

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

THE DIALOGUE

September 2018



THE STAFF

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From the Pastor

"Ah, September! You are the doorway to the season that awakens my soul..."

-- Peggy Toney Horton

The "doorway to the season that awakens our souls" is upon us as we embark upon a new church year of worship, education, service, and fellowship.

In the pages of this newsletter you will read about the ways our ministry is changing and the ways its roots remain secure. Our second floor classrooms continue to be transformed, our special services are being updated, our educational ministries are evolving, our care for the earth is taking new form...



You are invited to be a part of this season!

Here are a few highlights for what to anticipate on Sunday mornings:

September 2: We resume our 10:30 worship time.

September 9: What is a miracle?

September 16: Get a blessing, give a blessing!

Bring an object from your work or school life to be blessed in its use.

September 23: Rally Day!

Chancel Choir and Sunday School classes begin,
and our Bags to Benches effort starts!

September 30 through October 28:

"Faithfulness According to Mister Rogers"

Across five Sundays, we will review our five membership vows
(prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness)
from the perspective of beloved Fred Rogers.

Walk with us into this season of awakening the soul!

Shawn Callender Hogan
Pastor

SPECIAL SERVICE UPDATES



Taize Prayer Services Resume: October 7

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 the first Wednesday night of each month** (October 3, November 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.

“Came to Believe”

A Worship Service for
Friends and Members of
the Recovery Community
resumes October 7th

and the First Sunday of Every Month (Nov. 4, Dec. 2...)

at a new time: 8:30 am

in the Chapel (DeForest Avenue Entrance)



Mark your calendars:



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.

Once again, our Conference is holding **clustered Church Conferences**, which means that we will gather for our annual business session with 10 other churches on

Saturday, November 3, from 10:45am – 12:30pm
at the Chatham UMC (460 Main Street, Chatham, NJ 07928)

The meeting schedule will be:

10:45 am – Devotions

11:30 am – Church Conference Meeting

12:30 pm– Adjourn

Please put this date on your calendar, and join in this important annual meeting!



Our fifth 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.

10:30



Analog or digital, here’s important news:

**On September 2, 2018,
our worship time moves to 10:30 am.
See you there!**

**A Conference Event:
2018 Laity Leadership Academy:**

Saturday, October 6, 2018

Location: The Mission and Resource Center
205 Jumping Brook Rd., Neptune NJ 07753

The 2018 Laity Leadership Academy provides tools and skills for leaders facing the challenges of the 21st century. Tracks will help laity and their churches go deeper spiritually, go wider in the community, grow older with grace and support, go farther with generosity and share the Good News with excellence.

Program Schedule

7:45 a.m. | Registration
8:30 a.m. | Worship
9:15 a.m. | Assigned Laity Track
12:15 p.m. | Lunch and Networking
1:30 p.m. | Assigned Laity Track
Laity Leadership Academy Tracks

Track 1: A Closer Walk

Facilitators: Betty Quackenboss, Rev. Erica Munoz and a team from Aldersgate UMC

This workshop will engage participants to improve the spiritual tone in our churches; by helping to create an environment more conducive to going deeper in faith and by infusing a more intensely expressive spirituality centered upon our Lord Jesus Christ, by testifying through word and deed that He is alive in our lives and in our churches

- Using the small group model, workshop will be interactive.
- Looking at specific tools and “Means of Grace” to increase faith commitment.
- Examining ways to engage people with the Bible as a transformational tool.
- Expanding prayer time.



Track 2: Building up the Beloved Community of God

Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Grace Pak, Director of Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural Leadership, General Commission on Religion and Race

The demographic landscape of the United States is changing with increased diversity in the communities throughout the country. We will explore how we can build up the Beloved Community of God as we seek ways to minister across racial and cultural boundaries.

- What does the Bible say about diversity?
- What is culture?
- What is my cultural location?
- How can I minister across the racial and cultural lines?

Track 3: Vital ministries with Older Adults

Facilitators: Helen Hunter & Arthur Harrell

This track provides an overview of the aging process, including physical, mental, and social changes. Learn strategies to engage in the support for elderly parishioners and families.

- Identifying available community resources and services.
- Understanding how faith communities can partner in ways that bring value to God's people in response to their needs.
- Engaging in vital conversation/resourcing around leveraging older adults.
- Developing an action plan to implement ministry of elderly caring.

Track 4: Generosity vs. Funding

There are ways to help your church better understand the importance of "generosity" and not just fundraising. This track will discuss taking the 4-point starter stance to get it right from the start.

