



United Methodist
Church of Summit



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Pastor: Rev. Laura Steele
Director of Music: JoAnne Teubner Prussak

January 2, 2022

Welcome to the United Methodist Church of Summit! We invite you to join us on a journey of faith, worshiping and serving God.

PRELUDE: *Liszt Consolations* Will Johnson

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** Carol Conway

(please rise as you are able)

Leader: Sing aloud with gladness:

People: God is gathering the people!

Leader: From the farthest parts of the earth we come:

People: All who struggle; all who labor with new life!

Leader: Those who are weeping, God will console;

Leader: Those who get lost find a clear path home.

ALL: Let us worship the God who gathers us!

***CENTERING PRAYER:** *(in unison)*

Ever-calling God, We give thanks that you have gathered us into your church and graced us with your faithful presence. We ponder our history, ancient and still developing, and marvel at the many expressions of your church. Grant us the vision to be a part of a new reformation for the church that will bring ever more joy and justice to the world. Continue to gather us, the diverse lot of us, into Jesus' vision and dream that your faithful people may be one in you. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN:** *There's a Song in the Air* UMH #249

(please remain standing as you are able)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Natalie Palacio

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Carol Conway

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 31; 7-17 Carol Conway

John 1: 1-9, 10-18

***HYMN OF PREPARATION:** *(please rise as you are able)*
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light UMH #206

MESSAGE: *The Light of Home*
Beverly Alexis, Lay Leader

OFFERING
(please place your weekly offering in the offering plates)

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION:

How Can I Keep from Singing
Alison and Will Johnson

***DOXOLOGY** (*please rise as you are able*)

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #95

***CLOSING HYMN:** (*please rise as you are able*)

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

UMH #251

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Liszt Consolations

Will Johnson

*** Please rise in body or spirit as you are able.**

Hearing Aid Receivers and Large Print Hymnals are available from our ushers.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Family of Christopher Juliano, Leroy, Joan D, Rick Picorale, Gregory Carter, Baby William Joseph Kenny and family for healing and strength, Jane McKinley, Kathy Whipps (Alison's mom), family of Dara Callender, Walter, Doug, Jonathan, Tina Marie, those struggling with mental health, Family Promise Team, Ken Green, Rosa Smith, Christine Zotti, Betty, Madison, all those suffering from the effects of COVID-19.

Schedule for Week of January 2, 2022

Sunday, January 2:

9:00am Instrumentalists (Sanctuary)
9:30am *Chancel Choir – Resumes January 23*
9:30am Christian Drama Club – *Resumes January 23*
10:30am In-person/online Worship
10:45am Sunday School (2nd floor)
11:30am Coffee Hour (Social Hall)
11:30am *Bell Choir – Resumes January 23*
12:00pm *Singing Believers – Resumes January 23*
12:15pm *Contemporary Ensemble – Resumes January 23*
6:00pm *Youth Group – Resumes January 23*
7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

Monday, January 3:

7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)
7:45-9:30pm GA (Chapel and Fellowship Room)

Tuesday, January 4:

1:00-9:30pm Debbi's Dance School (Dance Studio)
7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

Wednesday, January 5:

1:00-9:30pm Debbi's Dance School (Dance Studio)
7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)
7:30-9:30pm Toastmasters (Social Hall)

Thursday, January 6:

3:30-9:00pm Debbi's Dance School (Dance Studio)

Friday, January 7:

7:30-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

Saturday, January 8:

8:00am – 2:30pm Debbi's Dance School (Dance Studio)

Children, Youth and Family Ministries Update

Our Children, Families, and Youth Ministries programming has started once again. Each Sunday there is something for everyone! Under the direction of our new Children, Families, and Youth Minister; our new Sunday schedule for children and youth is as follows:

9:30AM-10:15AM: Christian Drama Club for ages K-12th grade (Social Hall) – taking a break until January 23rd

10:30AM-10:45AM: Worship in the Sanctuary

10:45AM - 11:30AM: Sunday school for ages K-5th grade (2nd floor)

11:30AM: Coffee Hour

*Children are always welcome to stay in worship, Sunday school is optional for those families who wish to attend.

If you have any questions, please email our Children, Youth, and Families Minister Natalie Palacio at: CYFMinister@umcsummit.org



Masking in Worship

As of Monday, November 1st, 2021; the Administrative Council of SUMC voted the church should follow CDC recommendations for masking during Sunday morning worship based on the published COVID -19 transmission rate for Union County. For **low and moderate** transmission rates, the CDC recommends all unvaccinated persons wear masks while vaccinated persons may attend unmasked (if so desired) as the risk for infection is considered low. For **substantial and high** transmission rates, the CDC recommends ALL persons wear a mask regardless of vaccination status to mitigate the risk of infection.

As of December 1st, 2021; the transmission rate in Union County, and all of the surrounding counties of Essex, Morris, Middlesex, and Somerset; have all moved into the "High" or "Very High" category of transmission rate. As a result, we will continue to ask everyone to wear a mask during Sunday morning worship until the transmission rate drops back down to moderate or low.

Join Our Music Ministries!



Chancel Choir: Resumes January 23

Won't you come and join us as we sing joyful and meaningful songs to the Lord? It's a joy to work together and lift our voices in praise of our Maker. The Chancel Choir rehearsals continue at 9:30am each Sunday in the Sanctuary.

Wesley Singers: Resumes January 22

Children and youth who would like to sing songs of faith please share your gifts of music on Saturday morning at 11:30am in our Sanctuary. We will make a joyful sound to the Lord.

Bell Choir: Resumes January 23

Come and try ringing hand bells and hand chimes with your church friends. Rehearsals are Sundays at 11:45am in the Sanctuary.

Singing Believers: Resumes January 23

We welcome all children 4 years old and up, to sing joyful songs of the church each Sunday at 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary. Please have a snack at coffee hour, then come back to church to share fun songs of faith.

Contemporary Ensemble: Resumes January 23

Our Contemporary Ensemble shares music for Holy Communion each month. The Ensemble uses music from the contemporary hymnals "The Faith We Sing" and "Worship and Song". Rehearsals will be on Sundays and 12:15pm in the Sanctuary.



New and Old Members Class

January 23rd and 30th at 9:30AM

Are you interested in learning more about membership at UMC of Summit? Would you like to brush up on what it means to be United Methodist? Join Pastor Laura and others as we explore Wesleyan theology and what makes the United Methodist Church special.



Pastor Laura will be on leave December 27th, through January 5th. If you need pastoral care in the interim please contact Lay Leader Beverly Alexis.