

# February 2021

Pastor Debbie

Volume 36 Issue 2

Center United Methodist Church

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4th & Broadway,  
Center CO 81125  
Worship Services: 10:30 am  
Zoom: 8:30 am & 10:30 am  
Church Phone: 719-754-2243  
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Saguache United Methodist Church

6th & Christie, Saguache  
Worship Service: Zoom Only  
(8:30 am & 10:30 am)

Pastor: Rev. Debbie Upton

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Looking back to last year at this time, we never dreamed that 2020 would be such a challenging year. We have gone through shut downs, learning to wear masks, hybrid learning for our kids, and the loss of many loved ones in our community and families. As we began Lent in February last year, we never dreamed that we **couldn't celebrate Christ's resurrection as we had done in the past. What we hoped** would be a forty-day Lenten lesson of self-denial has turned into a year of self-reflection and daily celebrating the small things like plenty of toilet paper and disinfectant or a long awaited phone call from a friend or family. We do celebrate the vaccines and pray that they are available for anyone who wants it. God has never left us, nor forsaken us; instead God has prepared a way for us to join in **Christ's mission for the church in very real and personally ways. We know many in our area who are suffering from COVID and we pray for healing. I marvel at God's** grace in the outpouring of compassion and support for the Lino family as they grieve the loss of young Lizbeth. We are never promised a life with no suffering, but we are promised that our Savior understands our suffering and walks with us through it for the grace and glory of God.

This year as we begin Lent on Ash Wednesday, we will have a special Ash Wednesday service Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 6:30 pm in person at Center **as well as virtually through Zoom and Center's as well as Saguache's Facebook** pages. I invite you to join together for this special service of reflection, healing, remembrance, and reconciliation as we gather to take on the ashes in the sign of the cross where Christ took on our sins to redeem and restore us to our heavenly Father.

We are not able to have our Movie Night until the weather warms up when we can resume our Drive-In Movie Night. This Saturday, February 6th at 9 am Coffee with Chief will be held in our Drummond Hall. COVID protocols will be followed.

**Cookin' for Your Neighbor continues until we are able to resume our community meal of Cookin' with Your Neighbor. I would like to thank our ladies who faithfully** prepare delicious meals for our community. Thank you so much for your dedication to this outreach ministry.

An exciting event to put on your calendar is Sunday night, June 13, 2021 when the gospel group New Legacy Project will lead us in an evening of worship. New Legacy Project travels all over the United States, singing and ministering. This ministry supports six families in full time ministry as well as funding the "I'll Stand **Project", which sends bibles, CD's, & DVD's, to veterans in veterans' hospitals, all over the country. You won't want to miss their concert.**

Not only is February the month in which Lent begins, it is also the month of **Valentine's Day. Let's use this month as an opportunity to share the love of Jesus** to everyone we meet. Everyone needs a valentine - a reminder that someone is thinking of them, so consider sending, giving, or leaving a valentine to surprise someone and lift their spirits.

Calling all folks who counter cross stitch. Please contact Pastor Debbie about a project we might do. Thank you.

*"To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."*

- Mark 12:33 (NIV)

## The Twelve Disciples

Who was John?

John the Apostle was a convert of John the Baptist, but became a follower of Jesus when Christ called him. He and his brother James were the closest to Jesus, and after Pentecost became the pillars of the church along with Simon Peter. This closeness is shown most prominently when Jesus requests his beloved disciple to take his mother Mary into his home while on the cross. He is also present for many of the miracles Jesus performs and is the only disciple to witness the crucifixion.

John is seen as one who maintained continuous faith in that Jesus is the Son of God and is very knowledgeable with Jewish culture. His maturity and spiritual insight may have been what led to his inclusion in the inner circle. He could speak with the intellectually elite of the day while also communicating to the simpler people in ways which they could understand. But he was also human. He had ambition and tended to think in absolutes.

It is believed that John led the Jerusalem Council 50 AD, where the early church leaders and apostles including Paul met to decide how the growing Gentile Converts should participate in rituals and rules of the Christian believers.

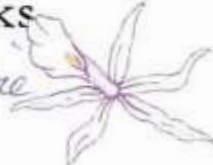
He is known as the apostle of love but not because he was soft and loved every neighbor as if they were family. In Luke 9:53-55 it was he and his brother James that were calling for fire from heaven to be brought down upon the village that would not welcome Jesus. His love of Jesus and his dedication to his teachings show us why he is named the apostle of love. For it is not the feeble type of love John teaches but the commanding love that Christ demonstrated to him every day.

**“And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love. We love each other because he loved us first.” (1 John 4:17-19)**



Made especially for you by the  
Kiwanis Club of Center

We at the Kiwanis Club of  
Center would just like to  
say thanks

*Pastor Debra* 

*First United Methodist*

*Skip McClure*  
*Christa K Davis*

*Ross K...  
Dick Engler  
Dick Ramette*



## COLORADO

Department of Human Services

Veterans Community Living Center  
at Homelake

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Colorado Veterans Community Living Center at Homelake  
P.O. Box 97, Homelake, CO 81135  
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[cdhs\\_csvc\\_homelake@state.co.us](mailto:cdhs_csvc_homelake@state.co.us)

*January 5, 2021*

*Center United Methodist  
387 S. Broadway  
Center, CO 81125*

*Dear Friends,*

*Thank you for your generous donation of goodie bags for our wonderful residents. It is with donations and support such as yours that we are able to provide many needed services and joyous activities to our residents. Generosity like yours makes a very positive impact at Homelake.*

*The residents and staff of the Colorado Veterans Community Living Center at Homelake appreciate all you do for us. We are so grateful to be recipients of your generous donation.*

*Sincerely,*

*Mindy K. Montague  
Nursing Home Administrator  
Resident Council Presidents*





JESUS STOPPED BY AND NOBODY LOVES MORE THAN HIM, BUT BEFORE YOU GET JEALOUS OR ANYTHING YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT IT IS FOR YOU TOO

## Joke of the Month

Mrs. Smartt was fumbling in her purse for her offering when a large television remote fell out and clattered into the aisle. The curious usher bent over to retrieve it for her and whispered, "Do you always carry your TV remote to church?"

"No," she replied, "but my husband refused to come with me this morning, and I figured this was the most evil thing I could do to him legally."

## Chocolate Lava Cake

Recipe by: Chef John (Allrecipes.com)

### Ingredients

- butter as needed
- 2 egg yolks
- 2 eggs
- 3 tablespoons white sugar
- 3 ½ ounces chopped dark chocolate
- 5 tablespoons butter
- 4 teaspoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1 pinch salt
- 1/8 teaspoon vanilla extract



### Directions

1. Generously butter the inside of 4 (5 1/2 ounce) ramekins. Place them in a casserole dish.
2. Whisk together egg yolks, eggs, and sugar in a bowl until light, foamy, and lemon colored.
3. Melt chocolate and butter in a microwave-safe bowl in 30-second intervals, stirring after each melting, 1 to 3 minutes.
4. Stir melted chocolate mixture into egg and sugar mixture until combined.
5. Sift cocoa powder into the mixture; stir to combine.
6. Sift flour and salt into the mixture; stir to combine into a batter.
7. Stir vanilla extract into the batter.
8. Transfer batter to a resealable plastic bag. Snip one corner of the bag with scissors to create a tip.
9. Divide batter evenly between the prepared ramekins; tap gently on the counter to remove any air bubbles.
10. Refrigerate 30 minutes.
11. Preheat an oven to 425 degrees F and arrange the ramekins in a casserole dish. Pour enough hot tap water into the casserole dish to reach halfway up the sides of the ramekins.
12. Bake in the preheated oven for 15-18 minutes. Set aside to cool for 15 minutes.
13. Loosen the edges from the ramekin with a knife. Invert each cake onto a plate and dust with powdered sugar.

<https://www.allrecipes.com/video/482/chocolate-lava-cake/>