

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

THE DIALOGUE

April 2018



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*

Telephone: 908-277-1700 **E-mail:** umcofsummit@gmail.com
Facebook: [UnitedMethodistChurchofSummit/](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedMethodistChurchofSummit/)
Web Site: umcsummit.org



WHAT'S INSIDE

FROM THE PASTOR.....Page 3-8

EDUCATION.....Page 9-12

MUSIC NOTES.....Page 13

FOR YOUR INFORMATION.....Page 14

“To Do” List.....Page 15

MONTHLY CALENDAR.....Page 16

BIRTHDAYSPage 17

HOLY WEEK SERVICES: ALL ARE WELCOME!



Maundy Thursday,

March 29, 2018

7:00 p.m. (in the Chapel)

We will gather around the table,
remembering the Last Supper.

Good Friday, March 30, 2018

7:00pm (in the Chapel)

We will reflect on Jesus' final hours,
considering how we handle the reality
of death, and expressing our gratitude
for God's ultimate gift.



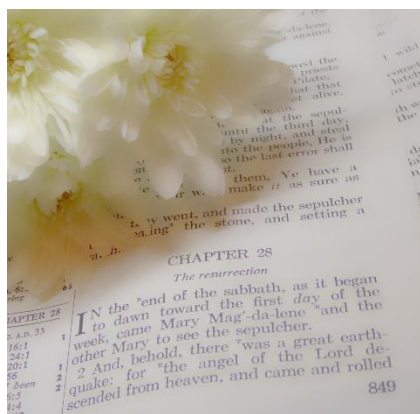
EASTER SUNDAY: CHRIST IS RISEN!

April 1, 2018

Join us for **Breakfast from 9 – 10 am**
in the Social Hall,

then gather for worship at
10:30 a.m.: Easter Service

Celebrate the Resurrection through
music, prayer, proclamation, and
sharing in the Lord's Supper!



Then continue celebrating the gift of new life by joining us at

1:00 p.m.: "Came to Believe"

A Service of Worship for Friends and Members
of the Recovery Community
in the Chapel (DeForest Avenue entrance)

FROM THE PASTOR



For two and a half years we have been living into the insights we gathered when, in the fall of 2015, we dove into the work of clarifying our identity as a community of faith. You may recall that in January of 2016, we established **four “focus groups”** (think *teams*) to do so. **Here is an update on our shared efforts:**

1. Ministry Beyond Ourselves:

Two years ago, this team focused its efforts on opening our doors to the community, with the intent of providing a safe space for the teens of our surrounding community. They envisioned gently welcoming teens in a non-assertive but loving way, offering them tools to be sustained in their journey...

Out of that desire, two projects were created:

- a monthly Open Mic Night for the community, and
- offering the High School Cheerleaders a place to practice on weekday afternoons.

Both efforts have become resounding successes! The cheerleaders enjoy having a spot to strengthen themselves and their routines, and the monthly Open Mic Nights continue to grow! (In February we had about 70 guests arrive, and enjoyed two and a half hours of performances of every kind!)

This team is now exploring the idea of hosting an art event for the community, thus inviting the town into our building once again in a creative, warm and welcoming way!

Interested in joining these efforts? Let me know!

2. Becoming a Church that Provides Renewal

We know that our culture is fast-paced, and can be stressful even in the gifts that it offers. We envisioned our church being a place that provides avenues for rest and renewal, grounded in our faith. Imagine offering resources that will enable people to feel more rested and renewed, and thus empowered for life's journey!

Toward this end, this team has been pouring its efforts into several activities:

- Strengthening the monthly Taize Prayer services
- Hosting monthly coloring opportunities at Coffee Hour
- Seasonal Hikes and Meditation Events: Two hikes and two mindfulness events were held each year in 2016 and 2017. Now we will shift our energy to new efforts, which include planning for a morning yoga experience.

- Providing Self-Care Events (October 1, 2017 and April 22, 2018). Many persons from the surrounding Summit community attended the event in October of 2017. We hope to again reach many at the upcoming event.
- Working in conjunction with the Worship Committee to support the newly established "Came to Believe" worship service, which is off to a strong start.

