



# Saguache

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Corner of Christy and 6<sup>th</sup>  
P. O. Box 184, Saguache, Colorado 81149 • Church E-Mail: [umcofcenter@gmail.com](mailto:umcofcenter@gmail.com)

Rev. Debria Upton  
Pastor

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/2021/04/April-18-2021-9-am-worship-service.mp3>.

This is National Volunteer Week, so I would like thank our volunteers for all they do. I would like to especially thank Jeannie and Mike Norris for all their help. I would also like to thank Bill Hazard for faithfully checking our P. O. Box for donations and for making those timely deposits. As we transition the second week of May to our once a month community dinners, we will need many volunteers to bring side dishes for BBQ pull pork in May and others to invite our community to join us.

The Staff Parish Relationship team needs your help. Janet needs feedback on the clergy assessment and the congregation assessment. You may think your opinion doesn't matter, but it does. To try and help make it easy, please answer the questions on the clergy assessment and the congregation assessment and mail it back to the church or scan it and email it to Hannah at [umcofcenter@gmail.com](mailto:umcofcenter@gmail.com).

**Today is also Administrative Assistant Appreciation Day. I hope that you will take time to call the church or email Hannah and tell her how much we appreciate all that she does. We are so blessed to have her. She does so many things behind the scenes that we take for granted. Thank you from the bottom of hearts, Hannah. We love and appreciate you.**

We are taking a short break and will resume Wednesday night Bible Study May 12, 2021 at 6:30pm via zoom. 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. If you are interested in being a part of this study, please let me know.

Remember that access to any worship is posted on our [www.umcofcenter.com](http://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.

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 that allows us to maintain the work of Christ. We deeply appreciate your gifts during these first slow months of 2021. During this last year, we have lost several faithful saints and therefore have 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.

As we draw to a close of April, we will return to our Dinner with our Neighbors on May 13, 2021 at 5:30 pm. 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. 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. 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 6<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**This is a reminder April 24th will be our 2021 Mountain Sky Gathering by Zoom @ 9. No one has registered from our church, so I would appreciate it if you would consider going online and registering at <https://mtnsky-reg.brapp.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 know we are all busy, but participating via Zoom allows us to participate without having to travel. When no one from our church is willing to participate, it gives other churches in our district the idea that we don't want to connect with other churches and don't care about the overall mission of United Methodism; that we are only focused on us. I know this is not true, so your representation would be appreciated.**

**I also invite you to stay informed about United Methodist news at UM News Weekly Digest at [www.umnews.org](http://www.umnews.org).**

Peace and Grace for the Journey,

*Rev. Debra Upton*