

Church for Our Common Home

dedicated to Mother Earth, the Divine Feminine, Loving Community and the Arts

Come love and be loved by the natural world at the Secret Garden Retreat Center at the John Cobb Eco Farm and sing, dance and feast with us at the Mary Magdalene Café!

April 7, 2024, Taizé

*A Shamanic Story by Jesus and Mary Magdalene;
The Cosmic Tree of Life*

(drawing by Tatyta Mato, The Black Madonna Within)



Worship dedicated to Palestinian Rev. Muther Isaac in Bethlehem and the Palestinian people in the West Bank, Gaza and around the world.

The Secret Prayer Garden is an interfaith Living Rosary with 12 Tree Stations inviting prayers for the interconnected web of life, the wilderness, the soil, water, green plants, the air and music, mother and children of all species, the sun, moon and galaxies of stars, wild animals underground and under water, wild animals above ground, the winged creatures, the beauty of the natural world and the human family and the natural world living in harmony. We share the story of the betrayal, torture, death and the regeneration of Mother Earth. Join us with the animals, trees, plants etc. in the barn (weather permitting) for Sunday weekly worship, 4 pm pst. Retreat stays are available.

Church for Our Common Home—a home and internet church, retreat center and counseling center exploring biodynamic farming with a community art studio and eARTh Art Gallery in the Barn, 15435 Strong Road, Dallas, OR 97338, We are a non-profit 501 C3 that provides artistic, religious and psychological services to awaken to the moral and ecological crisis as an invitation for spiritual growth and loving community with all of creation, caring for our common home, Mother Earth. Minister- Rev. Bonnie Tarwater, (858) 248-5123 revtarwater@yahoo.com, www.churchforourcommonhome.com

Director Our Common Home Counseling Center Dr. Walter Rutherford (858) 442-6472 walterrutherford44@gmail.com *Services include, individual and group therapy, addiction issues, PTSD, relationship counseling, Spiritual Direction, pastoral counseling and dream honoring. We believe our current ecologic crisis is a call to awaken to the reverence of life and the truth that all nature is alive, sacred and our earth is one organic whole. As we witness the sixth extinction of life on earth, the only one created by us humans, we are invited to reclaim the ancient wisdom traditions. We are interbeings, interspecies, and an interconnected whole. What we do affects everyone else. Every Sunday at 4 pm we acknowledge that we need one another more than ever before and commune with God called by many names. We celebrate the wisdom traditions from the East, West, indigenous peoples, new science as we study the teachings of Jesus, Mary Magdalene, the Bible as well as newly found gnostic gospels. We pray together and to ask for God's help to find new ways to live in peace and love with all creation. **Board of Directors**, Walter Rutherford- President, Juan Ibarra CPA- Treasurer, Martha Garcia-Secretary, Rev. Bonnie Tarwater-Minister Tax deductible donations to Church for Our Common Home, pay pal, credit card, check,cash and other gifts welcome. THANK YOU! Please send us new clients and referrals for Our Common Home Counseling Center and the Secret Garden Retreat Center for proceeds go to fund Church for Our Common Home.*

Invitations and Announcements: Intercessory Prayer Circle, contact Bonnie with prayer requests. Weekly Dream Group every Thursday 4 pm PST, Lectio Divina Tuesday 9-10 (reflecting on scripture for the following Sunday). Please contact Rev. Bonnie if you would like a pastoral visit in person or on Zoom or phone and/or if you would like to pray or have prayer requests. Our worship and meeting link on **Zoom ID 3025719458** and this number is always on church website homepage.

Announcement of new time for sharing before worship at 3:45 pm for those on Zoom and in Earth Crisis Support Group in person after worship

Rev. Bonnie will be visiting family April 10-16 and will join you for worship on Zoom Sunday April 14

Would anyone like to go to Bethlehem in the Holy Land with me and or pay for me to go? Please watch Easter Sermon by Palestinian Rev. Muther Isaac https://youtu.be/N9nZ6oNSfQU?si=RcMQIzBJFrN4_Z5s "Faith is the only thing they cannot take away from us.....This is not about making statements. **Jesus did not**

say, “ I was hungry, and you prayed for me and made a statement.” Jesus said, I was a prisoner and you came to me. This is about action. We must find ways to make a difference. We must act....to unsettle the Empire..... Amen. ”

<https://youtu.be/EgKytWyc0EI?si=OGnnNNeJngtaPHN> Interview on Democracy Now!

Report on Barn Mural Project

Report on New Social Media Campaign thank you Walt and Bailey

Earth Crisis Support Group and Potluck Parties Dallas Oregon every Sunday 5-7 pm here at the John Cobb Eco Farm. Nancy Mahoney’s group meets monthly in Woodstock NY, planning the forming of more groups in McMinnville and Bend Oregon.

Earthen Arts workshops last two weekends of July. Please make reservations soon for space to stay indoors is limited. Tent and RV camping also available. Begins Friday, 4 pm July 19 through Sunday July 21 4 pm. The second weekend begins 4 pm July 26, Friday through Sunday July 28th 4 pm. You can register for one or both weekends. You are invited to stay for the week for both weekends. Camping available

Peace Walk 2024 Home - peacewalk2024.org April 27, 2024 **Churches for Middle East**

Peace <https://cmep.salsalabs.org/>

April 14 Guest Preacher Rick Staggenborg “Life is a Pilgrimage”

Saturday April 20 Planet Versus Plastic at the Baptist Church in McMinnville 2-5 pm Rev. Bonnie will give presentation on Earth Crisis Support Groups and Potluck Parties

April 21 Earth Day Worship Service

April 22 Monday 6 pm Earth Day Movie Night in the Barn with Popcorn From the filmmakers of *Kiss the Ground* comes follow-up documentary *Common Ground*, winner of the Tribeca Film Festival, provides hope for future generations with concrete ways to fix a broken planetary system, exploring how regenerative agriculture can help heal the soil, our health and the planet. Sequel documentary, *Kiss the Ground* <https://youtu.be/6-M4Hq0MKFA>



Honoring the Kalapuyan People We gives thanks for the miracle of this sacred and beautiful land here in Dallas, Oregon where we ask for prayers for our common home, in The Interfaith Secret Prayer Garden at the John Cobb Eco Farm. This was the homeland of the Kalapuyan people before the colonizers came and inflicted genocide to the native peoples, land and eco systems. We confess these sins and ask for forgiveness and promise to make amends. We apologize for all the harm many of our ancestors did to the indigenous peoples and the natural world in this place and in the America’s. We commit to truth telling and working to make amends for the harm done.



Bailey: Opening Dancing Prayer Mantras in Love, by Beautiful Chorus *I am Surrounded By Love*
https://youtu.be/mUdd_da-Nek?si=yHu-elDgGuIY6rLR

Lighting of the Black Madonna of the America’s-- Our Lady of Guadalupe Candle Meditation: “Around the world, says historian of religion Mircea Eliade, the tree was the image of “the living cosmos, endlessly renewing itself.” It was the Tree of Life, the center of the world, the source of life, and it was associated with the Great Goddess who symbolized “the inexhaustible source of creation, the ultimate basis of all reality.” The

tree was rooted in the waters of the invisible, unmanifest world out of which it emerged into the visible world of time and space. It reflected the sacred process of life, death, and renewal—the natural laws of all life. It was a cosmic tree because “what it expresses is a perfect reproduction of what the cosmos expresses.” Mystics throughout the ages have experienced the tree in similar ways: in the early seventeenth century, the German mystic Jakob Böhme experienced the tree as the soul whose seed is planted in the heart and grows from within to become the tree of knowledge: it is this fruit that can heal the world. And the Irish poet, William Butler Yeats, writes, “Beloved, gaze in thine own heart, / The holy tree is growing there.” Margaret Barker, Old Testament scholar, tells us that the ancient Hebrew tradition reveals a tree that is unlike any other tree in beauty and height. This tree is associated with Wisdom, the Queen of Heaven: “It is perfumed with the incense of the holy of holies and its fruit is for all to eat,” and says the Queen of Heaven, “those who work with my help will not sin.” It is a tree with “a fragrance beyond all fragrance whose leaves and blossoms and wood never wither or rot.” Wisdom is the fiery tree, “gold looking and crimson, with the form of fire.” Wisdom is “the Lady in the burning bush.” She is the fiery, tree-shaped Menorah, and she is the Lady of the fiery tree who gives birth in the holy of holies. The “color of the tree of life is like the sun, and its branches are beautiful. Its leaves are like those of the cypress. Its fruit is like the clusters of white grapes.” And the Queen of Heaven, the Great Tree of Life, was also the water of life flowing from the fountains of heaven, like “the four rivers flowing from Eden.” “She is the tree of life to those who lay hold of her / and those who hold her fast are called happy.” In the even more ancient Egyptian tradition the Goddess of the Celestial Tree, planted in the “waters of the depths,” rises from the center of the tree to offer to those who seek it “the food and drink of immortality.”” *The Merchants of Light*” by Betty J Kovac



Reading “12 Step program for an Ecologic Civilization” Church For Our Common Home is God centered and guided and dedicated to Mother Earth. We work for an Ecologic Civilization with our 12 step program and we;



1. Share the truth that the current 6th extinction of life on Earth, the only one created by humans, is an invitation for transformation as a human species.
2. Share the history and human habits of dominant over relationships and commit to relationships of collaboration, partnership and co-creativity.
3. Make amends for our alienation and abuse of the natural world and our idolatry of scientism and rationalism using transdisciplinary reconnections of religion, art, psychology, ecology, etc.
4. Explore eco-feminist and process theology, celebrating God and Goddess language, symbols and relationships.
5. Study the teachings of Jesus and Mary Magdalene and their Church of Love highlighting the radical teachings and the way of doing unto the least of these, love of enemies and service to God not money, with newly found gnostic scriptures and the world’s ancient wisdom traditions.
6. Offer diverse spiritual practices to develop loving relationships with the natural world, Mother Earth and all creation.
7. Honor the invisible realms of dreams, prayer, intuition, parapsychology and imagination.
8. Celebrate the visual and performing arts, ritual making, beauty and creativity as divine spiritual practice.
9. Celebrate intergenerational community by intentionally including and honoring the very young and old.
10. Encourage consciousness raising with integration of body, sexuality, mind, spirit, feelings, intuition and imagination.
11. Work for social justice locally and globally in partnership with other organizations
12. Experiment with nontraditional church in order to create relevant, spirit filled and loving community.



Musical Prayer and Invocation for Mother Earth our *4.5-billion-years 'old Mother!*

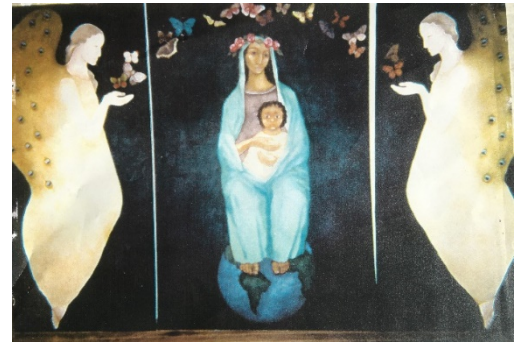
Our *Dear, Dear Mother* by Raffi Chorus Our dear, dear Mother, daily provider, earth be your name the time has come to honor you to know you and to show our love. You give us each day our daily grain kissed by the sun and kissed by the rain. Teach us now to find a way to care for you in our work and play. Chorus

Love, love, love, love, earthlings this, this is your call. Love your God with your heart soul and mind for God loves us all. (repeat)

Passing of the Peace (Unmute and share greetings) God Loves You and There is Nothing You Ca

n Do About It!

Welcoming Angels to Worship (Artist Kathleen Kline's gift to us) Angels welcome in this sanctuary pure and holy, tried and true with thanksgiving we'll be a living sanctuary for you. (by John Thompson and Randy Scuggs) The Angel Gabriel from heaven came. His wings as white as snow, his eyes a flame. All hail said he, thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady, Gloria.All night all day angels watchin over me my Lord. All night all day, angels watchin over me. If I die before I wake, angels watchin over me my Lord. Pray my soul, the Lord will take, angels watchin over me, angels watchin over me..... Down inside the earth with angels, down inside the earth, when I die hallelujah by and by, I'll be with God and Mama Earth.



Walt and Bonnie: News from the Secret Garden Retreat Center and John Cobb Eco Farm

Musical Prayers *I Talk to the Trees* (composed by Frederick Loewe and lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner from *Paint Your Wagon* adapted by Bonnie) I talk to the trees and they are listening to me. I talk to the stars, and they always hear me. The breeze has the time, to stop, and hear what I say. I talk to them all in love. We sing with chickens and ducks and they are clucking and quacking in song. We dance with cats and dogs, who teach us love and joy. We pray for goats and sheep here on the John Cobb Eco Farm. We pray for them all in love. and God's faithfulness to all generations.

