



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 Hers

December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent
Worship Series: Words for the Beginning

The United Methodist Church of Summit is a diverse church committed to serving the Lord Jesus Christ, dedicated to building disciples, passionate about growing in faith, and motivated to be a voice of hope for the world.

PRELUDE *Andante in F* for Trumpet and Organ
George F. Handel

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Reader A: In a weary and worn world, how do we begin again?
Where do we start?

Reader B: Let us begin with the good news! Let us begin by trusting that we are a blessing, loved by a gracious God. Let us begin with music and singing! Let us begin with warmth and welcome. Let us begin with hope.

Reader A: Let us begin with hope. Today we light the candle of hope to shine a light in a worn and weary world.

(light the first blue candle)

Reader B: May this be our foundation. May this be our fresh start. May this be our new beginning. May hope flow forth from here. Amen!

***HYMN:** TFWS# 2090 *Advent Song* (v.1)

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** Lou Steele
(please rise as you are able)

Inspired by Isaiah 43:1-4 and Luke 1:26-29

Leader: God says, "Do not be afraid."

People: God says, "I have called you by name."

Leader: God says, "I will be with you."

People: God says, "You are precious and honored in my sight."

Leader: At the beginning of this season, at the start of this week, at the top of this hour, may we wrap ourselves in these words.

People: May we begin again. Let us worship our Holy God!

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

Lou Steele

Amazing God, Your first words to Creation were words of love. You looked at the Earth, and all its inhabitants, and said, "It is good." You spoke affirmations through the prophets. You spoke blessings over Mary. You spoke belonging through Christ. At every turn, you have reiterated that we are a blessing, made in your image, held in your love. Forgive us for forgetting this truth. Forgive us for measuring our worth by society's measuring stick instead of yours. Remind us week to week, day to day, moment to moment; of your steadfast love. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

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

UMH #215 *To A Maid Engaged to Joseph (vv. 1-4)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Alison Johnson

ANTHEM:

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light Kathleen Thomerson
Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Carol Conway

SCRIPTURE READING:

Lou Steele

Old Testament: Isaiah 43:1-7 (NRSV)

Restoration and Protection Promised

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight and honored and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the

earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

New Testament: Luke 1:26-38 (21st Century KJV)

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her and said, "Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women." And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying and cast about in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, "Fear not, Mary, for thou hast found favor with God. And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb and bring forth a Son, and shalt call His name Jesus. He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David, and He shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of His Kingdom there shall be no end." Then said Mary unto the angel, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" And the angel answered and said unto her, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee. Therefore also that Holy Being who shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And behold, thy cousin Elizabeth: she hath also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible." And Mary said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." And the angel departed from her. *This is the Word of God, for the people of God;* **People: Thanks be to God.**

***HYMN OF PREPARATION:**

TFWS #2098 *The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy*

SERMON: *Words for the Beginning: You Are A Blessing*

Rev. Laura Steele

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

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION:

Glad Tidings, Brought an Angel Bright
William Teubner - trumpet

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

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

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION : *(see insert)*

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

UMH #202 *People, Look East*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: Voluntary on the Carol *People, Look East*
for Trumpet and Organ

**denotes please stand as you are able.*

**PLEASE NOTE FELLOWSHIP TIME/COFFEE HOUR WILL BE HELD AT THE
REAR OF THE SANCTUARY TODAY**

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Dick Duenkel, Jane McKinley, Mary Anne Viaud, Haylie, Carole Reed, Bob Zotti, Norma, recovering from a broken hip, the family and friends of Anthony J. "Tony" Gianonne, Sr., Judy Fish, Adrian Philips, all those affected by hurricanes and storms, our service men and women around the world.

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, December 1st:

9:00am- 9:30am Instrumental
9:30am-10:00am Chancel Choir
10:00am-10:20am Bell Choir
10:30am-11:30am In-person/online Worship
10:45am-11:30am Children's Sunday School
11:30am-12:30pm Coffee Hour (Social Hall)
11:45am-12:15pm Singing Believers
7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Monday, December 2nd:

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

Tuesday, December 3rd:

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

Wednesday, December 4th:

1:30pm-9:30pm Debbi's Dance

Thursday, December 5th:

2:45pm-9:00pm Debbi's Dance
7:00pm-8:00pm Christian Yoga (Social Hall)

Friday, December 6th:

9:00am-9:00pm Set-up for Cookie Walk (Social Hall)
9:30am-12:30pm Music Together (Chapel)
11:00am-12:00pm Christian Yoga (Classroom)
7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Saturday, December 7th:

8:30am-4:30pm Debbi's Dance
9:30am-11:30am Music Together (Chapel)
10:00am-4:00pm Cookie Walk/Vendor Fair (Social Hall)
12:00pm-12:30pm Bell Choir
12:30pm-1:00pm Contemporary Ensemble
1:00pm-2:00pm Chancel Choir
2:00pm-10:00pm Casa de Estudio de Torah (Fellowship Room)
2:00pm-3:00pm Instrumental Rehearsal
2:30pm-3:30pm Liturgical Dance

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hanging of the Greenery and Church Talent Show December 8th, 10:30AM

Join us for our annual Hanging of the Greenery and Church Talent Show! Come share some jokes, a song, a poem, or whatever God-given talents you have

with our church family! We will decorate the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas during the 10:30AM service and share a potluck lunch and talent show during our regular 11:30AM Coffee Hour time. All are welcome! **Please note:** Sign-up sheets for the **TALENT SHOW** and **POTLUCK** will be in the Social Hall soon ~ so keep a look out. Everyone is welcomed and we look forward to 100% participation. Any questions, contact Debbi Picorale; Kim Goldman or Faye Cunningham *For Talent Show: Coordinators: Faye Cunningham and Kim Goldman ** If you are able please bring an unwrapped toy that we will donate to this year's TOYS for TOTs.

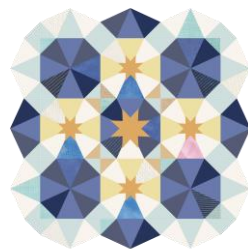


**Join us for Christmas Eve
Tuesday, December 24th
5PM - Family Friendly Service
with Children's Pageant**

**7PM - Traditional Lessons and
Carols with Candle-lighting**

Advent/Christmas Winter Bible Study Wednesdays 7PM

Join us via Zoom on Wednesday evenings during the Advent and Christmas season as we explore "Words for the Beginning". Sessions will take place: Dec. 4th, 11th, 18th and Jan. 8th, 15th. Please email pastor@umcsummit.org for the zoom info.



WORDS
FOR THE **BEGINNING**



**7TH ANNUAL
HOLIDAY BAZAAR
AND
COOKIE WALK**

SATURDAY DECEMBER. 07. 2024

10 AM TO 4 PM

VENDORS

CHILI

**PICTURES WITH
SANTA & MRS CLAUS**

FACE PAINTING



**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF SUMMIT
17 KENT PLACE BLVD
SUMMIT NJ 07901
908-277-1700
EMAIL: OFFICE@UMCSUMMIT.COM**

**7th Annual Cookie Walk and Vendor Fair
Saturday, December 7, 2024**

It's that time of year again! Join us at Summit United Methodist Church on Saturday, December 7, 2024, from 10 AM to 4 PM for our Holiday Bazaar & Cookie Walk. There'll be vendors, food, face painting, a hot chocolate station, pictures with Mr. and Mrs. Claus, and plenty of cookies! Bring the whole family for festive fun!



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's Ministry

Our Children, Youth, and Family Ministries programming has officially kick-offed. We have some new and exciting programs this year! Here is a look at what a typical Sunday morning involves:

Typical Sunday Schedule

9:30-10:15am	Creative Christianity (Green Room)
10:30- 11:30am	Church Service (Sanctuary)
10:45-11:30am	Sunday School (Nursery)
11:30-12:30pm	Coffee Hour (Social Hall)
11:45-12:15pm	Singing Believers (Music Room)



Christmas Pageant News from Sunday School

This Sunday in Sunday School, we're starting Christmas pageant planning roles are open to both children and youth, so bring your Christmas cheer!