Interested in joining in this work of offering rest and renewal to our surrounding community? Give me a call!

3. Addressing Our Obstacles

Recognizing that we have a large, aging building and limited congregational resources, which translate into an ongoing deficit in our operating budget, this group set an aggressive goal of decreasing our deficit. Toward that end, the deficit was named clearly in the stewardship letters over recent years, and for a season weekly "Why I Give" statements by our members were included in our worship bulletins and monthly newsletters. Additionally, a "donate" avenue was added to our church website, paving the way for future givers who may prefer to give electronically. Several events helped to both bring us joy and generate some added income for the operating budget, including concerts, cookie walks, and of course, the Anniversary Celebration.

We have been able to continue to make ends meet due to the generosity of a number of members, who are giving above and beyond their anticipated pledges. However, all of these efforts, while effective to a degree and reflective of the dedication of our church community, have not enabled us to shrink the deficit. The loss of the preschool this past summer brought not only an emotional toll but a financial toll as well.

Having exhausted its ideas, the initial team has disbanded. The finance committee continues its faithful stewardship of the resources we have. Might you have some energy and insight to lend to this vital dimension of our life as God's servants? Reach out to me!

4. Building on Our Strengths!

Early on, we recognized that we have a great many ministries that empower and enliven the community; and yet we had not had a concerted publicity effort to match the gifts we offer!

Those dedicated to this team developed an extensive checklist of publicity avenues, and a process for channeling our stories to the community. Polly del Campo, our Office Administrator, now keeps us in the news. *Have a church event that needs to be communicated with the surrounding community? Let Polly know and she will get the word out!*

Shawn Callender Hogan, Pastor

April 29 is the day we have identified as “UMCOR Sunday”

(the name that now replaces “One Great Hour of Sharing”)

UMCOR is the [United Methodist Committee on Relief](#), a major Protestant humanitarian agency that is part of the General Board of Global Ministries. It was founded more than 75 years ago.

UMCOR’s work of alleviating human suffering around the world includes disaster relief and supplies, disaster risk reduction, and humanitarian development. It also relates to the Global Ministries’ unit on health.

UMCOR operates in the United States in collaboration with relief teams organized by annual (regional) conferences. On the international level, it works through partner organizations and, at times, its own country offices, depending on need. UMCOR currently has five country offices, in Sudan, South Sudan, Zimbabwe, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Haiti.

“One Great Hour of Sharing” is a traditional ecumenical designation for an offering to cover administrative costs for relief and development efforts.

UMCOR has no source of revenue for administration except from One Great Hour of Sharing (now UMCOR Sunday). UMCOR receives no money from the apportionments paid to the general church by congregations.

On **April 29**, there will be extra envelopes to receive whatever gifts you would like to make to this important relief ministry. Or you can text 'umcorsunday' to 91999 and give from your cellphone.



*Photo: Hygiene Promoters on a home visit to promote health hygiene messages in Khazan Jadeed located in Sheria Locality in East Darfur.
PHOTO COURTESY UMCOR SUDAN*



Self-Care Event

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

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

Join us for a Self-Care Event

Sunday, April 22, 2018

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 by April 15th so that sufficient materials can be available.

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 (April 4, May 2, ...) 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.



Earth Day is April 22:
and on that Sunday
we will celebrate
the Festival of God's Creation!

We will celebrate by welcoming
Cynthia Kent, Chair of the United
Methodist Native American
International Caucus, as our
morning preacher.

We will also dedicate our
community garden at the close of
our worship service.



“Came to Believe”

A Worship Service for
Friends and Members of
the Recovery Community

The First Sunday of the Month
(April 1, May 6, June 3,...)

1:00 pm

in the Chapel

(DeForest Avenue Entrance)



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Imagine if we paid
for every breath of
fresh air
we breathed

Right now, you are breathing. Every moment that we are alive our body breathes itself, fresh air of life coming in and out, all day long with typically very little effort from us. Did you notice?

When is the last time you paused simply to breathe? When's the last time you thanked God for the gift of air to breathe, for health, for a place to live, for a church that loves you, for life?

Right now, you are breathing. Now is a great time to start saying "thank you" for the gift that is this life.

