



United Methodist Church of Summit



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Pastor: Rev. Laura Steele
Director of Music: JoAnne Teubner Prussak
Children, Youth, Family Minister: Carrie-Lee Farnham
Mental Health Minister: Dr. Alison Johnson
Office Manager: Kimberle Gray
Seminary Intern: Daniel Faniyan
Sexton: Fred Herse

August 17, 2025

Tenth 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: Variations on *Holy God We Praise Thy Name*

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** Carrie-Lee Farnham

Leader: The fire of God's Holy Spirit is burning among us!

People: We come to be inspired by the power of God's love.

Leader: May Jesus' words challenge and change us this hour.

People: We come to follow, even when the path is hard.

Leader: God's Kingdom breaks through the darkness,

People: Let us worship the Lord with boldness and joy!

***CENTERING PRAYER:** *(in unison)* Carrie-Lee Farnham

Holy and Loving God, Your Word ignites a fire within us—one that purifies our hearts, transforms our souls, and calls us to stand for what is right. We confess that we prefer comfort over challenge, and peace without cost. We prefer these things even over the most miniscule challenges of bringing Your Kingdom come here on Earth as it is in Heaven. Today, set our hearts aflame with love for You and for our neighbors. Give us courage to stand with Christ even when it brings division, and hope to trust that Your Kingdom will unite all things in the end. Remind us that true faith sometimes requires stepping out of our own comfort zones. May we open ourselves to Your Spirit's work, in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

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

UMH #347 *The Spirit Song*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT:

Carrie-Lee Farnham,
CYF Minister

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Laura Steele

SCRIPTURE READING:

Carrie-Lee Farnham

New Testament: Luke 12:49-56 (NRSV)

Jesus the Cause of Division

"I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

Interpreting the Time

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time? *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#2129 *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

SERMON:

Divided We Stand

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 *I Will Arise and Go to Jesus*

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#581 *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: Voluntary on *Holy God*

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

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Dadi Hove, Harry Conway, Kitty - recently diagnosed with ovarian cancer, Beverly Alexis, Emily LaJeunesse, Patricia Green, 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 Lonnn 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, August 17th:

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
7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Monday, August 18th:

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

Tuesday, August 19th:

7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Wednesday, August 20th:

Thursday, August 21st:

Friday, August 22nd:

11:00am-12:00pm Yogafaith (Chapel)
7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Saturday, August 23rd:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Do you have an extra room or basement area available? Multiple Drew Seminary students are looking for places in Summit, Chatham, or Madison to stay for the upcoming school year. They are willing to also help with household chores, pet sitting, house sitting, etc. as well as contribute to affordable rental costs. If you or anyone you know has available space, please contact: pastor@umcsummit.org.

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.

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 TO SCHOOL DRIVE ENDS TODAY

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.

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.



Calling all Volunteers! 8/24

All hands on deck! Next Sunday, 8/24, we will be sprucing up the Sunday School room for this year's programming kick-off on September 14th. We will be

adding a new puppet theater, arts

and crafts area, and imagination play corner. Can you help us as we renovate the space and make room for God's love to flourish? Meet upstairs in the Education building after Coffee Hour on August 24th.



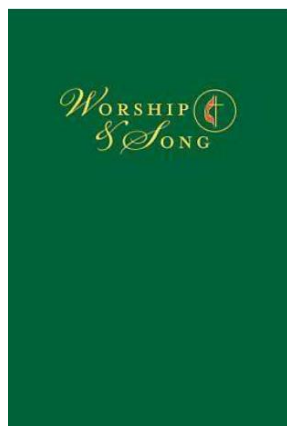
Mark your calendars! Kick-Off Sunday, September 14th, 2025 - 10:30AM !

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.

NEW Hymnals! Coming Soon! The United Methodist Church of Summit is hoping to refresh our worship experience with new *"Worship and Song"* hymn books that will serve our congregation for years to come. These updated books will enhance our singing and help us continue lifting our voices in praise together. We invite you to support this effort by making a donation toward the purchase of the new hymnals. Any amount is appreciated and will go directly toward the cost of the books. (\$15 each) You can give through our regular offering (please mark it "Hymn Books") or donate online through our church website. Thank you for helping us make a joyful noise to the Lord!



Sermon Notes

key verses:

prayers: