

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

THE DIALOGUE

October 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*

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Reflections from Pastor Shawn Callender Hogan

Below please find my Annual Report, which will be offered at the Church Conference

The year 2017 marks 150 years of Methodist ministry in Summit. And as we spend this year celebrating our heritage, we have joyfully welcomed former pastors to the pulpit, thus far including Bruce Barrabee, Rich Hendrickson, Gina Hendrickson, and have received messages of love from Dean Lanning and Clark Callender. We look forward to welcoming other pastors in the months to come. We have honored those who have been members for many years, lifted up those who have been baptized here and rejoiced with those who were married here. September 17th marked the celebratory Sunday brunch at the Grand Summit Hotel, complete with video and photo displays, and words of greeting from Summit's Mayor Nora Radest.

This year we also welcomed Roy Christensen, property manager, and Rosa Marguinhos, custodian, to our church staff, as they join Sherri Shumate, JoAnne Teubner Prussak, and Polly Del Campo in offering exceptional oversight to our shared work. Under the care of this fine team, the church facility and ministries are cared for with skill, compassion, and vision. Sherri, JoAnne, Polly, Roy, and Rosa each enable us to be a place where God's love takes concrete form.

Our Christian Education ministry provides superior care for disciples of all ages through Sunday morning, Sunday afternoon, and Wednesday afternoon programs. Whether it be through biblically-based curriculum, mindful play, or service-oriented activities, the faith community is offered avenues for strengthened scriptural knowledge, deepened spiritual awareness, and broadened care for others.

We continue to make every effort to respond to the fluctuating schedules of our community, which place particular strain on the availability of our members to be consistent participants in the programs offered here. We are aware that this is just one of many signs of the changed and changing culture, and individuals and households will need to work with the church in new ways if the church is to provide support in spiritual formation.

We experience the same dynamic in our worship life, as we struggle to increase our Sunday worship attendance. The monthly prayer service provides an additional mid-week opportunity for reflection and soul-tending. We continue, somewhat slowly, to build on the idea of offering a monthly service for persons in recovery and their loved ones, or for whomever the 12-step program has been helpful. This dream is slowly coming to life as we carefully gain vital input and guidance from the recovery community.

Whether on Sunday morning, monthly prayer services, or mid-week seasonal services, our music ministry provides a strong foundation for enriched worship experiences. From our five choirs to our instrumentalists and soloists, our music ministry provides joyful and varied offerings for praising God. The gifts of our diverse community are encouraged and celebrated every time we gather.

While there are many ministries that continue across the years, this year we earned a "Summit Green Star," a community award for being an organization that is attentive to environmental concerns. We also initiated a monthly Open Mic Night for the surrounding community, in an effort to provide a safe and nurturing space for young people to use their talents and their voices. We have found the event to be a source of value for all ages, and we look forward to a second successful year. This new ministry is supported by the steadfast efforts of a team of members who, without fail, provide the creative and diligent attention needed.

The same kind of dedication is evidenced in our many outreach ministries, as throughout this celebration year we have continued to live into our rich heritage of care for those in need, hosting the SHIP breakfast program, providing meals for Jefferson School families, and continuing the annual “Our Christmas For Others” fundraiser. In Lent we took a creative path for gathering needed items for CUMAC, as each week we collected a food item highlighted in the morning scripture story. We volunteered at CUMAC and did a Bridges run, baked bread and cooked soup together for our Family Promise families, and knitted countless blankets for patients of Overlook Hospital. These ministries are strong because of the persistent devotion and enthusiasm of our church community.

Eighteen months ago we identified a call to be a place that provides renewal for the surrounding community amid the stresses of our time. That sense of identity gave birth to monthly coloring events, quarterly nature walks, yoga for children, “zentangle” and horticultural meditation events, and a month of mind/body/spirit gatherings. In January I took a one-month renewal leave, to be re-centered in God’s claim upon my life, and the congregation joined me from afar, in prayer and in spirit. Together we daily lit candles, as we lifted each other up on the spiritual journey. Twice since then we have offered the larger community a five-day prayer experience: an early morning conference call during which we pray the Examen. Those who have participated found it to be an important way to begin their day. I have enrolled in a certification program for Spiritual Direction, and trust that those skills will enrich and empower the congregation’s attention to the divine in our midst.

The spiritual health of the church will be its most vital resource in addressing the unexpected closure of our Preschool this spring. Over recent years, the Wesley Preschool enrollment had been decreasing, a sign of the changing needs of the families in our area. This year our enrollment dipped below that which is needed to sustain the program, and so we will not be offering classes in the coming year. On June 11th we gave God thanks for the tremendous blessings that have been a part of the preschool ministry, and celebrated its teachers and the many families it touched across its 47 years.

Since the closure of the Preschool, we have entered into an intentional process of dreaming about and discerning the next uses for the classroom space and new ministries for our time. Dreaming is a joy-filled endeavor, and discernment requires openness to God’s leading. Both tasks are exciting, intriguing, and require a degree of trust. Yet, I believe that the most challenging stage will come when a path is clear and the work of fully living into the new ministry begins. Any fruitful avenue forward requires the heartfelt engagement of the whole community, moving past general affirmation and into true ownership, in which everyone has “skin in the game.” This next step in the process will call upon our collective commitment in ways we have yet to discover. We will need God’s encouragement as a new season unfolds.

Thankfully, we have a long history when it comes to leaning on God for strength and direction. Our history as a local church began with a handful of Methodists identifying and responding with collective vigor to a need. This heritage will serve us well in the days that lie ahead.

Shawn Callender Hogan
Pastor

Taize 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 to the Chapel at **7pm on first Wednesday night each month** (October 4, November 1, ...) 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.

Self-Care Event

Seeking resources to bring more peace, more balance, more focus to your life?

As the fall gets underway, it is easy to get caught up in the whirl of our busy lives, and we risk losing touch with the things that are most important to us.

Join us for a Self-Care Event
Sunday, October 1, 2017
1 pm – 3 pm



The event will include tools to reflect on the things that give you meaning and balance, and re-center your spirit for the pace of life. Please sign up in the Social Hall so that sufficient materials can be available.

PRAYER IS JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY:

Five days: **Monday October 16 through Friday October 20**, you are invited to participate each day in 15 minutes of guided prayer **(7:45 – 8:00 am)**, done by conference call.

You call the number below* at 7:45 am, and Pastor Hogan will guide us all in a form of prayer that is silent and individual, even as we are collectively praying for those 15 minutes.

Pastor Hogan will offer prompts for your own silent prayer, and the time will end in sharing in the Lord's Prayer at 8 am. Join us!

*Call: 515-604-9643


Enter access code: 319155#

(It is not necessary to announce yourself at the start of the call, even if the system invites you to do so.)



Items Needed for Family Promise Guests:

JOIN US IN GATHERING NEEDED ITEMS:
DROP OFF ITEMS BETWEEN NOW AND NOVEMBER 5th:



FAMILY PROMISE
HOUSEHOLD SUPPLY DRIVE

We are organizing a drive to collect household cleaning supplies for homeless families in Union County. Some suggested items:

Tide Pods (no liquid detergent)	Cleaning Rags	Vacuums
Sponges	Toilet Cleaner	Handheld Vacuums
Disinfectant Wipes	Bleach	Dryer Sheets
Dish Soap	Brooms/Dustpan	Carpet Cleaner
All-Purpose Cleaning Spray	Mops	Oven Cleaner
Window Cleaner	Buckets	Furniture Polish

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



What does it mean to be a faithful leader? Who are some of the leaders who have influenced you? What traits would you identify as necessary to be a good leader?

This month Sunday school will explore biblical kings and how God chooses imperfect people and helps us as we become leaders.

How are you a leader in our faith community? Which leadership traits would you most like God and our church community to help you refine and improve?

One tiny seed grew into this beautiful sunflower from this year's church garden. What might God be growing in you this year?

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school is an opportunity to share our ideas, our questions, our hopes and our prayers. It's a place where all are welcome and where we grow in faith together. Would you be interested in teaching or helping? Have a new idea you'd like to share? Contact me!

Volunteers Welcome!

Interested in helping our young people grow in faith? We could always use additional helpers to assist with Sunday school for children, tweens, and youth. Wow It's Wednesday, and Parents' Night Out. Please contact Sherri Shumate if you're interested.

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

October 1 *Tower of Babel*, Lesson 4, Genesis 11:1-9
October 8 *David*, Lesson 5, 2 Samuel 7:8-16
October 15 *Solomon*, Lesson 6, 1 Kings 2:1-4, 3:6-12, 4:29-34
October 22 *Josiah*, Lesson 7, 2 Kings 22-23:3, 25
October 29 *Jesus, King of Kings*, Lesson 8, Luke 1:26-33, John 18:36-37, Revelations 19:16

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 beginning September 17th, on Sundays from 9:00am-10:15am and in the Hospitality Room in the rear of the Sanctuary from 10:20-11:30am! 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: Please contact me if you have questions. ***We are currently looking for a second nursery caregiver for Sunday mornings 9am – 12pm.***

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT: Saturday, October 14 5:00-8:00pm

Drop off your children for an evening of fun. 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. Suggested donation \$15/child; max \$40/family. Meet in the Social Hall. Please sign-up via email

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. **WOW meets every Wednesday in October.**

4:30-4:55pm *Story, Snacks, & Sharing*
5:00-5:15pm *Devotions Together*
5:15-6:00pm *Adult Conversations*
5:20-6:00pm *Singing Praises Together*

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.

IGNITE YOUTH CONFERENCE WILDWOOD

September 29 – October 1

IGNITE is a movement with a purpose to IGNITE the faith of the next generation of followers of Jesus Christ through life-changing worship, relevant teachings and authentic community. Students from grades 6-12 from around the region will gather in Wildwood to learn about God's calling on their lives and go deeper in their faith journey. Register and find out more: <http://www.ignitenj.org/>



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 Music Room.**

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.

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.

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.**

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.*



**THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE
FOR MAKING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
A GREAT SUCCESS:**

JOCELYN GALLINEK FOR HER WONDERFUL FLUTE SOLO, **JORDYN GALLINEK** FOR DEBUTING HER VERY OWN COMPOSITION FOR BASSOON “*PANORAMA*”, **ADELMO GUIDARELLI** FOR SINGING SO BEAUTIFULLY AND COMING FROM NEW YORK, **JAQUELINE WASNIEWSKI** FOR HER LOVELY SINGING, MANY YEARS OF SERVICE AND TRAVELLING ALL THE WAY FROM SOUTH CAROLINA, **WILLIAM TEUBNER** FOR HIS BEAUTIFUL TRUMPET PLAYING, **THE ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE** FOR ALL THEIR HARD WORK, AND THE **CHANCEL CHOIR** FOR THEIR WONDERFUL SINGING DURING WORSHIP AND ENDING THE BRUNCH WITH “*LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH*”.

YOUR TALENTS WERE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!

WITH MUCH LOVE,

JOANNE

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:



CALLING ALL BAKERS!

The **Cookie Walk** is on December 2nd – 77 days from now!
Start looking over your recipes and checking your baking pans!
More details to follow!



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!](#)



LOAVES AND FISHES

On the **first Sunday of each month**, we invite you to bring nonperishable food items to worship, that we might feed others!

For many years, your monthly donations were then brought to CAUSE, a food pantry in Jersey City. We have received word that CAUSE is no longer in operation, and yet we still want to make a difference in the lives of those who are hungry!

“Loaves & Fishes is a long-standing outreach at St. Teresa’s to help the local needy. We maintain a food pantry in the basement of the church and stock non-perishable food items for weekly distribution to approximately 50 local families. Volunteers are needed on an ongoing basis to pack the bags of food, distribute the bags, oversee the pantry, stock the pantry, and qualify the patrons.”

“Loaves and Fishes” is a vital ministry of care for those in great need and is located at St. Teresa’s Roman Catholic Church, Summit, NJ.



If you wish to contribute, you can bring **bags of non-perishable food** to the sanctuary on the first Sunday of each month, or you can leave bags in the kitchen (on the steps to the pantry) at any time.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:



CHURCH CONFERENCE

Each year every United Methodist Church reviews the details of its ministry in a Church Conference.

All are welcome, and all members have voting privilege as we share reports of our work, elect new officers into leadership, and celebrate our life together.



Once again, our Conference is holding *clustered Church Conferences*, which means that we will gather for our annual business session with 8 other churches on

**Saturday, October 21, from 11:45am – 1 pm
at the Chatham UMC**

(460 Main Street, Chatham, NJ 07928)

The meeting schedule will be:

11:45 am - *Devotions*

12:15 pm - *Church Conference Meeting*

1:00 pm - *Adjourn*

Please put this date on your calendar, and join in this important annual meeting!



OPEN MIC NIGHT

Friday, October 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.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

**Summit Area GreenFaith Circle
Warmly Welcomes all Summit and Chatham Congregations
to discover our Shared Natural Boundary
The Passaic River**

Sunday October 15, 2017

12:00 WALK from Beth Hatikvah to see the Passaic River
(very nearby - wear long pants)

12:30 LUNCH Pot-luck at Beth Hatikvah (minimal waste
Meat- Free **)

1:00 TALK by Daniel Van Abs, Associate Professor for Water,
Society and the Environment, Rutgers University
about the Passaic River

Each segment of the program will start at
Congregation Beth Hatikvah
36 Chatham Rd. Summit

Participate in some or all parts of the program



****Please bring your meat-free nut-free pot-luck item to
share** in a reusable container that you will take home.

Questions, contact: hgoldfarb.cbh@gmail.com

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Creating Community through Shared Stories



Summit Interfaith Council Annual Thanksgiving Celebration - Music, Snacks, Fellowship

Sunday, November 19, 5:00 p.m.
Congregation Beth Hatikvah
36 Chatham Road, Summit

The Summit Interfaith Council's annual Thanksgiving celebration will include time for sharing personal and family stories of migration. Everyone has a story of moving to a new place. We hope to discover common ground and increase understanding and empathy as we share what our families left behind and what we encountered in our new homes.

Thanks-Giving

Give Thanks

OCTOBER

"To Do" List:

MEETINGS

Trustees – 10/13

Ad Council -10/16

MINISTRY:

Loaves and Fishes –

donations accepted the first Sunday of each month

Taize Service – first Wednesday of each month

Knitting Ministry – Thursdays and Fridays

Family Promise – donate listed items

Church Conference – 10/21

AND MORE:

Self-Care Event – 10/1

Confirmation Class – 10/8 & 10/22

Parents' Night Out – 10/14

Open Mic Night – 10/27

OCTOBER 2017

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Self-Care Event – 1:00pm <i>(Social Hall)</i>	2	3	4 Wow, It's Wednesday Taize Service 7pm <i>(Chapel)</i>	5 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	6 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	7 Singing Believers 1:00 pm
8 Confirmation Class - 5:30pm <i>(Social Hall)</i>	9	10	11 Wow, It's Wednesday	12 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	13 Trustees' Meeting – 7:30am <i>(Conference Room)</i> Knitting Ministry 7:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	14 Singing Believers 1:00 pm Parents' Night Out 5-8pm
15	16 Ad Council Meeting - 7:30pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	17	18 Wow, It's Wednesday	19 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	20 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	21 Church Conference 11:45am @ Chatham UMC Singing Believers 1:00 pm
22 Confirmation Class - 5:30pm <i>(Social Hall)</i>	23	24	25 Wow, It's Wednesday	26 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	27 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i> Open Mic Night 8-11pm <i>(Social Hall)</i>	28 Singing Believers 1:00 pm
29	30	31	SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30am – Sunday School (all grades) 9:30am – Chancel Choir 10:30am – Worship 11:30am – Refreshments and Fellowship 11:45am – Bell Choir 12:15pm – Contemporary Ensemble			

OCTOBER Birthdays and *Anniversaries

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Eric Goldman	2	3 *John & Susan Hogg	4 Janet Daniel	5	6 Chloe Tassé	7
8	9	10	11 *Hillary Kruger & Ken Lord	12 Adrian Phillips Kerry Relf	13 Emma Aird	14 Nena-Renee Smith
15 Conor Barry Kyle Dorbu	16	17	18 Adam Daniel	19	20 *Jesse & Myrene Reyes	21
22	23 Doug Davis Carole Reed Dominik Tassé	24	25 Will Johnson	26	27 Shela Waldron	28
29	30 Jack Schaefer	31 Denise Florindi	Enjoy Your Day!			