



Rev. Debria Upton
Pastor

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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 28, 2020

Greetings and 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 Linda Clutter for being our online liturgist and for Kitty Bigley-Entz for being our in-person liturgist. Thank you all so much for your willingness to serve. What a blessing to see everyone in worship. I do appreciate the kindness and grace of all of those who were present either virtually or in-person Sunday.

The Saguache United Methodist Church will be having a church meeting this coming Saturday, October 3rd at 1 pm in the fellowship hall. The fellowship hall will open at 12:45 pm. We will be following the COVID guidelines. Right now those restrictions require 50 people or less in each room wearing masks and maintaining social distancing. Temperatures will be taken at the door and if the temperature requires an oximeter's reading, then that will be taken. There is no coffee fellowship, but you are welcome to bring your own coffee or beverage for yourself. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as we seek to reopen with everyone's safety in mind. Please, if you are vulnerable or feel ill on Saturday, as much as we would love to see you, please remain at home and join us using our Zoom platform. We have many things to discuss about our Saguache congregation.

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 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. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8678651613?pwd=VlVDejIBRVBjT0tYNXVtUG42QTFNdz09/> is the link that can be clicked on or pasted in your browser. 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. Look for more information in October's newsletter.

There will be no worship committee meeting for September, but will resume in October.

Fall has officially begun, so mark your calendars for our charge conference meeting this year will be via Zoom which is tentatively scheduled for the evening of November 18th. Benevolence, Laity, UMW, Finance, SPR and the nominations committees will be meeting to complete the reports for 2019-

2020. Hannah have been going through the directory and updating our records. I know she would appreciate your help, especially with people she has not been able to contact.

We are launching a special call for donations toward Beaver Creek Youth Camp that is in dire need, especially since camp use is down and fundraisers weren't able to occur due to COVID. The council voted to match all donations for Beaver Creek Youth Camp up to \$2000. Please join us in helping to keep this worthwhile mission alive.

Thank you for your generosity especially during this difficult time. Saguache faces an uncertain future. Because our contributions have been very low during these uncertain days, we are facing impending insurance payment for next year as well as end of the year obligations. We have been managing to keep up with limited funds; however, as we face winter heating bills and end of the year obligations, we are having to pull from our limited reserve. Please pray that God will guide us and help us as we do the reports for the current year and make plans for the coming year. I praying that God lays it on your heart to help in this time of need; it would be greatly appreciated. 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 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. 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.

Check out <https://www.facebook.com/Saguache-United-Methodist-Church-100823578454283> which is our Saguache United Methodist Facebook page, so be sure to like us and pass our link to others who might be interested in our faith community.

The UMW is continuing their fall mission focus with Hands Up for Mission. You are encouraged to count the number of gloves and/or mittens you have and make a monetary donation for each pair toward Trinity District's UMW mission endeavor.

Our Cooking for Our Neighbors continues to grow. Thank you to our good cooks and volunteers Charleen Schaeffer, Betty Felmlee, Kitty Bigley-Entz, and Janet Myers. It is such a blessing to share the love of Christ in this unique way. We thank Charleen for her delicious beef stroganoff, Janet's delicious carrots, Betty's delicious dessert, and Kitty's delicious sweet bread.

Pease feel free to reach out to me to ask how to share in this unique time, especially with prayer requests and concerns. Our list continues to grow, so I hope you will join us in praying daily for our church, community, and nation. I am available via phone or text at 504-261-8860. You can always reach me via email dupton@iliff.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. Debra Upton