

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

# **THE DIALOGUE**

**September 2014**



## **THE STAFF**

**Shawn Callender Hogan**, *Senior Pastor*  
**JoAnne Teubner Prussak**, *Director of Music*  
**Andrew Sperry**, *Director of Christian Education*  
**Michael Stewart**, *Property Manager*  
**Polly del Campo**, *Office Administrator*

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

**Telephone:** 908-277-1700    **E-mail:** [umcsummit@verizon.net](mailto:umcsummit@verizon.net)  
**Fax:** 908-277-2330    **Web Site:** [umcsummit.org](http://umcsummit.org)

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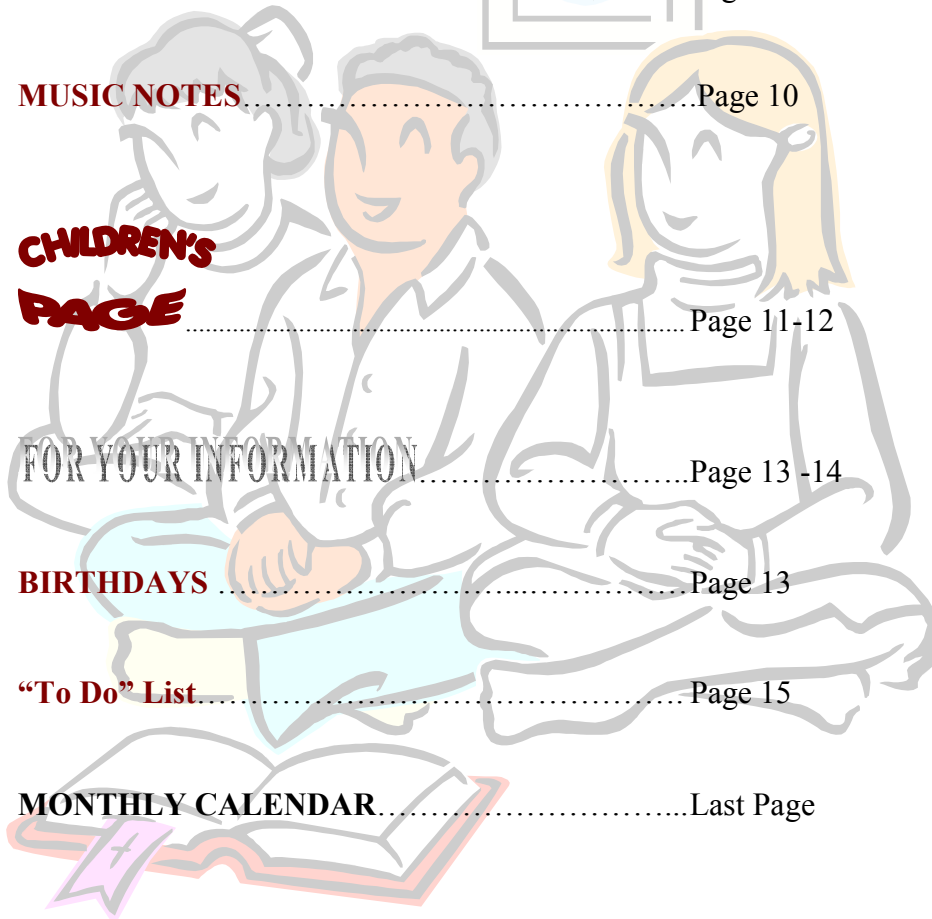
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## From the Pastor:



## The Chalkboard

As you are well aware, throughout the ten weeks of summer we positioned a large chalkboard outside of the church, and posted a weekly question on it for community response.

The result was a lively, interesting, and creative “conversation” as passersby

added their reflections to the board each day.

It has been a very exciting and fascinating ministry!

There have been many wonderful stories of its impact, but one of my favorite moments came on a Saturday in July. I was washing off the board, preparing it for its new question, when a man walked by. He told me that he was enjoying the board and then he said “So you are the girl that gets to take care of this?” And I said, “Yep, I am the girl that gets to take care of this.” That memory still makes me smile.

As you can imagine, when we first discussed the idea of the chalkboard, there were understandable concerns about the risk of unwanted graffiti.

And when the news of the chalkboard ended up in our denomination’s Facebook newsfeed, generating excitement and support from the larger United Methodist community, the comments that some posted also acknowledged that same concern. A few wrote “I think it’s a good idea, but I wouldn’t want to be in charge of it.”

So, along those lines, I would challenge you to consider: if you were “in charge” of the chalkboard conversation, what guidelines would you have used for deciding what should be erased?

I myself erased just a couple of things, namely a few unrepeatable words and a drawing. A few of you told me that you had erased a comment or two,

indicating that you also had some inner guidelines or boundaries from which you were working.

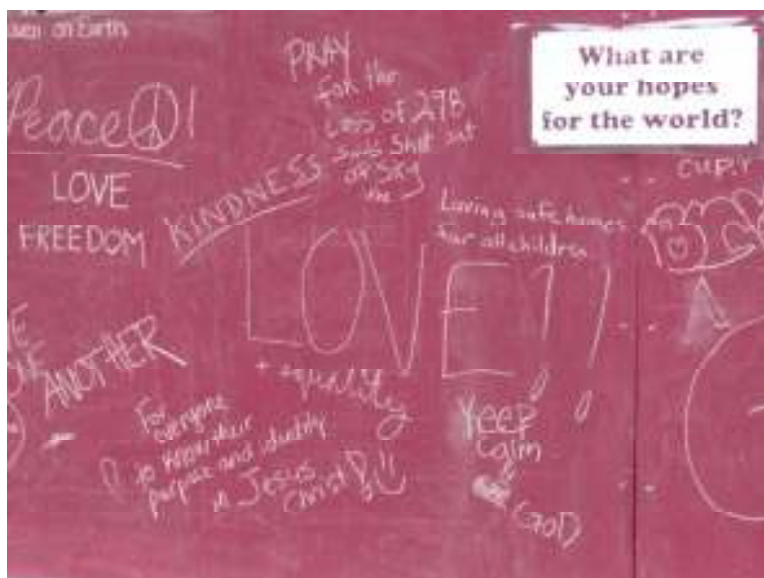
At the same time, there were a few comments that were posted that I found distracting, but I chose *not* to erase. I figured truly open conversations will invariably include some discomfort.

While overall there was *very (very) little* need for censorship, I think that the question itself is important. What guidelines would *you* use for putting boundaries on the comments that were posted? The question asks:

How do we navigate the discomfort of dialogue?

What do we do with responses that we do not anticipate and cannot control?

And: what boundaries are needed for a conversation to be open and healthy?



Most of you know that I have loved this project, for it has engaged the larger community and has prompted some wonderful responses.

I have loved this project, for it has stretched us a bit in our practice of ministry.

And I have loved this project, because it has generated conversation, **real conversation**, in so many different ways!

Shawn Callender Hogan  
Pastor



As United Methodists, one of our central tenets is **the grace of God:** the unmerited love of the One who has given us life!

There is no greater gift!

Set aside a few Sunday afternoons to explore the book

### ***"What's So Amazing about Grace?" by Philip Yancey***

This study will be 5 sessions,  
September 7 through October 5,  
from 4 pm – 5:45 pm.

Pick up a copy of the book at your favorite bookseller and join us! (If you need the church to supply you with a copy, just call Pastor Hogan.)

The study will include discussion of the book, video clips by the author, and related Bible reflections. We will explore what we mean when we talk about grace, and how it challenges us even as it blesses us!

*(Please come to the first session having read chapters 1-5!)*

## **HOMECOMING**

*On Sunday, **September 21<sup>st</sup>** we will celebrate the start of another wonderful church season: our nurturing Sunday School classes will resume, our gifted chancel choir will be back in the loft, and we will follow our joyful worship gathering with a great feast on the front lawn! (Sign up sheet for picnic available in the Social Hall on 9/7)*

## **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.

Come and join together as the Rev. Manuel Sardinas, our new Superintendent of the Gateway North District, presides as we gather on

***Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 8pm in the Chapel.***

## **A SERVICE TO WELCOME AND INSTALL our new District Superintendent, the Rev. Manuel Sardinas**

The District Committee on Superintendency invites you to come join us, Bishop Schol and all the District Superintendents at the installation service for ***Rev. Manuel Sardinas.***

Date: **Sunday, September 14, 2014**

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Morrow Memorial UMC  
600 Ridgewood Road, Maplewood,  
NJ 07040

***We are asking that every church  
bring a dessert to share.***

***Also: A choir from all churches in  
the district is being formed for the  
event: if you are interested, see the  
church office for information!***

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Greetings, I'm Sherri Shumate, and I'm excited to return as your Director of Christian Education! Please fill out the Sunday school/ Wow It's Wednesday Information form below and return these to me via email or in my mailbox in the church office so we can plan to accommodate your children's unique needs. Contact me if you'd like to be added to email lists with education updates, if you're interested in volunteering, or if have questions or ideas! Blessings, Sherri Shumate, [sherri.shumate@gmail.com](mailto:sherri.shumate@gmail.com) (757) 709-0461.

## Sunday School

Sunday school for all ages will resume September 21 before church 9:30AM-10:15AM.

We welcome the following leaders and are still looking for other volunteers to assist.

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

Sunday school is a place where we learn about the Bible, the church, faith, God, Jesus, develop our own faith identity, explore spiritual disciplines, and experience God together. Consider exploring these stories with your children at home, asking them to share their highlights, and identify connections from life, worship, or school experiences.



**Children PreK-3<sup>rd</sup>** will be exploring Genesis and learning about being part of God's creation. Scriptures include: Genesis 1:1-25, Genesis 1:26-2:4, Genesis: 6: 5-8:22, 9:8-17, and Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 through the curriculum *Grow, Proclaim, and Serve!*

**Tweens** will explore the question, "The Bible is About...?" also beginning with the book of Genesis, Chapters 2,14,21,28, and 35 through *Grow, Proclaim, and Serve!*

**Teens** are examining God's faithfulness to keep God's promises, beginning with the prophet Jeremiah, Chapters 30- 31, through BLAY, *Bible Lessons for Youth*.



# Worship Together

Children are welcome to remain with their families during worship. Some ideas for assisting younger children in our worship experience include:

- Arrive early and help your children look up and bookmark scriptures and hymns.
- Offer children a word like “God” or “love” to find in the bulletin and in the service.
- Provide tools that will help your children listen to God: crayons and paper to draw their experiences, prayer beads, a small cross to hold, etc.

Please feel free to share your experiences and ideas as we share the gift of worshipping together.

## Childcare

Staff nursery care providers will also be available from 9:00am-11:30am **beginning Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>**.

The Education Committee decided to move the youngest Sunday school class to 9:30AM to balance the broad needs of a diverse community, joined with a growing recognition of the power of worship for the whole church family.

While children are always eagerly welcome in worship, *the following option is also available.*  
10:45am-11:30am: After the Children’s Message in worship, families can send their children (preK - 3rd grade) to the Green Room with a parent volunteer to meet our staff care provider and the children from the nursery. Together, the staff care provider and the parent volunteer will offer the children activities in the Green Room while the worship service continues.

## Looking Ahead:

### **Wow, It’s Wednesday! resumes Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> 4:15-6:00PM**

*Wow, It’s Wednesday!* is an intergenerational Christian education & music experience. All are welcome. We will resume Wednesday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> 4:15-6:00PM. This year we will enjoy healthy snacks we make together. Please let us know if you have food allergies and/or are interested in bringing ingredients! Thank you!



