

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

# **THE DIALOGUE**

## **February 2020**



### **CHURCH STAFF**

**Christina Lelache**, *Pastor*

**JoAnne Teubner Prussak**, *Director of Music*

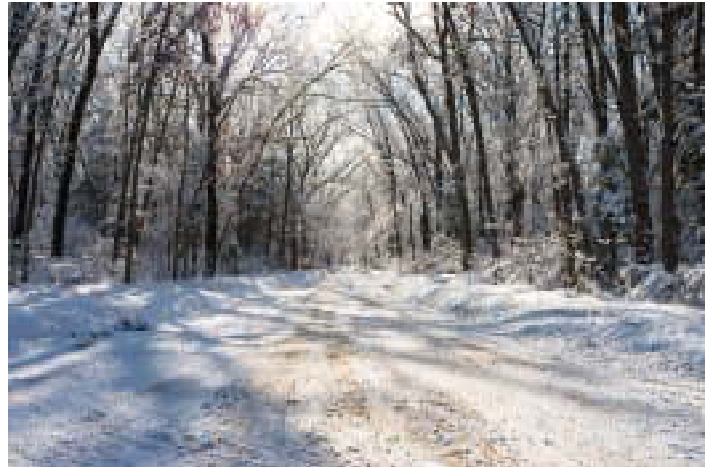
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*“In the cold and snow of winter there’s a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.” — Hymn of Promise, UMH #707*

I must confess—I love snow. When the forecast calls for snow, and most people seem to groan at the prospect of it, I eagerly await the first snowflakes and hope that we’ll have at least a good few inches to enjoy. But there comes a point, usually in February, where I find myself both longing for one more good snowfall and for warm, sun-filled spring days. Even now, as these cold winter days seem to drag on, I find myself drawn towards the growing daylight that comes as spring draws closer.



For the most part, when you look at the natural world around us, all the visible signs of summer have fallen to the ground. And yet, while it may seem like things are still and quiet, the activity and the life of the trees has not stopped, but moved underground for the season. We won’t see much of anything happening for the next several weeks, but all of a sudden, perhaps when we’re least expecting it, all that work will burst forth before our eyes in new buds and blooms.

Like nature around us, God continues to work beneath the surface to shape and transform us. It may not seem as if anything is happening in the moment as we engage in the regular rhythm and practices of our lives, but if we continue to remain rooted in God’s love, it may surprise us in how it brings us closer to one another and to God’s heart in hidden but meaningful ways.

By month’s end, we will once again mark the beginning of a season of self-reflection and spiritual growth as we enter into Lent. Many will choose to take on a spiritual discipline or give up something in a way to draw closer to God. Oftentimes, the growth of this season takes place in hidden ways, revealed much later in buds of love, joy, peace, kindness, generosity, patience, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

The natural world around us is both still and busy preparing for a new season of growth and light. As we prepare for Lent once more, in what ways might God be inviting you to plant seeds and root yourself in God’s love? And where might God be inviting you to find moments of stillness and reflection, trusting that God is working beneath the surface?

This month, join us as we reflect on our stories to see where God has been at work in and through the events of our lives. Be a part of the good we are seeking to share with a hurting world through our many ministries. And then plan on joining us on Ash Wednesday as we enter into a season of contemplation with the reminder that no matter our brokenness or mortality, we are deeply loved. I am looking forward to journeying with you and discovering what hidden thing God is preparing in our midst.

Deep Blessings,

Pastor Christina



### **February Sermon Series –**

#### **“What’s Your Story? Finding God’s Story in Our Stories”**

Our new sermon series, “What’s Your Story? Finding God’s Story in Our Stories,” continues this month! We each have our own unique story to be unraveled, and by sharing them with others, we help shape communities, give strength to others, and paint a picture for those who follow in our footsteps. And the best part? God is co-writing our stories with us to tell the greatest story ever told. In this series, looking at a variety of stories from the Bible, we’ll look for where God’s story shows up in our own stories.

**February 2:** Plot Twist

**February 9:** Quite a Character

**February 16:** To Be Continued

**February 23:** Laity Sunday

A companion study to help us unravel our stories is being offered **Sundays at 1:00pm in the Fellowship Room**. The study is based on Sarah Heath’s book *What’s Your Story? Seeing Your Life Through God’s Eyes*. Come for one session or as many as you can!

### **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE - FEBRUARY 26**

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, where we gather to remember that even in the midst of our humanity and mortality, God meets us with grace and life. On Wednesday, February 26, we will hold an Ash Wednesday service **in the Chapel at 7:00pm**. Join us in worship as we begin the Lenten season together!

### **Sermon Videos Available on YouTube**

Missed a sermon, or want to re-watch one? You can catch replays of each sermon on the church's YouTube page every Monday morning! Search "United Methodist Church of Summit" on YouTube to find us. Sermons are also shared on the church's Facebook page on Monday mornings and mid-week in our weekly email.



### **Inclement Weather Updates**

In the event of snow or other inclement weather, please make wise choices about your own travel decisions—your safety is of utmost importance!

In the rare event that we need to cancel a planned program or service, we will post the information on the church's Facebook page and on the church's answering machine. Please check those sources for updates!



### **Came To Believe Service – February 2**

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

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

### **Taize Service – February 5**

**First Wednesday of the month 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.

### **February Star Word Reflection**

Use the following question to reflect on the Star Word you received at the beginning of the year. If you didn't receive a star and would like one, please contact the church office!

You've been sitting with your star word for a month. What struggles, challenges, and/or uncomfortable growing areas have you encountered through your star word?



## FREE RETIREMENT AND LEGACY PLANNING LUNCH

*For Seniors, their Families and Caregivers.*

**When:** Tuesday, February 11 (*snow date 2/18*)  
**Time:** 11:30am – 1:30pm  
**Where:** Bradley, Brough and Dangler Funeral Home and Tribute Center,  
299 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ.  
**Register:** Email: [TwilightDoneRight.com](mailto:TwilightDoneRight.com)  
phone: (844)733-6532

## 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 **-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, February 28**

**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!

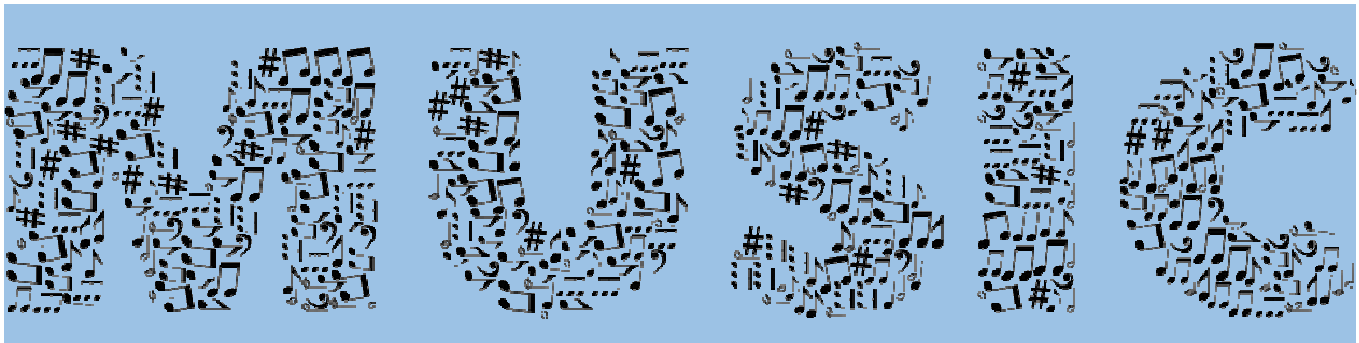
*If you would like to perform, just drop us a line at [umcopenmicnight@gmail.com](mailto:umcopenmicnight@gmail.com) or call the office at (908) 277-1700.*

## FOOD PANTRY TRIP

The Outreach Committee is organizing a trip to **CUMAC, a food pantry in Paterson, on March 28**. If you are interested please contact the church office at 908-277-1700 or Shanotte directly by March 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Donations:** Accepted until March 27  
**Date:** March 28  
**Time:** 10:00am – 12:00pm  
**Who Can Participate:** 12 years old and up  
**Address:** CUMAC, 223 Ellison St, Paterson, NJ 07505  
Carpooling will be available

**Volunteers needed!**



## NOTES

Joanne Teubner Prussak, *Music Director*

*“God, You have given each of us a full measure of talent, and You have called us to serve You through serving our brothers and sisters. Fill our music with such urgency and conviction that it cannot help but proclaim Your Word to Your People; through Jesus Christ, who fulfills our lives.”*

### **WESLEY CHOIR (New Children’s Choir)**

A new children’s choir, known as the Wesley Choir, is **beginning on Sunday, February 9**. Singing is so much fun! We learn songs about Jesus and how to follow his teachings in our lives. **Rehearsals will immediately follow worship**. All children are welcome. Please come up to the piano and we will sing together.

### **SINGING BELIEVERS (Youth Choir)**

Come and sing the joyful songs to God. Let us grow together in our faith through music. **Rehearsals are at 1:00pm on Saturdays in the Sanctuary** for youth grades 3 through high school.

### **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.**

### **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.

### **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. The Chancel Choir will also be singing at the Ash Wednesday worship on February 26** at 7:30pm, rehearsal at 7:00pm in the music room.

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

# February

## "To Do" List:

### MEETINGS

**Ad Council** – 2/3 at 7:30pm

### MINISTRY:

**Came to Believe Service** – 2/2 at 8:30am

**Taize Service** – 2/5 at 7:00pm

**Ash Wednesday Service** – 2/26 at 7:00pm

**Loaves and Fishes** –

Donations accepted on the first Sunday of each month

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

### AND MORE:

**"What's Your Story?"** – Beginning 1/26 at 1:00pm

**Open Mic Night** – 2/28, doors open at 8:00pm



## Celebrate in February

DATE	BIRTHDAYS
1	Davis Barry
2	
3	
4	Deanne Burns Brian Tipton
5	Millie Eichhorn
6	Angelika Miles Joanne Teubner-Prussak
7	Christine Tipton
8	Stacey Daniel
9	
10	
11	
12	Audrey Boise
13	Jane Hagner
14	Daniel Tasse
15	Martha Stampes Greg Vartan III
16	Angelica Hughes Richard Hughes
17	Jane McKinley
18	Natalie Aguilera
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	Marg Edwards Kathy Whipps Susan Williams
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	



# FEBRUARY 2020

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>SUNDAY SCHEDULE:</b> <b>9:30am</b> – Sunday School <b>9:30am</b> – Chancel Choir <b>10:30am</b> – Worship <b>11:30am</b> – Coffee Hour <b>11:45am</b> – Bell Choir <b>12:15pm</b> – Contemporary Ensemble						1
2 <b>Came to Believe-</b> 8:30am <i>(Chapel)</i>	3 <b>Ad Council Meeting</b> -7:30pm <i>(Fellowship Room)</i>	4 <b>Bible Study –</b> 12:00pm <i>(Conference Room)</i>	5 <b>Taize Service</b> 7:00pm <i>(Chapel)</i>	6 <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 1:00pm	7 <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 7:00pm	8
9 <b>Wesley Choir Begins –</b> after worship	10	11 <b>Bible Study –</b> 12:00pm <i>(Conference Room)</i>	12	13 <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 1:00pm	14 <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 7:00pm	15
16	17	18 <b>Bible Study –</b> 12:00pm <i>(Conference Room)</i>	19	20 <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 1:00pm	21 <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 7:00pm	22
23 <b>“What’s Your Story?”</b> -1:00pm	24	25 <b>Bible Study –</b> 12:00pm <i>(Conference Room)</i>	26 <b>ASH WEDNESDAY Service</b> -7:00pm <i>(Chapel)</i>	27 <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 1:00pm	28 <b>Knitting Ministry</b> 7:00pm  <b>Open Mic Night –</b> 8:00pm	29