



Rev. Debra Upton
Pastor

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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 22, 2021

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 Roy Ratzlaff for being our online liturgist and for Sue McClure for being our in-person liturgist. Thank you all so much for your willingness to serve. What a blessing to see everyone in worship, even though the snow hampered in-person attendance, it was great to see so many virtually.

I would like to thank those folks who joined Meditation by Chocolate Sunday evening at 5 pm. I hope you enjoyed another tasty time of meditation. If you missed it, I hope you will join us next Sunday evening at 5 pm as we continue. Please text, email, or call me so that I will make sure you have everything you need as we virtually engage the Scriptures together. There is an option of joining us in person, if anyone desires doing so at Center United Methodist.

I would like to thank those folks who joined this year's Ash Wednesday's service virtually and Linda and Dick Wilson for braving the cold to join the in-person service. There was a glitch in posting the noon Lenten devotion which hopefully will work better this week. These noon devotions are taken from the Book of Common Prayer that I was able to acquire at the Epworth Rectory on my 2016 Wesleyan Pilgrimage. The book dates in the 1800's and is like reading from our early history as Methodists. The Sanctuary for Lent daily devotions are available as we journey through Lent.

Disciple Bible Study this Wednesday will resume this week with lesson 30. We are drawing close to the end of this study of Revelations. We hope you will join us. 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 Lent there will be posted daily Lenten devotions on our Facebook pages. 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=VlVDejRBRVBJT0tYNXVtUG42QTFNdz09/>. 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.

We continue to be blessed by your generosity as we begin 2021 and look forward to continuing the work of Christ through your generosity. If you are attending in-person worship, the offerings can be left on the pew when you leave and someone will pick them up and Sue will deposit them later. Online donations can be made at www.umcofcenter.com or you can text the amount you wish to give to (719) 628-1830 which will walk you through the secure donation. There is a fee that is charged the church when payments are made online and by text. Both the online and text options are secure and the funds are immediately processed into Center UMC's bank account. Donations still can be mailed to P. O. Box 626, Center, 81125.

Our Cooking for Our Neighbors has been a blessing. I would like to thank Janet Myers for her scrumptious cookies, Kitty Entz for the delicious homemade coleslaw, Linda Warsh for the wonderful spicy corn, and Betty Felmlee for her tasty bread. We hope you enjoyed a little taste Louisiana. We welcome anyone who wishes to join our little group. We know it is a lot of work which is much lighter as we share it together. It is not meant to be a burden but a blessing for everyone involved. It is such a delight to share the love of Christ in this unique way. I'm blessed to pastor such incredibly generous and compassionate folks. If you know of someone who should be on our list for meals, please let us know. If you wish to be removed, please let us know. It is truly an out pouring of God's love.

Please 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 for the Journey *Rev. Debra Upton*