



United Methodist  
Church of Summit



The United Methodist Church of Summit  
17 Kent Place Boulevard  
Summit, NJ 07901  
(908) 277-1700

[office@umcsummit.org](mailto:office@umcsummit.org)  
[umcsummit.org](http://umcsummit.org)

[www.facebook.com/UnitedMethodistChurchofSummit](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedMethodistChurchofSummit)

Pastor: Rev. Laura Steele  
Director of Music: JoAnne Teubner Prussak  
Children, Youth, and Families Minister: Carrie-Lee Farnham  
Facilities Manager: Geraldo Rivera  
Office Manager: Joey Bustillos  
Seminary Intern: Dadi Hove

# December 10th, 2023

## Second Sunday in Advent

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

### PRELUDE

*“Thou Art Always With Us”*  
Trumpet and Organ

### GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Shela Waldron & Family

Reader 1: In days when God’s people longed for peace, Isaiah declared, *“Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.”*

Reader 2: We who gather today also seek comfort and peace. We long for real peace, true peace, just peace.

**Congregation: We wait as God’s people, yearning for peace that surpasses human understanding.**

Reader 3: Today we light the candles of hope and peace. May they be beacons of God’s hope and peace in the world, calling us to live the good news of Jesus Christ as we wait and watch and labor for the day when all people can gather together in harmony. Amen.

*(Light two candles of the Advent wreath.)*

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Karen Berry

*(please rise as you are able)*

Leader: In the midst of dark times, the Lord cries out:

**People: “Comfort, O comfort my people!”**

Leader: When it seems as though we cannot see the light at the end of the tunnel,

**People:** God says “Be at peace, for your time of difficulty has ended.”

Leader: Spirit, wash over us, may we embody Your comfort and peace!

**People:** Heavenly God, we are thankful for your compassion and never-failing love. **AMEN.**

**\*CENTERING PRAYER:** *(in unison)* Karen Berry

Lord, in the midst of our busy time, when we are rushing into Christmas, you burst into our lives with the beautiful promise of something new. Open our hearts and spirits to the glorious possibilities of hope and peace to come. Help us to prepare our lives to receive you. We thank you for all the blessings you pour out upon us and for the privilege we have in sharing those blessings with others. Be with us this day and in the days to come, so that we may serve you better by helping others in need. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. **AMEN.**

**OPENING HYMN:** “Advent Song” TFWS#2090  
*(please remain standing as you are able)*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** Rev. Laura Steele

**ANTHEM:** “Come Down, Emmanuel” Pepper Choplin  
Chancel Choir

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Beverly Alexis

**SCRIPTURE:** Karen Berry

**Old Testament: Isaiah 40:1-4, 10-11 (NRSV)**

God’s People Are Comforted

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low, the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him and his recompense

before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms and carry them in his bosom and gently lead the mother sheep.

**New Testament: Mark 1:1-8 (NRSV)**

The Proclamation of John the Baptist

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight,’” So John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

*This is the Word of God, for the people of God;*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*HYMN OF PREPARATION:**

*“In The Bleak Midwinter”*

UMH#221

**SERMON:**

*Just Peace*

Rev. Laura Steele

**OFFERING**

**MUSIC FOR MEDITATION**

Voluntary on “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

William Teubner, Trumpet

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

*“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

UMH #95

**\*CLOSING HYMN:**

UMH#218 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**      *"Let Us Rejoice This Day"*

*\*Please rise in body or spirit as you are able  
Please join us after service for our annual Pot-Luck and Talent  
Show in the Social Hall.*

**In Our Thoughts and Prayers**

Rachel Calman and the Calman-Beland family, Caroline Kenny, Rick Picorale, Brandon Gomes and family, Adrian, Ricky for a new heart, Neil with pneumonia, Irma, Victims of violence in the Middle East and around the world, Millie, Family and friends of Janet Skakum, David Griffith, Pauline Griffith, Kaye Griffith, The Rivera family, Irma George, Oscar Gonzalez, Dillan, Anabelle, Guy Brasteid

## **This Week's Schedule**

### **Sunday, December 10:**

9:00am-9:30am Instrumentalists (Sanctuary)  
9:30am-10:15am Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)  
9:30am-10:15am Drama Club (Education Room)  
10:15am-10:25am Singing Believers (Sanctuary)  
10:30am-11:30am In-person/online Worship (Sanctuary)  
10:45am-11:30am Children's Sunday School (Education Room)  
11:30am-12:00pm Caroling (Sanctuary)  
12:00pm-12:30pm Bell Choir (Sanctuary)  
2:00pm-6:00pm Free Classical Concert (Sanctuary)  
5:00pm-9:30pm Applause Theatre (Social Hall)  
7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

### **Monday, December 11:**

7:45pm-9:30pm Gamblers Anonymous (Fellowship Room and Chapel)

### **Tuesday, December 12:**

9:30am-10:15am Baby Bandstand (Social Hall)  
1:30pm-9:30pm Debbi's Dance (Dance Studio)  
6:00pm-9:30pm Applause Theatre (Social Hall)  
7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

### **Wednesday, December 13:**

1:30pm-9:30pm Debbi's Dance (Dance Studio)  
7:15pm-9:15pm Toastmasters (Social Hall)

