

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SUMMIT
17 Kent Place Boulevard ▪ Summit, NJ 07901

THE DIALOGUE

January 2017



THE STAFF

Shawn Callender Hogan, *Senior Pastor*
JoAnne Teubner Prussak, *Director of Music*
Sherri Shumate, *Director of Christian Education*
Roy Christensen, *Property Manager*
Polly del Campo, *Office Administrator*

Wesley Center Preschool: 908-277-3686
MaryEllen DeJohn, *Director*

Telephone: 908-277-1700 **E-mail:** umcofsummit@gmail.com
Web Site: umcsummit.org

WHAT'S INSIDE

FROM THE PASTOR.....Page 3-6

EDUCATION.....Page 7-9

MUSIC NOTES.....Page 10-11

FOR YOUR INFORMATION.....Page 12-13

“To Do” List.....Page 14

MONTHLY CALENDAR.....Page 15

BIRTHDAYSPage 16

From the Pastor:

I look forward to our sharing in worship this Sunday, as we usher in the New Year together. As you know on Monday, January 2 I begin a 4 week renewal leave.

While I am on a renewal leave, I will be spending time in silence and reflection, each day lighting a candle and spending time in prayer. Among other things, I will be praying for you.

I invite you to do the same:

**In worship on January 1st we will be handing out candles to all—
to use daily through the month of January.**

Each day, light your candle.
Sit in stillness before the Lord.
Pray for the church,
pray for the world,
pray for your loved ones,
pray for God's presence in your life.
Breathe in the silence.

On the last Sunday of January (January 29), please bring to worship whatever is left of your candle. Whether your candle has barely been used or if it is almost gone, all will be gathered up to become an altar arrangement on the first Sunday of February.



I will be eager for us to be together again at the end of the month. I return to the office on Monday, January 30.

Until then, peace.

Shawn Callender Hogan
Pastor

Prayer Service

Are your days full, rushed... do you have a lot on your mind?

Do you hunger for the chance to be in prayer *with no expectations* on you?

If so, come at **7pm on the first Wednesday night of each month** (January 4, February 1) to the **Chapel** for a special time of quiet meditation.



On these evenings we will have a prayer service in the Taize tradition—which involves silence, prayer, and songs that are simple, rhythmic and soothing. Come and let the Spirit peacefully enfold you.

(In March and April our services on the first Wednesday of the month will be Lenten services, rather than Taize prayer services.)

A WAY FORWARD



Bishop John Schol invites all United Methodists in Greater New Jersey to join him in Praying our Way Forward, the Council of Bishops' prayer initiative which will take place from **January 1, 2017 – Spring, 2018.**

The Commission on a Way Forward was proposed by the Council of Bishops and approved by the 2016 General Conference to do a complete examination and possible revision the Book of Discipline paragraphs concerning human sexuality and explore maintaining and strengthening the unity of the church.

While this Commission undertakes their work, the Council of Bishops is calling on all United Methodists to join together in prayer. Each conference is registered for a week of prayer, and each church is invited to take a day to commit to prayer. **Our church's selected day is Monday, January 30th.**

Additionally, all are invited to a gathering to Discern Greater New Jersey's hopes for the future of The United Methodist Church.

On March 4, clergy and laity will gather to discuss the following questions and consider the seven options below as we develop our recommendation for the Commission on the Way Forward.

- In our diverse and global existence, what is the shared mission/purpose of the Church?
- Is there a proactive way for us to live together in our differences that doesn't presume that we will resolve our differences? What would it be?
- What might be a form of unity that would empower us living together?
- What is our witness and what can be our witness to the world in relation to our differences?

The following are suggestions made by different people and groups who seek a solution for the current impasse regarding The United Methodist Church and homosexuality.

