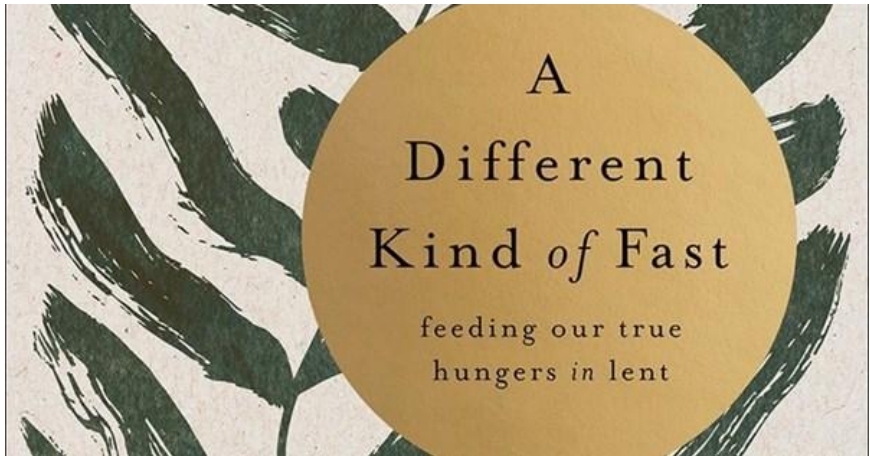




United Methodist
Church of Summit



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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

Seminary Intern: Alison Johnson

Sexton: Fred Herse

March 30, 2025
Fourth Sunday in Lent

“A Different Kind of Fast” Worship Series

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 Voluntary on a *Traditional Spiritual* for Trumpet and Organ

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Emily LaJeunesse

(please rise as you are able)

Leader: Come, all ye faithful ...

People: We come to worship, praise, and pray.

Leader: Come, all ye faithful ...

People: God's love welcomes us home.

Leader: Come into the presence of Christ ...

People: May the Grace of God, through the Holy Spirit, and the sacrifice of Christ, renew us and make us whole this day.

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

Emily LaJeunesse

Awesome God, thank You for welcoming us home when we wander astray. Restore us with your compassion and love. Transform us with your miraculous grace, so that we might become the new creations you envision us to be. Strengthen us with the power of your Holy Spirit, so that we might offer others the same welcome, grace, and love that you have offered us. In your beloved name, we pray. Amen.

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

UMH #140 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Carrie-Lee Farnham, CYF Minister

ANTHEM: *The Carpenter From Galilee* Joseph Martin
Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Rev. Laura Steele

SCRIPTURE READING: Emily LaJeunesse

Old Testament: Psalm 32 (NRSV)

The Joy of Forgiveness

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit. While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. *Selah*

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah*

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. *Selah*

I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you. Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord. Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

New Testament: John 11:32-35 (NIV)

When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied. Jesus wept.

This is the Word of God, for the people of God; People: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN OF PREPARATION:**

TFWS 2055 *You Are My Hiding Place*

SERMON: *Fasting from Holding it All Together:*

The Gift of Tears

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

Voluntary on an *Early American Melody*

William Teubner - trumpet

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

UMH #95 *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

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

UMH#261 *Lord of the Dance*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Recessional on Here I Am, Lord for Trumpet
and Organ*

**denotes please stand as you are able*

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

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Daniel Faniyan for Divine Guidance, Greg K. and family, Patricia Green, Dotti Zotti, Beverly Alexis, the family and loved ones of Adrian Phillips, Jane McKinley, United Methodists in Nigeria, the family and friends of Brock Button, Shanotte Smith, Gerry Wells, Dick Duenkel, Mary Anne Viaud, Carole Reed, Bob Zotti, Norma, recovering from a broken hip, the family and friends of Anthony J. “Tony” Gianonne, Sr., Judy Fish, all those affected by hurricanes and storms, our service men and women around the world

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, March 30th:

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

Monday, March 31st:

7:45pm-9:30pm	Gamblers Anonymous (Fellowship Room)
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Tuesday, April 1st:

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

Wednesday, April 2nd:

9:30am-10:15am	Baby Bandstand (Social Hall)
1:30pm-9:30pm	Debbi's Dance
6:00pm-7:00pm	Soup Supper & Worship (Social Hall)

Thursday, April 3rd:

2:45pm-9:00pm	Debbi's Dance
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Friday, April 4th:

11:00am-12:00pm	Christian Yoga (Chapel)
3:00pm-9:00pm	Prom Shop Set-up (Social Hall)
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Saturday, April 5th:

8:30am-4:30pm	Debbi's Dance
11:00am-4:00pm	Prom Shop (Social Hall)
12:00pm-12:30pm	Bell Choir
12:30pm-1:00pm	Contemporary Ensemble
1:00pm-2:00pm	Chancel Choir
2:00pm-3:00pm	Instrumental Rehearsal
2:00pm-10:00pm	Casa de Estudio de Torah (Fellowship Room)
2:30pm-3:30pm	Liturgical Dance

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Dinner Church Soup Suppers Wednesdays at 6pm – March 12 to April 9

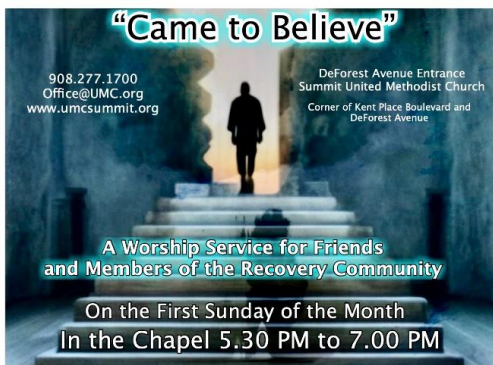
Join us as we break bread together during Lent. This interactive church dinner experience allows us to worship and dive deeper into the Bible over a delicious soup supper. All are welcome! Please look out for the soup supper sign-up sheet during Coffee Hour.

Donations for Jefferson School Easter Baskets

Our partnership with Jefferson Elementary School continues this year as we seek to arrange Easter dinners for 10 families in need. *Please help fill these baskets by donating food. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Social Hall for your convenience, beginning on March 9th. Boxes for donations are in the Social Hall.*



All Easter dinner donations will be gathered by April 6th, and delivered to and distributed by Jefferson School. We will also accept financial donations to give funds that will be transformed into food and gift cards for the families. **All financial donations are needed by March 30th** and can be made by sending in a check with "Jefferson School" in the memo line or by using an envelope located in the Social Hall. The delivery date for the donations will be April 7th.



"CAME TO BELIEVE" WORSHIP SERVICE

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 the **first Sunday of every month** in the UMC Chapel located on Deforest Avenue. **FREE Childcare provided! FREE coffee and refreshments! ALL are welcome!**

NEW! "Wings of Faith" Liturgical Dance Ministry Saturdays, 2:30-3:30PM

Join the UMC of Summit for our NEW Liturgical Dance Ministry. Liturgical dance is a form of praise and should be thought of as an act of



worship, rather than a performance. We are praising God through movement and expression. We want the congregation to feel they are part of our expression, accepting the dance as a form of prayer. Resident dance instructor Debbi Picorale will be leading the classes on Saturdays in the Dance Studio. See Ms. Debbi for more information, all levels welcome – no experience necessary!

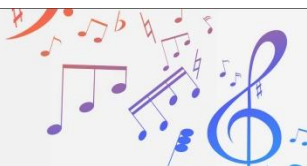
YOGAFAITH

Christian Yoga classes will meet on Fridays at 11AM. All levels welcome! Suggested donation of \$10 per class. See Pastor Laura for more information.



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MUSIC MINISTRY



Come and make a joyful sound! Come before the Lord with Praise and Thanksgiving! Come and share your gift of music as we praise and worship the Lord in our magnificent Sanctuary!

Saturdays: 12:00PM Bell Choir, 12:30PM Contemporary Ensemble, 1:00PM Chancel Choir, 2:00PM Instrumental

Sundays: 9:00AM Instrumental, 9:30AM Chancel Choir, 10:00AM Bell Choir, 10:30AM Worship, 11:45 Singing Believers

Please come and make music to the Lord with your church friends. For more information, please e-mail Director of Music, JoAnne Teubner Prussak, at office@umcsummit.org



United Methodist
Church of Summit

FREE PROM SHOP



Saturday, April 5, 2025
11am - 4pm

NOW ACCEPTING
DONATIONS

of
Formal Wear, Shoes and Accessories
for
Young Men and Ladies

Drop off at the Church Office
anytime between 9am - 3pm
17 Kent Place Boulevard, Summit, NJ
908-277-1700



FREE PROM SHOP!

