

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

# THE DIALOGUE

September 2016



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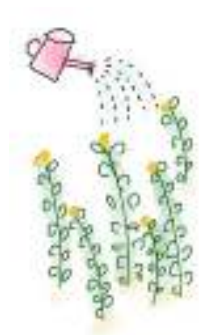
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## FROM THE PASTOR

As a new season begins, I look over my shoulder at the past year and see that we have made huge strides in our call to serve God with vigor! Here is an update on the various emphases we have embraced:



-- In response to our sense that God is asking us to provide *avenues for renewal* to a world that is often stressed, we continue to offer monthly Taize prayer services, quarterly nature walks, periodic guided meditation events, and coloring days. It is our prayer that we will be an avenue for the larger community to be refreshed and energized in the fullness of their lives.

-- In an effort to be a *welcoming place for the community beyond our own congregation*, particularly for teens, we have made our facility available for the high school cheerleading team practices, and are offering monthly “Open Mic Nights” for anyone interested (see further information elsewhere in this newsletter). These efforts reflect our call to offer a safe and caring space for voices to “be heard.”

-- We are continuing to be attentive to the *church’s financial deficit*, and actively seek avenues for greater financial stability, including building use, updated avenues for receiving offerings, and fundraising efforts. The transition to energy-efficient lighting aids us in keeping costs low.

-- Numerous *small groups* have been meeting monthly for mutual support, learning, and fellowship. These groups are building community and exploring life’s larger questions.

-- Our *Missions* continue to expand: SHIP is still using our kitchen and social hall daily; a handful of women gather monthly to pack lunches for bridges; we continue to collect monthly CAUSE food donations; we regularly host Family Promise guests; we knit prayer shawls and blankets for the hospitalized, ill, and in need; we provide Easter dinners for families in the Jefferson Elementary School; our community garden and chalkboard conversations have continued to engage the larger community; we are committed to minimizing the amount of paper goods we use in our weekly fellowship gatherings; we periodically send a team to spend a morning volunteering at CUMAC; and we offer our building for daily AA meetings.

-- As we put word out about what is happening here, we also continue to share information about *local opportunities* to increase our own understanding of and responsiveness to matters of environmental care, racism, and poverty.

-- We have also continued to honor our call to offer thoughtful education and loving fellowship to the community. Our children have been nurtured in Sunday School and Wednesday programs under the care of wise and compassionate leaders, and our adults have grown through participation in bread-baking events as well as short term topical and biblical studies.

Amid all these great strides, we continue to stay alert to the busy and sometimes-overwhelmed nature of our lives and world. Knowing “who we are” as a church community equips us to set realistic expectations, as well as promote and honor a wise and healthy pace to church life and programs. In this way, the ministry we offer is grounded in God’s call and God’s grace!

Shawn Callender Hogan  
Pastor



This year marks the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the event that changed our lives forever.  
To honor this anniversary, the Summit Interfaith Council will hold a  
**Community Remembrance Service at 9 am on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.**

All are invited to meet in the UMC Memorial Garden at 8:30 am and walk together to the Village Green (on Broad Street) where we will join with the community to remember those who lost their lives that day, as well as to remember all those who stepped up that day to help.

If you prefer, you can meet us at the Green. If time allows, we will gather back in the Fellowship Room before our 10:30 church service to reflect on the morning.

**PRAYER SERVICE:  
A Time to Be Refreshed**

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** (Sept 7, Oct 5, 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.



**PRAYING PSALMS IN NATURE**

Briant Park  
2 Briant Parkway  
Summit, New Jersey  
October 23 @12:30pm

Mark your calendars for a fall event to renew your spiritual energy! A collection of Psalms will be presented at various points around the park to consider how nature can illustrate the powerful and peaceful work of God. Our inaugural event in May was thoroughly enjoyed by all ages (from newborns to seniors), and moments of reflection among the sights and sounds of nature were rejuvenating.

We encourage you to bring a picnic lunch if you wish to eat with us prior to walking! The walk will start towards the waterfall at 12:30pm. Smaller groups may be formed based on pace and there are many benches along the 1 mile path. Please consider joining us and bring your family and friends! We want to grow this event and encourage wider community participation.  
Hope you can make it!



## **STAGE IS EMPTY:**

**Help us keep it that way!**



At the end of the sale on June 11, we cleared off the oft-cluttered stage in the Social Hall, and were reminded of how great that space is!

