



Rev. Debria Upton  
Pastor

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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

August 31, 2020

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

Thank you to all you who joined our 8:30 am Zoom worship as well as those who joined via Facebook Live, Zoom, or in person for our 10:30 am morning worship. I appreciate Mike Spearman being our online liturgist and Janet Myers as our in-person liturgist. Thank you all so much for your willingness to serve. It was great to have Kent Sather as well Shirley Myers join via Zoom. I do appreciate the kindness and grace of all of those who were present either virtually or in-person Sunday.

Please note that on Labor Day weekend because I will be on vacation, the 8:30 am Zoom worship on September 6, 2020 will take place as usual and I will conduct it from California. That service will be recorded and posted on our Facebook page at 10:30 am for all those who attend the 10:30 am service. There will not be an in-person service on September 6, 2020. Please join us on Zoom at 8:30 am or Facebook Live at 10:30 am.

Early Friday morning, I received an email from Global Giving concerning Hurricane Laura. "Hurricane Laura left a path of destruction along the Louisiana coast after making landfall as a Category 4 storm early Thursday morning. At least six people (the number is now eighteen) have been reported dead and hundreds of thousands remain without power in Louisiana and Texas as a result of 150 mph winds and extensive flooding. You can help life-saving relief efforts by making a donation to the [Hurricane Laura Relief Fund](#). Your secure donation will help survivors by providing emergency supplies like food, water, shelter, and medicine. GlobalGiving.org." You can also give to UMCOR which is our United Methodist Committee on Relief.

There will be no worship committee meeting for September, but will resume in October. The Ad Council will meet Sunday, September 13, 2020 at 6:30 both in-person and via Zoom.

Remember that access to any worship is posted on our [www.umcofcenter.com](http://www.umcofcenter.com) website, so feel free to go back and watch what you may have missed and forward it to your friends. The Story behind the Songs is on Facebook Live every Wednesday at 1 pm. During this common time between Pentecost and Advent, I'm 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. Remember the Zoom platform can be accessed by a telephone; you don't have to have internet or a computer to participate; you just dial the number. When 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. The following link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8678651613?pwd=VIVDejlBRVBJT0tYNXVtUG42QTFNdz09/> can be clicked on or pasted in your, 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. Coming in October is Dave Ramsey's worship on

Finances for both youth and adults which we will do both in-person and via Zoom. Keep a look out for more information.

I do appreciate my former students Gerard Ortega and Richard Smith for helping me with the music each Sunday especially to add a special blessing for the 8:30 am Zoom worship. If you wish to send them a thank you, please write your note and I will scan it to their private message page. Our prayers are with Linda and we hope that she will heal quickly and be back with us soon for the 10:30 am service to bless us with her wonderful talent.

Thank you for your generosity especially during this difficult time. Please remember that Saguache folks can send their contribution in check form to Center UMC, P.O. Box 626, Center, CO 81125. Please write the check to Saguache UMC. We can deposit those donations into First Southwest bank into the Saguache's church account. Sue McClure is depositing them in First Southwest in Center.

We have several on our prayer list, so I hope you will use the prayer list in your daily prayers. With so much happening in our world and community every daily, our prayers are needed. Please remember to pray for our school personnel, parents and students. God loves to hear our voice and scripture tells us that he listens to our request.

We continue to be blessed by the generosity of you who continue to support our church through your tithes and offerings. I would also like to encourage you to consider giving above and beyond for the 3% initiative for global giving especially during this time of COVID-19. We have been blessed by riding out the virus with minor consequences although no death is minor. The worldwide service fund, African University, the ministerial educational fund, and so many other funds need our help. If you wish to give, you can mark your checks for Saguache for 3% giving and mail it to P. O. Box 626, Center, CO 81125 where they will be deposited in Saguache UMC's account.

Our Cooking for Our Neighbors continues to grow. Thank you to our good cooks and volunteers Charleen Schaeffer, Betty Felmler, Kitty Bigley-Entz, and Janet Myers. It is such a blessing to share the love of Christ in this unique way. A special thanks to Bill Hazard who donated two big bags of apples from his trees. We will be taking a break Labor Day weekend but meals will resume the weekend after Labor Day.

There are many things we can do, especially during these difficult times. Please share your ideas and let's see how we can make them a reality. 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@iliff.edu](mailto:dupton@iliff.edu) or message me via our Center United Methodist Church Facebook page.

Peace and grace for the journey,

*Rev. Debra Upton*