

April 2022

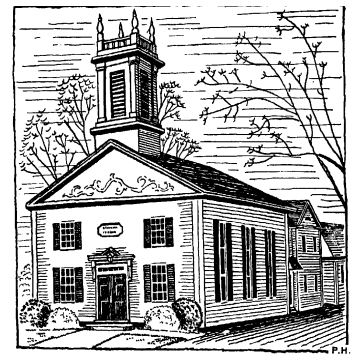
Circuit Writer

Jesse Lee United Methodist Church 25 Flat Rock Rd. Easton, Ct 06612

Phone: 203 372-8250

Website: www.jesselee.org

Email: Jesselee.umc@gmail.com



A Methodist Society Founded 1789

Church Calendar

"Witness of the Cross" Lenten Study 4/5, 4/12 7:00pm

Prayer Time Wednesdays 4/6, 13, 20, 27 7:00pm-8:00pm
via zoom

Palm Sunday Service 4/10 10:00am

Maundy Thursday Service 4/14 7:00pm

Good Friday Service 4/15 Noon

Easter Egg Hunt 4/16

Church Council 4/11 7:00pm

Paul Rawson' Memorial Service 4/30 Noon

Choir Rehearsal 4/3, 10, 17, 24 9:15 am

Jesse Lee Birthdays

Jim Riling

April 7th

Rosie Oztemel

April 10th

Amy McKeon

April 12th

Charlie Kenny

April 16th

Christina Rao

April 26th



A Message from Pastor Fern Blair Hart



Spring has finally arrived! Praise God! We always knew it would come but it seems it never comes soon enough for us! It occurs to me that this is like our conversations with our Lord and Savior. When we are of a certain age and we pray, we expect our prayers to be answered immediately and not only immediately but also giving us the result for which we prayed. As we mature, we, hopefully, have learned that God answers all our prayers but in His own time and in His own way. He may not give us what we asked for but He gives us what we need all of this in His own time not ours. This is important and we need to remember that.

A vitally important aspect here that we need to always remember is that none of the above happens unless we **pray**. In Paul's letter to the church at Thessalonica he exhorts them to rejoice and pray without ceasing. In all things have conversation with the Lord. And in that light, I am proposing a weekly one-hour prayer time with a testimony each week. I propose it to be Wednesday from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. via Zoom. I am proposing to begin on Wednesday, April 6. The details will be e-mailed to members and will be on the JLUMC website. I really hope that many of you and your friends and family will take part in this weekly prayer meeting.

We are in the early stages of our Lenten book study – "Witness at the Cross" by Amy-Jill Levine. The book is written from the view- point of the bystanders and onlookers at the crucifixion of Jesus on Holy Friday. We meet on Tuesday evening 7:00pm—8:15pm via Zoom. It is not too late to join in.

The church has relaxed its covid protocols to include masking left up to the individual, relaxed social distancing in sanctuary and congregation singing is allowed. I pray the pandemic is well on its way to becoming endemic much like the flu. As of this writing, Jesse Lee will resume fellowship following worship this Sunday, March 27.

Holy Week begins on Sunday, April 10 with Palm Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. There will be a Maundy Thursday service April 14 at 7:00 p.m., Good Friday service at 12 noon on April 15 and Easter service will be on Sunday, April 17, at 10:00 a.m.

You are all in my prayers. I ask that I be in yours as well. I hope to see all of you in the coming weeks and months as we can join in our journey to the new normal.

God's blessings in abundance to you and yours. With much love, *With Love, Pastor Fern*

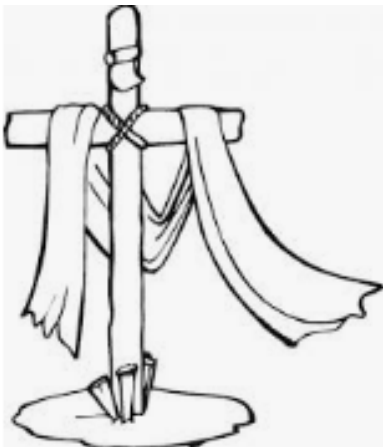
HOLY WEEK



Palm Sunday
April 10th 10:00am



Maundy Thursday
April 14th 7:00pm



Good Friday
April 15th 12noon



Easter Sunday
April 16th 10:00am



In Memoriam-Luella Ostrofsky

Luella Ostrofsky passed away on Feb. 24, 2022 at the age of 105. She was Jesse Lee UMC's most senior member and is believed to be Easton's oldest resident. She was born in Dover Foxcroft, Maine and was 8th in a farming family of 10 children. During the depression jobs were very hard to find and Luella worked as a housekeeper for \$3 a day. In 1942 she moved to Bridgeport to accept a job with Chance-Voight Airplane factory. There she made \$65/week with monthly bonuses of \$40-100. This was a tremendous sum for that time, so what did she do with her money? She deposited it in the Mechanics and Farmers Bank simply because of the word "farmer" in the name! People refer to Luella as a real "Rosie the Riveter". She would be quick to correct you. In her view the riveters had the "easy" job. They got to sit down and all they had to do was to insert the rivet into the hole. Luella's job was to assemble the ribs of the plane and drill the holes for the rivets; standing on her feet and holding a drill up overhead for 10 hours a day. After the war she married Milton, her husband of 47 years. She lived in the house he built for them in Easton for the rest of her life.

Luella joined Jesse Lee UMC in 1954. She was probably one of the last remaining members of the original ladies circles who did a lot of fundraising for the church. Luella was in the Rebecca Circle along with Muriel, Jim Riling's mother and Lois, Paul Rawson's wife. She was also very involved in United Methodist Women and their spring luncheon. You could count on Luella to let you know "how things have always been done"! In reality she was the keeper of history but readily adapted to change and new ideas. She helped with the roast beef and turkey community dinners but if I had to guess I would think the ham and bean suppers were her favorite given her Maine background. She taught Sunday school for 10 years. She was our star for Outreach projects involving knitting. She once made at least 100 knit caps for infants in the Newborn Intensive Care Nursery. She was involved in the Outreach Committee well into her 90's. She was dependable, humble, and forthright, and attended worship services faithfully until her last few years. She also had a wealth of knowledge and a quick wit. We will remember Luella for all her years of dedicated service to Jesse Lee and for a life well lived.

Luella is survived by her 3 sons-Milton, William, and Jeffrey and their spouses and 5 grandchildren-Gillian, Johanna, Eric, Nicholas, and Kathryn and many nieces and nephews. Memorial donations can be made to the World Wildlife Foundation. (www.worldwildlife.org)

In writing this memoriam I came across a transcript of an interview with Luella in 2015 for the Angelo State University "War Stories" project and have included some of that information. It's fascinating to read and you can really "hear" Luella's voice through the words. It can be found at

<https://www.angelo.edu/live/files/23055-a> .

Suzanne Herlihy



2017 “The Old Guys’ Lunch”

Jesse Lee Church

From left to right

Norm Smith, moved to son's

Bob Caterson died 10/9/2021

Jon Davis, retired to Arizona with his wife Pat

Paul Rawson , moved to PA at age 99, died 1/11/2022 at age 100

Howard Collis in dark glasses (died 10/2017)

George Lindeberg

Earth Day

Earth Day is celebrated internationally on **April 22**. It is a day to educate people about the issues affecting the planet and to raise awareness for and celebrate the efforts in place to protect the environment.

As a global observance, it sometimes extends to a week-long celebration, aptly named Earth Week, and the celebrations are coordinated by the Earth Day Network across 193 countries.

History of Earth Day

It wasn't until the 1960s, after the publication of a book called *Silent Spring*, that the effects of pollution on the planet were brought to the attention of the American public. In those times, planet protection was not a priority for the government and politicians, and there weren't many activists dedicated to raising awareness about these issues. In fact, the biggest pollutants of the time, factories and cars, were considered symbols of wealth and therefore not regarded as dangerous. At the same time, not many people knew about recycling.

When Senator Gaylord Nelson was elected in 1962 he was the one that brought environmental issues to the forefront with the government. Inspired by the Anti-Vietnam War teach-ins he developed the idea for Earth Day in 1969, a day to be observed across the country with the intention of pushing environmental issues into the political agenda of the time.

The first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970, with rallies and demonstrations happening in Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles, and several other American cities. The day was very successful in raising awareness about the risks that the planet faced, and after a survey, it was determined that 25% of Americans now considered the protection of the planet to be a priority.

In 1990 Earth Day became an international celebration, with over 140 countries taking part in observing it that year.

Some people choose to celebrate Earth Day on the day of the March Equinox, usually around March 20.

Observing Earth Day

Usually on this day schools and environmental agencies will organize events and activities that aim to protect the planet, such as planting trees, picking up trash on roads, beaches, and parks as well as promoting the benefits of recycling.

As this is a day to bring awareness to the necessity of protecting the planet, many people will sign petitions directed at governments about the emergency of acting against global warming and the destruction of the planet.



What Is Maundy Thursday?

Good Friday, we know. And Easter most certainly. But what is **Maundy Thursday**? Maundy Thursday is the Thursday before Easter, believed to be the day when Jesus celebrated his final **Passover** with His disciples. Most notably, that Passover meal was when Jesus washed the feet of His disciples in an extraordinary display of humility. He then commanded them to do the same for each other.



What Does Maundy Thursday Mean?

Christ's "mandate" is commemorated on Maundy Thursday---"maundy" being a shortened form of mandatum (Latin), which means "command." It was on the Thursday of Christ's final week before being crucified and resurrected that He said this commandment to His disciples. Jesus and his disciples had just shared what was known as the Last Supper and he was washing their feet when he stated:

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another" (John 13:34).

What Was the New Commandment Given on Maundy Thursday?

Well, for one thing, it raised the definition of love to a new and higher standard. Jesus sacrificially met His followers' deepest need---that of new spiritual life and the forgiveness of sins. He even loved His enemies, and He calls us to show love to those who don't appear to deserve it. Just as Jesus loved sinners "to the end" (or "to the max" **John 13:1**) when He had nothing to gain from them, so must we. The Bible says that there was nothing attractive about sinful mankind that drew Him to love us. God loved us while we were yet *sinners* (**Romans 5:8**). Salvation is not only a wonderful gift that protects us from the penalty that we deserve **Romans 6:23**, the work of Christ also embues new life, grants spiritual strength, and motivates godly action in those who believe:

"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people,¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works." (Titus 2:11-14)

"Beloved, let us love one another. For love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love." (1 John 4:7-8)

Many churches observe Maundy Thursday with a Communion service and a foot-washing ceremony. These traditions help Christians reflect on the sacrifice of Jesus and his commandment for us to love and serve others.

What Does Communion Have to Do with Maundy Thursday?

Often, during communion, a pastor will read the following passage about what happened on the events of Maundy Thursday:

1 Corinthians 11:23-26: *"For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."*

Every time we participate in communion, we recognize what happened during the events of Maundy Thursday. That our Lord Jesus was betrayed, to be tried and crucified the next day on Good Friday.

What Happened in the Garden of Gethsemane?

In the Garden of Gethsemane, after Jesus prays in earnest to the Lord, the disciple Judas Iscariot leads a mob to Jesus to arrest him and try him in a kangaroo court, which ultimately leads to his execution.

Jesus predicts this will happen earlier in the night.

Before these events take place, Jesus participates in the Last Supper with his followers, in which he breaks the bread and passes around a cup of wine, signifying his sacrifice. In the Garden of Gethsemane, he pleads with the Lord to take away the cup of wrath from him but also submits to the Father's will. The apostles fall asleep during these hours of agony and anxiety.



Christianity.com

EASTER FLOWER ORDER 2022

TYPE OF FLOWER COST QUANTITY TOTAL

EACH COST

HYACINTH. \$11. _____

DAFFODIL \$11. _____

TULIPS. \$11. _____

BLUE HYDRANGEAS. \$25. _____

PINK HYDRANGEAS \$25. _____

PHALAENOPSIS. \$25. _____ ORCHIDS

Total Order \$ _____



Please call or text me at 203-993-0556 to place your order. You can also email me at

lorrainerswindon@gmail.com. Please place your order at your earliest con-

venience so that I will be able to get you the finest quality flowering plants

Please mail your check payable to Jesse Lee United Methodist Church

Please print:

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Donated by Name: _____

Phone _____

Email address: _____



The FEED initiative of the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport is looking for volunteers.