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

HELP OUR GARDEN GROW

It's growing time! Our garden started with a seed and one person's great idea. Many hands have helped to tend and toil and harvest these past years. Many more hands are invited to join in the joy this small plot of soil shares. This garden belongs to us all. All are welcome to play in the dirt, to water, to pull weeds, to enjoy the harvest. Stop by ANY time. You'll always be blessed by something you find: the cilantro that's always quietly growing on its own, the feel of the earth in your hands, the smell of growth, the subtle presence of God that's always right there just waiting for you to pause to look.

Contact me for more information about how you can get involved, or just stop by any time. sherri.shumate@gmail.com



FEASTING ON THE WORD 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.

Age	Teacher	Helper
Children Pre K-3 rd	Noelle Benton	Myrene Reyes
Tweens 4 th - 7 th	Alison Johnson	Cara Verma
Teens 8 th - 12 th	Susan Woolever	Sherri Shumate

April 1, Easter	Mark 16:1-8	<i>The Resurrection of Jesus</i>
April 8	Acts 4:32-35	<i>Believers Share Their Possessions</i>
April 15	Luke 24:36b-48	<i>Jesus Appears to the Disciples</i>
April 22	John 10:11-18	<i>Jesus, the Good Shepherd</i>
April 29	Acts 8:26-40	<i>Philip and the Ethiopian</i>

https://www.feastingontheword.net/Content/Site118/Basics/1780FotW2017201_00000025896.pdf

Something New:

This spring we will be trying a new Sunday school curriculum. Check it out here:

<https://www.feastingontheword.net/Curriculum/>

Volunteers Welcome!

Interested in helping us choose a more contemporary name for our Sunday morning time of growing in faith we currently call Sunday school? 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 Parent's Night Out. Please contact Sherri Shumate if you're interested. 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** 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.

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.

No WOW on April 11 and April 18, 2018

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.

Youth Lock-In coming soon. Date TBA.

Contact me if you're interested in helping or attending.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Attention Graduating Seniors: The United Methodist Church offers two scholarships for graduating students who will be attending an institution for higher education in the fall. These scholarships have been made possible by the compassion of Ms. Evelyn Welsh and Ms. Mildred Wyckoff. To apply for a scholarship you need to submit the following **by April 30th**:

- A two page essay highlighting your community, church and school involvement. Please also explain your economic need.
- Proof of enrollment from the university/college you will be attending in the fall. Applications can be submitted to the church office or by email to sherri.shumate@gmail.com. For additional United Methodist scholarship opportunities, visit this website. GNJ scholarships: <https://www.gnjumc.org/resource/2018-gnj-scholarship-instructions-application/>

PILGRIMAGE



I am honored and thrilled to be one of 14 people globally chosen to participate in an **interfaith peace pilgrimage in Spain this April 7-15!** I'm even more blessed to be receiving a scholarship award that will cover most of the expenses of this incredible opportunity! This will be my continuing education experience for this calendar year and those continuing education budgeted funds will help offset additional costs like supplies and travel insurance required. Thank you!

Please keep me in your prayers as we walk 10-18 miles of the Camino de Santiago each day in a spirit of prayers for interfaith and global peace.

Mark your calendars: Sunday, April 29, I'll be preaching about my experience and where I experienced God in the journey.

Feeling blessed and grateful for this life changing opportunity and delighted about the chance to share my experiences with all of you journeying with me in spirit.

For more information about where I'm going and what I'll be doing check out the link below. There's also a wonderful Martin Sheen movie called "The Way" that features a pilgrimage on this sacred path.

Blessings and peace,
Sherri Shumate

<http://heartbeatjourney.org/events/camino-peace-pilgrimage-with-ben-lindwall-and-mohamed-kiari/>



MUSIC NOTES

Joanne Teubner Prussak, *Music Director*

*Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.*

WESLEY CHOIR AND SINGING BELIEVERS

Our choirs are **preparing for Holy Week and Easter worship**. Rehearsals for the Wesley Choir (part of *Wow, It's Wednesday*) are 5:15pm. The Singing Believers rehearse on **Saturdays at 11:45am**. Let us praise the Lord with our joyous Alleluias.

