

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

THE DIALOGUE

October 2019



CHURCH STAFF

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Pastoral Letter

Fall is my favorite time of year—the cooler weather, the shorter days, the changing color of the leaves, and the promise of apple picking and visiting a pumpkin patch with my family all inspire me to head outside and enjoy the beauty of the season. One of my favorite parts of fall has always been Halloween. Growing up, each year when September transitioned into October, I would eagerly begin dreaming up what my costume would be that year and debating with my brother how much candy we would receive. Beyond the fun of dressing up, over time what began to resonate with me about Halloween was how the community came together to celebrate. Neighbors who I didn't see or interact with throughout the year suddenly were greeting us with warm hospitality. The evenings were filled with laughter and community as families moved from house to house, lit by the warm glow of jack-o'-lanterns. In a season where we are more likely to tell ghost stories and engage in spooky activities, it seemed that, collectively, we countered these frightening things with community, hospitality, and warmth.

So it is in our faith journeys as well! One of the most oft-repeated lines in the Bible is “Do not be afraid.” Beyond ghost stories and haunted houses, there seems to be so many things that can stir up fear. Yet our scriptural tradition reminds us that while we may have fears and be afraid, we do not have to live out of our fear. Instead, we can, through God's help, live out of so many other things, including hospitality, compassion, and generosity.

As we move further into the fall season, what is on your heart? What fears or hopes do you have, and what is God inviting you to live out of this season? In the pages to follow are many opportunities to explore these questions, such as mission opportunities, community activities, prayer reflection in the natural world, and small group fellowship. I hope that you can join us as we seek to grow in our own journeys and meet the hurts and fears in and around us with God's grace!

Deep Blessings,
Rev. Christina Lelache



New Sermon Series: Ghost Stories

Join us on October 13 as we begin a new sermon series: “Ghost Stories.” Halloween is one of the most popular holidays in the United States, and it is hard to escape its influence on our culture. Many of the modern traditions, such as trick or treating and carving jack-o'-lanterns, arise from ancient traditions that sought to counter some of the fears and worries associated with longer nights and colder days brought on by the change of seasons. Today, it seems that there is much that stirs up fear in our lives and world. Yet one of the promises of our faith is that through Christ, our light, we have been given a

spirit of love instead of fear. As we explore some of the ghostly stories in our biblical tradition, we'll be reminded that with God, we do not have to be afraid.

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

October 6 — World Communion Sunday
"Be the Church in a Hurting World"
Ephesians 6:10-20

October 13
"Things that Go Bump in the Night"
John 1:4-5

October 20
"Ghost Sightings"
Mark 6:45-52

October 27
"Creepy Happenings"
Daniel 5:17-30

Sunday Morning Childcare

All children are invited and welcome to remain in worship with their families on Sunday mornings. Worship buckets with coloring sheets and activities for children are available in the front and rear of the sanctuary. The Hospitality Room, located at the back of the sanctuary, also has a changing table and toys.

Childcare, beginning October 6, is also available in the nursery from 9:00-10:15am, as well as in the Hospitality Room in the back of the sanctuary from 10:20-11:30am. Parents are welcome to sign in and drop off their child(ren), or stay with their child(ren).

Please contact the church office with any questions.

Taize Service – October 2

First Wednesday of the month.

Resumes **October 2** at **7:00pm** in the Chapel. Come to the Chapel 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 peacefully enfold you.



Came To Believe Service – October 6

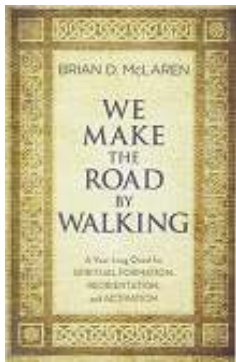
First Sunday of the month. Resumes **October 6** at **8:30am** in the Chapel.

A casual monthly service of worship for Friends and Members of the Recovery Community.



World Communion Sunday – October 6

On World Communion Sunday, Christians from all around the world celebrate our unity in Christ. It is also an annual event that provides United Methodists with an opportunity to support the development of leaders for church and society around the world. Our special offering on this day will provide scholarships for racial- and ethnic-minority students around the world to transform the church and their communities. Please join us as we celebrate how God is working through the global body of Christ!



FAITH FORMATION

Lunch & Learn Bible Study Take your lunch break with us as we grow together! The group will meet Tuesdays from 12:00 - 12:45pm in the Conference Room. No advance prep is necessary—bring your lunch or just join us for the study. The group will be working through *We Make the Road by Walking* by Brian McLaren. If you are interested, or would like a copy of the book, please contact Pastor Christina at clelache@umcsummit.org.

Sunday Afternoon Class: Animate Bible

Join Pastor Christina as we explore what the Bible is, how it came to be, and how we read it today. Questions we'll explore include: What do we do with the Old Testament? Why do the Gospels tell different stories? What do we do with a book that's brought about so much struggle? Each class will include a video featuring a leading voice from the Christian faith that helps us to reinvigorate and deepen our understanding of the Bible. No preparation is necessary, and each session is stand-alone, so come as you can! An optional journal is available to provide space for doodling, reflection and prayer. This class will be held on Sunday afternoons at **1:00pm in the Fellowship Room, beginning October 13.**

Please email or call the church office to sign up, and to indicate if you would be interested in the optional journal.



Class Schedule

- Oct. 13 - Canon: Mining for the Word
- Oct. 20 - History: Parchment to Pixel
- Oct. 27 - Testaments: One Story, Two Parts
- Nov. 3 - Gospels: Unexpected Good News
- Nov. 10 - Genre: Rhythm of the Text
- Nov. 17 - Interpretation: Scripture Reads Us
- Nov. 24 - Grace: Love is the Bottom Line

Fall Hike & Prayer — October 20

All ages are invited to join us on October 20 at 4:00pm for a reflective prayer walk through Briant Park in Summit! Join us as we soak in the beauty of God's creation and spend time prayerfully reflecting upon what God is sharing with us through the natural world. There are many benches along the path if you would like to take extra time to rest or pray. In event of rain, we will reschedule for another time.

OUTREACH

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 **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 – October 25

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.

Summit Downtown Trick-or-Treat — October 31

Summit UMC will be participating in Summit’s Downtown Trick-or-Treat event on Halloween! From 2:30pm-4:00pm, we will hand out candy to families trick-or-treating throughout downtown Summit. There are multiple ways you can help! We will be collecting candy donations in the church office to hand out (please make sure candy is individually wrapped and nut-free). You can also join us on Thursday, Oct. 31 to provide a friendly welcome and greeting to all the trick-or-treaters! If you would like to help, please contact Pastor Christina at clelache@umcsummit.org.



MEETINGS AND MORE

Annual Church Conference — Save the Date!

Save the date! Our annual Church Conference will be held on **Saturday, November 2, from 8:45 - 10:30am at Morrow Memorial UMC** (600 Ridgewood Road, Maplewood, NJ 07040). This is an important opportunity to share highlights of our ministry together from the past year, elect new leaders, and celebrate where God is moving in our midst.

As part of the clustered Church Conference format, we will be gathering with other churches following our business meeting for shared worship together. The schedule for that day will be:

8:45am — Registration

9:00am — Church Conference meeting

10:00am — Worship

All are welcome to attend, and all members of the church have voting privileges. Please plan on joining us for this important meeting!

STAY CONNECTED!

Communication Updates!

The church office and staff have new emails — please be sure to update your address books.

- Pastor Christina — clelache@umcsummit.org
- Church Office — office@umcsummit.org
- JoAnne — jprussak@umcsummit.org
- Please direct emails for Polly and Roy to the church office

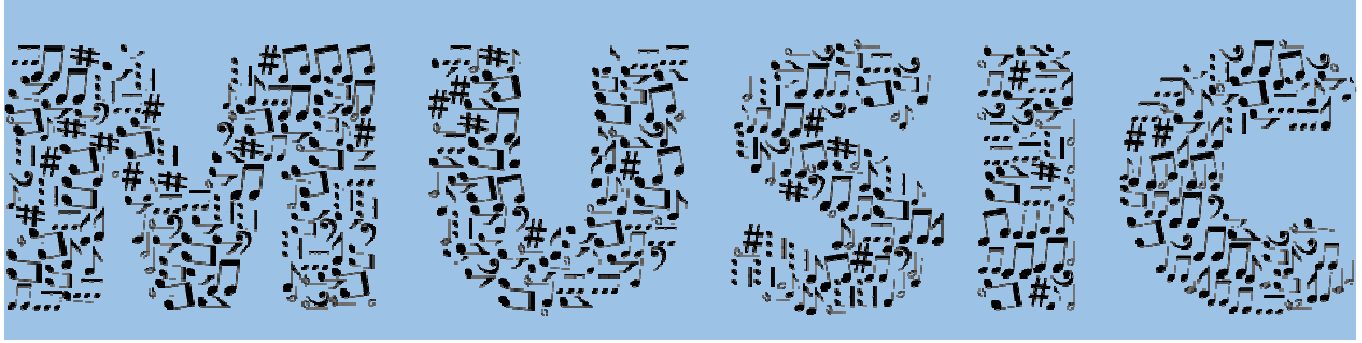
Any emails sent to the old church email will be forwarded for the time being to the new office email.

Like and Follow our Church's Facebook Page

Be sure to like The United Methodist Church of Summit on Facebook! Our page shares reminders about upcoming activities and events, updates about our ministries, and other stories and resources to nourish your faith. It's a great way to stay connected with the church wherever you are!

Weekly Email

Are you signed up to receive our weekly email? The email contains the latest information on upcoming events, worship notes, and other timely and important information. Please be sure to subscribe so you can stay up to date on what's happening in the life of the church. Send an email to Polly at Office@umcsummit.org to get on our email list today!



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 CHILDREN’S CHOIR

Come and sing the joyful songs to God. Let us grow together in our faith through music. **Rehearsals are at 1:30pm on Saturdays in the Sanctuary.**

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.** 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.**

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 are on Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the Music Room.**

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



CALLING ALL BAKERS

*It's almost your favorite time of year
You guessed it....*

UMC of Summit's Annual

Cookie Walk

*It's the 4th year we've hosted this event
and I'm happy to say your generous help
makes each year better than the last!*

*Give yourself a hand and say
"Good Job".*

This year the cookie walk is on
Saturday December 7th, 2019

*So mark your calendars, check your recipes
and dust off those cookie sheets.*

The time will be here before you know it.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Kim Goldman

**Summit Area GreenFaith Circle
Presents
GREEN CLEANING COMMUNITY FORUM**

**Sunday October 13 12:30—2:00 pm
St. John's Lutheran Church
587 Springfield Avenue Summit, NJ 07901**



Vivian Panou, Director of Special Events and Programs at Earth Friendly Products manufacturer of ECOS products



Janette Filbert Spiezio, Owner of Sustainable Haus, LLC, makes and sells up-cycled and non-toxic home goods and cleaning supplies



Adam Palmer, Education Associate, Great Swamp Watershed Association, teaches how to protect our water supply



**12:15-12:30 Light Refreshments
12:30 - 1:30 Panel presentations
1:30-2:00 Presenter tables and
"Make and Take" your own green
cleaning products (bring a clean jar
or bottle)**

OCTOBER

"To Do" List:

MEETINGS:

Worship Committee – 10/6 at 9:05am

MINISTRY:

Taize Service – 10/2 at 7:00pm

Came to Believe Service – 10/6 at 8:30am

World Communion Sunday – 10/6

Fall Hike and Prayer – 10/20 at 4:00pm

Loaves and Fishes –

Donations accepted on the first Sunday of each month

Knitting Ministry – Thursdays at 1:00pm
Fridays at 7:00pm

AND MORE:

Animate Bible – beginning 10/13 at 1:00pm

Open Mic Night – 10/25, doors open at 8:00pm

Summit Downtown Trick or Treat – 10/31 at 2:30pm

Bible Study – Tuesdays at 12:00pm

CELEBRATE IN OCTOBER

DATE	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES
1	Eric Goldman	
2		
3		<i>John and Susan Hogg</i>
4	Janet Daniel	
5		
6	Chloe Tasse	
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		<i>Hillary Kruger and Kenneth Lordy</i>
12	Adrian Phillips Kerry Relf	
13	Emma Aird	
14	Nena-Renee Smith	
15	Conor Barry	
16		
17		
18	Adam Daniel	
19		
20	Cliff Wilkins	<i>Jesse and Myrene Reyes</i>
21		
22		
23	Carole Reed Dominik Tasse	
24		
25	Will Johnson	
26		
27	Shela Waldron	
28		
29		
30	Jack Schaefer	
31	Denise Florindi	

OCTOBER 2019

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Bible Study – 12:00pm <i>(Conference Room)</i>	2 Taize Service 7:00pm <i>(Chapel)</i>	3 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm	4 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm	5
6 World Communion Sunday Came to Believe– 8:30am <i>(Chapel)</i> Worship Committee – 9:05am <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	7	8 Bible Study – 12:00pm <i>(Conference Room)</i>	9	10 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm	11 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm	12
13 Animate Bible – 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	14	15 Bible Study – 12:00pm <i>(Conference Room)</i>	16	17 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm	18 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm	19
20 Animate Bible – 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i> Fall Hike and Prayer – 4:00pm <i>(Briant Park)</i>	21	22 Bible Study – 12:00pm <i>(Conference Room)</i>	23	24 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm	25 Knitting Ministry 7:00pm Open Mic Night – 8:00pm	26
27 Animate Bible – 1:00pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	28	29 Bible Study – 12:00pm <i>(Conference Room)</i>	30	31 Knitting Ministry 1:00pm Summit Downtown Trick or Treat – 2:30pm		

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