



Rev. Debra Upton
Pastor

Corner of Christy and 6th
P. O. Box 184, Saguache, Colorado 81149 • Church E-Mail: umcofcenter@gmail.com

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 12, 2021

Greetings and Grace and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

Thank you to all you who joined our 11 am in person worship. We didn't have anyone for fellowship before worship, but perhaps that will take hold soon. Since I am traveling from Center to Saguache, it will be necessary for someone to take charge of opening up and making coffee for the fellowship. Hopefully attendance will increase in the weeks to come. I appreciate Jeannie Norris for being our accompanist Sunday morning and I appreciate Mike Norris being our in-person liturgist. The link to the audio of the sermon is <https://umcofcenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/April-11-2021-sermon-Unless-I-See.mp3>

We are taking a short break and will resume Wednesday night Bible Study in May. I will be sharing the study *Mothers in Israel* (Methodist beginnings through the eyes of women) by my friend from the 2016 Wesleyan Pilgrimage Donna Fowler who is now serving in England. This is a look at how women have shaped Methodism and our faith.

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. We concluded our last segment of The Story behind the Songs since both churches are fully open now. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8678651613?pwd=VIVDejlBRVBJT0tYNXVtUG42QTFNdz09/> 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.

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.

We continue to be blessed by your generosity and we are continuing to maintain the work of Christ through your generosity, so we deeply appreciate your gifts during these first slow months of 2021. During this last year, we have lost several faithful saints and therefore has lost their faithful offerings. If you are receiving a COVID stimulus check, please consider an offering to the church in thanks for the extra blessing. 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 deposit those donations into First Southwest bank in Saguache into the Saguache's church account. We deeply appreciate Bill and Jeannie with their financial leadership.

This is a reminder that our Cooking for Our Neighbors this week is connected with the cookout. Remember, this week on April 16th, we will be hosting a Night Out Against Crime Cookout to honor our law enforcement, so we hope those who receive meals will join us. As we draw to a close of April, we will return to our Cooking with our Neighbors on May 13, 2021. We pray that those who are receiving meals will be able to join us in person and participate in our community meal – a meal where we share if we are able by bringing a covered dish containing whatever delicious food. If you are unable to bring a dish, please know that the invitation is open even if you are unable to cook or bring something. This is a time of fellowship and getting to know one another on a deeper level. Birthdays and anniversaries will be celebrated as well as have the privilege of being the first ones in line. Remember we will resume Dinner with Our Neighbor will be May 13th at 5:30 pm. We hope to see you there and have you invite your neighbors. I would like to thank our faithful laity who continue the weekly meals until May 6th. 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.

April 24th will be our 2021 Mountain Sky Gathering by Zoom. The gathering will begin at 9 am. I invite you to register at <https://mtnsky-reg.brtaapp.com/2021MSCDistrictGatherings> or go to <https://westernjurisdictionumc.org/where-love-lives-creating-a-fully-inclusive-united-methodist-church-western-jurisdiction-beginning-year-long-campaign/> for more information. I also invite you to stay informed about United Methodist news at UM News Weekly Digest at www.umnews.org.

Please know that 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 for the Journey

Rev. Debra Upton