Please complete this form and email to [sherri.shumate@gmail.com](mailto:sherri.shumate@gmail.com) or print and place in my box.  
Invite your children to help you complete the last four questions. Thank you!

## **Sunday School/ *WOW, It's Wednesday!* Information Form**

Name:

Age:

Grade Level:

Address:

Phone Number (s):

Emergency Contact(s):

Email:

Allergies/ Medical Concerns:

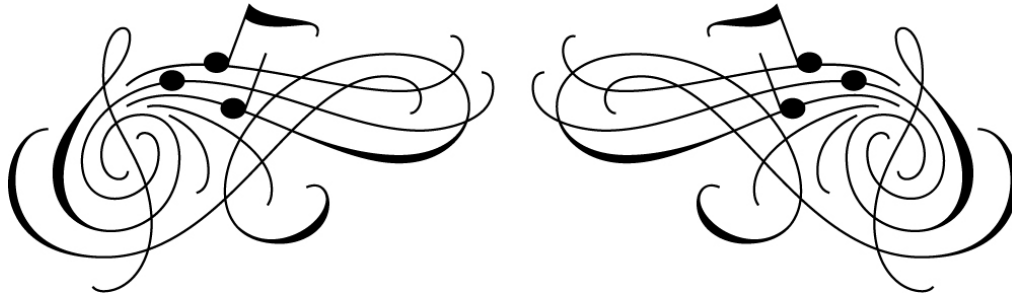
Special things about me:

It helps me learn when:

Questions I have about God, faith, life, family, etc.:

Other information I'd like to share:





## **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.

Our fall season begins! After prayerful thought, please come and share your gifts in the music ministry of our church.

### **Wesley Choir**

Singing is so much fun! We learn songs about Jesus and how to follow his teachings in our lives. Our first rehearsal for this fall season will be on **October 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:45pm** in the Chapel. Come and join children ages 3 years through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in the Wesley Choir.

### **Singing Believers**

Come and sing the joyful songs to God. Let us grow together in our faith through music. Rehearsals are at **5:20pm** on Wednesdays in the Chapel for youth grades 3 through high school. Our first rehearsal this season will be on **Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>**.

### **Believer Quartet**

This quartet is an out-growth of the Singing Believer Choir. These young people rehearse on Saturdays at **12:45pm**. The first rehearsal of the season will be on **Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>**.

### **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 begins on Sunday, **October 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:45am** in the Sanctuary. 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. Our first rehearsal of the season will be **Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am** 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 first rehearsal will be on **September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm** on the music room. This practice time will be to prepare for the Charge Conference and for Homecoming Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. Our regular rehearsals are on Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the Chapel.

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

# CHILDREN'S

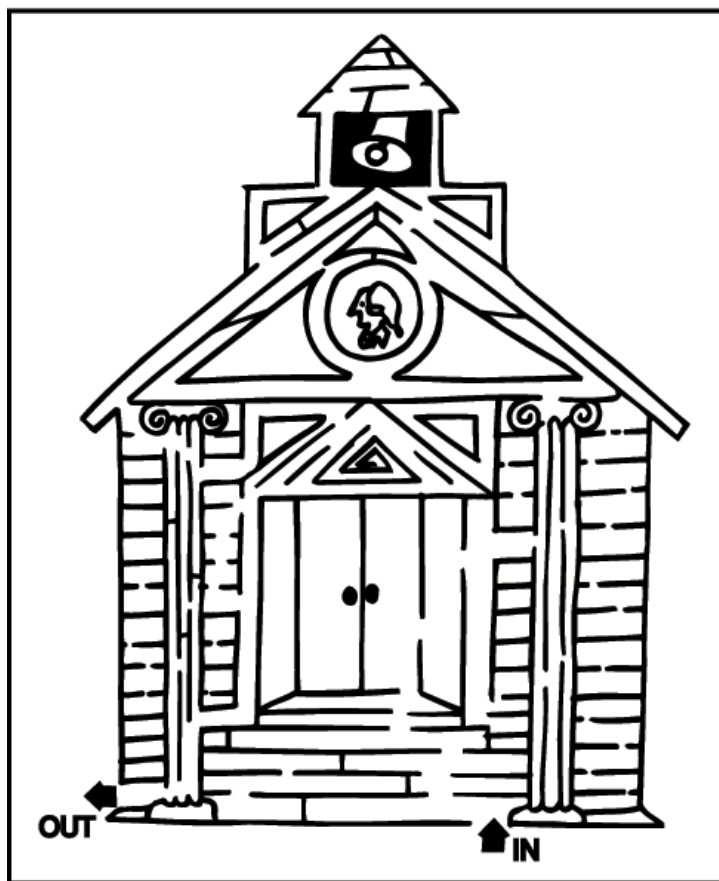
## PARABLE OF THE WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD (MATTHEW 20:1-16)



