



# April 2026 Newsletter

## Past Event Photos

Did you get snapped at our last event? Check out the photos below and also our social media page to see if you were snapped!

Follow and Tag us in pictures of your own too!

@kitchellchurch



## General Announcements & Special Dates

- Maundy Thursday is on April 2nd at 6:30PM. Join us for worship at KMPC, co-led by Pastor Carrie Morgan from Calvary Presbyterian Church. This meaningful service centers on Jesus' commandment to love one another while sharing a meal and sacrament with one another. We will be in the fellowship hall and practice hand washing together.
- Good Friday services will be at Hildale Park Presbyterian Church (85 Ridgedale Ave, Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927) at 6:30PM.
- Easter Sunday is on April 5th. Please join us for our Easter Sunrise Service as we flower the cross on Kitchell Church Lawn at 6:30AM. Easter worship will begin at 10AM, with an egg hunt to follow!
- The office will be closed on Easter Monday, April 06th and reopen the remainder of the week with limited hours for "Spring Break". Normal office hours will resume on Monday, April 13th.
- Hannah Faye will be away starting on April 06th, returning on April 13th. During her absence, guest preacher Steve Shussett will be here for worship on April 12th. For emergencies, contact Rev. Carrie Morgan at 973-775-2113.
- See attached flyer from Troop 128 for details about their Mother's Day Orchid Sale.
- Save the Date! Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> there will be a parents night out at the Chimney Rock Inn, more details to come!



Let us  
**PRAY**  
for: 

- Melody Bjorklund
- Pam and Souk Hasegawa
- Our nation and its leaders.
- Our Session members as they continue to plan for the future.
- That KMPC would find a Christian Educator.
- Those suffering from homelessness, addiction, and mental illness.
- The family of Emma Forman, as they mourn her passing.
- Nancy Genung as she mourns the passing of her friend Brian.
- Janine Wittjohann as she mourns the passing of her friend Evan.

“The true light that enlightens every person was coming into the world... The world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God.” John 1:9-12

Easter is often celebrated as the moment the incarnation, the fullness of God and Jesus in his human form, come together in a spectacular, divine, holy surprise when the women come to the tomb and Jesus is not lying there, lifeless. He is alive!

Something we get wrong about Easter, however, is celebrating this moment as if it were a one time occurrence. The gospel of John gives us an evolutionary notion of Christ and his message. The active verb in the verses above “was coming, (erxomenon)” is an active verb. As Fr. Richard Rohr puts it: “We are not talking about a one-time Big Bang...incarnation of Jesus, but an ongoing, progressive movement continuing in the ever-unfolding creation.”

Incarnation didn’t only happen two thousand years ago. It is happening even now. And has been working throughout the entire arc of time, and will continue. As Christians, we must adjust our understanding of the resurrection to instead be an incarnation. “God loves things by becoming them,” says Rohr. It is exactly why God became human and dwelled among us, and dwells among us even now.

This drastically changes the Easter story. Not only that, but the implications placed on us, the children of God, are much greater. We are invited into the telling of the resurrection by showing up as the incarnation of Christ in our own daily lives. At work, school, the DMV, the checkout line in the grocery store, we are to be the hands and feet of our resurrected Lord. How we show up in the world is how the telling of the Easter story continues.

“Too often we have substituted the messenger for the message,” says Rohr. “[This] obsession became a pious substitute for actually following what he taught– he did ask us several times to follow him, and never once to worship him.”

How does this understanding change the Easter story for you? How might the dailyness of your walk with God change to exemplify the risen Christ? How might you be the incarnation of our resurrected Lord in the world today. We need Jesus now more than ever. Perhaps it is you shining that light that can help illuminate the world.

 Pastor Hannah

Theme for Lent 2026:



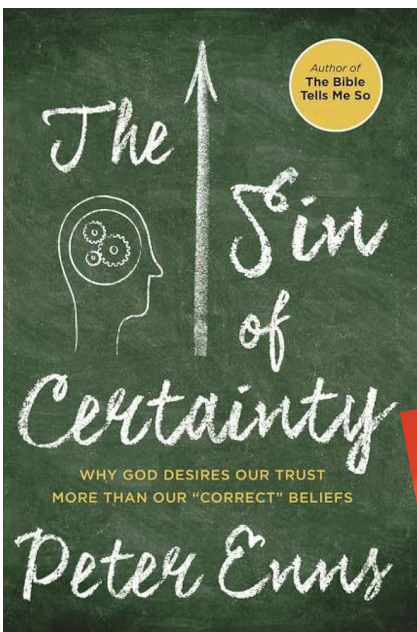
# “When Seeing Isn’t Believing”

This Lent, we will explore the tension between seeing and believing. The Scriptures of Year A remind us that faith is not the same as certainty. Again and again, Jesus encounters people who see clearly yet refuse to trust or believe—and others who believe fully without ever seeing or understanding. Lent invites us into that honest space where answers are incomplete, outcomes are uncertain, and faith is formed not through clarity but through relationship. As we journey toward the cross and the empty tomb, we will ask not “Do I have it all figured out?” but “Where am I being invited to trust?” This season, we will practice a faith that stays present, asks real questions, and learns to believe even when we cannot yet see.

