THE DIALOGUE

May 2016

THE STAFF
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Sherri Shumate, Director of Christian Education
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“AFTER THE BENEDICTION”

On Sundays May 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, we invite you to bring your coffee into the Fellowship Room and gather with others who are interested in talking about the impact that the worship service had on you.

We will frame the conversation around three questions:
-- What spoke to you in today’s worship experience?
-- What insights or questions were sparked?
-- What would you like to talk about some more?

Hope to see you there!

Shawn Callender Hogan
Pastor

PRAYER SERVICE

Do you need a few minutes just to breathe? Could you use a small corner of space to be quiet and still?

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

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

If so, come at 7pm on the first Wednesday night of each month (May 4, June 1, July 6....) 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.
A TIME OF WELCOME
Are you interested in becoming a member of the United Methodist Church of Summit, or Are you enjoying worshipping here and would just like to know more about our church?

Then come to “A Time of Welcome”!

On Sunday, June 5, 2016, 11:30am (in the Fellowship Room in our Education wing) you can meet with the pastor and some of our leaders who will share a bit about our ministry, and talk together about how we each came to be here.

It will be a great time for questions, casual conversation, and getting to know one another.

While a decision about membership is not presumed, at the end of the gathering anyone who expresses an interest in joining the church officially will be given all the needed details.

If you wish to become a member, or if you just are interested in learning more about our church, come!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW:
Join us for an 8-week class studying the New Testament:

Sundays
June 5 through July 24
4:00 pm

We will be using the wonderful Disciple Bible Study materials, which will lead us to explore the writings of the New Testament using the story of Jesus as the starting point.

This study of the New Testament looks at how the early church took ownership of and was shaped by the story of Jesus and how the church learned how to develop as disciples and create communities of faith.

Please let Pastor Hogan know of your interest in participating, so that study materials can be made available. (Weekly reading is part of the class learning.)
~ Praying Psalms in Nature ~
~ Bryant Park, Summit ~
~ May 15th @ 12:30 pm ~

Please join us to reflect on nature-inspired Psalms around the beautiful setting of Bryant Park in Summit. We shall meet at the Gazebo to start the walk toward the lake waterfall, then on to the tree grove and finally past the grassy knoll.

Bring a picnic lunch if you wish to eat together before we get going!
Feel free to bring chairs, a blanket, your family and friends!!!
It will be a wonderful multi-generational event.

At 12:30pm, we will begin our journey around the park.
We hope to form various paced groups and there are many benches along the 1 mile path.

Hope you can make it!
(If the weather doesn’t cooperate, we will reschedule at another time.)
WHY DO WE GIVE?

We Give Because, Together, We Can Do What No One Individual Or Congregation Can Do Separately.

What if it were up to you alone to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and to help form new churches among believers within the countries of the former Soviet Union?
What if you alone had the responsibility to address in Christ’s name the causes and effects of malaria throughout Africa?
What if you alone were expected to ensure quality higher education was funded and available to Christians in the United States and throughout much of the world?
What if you alone were expected to develop and provide resources for a wide range of individual and congregational needs?
What if you alone were expected to arrange for the pensions of retired pastors and bishops who gave much of their lives to serve Christ and his church?
What if you alone were expected to do these things - and much more - all at the same time?
You could not do it. These efforts would be impossible for any single individual or congregation to accomplish alone.
However, as we give to the various offerings and apportionments of The United Methodist Church, we can share our resources to accomplish these otherwise impossible ministries and missions and much more.
United Methodists find strength and new possibilities in our connection. We do mission and ministry best when we do it together. We give to make it happen.
Why do you give?

www.umcgiving.org

“Every day, we hear more and more disturbing news about the U.S. and global economy. The problems and threats are real. In reality, in hard economic times, the ministry of local congregations and of United Methodists connectedly is needed even more, not less.” – Bishop Gregory V. Palmer, Illinois Great Rivers Conference
Traditional Sunday school classes have resumed and will continue through Christian Education Sunday on June 12th. Thank you to all who donated plastic bags, cereal, and your time for our CUMAC Food pantry trip. In June, we will be participating in a Bridges food distribution to homeless persons in Newark. Did you know our children also make meals for Bridges every month at our Parents’ Night Out gatherings?

Thank you for all the ways you are growing in faith and inspiring others to do the same!

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

**Sunday School**

9:30am-10:15am

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Helper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children PreK-3rd</td>
<td>Shanotte Smith</td>
<td>Myrene Reyes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tweens 4th-7th</td>
<td>Alison Johnson</td>
<td>Dan Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teens 8th-12th</td>
<td>Sherri Shumate</td>
<td>Volunteers Welcome</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“And they will call him Emmanuel…which means God is with us. - Matthew 1:23

With varying activities for each age level, this month all Sunday school classes will explore the same scriptures using *Live Big* curriculum.

- **May 1:** Jeremiah 1:1-8
- **May 8:** Timothy 1:1-7
- **May 15:** Acts 2:1-42
- **May 22:** Luke 10:38-42
- **May 29:** 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

Education Committee meeting on **Sunday, May 1 at 8:30am**
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 10:20am-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, Christa, and Heather.

Please contact me if you have questions. sherri.shumate@gmail.com

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
Attention Graduating Seniors:
The United Methodist Church offers two scholarships for graduating students who will be attending an institution for higher education in the fall. These scholarships have been made possible by the compassion of Ms. Evelyn Welsh and Ms. Mildred Wycoff.

To apply for a scholarship you need to submit the following by May 2nd:
* A two page essay highlighting your community, church and school involvement.
* Please also explain your economic need.
* Proof of enrollment from the university/college you will be attending in the fall.

Applications can be submitted to the church office or by email to sherri.shumate@gmail.com

For additional United Methodist scholarship opportunities, visit this website.
http://www.gnjumc.org/pages/detail/321

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER
Here are some ways our young people hope to grow in faith this year:
* recognize what's important in God's eyes
* appreciate God's creation
* say blessings before meals
* pray every night
* tell God, "I love you"

How are you growing in faith?
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 way 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

WOW Schedule
4:30-4:55pm Story, Snacks, & Sharing
5:00-5:15pm Devotions Together in the Chapel
5:15-6:00pm Adult Conversations in the Fellowship Room
5:20-6:00pm Singing Praises Together in the Chapel

PARENTS’ NIGHT OUT:
Saturday, May 14th, 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. Aligning with our church emphasis on being a place of rest and renewal, we will be incorporating ways of helping our children learn strategies and experiences for rest and renewal, such as noticing our breathing and practicing games that help us learn to focus and calm our bodies.

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 $10 per child. This money goes to purchase supplies for our Bridges lunches that we donate to homeless families.

Please sign-up via email or evite: sherri.shumate@gmail.com
**BIBLES FOR CHILDREN**

Has your child received a Bible from our church? We are ordering the Deep Blue Kids Bible to give our young disciples and would like to make sure all children who wish to receive one do so. You can read more information about this Bible here: [http://www.deepbluekidsbible.com/](http://www.deepbluekidsbible.com/)

Please contact me by May 30th if you would like your child to receive a Bible from our church. sherri.shumate@gmail.com

Thank you!

**FAITH PARTNERS**

Did you know, we have 21 pairs of Faith Partners, 42 people from our community who are regularly praying for each other? Would you be interested in being a Faith Partner? The only requirement is you pray for your Faith Partner weekly. Optional suggestions: Greet your Faith Partner each Sunday, occasionally sit together in worship, write or draw a letter, send a birthday note, etc. Opportunities for you to share God’s love are limitless.

Contact me if you’re interested in being a Faith Partner!
- Sherri Shumate sherri.shumate@gmail.com or call the church office.

**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.

sherri.shumate@gmail.com

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**Sunday, May 1, Manhattan Bagel Trip**, Meet in the parking lot at 9:25am.

**Saturday, May 14, Parents’ Night Out**: 5-8pm. Youth helpers welcome.
Thank you to our Music Makers for your dedication and devotion to praising God through music at our worship services.

Wesley Choir
Our children and young people learn Christian songs and better understand the meaning of the text through music and rhythm. The choir welcomes all children ages three and up, as part of Wow, It’s Wednesday. **Rehearsals are in the chapel on Wednesdays at 5:20 pm.**

Singing Believers
Our youth develop their faith and experience worship through their singing in choir, and learning the songs of the church. **Rehearsals are on Saturdays at 12:45 pm.**

Contemporary Ensemble
Our Contemporary Ensemble of singers, drum, recorder, bass and piano are praising God through music from contemporary hymnals. **Rehearsals are Sundays at 12:15 pm in the sanctuary.**

Bell Choir
Come and ring a joyful sound to the Lord. **Rehearsals are Sunday mornings at 11:45 am in the sanctuary.**

Chancel Choir
Our Chancel Choir rehearses **Sunday mornings at 9:30 am.**

It is in doing that we are enriched and that we grow closer to God and to each other.

