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

November 15th, 2026
Twenty-Fifth 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 *Nearer, My God, to Thee*

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY

PREPARATION OF HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** *(please rise as you are able)* Janice Powell

Leader: When our lives are full and our blessings are many, let us remember the One who provides.
People: Every good gift comes from God!
Leader: When we enjoy the fruits of our labor, let us remember the One who gives us strength.
People: All that we have and all that we are belong to God!
Leader: When we are tempted to hold tightly to what we have, let us remember that we are called to share.
People: With grateful hearts, we offer our gifts in love!
Leader: Come, let us worship the God who provides, sustains, and calls us to generosity!
People: We come with grateful hearts, ready to grow in faith and bear fruit for God's kingdom!

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

Gracious God, Giver of every gift, in the rush of the day-to-day, we sometimes forget that all we have comes from You. Remind us that the strength in our hands, the blessings in our homes, and the abundance in our lives are gifts of Your grace. Root us deeply in gratitude, grow within us generous hearts, and teach us to use what we have to bless others. May our worship today be an offering of thanks-giving to You, and may our lives bear fruit for Your kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** *(please remain standing as you are able)*
UMH #399 *Take My Life and Let It Be*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT: Janice Powell, CYF Minister

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Alison Johnson

ANTHEM: *Up Above My Head* Mark Hayes
Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING: Janice Powell

Old Testament: Deuteronomy 8:11-18 *(NRSV)*

"Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes that I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them and when your herds and flocks have multiplied and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock. He fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today." *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 #2153 *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

SERMON: *Everything is a Gift* Rev. Dr. Samuel Park

OFFERING
(please place offering envelope in basket or text "dollar amount you wish to give" to 908-224-7670)

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION:

Voluntary on the tune *Blessed Assurance*
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 #369 *Blessed Assurance*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Majestic Recessional* for trumpet and organ
R. Wetzler

** 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.*

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Patricia Green; Shela Waldron; Amanda and Frank at the passing of their newborn son, Cameron; all the students and families affected by the shooting in Boulder, CO; the friends and family of Janice Straker; the Powell family as they grieve the passing of Marie; 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.

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, November 15th:

9:00am-9:30am	Instrumental Rehearsal
9:15am-10:15am	Social Skills (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
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Monday, November 16th:

7:00pm-8:15pm	Caregivers Support Group (Library)
7:45pm-9:30pm	Gamblers Anonymous (Chapel, Social Hall)

Tuesday, November 17th:

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

Friday, November 20th:

10:00am-10:00pm	Lumos Experience (Sanctuary)
7:30pm-8:30pm	Pilgrim Group (Fellowship Room)

Saturday, November 21st:

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)
2:30pm-3:30pm	Liturgical Dance

ANNOUNCEMENTS

United Methodist Student Sun., Nov. 22, 10:30AM
Join us on Sunday, November 22, at 10:30AM as we celebrate United Methodist Student Sunday! Our children, youth, and young adults will lead us in worship as we honor and celebrate the gifts, faith, and leadership of the next generation.



This special Sunday reminds us of the importance of nurturing young people in their spiritual journeys and supporting them as they grow into the leaders God is calling them to be. As Proverbs 22:6 reminds us, *"Train children in the way they should go; when they grow old, they won't depart from it."* Come celebrate and encourage our young people as they share their gifts and lead us in worship. We hope you'll join us for this meaningful celebration of faith, community, and the future of our church.



Summit Interfaith Council Thanksgiving Service
Nov. 23rd, 6:30PM
St. Teresa of Avila Church
Join us for the Summit Interfaith Council Thanksgiving Service on Monday, November 23, at 6:30 PM at St. Teresa of Avila Church, 306 Morris Avenue, Summit. All are welcome and there will be a reception with fellowship and refreshments to follow.



Hello my fellow bakers ….
It's that time again…you guessed it ….

UMC Cookie Walk and Holiday Bazaar
December 5, 2026: 10AM-4PM

We are looking for bakers to contribute to the cookie walk.
A signup sheet will be set up in the Social Hall: for sign up we ask that you let us know what cookies you will be making so we do not have many duplicates.

Requirements for the cookies

-Homemade cookies only please
-Nothing store bought
-5 dozen or more cookies of one recipe.
(Double the recipe if necessary or use a smaller scoop to make smaller cookies to get the 60+ cookie count).

Cookie Delivery: The Church Kitchen on
Friday December 4, 2026

If you have to deliver on
Saturday December 5, no later than 7:30 am
Thank you in advance for your help!

If you have any questions, you can contact the church office at: 908-277-1700



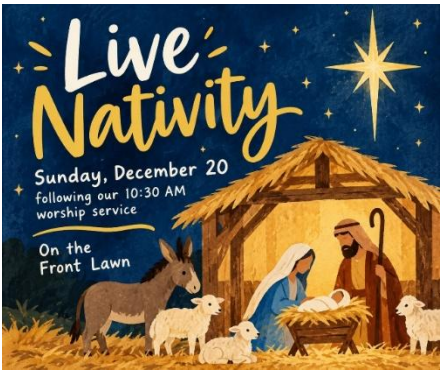
9th Annual Holiday Bazaar & Cookie Walk!
December 5, 10:00AM-4:00pm

Kick off the season with holiday shopping, homemade treats, and the warmth of community. Proceeds support local ministries and outreach programs that extend the love of Christ beyond our walls.



Hanging of the Greenery - December 6th, 10:30AM
Churchwide Potluck and Talent Show

Come help us prepare our Sanctuary for Advent! Following worship, stay for a joyful potluck and talent show celebrating the gifts of our congregation – music, laughter, and friendship.



The Live Nativity Experience
Date: Sunday, December 20, 2026 ***(Following our 10:30 AM Worship Service)***
Location: The Front Lawn
Experience the very first Christmas come to life! Immediately following our Sunday morning worship, step outside onto the lawn to witness our Live Nativity.

The Christmas Story: Costumed actors will portray Mary, Joseph, and the Wise Men as they gather around the manger.
Live Animals: Children and families can visit with live sheep, goats, and a donkey as we recreate the humble setting of Bethlehem.
Fellowship & Carols: Sing your favorite traditional carols and enjoy hot beverages with your church family.

We are looking for volunteers to play the Christmas characters! If you'd like to participate, please see Pastor Laura or email: Pastor@umcsummit.org

Children, Youth, and Family Ministries Announcements



Hearts & Hands for the Holidays:
A Family Craft Tradition
Sundays, 9:15AM, Social Hall
Parents, children, and youth are invited to join us for a special seasonal gathering! **Starting November 8th**, we will meet every Sunday morning from 9:15 AM to 10:15 AM during the POP hour. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to slow down, connect, and make beautiful Christmas crafts together for the holiday season. Come build lasting memories and festive creations side-by-side! No prior crafting skills are needed—just bring your holiday spirit.



Calling All Children & Youth:
Christmas Pageant Preparation!

It is time to prepare for our annual Christmas Pageant! This year, we are putting a fresh, 21st century twist on the traditional story with **minimal lines to memorize**, making it a stress-free and joyful experience for everyone. We have roles available for all ages – including angels, shepherds, wise people, animals, musical parts, and behind-the-scenes helpers! Practices will take place **during Sunday School** and during dedicated **rehearsals after service.** Please mark your calendars for these important dates:

Sunday, November 29th – Parent and volunteer meeting after church
Sunday, December 6th – Rehearsal directly after church (1 hour)
Sunday, December 13th – Rehearsal directly after church (1 hour)
Thursday, December 24th – The Christmas Pageant –5:00PM Service

Parents: Snacks will be provided after worship to keep our young actors energized before rehearsals! If your child would like to participate, please sign up in the Social Hall.