Taize

*A Shamanic Story by Jesus and Mary Magdalene;
The Cosmic Tree of Life*

Reading "Pando, a non-profit education organization focused on civic engagement around the goals of LA County's sustainability plan. We are named after the one-tree aspen forest in south-central Utah, the largest organism on Earth – Pando. Made up of over 47,000 trunks and millions of leaves. Connected through one root system. It's the perfect symbol of our interconnected lives, challenges and solutions "..... "The one-tree forest we call Pando is a community. The health and well-being of every tree contributes to the whole of the root system and lives from it." Board Chair, Pando Populus Dr. John B. Cobb Jr.

Silence

Chant Down inside the earth with angels, down inside the earth, when I die hallelujah by and by, I'll be with God and Mama Earth. (repeat)

Reading "There are many levels and forms of experience within this spirit dimension, but the heart of all experience with spirit our ancestors called the fruit of the Cosmic Tree of Life. Those *who ate this fruit—that is, all who went deep into the world of spirit—experienced a world of love and light, joy and ecstasy—what would later be called Cosmic Consciousness. They returned knowing who we are and why we're here. Their message was clear: we are immortal, divine, and creative. Our ancestors understood that we could only know this message through our own inner experience—what would later be called gnosis.* Their stories could open us and guide us, but we could only know by taking our own inner journey. We had to eat the fruit of the Cosmic Tree of Life. This is why our ancestors left artifact after artifact inviting us into the Great Garden of Life to show us the tree and the fruit and to offer us an opportunity to partake of it.Both the goddess and the god are offering us fruit from the Great Tree. For the fruit "is yielded willingly to any mortal, male or female, who reaches for it with the proper will and readiness to receive." *The Merchants of Light* Betty Kovac

Silence

Chant I know this rose will open. I know my fear will burn away. I know my soul will unfurl its wings. I know this rose will open. (Repeat)

Scripture *The Gospel of the Beloved Companion The Complete Gospel of Mary Magdalene* translated by Jehanne De Quillan 42:2 "My master spoke thus to me. He said, 'Miryam, blessed are you who came into being before coming into being, and whose eyes are set upon the kingdom, who from the beginning has understood and followed my teachings. Only from the truth I tell you, **there is a great tree within you that does not change**, summer or winter, and its leaves do not fall. Whosoever listens to my words and ascends to its crown will not taste death, but know the truth of eternal life. 42:3 then he showed me a vision in which I saw a great tree that seemed to reach unto the heavens; and as I saw these things, he said, 'the roots of this tree are in the earth, which is your body. The trunk extends upward through the five regions of humanity to the crown, which is the kingdom of the spirit.

Silence

Chant In God alone my soul can find rest and peace. in God my peace and joy. Only in God my soul can find its rest. Find its rest and peace.(repeat)

Scripture *The Gospel of the Beloved Companion* 42:4 there are eight great boughs upon this tree and each bough bears its own fruit, which you must eat in all its fullness. As the fruit of the tree in the garden caused Adam and Chav'vah to fall into darkness, so this fruit will grant to you the light of the spirit that is eternal life. Between each bough is a gate and a guardian who challenges the unworthy who try to pass. 42:5 the leaves at the bottom of the tree are thick and plentiful, so no light penetrates to illuminate the way. But fear not, for I am the way and the light, and I tell you that, as one ascends the tree, the leaves that block one from the light are fewer, so it is possible to see all more clearly. Those who seek to ascend must free themselves of the world. If you do not free yourself from the world, you will die in the darkness that is the root of the tree. But if you free yourself, you will rise and reach the light that is the eternal life of the spirit.'

Silence

Chant My God is my light, my light and salvation. In God I trust, in God I trust. (repeat)

Scripture *The Gospel of the Beloved Companion* 42:6 and as he said these things, I felt my soul ascend and saw the first great bough that bears the fruit of love and compassion, the foundation of all things. And I knew that before you can eat of this fruit and gain its nourishment, you must be free of all judgment and wrath. When you have freed yourself of these burdens, you may eat of the fruit and so gain the love and compassion that will

allow you to pass the first of seven guardians. And I heard the voice of the lord of wrath calling to me, but I denied him and he had no part in me.

Silence

Chant O God hear our prayer, O God hear our prayer, when I call, answer me, O God hear our prayer, O God hear our prayer, come and listen to me. (repeat)

Scripture *The Gospel of the Beloved Companion* 42:7 so I saw my soul ascend again and he showed me the second great bough, weighed down with the fruit of wisdom and understanding. And I saw that before you can taste of its bounty, you must be free of all ignorance and intolerance. Only then can you eat of the fruit and so pass upward unhindered through the second of the seven gates. And I heard the voice of ignorance call to me, but I knew him not, and so my soul did thus unchallenged. 42:8 then my master showed me the third great bough, which bears the fruit of honor and humility. Only when free of all duplicity and arrogance may you partake of its nourishment. And arrogance called to me, saying, 'you are not worthy, go back.' but my soul was deaf to him, and so moved onward and upward into increasing light.

Silence

Chant Christ Sophia your light shines within us let not my doubts or my darkness speak to me. Christ Sophia your light shines within us, let my heart always welcome your love. (repeat)

Scripture *The Gospel of the Beloved Companion* 42:9 and then there came the fourth bough, blossoming with the fruit of strength and courage. And I heard him tell me that to eat of this fruit, you must have freed yourself from the weakness of the flesh and confronted and conquered the illusion of your fears. And the master of the world stood before me and claimed me as his own, but I denied him and he had no part of me. 42:10 only then, my master told me, when you have rejected the deceiver, can you pass through the hardest gate of all, to attain the fifth bough and the fruit of clarity and truth. Only then will you know the clarity and truth of your soul and, knowing yourself for the first time, understand that you are a child of the living spirit. And as my soul moved upward, I realized that I could no longer hear the voice of the world, as all had become as silence. 42:11 then in the light above, I saw the sixth bough, the one that bore the fruit of power and healing. My master told me that when you truly have eaten of the fruit of the clarity and truth of yourself, then could you partake of the fruit of power and healing, the power to heal your own soul and thereby make it ready to ascend to the seventh bough, where it will be filled by the fruits of light and goodness. and I saw my soul, now free of all darkness; ascend again to be filled with the light and goodness that is the spirit. And I was filled with a fierce joy as my soul turned to fire and flew upwards in the flames from whence my master showed me the eighth and final bough, upon which burned the fruit of the grace and beauty of the spirit.

Silence

Chant Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas, Deus ibi est Live in charity and steadfast love, live in charity, God will live in you. (repeat)

Scripture *The Gospel of the Beloved Companion* 42:13 and I felt my soul and all that I could see dissolve and vanish in a brilliant light in a likeness unto the sun. And in the light, I beheld a woman of extraordinary beauty, clothed in garments of brilliant white. The figure extended its arms, and I felt my soul drawn into its embrace, and in that moment I was freed from the world, and I realized that the fetter of forgetfulness was temporary. From now on, I shall rest through the course of the time of the age in silence. And then, as if from a great

distance, I heard the voice of my master tells me, ‘Miryam, whom I have called the Migdalah, now you have seen the all, and have known the truth of yourself; the truth that is I am. Now you have become the completion of completions.’ and thus the vision ended. 42:14 this is what my master has told and shown me. And only from the truth I tell you, that all that I have revealed to you is true.” 42:15 when the Migdalah had told of all that Yeshua had said and done, she fell silent, since it was in that silence that Yeshua had spoken with her and revealed these truths.

Silence

Chant I am sending you light to heal you to hold you. I am sending you light to hold you in love. **(repeat)**

Virtual Wailing Wall and Prayers of Confession

Nancy: **Dear Holy One**, We come to confess and to ask for forgiveness. We know that we have done things we should not have done and not done things we should have done. We ask you to forgive us. We ask that you guide us in learning how to forgive others as well as ourselves. (silence) Amen **Dear God**, We pray for our enemies as Jesus taught us. (Silence) Amen.



Martha: Prayer (Please unmute and say in unison) **Our Mother Father God** who is within us we celebrate your many names. Your wisdom come. Your will be done, unfolding from the depths within us. Each day you give us all that we need. You remind us of our limits and we let go. You support us in our power and we act with courage. For you are the dwelling place within us, the empowerment around us and the celebration among us now and forever. Amen by Miriam Therese Winters

Walt Rutherford: Dear Holy One, you the God of passionate love, we ask for your grace tonight despite our pride. Your forgiveness despite our doubt. Most of all, we ask for your love to see us through these dark times. May we face whatever is to come in your divine will with courage and open hearts of acceptance. Amen (from movie *Don't Look Up*)

Molly (Say in unison “Presente” to acknowledge the those who have died who are present with us.) **Dear God** We pray for over 32,000 civilians who have been murdered in the genocide in Gaza, 14,000 who are children**Presente** We pray for children starving to death in Gaza, Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Sudan and Yemen **Presente Presente** We pray for the hundreds of journalists, UN workers and doctors and medical workers in Gaza who have died..... **Presente** We pray for 100,000’s or Russian and Ukrainian soldiers who have died as well as the civilians in the two countries..... We pray for the refugees who have died at the Mexican border and around the world.....**Presente** We pray for the animals and plants who have died as refugees fleeing violence and famine.....**Presente** We pray for the 150 species that go extinct everyday here on our common home..... **Presente** We pray for pando populus one of the largest single organism here on earth that is dying.....**Presente**

We pray for all those who have crossed to the other side of the veil. We are here on this side and want to be present for you in love and prayer. The resurrection of Jesus gives us hope. Love is stronger than any suffering and death. Amen

Please unmute and lift up the names of those you mourn personally who have passed away...**Presente**

Nada te turbe (Brian Humiston on guitar) Nada te turbe, Nada te espanta, Quien a Dios tiene, Nada le falta Nada te turbe, Nada te falta, Solo Dios basta (Let nothing disturb you... Whoever has God lacks nothing....)

Dear God, You who are being revealed in a new and ancient story of The Cosmic Tree of Life, We give you thanks today for Winter and the underground invisible realms in the root systems of trees and within all of us. We ask for your help to confess and heal our anger, judgement, arrogance and fear. We come in prayer to ask for help as we develop the fruits of the spirit as we climb the Cosmic Tree of Life. Our bodies, hearts, minds and spirits are hungry for love, wisdom, humility, strength and courage the trees give to us. May we gain clarity from the trees to always tell the truth. We come in prayer Holy One, to dedicate our lives to loving service to you and the divinity in each tree and person. “So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” (Paul 2 Corinthians 4:18) Spring is the evidence of new life among us and we give thanks. We give thanks for our treeness as we stand in solidarity with all new life, trees and the worlds young for they are “the least of these.” Thank you for our inner Cosmic Tree of Life held in your vast interconnected web of loving relationships that gifts us with a root system of strength and courage. Thank you for the hope of regenerative life in every life form invisible to the human eye. Thank you for the resurrection and near death experiences that assure us that life never dies, only changes form. Thank you for new stories, images and encounters that are unfolding Holy One here at Church for Our Common Home. Our hearts overflow with gratitude and praise. Thank you. Amen

Please unmute and share in union lift up what trees you are grateful for.....

Guided Meditation: Imagine that you are a Cosmic Tree of Life, rooted in the Earth living with those who are invisible and unseen. God calls you to emerge as the Cosmic Tree that you are and rise into the loving cosmos of infinite possibilities. We are a grove of trees interconnected with one another in a loving community of communities. May we join in silent prayer for our common home.

Silent Prayer for all life here on our common home Mom Earth and in the Cosmos

Dancing and Singing Benediction Round Dance (the Acts of John newly found gnostic gospel) “So Jesus commanded us to make a circle, holding one another’s hands, and he himself stood in the middle. He said, ‘Respond Amen to me’”

Benediction said in unison “ I am a Cosmic Tree of Life reaching for the stars. We are interconnected together in a root system of God’s love.”

In song May the blessing of God go before, may her grace and peace abound, may her spirit live within you may her love wrap you round, may her blessings remain with you always, may you walk on holy ground. by Miriam Therese Winter



Molly Dance Benediction at the Mary Magdalene Café Hafiz four words of God “Come Dance with Me”

We want to send you rainbow ribbons for dancing so please let us know if you have not received them yet. P.S. Thank you for sending us donations regularly and we ask for any small or large, regular or irregular donations and pledges in order to continue the ministry of this church. The need is great and thank you.