1. Shopping for fresh produce at Restaurant Depot in Orange-weekly on Mondays between 9-4:00
2. Feed Mobile Marketplace Truck-load produce at Feed Center in Bridgeport, set up table at Housatonic College, bag produce at checkout and load truck for return-weekly on Tuesday 10 Am-1:00 PM
3. Pick up donated produce from Shop Rite in Milford-Daily 9-10:00 AM

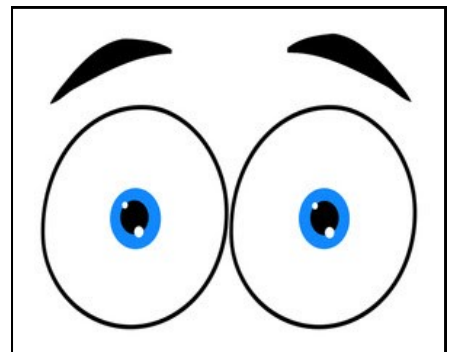
Sort and box donated food at FEED in Bridgeport-Daily 11:00-1:00PM

If you would like more information or are able to volunteer contact Vetiveah Harrison at 203 331-6182 or vetiveahharrison@ccgb.org



Look for us on Facebook—Jesse Lee Church—we post updates weekly. Be sure to add us as a friend and share our posts.

Check out our new website at jesslee.org
You will find our latest news and calendar.
Also links to our latest bulletin & Circuit
Writer. We will be adding information on a
regular basis. Take a look!



Church Council Meeting March 14, 2022–Recap

COVID Protocol

Our Current COVID Protocol was reviewed. A lively discussion was had regarding current COVID case percentages as well as what protocols towns, churches and public buildings were using in Easton. It was decided that since almost all area towns are in the green or yellow category, our mask requirement would be dropped with the understanding that any compromised parishioners or those who wish to wear masks will continue to do so. We will continue to offer ZOOM for all services. The Council will revisit COVID mandates if the situation changes. This includes singing as well. The Council also decided to bring back Coffee Hour, and will ask the congregation for volunteers to organize it

It was also decided that all groups who use our facilities will have the mask requirement removed and food/beverages will be allowed.

Children's time will commence in front of the church during services. Pastor Fern said she will reach out to parents to see why children aren't coming to church. It's a little late to start confirmation classes but we can do it even if not by Pentecost.

Post Quarantine Church Takeaways

A discussion took place about the takeaways from the Post Quarantine book. Some ideas:

We are doing well with facility usage: Daycare, AA, Scouts, Boy Scouts. Possible more shredding events, a welcome back service, blessing of the animals service, Easter Egg Hunt. We would also like to enhance the current Sound system. We also will be setting up online banking for weekly donations and memorial donations. Planning on making a brochure that can be handed out by the Pastor, and a post card for a receipt at shredding events.

Outcome: Will make a brochure. Will have a postcard to hand out as a receipt, thank you and information about our church at Shredding events. We will be holding an Easter Egg Hunt this year. Probably the Saturday before Easter. With a hunt and photos with the bunny.

Churchanswers.com

Suzanne repost on a program that could help the church increase exposure in town and reach out to possible new members. She will be sending the website and documentation for the other members to look at.

Other Business

Sound System

A discussion regarding upgrading our sound system ensued. It was decided that we would go ahead and order a new system to be installed. It will be paid for by a memorial donation. Further discussion will happen about any visual technology the church might need.

Outreach Report

We are gearing up for our Semi-Annual Shredding event. Volunteers are needed. Michele is working with the town on signage.

The church will be collecting donations for Ukraine through our Outreach program. All monies collected will go to UMCOR for Ukraine.