While it has been our habit to store various items on the stage, a new season has begun:

**we now need the stage to remain empty,**

so that we can move forward with using it when needed for programs including the monthly “Open Mic Night” (see more information in this newsletter).

If you have items you wish to donate to the church, please first check to see if the church can receive them (*please* don’t just drop them off). If the church can use your donations, we will let you know the best place to store them; if the church cannot make use of your donations, you are encouraged to take them to the Summit transfer station where there is a budding “freecycle” program: <http://www.summitfreemarket.org/faq.php>.



**Our second summer of “Chalkboard Conversations” was a resounding success!**

**Each week for ten weeks the community responded eagerly and vigorously to our diverse questions.**

**If you have suggestions for next year’s posted questions, please let the pastor know.**

## ANNUAL 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.

This year, our Conference is holding **clustered Church Conferences**, which means that we will gather for our annual business session with 8 other churches on **Saturday morning, September 24, from 9 am – 11 am at the Caldwell UMC (8 Academy Road, Caldwell, NJ 07006).**

### The morning schedule will be:

- 9:00 am– Welcome by District Superintendent
- 9:15 am – Devotions
- 9:45 am – Church Conference

## ACOLYTE CLASS



**WHEN:** Sunday, September 11, 2016

**WHERE:** Sanctuary

**TIME:** 11:30AM- right after worship!

**WHO:** Kids 10 years old and up!

**INTERESTED?** Contact the Church Office to let us know you will be there!

**10:30**



*Analog or digital, here's important news:*  
**On September 4, 2016,  
our worship time moves to 10:30 am.  
See you there!**

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Welcome!

September here is a time of new beginnings: programs resume, families return from summer travels, and the church blooms with new life and possibility. September here feels like a new beginning, like a fresh start, like a sunrise.

Sometimes we need reminders, though, that every day has these possibilities for beginning again, for making wise choices about how we use our time and resources, for reconnecting, for starting afresh.

How will you begin anew this September? How can this church support you in your journey? Welcome! We are glad you are here!

Mark your calendars: Christian Education programs will resume in September!

<b>Parents' Night Out:</b>	<i>September 10</i>
<b>Sunday School Resumes:</b>	<i>September 18</i>
<b>Family Promise:</b>	<i>September 18-25</i>
<b>WOW Resumes:</b>	<i>September 28</i>

Blessings, Sherri Shumate; Director of Christian Education, [sherri.shumate@gmail.com](mailto:sherri.shumate@gmail.com).

## 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. Nursery Caregivers resume Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>! Please contact me if you have questions.

[sherri.shumate@gmail.com](mailto: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. [sherri.shumate@gmail.com](mailto:sherri.shumate@gmail.com)

Friday, **September 30<sup>th</sup>**: *Open Mic Night*, 8:00-11:00pm

Sunday, **October 2<sup>nd</sup>**: *Teen Manhattan Bagel Trip*, 9:30am



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30am-10:15am

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

**THANK YOU teachers, helpers, and learners for a wonderful year!**

**Anyone interested in being a regular second helper for the teen Sunday school class?**

*Sunday school breaks for the summer and will resume on September 18*

**September 18:** *Genesis 6:9-9:17*

The story of the flood is a difficult one for children and adults. It's helpful to focus on the loving God we know, who gave people a second chance through Noah. Focus on Noah, who despite ridicule worked hard to follow God's command. Focus on the rainbow, the promise earth will never again be destroyed by flood. What are the difficult stories you are living now? Where do you focus to find the hope in the midst of the challenge?

**September 25:** *Genesis 11:1-9*

The Tower of Babel presents an opportunity to celebrate the differences we have as people of God. How do we maintain unity and still allow and celebrate our diversity?

**October 2:** *2 Samuel 5:1-5, 10; 7; 8-16*

What is a covenant? What does it mean to be anointed? Join us as we start learning about Biblical kings, beginning with David. What helps you know God is with you just as God was with David?

## 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](mailto:sherri.shumate@gmail.com). Thank you!

## 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 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](mailto:sherri.shumate@gmail.com).

**We resume September 28.**



## **PARENTS' NIGHT OUT** **Saturday, September 10, 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. 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/child. This money goes to purchase supplies for our Bridges lunches that we donate to homeless families.

## **FAITH PARTNERS**

*We now have 23 pairs, and 49 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 make a promise to pray for your Faith Partner. 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](mailto:sherri.shumate@gmail.com) or call the church office.

## CHURCH PROGRAMS AND POLICIES

### **Sunday Morning Worship:**

*Adult supervision required.*

- A parent or pre-arranged responsible adult must be present in the building and supervising children not involved in a scheduled and supervised program.
- Summer worship time changes to 10:00 am July 3 and returns to 10:30 am September 4.

### **Sunday School/Nursery:**

*Adult present on premises, 9:30 am Sundays during the school year.*

- Parents can drop off their children and must return to pick up at or before 10:15 am.
- Breaks for summer and resumes September 18.

### **WOW It's Wednesday:**

*Wednesdays 4:30-6 pm.*

- Does not meet on Summit school holidays, half days, or snow days.
- Breaks for the summer and resumes on September 28.
- Breaks for January.
- Parents can drop off their children and must return to pick up at or before 6:00 pm.

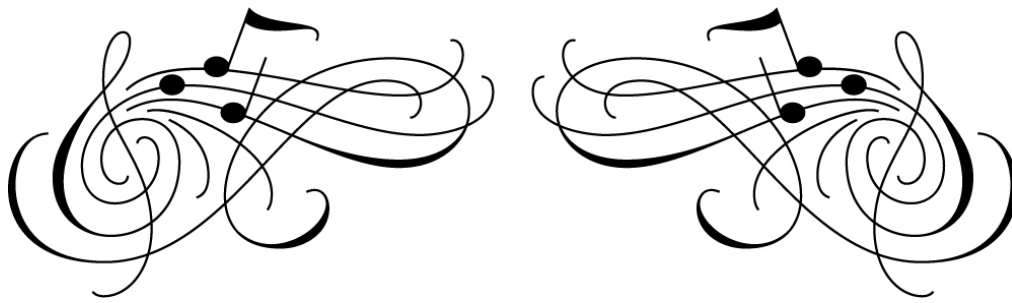
### **Parents' Night Out:**

*Typically, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month, 5-8 pm.*

- Parents sign-in children and drop them off.
- Parents must return to pick up children by 8:00 pm.
- Donation \$10/child, advance sign-up required.

### **Safe Sanctuary:**

- Children should never be in any part of the church building unsupervised at any time. In church activities, children are supervised at all times by at least two adults.



## **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 **September 28 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. Our first rehearsal this season will be on **Saturday, September 24.**

### **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, **September 25 at 12:15pm** in the Music Room. Come and share your musical gifts and enrich your faith.

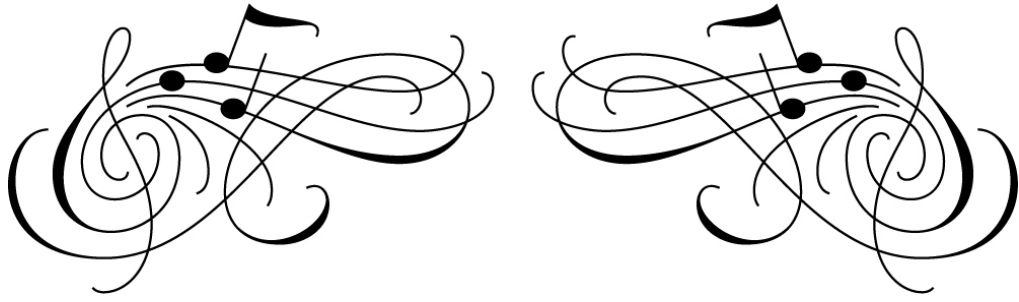
### **Bell Choir**

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. Our first rehearsal of the season will be **Sunday, September 25 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 first rehearsal will be on Sunday, **September 11** in the Music Room following worship. This practice time will be to prepare for **Homecoming Sunday, September 18**, the “Fall Festival”. 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 our summer soloists,  
vocal and instrumental,  
who shared their gift of music  
so willingly  
(even on some very hot Sunday mornings).

Your music deepened  
our worship experience.

Thank you, again!  
Joanne Teubner Prussak

# 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!](#)

## A NEW COMMUNITY RESOURCE



**Labor Ready** is an international company that provides temporary work for people. Work includes skilled and non-skilled labor, and long term and occasional positions. Local branches are in Jersey City, North Bergen, Lodi, and Newark. Check out [www.laborready.com](http://www.laborready.com) for more information and to apply.

## WESLEY PRE-SCHOOL



The **Wesley Center Pre School** is enrolling for the *2016-2017 school year*. We offer 2 ½, 3 and 4 year classes. Church members receive a 10% discount and the enrollment fee is waived. *Please contact MaryEllen DeJohn at 908-277- 3686 or [medejohn@verizon.net](mailto:medejohn@verizon.net) for more information.*

## BIRTHDAYS and *Anniversaries* in September:

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





# **FALL FESTIVAL**

## **THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SUMMIT**

17 Kent Place Blvd. Summit, NJ 07901

[umcofsummit@gmail.com](mailto:umcofsummit@gmail.com)

[www.umcsummit.org](http://www.umcsummit.org)

908-277-1700

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2016**

9:30am-1:30pm

*Help kick off the beginning of the church year  
as our Sunday school, choir rehearsals and youth programs  
all resume.*

*Join us for free food, fun, music, and more!*

All are welcome!  
Open to the public  
Lots of fun for the whole family

### **Schedule:**

9:30am: Sunday School and Choir resume  
10:30am: Worship in the Sanctuary  
11:30am: Lunch & festivities on the church lawn



*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?*

Whichever one of these people you might be, bring your talent along to the first of 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! Each month we will focus on certain sections of the community, such as singer-songwriters, teen rock bands, dramatic readings, dancers, but this first sessions is open to all!

For performers and visitors alike,  
make a note in your calendar to join us:

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**  
**8:00pm – 11:00pm** *(in the Social Hall)*

*If you know now that you would like to perform already, just drop us a line at [umcofsummit@gmail.com](mailto:umcofsummit@gmail.com) or call the office at (908) 277-1700.*

# SEPTEMBER

## *“To Do” List:*

### **MEETINGS:**

**“Renewal” Focus Group** – 9/7

**Publicity Committee** – 9/25

**Worship Committee** – 9/25

### **MINISTRY:**

**CAUSE** - donations every first Sunday

**Taize Service** – first Wednesday of each month

**Prayer Warriors** – Wednesdays

**Knitting Ministry** – Thursdays and Fridays

**Family Promise Guests**- 9/18

### **AND MORE:**

**Parents’ Night Out** – 9/10

**Interfaith Community Remembrance Service** – 9/11

**Fall Festival** – 9/18

*(Sunday school and choir rehearsals resume)*

**Annual Church Conference** – 9/24

**Open Mic Night** – 9/30

# SEPTEMBER 2016

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>SUNDAY SCHEDULE:</b> 9:30am – Sunday School (all grades) 10:30am – Worship ( <i>Sanctuary</i> ) 11:30am – Refreshments and Fellowship ( <i>Social Hall</i> )				<b>1</b> <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	<b>2</b> <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 7:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 10:30 am – Worship  11:30 am – Refreshments and Fellowship	<b>5</b> <u><b>LABOR DAY- OFFICE IS CLOSED</b></u>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>Prayer Warriors -1pm</b> <i>(Fellowship Room)</i> <b>Taize Service – 7 pm</b> <b>“Renewal” Focus Group – 7:30 pm</b> <i>(Conference Room)</i>	<b>8</b> <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	<b>9</b> <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 7:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	<b>10</b> <b>Parents’ Night Out</b> 5-8pm
<b>11</b> <b>Interfaith Community Remembrance Service –</b> 9:00 am ( <i>Village Green</i> )	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Prayer Warriors -</b> 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	<b>15</b> <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	<b>16</b> <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 7:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> <b>FALL FESTIVAL</b> <b>Family Promise Guests Arrive</b> <b>Sunday School and Choir Rehearsals Resume</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Prayer Warriors -</b> 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	<b>22</b> <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	<b>23</b> <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 7:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	<b>24</b> <b>Annual Church Conference –</b> 9:00 am -12:00 pm
<b>25</b> <b>Publicity Committee Meeting – 8:30 am</b> <i>(Conference Room)</i>  <b>Worship Committee Meeting – 9:00 am</b> <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Prayer Warriors -</b> 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>  <b>Wow , It’s Wednesday Begins</b>	<b>29</b> <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	<b>30</b> <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 7:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>  <b>Open Mic Night</b> 8-11:00pm <i>(Social Hall)</i>	