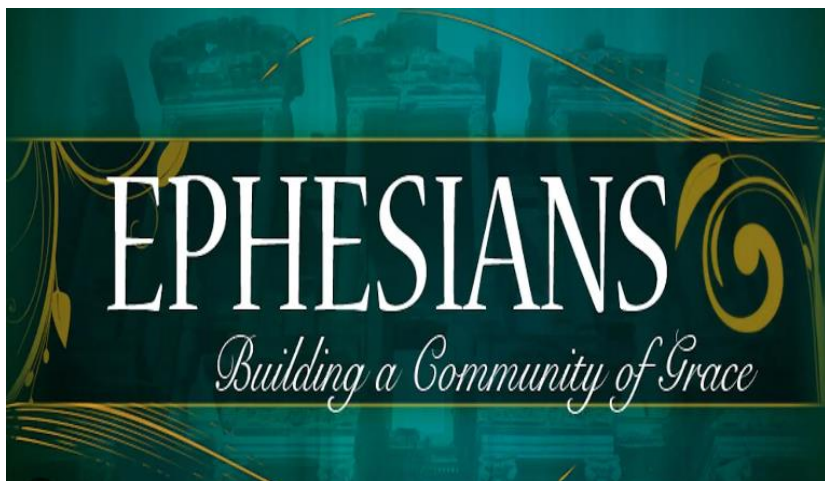




United Methodist
Church of Summit



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Pastor: Rev. Laura Steele
Director of Music: JoAnne Teubner Prussak
Children, Youth, and Families Minister: Carrie-Lee Farnham
Facilities Manager: Geraldo Rivera
Office Manager: Kimberle Gray
Sexton: Fred Herse

August 18th, 2024
Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

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

PRELUDE *Andante in E Flat Major* for Trumpet and Organ

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** Beverly Alexis

(please rise as you are able)

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song!

People: We lift our voices in joyful praise!

Leader: Make melody to the Lord in your hearts.

People: We worship with gladness and thanksgiving!

Leader: Come, let us worship God together!

People: We sing and make melodies to the Lord!

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

Loving God, we come before You with hearts full of praise. As we gather to worship, we ask that You tune our hearts to sing Your grace. May our voices, united in song, be a sweet melody in Your ears. Help us to worship not just with our lips but with our lives, making music that reflects Your love and goodness. Guide us in harmony with Your will, that our songs may be an offering of true worship. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray. Amen.

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

UMH #400 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Carrie-Lee Farnham,
CYF Minister

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Carrie-Lee Farnham,
CYF Minister

SCRIPTURE READING:

Beverly Alexis

Old Testament: Psalm 34:9-14 (NRSV)

Seeking God

O fear the LORD, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want. The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing. Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. Which of you desires life and covets many days to enjoy good? Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

New Testament: Ephesians 5:15-20 (NRSV)

Filled with the Spirit

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to one another, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *This is the Word of God, for the people of God; People: Thanks be to God.*

***HYMN OF PREPARATION**

TFWS #2037 I Sing Praises to Your Name

SERMON

A Life of Worship and Gratitude

Carrie-Lee Farnham,
CYF Minister

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

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Voluntary on *Come, We That Love the Lord*
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 #158 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Choral in F Major* for Trumpet and Organ

**denotes please stand as you are able*

Please join us after service for Coffee Hour in the Social Hall.

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, August 18th:

9:00am-10:00am Instrumental
10:00am-10:30am Summer Choir
10:30am-11:30am In-person/online Worship (Sanctuary)
11:30am-12:30pm Coffee Hour (Social Hall)
7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

Monday, August 19th:

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

Tuesday, August 20th:

9:30am-10:15am Baby Bandstand (Social Hall)
7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

Thursday, August 22nd:

1:30pm-4:45pm CPR (Chapel)

Friday, August 23rd:

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

Saturday, August 24th:

12:00pm-2:00pm Instrumental
2:00pm-10:00pm Casa de Estudio de Torah (Fellowship Room)

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Carole Reed, Bob Zotti, Norma, recovering from a broken hip, the family and friends of Anthony J. "Tony" Gianonne, Sr., Jane McKinley, the Quashie Family on the 10th anniversary of Sam's passing, Steve Ward, Neil Johnson, the friends and family of Dick Keating, Anne and John R., Scott and Vincent, Jerrie Bunell, Robert Curtis.

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.

Homecoming Sunday Open House 9/22/24

Join us September 22nd, as we kick-off the church year with our Homecoming worship service at 10:30AM and a church-wide Open House from 1pm-3pm: Food, Fun, Games





Coffee Hour Hosts NEEDED!

The Hospitality Team is in need of volunteers to help host Coffee Hour each Sunday. All you have to do is bring some refreshments for folks to share and we'll do the heavy lifting! There is a sign-up sheet in the Social Hall. For more information or if you have any questions, please see Debbi Picorale



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!



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.



**God's Renewed Creation
5-Week Bible Study
Wednesdays, 7PM, Sept. 4th – Oct. 2nd**

God's creation is in crisis. This beautiful natural world is a loving gift from God, the Creator of all things seen and unseen. Despite the ways we all contribute to these problems, God still invites each one of us to participate in the work of renewal. We must begin the work of renewing creation by being renewed in our own hearts and minds. Join us for this five-week Bible Study based on "God's Renewed Creation: Call to Hope and Action", a Pastoral letter from the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church. Sessions will meet at 7PM in the Fellowship Room.