Pastor Fern will be reaching out to other pastors to form a Pastor's group 1 time per month like she did in Canaan with a brown bag lunch

Pastor Fern said she would like to do an interchurch prayer vigil for Ukraine during Lent coordinated with other Easton Churches. Andree suggested since Orthodox Easter is April 24th that might be a good time to have one then.

Next meeting April 11, 2022 7:30pm

Jesse Lee United Methodist Church Shredding Event

Are you looking to rid your basement, attic, or closets of those sensitive materials such as banking or tax documents? Come to Jesse Lee Church and we will shred all your old documents in a **safe and secure manner.**

Save the Date: Saturday, 5/14/2022 from 8:30 AM- 12:30 PM – RAIN or SHINE.

- **Unlimited # of Box's can be shredded; no weight limit**
- **Pull Up In Your Car- We **UNLOAD** your boxes and **SHRED** while you watch.**
- **Donation is ONLY \$15 per BOX (\$10 for seniors): cash or check**

Baked Goods will be available

Keep an eye out for how you can volunteer for our event.

Church Partnership Continues

For more than 5 years Jesse Lee UMC has partnered with the Congregational Church of Easton to provide a monthly community supper. Currently we deliver food to the Bridgeport Rescue Mission but are unable to serve due to COVID restrictions. Volunteers are needed to make main dishes such as chicken or macaroni and cheese and desserts. We provide a meal on the third Tuesday of each month and food needs to be at the Congregational Church by 3:00 PM. You don't need to make a monthly commitment; you can participate as your schedule permits. If you would like to help please contact the Congregational Church at cchurcheaston@gmail.com or 203 261-2527.



In the next couple of months we will be working on a new Church Directory—If you have moved, or have a new email address or phone number please let the church office know.—Jesselee.umc@gmail.com



175th Anniversary

Jesse Lee Methodist Church

Easton, Conn.

William W. Ross, Pastor



Pictured are children whose ancestors were members up to six generations in Jesse Lee and the former Center Church.

Left to right in front row — Ginger Gault with Pastor Ross holding Samuel Marsh Gault.
David Candee ahead of sisters Susan and Laura,
Mary Candee ahead of Emily Dodge and Cindy Marsh.
Behind monument Lucy Dodge, Charles Wesley Gregory III, Sylvia Hull, Anniversary Chairman and Historian.
Beside monument at right, Susan and Betsey Gregory. At right Marion Fredericks.

Published September 25, 1964

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Jesse Lee UMC,

Our Fellowship time has restarted! We are looking for the following donations:

- . Sugar Packets
- . Cream for Coffee
- . De Caf or Regular Coffee
- . Juice or Cider
- . Dessert Plates, disposable juice cups or coffee cups
- . Dessert, anything you would like to buy or bake

If you can donate any of the following please call or text Lorraine at 203-993-0556, or email Lorraine at lorrainerswindon@gmail.com

Looking forward to seeing you and enjoying your company, warm regards, Lorraine

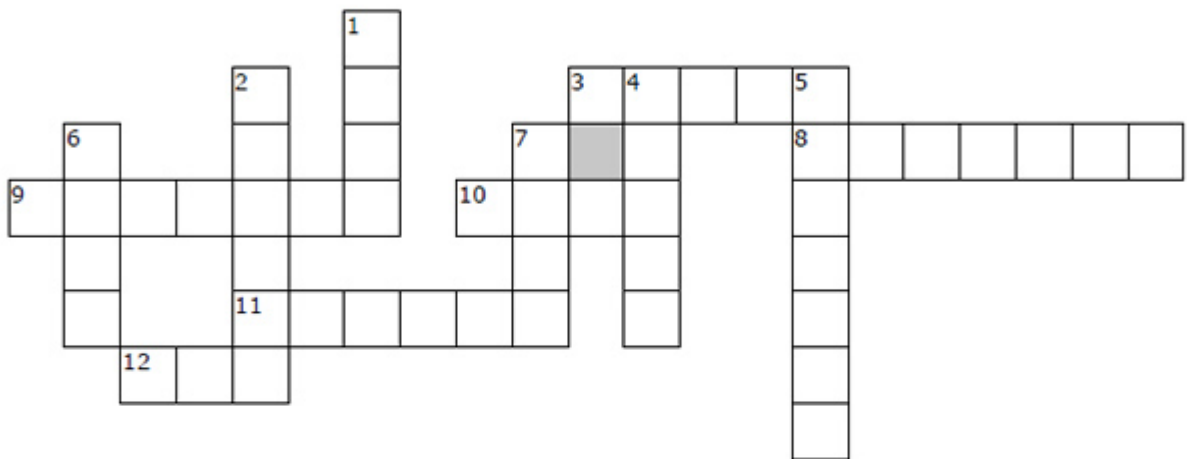


As many of you know, the Outreach Committee is collecting donations for Ukraine during Lent. In support of this, the Worship Committee has acquired some artificial sunflowers which are the state flower of Ukraine. We will be “planting” this Sunday (April 3rd) after church in our front yard. All are welcome to attend. Any questions contact Joanne Kant, Worship Chair.

Palm Sunday Crossword

The Triumphal Entry

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"
Luke 19:38 (NIV)



ACROSS

3. The Son of God
8. A word used for praise and adoration which means "save us"
9. A small town
10. A young animal of the horse family; especially one under one year
11. To stretch out over a large area
12. To secure with a piece of rope

DOWN

1. What a person is called
2. To express admiration or approval of something or someone
4. To go into a place
5. Said something in a loud voice; called out; yelled
6. A male ruler of a country
7. A pathway for vehicles, persons, and animals; a street or highway

