



United Methodist
Church of Summit



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www.facebook.com/UnitedMethodistChurchofSummit

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

October 19th, 2025

Nineteenth Sunday of Pentecost

Laity Sunday

PRELUDE Variations on *Children of the Heavenly Father*

Canon in D

Johann Pachelbel

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY

PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Alison Johnson

(please rise as you are able)

Leader: Welcome people of God! You are called by name and washed in grace.

People: We come with hearts and minds open this day to remember that we are claimed and beloved.

Leader: The Spirit moves among us, calling laity and clergy alike to ministry.

People: We are here to listen, to serve, and to celebrate the work of God through ALL people.

Leader: Let us worship the One who equips us for every good work!

People: Glory be to God — Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer!

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

Alison Johnson

Holy God, You have called us from many places and given us one faith, one baptism, and one Lord. As we gather in worship, still our restless hearts. Remind us that ministry belongs to all who follow Jesus — in our words, our work, and our witness. Pour out your Holy Spirit again this day, so that we may be renewed in your grace and sent forth as the body of Christ in ministry to all the world. Amen.

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

UMH#399 *Take My Life, and Let It Be*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT: *Sacrament of Holy Baptism*

The Baptism of Jack William Amodeo

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy Church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price. Today, I present *Jack William Amodeo* for baptism.

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

The pastor addresses parents and/or caregivers:

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin? **We do.**

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves? **We do.**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races? **We do.**

The pastor addresses the sponsors:

Will you nurture Jack in Christ's holy Church, that by your teaching and example he may be guided to accept God's grace for himself, to profess his faith openly, and to lead a Christian life? **We will.**

The pastor addresses the congregation, and the congregation responds:

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? **We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Jack, now before you, in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Jack with a community of love and forgiveness, so that he may grow in service to others. We will pray for Jack, that he may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.

The pastor addresses all:

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments: Do you believe in God the Father?

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. On the third day he rose again, he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

POURING THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Eternal Father, when nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah, you saved those on the ark by passing over the flood waters. You led our faithful ancestors from the bondage of captivity through the waters of the Red Sea to freedom and liberation. Our Savior, Jesus Christ, was baptized in the River Jordan. Pour out your Holy Spirit now on this gift of water and upon Jack who receives it, wash away his sins and clothe him in righteousness throughout his life, so that in through this life and the one to come, he may share in the victory of faith, through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. **Amen.**

Jack William Amodeo, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

Members of the household of God, I commend Jack to your love and care. Now it is our joy to welcome our new brother in Christ!

ANTHEM

Lift Up A Song To The Lord
Chancel Choir

Larry Shackley

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Carol Conway

SCRIPTURE READING:

Alison Johnson

New Testament: Matthew 28:16-20 (NRSV)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. *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 #2253 *Water, River, Spirit, Grace*

SERMON:

Packed with Purpose

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: *How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

Stuart Townend, William Teubner - trumpet

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

***CLOSING HYMN:** UMH#593 *Here I Am Lord*

***BENEDICTION**

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

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

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Blair Conley, Jaimie Bass, Rev. Tanya Lynn Bennett, Patricia Williams, mother of Dr. John Williams, Dadi Hove, Harry Conway, Kitty - recently diagnosed with ovarian cancer, Beverly Alexis, Emily LaJeunesse, the family, friends, and classmates of Dylan Faulkner, Christine Matthews, Janice Matthews, Charles Farnham who is out of the hospital.

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, October 19th:

9:00am-9:30am	Instrumental Rehearsal
9:15am-10:15am	Social Skills Group (Chapel)
9:30am-10:00am	Chancel Choir
10:00am-10:20am	Bell Choir
10:30am-11:30am	In-person/online Worship
11:30am-12:30pm	Coffee Hour
11:45am-12:15pm	Singing Believers Family Choir
3:00pm-5:00pm	Lifeline Event/Parenting Siblings (Social Hall)
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Monday, October 20th:

7:45pm-9:30pm	Gamblers Anonymous (Fellowship Room, Chapel)
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Tuesday, October 21st:

9:30am-11:15am	Baby Bandstand (Social Hall)
6:30pm-10:00pm	Summit Chorale (Sanctuary)
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Thursday, October 23rd:

6:30pm-10:00pm	Summit Chorale (Sanctuary)
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Friday, October 24th:

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

Saturday, October 25th:

9:30am-11:30am	Music Together (Social Hall)
12:00pm-1:00pm	Chancel Choir
1:00pm-1:15pm	Bell Choir
1:15pm-1:30pm	Contemporary Ensemble
1:30pm-3:00pm	Instrumental Rehearsal
2:00pm-10:00pm	Casa de Estudio de Torah (Fellowship Room)
2:30pm-3:30pm	Liturgical Dance



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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summit United Methodist Church
On the corner of Kent Place & Deforest Ave.

Lifeline Mental Health Series
parenting siblings!



Sunday October 19th, 3PM

Led by Dr. Alison Johnson

Mental Health Minister

All Community Members Invited

Free Pizza to Follow

Free Babysitting

MHMinister@umcsummit.org

We are excited to continue The Life Line, a ministry of Summit United Methodist Church offering free, practical workshops for all members of the community—whether you're connected to a faith tradition or not. These gatherings are designed to offer support, insight, and connection around some of the most important and challenging aspects of family life. Our next Life Line event, "Raising Siblings," will take place on Sunday October 19th, at 3:00PM. This free workshop will be led by Dr. Alison Johnson, a licensed psychologist with extensive experience working with children and families. The workshop will explore the often-overlooked truth that siblings don't come into the world knowing how to get along. They may share a home and family, but the skills to live well together—communication, cooperation, conflict resolution—must be taught, guided, and nurtured by caring adults. Parents and caregivers will come away with practical strategies, fresh insight, and encouragement for the journey of raising siblings who grow not just side by side, but together. The afternoon will end with a free pizza supper for all attendees—a time to connect, share, and build community. All are welcome. There's no cost to attend. To learn more, call the church office at 908-277-1700. We'd love to have you join us!

**"CAME TO BELIEVE"
WORSHIP SERVICE**
Next Service November 2, 2025
5:30 PM

REEVES CHAPEL

For people in recovery, their friends
and family. Childcare and
refreshments provided.

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JOIN US IN SPREADING SOME SPOOKY SWEETNESS THIS HALLOWEEN!

**SPOOKY CANDY
DONATIONS**



SPOOKY SWEET HALLOWEEN

WE'RE COLLECTING CANDY FOR THE ANNUAL DOWNTOWN SUMMIT TRICK-OR-TREATING EVENT ON HALLOWEEN.
Please bring your favorite allergy-friendly candy to donate by October 28!

Candy Donations

UMC Summit will be passing out candy at the Downtown Summit Trick-or-Treating event on Halloween! To help make this safe and fun for all children, we're collecting allergy-friendly candy until October 28. Donations can be placed in the baskets located in the Social Hall or the Sanctuary during the week or on Sunday mornings.

**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.





MUSIC MINISTRY



WELCOME ALL MUSIC MAKERS!!

Come and share your musical gifts and enrich your faith with your Church Family!

Chancel Choir

It is a joy to work together and lift our voices in praise. Our Chancel Choir rehearses on Saturdays at 12:00 p.m. and Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in preparation for worship. Come before His presence with singing and sing joyful songs to the Lord! The Chancel Choir shares an anthem each Sunday as well as leading the congregation in song. Come and share the inspiration of singing with your brothers and sisters in Christ!

Bell Choir

Calling all bell ringers!! Making a joyful sound is the mission of our Bell Choir. Come and ring Handbells and Handchimes with your church friends. Rehearsals are on Saturdays at 1:00 and on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. Come and ring with our Church Family.

Singing Believers Family Choir

All children, youth and adults are invited to sing the songs of the church. Let us share the light of Christ through music. Rehearsals are on Sunday mornings at 11:45 a.m. in the Music Room. Come and share the joyous songs of Christ's church.

Contemporary Ensemble

Our Contemporary Ensemble shares music for Holy Communion each month. The ensemble prepares music from the contemporary hymnal "Worship and Song". Rehearsals are on Saturdays at 1:15 and on Communion Sundays at 9:15 a.m. All singers and instrumentalists are welcome to praise and make music to the Lord during the sacred time of the Lord's Supper.

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



Do you have a child or youth looking to go deeper in their faith? Join us for one, or all, of our exciting CYF programs. The Sunday morning CYF schedule is as follows:

9:15-10:15AM: Social Skills Group in the Reeves Chapel

10:30-10:45AM: Children grades K-5 start in worship

10:45AM: Children are dismissed to Sunday School

10:45AM-11:30AM: Sunday School in the Education Building, 2nd floor

11:30AM-11:45AM: Coffee Hour in the Social Hall

11:45AM-12:00PM: Singing Believers Family Choir in the Music Room

Sunday School - 10:45AM

Join us for Sunday School!

Children elementary aged begin in worship at 10:30AM and are dismissed to Sunday School with Ms. Carrie after the Children's Sermon. This year we have added some exciting new areas to our Sunday School room: a Bible dress and play area, a new Bible story felt board, a new puppet theater! If you have any questions please contact Children, Youth, and Families Minister Carrie-Lee Farnham



New Group, 9:15AM-10:15AM in the Chapel

We're excited to invite families—both from our church and the wider community—to a brand-new Social Skills Group for children ages 8 to 12. The group will meet every Sunday from 9:15 to 10:15 AM, and it's completely free of charge. Taught by Dr. Alison Johnson of Summit Psychological Services. Free and open to the public. Email: MHMinister@umcsummit.org for more information



“Wings of Faith” Liturgical Dance Ministry **Saturdays, 2:30-3:30PM**

Join the UMC of Summit for our 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!



Support Family Promise: **Donations Needed: 10/12- 11/9**

Our church has a long-standing history of supporting and hosting Family Promise. Family Promise is an organization whose mission is to help families experiencing homelessness and low-income families achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response. UMC Summit has been a “host church” for Family Promise for many years. As their model of helping families

has changed, UMC Summit has committed to continuing to support Family Promise through monetary donations. We will be collecting three times a year to support this initiative. If you’d like to support this collection, please write “Family Promise” on your check or envelope. You can also give online at umcsummit.org

Sermon Notes

key verses:

prayers: