

June 16th, 2024
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Father's Day

*The United Methodist Church of Summit invites you to journey with us on
the mystery of faith!*

PRELUDE

Andante Expressivo

Joseph Haydn

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Emily LaJeunesse

(please rise as you are able)

Leader: Gracious God, today we celebrate the unconditional, parental love you provide to each and every one of us.

People: We thank you God for the people in our lives who comfort and encourage us.

Leader: We thank you God for the people in our lives who help us to build character and inspire us to greatness.

People: We thank you God for reminding us that through Christ Jesus, we are all one family.

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

Emily LaJeunesse

Loving God, you who are our father and our mother, we thank you for showing us how important it is to follow your example as we grow in faith. Teach us to be obedient to your will. Thank you for your mercy when we go astray. Strengthen us to face the challenges of this world, honoring your name and trusting in your grace. In the Name of your Son Jesus we pray, Amen.

***OPENING HYMN:** *(please remain standing as you are able)*

UMH #144 *This is My Father's World*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Rev. Laura Steele

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Alison Johnson

SCRIPTURE READING:

Old Testament: Psalm 20

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble! The name of the God of Jacob protect you! May he send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion. May he remember all your offerings and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices. May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans. May we shout for joy over your victory and in the name of our God set up our banners. May the Lord fulfill all your petitions. Now I know that the Lord will help his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with mighty victories by his right hand. Some take pride in chariots and some in horses, but our pride is in the name of the Lord our God. They will collapse and fall, but we shall rise and stand upright. Give victory to the king, O Lord; answer us when we call.

New Testament: Mark 4:26-34 (NRSV)

He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle because the harvest has come." He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN OF PREPARATION**

TFWS#2038 *Father, I Adore You*

SERMON *The Faithful Father: Growing in God's Kingdom*
Rev. Laura Steele

Litany for Father's Day

One: Heavenly Father, we pray this day for those fathers who have given us life and love, may we honor them with compassion and care.

All: Holy God, hear our prayer.

One: For those who may or may not have children of their own, but offer advice, support, nurturing, and love to those in need.

All: Holy God, hear this prayer for all father figures.

One: For step-fathers who have assumed that role with love and joy, who have loved the children of another as their own, and created a new family.

All: Holy God, hear our prayer.

One: For adoptive fathers, who have heard the call from God to lovingly step forward for those that need their care.

All: Holy God, hear our prayer.

One: For fathers who have lost a child through death, we pray that their faith may give them hope, and their family and friends may support and console them.

All: Holy God, hear our prayer for those who mourn.

One: For those who struggle with temptation, violence, or addiction. For those who do harm, and for those whom they have harmed.

All: Holy God, have mercy on those who struggle.

One: For those father figures in our church, that have shaped our lives without claim of family or kinship. For those who have taught us, guided us, shaped us and molded us into servants of Christ our Lord.

All: Holy God, we lift up our family of faith.

One: Creator God, in your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless these persons, that they may be strengthened

as faithful parents. Let the example of their unconditional love shine forth. Grant that we, your children, honor them with a spirit of profound regard. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OFFERING *(please place offering envelope in basket or text: "dollar amount you wish to give" to 908-224-7670)*

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Voluntary on *Terra Patris*, traditional English hymn
William Teubner - Trumpet

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

UMH #94 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

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

UMH #566 *Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Majestic Recessional in F Major*

**Please rise in body or spirit as you are able
Please join us after service for Coffee Hour in the Social Hall.*

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Steve Ward, Neil Johnson, Friends and Family of Dick Keating, Anne and John R., Scott and Vincent, Jerrie Bunell, Robert Curtis, Family of Martha Stampes, the family and friends of Joan Douglas, Lynn, Ken and Patricia, Nancy Pasquale, Boden, Bob Z., Veronica S., Zandie S., Chris and Dot C., Rachel Calman and the Calman-Beland family, Caroline Kenny, Rick Picorale, Brandon Gomes and family, Adrian, Ricky for a new heart, Irma, Millie, Family and friends of Janet Skakum, David Griffith, Pauline Griffith, Kaye Griffith, Irma George

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, June 16th:

10:30am-11:30am In-person/online Worship (Sanctuary)
11:30am-12:30pm Coffee Hour (Social Hall)
1:00pm-5:30 pm Applause Theater (Social Hall)
7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

Monday, June 17th:

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

Tuesday, June 18th:

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

Wednesday, June 19th:

1:30pm-9:30pm Debbi's Dance (Dance Studio)

Thursday, June 20th:

3:30pm-9:30pm Debbi's Dance (Dance Studio)
7:00pm-8:00pm Christian Yoga (Social Hall)

Friday, June 21st:

9:30am-11:30 am Music Together (Social Hall)
11:00am-12:00pm Christian Yoga (Chapel)
7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

Saturday, June 22nd:

8:00am-3:00pm Debbi's Dance (Dance Studio)
2:00pm-10:00pm EMC Shalom (Fellowship Room)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Annual Back to School Drive June 5th – August 21st, 2024

Each year, thousands of New Jersey children attend their first day of school

without basic educational tools such as backpacks, notebooks, and calculators. These under-resourced children struggle to succeed academically. The UMC of Summit in partnership with Jersey Cares works with dozens of schools, children's shelters, and community centers with the goal that no children in New Jersey will have to experience a first day of school without these basic necessities. With your help we can bridge the gap between disadvantage and academic success. Items ACCEPTED for the School Supply Drive include: Backpacks (may be new OR gently used) NEW 1, 3, and 5 Subject Notebooks, NEW Composition Notebooks, NEW 2-Pocket Folders, NEW Pencil Cases, NEW #2 Pencils, NEW Pencil Sharpeners, NEW Erasers, NEW Pens, NEW Hi-lighters, NEW Crayons, Washable Markers, and Colored Pencils, NEW Book Covers, NEW Calculators, NEW Child Safety Scissors, NEW Glue, NEW Rulers (12"), NEW Laptops or Tablets, NEW Headphones, Visa or Amazon Gift Cards. Items can be dropped off to the church office Monday-Friday from 9AM-1PM, or dropped off in the bins in the sanctuary Sunday mornings before or after worship.



Children, Youth, Families

Please note Sunday School and Drama Club are on break until Homecoming Sunday on September 22. Enjoy your summer, and we look forward to seeing you in the fall!

YOGAFAITH

Christian Yoga Classes are held on Thursdays at 7PM in the Social Hall and Fridays at 11am in the Chapel. All levels welcome! Suggested donation of \$10 per class. See Pastor Laura for more information.



The Summit Area GreenFaith Circle is encouraging communities of faith to support passage of the Green Amendment (SCR43/ACR119) which would amend New Jersey's constitution to provide that every person in the state has a constitutional right to a clean environment including the right to clean air, pure water and healthy habitats. The Summit Area GreenFaith Circle has produced postcards which you can sign to support this very important amendment. Postcards are located at the front and rear of the sanctuary. If you would like to help with this initiative, please sign a postcard and leave it in the church office. The signed postcards will be mailed on your behalf. Please see Green Team Chairperson Bill Glancy if you have any questions.

GNJ Mission u July 12-14 Mission u 2024

3 Day In-person Event
July 12-14th
Centenary University
Join GNJ's UWF (formerly
UMW) for "Mission U" Adult
Study, Youth Study, and
Children's Study. Join us as we explore what it means to be a part
of God's "kin-dom". To register visit:



United
Women
in Faith

<https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/newreq.php?eventid=788294&>