

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

THE DIALOGUE

Summer 2019



THE STAFF

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From the Pastor:

Summer is finally here! The daylight is at its longest, and the pace of life seems to slow just enough to encourage time spent resting and renewing ourselves through quality time with family and friends, hobbies, and exploring this beautiful world in which we live.

This summer, however, also brings us a time of change and transition as we begin a new season in the life and ministry of UMC Summit. It is a privilege and an honor to be appointed as your new pastor, and I am so excited to be here with you. While I look forward to getting to know you all better over the coming weeks and months, I thought you might want to know a little bit about me and my family in the interim.

I'm a lifelong Methodist and New Jersey native, having grown up in South Jersey in the Cherry Hill area outside of Philadelphia. Although I originally went to college to pursue a career in animal training, I discerned my call into ministry during my first year at Ohio Wesleyan University and began the journey that has now brought me here to Summit. Prior to being appointed as your pastor, I served at two other churches where I've had the opportunity to focus on children's ministries, revitalizing small group ministry, and exploring how technology can be used to support the work of the church, including launching an app and livestream of worship services. I am excited to bring this experience with me, along with a passion in ministry for connecting spirituality with daily living and action in ways that help individuals and communities embrace God's gift of abundant life.

My husband, Ryan, currently works as a Senior Manager at PwC, providing professional consulting services to media and technology companies. He also serves as a volunteer doing audio-visual work for the Greater NJ Annual Conference's digital ministries team and does work in video, illustration, and animation in his spare time. In December of last year, we welcomed our first child, Noelle, into the world. She has changed our lives for the better in so many ways, and continues to teach us new things every day. We also bring with us a lovable and happily retired greyhound, Nuckolls. As we continue to settle into our new home and community, we are looking forward to planting our roots in Summit and watching Noelle begin to grow up here.

I am grateful for the work of the Transition Team over the past few months and to everyone who has helped to make this a smooth transition for me and my family. Over the next couple of months, we will be setting up small group gatherings that will provide an opportunity for us to get to know one another and for me to hear what your hopes are for our congregation. I hope you can attend one of these meetings, as I am really looking forward to meeting you and hearing your stories and hopes!

As we enter into these summer days in the midst of transition, I want to share with you these words from the hymn "This is a Day of New Beginnings":

*Christ is alive, and goes before us
to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
our God is making all things new.*

God is with us, and through you and the ministries you do, God has been showing love to the people of Summit and beyond for over 150 years. I am deeply grateful for all of the pastors, staff, and laity who I am following who have helped to bring UMC Summit to where it is today. As we build upon this foundation, my hope is that we continue to collaborate with the new things God is doing, especially in seeking to engage the community around us and explore together new opportunities for ministry.

It is a privilege to be in ministry with you and to discover where God is leading us as a congregation and community. Wherever your summer plans may take you, be on the lookout for signs of God's presence and love in your midst!

Deep Blessings,
Rev. Christina Lelache



CAME TO BELIEVE SERVICES

Please Note the Summer Hiatus:

Our Monthly *Came to Believe* Services will **resume October 6th at 8:30am.**

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!**

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.



AN INVITATION FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE:

Hello members of The Summit United Methodist Church! During the summer, many low-income parents struggle a bit more to feed their families. School is over, and so are the free lunches provided by the schools. Unfortunately, food pantries universally experience drastic decreases in donations during summer months, due in part to donating families going on vacation. **Pantries need our help**, and you're invited to participate in SUMC's plan to meet this need. We will be collecting canned and boxed goods throughout the summer and delivering them every few weeks to pantries in need. These pantries may include: **CUMAC, Loaves & Fishes, Saint Teresa's, and Grace's Refrigerator**. Please bring your donations to the pew by the front door of the Sanctuary or the steps in the kitchen.

Thank you in advance for helping the children of God. Peace be with you.

SUMMER DIALOGUE

There will be no August Dialogue. Articles for the September Dialogue are due August 15.

SUMMER WORSHIP

For the months of JULY AND AUGUST we worship at 10:00 am.

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

TAIZE SERVICES

Please Note the Summer Hatus:

Our Monthly Taize Prayer Services will **resume October 2nd at 7:00pm.**

SUMMER

"To Do" List:

MINISTRY:

Loaves and Fishes –

Donations accepted the first Sunday of each month

Knitting Ministry – Thursdays and Fridays

AND MORE:

Chalkboard Conversations – through August

Summer Soloists – July and August

CELEBRATE IN JULY

DATE	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES
1		
2		
3	Megan Champney	
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		<i>Anthony and Nechelle Dorbu</i>
9	Charles Lord	
10		
11		<i>Leslie and Susan Williams</i>
12	Jesse Reyes	
13	Johanna Aguilera	
14		<i>Deanne and Brian Burns</i>
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		<i>Jayme and Emily LaJeunesse</i>
22		
23		
24		
25	Parker LaJeunesse	<i>Cliff and Laura Wilkins</i>
26		
27		
28		
29		
30	Julia Dunnder	
31	Ellen Dunnder Jayme LaJeunesse	<i>George and Sarah Shuttleworth</i>

CELEBRATE IN AUGUST

DATE	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES
1		
2		
3		
4		
5	Susan Daniel	
6	Caroline Relf	
7	MaryEllen DeJohn James Somers	
8	Andrew Aird	
9	Jim Schaefer	
10		
11	John Blossom	
12		
13		
14		<i>Craig and Lisa Burns</i>
15		
16	Alf Edwards	
17		
18		<i>Bob and Denise Florindi</i>
19		
20		
21		
22	Bob Reed	
23		
24	Lisa Burns	
25		
26		
27		
28	Doug DeMartin Melissa Tasse Andie Vida	
29		
30		
31	Sam Russell	