Additional members always are most welcome. Come, join us and make music to praise our God!
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!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
On Saturday, June 11th from 8:30am-12:00pm The United Methodist Church of Summit will be holding another rummage sale in the Social Hall. Please note: We are not accepting clothes or televisions.

POT LUCK GET-TOGETHER
Sunday, May 1st will be our 3rd Pot Luck at 5:30 pm, in the Fellowship Room. Plan to join in a time of conversation, laughs and planning. If you have a favorite finger food, please bring it along to share with others, along with your thoughts for future events and the upcoming rummage event in June.

| BIRTHDAYS & Anniversaries in May: |
|---|---|
| 1 | Dorothy Koernig |
| 5 | Mike Irving |
| 6 | Leslie Williams |
| 9 | David Landvater  
Nick & Steffi Mansilla  
Alison & Neil Johnson  
Kim & Eric Goldman |
| 10 | Ann Houp  
Kenny James & Alicia Solomon  
Mary Jane & Dan Somers |
| 11 | Bryson James |
| 16 | Austin Fern  
Nick Mansilla |
| 17 | Maria Hughes |
| 18 | Carlos Aguilera |
| 20 | J. Clyde Branson |
| 22 | Irma George |
| 24 | Bette McDermott  
Camille Tassé |
| 25 | Benjamin Burns  
Kimberly Vida  
Gabriella Tassé |
| 26 | Susan and Scott Daniel  
Bob & Dotti Zotti |
| 28 | Doug Rockoff |
| 30 | Dwayne Phillips |
| 31 | Robert Somers |
April 5, 2016

United Methodist Church of Summit
17 Kent Place Boulevard
Summit, NJ 07901

Dear Church Members,

On behalf of the students and staff at Jefferson School, I would like to thank you for your donation of food and ShopRite gift cards for the Easter baskets that were distributed to our families.

All the families who received the donations were so appreciative.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Ronald Poles
Principal
MAY

“To Do” List:

MEETINGS:
Education Committee – 5/1
Property Committee – 5/5
Finance Committee with “Obstacles” Focus Group – 5/8

MINISTRY:
CAUSE – donations every first Sunday
Taize Service – first Wednesday of each month
Prayer Warriors – Wednesdays
Knitting Ministry – Thursdays and Fridays
Family Promise Guests – 5/15

AND MORE:
“After the Benediction” – Sundays in May
Pot Luck Supper – 5/1
Parents’ Night Out – 5/14
Bryant Park Walk – 5/15
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<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Education Committee Meeting – 8:30am</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4 Prayer Warriors - 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)</td>
<td>5 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)</td>
<td>6 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room)</td>
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<td>“After the Benediction” 11:30 (Fellowship Room)</td>
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<td>Wow, It’s Wednesday Taize Service 7pm (Chapel)</td>
<td>Property Committee Meeting -7:00pm (Conference Room)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pot Luck Supper – 5:30pm (Fellowship Room)</td>
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<td>8 Finance Committee Meeting with “Obstacles” Focus Group – 9:30am (Fellowship Room)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11 Wow, It’s Wednesday Prayer Warriors - 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)</td>
<td>12 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)</td>
<td>13 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room)</td>
<td>14 Parents’ Night Out 5-8pm</td>
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<td>15 Family Promise Guests - Arrive “After the Benediction” 11:30 (Fellowship Room) Bryant Park Walk – 12:30pm</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18 Prayer Warriors - 1:00pm (Fellowship Room) Wow, It’s Wednesday</td>
<td>19 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)</td>
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<td>22 Family Promise Guests - Leave “After the Benediction” 11:30 (Fellowship Room)</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>25 Prayer Warriors - 1:00pm (Fellowship Room) Wow, It’s Wednesday</td>
<td>26 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)</td>
<td>27 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room)</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 “After the Benediction” 11:30 (Fellowship Room)</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30am – Sunday School (all grades) 10:30am – Worship 11:30am – Refreshments and Fellowship</td>
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