VILLAGE	JESUS	SHOUTED	ENTER
COLT	SPREAD	PRAISE	NAME
TIE	ROAD	HOSANNA	KING



Bible Pathway Adventures

WORD SEARCH

Gethsemane

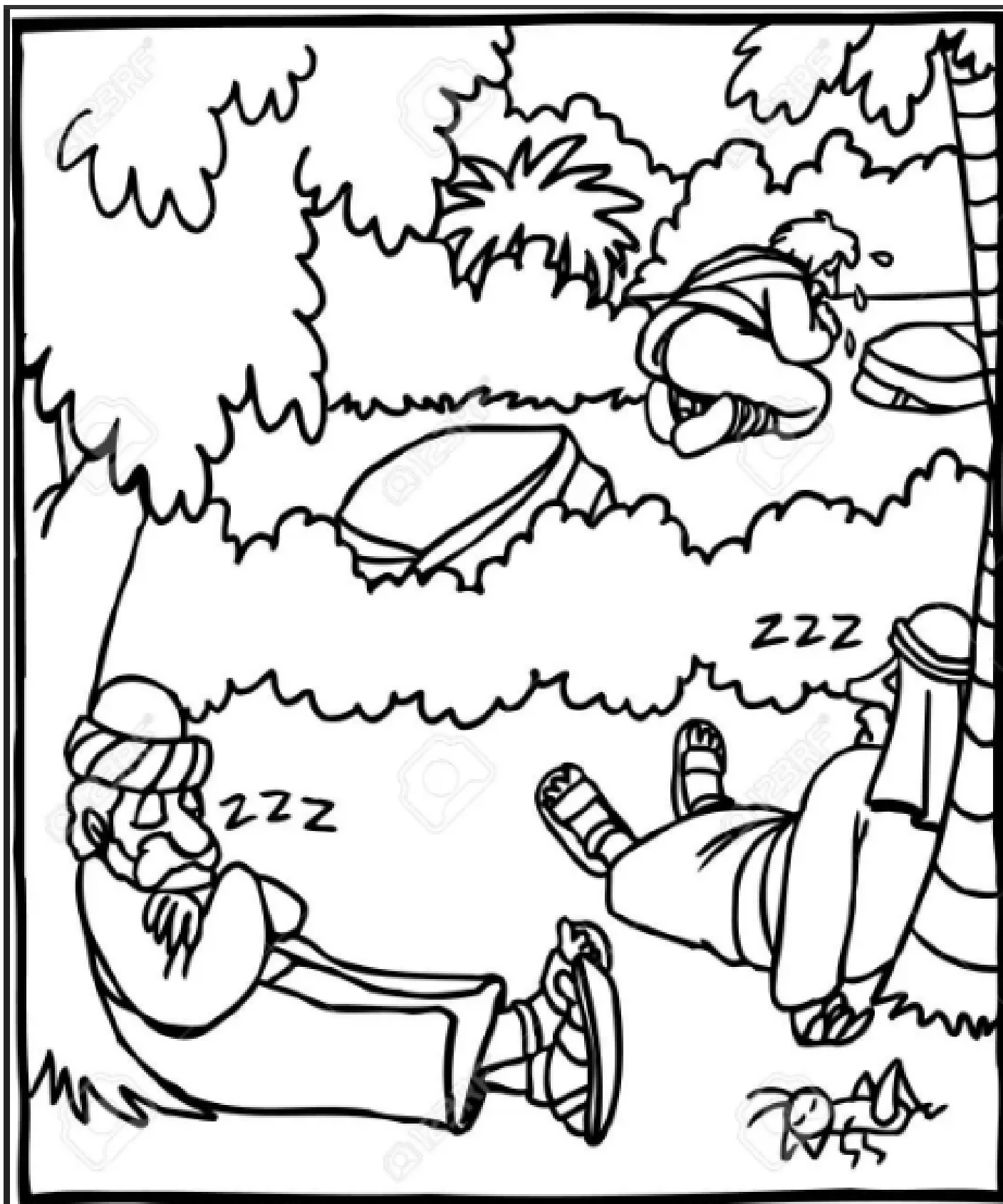
A M Y M L Q Y A M C K Z D E G B V M D S
X P C D C C J E L T M L A N T E R N S B
M V H K P H A U S M J K S T W I M J X C
A K F A E F G R D H Z H G E B Y O N K H
O U A F R G I E B A U J L N B W U R Q I
V I O D H I J M T I S A L V W A N T S E
V D L Q O D S R E H D R J E F Z T W M F
J Q W P O C M E T J S D U G L H O T Q P
P D O R R S S P E R R E Z S Y D F C Y R
D A J S O E O B M S M Y M I R T O A B I
I G S A W Z S J P Z I P Y A E H L M E E
S J C S V Y L S T H B R F O N H I B T S
C P F B O O A F A U J A T W Y E V U R T
I K Q R G V P G T H L Y N Q B G E A A S
P C L I B W E H I D W E L D H G S S Y S
L B Y V X H N R O L U R M H Q G I T A W
E Z O A M F O K N B R Y K I S S J U L O
S C R U C I F I X I O N L B Z N G W O R
L G V L B O A L S E E P B B J H A R M D
G C O V Q U F X J E R U S A L E M P H H

PASSOVER
PRAYER
ASLEEP
BETRAYAL
KISS
MOUNT OF OLIVES

OIL PRESS
CHIEF PRIESTS
CRUCIFIXION
LANTERNS
SWORD
JUDAS

JERUSALEM
TEMPTATION
GETHSEMANE
DISCIPLES
YESHUA
PHARISEES





Jesus Praying at Gethsemane

Jesse Lee United Methodist Church — April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Choir Rehearsal 9:15 AM - 10:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	4	5 Lenten Book Study 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	6 Prayer Time 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	7	8	9
10 Palm Sunday Choir Rehearsal 9:15 AM - 10:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	11 Church Council 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	12 Lenten Book Study 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	13 Prayer Time 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	14 Maundy Thursday (Day of Last Supper) Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	15 Good Friday Good Friday Service 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	16 Holy Saturday (Easter Eve and Last Day of Lent) Easter Egg Hunt
17 Resurrection/Easter Sunday Choir Rehearsal 9:15 AM - 10:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	18	19	20 Prayer Time 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	21	22	23
24 Choir Rehearsal 9:15 AM - 10:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	25	26	27 Prayer Time 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	28	29	30 Paul Rawson's Memorial Service 12:00 PM

Address
 25 Flat Rock Rd.
 Easton, Connecticut 06612
Phone (203)372-8250 • **Email** jesselee.umc@gmail.com