

**Sparta United Methodist Church**  
**71 Sparta Ave**  
**Sparta, NJ 07871**  
**973-729-7773**  
**office admin@spartaumc.org**

## **Celebrating Diversity Scholarship**

### **Scholarship Overview**

The **Celebrating Diversity Scholarship** is awarded by **Sparta United Methodist Church** to reinforce the value of inclusion and diversity in enriching the community.

**Qualifications:** Students in Sussex County who will be full-time students in a 4 year college, 2 year college, or Trade School in the fall of 2026.

### **Awards**

Three (3) non-renewable scholarships will be awarded:

- **1st Place:** \$3,000
- **2nd Place:** \$2,000
- **3rd Place:** \$1,000

### **Application Requirements**

Applicants must submit all required information listed below which includes an essay as well as a short response question.

- 1. Contact Information:** Name, Address, Phone, Email.
- 2. Academic Information:** High School Graduation Year, Current School, GPA, Full-Time School Attending in Fall 2026, Level of Study, Intended Major/Field of Study.
- 3. Short Response: Please choose one to write about:** Future goals, your intended use of the scholarship, activities that make you well-rounded, and your plan for changing the world (in 100 words or less).
- 4. Essay: A 500-word essay** based on the required reading: *Memoirs of a Peppermint Mermaid* by Michael Adam.
  - **Prompt:** Identify one of Leo's (the central character) relationships that creates **emotional struggles** for him. Discuss Leo's **realizations** about this

relationship and whether he demonstrates **growth and maturity**. Support your claims with evidence from the text. (A strong concluding sentence is encouraged.)

## **5. Signature:**

### **Submission Details**

- **Application is due BY April 1, 2026.**

- **Email**

Please prepare your complete application as a single document (Word document only) and email to [officeadmin@spartaumc.org](mailto:officeadmin@spartaumc.org).

Alternatively

- **Drop Off**

Deliver a physical copy to: Sparta United Methodist Church, 71 Sparta Ave, Sparta, NJ 07871

- **Contact:** 973-729-7773