HAND BELL CHOIR

Our Hand Bell Choir rehearses on **Sunday mornings at 11:45am** in the Sanctuary. **The Bells will be ringing on Easter morning.**

CONTEMPORARY ENSEMBLE

Our Contemporary Ensemble meets **following worship at 11:45am**. We encourage singers and instrumentalists to join us. The ensemble uses the contemporary "Worship and Song" book. Come and raise your voices or your musical instruments in praise. **The Contemporary Ensemble will be singing at Easter worship.**

CHANCEL CHOIR

The Chancel Choir rehearses on **Sunday mornings at 9:30am** in the Chapel. The Choir will be singing for **Holy Thursday, March 29 – worship at 7:00pm warm-up at 6:30pm**. We will rehearse at 8:00pm following worship. Rehearsal will be in the Sanctuary in preparation for Easter, April 1. The Chancel Choir will also be singing at our **Good Friday worship, March 30**. Service at 7:00pm rehearsal at 6:30pm.

As is our tradition, we will be singing the Hallelujah Chorus from "The Messiah". Please come and join us in the chancel area. We have additional music ready for you! Come and make a joyful sound.

*"Easter is the ultimate day for singing our songs of praise and joy.
So let us sing to the God of our joy!"*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

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!

We deliver your donations to “Loaves and Fishes”. “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.

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Friday, April 27, 2018

8:00pm – 11:00pm (*in the Social Hall*)

Bring your talent along to our monthly ‘**Open Mic Nights**’.

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.

MARCH 10 CUMAC TRIP A SUCCESS!

Teens and adults delivered two vehicles filled with a total of 561 lbs. of food to CUMAC! Thank you to everyone who made this mission trip a success!



APRIL

"To Do" List:

MEETINGS:

Ad Council – 4/2

Staff/Parish – 4/4

Worship Committee – 4/22

MINISTRY:

Loaves and Fishes –

donations accepted the first Sunday of each month

Taize Service – 4/4 (first Wednesday of each month)

Knitting Ministry – Thursdays and Fridays

"Came to Believe" – 4/1

Earth Day – 4/22

UMCOR Sunday – 4/29

AND MORE:

Easter Breakfast – 4/1

Self-Care Event – 4/22

Confirmation Class – 4/22

Open Mic Night – 4/27



APRIL 2018

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 EASTER SUNDAY 9:00am – Breakfast 10:30am – Worship Service <u>No Sunday School</u> “Came to Believe” – 1:00pm (Chapel)	2 <u>Office is Closed</u> Ad Council Meeting – 7:30pm (Fellowship Room)	3	4 Wow, It's Wednesday Taize Service 7pm (Chapel) Staff/Parish 7:30pm (Fellowship Room)	5 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)	6 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room)	7 Singing Believers 11:45 am
8	9	10	11 <u>No Wow, It's Wednesday</u>	12 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)	13 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room)	14 Singing Believers 11:45 am
15	16	17	18 <u>No Wow, It's Wednesday</u>	19 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)	20 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room)	21 Singing Believers 11:45 am
22 EARTH DAY Worship Committee 9:00am (Fellowship Room) Self-Care Event 1:00pm (Social Hall) Confirmation Class – 5:30pm	23	24	25 Wow, It's Wednesday	26 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)	27 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room) Open Mic Night 8:00pm (Social Hall)	28 Singing Believers 11:45 am
29 UMCOR SUNDAY	30	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				

APRIL Birthdays and *Anniversaries

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>*Stephen and Beverly Brown</i> Chris Cunningham Elaine Stolpe	2 Sarah Shuttleworth	3 Joan Bollman Emily LaJeunesse	4 Betsey Chorpenning	5	6	7 <i>*Greg and Debbie Vartan</i>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Amanda Brown Ethan Kaup
15	16	17 Elizabeth Koernig <i>*Dorothy and Mark Koernig</i>	18 Valerie DeMartin	19 Hannah Flamme Kofi Quaynor	20 Steven and Kristine Rodriguez	21 Alexis Bogden
22 Ian Cunningham Allie Wernsing	23	24	25 Veronica Clark Graham Relf	26 David Hughes Debbi Picorale	27	28
29	30	ENJOY YOUR DAY!				