The UMC of Summit is hosting a free "Prom Shop" this Spring for local students and we need your help! Do you have formal wear and/or accessories that you no longer need? Please consider donating to this initiative. We are accepting donations for all genders. Please drop off donations to the church office Monday-Friday from 9AM-1PM, or bring them in on Sunday mornings. If you know a student who would like to participate, please call the church office: 908-277-1700 to make an appointment.

Children Youth and Families Upcoming Events

UPCOMING EVENTS		
1.19 - 2.9	Souper Bowl of Caring	Chili Cook Off @ 3 PM 2.16
2.23	Youth Mental Health Night @ 3-6 PM	Ash Wednesday Service @ 7 PM 3.5
3.12	Wednesday Lent Soup Supper Begins @ 6 PM	Prom Shop @ 11 AM - 4 PM 4.5
4.6	Egg Stuffing Party	Easter Egg Hunt 4.12
4.17	Maundy Thursday Service @ 7:30 PM	Good Friday Service @ 7:30 PM 4.18
4.20	Easter Breakfast @ 9:30 AM	Easter Service @ 10:30 AM 4.20
6.8	Education Sunday Service @ 10:30 AM	BBQ Picnic @ 11:30 AM 6.8
6.15	Music Ministry Sunday @ 10:30 AM	TEA with a TWIST @ 3:30 PM 6.8

Children's Ministry

Children, Youth, and Family Ministries Update

Sunday School is BACK! Join us every Sunday for our CYF programming with Creative Christianity at 9:30AM and Sunday School at 10:45AM. Email: CYFMinister@umcsummit.org for more!



Creative Christianity

Creative Christianity is Back!

Join at 9:30AM every Sunday as we celebrate our faith with fun, hands-on activities for all ages. Join us at 9:30AM in the Green Room. This is an intergenerational program for all ages to explore faith through creative modalities. Drop the kids and grab a coffee or stay and play!

Easter Egg Hunt Collection

Speaking of the Easter Egg Hunt, we're collecting Easter eggs, allergy-friendly candy, and other fun items to stuff the eggs, such as fidgets, small toys, and temporary tattoos. This year, we'll be hosting two different Easter egg hunts, a sensory-friendly hunt and a classic hunt, so we're aiming to collect a lot of eggs and stuffing materials. We will be collecting these items until April 6th, so please consider donating to help make this a fun and safe event for everyone involved.



Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Join us for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 12th! This year, we're hosting two hunts to include everyone. Our first hunt will be a sensory friendly hunt and will start at 10:00 AM. There will be a max 20 spots, so to not overstimulate anyone.

Our second hunt will be our classic hunt at 2:00 PM and has a max of 100 spots. Make sure to RSVP by April 2nd as spots are first-come, first-served!

JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK!



Palm Sunday

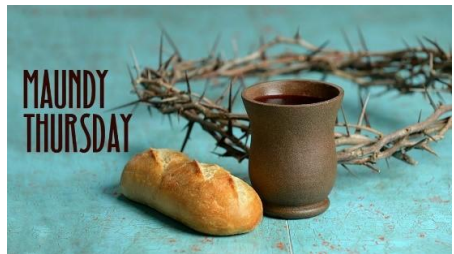
April 13th, 10:30AM

Join us on Palm Sunday as our children participate in our annual Palm Parade. If your child would like to participate in the Palm parade, please arrive at 10:15am.

Maundy Thursday

April 17th, 7:30PM

Join us for our Maundy Thursday handwashing service in the Chapel. We will also celebrate the Lord's Supper with Holy Communion.

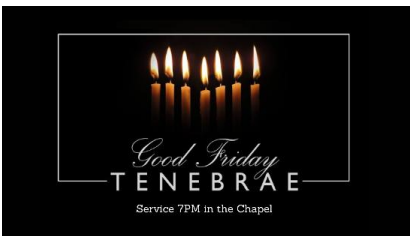


Good Friday

April 18th, 7:30PM

Join us for a Good Friday "Tenebrae Service of Shadows". "Tenebrae" is the Latin word meaning "darkness." Candles are

extinguished one by one as we journey through the biblical story of Jesus' journey to the cross and subsequent death.



Easter Sunday Service

April 20th, 10:30AM

Join us on Easter Sunday as we gather to rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This special service will be filled with uplifting worship, a powerful

message of hope, and joy as we proclaim, "He is risen!"