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# CHILDREN'S

## School House Maze



[www.squiglyplayhouse.com](http://www.squiglyplayhouse.com)

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# FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

## Wow It's Wednesday Resumes October 8



**4:15pm** - Snacks

**4:45pm** - Wesley Choir and Homework Time for Singing Believers

**5:05pm** - Devotions

**5:20pm** - Singing Believers and Play Time for Wesley Choir

**6:00 pm** - Adjourn

## 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.



**Do you follow our Church's Facebook page?** There you can find reminders of church activities, links to national and global articles of interest, and educational materials. Additionally, each weekend Pastor Hogan posts an article that invites you to participate in discussions about current events, theological issues, and community life. [Join us in our Facebook conversation today!](#)

## BIRTHDAYS & *Anniversaries* in September:

<b>3</b>	Matthew Dietzel James Goldman Meri-Beth Robertson	<b>14</b>	Bob Koernig <i>David &amp; Maria Hughes</i>
<b>5</b>	Macklin Dunnder Elizabeth Lopez	<b>15</b>	<i>Faye &amp; Chris Cunningham</i> Marty Miles
<b>6</b>	Owen Wilkins	<b>21</b>	Max Mansilla
<b>7</b>	Chris Cummings	<b>22</b>	Brian Edwards
<b>9</b>	Robert Hugin	<b>23</b>	Leighton Andersen
<b>10</b>	Leslie Koernig - Goetzl <i>Chris &amp; Rica Vida</i>	<b>24</b>	Richard Keating
<b>11</b>	Norma Dowe	<b>25</b>	Dan Smith
<b>12</b>	Chloe Mansilla	<b>26</b>	Laura Wilkins
		<b>27</b>	Hudsen Kreiger
		<b>30</b>	Chris Dunnder Bill Glancy <i>Bob &amp; Carole Reed</i>

# The Rummage Sale Is Right Around The Corner!

## You can lend a hand during set-up:

We need lots of hands helping prior to the sale as items are arranged in each room. Pick a room and help us sort, label, and price!



## And you can lend a hand during the Sale days:

We need the support of people willing to oversee tables on Sale days. Where can you lend a hand on these days? Wherever you like! So that we can plan appropriately, please add your name to the available sign-up sheets in the Social Hall; you will see the categories of items listed.

There will be items in the Social Hall and Music Room, the Nursery, the Fellowship Room, the Green Room, and the Library.

### **HERE'S THE SCHEDULE OF SALE DAYS:**

**Pre-Sale:** Friday, October 24, 2014 6-8pm

To enjoy the "pre-sale," one pays a **\$5 entrance fee** and gets the earliest opportunity to buy the treasures available! (Free dessert will be served!)