**Bike, Walk, or Take Mass Transit to Church Sunday
September 29th, 2024 10:30AM**

Join us as we live out our call to creation care by biking, walking, or taking mass transit to church on September 29th. Please park bikes in the Social Hall.

BLESS THE PETS



Blessing of the Animals Service

Friday, October 4th

6PM-7PM, Church Playground

"But ask the animals, and they will teach you" ... Job 12:7. Join us on Friday, October 4th, as we witness to God's and the Church's love, care, and concern for creation. As we recognize our mutual interdependence with God's creatures, the Church's witness of stewardship of creation is strengthened. All animals welcome! Please note: Pastor Laura CANNOT bless snakes, however, if you have a snake in need of a blessing she can arrange with another pastor that is able. Please contact the church office at: 908-277-1700 for more information.

Save the Date! Please join United Methodists of Greater New Jersey as we welcome our new leader, Bishop Cynthia Moore-KoiKoi. A **"Service of Welcome"** will be held on Saturday, September 14th, 10:30AM, at Calvary UMC in East Brunswick, 572 Ryders Lane.



Please note: Pastor Laura will be away August 16th-26th. If you need pastoral care, please contact Lay Leader Beverly Alexis at: (917) 941-9939. If you have a pastoral emergency (death, major accident, major injury) call the church office at: (908) 277-1700.



Dr. Laurel Kearns
Special Guest Preacher
Sunday, September 8th, 10:30AM

Join us for worship on Sunday, September 8th, as we welcome Dr. Laurel Kearns, Associate Professor of Sociology and Religion and Environmental Studies at Drew Theological School and the Graduate Division of Religion of Drew University where she has taught certification,

masters, Ph.D and D. Min students since 1994. Born and raised in Florida, she received a B.A from Florida State in Religion, Art and Humanities, her M.A. and PhD from the Institute of Liberal Arts at Emory University in 1994, with a concentration in the Sociology of Religion. She has researched, published and given talks around the globe on religion and environmentalism for over 20 years. In addition to helping found the Green Seminary Initiative, she has been a board member of GreenFaith since 1995 and is now serving on the Sustainability Committees of both Drew University and the American Academy of Religion, where she also chaired the Religion and Ecology Steering Committee.



SAVE THE DATE!

White Elephant Rummage Sale October 19th
10:00AM – 3:00PM

White Elephant-Furniture, Appliances, Kitchenware, Kids Toys No Clothing! Drop off will begin on Sunday, August 18 through Wednesday, October 16. Volunteers needed.

Please see Faye Cunningham, Kim Goldman or Debbie Picorale for info



**George Drossinos
Special Presentation on
Summit's Food
Composting Program
Sunday, September 15th,
11:30AM**

Social Hall

Did you know Summit has a comprehensive and easy-to-use food composting program? The program offers residents with a disposal permit the option of bringing food scraps and other perishable items to the Transfer Station.

Green Bucket Compost collects the food waste once a week, and then the material is converted into renewable energy at a food waste recycling plant. Join us on Sunday, September 15th, during Coffee Hour as we welcome special guest George Drossinos (son-in-law of our very own Office Manager Kimberle Gray) as he gives a special presentation on the history and success of the Summit Food Composting program.

**New Caregiver
Workshop @
Overlook Center
September 4
through October 9
Wednesdays from
2:00 - 3:30pm**

These creative workshops are tailored to provide family caregivers the tools to relax and recharge through the creative arts. We will come together and learn therapeutic ways to care for ourselves by exploring collaging, expressive writing, movement, and music. Thomas Glasser Caregivers Center, 99 Beauvoir Avenue, Summit, NJ.





Creative CHRISTIANITY

September

9.22: Introduction
Gen. 1: 1

9.29: Creation & Creativity
Gen. 1: 1-31

October

10.6: The Beauty of Nature
Ps. 104: 24-25

10.13: Animals & Creation
Gen. 2: 19-20

10.20: Human Creativity
Ex. 35: 30-35

10.27: Creative Worship
Ps. 150

November

11.3: Gratitude and Giving
1 Thess. 5: 18

11.10: Giving to Others
2 Cor. 9: 7

11.17: Serving Hands
Mark 10: 45

11. 24: Gratitude & Thanksgiving
Ps. 100: 4

December

12.1: Advent - Hope
Is. 9:6

12.8: Advent - Peace
John 14: 27

12.15: Advent - Joy
Luke 2: 10

12. 22: Advent: Love
John 3: 16

12.29: No Creative Christianity

Creative Christianity Sundays @ 9:30AM, Sept. 22nd

New Intergenerational Program “Creative Christianity” starts this Fall! Beginning on September 22, we will be starting a NEW intergenerational study that will meet every Sunday in the Green Room from 9:30-10:15. This study will allow everyone to bring out their creative side as we look at different Bible stories, both familiar and unfamiliar, and engage in activities and discussions for all ages. If you’re interested in leading a week, feel free to sign up for as many weeks as you feel comfortable leading. We look forward to exploring Scripture with you in imaginative ways