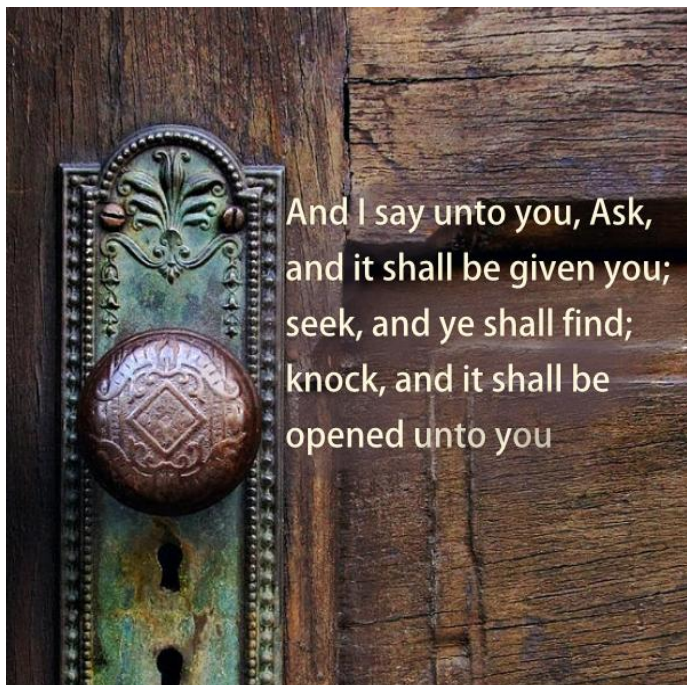




United Methodist Church of Summit



And I say unto you, Ask,
and it shall be given you;
seek, and ye shall find;
knock, and it shall be
opened unto you

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Sexton: Fred Herse

July 27, 2025

Seventh Sunday of Pentecost

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 *Lord, I Want To Be A Christian*
with *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** Bill Glancy

Leader: Children of God, let us draw nearer this hour to the One who hears our every prayer.

People: We come, seeking the presence of our Creator, the One who knows what we need before we ask.

Leader: Jesus said, "Ask, and it will be given unto you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened."

People: Lord, we are here to worship You this day. We come asking for grace and seeking wisdom.

Leader: Teach us to pray, Lord—not just with our lips, but with our lives.

People: Let us worship the One who gives us the bread of life and the Spirit without measure!

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

Loving and listening God, in this quiet moment, we turn to You, not with perfect words, but with open hearts. Teach us to pray, not just to say the words, but to trust in Your presence, to lean into Your grace, and to wait with hope and persistence. You are the God who gives good gifts, who does not turn away when we knock, who welcomes our asking, who meets our seeking. Speak to us in this silence. Shape us through this prayer. And send us out with transformed hearts. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN:** *(please remain standing as you are able)*
UMH 405 *Seek Ye First*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT:

Rev. Laura Steele

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Laura Steele

SCRIPTURE READING:

Bill Glancy

New Testament: Luke 11:1-13 (NRSV)

The Lord's Prayer

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." So he said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, may your name be revered as holy. May your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."

Perseverance in Prayer

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" *This is the Word of God, for the people of God, **People: Thanks Be to God.***

***HYMN OF PREPARATION:** *(please rise as you are able)*

TFWS 2171 *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

SERMON: *Keep Knocking: Trusting God When the Door
Seems Closed* 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

Variations on the hymn *How Great Thou Art*
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 352 *Standing in the Need of Prayer*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: Recessional on the hymn *Standing In The Need Of Prayer*

* Denotes please rise in body or spirit as you are able

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Kitty, recently diagnosed with ovarian cancer, Beverly Alexis, Emily LaJeunesse, Patricia Greene, the family, friends, and classmates of Dylan Faulkner, Christine Matthews, Janice Matthews, Charles Farnham who is hospitalized with heart & kidney issues, the family and friends of Summit firefighter Lonn Mullen



Please join us in the Social Hall after worship for Coffee Hour! We welcome all who have come this morning to worship, especially newcomers and visitors among us. Everyone is invited to come to Coffee Hour for refreshments and conversation immediately following the service in our Social Hall by exiting the front of the Sanctuary and proceeding to the door

through the breezeway. The restrooms are located in the back of the sanctuary. We ask everyone to silence their cell phones during the service and note that there are emergency exits in the rear and front right of the Sanctuary. May God bless us all as we gather for worship and fellowship together.

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, July 27th:

9:30am-10:00am	Instrumental Rehearsal
10:00am-10:20am	Summer Choir
10:30am-11:30am	In-person/online Worship
11:30am-12:30pm	Coffee Hour
2:00pm-10:00pm	RAD Theatricals (Social Hall/stage)
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Monday, July 28th:

7:45pm-9:30pm	Gamblers Anonymous (Fellowship Room)
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Tuesday, July 29th:

9:30am-11:15am	Baby Bandstand (Social Hall)
10:00am-3:30pm	Debbi's Dance
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Wednesday, July 30th:

9:00am-1:00pm	Debbi's Dance
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Thursday, July 31st:

Friday, August 1st:

9:30am-11:30am	Music Together (Social Hall)
11:00am-12:00pm	Yogafaiith (Chapel)
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Saturday, August 2nd:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW: "Come to the Table" Small Group, Sundays after Church

Starting this summer there will be an extra table set up during Coffee Hour for those who want to dig deeper into God's Word. We are calling this small group "Come to the Table" and you can grab some refreshments and join in

conversation and fellowship about the day's Scripture readings and sermon topics. This is a "self led" group. There is no sign-up or commitment to join this group, just COME TO THE TABLE! All are welcome.



ANNUAL BACK TOSCHOOL DRIVE UNTIL AUGUST 17TH

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 can be dropped off at the church office Monday-Friday from 9AM-1PM or dropped off in the bins in the sanctuary Sunday mornings before or after worship.

YOGAFAITH

Yogafaith is back with Friday classes, at 11am in the Chapel! All levels are welcome. Join us as we stretch our faith while we stretch our bodies! Suggested donation of \$10 per class.

Sunday School on Break

During the summer, Sunday School will be taking a break, but that doesn't mean your family has to! While our regular classes are on pause, we'd love to see you in worship each week. Children are always welcome in the sanctuary. The summer is a great time to experience worship together as a family.



Pastor Laura will be out of the office from **July 28-August 5**. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call the church office at 908-277-1700.



Mark your calendars! Kick-Off Sunday, September 14th, 2025 - 10:30AM ! Join us as we launch a new season of worship, community, and service! Whether you're new to the area, returning after a break, or just looking for a fresh start, Kickoff Sunday is the perfect time to come and see what our church is all about. We'll have joyful worship, engaging programs for all ages, and a special fellowship celebration after the service.

Sermon Notes

key verses:

prayers: