#### UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SUMMIT

17 Kent Place Boulevard • Summit, NJ 07901

## THE DIALOGUE

### November 2014



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#### FROM THE PASTOR

On Sunday mornings, we engage in the most important thing Christians do together: worship.



Picture: https://www.flickr.com/photos/loswl/4843399459/in/photostream/

As we do so, turning our hearts to God, tuning our voices in praise and prayer, we find ourselves immersed in the story of God's love for us.

Throughout September and October, we explored portions of Matthew's gospel, and focused on the gift of grace.

We struggled with the *unfairness of grace*as seen in the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard, and the *hard work of grace*, as heard in Christ's call to forgive seventy times seven.

We faced the deep *challenges of faith*, hearing Christ ask us "Who do you say that I am?" watching Peter climb out of the boat to take a few steps on the turbulent waves, and seeing Bartimaeus leave everything behind to follow Jesus.

As November unfolds, we hold tenderly the *sorrow* that comes with loss, we celebrate the blessing of *lay leadership*, we respond to *God's generosity* by committing our gifts to the ministry of the church, and we celebrate our role in the Conference's *Future with Hope* initiative.

#### Worship.

Remembering who we are, and remembering whose we are.

Shawn Callender Hogan, Pastor



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#### **ALL SAINTS DAY**

On Sunday, **November 2, 2014**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 who have died in the past year, and gather around the Lord's Table to share in communion, declaring that we share the meal "with all the company of heaven."

#### Thanksgiving Interfaith Service

The Summit Interfaith Council will bring our community together once again this Thanksgiving on Sunday, **November 23** at Congregation Ohr Shalom (Summit JCC, 67 Kent Place Boulevard, corner of Morris Ave and Kent Place Blvd)

at 5 pm for a service of worship with our neighbors from various faith traditions. There will be music, and the chance to reflect on ways that we are called by God to care for the earth.

More details will follow in our email blasts and Sunday bulletins, but mark your calendars now and plan to join your neighbors in giving thanks to God.

## A LITANY IN RESPONSE TO UMCOR'S CALL TO PRAY FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY THE EBOLA EPIDEMIC

by The Rev. Frederick Yebuah, a native of Ghana in West Africa, is a clergy member of the South Carolina Annual Conference, currently serving as the Orangeburg District Superintendent.

If we had a thousand tongues, O God, we would not be able to praise you enough for the gift of your handiwork. When nothing existed but chaos and a formless void, your breath brought forth light and life. Then you breathed your spirit into us, and you fashioned humankind to reflect your very image. Your hands made and continue to make beautiful things from dust.

#### Lord, we give you thanks.

Gracious God, we also recognize that because of our carelessness, your world now groans with labor pains; creation bears the scars of destruction, and many suffer. Therefore, you have called us to uncover our eyes in order to see the world's needs, to include our ears to hear the world's cries, and to open our mouths to speak life where there is death.

#### Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Today, O God, we especially lift up to you our brothers and sisters in Nigeria, Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone—for all those who live with the threat of the Ebola virus.

#### God of Life and Love everlasting, hear our cries for mercy, comfort, and help.

Gracious God, we call you the Great Physician. We pray your healing power to touch those bodies that now shake with fever, ache with pain, and are too weak to sustain the demands of life.

#### God of Life and Love everlasting, hear our cries for mercy, comfort, and help.

Gracious God, we know you are a Mighty God. Grant access to medical care for the most vulnerable in West Africa. Protect doctors and nurses who kneel at the bedsides of the sick and the dying. Provide resources in places of lack. Guide churches and church leaders. Empower all who work tirelessly to be Christ's hands and feet.

#### God of Life and Love everlasting, hear our cries for mercy, comfort, and help.

Gracious God, we believe you are Hope to the hopeless. Hold parents who've lost children.

Gently father and mother children who've lost their parents. Make your presence known to those who are dying alone, in the streets, in wastelands, without friends or family. Speak tenderly to all who feel abandoned by the world's governments and systems of power. Give strength to our friends in West Africa who feel that "life more abundantly" is an unfulfilled promise.

#### God of Life and Love everlasting, hear our cries for mercy, comfort, and help.

Gracious God, we know you are the Light overcoming darkness. Why should we be afraid? Help us, O God, to trust in your unchanging nature in times of uncertainty. Grant us peace that Ebola or anything in this life that would threaten to undo us, is not impossible for you. Hear our prayer.

Amen.

