



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Corner of Christy and 6th, Saguache, Colorado 81149 • Church E-Mail: umcofcenter@gmail.com

Rev. Debria Upton
Pastor

October 7, 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 Charleen Schaeffer for being our online liturgist and for Roy Ratzlaff 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.

Several folks from Saguache United Methodist Church met Saturday, October 3rd at 1 pm in the fellowship hall and via Zoom. It was decided that the church would remain closed indefinitely for in-person worship with the exception of Christmas Eve Candlelight service which would traditionally open at 5 pm using COVID protocols as well as being accessed by Zoom with mostly a prerecorded service. Unfortunately, it is not a perfect plan, but it is obviously COVID will be with us even through the Christmas season. COVID guidelines. Seating would be limited to 25 people in the sanctuary or less 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. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as we seek to reopen with everyone's safety in mind. Please, if you are vulnerable or feel ill Christmas Eve, as much as we would love to see you, please remain at home and join us using our Zoom platform. As part of reaching our Saguache community we now have a Facebook page Saguache United Methodist Church <https://www.facebook.com/Saguache-United-Methodist-Church-100823578454283>, so be sure to like us and pass our link to others who might be interested in our faith community. We also have a new mailing address which is P. O. Box 184, Saguache, CO 81149.

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. On Wednesday the Disciple bible study on *Under the Tree of Life – The Writings – John- Revelation* continues and is open to anyone who wishes to join 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 link that can be clicked on or pasted in your browser is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8678651613?pwd=VlVDejlBRVBjT0tYNXVtUG42QTFNdz09/>. 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.

I would like to invite you to join me in Dave Ramsey's workshop "Foundations in Personal Finance" both youth and adults which we will do both in-person and via Zoom. If you are struggling financially or if you wish to refresh your biblical perspective of your personal finances, then you will want to join us for this twelve-week study geared toward changing your personal financial habits. It is taken from longer class Financial Freedom

and Dave Ramsey's high-school homeschool curriculum "Foundations in Personal Finance" which will include Steve Repak's 6-week money challenge. Tentatively, we are looking at Sunday afternoons at 4 pm with a repeat of the week's session on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm. If you wish to participate, please contact the church office so we can get the materials for this study together for you. Both sessions are available for in person with COVID protocols in place as well as Zoom access. These sessions will be recorded; however, because of copyright restrictions they will not be posted online through our website or Facebook or our YouTube. Please get the word out to the community for this great opportunity. We will begin October 25, 2020.

Worship committee will meet October 13th at 8:30 am and Ad Council will meet October 11th at 6:30 pm in person and also through Zoom platform.

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, SPPR 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. We have a new mailing address for Saguache United Methodist, so Saguache folks can send their contribution in check form to Saguache UMC, P.O. Box 184, Saguache, CO 81149. Please write the check to Saguache UMC. Bill will now be able to deposit those donations into First Southwest bank in Saguache into the Saguache's church account. We deeply appreciate Sue McClure's graciousness to have made Saguache UMC deposits over the last thirty weeks, and now that the branch in Saguache is open again, we can resume making our own deposits. We deeply appreciate Bill and Jeannie with their financial leadership. 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 184, Saguache, CO 81149 where they will be deposited in Saguache UMC's account.

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.

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 Saguache 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*