**Sale Day:** Saturday October 25, 2014 9am-2pm

*Any questions can be directed to:*

*Latonia Hall, Terry Schaefer, Wendi Barry, Debbie Vartan, or Joan Bollman*

***Remember how vital this event is:***

***the proceeds are used for mission and ministry locally and globally!***

# September

## *"To Do" List*

### **MEETINGS:**

**Staff-Parish Relations Committee** - 9/11: 7pm

**CHURCH CONFERENCE** - 9/11: 8pm

**Worship Committee** - 9/14: 9am

### **MINISTRY:**

**IHN Guests** - 9/7 through 9/14

**Bible Study** - 9/7 through 10/5

**Sunday School Resumes** - 9/21

**CAUSE** - drop off donations every first Sunday

**Prayer Warriors** - every Wednesday

**Knitting Ministry** - Thursdays & Fridays

### **MUSIC:**

**Chancel Choir** - begins 9/21

### **AND MORE:**

**Homecoming Sunday** - 9/21

**Picnic on the Point** - 9/21: 11:30am

**Confirmation Class** - 9/28: 5pm

# SEPTEMBER 2014

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>SUNDAY SCHEDULE:</b> <b>9:30am</b> – Sunday School (all grades) <b>10:30am</b> – Worship <b>11:30am</b> – Coffee Hour	<b>1</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Labor Day</b> <b>Office is Closed</b></div>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Prayer Warriors</b> 1pm (<i>Fellowship Rm</i>)</div>	<b>4</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Knitting Ministry</b> 11am (<i>Fellowship Rm</i>)</div>	<b>5</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Knitting Ministry</b> 7pm (<i>Fellowship Rm</i>)</div>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Worship</b> – 10:30am <b>Coffee Hour</b> – 11:30am</div> <b>IHN Guests Arrive</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Bible Study</b> – 4pm (<i>Fellowship Room</i>)</div>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Prayer Warriors</b> 1pm (<i>Fellowship Rm</i>)</div>	<b>11</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Knitting Ministry</b> 11am (<i>Fellowship Rm</i>)</div> <b>Chancel Choir</b> – 6:30pm  <b>Staff/Parish</b> - 7pm ( <i>Fellowship room</i> )  <u><b>CHURCH CONFERENCE:</b></u> 8pm ( <i>Chapel</i> )	<b>12</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Knitting Ministry</b> 7pm (<i>Fellowship Rm</i>)</div>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Worship Committee Meeting</b> - 9:00am (<i>Fellowship Room</i>)</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Bible Study</b> - 4pm (<i>Fellowship Room</i>)</div>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Prayer Warriors</b> 1pm (<i>Fellowship Rm</i>)</div>	<b>18</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Knitting Ministry</b> 11am (<i>Fellowship Rm</i>)</div>	<b>19</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Knitting Ministry</b> 7pm (<i>Fellowship Rm</i>)</div>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>  <b>Chancel Choir</b> -9:30am <b>Home Coming Sunday</b> – Picnic on the Point  <b>Sunday School begins</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Bible Study</b> – 4pm (<i>Fellowship Room</i>)</div>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Prayer Warriors</b> 1pm (<i>Fellowship Rm</i>)</div>	<b>25</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Knitting Ministry</b> 11am(<i>Fellowship Rm</i>)</div>	<b>26</b>  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Knitting Ministry</b> 7pm (<i>Fellowship Rm</i>)</div>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>  <b>Chancel Choir</b> -9:30am  <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Bible Study</b> – 4pm (<i>Fellowship Room</i>)</div> <b>Confirmation Class</b> 5-6pm ( <i>Social Hall</i> )	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<div style="text-align: right;"><b>CHOIR START DATES:</b></div> <b>Chancel:</b> September 11 <sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm <b>Wesley:</b> October 8 <sup>th</sup> @ 4:45pm September 21 <sup>st</sup> @ 9:30am  <b>Bell:</b> October 5 <sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 am <b>Singing Believers:</b> October 8 <sup>th</sup> @ 5:20pm <b>Contemporary Ensemble:</b> October 5 <sup>th</sup> @ 11:45am <b>Singing Believer Quartet:</b> October 11 <sup>th</sup> @ 12:45pm			