



Rev. Debria Upton
Pastor

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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

June 9, 2020

Greetings and Grace and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

I would like to thank all of you who have been joining via Zoom or the Drive In service. Unfortunately, we will be unable to open this coming week. We have postponed the reopening until June 28th due to the increased health risk. Remember that access to any worship is posted on our www.umcofcenter.com website, so feel free to go back and watch what you may have missed and forward it to your friends. The Zoom worship services are also posted on www.slvumc.org website as well. Remember that I am still doing Children's Moments after the Zoom worship service with at home activity suggestions. These are also posted on our website and the www.slvumc.org website. I am still doing the Story behind the Songs on Facebook Live every Wednesday at 1 pm. During this common time between Pentecost and Advent, I will be posting daily Morning (7:30 am) and Evening (6:30 pm) Prayers on our Facebook page. These are meant to develop our acts of piety through prayer, reading scripture, and daily devotions. The Disciple bible study on *Under the Tree of Life – The Writings – John- Revelation* this Wednesday, has begun and will continue every Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm using our Zoom platform. If you are interested in participating in person, please contact me and we can make arrangements for you to join at the church in Center.

Participating in any of the virtual services or bible studies, we will be using our Zoom platform which allows us to participate via phone or computer. If you have internet access, control click on

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8678651613?pwd=VlVDejlBRVBJT0tYNXVtUG42QTFNdz09> and it should take you to our Zoom platform. If you have the Zoom app, you can go to the app on your phone or your computer and type in Meeting ID: 867 865 1613 and enter the password: 2618860. If you wish to use your phone (cell or landline) without internet call +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) or +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose). Enter the Meeting ID: 867 865 1613 and then the Password: 2618860. You can call me at (504)261-8860 if you need assistance.

On June 8th, the United Methodist Council of Bishop released a letter asking every United Methodist to reclaim their baptismal vows to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves. United Methodist have been asked for at least the next 30 days to join with every United Methodist around the world to join in prayer at 8:46 a.m. and p.m. for 8 minutes and 46 seconds, the time the officer held his knee on George Floyd's neck. Do this for at least the next 30 days. Pray for all persons of color who suffer at the hands of injustice and oppression. Pray for our church as we take a stand against racism and injustice in a concert of prayer heard around the world. I would ask you to consider joining me in this commitment to pray for our nation, our world, and our denomination for God's grace, mercy, wisdom, and direction as we move forward.

Our fitness center is open, but we are asking that you call the church office or text me when you are coming, so we can make sure you can safely use it. We have a new treadmill and everything in the fitness center has been cleaned thoroughly and is ready for use.

Again, I would like to deeply thank you for your generosity and we have been able to meet our obligations both local and connectional giving. We deeply appreciate all who have graciously supported us with their donations. Online donations can be made at www.umcofcenter.com or you can text the amount you wish to give to (719)628-1830 which will walk you through the secure donation. There is a fee that is charged the church when payments are made online and by text. Both the online and text options are secure and the funds are immediately processed into Center UMC's bank account. Of course, you can always mail in your donation to Center UMC, P. O. Box 626, Center, CO 81125. Again we are urging Saguache folks to mail their donations to Center UMC, P.O. Box 626, Center, CO 81125. Please note for Saguache UMC in the memo area of your check. We are can deposit those donations into First Southwest bank into the Saguache's church account. We do appreciate your support.

Mountain Sky Annual Conference will be held digitally June 19-20. I am still looking for someone from Center and Saguache to be our lay delegate for our churches, please let me know as soon as possible, so that I can get you registered. You would need to have a computer and internet access, but that can be provided by coming to Center United Methodist Church, if you don't have that capability.

Our AA group has resumed virtually on Saturdays at 10 am. If you are interested in that, please contact Pastor Debbie via text (504)261-8860. Please feel free to reach out to me to ask how to share in this unique time, especially with prayer requests and concerns. I am available via phone or text at 504-261-8860. You can always reach me via email dupton@liff.edu or message me via our Center United Methodist Church Facebook page. Stay safe and remember we are all essential people in the family of God.

Peace and grace for the journey, *Rev. Debria Upton* (504) 261-8860, dupton@liff.edu