Kids and youth are invited to join our Pop-Up Nativity Pageant during the Christmas Eve Family Service! With no lines to memorize, everyone can participate as angels, shepherds, wise people, Mary, Joseph, or even animals. We'll hold occasional Sunday School practices so kids know when to come in, but all are welcome to jump in on Christmas Eve. Celebrate the joy of the season with us! If you'd like to participate, please email:

CYFMinister@umcsummit.org



Coming Soon!

Angel Tree Christmas Mission

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? Keep an eye out in the coming weeks for more information on how to participate.

YOGAFAITH

Yogafaith

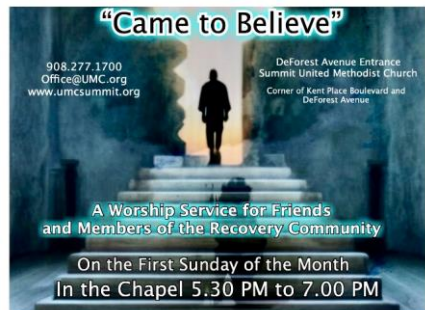
Thursdays 7PM and Fridays 11AM

Yogafaith is back! Join us Thursday evenings in the Social Hall or Friday mornings in the chapel as we stretch our faith while we stretch our bodies! All levels are welcome, no experience necessary. Suggested donation of \$10 per class. Email Pastor@umsummit.org for more info!

"CAME TO BELIEVE" WORSHIP SERVICE For People in Recovery, Their Friends and Family First Sunday of the Month, 5:30pm

The UMC of Summit realized that there is a need for a "safe space" for recovering individuals, their friends and families, and saw that our church could provide that

space by offering a worship service for all those people whose lives have been affected by alcoholism and addiction. Everyone is invited to attend the worship service created to speak to the needs of people in recovery as well as their families and friends. Please join us on Sunday, October 6, and the first Sunday of the month thereafter, in the UMC Chapel located on Deforest Avenue.





**UMC Cookie Walk and
Holiday Bazaar
December 7, 2024**

We are looking for Bakers to contribute to the Cookie Walk. A signup sheet will be set up in the Social Hall. For sign up we ask that you let us know your name and what cookies you will be making so we do not have many duplicates.

Requirements for the cookies:
Homemade cookies only please
Nothing store/supermarket bought, 5 dozen or more cookies of one recipe.
Double the recipe if necessary or use a smaller scoop to make smaller cookies to

get the 60+ cookie count. Cookie Delivery: **The Church Kitchen: Friday December 6, 2024: Between 12 pm and 6:30 pm If you have to deliver on Saturday, December 7, Please No Later than 7:30 am!!!**

Thank you in advance for your help. Any questions feel free to contact:
**Kim Goldman - 908 507 1149, Faye Cunningham- 908 578 1085, or
Debbi Picorale- 908 591 5579.**



"Transforming God, we ask Your presence and Your blessings on our music, that Your will may be done; through Jesus Christ, who keeps us in Your love."

WELCOME ALL MUSIC MAKERS!! NEW 2024 Schedule:

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Saturdays | 12:00pm | Bell Choir |
| | 12:30pm | Contemporary Ensemble |
| | 1:00pm | Chancel Choir |
| | 2:00pm | Instrumental Rehearsal |
| Sundays | 9:00am | Instrumental Rehearsal |
| | 9:30am | Chancel Choir |
| | 10:00am | Bell Choir |
| | 10:30am | Worship |
| | 11:30am | Coffee Hour |
| | 11:45am | Singing Believers |

For more information, please contact JoAnne Teubner Prussak through the church office number: 908-277-1700, or email: office@umcsummit.org



United Methodist
Church of Summit

Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 15th 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.