### **Thursday, December 14:**

1:30pm-5:00pm CPR (Chapel)  
3:30pm-9:30pm Debbi's Dance (Dance Studio)  
6:00pm-9:30pm Applause Theatre (Social Hall)

### **Friday, December 15**

9:00am-12:30pm Music Together (Social Hall)  
6:00pm-11:00pm Applause Theatre (Social Hall)  
7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

### **Saturday, December 16:**

8:00am-3:00pm Debbi's Dance (Dance Studio)  
12:00pm-1:00pm Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)  
12:00pm-11:00pm Applause Theatre (Social Hall)  
1:00pm-1:45pm Contemporary Ensemble (Sanctuary)  
2:00pm-3:30pm Instrumental Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
2:00pm-11:00pm EMC Shalom (Fellowship Room)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## **Christmas Caroling on the Point December 10th, 11:30AM**

Join us after church outside on the point as we sing our favorite Christmas Carols for the community. This is an annual tradition of UMC Summit and all are invited to participate! Cookies and hot cocoa will be served!



**Christmas Outreach Project**  
Angel Tree Christmas™ equips churches and other organizations to restore and strengthen relationships between incarcerated parents and their children and families. Every Christmas, Angel Tree mobilizes local churches and organizations to minister to hundreds of thousands of

children by delivering a gift, the Gospel message, and a personal message of love on behalf of their mom or dad behind bars. Will you help us by sponsoring a child this season? Please take an angel from the tree in the Social Hall or visit [www.umcsummit.org](http://www.umcsummit.org) to access the virtual giving page.

**College Hang Out**  
**December 18th from 6-8pm in the**  
**Green Room**

For college students and young adults within the congregation to have fun and fellowship together. There will be games, tacky Christmas sweaters, and food. If interested in attending, please bring a dish or beverage to share with others.



Will you help the children put on **THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER?!?! We still** have some openings in our Christmas Eve Pageant. Maybe you can recall your Christmas Eve pageant days and the pageants that the church has put on. There are

openings for both speaking and non-speaking roles. If you are interested, please reach out to CYF Minister Carrie-Lee at [cyfminister@umcsummit.org](mailto:cyfminister@umcsummit.org).

**Christmas Eve Services**  
**Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:30AM and 7:30PM**  
10:30AM: Family Friendly  
with Children's Pageant  
7:30PM: Traditional  
Candlelight Service with  
Lessons and Carols





# YOGAFAITH

## Christian Yoga Classes TAKING A BREAK UNTIL JANUARY

Join us Thursdays at 7PM or Friday mornings at 11AM as Pastor Laura leads a new, Christian Yoga class in the Chapel. All levels are welcome, no previous experience necessary. Suggested donation of \$10 per class. **CLASSES WILL BREAK UNTIL JANUARY.** Please see Pastor Laura for more information or email: [pastor@umcsummit.org](mailto:pastor@umcsummit.org)



## Register for 2024 Certified Lay Minister course by January 15

The GNJ Certified Lay Minister course registration is now open and closes on January 15. Completion of the course is one step among many on the journey toward becoming a Certified Lay Minister, a leader called to congregational leadership in various roles. Students will learn about worship, preaching, small-group ministry, mission, evangelism, stewardship, theology, congregational care administration and more. Classes will meet in-person on four Saturdays at the GNJ Mission and Resource Center from February to April and online via Zoom on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from January to April. The cost is \$225. Visit [gnjumc.org](http://gnjumc.org) for more.



## **Children, Youth, and Family Ministries**

The UMC Summit Children's Programming is in full swing with our Drama Club meeting during the 9:30AM hour and our Sunday School program during the regular worship hour.

As a reminder, children begin in worship at 10:30AM and are dismissed to Sunday School after the Children's Message. Drama Club and Sunday School meet on the second floor of the Education Building. If you have any questions, please email our Children, Youth, and Families Minister, Carrie-Lee Farnham, at: [CYFMinister@umcsummit.org](mailto:CYFMinister@umcsummit.org).

**The CYF Sunday line up is as follows:**

**9:30AM-10:15AM: Christian Drama Club for ages K-5th**

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

**10:45AM - 11:30AM: Sunday School for ages K-5th grade**

**11:30AM: Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall**

**12:15PM: Singing Believers Children's Choir**

**9:30AM-12:30PM: Nursery Care Available every Sunday for babies and toddlers in the Nursery Room**

**6:00PM-8:00PM: YOUTH GROUP First Sunday of the Month in the Green Room**



This is a wonderful time to consider shaving your musical gifts as we praise Our Lord!

**The Music Ministry line up is as follows:**

**Saturdays: 12:00-1:00 Chancel Choir**

**1:00-1:45 Contemporary Ensemble**

**2:00-3:30 Instrumental**

**Sundays: 9:30-10:15 Chancel Choir, 10:30 Worship,**

**11:45 Bell Choir, 12:15 Singing Believers Children's Choir**

**For more information please email JoAnne Teubner Prussak.**

**[office@umcsummit.org](mailto:office@umcsummit.org)**



United Methodist  
Church *of* Summit

# Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 17th at 3.00pm

*Featuring the choirs of the church  
& professional soloists*



**Free and open to all.** Donations are welcome.

17 Kent Place Boulevard, Summit, NJ.