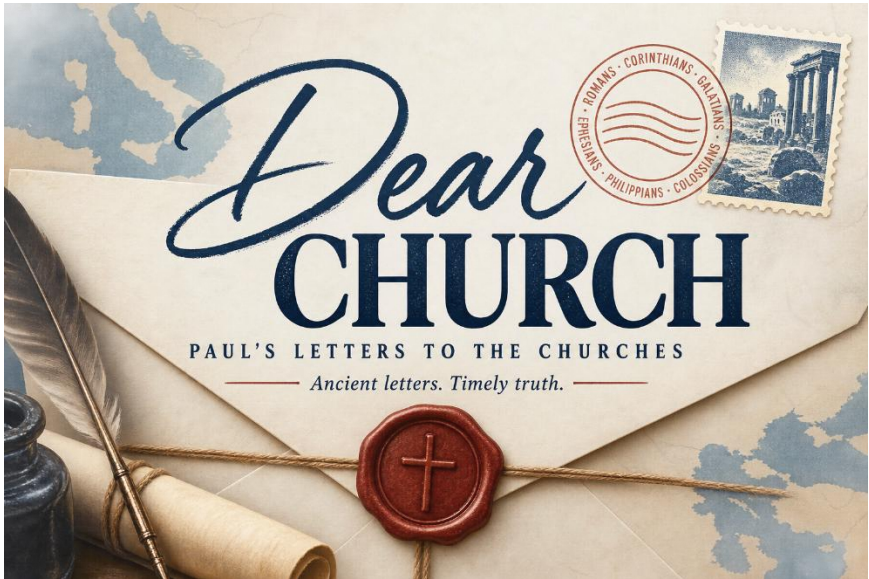




United Methodist
Church of Summit



www.umcsummit.org

Pastor: Rev. Laura Steele

Director of Music: JoAnne Teubner Prussak

CYF Minister: Janice Powell

Office Manager: Kimberle Gray

Mental Health Minister: Dr. Alison Johnson

Sexton: Fred Herse

Video Ministry: Parker LaJeunesse

Seminary Intern: Praise Mapanda

September 27, 2026

Eighteenth Sunday After 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 the Hymn *My Jesus I Love Thee*

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** *(please rise as you are able)* Carol Conway

Leader: We live in a world that tells us to look out for ourselves.

People: Christ calls us to look to the needs of one another.

Leader: We live in a world that tells us to seek our own way.

People: Christ invites us to walk in his way.

Leader: We live in a world that celebrates power, status, and success.

People: Christ shows us the way of humility, service, and love.

Leader: And we do not walk this way alone, for God is already at work within us.

People: God is shaping our hearts, transforming our desires, and teaching us the way of Christ. Come, let us worship God!

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

Carol Conway

Gracious God, Lord of service and love, Spirit of compassion and mercy, we often come before you with our own desires, expectations, and ideas about how things should be. Yet you call us to another way: the way of Christ. Give us humble hearts this day we pray. Help us look beyond ourselves to see the needs of others. Where we insist on our own way, teach us the way of Jesus. Work within us, O God, shape our hearts, transform our desires, and lead us toward what brings You joy. Give us the mind of Christ, so that our lives may reflect His love. Amen.

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

UMH #170 *O How I Love Jesus*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT:

Rev. Laura Steele

ANTHEM:

God Is My Rock
Chancel Choir

Allen Pote

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Praise Mapanda

SCRIPTURE READING:

Carol Conway

New Testament: Philippians 2:1-13 (NRSVUE)

Imitating Christ's Humility

If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Shining as Lights in the World

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. *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 #2130 *The Summons*

SERMON: *BK.....Have It Your Way*

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 Oh, The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus
for Piano*

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

UMH #95 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

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

TFWS #2172 We Are Called

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE:

Recessional in F Major

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

**PLEASE NOTE: All of our services are livestreamed publicly.
If you do not wish to have yourself or your loved ones on camera,
please see Pastor Laura.*

**Please join us in the Social Hall after service for coffee,
refreshments, and fellowship! All are welcome.**



This Week's Schedule

Sunday, September 27th:

9:00am-9:30am	Instrumental Rehearsal
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
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Monday, September 28th:

7:45pm-9:30pm	Gamblers Anonymous (Chapel, Social Hall)
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Tuesday, September 29th:

10:30am-11:30am	Baby Bandstand (Social Hall)
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Friday, October 2nd:

9:30am – 11:30pm	Music Together (Social Hall)
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Saturday, October 3rd:

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

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

The Reyes family and their loved ones as they grieve the passing of Angie Reyes, Joe Eggebean and his continued recovery, Mike Stewart as he mourns the loss of his brother Ron, Joe Kunyz, Al Lord Sr., Gary Friez, Patricia, The LaJeunesse family, Brian Johnson, Chuck Farnham, the Rodriguez family who lost their home and possessions in a fire, the family of Kathleen Whipps, Laurie Kelly, Roydon Moreau, the family and fans of Kyle Busch, the family of Beverly Alexis, the family of David Quackenbush, the family of Millie Eichhorn, Susan Reitmeyer (UMC Absecon) and family, the uncle of Steven Brown, the family and friends of John L. Troianello, pray for me to feel home ♥, Shela Waldron, the friends and family of Mateo Kaufman Sandler, Vincenzo Lamanginne's mother Angela and brother Mike, rest their souls.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mental Health Ministry



Came to Believe

Third Year! ♥

A CHRISTIAN WORSHIP SERVICE FOR
PEOPLE IN RECOVERY,
THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

♥

Held on the first Sunday of each month at 5:30 PM, the service brings together Scripture, contemporary music, reflection and prayer with themes drawn from recovery and everyday life — including hope, acceptance, gratitude, forgiveness, self-care and learning to live one day at a time.

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Came to Believe is Christian by design but welcomes people wherever they may be in their faith or recovery journey. The atmosphere is intentionally informal and honest: a place to bring questions, celebrate growth, find encouragement and connect with others who understand that healing rarely happens alone.

**FIRST SUNDAY
OF EACH MONTH
5:30 PM**

**THE CHAPEL**
Summit United Methodist Church
Corner of Kent Place Ave. &
DeForest Ave. • Use DeForest Ave.
entrance

Come as you are. Come to Believe. Stay to Experience. ♥

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

Caregivers Support Group ♥

♥

SECOND YEAR STRONG

A welcoming space for anyone caring for others—children, family members, aging parents, or in a professional caregiving role.



**STARTING BACK
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5**

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WEEKLY ON MONDAY EVENINGS | 7:00–8:15 P.M.

Join us for encouragement, shared experiences, and helpful resources in a warm, confidential space.



Social Skills Group resumes Sunday September 27



SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT

We are thrilled to welcome our children back to Sunday School ! This year, we are launching a brand-new, engaging curriculum called All Stars, specially designed for children ages 5 through 12. Classes will begin promptly at 10:45 AM. Join us as we dive into fun lessons, community building, and spiritual growth. We can't wait to see your family there!



Come and share in the wonder of making a Joyful Sound!

Let's share the excitement of beginning our Fall Season. Our Kick-Off Sunday will be September 20th. In preparation, our Chancel Choir will begin rehearsals on Sunday, September 13th at 9:30 a.m., and sing the service music at worship. Our first Saturday rehearsal will be on September 19th at 12:00 noon. The schedule of rehearsals will continue, Saturdays at 12:00 and Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Our Contemporary Ensemble will begin rehearsals on Saturday, September 19th at 1:00 p.m., as we prepare for World Communion Sunday, October 4th.

Our Bell Choir rehearsals will resume on Saturday, September 26th at 1:30 p.m., and Sunday, September 27th at 10:00 a.m., ringing praises.

Our Singing Believers Family Choir will have our rehearsals following worship at 11:45 a.m., beginning on September 27th as we praise "We Are The Church".

Please notate our starting dates as we prepare for an amazing Fall and Christmas Season. Our Christmas Concert is scheduled for Sunday, December 13th at 3:00 p.m.



Annual Charge Conference

Sunday Nov. 15th, 2026 – 11:30AM



Paperwork Due: September 30



Charge Conference: Sunday,



Fellowship Room