***Faith is not certainty. Faith is formed through relationship, risk, and response. Faith is an encounter with Jesus-- not in the midst of our comfort zone but out in the world.***

For those interested, a small “book club” has formed of individuals who want to read, discuss and observe Lent together. Reach out to Pastor Hannah if you want to join!

Books are provided and in the office. We hope you join us!



**March Meeting**



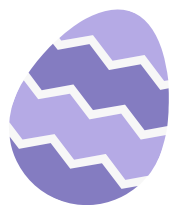


# Kitchell KIDS



Building a foundation of faith with God's LOVE

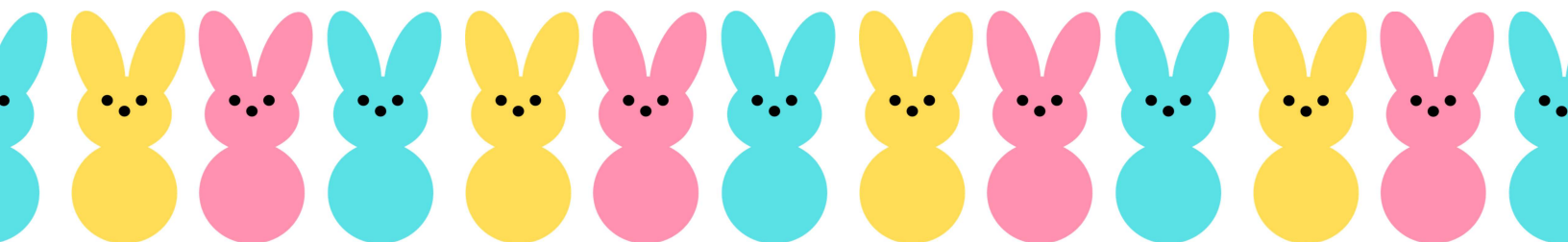
**No Church School Easter**  
Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> or April 12<sup>th</sup>.  
Safe travels for Spring Break!



**Church School Resumes:**

**April 19<sup>th</sup>** - The Gospel According to PEEPS "Eating with the Resurrected Lord."

**April 26<sup>th</sup>** - Psalm 23 & John 10 according to PEEPS "Jesus is our Shepherd"



# GETTING TO KNOW YOU

*in the spotlight with...*

## ***Kaitlyn Krause***

As the weather warms up, or at least tries to on some days, I'm reminded that with Spring comes a sense of newness and fresh starts. The new year starts in January, when it's bitterly cold for much of the country. We make New Year's resolutions and think of plans for the rest of the year, travel, working out, or picking up a new hobby, but Spring is when the flowers start to peek through the soil again, and the trees show the first signs of buds that will soon turn into blossoms that will give way to green leaves that rustle in summer. We also commonly associate Spring with newborn baby farm animals like lambs and chicks, and in our area, in later Spring, we may start to see baby deer and rabbits in our yards and parks. We celebrate Easter, celebrating resurrection and hope. Spring feels fresh and new; it feels like energy buzzing and that everything is alive with possibilities. If Spring is a season of fresh starts in nature, why can't it be for us too? We can pick up a new hobby, start a new resolution, or pick ours back up from January that we might have abandoned before February 1st (guilty as charged). Even if resolutions aren't your thing or you have too many hobbies to count, I think Spring is the perfect season to do one small thing that's new. Maybe it's taking two minutes out of your day twice a week to sit outside and get a breath of fresh air. Maybe it's to buy a pack of wildflower seeds from your local florist and spread them in your garden or near the park for others to enjoy. Maybe it's to call a friend or relative you haven't spoken to in a while, and spend five minutes catching up. If you're looking for some nature, I highly recommend the Branch Brook Park Cherry Blossom Festival in April - it's gorgeous! Whatever your plans are this Spring, I hope you do something that brings you joy.

By: Kaitlyn Krause

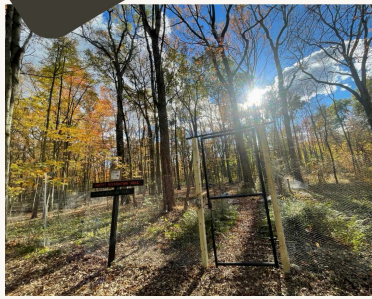


**Don't forget to send us your pictures or tag @kitchellchurch at our next event!!**





# HANSH'S PROJECT



Hansh, a member of the EH Troop 128, recently completed his Eagle Scout project at the Essex County Environmental Center in Roseland. Hansh designed and led the Native Plant Enclosure Fencing Project. The goal was to safeguard a 1.5-acre habitat for native plant species by constructing and repairing an eight-foot woven wire fence, protecting the area from deer and other wildlife that had previously stunted the plants' growth. The project was a true test of leadership and perseverance. Hansh and his volunteers from Troop 128 did more than just install new fencing; they cleared dense debris, removed fallen trees, and extracted multiple layers of hazardous old wire that had become buried in the soil over time. The team also completely reconstructed the enclosure's front gate to ensure it remains stable and functional for park staff visitors.

## PROJECT PHASES

- Cleaned the area
- Made it safe
- Reconstructed gate

## HANSH DONDAPATI

Hansh has been Scouting since the age of 6. He earned his Eagle rank on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Congratulations on this remarkable achievement!

# Pre-order a Phalaenopsis Orchid for Mother's Day!

Deluxe Orchids from Award Winning Grower Taida Orchids  
Flower sale to benefit East Hanover Scout Troop 128



## Full Size orchid in 4 inch plastic pot

Double Flower Stem \$40

Single Flower Stem \$32

## Small size orchid in 2 ½ inch plastic pot

Double Flower Stem \$25

Single Flower Stem \$20

Pickup will take place on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>  
between 10AM and 12PM  
At Kitchell Church in East Hanover

**To Pre-Order Scan the QR Code**



*MOMS*

*Grandmas  
&  
Aunts*

Questions?

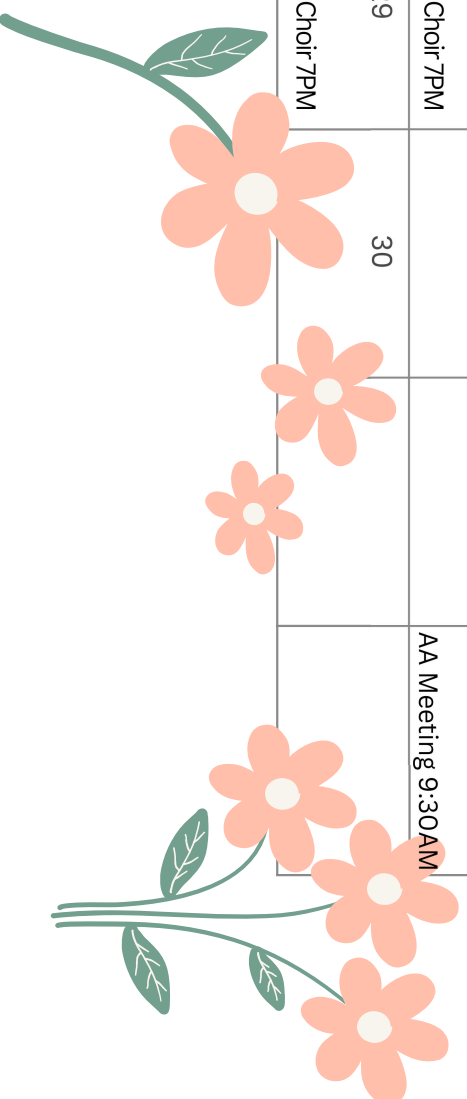
Email: [ehtroop128@gmail.com](mailto:ehtroop128@gmail.com)

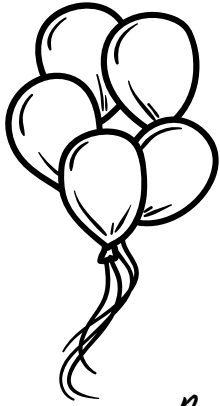
Photos shown are examples of orchids currently in bloom. Color availability may vary at pick-up. Color selection at pickup is first-come, first-served. All purchases will be wrapped for gift-giving. All sales are final.



# 2026 April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Sunrise Service 6:30AM Worship 10AM Senior/Bell Choir Easter Sunday	6 Easter Monday Office Closed	7 Bible Study Cancelled	8 Worship & Ed Mtg 6PM Handbell Choir 7PM	9 Maundy Thursday @ KMPC 6:30PM	10 Good Friday 6:30PM @ Hildale	11 AA Meeting 9:30AM
12 Senior Choir Off No Church School Worship 10AM w/ Steve Shussett	13 Bible Study 1:30PM Finance Mtg 7PM	14 Bible Study 1:30PM Finance Mtg 7PM	15 Handbell Choir 7PM	16 Handbell Choir 7PM	17 AA Meeting 9:30AM	18 AA Meeting 9:30AM
19 Senior Choir 9AM Church School 9AM Worship 10AM	20 Bible Study 1:30PM Parish Life Mtg 7PM	21 Bible Study 1:30PM Parish Life Mtg 7PM	22 Handbell Choir 7PM	23 Handbell Choir 7PM	24 AA Meeting 9:30AM	25 AA Meeting 9:30AM
26 Senior Choir 9AM Church School 9AM Worship 10AM Deacons Mtg 11:30AM	27 Bible Study 1:30PM Session Mtg 7PM	28 Bible Study 1:30PM Session Mtg 7PM	29 Handbell Choir 7PM	30 Handbell Choir 7PM		





# April Birthdays



April 07<sup>th</sup>: JoAnn Macdonald

April 08<sup>th</sup>: Barbara Flowers

April 12<sup>th</sup>: Easton Lampert

April 13<sup>th</sup>: George Olsen Jr.

April 13<sup>th</sup>: Xena Scala

April 17<sup>th</sup>: Larissa Kwong

April 21<sup>st</sup>: Thomas Miskewitz

April 23<sup>rd</sup>: Tom Lampert

April 27<sup>th</sup>: Lana Lampert

April 28<sup>th</sup>: Beth Bjorklund