## **November 2014 Christian Education**



## **Sunday School**

9:30AM-10:15AM

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

<sup>&</sup>quot;I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord" -Jeremiah 29:11

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**Children PreK-3<sup>rd</sup>** will explore *Hope for God's People: Joseph* (Genesis 37, 39-40, 41), *Reunited* (Genesis 42-46), & *A Savior is Coming* (Micah 5:2-5) using *Grow, Proclaim, & Serve, "I am part of God's plan."* 

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**Tweens** will explore: *God's Spirit* (1 Samuel 10:27-11:15), *Avoiding Jealousy* (1 Samuel 18:6-30), *Praising God* (1 Kings 6:1-38), *Living Faithfully* (2 Kings 22:1-23:23) and *God's Peace* (Micah 4:1-4, 5:2-5) using *Grow, Proclaim, & Serve!* 

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**Teens** are examining "Visions of Grandeur," exploring the prophet Ezekiel and the promises of God (Ezekiel 43:1-12, 43:13-21, 47:3-12, 47:13-23, and Isaiah 52:1-2,7-12) in BL4Y, Bible Lessons for Youth. \*Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> Youth will meet at church & walk to Manhattan Bagel\*

<sup>\*</sup>Nov. 16th Sunday School Classes will set-up rooms for our IHN guests\*

### **Sunday School Update**

We are so glad your child is joining us for Sunday school! As you may know, this is our first year holding Sunday school for Prek-3<sup>rd</sup> before worship so that children may attend church with their families.

This has been very successful! The youngest class continues to be our largest group averaging 8 children per week. Because of the size and diversity of ages and needs in this group, we need 2 adult volunteers in this class weekly. We are asking parents to please take a week per month to volunteer in the class. Shanotte Smith will be the regular teacher and Dan Smith will the regular helper. We are asking others to sign-up to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> adult helper.

Our goal this year is to make sure that all children feel welcome, know God loves them, know we care about them, and know we are glad they are at church. While children have different needs and ways of engaging, each child will be greeted and welcomed by name, and each child will be treated as a precious gift from God by all children and adults at all times.

Sunday school is a beautiful opportunity for us to create and model a family of God where all are welcomed and loved. Please contact me if you have questions and let me know which weeks you can volunteer!

Thank you!
Blessings,
Sherri Shumate, Director of Christian Education

Mark your Calendar: Education Committee Meeting Sunday November 2<sup>nd</sup> after Worship



### **Worship Together**

Teaching your children to worship can happen all week. Some ideas for weekday family worship:

- \*Make time to enjoy the fall leaves and give thanks for the beauty of God's creation.
- \*List things for which your family gives thanks.
- \*Pray together-both speaking thoughts to God and making time for listening to God together in silence.
- \*Join us for WOW, It's Wednesdays!
- \*Share your excitement about going to church together!



Sunday mornings, all children are invited to remain in worship with their families. Worship folders for children are available in the front and rear of the sanctuary. Bathrooms are located in the back of the sanctuary.

For families who need it, staff childcare is available in the nursery on Sundays from 9:00am-Noon!



When our family decided to try worship without worksheets and crayons, our four year old twins asked, "What will we do? How will we sit still? "We will hold you in our laps and listen for God with you," we responded. "No fair," said their older brother, "there aren't enough laps for someone to hold me too!" We asked for ideas, and he suggested sitting with one of the teens. Sunday came, and our son delightedly spent the entire service cuddled in the lap of his teenage friend. That day my child experienced God's love in the welcoming arms of one of our teenagers. I'm so thankful for this church where there are enough laps to hold all God's children and grow in faith together! One of my favorite memories of church as a child was sharing worship with my "Faith Partner," an older adult widow who regularly prayed for me, welcomed me each Sunday, and demonstrated God's love for me.

## Would you be interested in being a Faith Partner for one of our young people?

The only requirement is you agree to pray for your Faith Partner weekly. 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. For children, like my own, who have no local extended family, it's a powerful way to make a difference.

#### Contact me if you're interested in being a Faith Partner!

- Sherri Shumate sherri.shumate@gmail.com or call the church office.



## Saturday, November 15th 5-8pm

Parent's Night Out is back with new twist. Drop off your children for an evening of themed activities. This month we will give thanks in song, prayer, and play & share our gifts by making lunches for Bridges.

Please sign-up via email by: Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>

sherri.shumate@gmail.com

Suggested donation \$10/child. Meet in the Social Hall. \*Please note the new date/time: Saturday, Nov. 15th 5:00PM-8:00PM!\* Second Adult Helper: Christine T.



## Wow, It's Wednesday



## 4:15-6:00pm

## This month we meet on Wednesday Nov. 12th & 19th

4:15pm Snack Set- up, Making, Clean-up

4:45pm Wesley Choir & Homework

5:05pm Devotions together in Chapel

5:00pm Adult Conversations

5:20pm Singing Believers Choir & Godly Playtime

6:00pm Adjourn-Pick up Children

Wow, It's Wednesday is an intergenerational Christian Education & music experience. All are welcome to join us for food, fun, and fellowship. For the month of November, we are finishing up our Jesse Tree and beginning to prepare for the Christmas Pageant which will take place on Christmas Eve, December 24th at 5:00pm. WOW follows Summit's school calendar & will not meet Nov. 5th & 26th!



#### **NOVEMBER YOUTH EVENTS**

**Sunday Nov. 2, 9:30am: Manhattan Bagel Trips Resume**Meet at church at 9:30am and we will walk together. *Pending a 2<sup>nd</sup> adult volunteer we will make a trip the first Sunday of each month.* 

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### Sunday Nov. 9, 2:00pm: "Bring it On" the Musical

Enjoy the play "Bring it On" featuring one of our youth. Buy tickets online at: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/876740 Meet at The Oakes Center: 120 Morris Ave. Summit 2<sup>nd</sup> adult: Kim G.

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Saturday Nov. 15, 5-8pm: Assist with Parent's Night Out Assist with our evening of thankful fun & making lunch for Bridges.

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Sunday Nov. 16, 9:30am: Help Set-up for our IHN Guests

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## Sunday Nov. 23, 5pm: Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

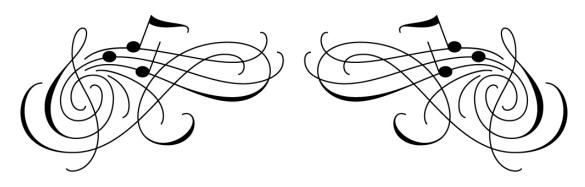
Meet at the Service at 4:45pm to sit together:

Jewish Community Center (Congregation Ohr Shalom) 67 Kent Place Blvd.

Other ideas or interests for the months ahead? Interested in being an adult volunteer?

Please let us know! <a href="mailto:shumate@gmail.com">sherri.shumate@gmail.com</a>





#### **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.

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. Come and join children ages 3 years through  $2^{nd}$  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.

#### **Believer Quartet**

This quartet is an out-growth of the Singing Believer Choir. These young people rehearse on Saturdays at **12:45pm**.

#### **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". Rehearsals are on Sundays 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 rehearsals are on Sundays 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 regular rehearsals continue on **Sunday mornings at 9:30am** in the Chapel.

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



#### COMMITMENT SUNDAY

Fall, with cooler weather and nature's changing colors, is the time when we joyously begin a new church year. It is also a time for making new promises and commitments.

As we look forward to the coming church year and all the opportunities we have to fulfill through worship and mission(Christian education, music ministries, Family Promise, knitting ministry, filling food pantries) let us become a stronger UMC Spiritual Community.

To make a difference, we must reflect and pray on how each one us of can make a financial commitment to support or 2015 missions.

The financial needs of the church are greater than ever. If you have not pledged in the past, please consider doing so this year. If you have pledged before, please consider joining others in raising your pledge.

at which time we will dedicate our pledges of prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness to the glory of God. Please read your Stewardship Letter (to be mailed in early November with pledge card) and prayerfully consider your financial support for the coming year.

Your Finance Committee

## CHILDREN'S

#### Names in the New Testament

JESUS JUDAS MARK PAUL THOMAS JOHN LAZARUS MARTHA PETER TIMOTHY

JOSEPH LUKE MARY NICODEMUS



## CHILDREN'S

## Thanksgiving Word Search

A G N I V I G S K N A H T G O R A E Y R R T I C U R O A D A L L T F E A S T E L S T M I T N P U M P K I N Y M H I K R R U L R Q C L N O V E M B E R E H A I D O E O T R O K U N N S F T L I F S L R I P G R O O S E T N E E R O E Z I U P U I E Y E O V N G C H B L F I Q T D A R Y R R E B N A R C O Y I D D C O R N U C O P I A M I D E I R P I H S R O W M T T J A W L O W E L B A T E G E V E R X O T S E V R A H A R B D U T E H G U C Y O K A H C A R V E A

- 1. Carve
- 2. Celebrate
- 3. Colonist
- 4. Cornucopia
- 5. Cranberry
- 6. Dessert
- 7. Farmer
- 8. Feast
- 9. Gather
- 10. Harvest

- 11. Holiday
- 12. November
- 13. Pilgrim
- 14. Platter
- 15. Pumpkin
- 16. Thanksgiving
- 17. Tradition
- 18. Turkey
- 19. Vegetable
- 20. Worship



## 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>

#### A SPECIAL THANK YOU



Thank you to everyone who helped to make the September Homecoming "Picnic on the Point" a great success!

A special thanks to **Adrian Phillips** for providing such wonderful music.

#### **CIRCLE NEWS**



Circle 2/4 will be meeting **November 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm**, this will be a time of social nourishment and discussion on how we can share our talents doing God's work. Any woman interested need not RSVP just join the fun on the 13<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to be added to the email notices *please contact Terry Schaefer or Wendi Barry*.

#### **RUMMAGE SALE THANKS!**



Thank you to everyone who worked so tirelessly for our Rummage Sale! As a result of all the hours and effort dedicated to this community event, we raised more than \$4500 for ministries near and far! Thank you all!!

#### **BIRTHDAYS & Anniversaries in November:**

1	Matt Kaup	15	Bob Florindi
3	Liz Martin	16	Anne Engelhart
	Craig Burns		Myrene Reyes
4	Dylan Miles	21	Gail Champney
	Melissa & Daniel Tassé	22	Neil Johnson
5	Emily Koernig		Phoebe Rhinehart
9	Kim Mandel	25	Denea & Matt Kaup
13	Muriel DeBow	26	Robert Binder
	The rows of	29	Kayla Goldman
	<i>                                      </i>		•

# November

#### MEETINGS:

Education Committee - 11/2 Outreach Committee - 11/2 Staff/Parish Committee - 11/13 Circle 2/4 - 11/13

#### MINISTRY:

CAUSE - donations every first Sunday
Prayer Warriors - Wednesdays
Knitting Ministry - Thursdays and Fridays
Confirmation Class - 11/2 & 11/16
Laity Sunday - 11/9
Commitment Sunday - 11/16
IHN Guests arrive - 11/16
Thanksgiving Interfaith Service @
Congregation Ohr Shalom - 11/23
Hanging of the Greens - 11/30
First Sunday in Advent - 11/30

#### AND MORE:

Parents' Night Out - 11/15

Pot Luck Lunch and Talent Show - 11/30

## NOVEMBER 2014

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

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
Education Committee Meeting - 11:30am (Fellowship Room) Outreach committee Meeting - 11:30am (Conference Room) Confirmation Class	3	4	5 Prayer Warriors 1pm (Fellowship Rm)  No Wow It's Wednesday	Knitting Ministry 1pm (Fellowship Rm)	7 Knitting Ministry 7pm (Fellowship Rm)	1		
5-6pm (Social Hall)  9  LAITY SUNDAY	10	11	Prayer Warriors 1pm (Fellowship Rm)  Wow, It's Wednesday- 4:00pm	13  Knitting Ministry 1pm (Fellowship Rm)  Staff/Parish - 7pm (Conference Room)  Circle 2/4 - 7:30pm (Fellowship Room)	14  Knitting Ministry 7pm (Fellowship Rm)	8 15 Parents' Night Out 5-8pm (Green Room & Social Hall)		
16 COMMITMENT SUNDAY  IHN Guests Arrive  Confirmation Class 5-6pm (Social Hall)	17	18	Prayer Warriors 1pm (Fellowship Rm)  Wow, It's Wednesday - 4:00pm	20  Knitting Ministry 1pm (Fellowship Rm)	Knitting Ministry 7pm (Fellowship Rm)	22		
23  Thanksgiving Interfaith Service - 5:00 pm @ Congregation Ohr Shalom	24	25	26 Prayer Warriors 1pm (Fellowship Rm)  No Wow It's Wednesday	THANKSGIVING Office is Closed	Office is Closed	29		
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT Hanging of the Greens Pot Luck Lunch & Talent Show	SUNDAY SCHEDULE 9:30am – Sunday School 10:30am – Worship 11:30am – Coffee Hour	ol (all grades)		NOVEMBER CHOIR RI Bell @ 9am every Sunday Chancel @ 9:30am every Contemporary Ensemble Believer Quartet @ 12:45	Sunday, @ 1:15pm every e @ 11:45am every Sunday	y except 11/30		