- Identify how growing in generosity will help people grow spiritually.
- Learn the value of creativity to engage with the people of your congregation and community.
- Explore ways to connect to the younger generation and those that are always on the go.
- Find out how to make stewardship a year long process without the constant "ask".

Track 5: Digital Strategy for Salvation

Facilitators: George Lagos, Director of Lay Servant Ministries and Debbie Bruce

Morning Session: Your Church Brand & Social Media Channels. This track provides guidance on how to determine a powerful church brand through sharing your "Unique Church Story." We will reveal the seven "must haves" to ensure the time spent on social media provides engagement with both existing and new church members.

Afternoon Session: Websites. This website building track is designed to help your congregation and their leaders understand the critical decisions for the church website.

Registration

<https://www.gnjumc.org/2018-laity-leadership-academy/>
Registration is \$50. Deadline to register is: Sept 7, 2018

STAFF/PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE

on the Christian Education Director Posting

After Sherri Shumate's resignation in June 2018 from the position as Director of Christian Education, the Staff /Parish Relations Committee externally posted the position for any interested candidates. Considering we did not receive any applications, the committee met to revisit and evaluate the staffing needs. In our review, we agreed that the education ministry is going through significant transition of matching the education program with the changes occurring within the youth congregation. The church has observed an increased fluctuation in the availability of the young people to attend church events and we are constantly exploring different types of activities as well as matching the appropriate leadership.

In our time of transition, certain programs in our educational ministries will see little change as we have different leaders within our congregation who will teach **Sunday school** (Noelle Benton, Alison Johnson, Susan Woolever), organize the **Christmas pageant** (Leslie and Chris Goetzl), and continue offering **mission experiences** (our Outreach Committee). We are especially grateful to Noelle Benton, who has taken on the role of Sunday School Superintendent, and in that role will oversee the general organization and care of our educational ministries.

Other programs, like **Wow It's Wednesday**, are on hiatus from their previous time and day and have been rescheduled as children/youth choirs' rehearsals that will take place on Saturdays at noon. We thank JoAnne for her flexibility to help.

In closing, I am thankful for the internal leadership and optimistic for the future of the Christian Education program as we all navigate our time of change. It may not be a simple solution for all but a more tailored approach to help each family and child grow in God's love.

Craig Burns
Chair, Staff/Parish Relations Committee

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION MINISTRY PROGRAMS

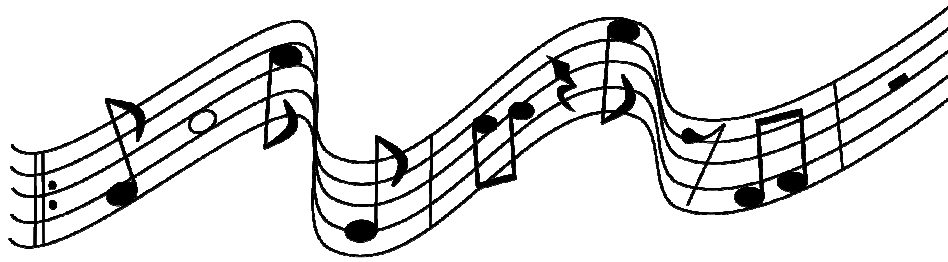
Welcome back to Children's Education Ministry programs! We hope that you all had a wonderful and relaxing summer. We are excited about some new offerings in the area of children's programs.

After surveying our wide range of children, teens, volunteers and parents, we have tried our best to create programs that will address the needs of every one. Through the rotation of teachers and volunteers, we are going to offer a **"Schoolhouse Environment for Learning"** for all as the Sunday school program. We received wonderful feedback that our older students would like to volunteer in the younger classroom which will be well served along with the teachers using our new curriculum. Our amazing **music program** will work with the teachers and children throughout the year.

In addition to this, we will continue the monthly **Sunday school field trips, opportunities for outreach in the community** and beyond for all. We will enable the social settings for the older students to encourage these positive relationships through **Lock-Ins and Open Mic Night**. We will be offering periodic **Bible Study** programs for the older students, and the parents of children with coordinated child care. All children will continue to play the crucial part that they have always played in the regular church service. We have heard the feedback that this is one of the distinct things that we love about Summit so we definitely do not want to lose this.

We would love for your child/children to be a part of being in these exciting opportunities. If you would like to share any talent or idea with the Children Ministry Committee, we would appreciate it since our goal is to meet the needs of all our children at Summit United Methodist Church.

