

March 2021

Pastor Debbie

Volume 36 Issue 3

Center United Methodist Church

PO Box 626
4th & Broadway,
Center CO 81125
Worship Services: 10:30 am
Zoom: 8:30 am & 10:30 am
Church Phone: 719-754-2243
E-mail: umcofcenter@gmail.com
Financial E-mail:
CUMCfin@yahoo.com
Website: umcofcenter.com

Saguache United Methodist Church

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

Pastor: Rev. Debbie Upton

Phone: 719-754-2243
Cell phone: 504-261-8860
167 W. 4th
Center CO 81125
Email: dupton@liff.edu

Administrative Assistant/
Newsletter Editor:

Hannah Metzger
Phone: (719) 989-0987
Office Hours: Mon—Thurs
8:30am-11:30am

Grace and Peace of Christ be with you,

What a difference a year makes! We are now in the season of Lent. Now as we begin Lent, let our focus be on a time of renewal, redemption, reconciliation, and resilience. Center UMC will be celebrating Easter with a Sunrise Drive-In Service at 7:30 am with special treats for children who attend. Saguache UMC will re-open for in-person worship Easter Sunday at 11 am using the COVID safety protocols Center has been practicing as they re-opened.

Holy Week: Palm Sunday – regular 8:30 am virtual worship and 10:30 am in-person worship at Center Maundy Thursday – virtual service focused on the Upper Room with communion. Good Friday – 6:30 reflective worship service both in-person and virtually. Easter Sunday – 7:30 am Sunrise Drive-In service at Center UMC and 11 am worship service at Saguache UMC to re-open in-person worship.

Lent is a time for self-reflection and deepening one's relationship with God in Jesus Christ.

For many this season leading up to Easter will be weeks of giving up something they enjoy as a sign of contrition for mistakes they have made. Others will spend extra time in devotions and prayer, while a few more will carry a cross or nail in their pocket as a reminder of the sacrifice Jesus made for them and the whole world.

As in the words of William Arthur Ward, "Lent should be more than a time of fasting. It should be a joyous season of feast-ing. Lent is a time to fast from certain things and to feast on others. It is a season in which we should:

- Fast from judging others; feast on Christ dwelling in them.
- Fast from emphasis on differences; feast on the unity of all life.
- Fast from thought of illness; feast on the healing power of God.
- Fast from words that pollute; feast on the phrases that purify.
- Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.
- Fast from anger; feast on optimism.
- Fast from worry; feast on hope.
- Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation.
- Fast from negatives; feast on affirmatives.
- Fast from bitterness; feast on forgiveness.
- Fast from self-concern; feast on compassion for others.
- Fast from discouragement; feast on hope.
- Fast from suspicion; feast on truth.

Fast from thoughts that weaken; feast on promises that inspire."

There are many ways to be observant during Lent. Be original. Find yours.

Center UMC will be working with the Center Food Bank to hold a Food Drive for our community tentatively set for March 31st during the day. We need volunteers to help with the Drive. If you are available and willing to help, please let Pastor Debbie know as soon as possible.

Reminder of Worship Committee March 9th @ 8:30 am @ CUMC or virtually. One church board meeting March 9th @ 6:30 pm @ CUMC or virtually.

Saguache UMC will re-open for in-person worship beginning Easter Sunday morning at 11 am following COVID protocols and if everything goes ok, then Saguache UMC service will be each Sunday at 11 am.

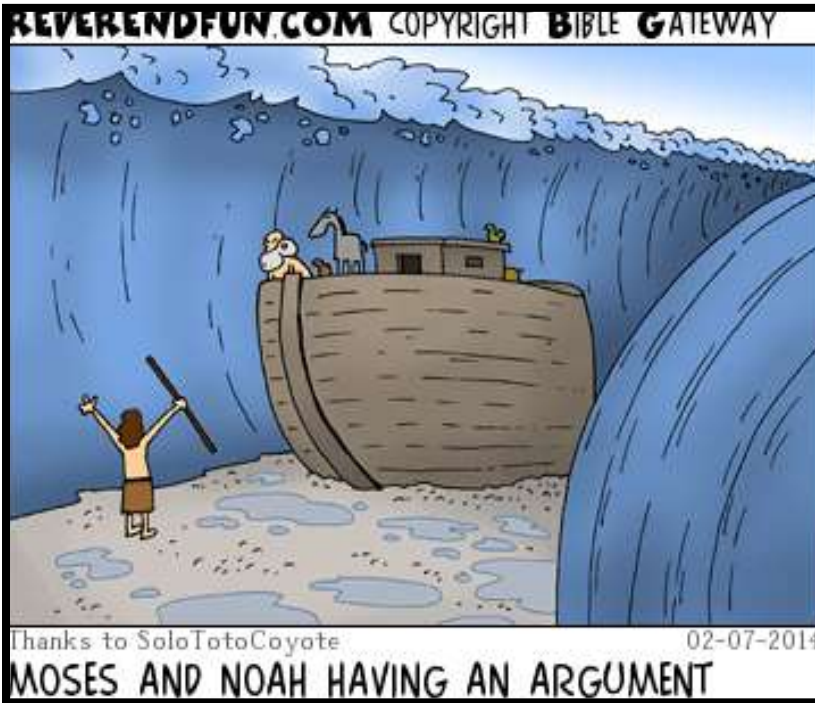
As you feel safe to return to in-person worship, we welcome you back, but please know that Center will continue our online presence via Zoom and Facebook Live. We will attempt to try to have Facebook Live for Saguache in-person service but there is no internet at the Saguache UMC which limits our capability. We want to stay in touch with everyone as we join together in ministry. God bless you.

Remember Daylight Saving Time begins March 14, 2021

New worship times beginning April 11, 2021—CUMC @ 9 am and SUMC @ 11 am

"Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."

- 1 Peter 5:6-7 (NIV)



Easter Service

Join us Sunday, April 4th for a Drive in Easter Service! Our sunrise service will begin at 7:30am in Center with special treats for the children who attend. Saguache will also be celebrating its re-opening that morning with an 11am in-person service at the Saguache church. Please join us!

Joke of the Month

Our fourth grader celebrated his birthday on crutches, so he couldn't carry the cupcakes into school without help. I asked our sixth-grader, Noah, to help his brother carry them in. "I could," he said, "but I'd prefer not to." Spotting a teaching moment, my husband asked Noah, "What would Jesus do?" Noah answered, "Jesus would heal him so he could carry his own cupcakes." —Rachel Nichols

Irish Soda Bread Muffins

Recipe by: Joaniecny (Allrecipes.com)

Ingredients

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 Tbsp sugar
- 1 Tbsp caraway seeds
- 1 Tbsp baking powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp baking soda
- 1 3/4 cups buttermilk
- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup butter, melted



Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Line a muffin tin with paper liners.
2. Mix flour, raisins, 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar, caraway seeds, baking powder, salt, and baking soda in a large bowl.
3. Whisk buttermilk and egg together in a small bowl. Stir into flour mixture. Fold butter into the batter.
4. Spoon batter into the prepared muffin tin.
5. Bake in the preheated oven until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean, 20 to 30 minutes.

This recipe has not accounted for the high altitude

<https://www.allrecipes.com/video/10388/irish-soda-bread-muffins/>