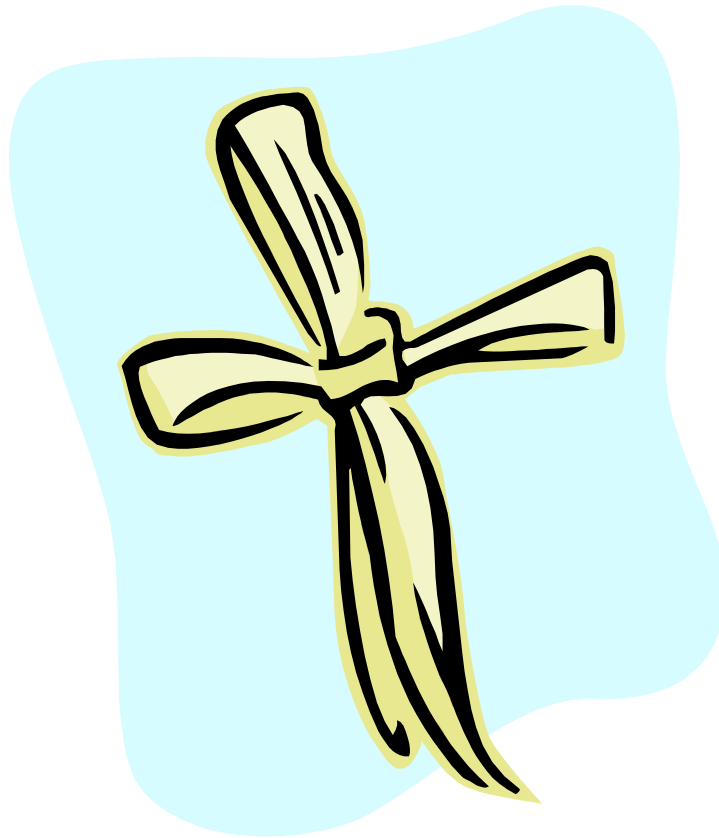


UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SUMMIT

17 Kent Place Boulevard ▪ Summit, NJ 07901

THE DIALOGUE

March 2015



THE STAFF

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The Lenten journey has begun.
We have received ashes on our foreheads,
buried the Alleluia of our music,
and set our sights on Jerusalem.

We will make our way through these forty sacred days,
focused on the story told in the Book of Numbers.
And, like the Israelites before us,
we will face our tendency to grumble,
we will name our fears,
and we will seek strength from one another.

Join us as we journey—
that we may discover resurrection together.

Pastor Shawn Callender Hogan

"God of the desert,
God of the forty years of wandering,
God of the forty days in the wilderness,
bring us to the waters of the Jordan
and into Easter's promise.
Steady us so that we are present
to the rigors of each day's trek.
Let unsought silences and deprivations
be occasions to "be overruled and swallowed up"
in your vast action.
Turn hungers for the things that we left behind in Egypt
into spiritual leanness glad for the Bread of Heaven.
Increase in us hospitality to the stranger.
Convert us as we journey
through challenges and face fears.
Subdue the enemy within us
as you make peace in all the world.
Work repentance in your church
until our unity in Christ overpowers
our cherished divisions.
Go before us as the desert gives way to Easter's Alleluia.
Amen."

by Daniel Benedict (adapted)



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

On March 15, 2015

we will receive a special offering in worship
for “One Great Hour of Sharing.”

The funds will go to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Your gifts do remarkable things: feed people with food and hope, wrap babies in warmth and love, empower communities with skills and support. Gifts renew the giver, too, in spirit and in strength.

Our support of UMCOR enables the Church to respond immediately in times of critical need. With this offering, the United Methodist Church rebuilds lives and communities around the world by helping the United Methodist Committee on Relief keep its promise that 100% of your designated gift goes to specific causes. While other groups come in immediately and then leave, “UMCOR is there for the long term and does a tremendous amount of work over a long period of time.”

You can use the “special offering envelope” provided in the morning bulletin for your gifts for “One Great Hour of Sharing” on March 15, 2015. (Make checks out to the UMC of Summit, with ‘OGHS’ in the memo).



**Like to knit, sew or
crochet,
and need a simple
project?**

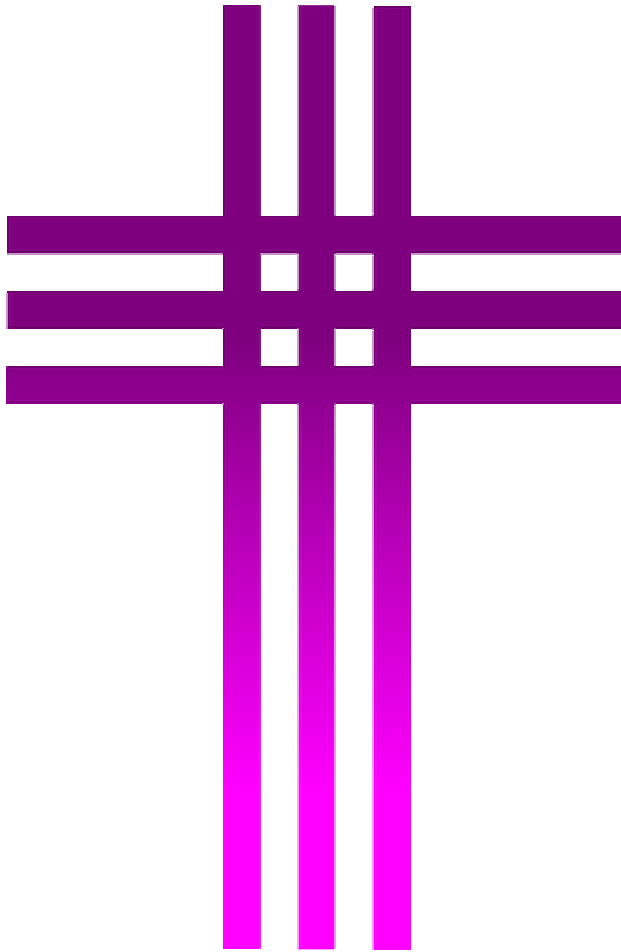
Our Knitting/Crocheting ministry has created countless squares that are just waiting for someone to knit, sew or crochet them together, turning squares into blankets!

If you are willing to help in this way, let the church office know—we can send you home with the materials needed!

Your creative gifts, time, and effort will make life warmer for those in need!

WEDNESDAYS THROUGHOUT LENT
(through March 25th in the Social Hall)

6:00 Soup Supper (Social Hall)
7:00 Worship (in the Chapel)



Each Wednesday evening you are invited to gather **at 6:00 in the Social Hall for a soup supper.**

With the help of volunteer “Soup Chefs” we will share in a simple meal as we walk through Lent:

If you are willing to provide a simple soup supper on one of the Wednesday nights, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Social Hall
so we can plan appropriately.

(Please consider making vegetarian options for those who cannot eat meat.)

The suppers are a gentle, casual way to mark the weeks of self-reflection, recognizing that we do so as a community.

Generally there are 20-25 children and adults present.

Following the supper, **at 7:00 pm we will gather in the Chapel for a brief service of worship** (concluding around 7:40 pm), which will usually include Holy Communion.

JOIN US THROUGHOUT HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015

Sunday service at 10:30 am (in the Sanctuary)

With palms in hand we will recall Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the beginning of his journey to the cross.

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2015

7:00 p.m. (in the Chapel)

We will gather around the table, remembering the Last Supper and the vulnerability of the night before Jesus' death.

Good Friday, April 3, 2015

7:00pm (in the Chapel)

We will reflect on Jesus' final hours, expressing our gratitude for God's ultimate gift.

EASTER SUNDAY: CHRIST IS RISEN! April 5, 2015

Join us for **Breakfast from 9 am – 10 am** in the Social Hall, then gather for worship at

10:30 a.m.: Easter Service (in the Sanctuary)

Celebrate the Resurrection through music, prayer, proclamation, and sharing in the Lord's Supper!

March 2015 Christian Education



do you see new life beginning?

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

Ever stop to think about where you were and what you were doing at exactly this moment in time last year? Apparently, this time last year I was taking a photo of this weeping willow tree I love in my parent's backyard in Virginia. I love this picture because if you look really closely you can see the very first signs of spring and new life beginning to appear on the almost barren branches. Where do you see new life beginning this year? We're still putting together the pieces of some exciting opportunities for growing in faith and service. Last month, we had a wonderful trip to see "Moses" at the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA. Our Parent's Night Out crew made another batch of sustainable lunches to deliver to people in need. This month on **Sat. March 21st** we'll be taking a trip to Newark to volunteer with Bridges and spend time with some of the families who need these bag lunches. How are you growing in faith and service this year? Where

Sunday School 9:30AM-10:15AM

Age	Teacher	Helper
Children PreK-3rd	Shanotte Smith	Dan Smith
Tweens 4 th - 7 th	Alison Johnson	Volunteers Welcome
Teens 8 th - 12 th	Sherri Shumate	Volunteers Welcome

My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth. (Psalm 121:2)

Children PreK-3rd will explore preparing for Easter: Mary anoints Jesus, The Last Supper, The Widow's Offering, The Garden, Palm Sunday using *Grow, Proclaim, Serve!* (John 12, Mark 12, Luke 22, Mark 14, John 12:12-19)

Tweens will explore: Lent is about Seeing God's Work, Sharing Communion, Knowing Jesus, Suffering, and Jesus' Death using *Grow, Proclaim, & Serve!* (Luke 19-20, Luke 22, Mark 14-15)

Teens are examining the Holy Spirit and ways that God is with us using *BL4Y* (Bible Lessons for Youth). (John 1, John 14, John 16, John 20, Mark 11)

***March 1** Youth will meet at church & walk to Manhattan Bagel*

Special Sunday School Project :

We've been asked to help with the *Jefferson Easter basket project* by bringing in Paas egg dye (12 sets are needed)

*Mark your Calendar: Education Committee Meeting
Sunday, April 19 after Worship in the Fellowship Room*

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

This month there are a number of special opportunities for intergenerational learning and growing in faith together.

“Let there be Stuff?”

Sundays, 9:30AM, Fellowship Room

This hands-on, interactive study produced by GreenFaith explores Biblical themes and ideas related to our responsibility for God’s creation. It explores the relationship between consumption, faith, and the health of the planet. It offers new information and opportunities for discussion and reflection about ways individuals, families, and church communities can make educated and conscious decisions that work to protect the earth and all of us as God’s creation.

Please join us! The series will run on the following dates: Sundays at 9:30AM in the Fellowship Room March 15, 22, 29, April 12, 19, and 26. All are welcome!

“Renewal”

Sundays, 4PM, Fellowship Room

Across the nation people of faith are standing up for the environment. Evangelical Christians are fighting mountaintop removal, a coal mining process that is decimating Appalachia. Muslims are supporting sustainable farming. Jews are helping children experience the bond between nature and spirituality. People of all faiths are mobilizing in a religious response to global warming! For the first time, the combined energy of these diverse activists is the driving force behind a feature-length documentary, entitled RENEWAL.

Please join together to view some of these inspirational stories while reflecting on what they mean to us as Christians, and what responses we could have as people of faith. The viewings will occur at 4p.m. in the fellowship room with discussion to follow. The series will run on the following dates: March 15, 22, 29, April 12, 19, and 26.

Please join for these exciting stories of people whose passion and deep moral commitment are making a difference in a time of grave ecological threats. For more information contact Brian Tipton (brianjtipton@gmail.com) or Sherri Shumate (sherri.shumate@gmail.com).

WORSHIP TOGETHER

Sunday morning all children are invited to remain in worship with their families.

Worship folders for children are available in the front and rear of the sanctuary.

Bathrooms are located in the back of the sanctuary. For families who need it, staff childcare is available in the nursery on Sundays from 9:00am-Noon!

WOW, IT’S WEDNESDAY 4:15-6:00PM

Wow, It’s Wednesday is an intergenerational Christian Education & music experience. All are welcome to join us for food, fun, and fellowship.

- 4:15 Snacks: Creating & Clean-up
- 4:45 Wesley Choir & Homework
- 5:00 Adult Conversations
- 5:05 Devotions together in the Chapel
- 5:20 Singing Believers Choir & Godly Playtime
- 6:00 Adjourn- Pick up Children
- 6:00 Soup Suppers
- 7:00 Lenten Worship Service in Chapel

*WOW follows Summit’s school calendar & will **not** meet on snow days!*

If you would like your child to participate in Soup Suppers & Services and will not be at church by 6PM, please contact me, and let me know who will be responsible for your children.

We are empowering WOW tweens to serve as Supper Table Hosts assisting with welcoming guests, guiding conversations, and washing dishes. Contact me for more information.

Wed. March 18th Children & Teens will lead the 7PM Service

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Saturday, March 28, 5-8PM

Parents' Night Out is back with new twist. Drop off your children for an evening of *themed activities* designed and lead by our tweens & youth. We will do a mix of fun and worship activities. We will also 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.

If you are a tween interested in leading a game or activity, contact me for more information about submitting your idea and gathering supplies. Submit leading ideas by March 10. **Please sign-up via email by: March 20** sherri.shumate@gmail.com
Suggested donation \$10/child. Meet in the Social Hall.

LOOKING AHEAD:

Mark your Calendars for these
Upcoming Opportunities:

*Children/Youth Lead Lenten Service:
March 18, 7PM*

*Newark Bridges Run:
Saturday, March 21, 10:00-2PM,
training March 8*

*CUMAC Foodbank Trip:
April 25, 11-2*

*Jersey Shore Mission Trip:
Friday May 15-Sat. May 16*

MARCH YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES:

March 1, 9:30am: *Manhattan Bagel Trip.* Meet at church at 9:30am and we will walk together.

March 4-April 1, 6:00pm: *Lenten Supper Hosts.*

March 15, 22, 29: *Intergenerational Studies.*

9:30am "Let There Be Stuff?" Join us in the Fellowship Room.

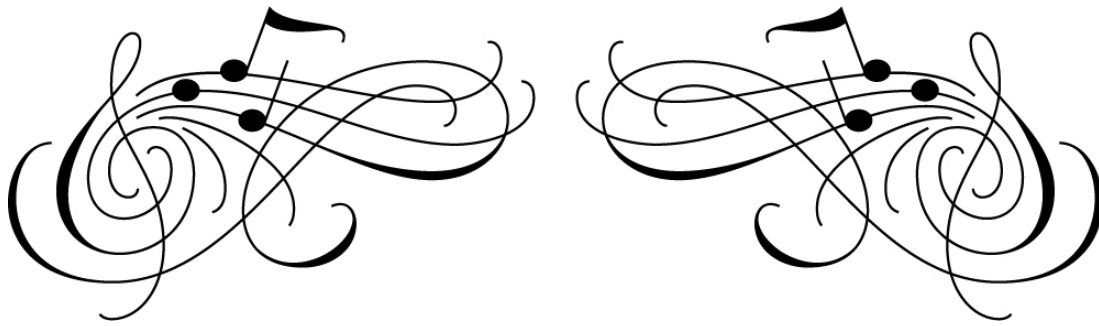
4:00pm "Renewal" Join us in the Fellowship Room.

March 15, 12-2pm: *Bowling, 300 Main St. Madison.* RSVP by the 6th if you plan to attend. All ages are welcome.

March 18, 7pm: *Youth and Children Lead worship.*

March 21, 10am-2pm: *Bridges Volunteering.* Ages 12 and up travel to Newark to volunteer with homeless families. **Required** video training Sunday, March 8th after worship.

March 28, 5-8pm: *Parents' Night Out.*



MUSIC NOTES

Joanne Teubner Prussak, Music Director

Our Journey Through Lent

Wesley Choir and Singing Believers

Our Wesley Choir meets on ***Wednesday afternoon at 4:40pm*** in the chapel. Children ages 3 through 1st grade learn songs about Jesus. Devotions are at 5:00pm.

The Singing Believers rehearse at ***5:15pm following Devotions***. The young singers study songs of the church.

Both choirs will be singing for worship on March 22nd, with warm-up at 10:15am in the Sanctuary.

Believer Quintet

The Believer Quintet rehearses on ***Saturday afternoon at 12:30pm***. This youth ensemble sings two- and three- part sacred music. They will be singing for worship on March 22nd.

Contemporary Ensemble

The Contemporary Ensemble, made up of singers and instruments, ***meets after worship at 11:45am*** in the Sanctuary. Come and sing and play instruments to praise our Lord.

Bell Choir

Our Hand Bell Choir rehearses ***Sunday mornings at 9:00am*** in the Sanctuary. Come and ring with us.

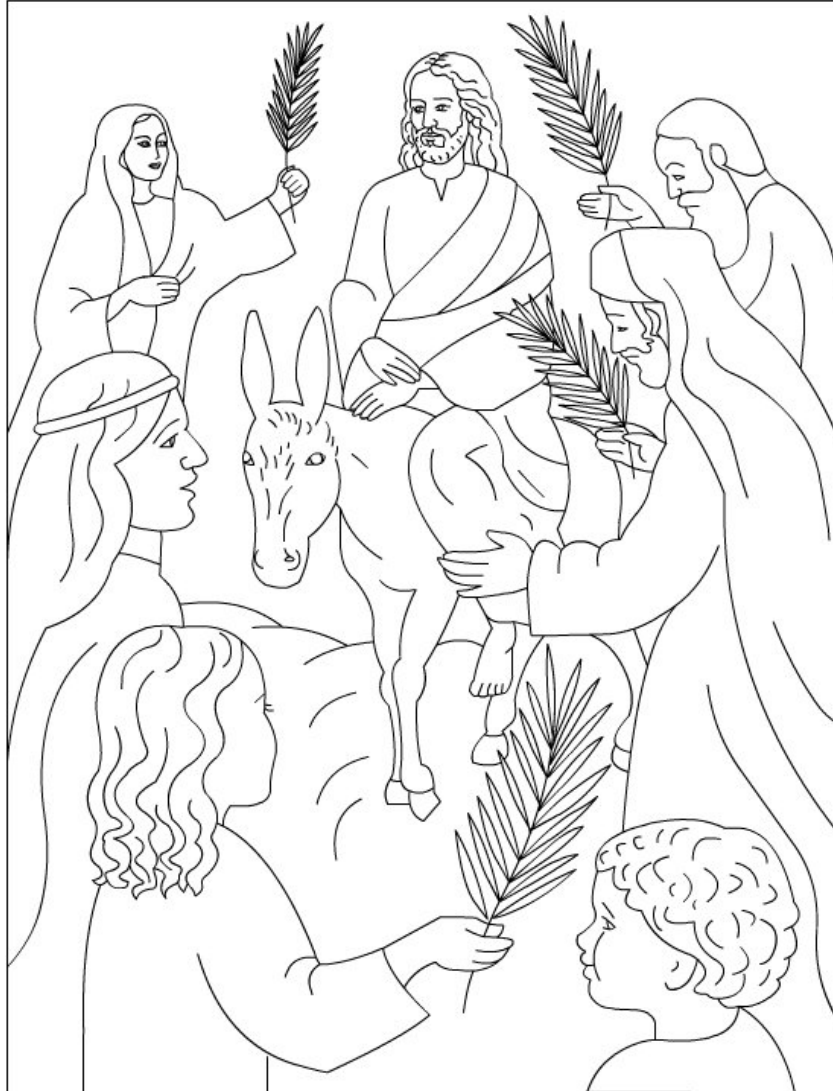
Chancel Choir

Our Chancel Choir sings for worship to glorify our Lord through song. The choir rehearses ***Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the Chapel***, with additional rehearsals on Saturday afternoons at 1:15pm throughout the season.

All our choirs welcome all who would like to share their love of music
with our community of the faithful.

God is our refuge and strength!

CHILDREN'S



COLORING

PAGE

CHILDREN'S

Saint Patrick's Day Word Search

H	S	I	R	I	K	G
T	N	E	E	R	G	O
Y	K	C	U	L	Q	L
C	L	O	V	E	R	D
W	O	B	N	I	A	R

clover

gold

green



Irish

lucky

rainbow

PAGE

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!](#)

GOOD NEWS!



In observance of Lent, we will abstain from using disposable plates, cups, and flatware. Instead we will use reusable ceramic coffee mugs and dishware from the kitchen during coffee hour throughout the weeks of Lent.

This benefits the church in three ways:

First: this change will reduce the amount of waste associated with the coffee hour

Second: this change reduces the cost associated with coffee hour.

Third: this change will help us to experience one form of sacrifice during Lent.

The gospel according to Luke, chapter 9, verse 23 says "if any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up the cross daily and follow me".

The change will be effective on February 22nd (the first Sunday of Lent).

Dan Smith (smithdanielc@gmail.com) will be the point of contact and the volunteer who will set out and dish wash the dishware. Feel free to contact Dan with questions, concerns, and offers to help!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Who's ready for some indoor FUN!!!

Our only Games night this winter will be **Friday, March 6th:**

* 6:30 pm Potluck dinner:
Bring something / anything your family likes

* 7:00 pm Board games:
If you like, bring a game you've been wanting to try out with others. There will be a many games to choose from.

We will meet in the Social Hall. No signups are needed but a phone call to the church office or an email to myrene.reyes@gmail.com would be helpful in planning this event (or in case the weather requires us to cancel).

Bring yourself, invite your friends, and come ready for a great night of laughs and some healthy table top COMPETITION!



IHN Hosting Week March 8 - March 15

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, **and your neighbor as yourself.**” (Luke 10:27)

On Sunday, March 8 as part of the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN), we will open our church house for a week to be “home” for families who currently have no home.

