

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

THE DIALOGUE

Summer 2016



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Coloring is not just for kids!

People of all ages are invited to join us in a
“Summer Coloring Afternoon!”

Sunday, July 31, 2016

11:30 am – 1:30 pm in the Social Hall

Come and enjoy this quiet,
restful activity--

Enjoy the colors,
the pace,
the pictures,
the community!



We will have pencils,
crayons, and
pictures to color,
or you can bring
your own.

Bring a bag lunch to enjoy
as you color!
And bring a friend!

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**
(July 6, August 3, Sept 7) 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.



Chalkboard Conversations Resume!

The Chalkboard is positioned outside of our church, on Kent Place Boulevard, throughout the summer.

Stop by any day and add your responses to the chalkboard—

a different question is posted each week!



For the months of July and August we worship at 10 am.

While we do not provide nursery care during these months, the nursery and hospitality room are available for all to use!

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2016 GREATER NEW JERSEY ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

Dear United Methodist of Summit Community,

It was my great honor, pleasure, and joy to represent our faith community for a second time at this year's Annual Conference of the Greater New Jersey area as Summit UMC's lay delegate to Annual Conference – a position that gives me the opportunity to be a part of the voting floor and participate in legislation, not just be a spectator. For me, as it was two years ago (sadly, I was unable to attend last year), Annual Conference is both about the work of holy conferencing, as well as a time to reconnect with friends and colleagues I have known since I arrived at Drew University 7 years ago. The conference was once again held at Wildwood, New Jersey, a southern Jersey Shore town with beautiful beaches, a legendary boardwalk, and great conferencing facilities, lasting from May 21-24. I am happy to report that the conference was both productive and enjoyable – affording me the opportunity to work with over 1,400 attendees on important legislation, while also allowing me to reconnect with old friends and connect with new folk from our region, hearing stories of transformation while reflecting on the role of unity in the UMC.

One of the major highlights of the weekend was when the conference as a whole celebrated the great work of our very own pastor, Shawn Callender Hogan, and the years of work she completed as the chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry (BOOM). It is always amazing for me to see the amount of respect Shawn has garnered and commands outside of our own congregation. It is my greatest hope, as I reflect on my time at Annual Conference, that we as a community will continue to acknowledge how blessed we are to have Shawn as our shepherd, as well as recognize the work that she does beyond our own community in Summit. An additional highlight that our own congregation can celebrate is the great work we, and the UMC as a whole, has done through the “A Future With Hope” mission campaign. There were multiple moments of celebration around Imagine No Malaria, Superstorm Sandy cleanup and repair, and other great work that has been done via A Future With Hope, and it brought a smile to my face every time it was referenced to know that we contributed to that endeavor and mission.

Beyond those moments that touched on our own congregation's work in the participation in the will of God, there was an important session on how we as a faith community, as well as individuals, confront and respond to the issue of both individual and institutional racism. Additionally, as is the major reason for Annual Conference, we took part in the analysis of, discussion on, and voting for/against important church legislation. Furthermore, various clergy of the Greater New Jersey conference were ordained, commissioned, or celebrated as retirees. Amidst the highs of church legislation and ordination/commissionings, we also experienced the lows of UMC church closings. While it is always difficult to see the closing of churches that have served individuals and communities for decades or centuries, it was uplifting to hear from individuals that were a part of these communities and hear how the congregation's legacy would live on through various ministries that would be sustained and/or started from the funds made available through their closing. It was a lesson for all of us: in each closing of a chapter, a new chapter may be beginning.

Additionally, I would be remiss if I did not mention the major moment we currently inhabit in the life of the church. As some of you may know, we are in a somewhat tenuous time in the UMC. While potential schism (breaking apart of the UMC) lurks on the horizon over issues of human sexuality, there were many moments of reflection during Annual Conference on behalf of those that attended and experienced the hard moments of General Conference on and around issues of human sexuality. Many shared their experience, and how they saw the work of the Church as being inclusive at this moment in time, but each mentioned that there is still great work to be done around issues of inclusivity and love. If there is anything that needs deep prayer on behalf of the Church as a whole, this would be the item to pray about and reflect upon.

The theme throughout the conference was *Ignite*, "Enough light to see the hope of God's call" - Ephesians 1:18. For more on the conference please visit the conference overview ([Click here to view](#)). It was an enjoyable time that I was able to share with friends, colleagues, as well as Christine and Elia, and I hope to be able to partake in next year's annual conference as well! I go forward with a spirit filled, imagining what it may mean to see and fulfill God's call, always reflecting the love of God.

All the best and many thanks,
Brian James Tipton
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Wherever you are reading this, your Faith Partner is holding you in prayer. What a blessing it is to be connected to each other. Wherever you are, God is always with you. As you enjoy your summer, how are you experiencing God with you? How are you remaining connected to our church and those who support and nurture you as you grow in faith?

Christian Education activities take a break over the summer, but growing in faith continues wherever we are, whatever we are doing, always.

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

Parents' Night Out: *September 10*
Sunday School Resumes: *September 18*
Family Promise: *September 18-25*
WOW Resumes: *September 28*

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 am-10:15am

Age	Teacher	Helper
Children Pre K-3 rd	Shanotte Smith <i>(thanks for teaching this year!)</i> <i>(we welcome Noelle Benton in the fall)</i>	Myrene Reyes
Tweens 4 th - 7 th	Alison Johnson	Dan Smith
Teens 8 th - 12 th	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

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!



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 break for the summer and resume Sept. 18th! 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

We break for the summer and resume September 28.

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?

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



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. **Please sign-up via email or evite by August 20:** sherri.shumate@gmail.com

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 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 2nd 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.



*Please come and share your gifts of music
for our summer worship services!*

*Let us continue to fill our sanctuary with music,
while the choirs are on summer break.*

*Rehearsals will take place on:
Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 pm and
Sunday mornings at 9:30 am*

*Please use the sign-up sheet in the Social Hall
if you are interested, or speak to Joanne
about your willingness to serve.*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:



SUMMER DIALOGUE

There will be no August Dialogue.

Articles for the September Dialogue are due August 15.



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!

BIRTHDAYS & Anniversaries in:

July

1	Fritz Dorninger	13	Johanna Aguilera
3	Megan Champney		Don Wernsing
6	Ryan Wilkins	21	Jayme & Emily LaJeunesse
9	Charles Lord	25	Parker LaJeunesse
11	Leslie & Susan Williams		Cliff & Laura Wilkins
12	Jesse Reyes	30	Julia Dunnder
		31	Ellen Dunnder
			Jayme LaJeunesse
			George & Sarah Shuttleworth

August

5	Susan Daniel		
6	Caroline Relf		
7	Mary Ellen DeJohn	22	Bob Reed
	James Somers	24	Lisa Burns
8	Andrew Aird	28	Doug DeMartin
9	Jim Schaefer		Melissa Tassé
11	John Blossom		Andie Vida
14	Craig & Lisa Burns	31	Sam Russell
16	Alf Edwards		

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

September 11, 2016

This year marks the 15th anniversary of the event that changed our lives forever.

The Summit Interfaith Council will hold a **Community Remembrance Service at 9 am** on Sunday, September 11th.

All are invited to **meet in the UMC Memorial Garden at 8:30 am and walk together to the Village Green** where we will join with the community to remember those who lost their lives that day, as well as 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 meet back in the Fellowship Room before our 10:30 am church service to reflect on the morning.

Please help us keep the Social Hall stage free of items.

We want to keep the stage clear for future use by the Wesley Center and “Open Mic Night”. Thank you!

Summer

“To Do” List:

MEETINGS:

Focus Group “Ministry Beyond Ourselves” – 7/27

MINISTRY:

CAUSE - donations every first Sunday

Prayer Warriors – Wednesdays

Knitting Ministry – Thursdays and Fridays

Taize Prayer Service – every first Wednesday of the month

AND MORE:

Chalkboard Conversations

Community Garden

Be a Summer Soloist

Read Scripture at Worship

Summer Coloring Afternoon – 7/31