Coming this March to Morristown UMC: Compassion Camp!

Children are invited to a joyful week of faith, fun, and connection at **Compassion Camp**, taking place March 30–April 3 from 9:00 AM–2:00 PM. Throughout the week, children will explore what it means to live with compassion through engaging Bible lessons, active games, creative crafts, music and songs, and moments of mindful movement, including yoga. Each day is designed to help children grow in kindness, empathy, and faith while building meaningful friendships in a welcoming and inclusive environment. On Tuesday we will be welcoming a guest educator who works with wildlife rescue animals to teach us about kindness with creatures.

A light breakfast and a full lunch will be provided daily. The registration fee is **\$45 per child**, with a discounted rate of **\$30 for each additional child** in the same family.

We are also looking for **church members to volunteer** and be part of this meaningful ministry. Volunteers can serve **half days or full days**, depending on your availability. The full program day—including drop-off and pick-up, as well as set-up and clean-up—runs from **8:00 AM–3:00 PM**. You do need to be Safe Sanctuary certified to volunteer; if you are not already certified, we will gladly help you complete the process. Simply contact [nroark@morristownumc.org](mailto:nroark@morristownumc.org) for support.

A **volunteer training session** will be held on **March 29 following the worship service**.

Compassion Camp is a wonderful opportunity to support our children, strengthen our community, and share God's love in tangible ways.

Register for Compassion Camp: [bit.ly/compassioncamp26](https://bit.ly/compassioncamp26)

**Adult Sunday School Lenten Study - starts February 22**

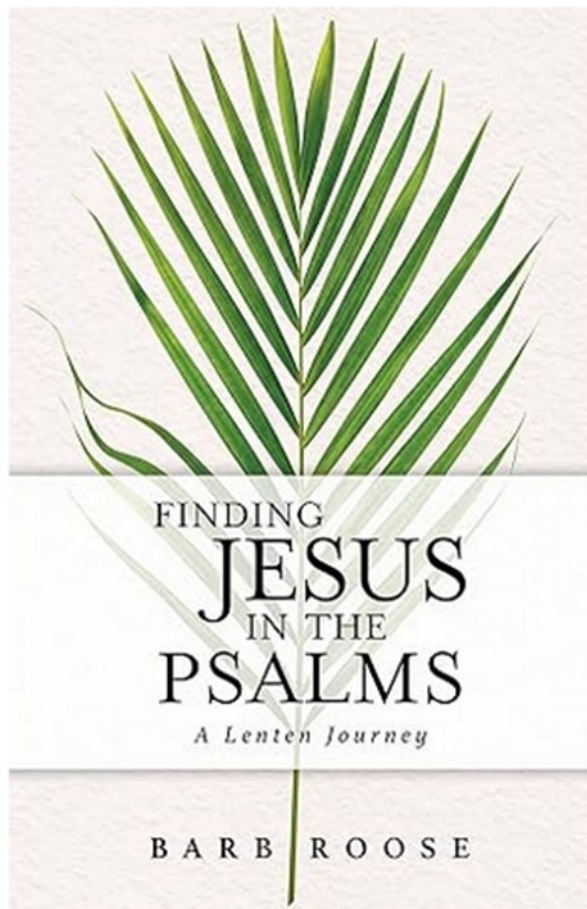
*led by Cherry Tom*

**A meaningful encounter with Jesus and the Psalms through the season of Lent with Barb Roose.**

Barb Roose guides us through a meaningful encounter with the Psalms through the season of Lent. Combining an interpretation of the psalms with real life stories, the study moves through the familiar words of Psalm 23 toward the painful cries of Psalm 22 uttered by Jesus on the cross. The study includes reflections on the life of King David and the original context of the writings, along with connections between the psalms and the life and death of Jesus the Messiah.

“The Psalms provide a perfect framework for experiencing Lent through the verses that were Jesus’s own scriptures, offering both him and us strength and wisdom in a painful and redemptive season. The Book of Psalms hums with the heartbeat of our humanity with divinely inspired words that find purchase in the tenderest places in our hearts when our human words or wisdom fails us.” -- Barb Roose

You are invited to join us each Sunday at 9:15 in the Wesley room. No advanced prep is necessary. Each presentation is designed to be stand-alone, so if you have to miss a class, you will still get a lot out of each session.



**SAVE THE DATE**



Sign-up online at  
[bit.ly/safetrain26](https://bit.ly/safetrain26)

**Safe Sanctuary Training**

**March 14 - 9am**

**March 16 - 7pm**

This training class is an annual requirement by our current Safe Sanctuary policy. Safe Sanctuary training & certification is required for anyone (staff and volunteers) that work with children, youth, and vulnerable persons. In addition to this training, there is also an application which includes references, a background check, an interview with either a ULB member or ministry lead, and watching a Ministry Safe video about abuse. Vince Cattano is coordinating these sessions. Sign-up at: [bit.ly/safetrain26](https://bit.ly/safetrain26)