Thanks in advance for your support,
Noelle Benton,
Children's Ministry Committee



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

Singing Believers

Come and sing the joyful songs to God. Let us grow together in our faith through music. **Rehearsals are at 12:00pm on Saturdays in the Music Room and resume on September 29.**

Contemporary Ensemble

Our Contemporary Ensemble is studying music from the contemporary hymnals “The Faith We Sing” and “Worship and Song”. **Rehearsals are Sundays at 12:15pm in the Music Room and resume on September 23.** 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. **Rehearsals are Sundays at 11:45am in the Sanctuary and resume on September 23.**

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 is on Sunday, September 16 at 9:30am to prepare for Rally Sunday. Our regular rehearsals are on Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the Music Room and resume on September 23.**

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

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

Have you always wanted to be a **greeter** or perhaps being an **usher** is more your style??? We have immediate openings!!! Not only do we have openings, we offer free training! Yes, life skills that you can perfect at the UMC!!!

It is a wonderful way to make a big impact on visitors and church members alike. This is the best job out there! A warm smile is all you need! If you are interested in helping ~ ***please contact the church office, Terry Schaefer or Pastor Shawn*** for more information.

Training to be held: Sunday, September 9, 2018 at 9:45 am or 11:45 am
in the Sanctuary

OPEN MIC NIGHT RESUMES

Friday, September 28, 2018

Doors open at 8:00pm (*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.

GET READY FOR THE ANNUAL COOKIE WALK!

Saturday, December 1, 2018

Delicious home-made cookies await you, so dust off your favorite recipes and get ready to roll.

Please see Faye or Kim for more information.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Bags To Benches Recycling Challenge



HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Plastic must be clean and dry and should not contain any waste or food residue. Also, paper labels must be cut off.

Drop off your plastic film (see examples of plastic film) starting September 23rd at Summit United Methodist Church

Make your way down the driveway on Deforest Avenue and look for the blue collection bin outside the building entrance.

The Summit Area GreenFaith Circle is pleased to announce a partnership with Trex to collect and remove 500 lbs of plastic bags and film packaging as described above. After we achieve our goal TREX will reward us with a bench made from recycled plastic.

Give your plastic bags and plastic film a second chance RECYCLE!

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.

SEPTEMBER

"To Do" List:

MEETINGS:

Greeter Reboot – 9/9
Outreach Committee – 9/16
Worship Committee – 9/16
Ad Council - 9/25

MINISTRY:

Loaves and Fishes –
donations accepted the first Sunday of each month
Knitting Ministry – Thursdays and Fridays
Family Promise Guests – 9/23-30

AND MORE:

Rally Sunday – 9/23
Open Mic Night – 9/28
Faithfulness According to Mister Rogers –
Sundays, starting September 30 through October 28

CELEBRATE IN SEPTEMBER

DATE	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES
1		
2	Theodore Burns	
3	Matthew Dietzl James Goldman	
4		
5	Macklin Dunnder	
6	Owen Wilkins	
7		
8	Erin Goetzl	
9	Bob Hugin Alex Rosnowski	
10	Leslie Goetzl	<i>Chris and Rica Vida</i>
11	Norma Dowe	<i>Bob and Davie Nycum</i>
12	Chloe Mansilla Marcia Martin	
13		
14	Bob Koernig	<i>David and Maria Hughes</i>
15	Marty Miles	<i>Faye and Chris Cunningham</i>
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21	Max Mansilla	
22		
23	Leighton Andersen	
24	Richard Keating	
25	Dan Smith	
26	Laura Wilkins	
27		
28		
29		
30	Christopher Dunnder Bill Glancy	<i>Bob and Carole Reed</i>

SEPTEMBER 2018

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30am – Sunday School (all grades) 9:30am – Chancel Choir 10:30am – Worship						1
11:30am – Refreshments and Fellowship 11:45am – Bell Choir 12:15pm – Contemporary Ensemble						
2 Worship at 10:30am	3 Labor Day – Office is Closed	4	5	6 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)	7 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room)	8
9 Greeter Reboot – 9:45am -10:15 & 11:45am -12:15pm (Sanctuary)	10	11	12	13 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)	14 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room)	15
16 Outreach Committee – 8:30am Worship Committee Meeting – 11:45am	17	18	19	20 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room)	21 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room)	22
23 Rally Sunday – (Sunday School and choirs resume) Bags to Benches Family Promise	24 Family Promise	25 Ad Council – 7:30pm Family Promise	26 Family Promise	27 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm (Fellowship Room) Family Promise	28 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm (Fellowship Room) Open Mic Night – 8pm Family Promise	29 Singing Believers 12:00pm Family Promise
30 “Faithfulness According to Mister Rogers: Presence” Family Promise						