For more information about any of our CYF programs please reach out to our CYF Minister, Dr. Janice Powell at cyfminister@umcsummit.org

Mental Health Ministries Announcements



Caregivers Support Group
Mondays, 7PM, Library
A safe space for sharing challenges, resources, and encouragement with others caring for elderly loved ones. Meets weekly on Mondays from 7PM-8:15PM in the Church library, second floor Education building.

Social Skills Group
Children and Youth
Sundays, 9:15AM, Chapel
(3rd–8th grade)
A supportive group where children learn and practice skills for building friendships, communication, and confidence.

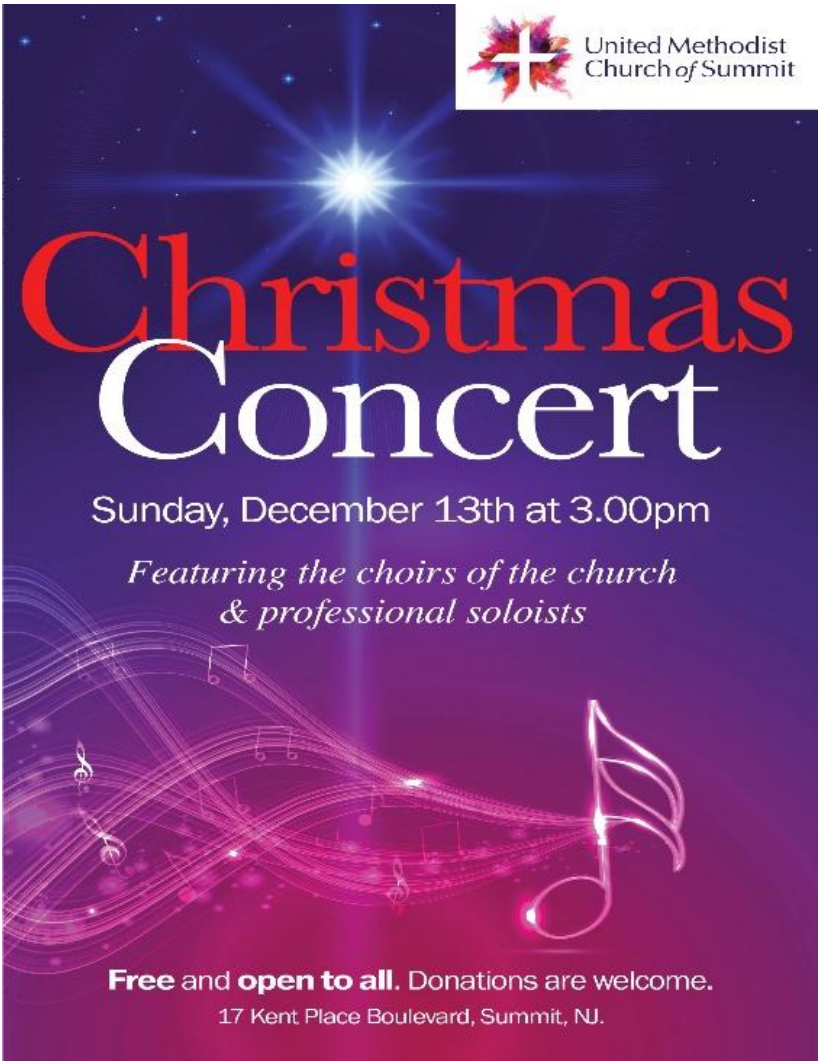




Came to Believe Service
First Sundays of the Month
5:30PM in the Chapel
A worship service designed especially for people in recovery, offering encouragement, connection, and hope.

If you would like more information about any of our Mental Health Ministries, please contact Dr. Alison Johnson at:
MHMinister@umcsummit.org

Music Ministries Announcements



UMC Summit Annual Christmas Concert
December 13, 2026, 3:00 p.m. Sanctuary
Reception to follow in the Social Hall