How can you be a neighbor to these Daddies, Mommies, and kids?

- ★ Pray for them even though we don’t yet know their names.
- ★ Bring in one of the many pantry staples that will be needed -- check the sign-up boards in the Social Hall.
- ★ Volunteer to help make, serve, and cleanup dinner on Sunday night (with Circle 3) or Wednesday night (Circle 4).
- ★ Come and spend the night in the church as an overnight host. Where better to sleep than in God’s house???
- ★ Greet the families to the church one afternoon that week.

Please call the church office or email myrene.reyes@gmail.com if you are interested in any of the above or have questions.

WHO is IHN? From the Family Promise website. “In response to this (homelessness) crisis, the Interfaith Hospitality Network brings the faith community together to help families regain their housing, their independence, and their dignity. IHN is a partnership of congregations within a community helping families who are facing homelessness. It offers an opportunity for volunteers of all faiths to reduce homelessness and transform lives.

(<http://www.familypromise.org/program/interfaith-hospitality-network>)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

And a word of thanks to all who donated socks:

"WOW!!! "

That was the response from IHN Coordinator Geleen Donovan to our gift of 94 pairs of socks to Family Promise as part of our involvement in the Union County Services Fair and Point in Time Survey held on Jan 28th. Our socks along with the other 400 donated by IHN congregations will be provided to the homeless or near homeless of Union County. A picture of the donation of socks is attached. *Thank you all!*



BIRTHDAYS & Anniversaries in March:

1	Terry Schaefer	17	AJ Lopez
	Abbey Smith		Karen Toulon
2	Heather Fern	25	Armando Lopez
7	Beverly Brown	26	Bill Houpt
	Aiden Curtis		Bradley & Riley Smith
	Rich Rodriguez	30	Jay & Natalie Flammé
9	Joshua Reyes		Cynthia Post
12	Waveny Hall		Jenna Vartan
15	Adam Fern	31	Louise DeMartin

Easter Baskets

for the Jefferson Elementary School Community

Jefferson Elementary School has some unique needs for support, and we can make a difference. Our donation of Easter dinners last year brought much-needed provisions and joy to many families; so we are once again arranging Easter dinners for 2015.

How You Can Get Involved:

Special Offering

On Sunday, **March 8th** we will have a special offering envelope in the Sunday bulletin for you to give funds that will be transformed into food and gift cards to families in need. *Please make out any checks to the United Methodist Church; note in the memo "Jefferson School."*

Easter Meals

We will put together Easter dinners for families in need. All Easter dinner donations will be gathered by **March 29th**, and delivered to and distributed by Jefferson School. *Below is a list of food items needed for the meals; you can sign-up in the Social Hall.*

Dates:

March 8	<i>Special Offering during worship</i>
March 15	<i>Food drop off</i>
March 29	<i>Food drop off</i>
March 29	<i>Easter dinner gift boxes assembled</i>
March 30	<i>Easter dinner gift boxes delivered to Jefferson School (volunteers needed)</i>
April 5	<i>Easter Sunday</i>

Items Needed:

Rice – 2 lb. bag	Can of Frosting
Potatoes – White	Canned Pineapple
Sweet Potatoes/Yams	Canned Beans
Canned Green Beans	Peeps Marshmallow Chicks
Canned Corn	PAAS Egg Dye
Cake Mix	

These acts of care and generosity will go a long way in helping families in our community to have a holiday of joy and abundance.

Please sign up in the Social Hall beginning March 8th

For more information please see Debbie Vartan or Debbi Picorale

EASTER FLOWERS 2015

Contributions for Easter Flowers will be received until March 20th.

The money collected is used to decorate the Sanctuary, with any remaining money going to provide flowers for future Sunday services. The flowers from Easter will be distributed to our home-bound and hospitalized members and others, as determined by the Pastor.

If you would like your contribution noted in the bulletin on Easter Sunday, April 5th, please complete the form below.

This form may be placed in the offering plate or returned to the Church Office. Please make your ***checks payable to UMC Flower Fund.*** Thank You!

Your

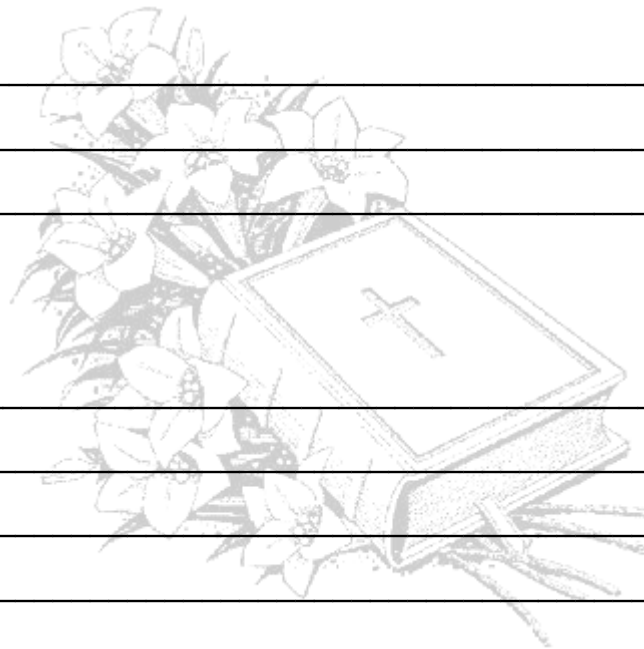
Name: _____

In Loving Memory

of: _____

In Honor

of: _____



March

"To Do" List:

MEETINGS:

Education Committee - 3/1

Property Committee - 3/5

Worship Committee - 3/15

Green Team - 3/15

Ad Council - 3/23

Green Faith Circle - 3/26

MINISTRY:

CAUSE - donations every first Sunday

Prayer Warriors - Wednesdays

Knitting Ministry - Thursdays and Fridays

IHN Guests arrive - 3/8

One Great Hour of Sharing - 3/15

Food Drop off for Jefferson School - 3/29

Bridges Mission Trip - 3/21

Deliver Easter Food Baskets

to the Jefferson School - 3/30

AND MORE:

Lenten Soup Suppers - Wednesdays

Lenten Worship - Wednesdays

Circle 3 Book Sale - 3/1

Family Game Night - 3/6

Confirmation Class - 3/1 & 3/22

Earth Study Series - 3/15, 3/22 & 3/29

Parents' Night Out - 3/28

Palm Sunday - 3/29

MARCH 2015

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Education Committee Meeting - 11:30am <i>(Fellowship Room)</i> Circle 3 Book Sale <i>During coffee hour</i> Confirmation Class 5-6pm <i>(Social Hall)</i>	2	3	4 Prayer Warriors - 1:00pm Wow it's Wednesday 4:30pm Soup Supper – 6pm Worship – 7pm	5 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i> Property Committee Meeting 6:00pm <i>(Conference Room)</i>	6 Family Game Night 6:30pm <i>(Social Hall)</i> Knitting Ministry 7:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	7 Believer Quintet 12:45pm Chancel Choir 1:15pm
8 IHN Guests arrive Bridges Training <i>(Fellowship Room)</i> Special Offering for Jefferson School	9	10	11 Prayer Warriors - 1:00pm Wow it's Wednesday 4:30pm Soup Supper – 6pm Worship – 7pm	12 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	13 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	14 Believer Quintet 12:45pm Chancel Choir 1:15pm
15 One Great Hour of Sharing Earth Study 9:30am & 4pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i> Worship Committee Meeting 12pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	16	17	18 Prayer Warriors - 1:00pm Wow it's Wednesday 4:30pm Soup Supper – 6pm Worship – 7pm	19 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	20 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	21 Bridges Mission Trip 10am-2pm Believer Quintet 12:45pm Chancel Choir 1:15pm
22 Earth Study 9:30am & 4pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i> Confirmation Class 5-6pm <i>(Social Hall)</i>	23 Ad Council Meeting 7:30pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	24	25 Prayer Warriors - 1:00pm Wow it's Wednesday 4:30pm Soup Supper – 6pm Worship – 7pm	26 Knitting Ministry 1pm <i>(Fellowship Rm)</i> Green Faith Circle Meeting 7pm <i>(Social Hall)</i>	27 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	28 Believer Quintet 12:45pm Chancel Choir 1:15pm Parents' Night Out 5-8pm
29 PALM SUNDAY Earth Study 9:30am & 4pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	30	31	SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30am – Sunday School (all grades) 10:30am – Worship 11:30am – Coffee Hour		SUNDAY CHOIR SCHEDULE: 9:00 am - Bell 9:30 am – Chancel Choir 11:45am – Contemporary Ensemble	