Continued on the next page

1. We continue as we are, no change to The Book of Discipline. If we chose this option, what would you need to participate in the life of the church?
2. We change The Book of Discipline to allow gays and lesbians to be ordained and to permit same gender weddings. If we chose this option, what would you need to participate in the life of the church?
3. The annual conference determines who is fit and ready for ordination and whether to allow clergy to perform same gender weddings. If we chose this option, what would you need to participate in the life of the church?
4. Local congregations decide whether they will accept an openly gay or lesbian pastor and whether their pastor celebrates same gender weddings. If we chose this option, what would you need to participate in the life of the church?
5. The church has authority on these matters by geographic region (we are organized into regions by the Africa, Asia, Europe and the United States). If we chose this option, what would you need to participate in the life of the church?
6. We divide into separate denominations based on gay and lesbian ordination and same gender marriage. If we chose this option, what would you need to participate in the life of the church?
7. Other suggested ideas.

To register for this conference-wide event:

<https://www.gnjumc.org/gracefulcontroversies/graceful-controversies-registration/>

Prior to the gathering, we suggest you read and consider the following resources:

[Wonder, Love and Praise: Sharing a Vision of the Church](#) by the The United Methodist Committee on Faith and Order:

http://s3.amazonaws.com/Website_Properties/general-conference/2016/documents/gc2016-wonder-love-and-praise_final.pdf

[Be Strong and of Good Courage](#) by Gil Rendle of the Texas Methodist Foundation:

https://www.tmf-fdn.org/assets/uploads/docs/Rendle_Courage_monograph.pdf



ADVANCING THE CHURCH IN MISSION

General Board of Global Ministries
475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115
212-870-3600 • umcmission.org

December 16, 2016

Conf-Dist-Donor: 336-26-000002432

Summit United Methodist Church
17 Kent Place Blvd
Summit, NJ 07901

Dear Friends in Mission:

Thank you for partnering with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Through your gift, you are helping to provide humanitarian relief when war, conflict, or natural disaster disrupt life to such an extent that communities are unable to recover on their own.

Your gift of \$2,460.00 was received on 12/01/16 for Disaster Response, United States, Advance # 901670. Through The Advance, the designated giving channel of The United Methodist Church, **100 percent** of your contribution will go to Supporting UMCOR's response to disasters in United States. Giving through The Advance enables United Methodists to support one another in mission and ministry around the world. Thank you for partnering with us to "Be Hope" to those who desperately need it.

Through the compassion and solidarity of faithful friends like you, UMCOR is able to provide comfort to those impacted by disasters like earthquakes and storms, food for the hungry, and healthcare to those who otherwise would have none. These are just a sampling of the good works that gifts like yours make possible. Thank you for giving so generously.

Please let us know if you have questions and/or concerns, as we welcome the opportunity to speak with you. You can reach the Gift Processing Unit at 404-460-7489. You can find out more about UMCOR's work by visiting our web site at www.umcor.org. To receive weekly updates about UMCOR's work, sign up online for the UMCOR Hotline, a weekly email about the latest happenings at UMCOR.

This gift brings hope to those who need it most.

Grace and Peace,

Roland Fernandez
General Treasurer
General Board of Global Ministries

Mary Andreoli
Executive Director of Communications, Advance & Fundraising
General Board of Global Ministries

Memo: Louisiana Flooding

Please retain this letter as your receipt. In compliance with IRS regulations, no goods or services were provided by the General Board of Global Ministries in consideration of your contribution. PRU4-4

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

What is your prayer for our world this year?



The lyrics of this song sum up my answers:

"You asked me what I want this year
And I try to make this kind and clear
Just a chance that maybe we'll find better days.

'Cause I don't need boxes wrapped in strings
designer love or empty things
Just a chance that maybe we'll find better days
So take these words and sing out loud
'Cause everyone is forgiven now
'Cause tonight's the night the world begins again
I need some place simple where we could live
And something only you can give
And that's faith and trust and peace while we're alive
There's one poor child who saved this world
And there's ten million more who probably could
If we all just stopped and said a prayer for them
So take these words and sing out loud
Cause everyone is forgiven now
'Cause tonight's the night the world begins again
I wish everyone was loved tonight and we'd somehow stop this endless fight
Just a chance that maybe
we'd find better days."

"Better Days" [Goo Goo Dolls](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nOp4NAq6EHl) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nOp4NAq6EHl>

What is God's dream for our world this year?

Blessings, Sherri Shumate; Director of Christian Education,
sherri.shumate@gmail.com

Sunday School

9:30am -10:15am

Age	Teacher	Helper
Children Pre K-3rd	Noelle Benton	Myrene Reyes
Tweens 4th- 7th	Alison Johnson	Dan Smith
Teens 8th- 12th	Sherri Shumate	Volunteers Welcome

"Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts, offer up your prayers and requests to God." Philippians 4:6

January 1: No Sunday school, Happy New Year!

January 8: *Hannah*; 1 Samuel 1:-2:10, 2:18-21

This lesson begins a month-long study of prayer. There is no right or wrong way to pray. God doesn't always answer prayers in the way we want or think God should, but we can pray about anything and everything and trust God will be with us. When do you "pray about everything"?

January 15: *Solomon*; 1 Kings 3:3-15, 4:29-34, 6:11-14

We learn from Solomon that we can ask God for what we need. We can ask for God's guidance. Imagine God sitting beside you saying, "Ask for what you need me to give you." What do you need to ask God for today?

January 22: *Peter in Prison*; Acts 12:1-19

Peter's friends in the early church took seriously the message to "pray without ceasing." We too can pray for others, even when we are unsure what another person may need. God hears our prayers even when the answer isn't the one we are expecting. Who do you need to pray for today?

January 29: *Psalms 130*

"Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord." Psalm 130 is a lament, a complaint to God and a cry for help. What do you need to cry out to God?

No Sunday School January 1!

Sunday, January 8: teen Sunday school trip to Manhattan Bagel at 9:30am.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

Throughout the year we make an effort to attend our children and youth's concerts, plays, and special events. If your child has an upcoming event you'd like us to be part of, please let me know! We also try to plan our youth ministries around our young people's passions, interests, and needs.

✓ Sunday, **January 6:** *Teen Manhattan Bagel Trip*, 9:30am (pending adult helper)

Youth Lock-In coming soon – February 11

WORSHIP TOGETHER

We believe the body of Christ includes all of us, bringing our gifts and growing in faith together. Sunday morning all children are invited to remain in worship with their families. Worship buckets with coloring and activities for children connected to the messages are available in the front and rear of the sanctuary. Bathrooms and a changing table are located in the back of the sanctuary.

Staff childcare is available in the nursery on Sundays from 9:00am-10:15am and in the Hospitality Room in the rear of the Sanctuary from 10:20-11:30am! On weeks we worship in the Social Hall, nursery care remains in the Nursery throughout the entire time. Parents are welcome to sign in and drop off their child or to stay with their child. Our staff nursery caregivers are paid, experienced, childcare professionals: Luz and Christa. Please contact me if you have questions. sherri.shumate@gmail.com.

WOW IT'S WEDNESDAY: 4:30-6:00pm

Wow It's Wednesday is an intergenerational Christian education & music experience. All are welcome to join us for food, fun, and fellowship. WOW follows the Summit public school calendar. We do not meet on days the Summit public schools do not meet, have early dismissals, or have weather closings.

Our WOW program is a hands-on, interactive way to engage the themes and stories we are learning in worship and Sunday school. One of the ways we will be aligning with our church emphasis on being a place of rest and renewal will be incorporating ways of helping our children learn strategies and experiences for rest and renewal. We make healthy snacks related to our theme together each week. Please alert me if your children have food allergies. There is no staff supervision available until 4pm or after 6pm. Please plan accordingly. Contact me for more information. sherri.shumate@gmail.com.

Please note: WOW takes a winter break for the month of January and resumes February 1

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Saturday, February 25, 5-8pm

Drop off your children for an evening of fun designed and lead by our youth. We offer a mix of fun and worship and make sustainable lunches for Bridges. We will provide a light dinner & snack or you may pack your own.

Friends and guests are welcome, just please RSVP so we have enough supplies, food, and helpers. Suggested donation \$15/child; max \$40/family. This money goes to purchase supplies for our Bridges lunches that we donate to homeless families.



MUSIC NOTES

Joanne Teubner Prussak, *Music Director*

"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement, give you a spirit of unity as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" – Romans 15:5

Wesley Choir

Singing is so much fun! We learn songs about Jesus and how to follow his teachings in our lives. Rehearsals are **Wednesdays at 5:20pm** in the Chapel. **Rehearsals will resume on February 1st.**

Singing Believers

Come and sing the joyful songs to God. Let us grow together in our faith through music. Rehearsals are at **1:00pm on Saturdays** in the Chapel for youth grades 3 through high school. **Rehearsals will resume on January 21st.**

Contemporary Ensemble

Our Contemporary Ensemble of singers, guitarists, drums, recorders, bass and piano are studying music from the contemporary hymnals "The Faith We Sing" and "Worship and Song". Rehearsal are **Sundays at 12:15pm** in the Music Room. Come and share your musical gifts and enrich your faith. **Rehearsals will resume on January 29th.**

Bell Choir

Making a joyful sound is the mission of our Bell Choir. This is a good time to come and try ringing hand bells and hand chimes with your friends at church. Rehearsals are **Sundays at 11:45am** in the Sanctuary. **Rehearsals will resume on January 29th.**

Chancel Choir

Won't you come and join us as we sing joyful songs to our Lord? It's a joy to work together and lift your voices in praise. Our regular rehearsals are on **Sunday mornings at 9:30am** in the Music Room. **Rehearsals will resume on January 29th.**

Come! There is power and importance in sharing your faith through music.

MUSIC NOTES

I would like to thank the following people for their dedication and devotion to our church.
Heartfelt gratitude for sharing your wonderful gifts of music throughout Advent,
the Christmas Concert and the entire Christmas season.

With much love,
Joanne Teubner Prussak, Director of Music

WESLEY CHOIR and SINGING BELIEVERS

Amanda Brown
Adam Daniel
Lucas Daniel
James Goldman
Kayla Goldman
Maddie Johnson
William Johnson
Caroline Relf
Oliver Relf
Joshua Reyes
Bradley Smith
Joseph Smith
Riley Smith
Melissa St. Louis
Diane Wagnac

HANDBELL CHOIR

Chris Barry
Gregg Buttermore
James Goldman
Kayla Goldman
Kim Goldman
Ximenita Gonzalez
William Johnson
Emily LaJeunesse
Jayme LaJeunesse
Adrian Phillips
William Teubner

CONTEMPORARY ENSEMBLE

Beverly Alexis
Gregg Buttermore
Mary Magdalen Gollipali
Bernice Griffith
Ximenita Gonzalez
Emily LaJeunesse
Jayme LaJeunesse
William Teubner

CHANCEL CHOIR

Soprano

Bernice Griffith
Latonia Hall
Maddie Johnson
Emily LaJeunesse
Karen Merchant
Sherri Shumate
Shela Waldron

Alto

Beverly Alexis
Kayla Goldman
Ximenita Gonzalez

Tenor

Gregg Buttermore
William Johnson
William Dembaugh
William Teubner

Bass

Thomas Benton
Stephen Brown
William Glancy
James Goldman
Neil Johnson
Jayme LaJeunesse
Adrian Phillips
Dwayne Phillips

VOCAL & INSTRUMENTAL SOLOISTS

William Dembaugh, *Baritone*
Jocelyn Gallinek, *Flute*
Jordyn Gallinek, *Bassoon*
Ximenita Gonzalez, *Alto*
Bernice Griffith, *Soprano*
Karen Merchant, *Soprano*
William Teubner, *Trumpet*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:



Friday evenings in January 5-6pm, all are welcome to join in an invitation to breath, move, and be.

“Mind, Body, Spirit: A Place for Peace” is a space apart from the busyness of life. This space is a gentle invitation to quiet and calm our minds, bodies, and spirit through breath, movement, and music.

No prior experience required. A yoga mat, towel, or blanket is recommended.
Suggested donation \$5.

Location: Summit UMC, “Green Room,” 2nd Floor

Call 908-277-1700 for more information and to register.

Walk-ins welcome. All are welcome!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

CAUSE



Like all "**first Sundays of the month**" we collect nonperishable food items for CAUSE, the United Methodist food pantry in Jersey City. Drop off your items on your way into worship; feel free to leave them on the sanctuary pew near the entrance.

FACEBOOK



Do you follow our Church's Facebook page? There you can find reminders of church activities, links to national and global articles of interest, thought -provoking articles, and educational materials. [Join us in our Facebook conversation today!](#)

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Friday January 27, 2017
8:00pm – 11:00pm (*in the Social Hall*)

Do you have a talent that only rarely sees the light of day?
Have you always wanted to perform in front of a small audience?
Are you perhaps looking for that next step towards stardom?

Bring your talent along to a series of monthly '**Open Mic Nights**'
to be hosted by the United Methodist Church of Summit.

In the intimate, safe and loving environment
of the UMC Summit's Social Hall,
let your talents run free and allow the community of Summit
to enjoy what you like to express!

If you would like to perform, just drop us a line
at umcopenmicnight@gmail.com
or call the office at (908) 277-1700.

JANUARY

"To Do" List:

MINISTRY:

CAUSE - donations every first Sunday

Taize Service - first Wednesday of each month

Knitting Ministry - Thursdays and Fridays

Day of Prayer - 1/30

AND MORE:

"Mind, Body, Spirit" - Fridays in January

Open Mic Night - 1/27

Morning Mindfulness - 1/29

JANUARY 2017

Summit United Methodist Church ▪ 17 Kent Place Boulevard ▪ 908-277-1700

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 No Sunday School	2	3	4 No Wow, It's Wednesday Taize Service 7pm (<i>Chapel</i>)	5 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (<i>Fellowship Room</i>)	6 Mind, Body, Spirit 5-6pm (<i>Green Room</i>) Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (<i>Fellowship Room</i>)	7
8 Sunday School Resumes	9	10	11 No Wow, It's Wednesday	12 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (<i>Fellowship Room</i>)	13 Mind, Body, Spirit 5-6pm (<i>Green Room</i>) Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (<i>Fellowship Room</i>)	14
15	16 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day <u>Office is Closed</u>	17	18 No Wow, It's Wednesday	19 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (<i>Fellowship Room</i>)	20 Mind, Body, Spirit 5-6pm (<i>Green Room</i>) Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (<i>Fellowship Room</i>)	21
22	23	24	25 No Wow, It's Wednesday	26 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (<i>Fellowship Room</i>)	27 Mind, Body, Spirit 5-6pm (<i>Green Room</i>) Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (<i>Fellowship Room</i>) Open Mic Night 8-11pm (<i>Social Hall</i>)	28
29 "Morning Mindfulness" 8:45am (<i>Chapel</i>)	30 Day of Prayer	31	Sunday Schedule: 9:30am – Sunday School (all grades) 10:30am – Worship 11:30am – Refreshments and Fellowship			



JANUARY Birthdays

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 <i>Dotti Zotti</i>	3	4 <i>Oliver Relf</i>	5	6	7 <i>Lucas Daniel</i>
8	9 <i>Beverly Alexis</i>	10	11	12	13	14 <i>Kim Goldman</i> <i>Latonia Hall</i> <i>Shanotte Smith</i>
15 <i>Wendi Barry</i>	16	17	18 <i>Laura Dunnder</i>	19	20 <i>Zoe Rhinehart</i>	21
22	23	24	25 <i>Claire Schaefer</i>	26	27	28 <i>Owen Fern</i> <i>Debbie Vartan</i>
29	30	31	<i>Enjoy Your Day!</i>			