May 2019

<u>Center United Methodist</u> <u>Church</u> PO Box 626 4th & Broadway, Center CO 81125 Worship Services: 8:30 am <u>Church Phone</u>: 719-754-2243 <u>E-mail</u>: centerumc@yahoo.com Financial E-mail: CUMCfin@yahoo.com

Saguache United Methodist Church 6th & Christie, Saguache Worship Service: 10:30 am

Pastor: Rev. Debbie Upton Phone: 754-2243 Cell phone: 504-261-8860 PO Box 571 Center CO 81125 Email: dupton@iliff.edu

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Pastor Debbie

Volume 34 Issue 5

Spring has sprung and has ushered in a wonderful Easter season. I would like to thank those who helped begin the Lenten season with the imposition of ashes at Center and Ash Wednesday Service at Saguache and those who continued the Lenten journey with the Bible Study The Way on Sundays after fellowship at Saguache and Wednesday evenings at Center. This time of reflection, meditation, and study prepared our hearts for a very moving Holy Week with the celebratory Palm Sunday at both churches, a delicious and gracious Fish Fry Maundy Wednesday at Saguache, a moving and inspirational Passover Seder sponsored by the United Methodist Clergy and Laity of the Valley and hosted by Center United Methodist, a time of self-reflection and prayer with the Stations of the Cross at Saguache and a beautiful Tenebrae Service at Center, a joyful community-wide Easter Egg Hunt at Center, a jubilant Easter Sunrise at Center followed by a delicious Easter brunch with the regular Easter Service at Center, and a delightful Easter breakfast and lovely Easter Service at Saguache. There are so many people to thank for all their help in all the activities and services. None of these things would have been possible without the help of everyone. If you weren't able to help this year because of illness or conflicts, perhaps next year you will be able to join us in these activities to help us reach out even further to as many as possible in our communities.

Now as we take a breath and move forward, we begin May with the National Day of Prayer. There will be a Valley wide prayer breakfast held at the Monte Vista United Methodist Church Thursday, May 2nd at 8:30 am. May 4th at 3:30, Center will host the annual Kentucky Derby fundraiser for Beaver Creek Youth Camp. UMW will host the annual Mother's Day dinner, Tuesday, May 7th at 6:30. Then May 12th at both services we will honor all women on Mother's Day Sunday. Cleanup at Beaver Creek will be on May 18th with Kiwanis. The month of May is also Teacher Appreciation month. I am looking for folks from both churches to help provide goodies for the teacher lounge during the first week of May to show our appreciation for all they do. Memorial Day Sunday will be May 26th. The worship committee will be working on making that a special Sunday for all. There was interest shown in Sunday School after morning worship at Center so during the month of May we will begin. We are still looking for anyone interested in helping with a VBS this summer. I have had a couple of folks come forward. I would like to share with any others our possibilities of an amazing VBS concerning Paul and Athens. Just let me know when you might wish to meet. I will be doing a mission trip this summer at LaPuente in connection with Sacred Stones. If you are interested in the information surrounding this opportunity, please get in touch with me. If there is anyone wishing to accompany me to annual conference in Billings, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can make reservations.

Wednesday, April 24th was officially Administrative Assistant Day and many of us showed our appreciation to Charleen for all the amazing, unselfish work she does for both churches mostly unseen. We are so blessed and this pastor is very grateful for her devotion. She is a true disciple of Jesus and is wise beyond her years. Please make sure to thank her for the incredible work she did in putting together this year's directory and for informative news-letters each month, not to mention the thousand other things she does. Charleen is definitely our Wonder Woman.

I will be away for a silent retreat beginning the afternoon of May 19th through the morning of May 22nd and will be unreachable for those few days by phone, text, or email. You may still contact the church office or Charleen for assistance and she will have the contact information for assistance.



You are invited to attend our annual Mother's Day Salad Supper Tuesday May 7th, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

> Thank You very much I want to Thank all of you for

Please share this invitation with all the women that would enjoy an evening among friends. Bring your favorite salad to share. Great food, short program, sharing memories: Favorite flowers of your mother, grandmother or in your own garden. Take home something beautiful!!

Clip and Save these Dates!!!!

2019 Calendar of Events for UMW and Martha Circle

		 your constant support in praying
May 7thMother's Day Salad Supper atJune – 4that 9:30 Mission project – Asse(see list of needed items in this newsletteJuly – 20thYard Sale and Bake SaleAugust– School Staff LuncheonAugust or September– Trip to Creede (*December 3rd– Christmas Brunch at 9:30	r) to be announced) Watch for announcements)	and care giving as I learn my new normal. I want to also thank everyone for the adminis- trative day gifts. Pastor, my friend and I went for a tour of Bandelier National Park and Los Alamos on Wednesday and it was so good to get out, feel
December 14th - Soup Luncheon and Ba	ke Sale	 the sun and see nature at its best. Learning about the histo-
 <u>don't have the people power to do all</u> <u>standing !!!!</u> <u>Coat Drive now through Fall – Collect</u> <u>fall. All sizes needed, men women and</u> 	and priced before they are brought in. We just of that anymore. Thanks for your help and under- ion box downstairs, coats will be given away in the d children.	 ry of the area was great too. Thank you also for the Blessed Brews card, the massage and cards. I appreciate your caring for me. Charleen
Martha Circle Meetings	o the Bakalace Baka Sale we appreciate your	 Among the changing months,
 support!!! 	o the Bakeless Bake Sale we appreciate your	May stands confest; The sweet-
Martha Circle will meet the 3 rd Wednesday start at 9:30. We welcome new members	y of each month throughout the year. Meetings and invite all to attend meetings at any time. For tha Circle President Marilyn Eagles 754-3704. –	est, and in fairest colors dressed. — James Thomson celebra- tionjoy.com/month-of-may-fun-
"'Tis like the birthday of the world, When earth was born in bloom; The light is made of many dyes, The air is all perfume:	"The world's favorite season is the spring. All things seem possible in May." - Edwin Way Teale	facts-quotes-trivia https://celebrationjoy.com/month- of-may-fun-facts-quotes-trivia
There's crimson buds, and white and blue, The very rainbow showers	"What potent blood hath modest May." - Ralph W. Emerson	Another May new buds and flowers shall bring: Ah! why has
Have turned to blossoms where they fell, And sown the earth with flowers."	"Another May new buds and flowers shall bring: Ah! why has happiness no second Spring?"	happiness no second Spring?-
- Thomas Hood http://www.gardendigest.com/monmay.htm	- Charlotte Smith, Elegiac Sonnets	Charlotte Smith
http://www.gardendigest.com/monifiay.htm	http://www.gardendigest.com/monmay.htm	https://celebrationjoy.com/month- of-may-fun-facts-quotes-trivia

Kentucky Derby Party Everyone Is Welcome To Attend



<u>Saturday, May 4th 2019, starting at 3:30</u> <u>Center United Methodist Church</u> <u>387 South Broadway</u>

Pre-race activities, crafts for kids, and a hat contest. A Kentucky Supper will be served following the race. There is no cost for attending.

Please come and enjoy food, fun and fellowship.

Any donations collected will be divided between Beaver Creek Youth Camp and Center United Methodist Church

dean Olice and Saguache Study Clad Members



Items needed for Hygiene Kits:

Medium sized items are appreciated Travel size items will be donated to La Puente Bar Soap (3.75 oz)Wash Cloth Shampoo (12.5 oz.) Deodorant (2.6 oz.) Tooth paste (5.1 oz.) Tooth brush Band Aids Combs Nail clippers Boxes for items will be upstairs in back of the church and downstairs on a table along the east wall. Collection will be now through June 2nd. Assemble will be June 4th at 9:30 a.m. We would love to have your help to assemble the kits. Many hands make light work and awesome fellowship!!! God loves it when we pray together and play together. And help those in need.

We are collecting gently used coats now Coats can be left in the box in Drummond Hall We will have a COAT GIVE AWAY DAY in the Fall

For a little added fun join the "Share The Warmth" Pledge to Mission Fund Raiser Count all the coats you own and give \$1.00 per coat to Center United Methodist Women (including the donated ones) Checks can be made to CUMW and give to Janet Myers Please make memo on your check – coat drive Funds will go to United Methodist Women National Missions

Financial News:

May 4th, 2018 at 3:30 will be the 3rd Annual Kentucky Derby Party at the Center United Methodist Church. Proceeds will be divided between Center United Methodist Church and Beaver Creek Youth Camp. Please come and enjoy the afternoon with crafts for the kids, hat contest, a horse line-up, Kentucky Derby trivia, and mint julips. Remember to bring some guest. The more guest you bring the better your chances are at a prize. We will watch the race on the screen in the fellowship hall and then enjoy a wonderful Kentucky Supper to end the evening.

March Giving	\$11,041.45
March Expenses	\$10,620.12
Net Income	\$421.33

Thanks to everyone for making our March numbers positive. Thanks to those who helped with the Easter Egg hunt in any way that you did. God is really good. Thanks to Janet Myers and Sue McClure for their time and energy on our finances.

"Knowledge is wisdom that comes from acquiring truth. Insight is wisdom that comes from living out the truth we acquire. Discernment is wisdom that comes from the Holy Spirit's reminders of that knowledge and insight" quote from Lysa Terkeurst.

Tony Holcomb **Finance Chairman** 850-9984

"A delicate fabric of bird song Floats in the air, The smell of wet wild earth Is everywhere. Oh I must pass nothing by Without loving it much, The raindrop try with my lips, The grass with my touch: For how can I be sure I shall see again

The world on the first of May Shining after the rain?"

- Sara Teasdale, May Day

http://www.gardendigest.com/monmay.htm

Cooking with Your Neighbor-Despite a number of people feeling not so good that night, we had a fair turnout. Everyone went home happy and no one should have left hungry. The next one will be next week one May 2. Feel free to prep and bring what you want BUT try real hard to bring someone else. There are many out there who could use a meal and fellowship after a long winter.



Dear Friends,

With the announcement that Bishop Karen Oliveto intends to appoint me to serve as Senior Pastor of Helena United Methodist Ministries in Helena, MT, comes the bitter-sweetness that accompanies all pastoral transition.

I am beyond ecstatic to return to the preaching life. For preaching is not just one of my favorite things in ministry, it is one of my favorite things, period. The grace I get to receive, channel and pronounce pulpit ministry is life-giving and energizing beyond any other form of spiritual discipline for me. To get to be regularly renewed in this way is an opportunity to resink my roots into the stream of Living Water Jesus provides and I am sighing with relief that this replenishment is on the horizon. I have been thirsty for quite some time and look forward to drinking deep.

This said, it is always hard for me to let go of the people in my care... and it is no different to leave the District as your Superintendent as it has been for me to leave congregations as pastor. I have been honored to serve you as DS. It has been a privilege to journey with you through the general ups and downs of pastoral ministry as well as the particular tensions of the past couple years in this conference and denomination. There is something about facing challenge together that is uniquely bonding and I feel that with you.

My sense is that the future of the District is in good hands with Rev. Chris Carr as the incoming DS. Chris has served the Rocky Ford church in this District and other congregations on the "margins" of our conference, including Meeker, CO and Gillette, WY. Thus, he understands some of the tensions between Denver and Not-Denver perspectives. He also has recently been working with the conference Congregational Vitality committee and is excited about coming alongside you and our CRMs to pursue possibilities for vital ministry.

One of the things that had become clear to me over the past year is that with the increased geography and number of churches within this District, the way a Superintendent goes about this work must inevitably change. This would have happened if I had remained with you, as the pace I have been racing at was unsustainable. So, my prayer and request is that you would be gracious with Chris as he transitions into this role. I know you all to be collaborative and generous and hope you will bless him with your ideas for how to connect with your churches and communities in order that he might serve you in ways that are life-giving to all.

I look forward to seeing you at Annual Conference... sharing hugs and hopes for the future. Know that I will continue to hold you in prayer.

"Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another." Romans 12:15-16a

Blessings on the Journey from your District Superintendent,

Margarit

You deserve Good Things

Joy is just around the corner!

Sometimes we forget that joy is joyfully unpredictable——that happiness can happen anytime, and that some of life's greatest blessings can take us by complete surprise. So if you're wondering when you'll have more reasons to smile, the answer is always wonderfully soon! (Clipping sent in by someone who wishes to share) After five years of serving on the Cabinet as a District Superintendent, the Rev. Margaret Gillikin will be returning to the local church as Bishop Karen Oliveto intends to appoint her as the lead pastor of Helena United Methodist Ministries in Helena, Montana. Her appointment will be effective July 1, 2019. We thank Margaret for her many years of service in the Mountain Sky Conference.

"Margaret has served the people of Trinity District faithfully, listening deeply, helping dream, and equipping pastors and laity for their ministries," said Bishop Oliveto. "She brought tremendous wisdom as well as joy to the Cabinet table. My prayers are with her and the Helena United Methodist Ministries as they prepare for their life together."

As superintendent of the Trinity District, Margaret has focused on helping congregations shift the focus of their attention from surviving to thriving through missional engagement in local communities, so that our churches might increasingly embody Jesus' calling in Matthew 25. During her tenure on the Mountain Sky Cabinet, Margaret has become the "Fun Fairy" – not just for the Cabinet, but for the whole Conference – sharing the energy of rejoicing in the Lord always through play.

Before becoming district superintendent, Margaret served as pastor at Salida United Methodist Church in Colorado from 2008 to 2014; First UMC in Casper, Wyoming from 2003 to 2008; and in Brandon, Wisconsin. She was ordained an elder in 2006. She also volunteered in youth ministry as a lay person at Littleton UMC in Colorado. Additionally, Margaret is a certified mediator in the state of Colorado and enjoys painting landscapes with pastels. She looks forward to resuming choral singing, serving in community or-ganizations like Habitat for Humanity and most of all, "delighting in the rhythms of congregational life."

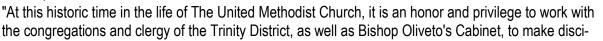
"It has been a blessing to journey beside God's beloved in southeast Colorado, lay and clergy alike, for the past five years," Margaret said. "You have been generous in sharing your resilience and receiving my hope as we have made our way in faith together. Shalom."

Helena United Methodist Ministries in Montana includes St. Paul and Covenant United Methodist churches.

Bishop Oliveto then intends to appoint the Rev. Chris Carr to serve as Superintendent of Trinity District, effective July 1, 2019. The Trinity District covers a large area of southern Colorado, from the mountains of the San Luis Valley to the eastern plains. Chris is

currently serving Spirit of Hope United Methodist Church in Englewood, Colorado. He is also the cochair of the Congregational Vitality Committee for the Mountain Sky Conference. Chris has previously served on the Board of Ordained Ministry as co-chair of the Order of Elders and on the legacy Rocky Mountain Personnel and Policies Committee.

Bishop Oliveto said: "Chris Carr has served the conference well as the co-chair of Congregational Vitality Committee. He brings a deep love of congregational ministry as well as thoughtful, reflective leadership that will assist our Trinity churches as they help their members grow in discipleship and find creative ways to share the love of God in their communities."



ples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world," Chris said about his appointment. "While we don't know yet exactly where the denomination is headed, we know for certain that God – in whom we live, breathe, and have our being – is dreaming and moving and pouring grace into our lives. I'm as enthusiastic as ever about the Spirit-led future of the people called Methodist!" Chris has served numerous churches in the conference, including Meeker United Methodist Church in Colorado from 1998 to 2003; First UMC in Longmont, Colorado from 2003 to 2005; Rocky Ford UMC in Colorado from 2006 to 2010. During a four-year voluntary leave of absence, Chris worked as a substitute teacher for Gillette Public Schools and as assistant director in the city's community corrections facility. His ministry with the homeless has included Giving Heart Englewood in Colorado and the town Denver.

"My time outside of local church pastoral ministry has given me a glimpse at how irrelevant our churches often seem in our communities," Chris said. "I've also seen the tremendous potential for getting outside our walls to discover and join in where Jesus is already hard at work. This is how we earn the privilege of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with a world thirsty for living water." Please pray for Margaret, Chris and their families in this time of transition.

Appointments will be finalized at Annual Conference in June. A list of appointments, assignments and current church openings is available on the <u>Mountain Sky Conference website</u>.



A DIVIDED AMERICA: 3 RESPONSES FOR CHRISTIANS

Government cannot fix us. Politics will never heal us.

Those who follow Jesus Christ and identify themselves as Christians need to understand and believe the first two sentences of this article or you will live a highly disappointed life.

Disunity is triumphant in our nation today. Some pride themselves over creating it while others grieve when our nation experiences it. Division does not honor Jesus Christ. Jesus is always right. In Luke 11:17, Jesus said, "Knowing their thoughts, He told them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is headed for destruction, and a house divided against itself falls."

America does not get an exception to this basic principle. Neither does a family, church, business, or even a long-term friendship.

Therefore, how should we respond as Christians when America is divided like it is today?

Response #1: Christians Need to Pray for America

Many Christians are so disappointed and fed up with matters about America, they struggle even to pray for our nation. Is this right? Is this justified?

Absolutely not!

Because where America is today IS the reason we DO need to pray. If all was perfect and unity abounded across our nation, we may enjoy praying for America more regularly, but whether we enjoy it or not, it is needed.

Praying for America should be our first choice, not our last choice!

God is our hope; our last, great, and only hope. Therefore, we need to pray like we believe this with all we are.

The alarm clock is going off in our nation and this is not the time to push the snooze button. America needs to experience the next great move of God.

That is why we pray. That is why we will prioritize praying for America on our upcoming National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 2. Will you join us?

Prayer precedes every great movement of God biblically and historically. Therefore, we need to pray and ask God for a mighty, great spiritual awakening across America. That is why the National Day of Prayer is a nationwide movement of prayer for America.

Response #2: Christians Need to Love One Another

Christians need to follow Jesus' teaching of loving one another. John 13:34, "Love one another, just as I have loved you." This what we are calling our nation to do on Thursday, May 2.

We need a Love One Another movement that begins in the church of Jesus Christ. Christians should never take pride in being filled with skepticism or criticism of other people. We should love all people just like Jesus did and does: willfully, sacrificially, and unconditionally.

Love One Another needs to become a movement that also infiltrates every part of American life when the church is experiencing this movement within their own fellowship.

Followers of Christ need each other more than ever before. While certain secondary doctrinal differences will exist, we need to unite around the beliefs that:

The Bible is God's infallible Word; it is Truth without any mixture of error.

Jesus is the Son of God and the hope of the world; therefore, salvation is faith alone in Christ alone.

We must focus our lives, churches, and futures on taking the gospel of Jesus Christ to every person in America and across the world. We need to stop fighting over secondary issues and rise up together to become the spiritual light in this darkening America and World. The church needs to model loving one another or we forfeit our right to speak into the future of our nation. It is time to come together in unity.

Response #3: Prepare for the Future

What will the Church become in the future of America? Will we lose our freedom or have it affirmed?

We need to prepare for the future realistically, but also with great hope. Regardless of the present cultural tide that is rising in direct opposition to the ways of God, we are a gospel people committed to Christ alone.

Our future is not in the hands of the United States government; our future is in the hands of our Sovereign God. Yes, our times are in His hands!

We need to prepare future generations spiritually and vocationally for what God wants them to be and how He wants them to live for Him. That is why I believe our greatest hope lies only in Jesus Christ, His Gospel, and the advancement of this Good News message reaching every corner of America and across this world.

