UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SUMMIT

17 Kent Place Boulevard • Summit, NJ 07901

THE DIALOGUE

November 2016



THE STAFF

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From the Pastor

On a warm Sunday in August, during my vacation, I chose to worship at a nearby Quaker meeting house. I had passed this Friends Meeting place every year on vacation and always felt a certain urging to go in.

The service was scheduled for 10am, so I arrived at 9:50, to find only one other car in the small lot. A man and his mother were in the car, and he informed me that the House was not yet unlocked. So I wandered around the very old cemetery adjacent to the meeting house for a few minutes, and another car arrived—

carrying a couple who were clearly leaders. They had the keys and promptly unlocked the doors to the small room with cushioned benches arranged in a square. They also placed at the doorway a basket of tomatoes from their garden to offer worshipers, opened the windows, and lit the candle that was on a table at the center of the room.

There was no air conditioning; in fact there was no movement of air other than that which was generated by a small, very weak fan in the corner of the room. I sat in silence—the core dimension of a Quaker service. Over the next few minutes 8-10 others arrived, and we all sat in the quiet, very warm room. Praying, thinking. In silence.

After about 30 minutes, a woman stood to speak. In a Friends service, no one comes with prescribed words or thoughts to offer, rather one waits for the movement of the spirit, and then shares as God invites.

The woman's words were simple and to the point. She said, "As I got up this morning, it occurred to me that there are lots of reasons not to come to worship. It's hot. (It was well into the 90s that day). It is summer. People are vacationing and visiting and it might be nice just to stay home — in air conditioning. Plus, this week I had chemo... There are lots of reasons not to come to worship. And so when I pulled into the driveway here this morning I was so thankful. Thankful to see other cars. Thankful that there are other Christians to be with. Thankful that I would not be alone here today. I am just very thankful for each of you. Your being here means so much."

And with that, she sat down. Silence resumed. And no one spoke again for the remainder of the hour.

She did not ask anything of us—not a single thing. She did not say she was glad we were here because she needed or wanted anything. She simply noted, with deep gratitude, the gift of our *presence*.

She acknowledged the role that our commitment played in her wellbeing.

So often we think of commitment as strictly a personal thing, done for personal reasons with personal benefits or at personal costs. That warm summer afternoon I was reminded that our 'showing up' makes all the difference to others, even those we do not know.

Each Sunday morning I will remember her words—and I will join in her gratitude for your presence.

Shawn Callender Hogan Pastor



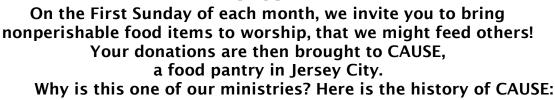
ALL SAINTS DAY

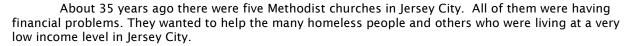
On Sunday, **November 6, 2016** we will celebrate All Saints Day, giving thanks for Christian loved ones whose lives have ended.

It is an important day of remembering those who have shared life with us, as we proclaim our faith in the life to come. To mark this holy day is to acknowledge both our gratitude and our grief.

In worship we will read the names of those dear to us who have died, and gather around the Lord's Table to share in communion, declaring that we share the meal "with all the company of heaven."

CAUSE





Members of the five churches met with officials of the NJ Annual Conference to decide what to do. They decided to ask the suburban Methodist churches for help. They formed an organization called CAUSE (Christian Approach to Urban Suburban Encounter). One of the primary purposes of this organization was to get suburban churches involved in helping the poor in Jersey City. CAUSE is a program of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church which contributes a large part of their annual budget.

About 25 years ago, CAUSE purchased a building in Jersey City on Bergen Avenue. This building houses the CAUSE shop and has four tenants. The CAUSE shop is divided into two areas, each with its own access to the street. In one area, clothes and small household items are sold for very low prices. These items are almost all from donations by churches and individuals. The other half of the shop is devoted to giving food to needy people. Some of the food is donated by our church and other churches, but most of it is purchased from the Food Bank in Elizabeth. In order to receive food from CAUSE, the recipients must show a letter from an agency such as the Red Cross.

When CAUSE was first established, members of the suburban churches went to Jersey City to work in the shop. Anna Clark and Sarah Epperly from our church went in at least once a week. Some years ago the Epperly's moved away. Anna became the Treasurer, a position she held for 17 years. Gradually, fewer suburbanites participated but people from the Jersey City Methodist churches took up the slack.

CAUSE is a vital ministry of care for those in great need. If you wish to contribute, you can bring bags of non-perishable food to the church on the first Sunday of each month, or you can leave bags in the kitchen at any time.







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 each month (Nov 2, Dec 7...) 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 enfold you with peace.



Join us for our Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Gathering for All Ages!

Sunday November 20th 5:00pm - 6:00pm

United Methodist Church of Summit 17 Kent Place Blvd., Summit, New Jersey umcsummit.org

We will have conversation, poetry, refreshments, & song (led by our Interfaith Children & Youth Choirs). Together we will explore how dialogue & friendship can transform our lives, especially when we are trying to cross dividing lines in our society. (Interfaith Student Choirs will rehearse at 4:15pm)

ALL ARE WELCOME! —

If you have a student who would like to participate in the interfaith choirs, email the Rev. Shawn Callender Hogan at UMCofSummit@gmail.com

SPONSORED BY THE SUMMIT INTERFAITH COUNCIL . summtinterfaith.org

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION





These are just a few photos from our garden sunflower seed harvest. While most of the sunflowers were clearly done growing for this year and ready to share their seeds, this one sunflower was still vibrantly blooming. We had a great time digging in the dirt, discovering a hidden eggplant, finding potatoes, picking beans. This garden has been a source of great joy.

This month we give thanks for the many great gifts in our lives. We praise God for all that we have received and we share from our blessings with others.

How will you praise God? What are the areas of growth in our church and in your life for which you give thanks?

We give thanks for each of you. We are glad you are here!

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

Christmas Pageant

Wednesday, December 21 4:30-6:00pm



Are you interested in participating in this year's Christmas Pageant?

It will take place on December 21.

We will gather at 4:30pm, the pageant will begin at 5:00pm, and it will be followed with a simple pot-luck dinner.

All are welcome!

Please contact me if you're interested in participating.

Sherri Shumate sherri.shumate@gmail.com
or call the church office at 908-277-1700.

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: there is no WOW on November 9th and 23rd



PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Saturday, November 19, 5-8pm

(Please sign-up by November 11)

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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30am -10:15am

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

The Story of Praise "Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!"

November 6: Psalm 150

Praising God is something we can do any time and any place! How do you praise God? Which ways mentioned in Psalm 150 can you most relate to? How will you praise God today?

November 13: 2 Chronicles 20:14-21

In these stories, people praise God by singing and shouting with their voices. How will you use your voice to praise God today?

November 20: Ezra 3:10-13

Can you imagine how you would feel if our church building was destroyed? When God's people lost their place of worship, their Temple, due to war and exile they were very upset. In today's story, a new Temple is being built. The people sing, chant, and weep in praise to God. Can you imagine the joy they felt? We can praise God anytime, anywhere, and in any mood. Have you ever praised God with tears? What is a new place where you could praise God this week?

November 27: Psalm 148

In this Psalm, everything created is invited to praise God! Think about all the things God has done for you. Praise is our response to God's good gifts, including the gift of life. As we begin Advent, this time of waiting in hope for the coming of Jesus, how will you praise God?

Anyone interested in being a regular helper for Sunday school class?

Contact me! Sherri.shumate@gmail.com

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, **November 13**: *Teen Manhattan Bagel Trip*, 9:30am
- ✓ Saturday, **November 19**: *Parents' Night Out Helpers*, 5:00pm
- ✓ Sunday, **November 20**: *Interfaith Thanksgiving Service*, 5:00pm
- ✓ Friday, **November 25**: *Open Mic Night* at Summit UMC, 8:00-11:00pm

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/ Please contact me if you would like your child to receive a Bible from our church at sherri.shumate@gmail.com. Thank you!



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

Endurance and encouragement -- isn't that something we all need to strive for? Let us encourage each other to share our gifts and glorify our Lord and our fellow worshipers.

Wesley Choir

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

Singing Believers

Come and sing the joyful songs to God. Let us grow together in our faith through music. Rehearsals are at **12:45pm** on Saturdays in the Chapel for youth grades 3 through high school.

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 at **12:15pm** in the Music Room. Come and share your musical gifts and enrich your faith.

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 at **11:45am** in the Sanctuary.

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.

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



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. <u>Join us in our Facebook conversation today!</u>



NEW EMPLOYEES

Please welcome **Roy Christensen** and **Sean Burke** to the United Methodist Church staff.

Roy, our Property Manager, will be on site Tuesday through Saturday 9am-1pm.

Sean, our custodian, will be on site Monday through Friday, 7pm - 10pm, and 10am-3pm on Saturday.

As we get accustomed to this new arrangement, if you find something in need of attention or repair in the church, please complete one of the small "Repair/Maintenance" cards found in the Property Manager's mailbox and place it in the same mailbox. These cards will facilitate swift response to building needs.

Please join us in welcoming Roy and Sean to our church and ministry!



HELP US SPREAD THE WORD!

The **Publicity Team** is working hard to get the word out about all the great activities our church offers. Since July, the following events have made publication:

Chalkboard Conversations, Taize Services,

Fall Festival, Open Mic Night, Adult Meditation,

Praying Psalms in Nature.

If you have something of interest that you would like to see advertised please see either **Debbi P**. for print or **Bernice** for online publication.

Most deadlines are due the **first of the month** for the following month, so information needs to be collected by the team in a timely manner.

Please let us know if there are other avenues we should pursue to get the word out about the United Methodist Church of Summit.

Currently, we are using:



Print:

Star Ledger Community Events
Summit News
The Collection

On-line:

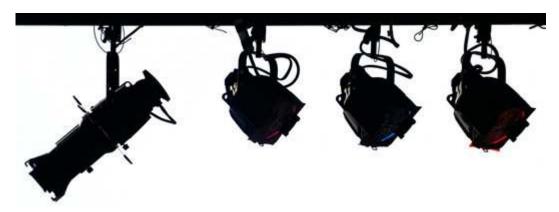
Home Towne TV

TAP into Summit

The Collection

The Summit Patch

NJ.Com calendar



OPEN MIC NIGHT

Friday November 25, 2016 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 <u>umcopenmicnight@gmail.com</u> or call the office at (908) 277-1700.



Sunday, November 27th is

'HANGING OF THE GREENERY'

And we will again be having
OUR POTLUCK LUNCHEON AND TALENT SHOW
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE.

Since Hanging of the Greenery is so close to 'Turkey Day' why not reimagine your THANKSGIVING leftovers into something creative and edible, or bring in a traditional family holiday dish.

Sign-up sheets for the TALENT SHOW and POTLUCK will be in the Social Hall.

Everyone is welcome and we look forward to 100% participation!

Any questions, contact Debbi P.; Shela W. or Faye C.

For Talent Show: Faye C. and Kim G.

CALLING ALL BAKERS!

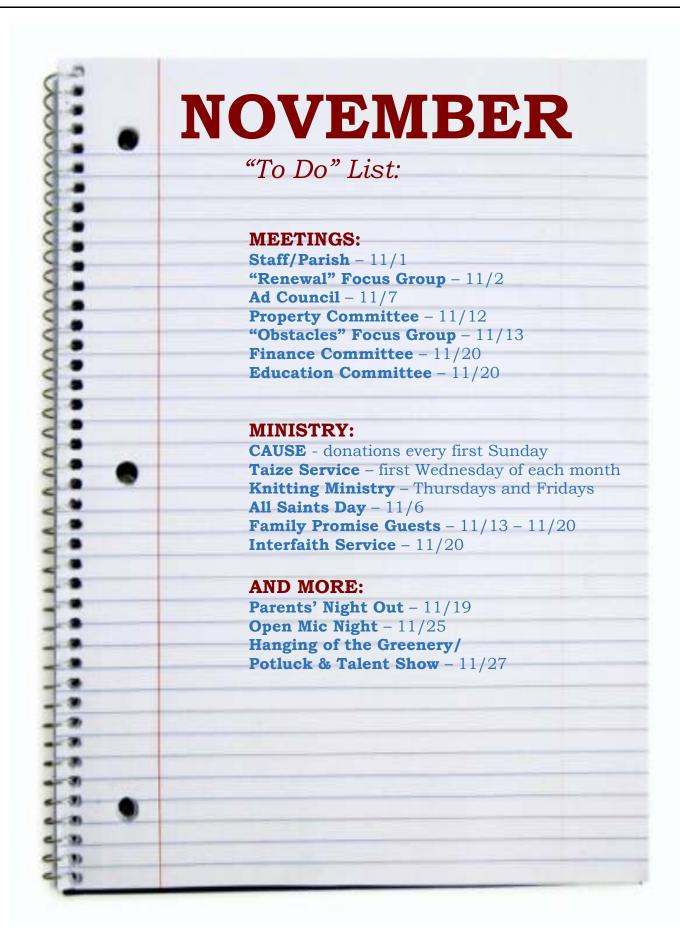
The United Methodist Church of Summit is hosting its first Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 3rd, 2016 for the Holiday Bazaar

We are looking for donations of homemade cookies (varieties encouraged), at least 5 dozen or more for each recipe.

Deliver all cookies on Friday, December 2nd to the church kitchen (please mark them with "Cookie Walk")

Please see Kim G. kymburlig@comcast.net with any questions.

Thank you in advance for all your help!



NOVEMBER 2016

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sunday Schedule: 9:30am – Sunday Sch 10:30am – Worship 11:30am – Refreshme		Staff/Parish Meeting - 7:30 (Fellowship Room)	Wow, It's Wednesday Taize Service 7pm (Chapel) "Renewal" Focus Group - 7:30 pm (Conference Room)	Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)	Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room)	5
6 All Saints Day	Ad Council Meeting - 7:30pm (Fellowship Room)	8	No Wow , It's Wednesday	1:00pm (Fellowship Room)	11 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room)	Property Committee Meeting 9:00 am (Conference Room)
Family Promise Guests Arrive "Obstacles" Focus Group - 11:30am (Chapel)	14	15	Wow , It's Wednesday	Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)	Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room)	Parents' Night Out- 5-8pm
Finance Committee 9am (Conference Rm) Education Meeting 11:30am (Fellowship Room) Interfaith Service – 5:00pm (Social Hall)	21	22	No Wow , It's Wednesday	Thanksgiving Day Office is Closed	Office is Closed Open Mic Night 8-11pm (Social Hall)	26
Hanging of the Greenery (potluck and talent show to follow)	28	29	30			