While we call out to God for His Church to be revived by the Spirit and begin to love one another, resulting in coming together in unity, we need to simultaneously pray extraordinarily for the next Great Spiritual Awakening in America. I believe this is our greatest hope in America. Now is the Time to Lead,

Ronnie W. Floyd

May Fun Facts	Some Astonishing Misconce	eptions! (about May)
Birthstone: Emerald, signifies love and success Flower: Lily of the Valley, Daisy or Sweet Pea Taurus (April 21 - May 20) Gemini (May 21 - June 21) The first Saturday is the Kentucky Derby. The first Saurtday in May is also <u>World Naked Gar- dening Day</u> . (I don't recommend this but thought it was too funny to skip) Think of the sunburn. And you would get arrested! The second Sunday in May is Mother's Day Old saying: April Showers Bring May Flowers	new broom in this month. An ► Some people believed that your face in the May dew, it w giving you a great complexio	at if you got up on May 1st and washed would remove all freckles and pimples,
Among the changing months, May stands con	fest; The sweetest, and in	fairest colors dressed.

- James Thomson celebrationjoy.com/month-of-may-fun-facts-

fairest colors dressed. quotes-trivia

Another May new buds and flowers shall bring: Ah! why has happiness no second Spring?— Charlotte Smith <u>https://celebrationjoy.com/month-of-may-fun-facts-quotes-trivia</u>

Quiet Disciple Award CUMC

Betty Felmlee was nominated and awarded the Silent Disciple Award. She provides the communion bread, sets communion up, volunteers to help when we need her, and sees what needs to be done and she does it. She is our quiet disciple in many things. Thank You Betty and Congratulations.

SUMC Dinner with Your Neighbor

Saguache had a wonderful time on the 17th of April doing a Fish Fry for Dinner with Your Neighbor. It was held on a different day this month to accommodate the main cook who could not be there the regular night. They had 47 attend and ate catfish, trout and faux gatero (chicken). What a great turnout and wonderful fellowship for all.



CUMC Easter Events

A Seder service was held at the church Maundy Thursday. It was very well attended. Over 50 persons participated from all over the Valley. Most said how it had affected them . There are pictures and validations from attendees on Facebook that are well worth the time to check out. The Easter egg hunt went very well with volunteers helping to watch and take care of the actual hunt. The kids could paint boxes for their treasures at home, or paint something else, or make stained glass windows to hang in their rooms, decorate Easter cookies or make Easter rabbits from wash cloths.

And Easter morning, we had an Easter Sunrise service with 20 attending, then a brunch that even Pastor Debbie had time to partake in, followed by our regular service with many Easter pluses of tulips, lilies, and uplifting music, special music and jelly beans to remind us of our blessings of life through the Love Jesus.

SUMC

They a very meaningful and contemplative service for the stations of the cross. Then on Easter they started at 9 and had waffles and strawberries and whipped cream to celebrate. This went especially well because of the double waffle iron borrowed from Pastor Debbie. They had 12 in attendance.

They followed that with much the same as Center's service. Thank you Pastor Debbie and all the volunteers who helped with seeing our Easter Celebrations through to the end.

May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			Crossroads 9-12	MAY 2 Cooking Neighbor 5:30 pm 8 am National D @ Monte Vista		Kentucky Derby 3:30 pm
5	6	7	8	9	ີດີ 10	11
CUMC service 8:30 SUMC service 10:30		UMW Mother's Day dinner 6:30 DVD Yog	Crossroads 9-12	Dinner with Your Neighbor 5:30 pm	A With	50+
12	13	⁹⁹ 14	15	16	17	18
Mother's Day CUMC service 8:30 SUMC service 10:30 Mother's Day break- fast 9 am at SUMC	Town & Country 7:30	Worship Committee meeting 8:30 amCUMC boardmeeting 6:30 pm Or 1ai	Crossroads 9-12		Instruc	
19	20	21	22	23	for 24	25
CUMC service 8:30 SUMC service 10:30 CUMC Brunch		Chi 9:30 on	Crossroads 9-12	Movie night CUMC Dog's Journey Home	9:30 a	Graduation par- ty in church
26	27	28	29	30	^m 31	
CUMC service 8:30 SUMC service 10:30 Birthday party in church	Memorial Day	Tuesdays	Crossroads 9-12			