



Rev. Debria Upton  
Pastor

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**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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

May 5, 2021

**Happy Cinco de Mayo!** Don't forget to thank our educators this week since it is Teacher Appreciation Week. We were able to send some goodies to Center Consolidated Schools to thank them for their hard work.

What a wonderful time we had at yesterday's Mother's Day Tea. A special thank you to Cloetta Spearman for helping with the planning and décor and delicious food. Thank you for sharing your knowledge and expertise. A special thank you goes to Kitty Entz for her gracious help and the delicious food. Thank you to both Cloetta and Kitty for the wonderful pictures of the event which we will share in our next newsletter. A special thank you goes to Betty Felmlee for her delicious mints. A special thank you goes to Jolene Robinson for donating six of her beautiful tea pots from her wonderful collection as door prizes. Another special thank you goes to Lewis Entz for donating ten bells from the Entz collection of souvenir bells as door prizes. Those door prizes along with the eight beautiful floral arrangements by Sue Serak allowed everyone who attended to leave with a door prize. We were able to honor Tara Miller from Rainbow's End as our youngest lady present and our sweet Mary as our more mature lady present. What a treat and a joy to have so many come and for the wonderful fellowship as we enjoyed our tea and goodies. I do so appreciate all the help of the ladies who stayed and helped to clean up, especially Cloetta, Kitty, Betty, and our dear sweet Lori. I appreciate your help more than you know.

Tomorrow night is our **Cookin' with Our Neighbor** community dinner, so we hope to have even more come and participate tomorrow evening beginning at 5:30 p.m.

This Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 9 am is **our Coffee with the Chief** Dale Meek in our Drummond Hall. Hope you will join us.

Thank you to all you who joined our 9 am worship service last Sunday. It was great to see so many in-person as well as those on Zoom and Facebook Live. We enjoyed the 8:30 fellowship time with Linda Mix's delicious treats and coffee. I appreciate Roy Ratzlaff being our in-person liturgist. The link to the audio of the sermon is <https://umcofcenter.com/blog/>.

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, you can choose to answer the questions and mail it back to the church or you can go to the Survey Monkey links and take 5 minutes to complete the TWO different surveys. If you have comments, you can email Janet Myers.

**Part One:** To make this a simple process, we're using a survey for the assessment for the pastor with the following link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/88R28BZ>. The survey should take about 5 minutes to do. Any additional comments can be given or emailed to Janet Myers [janet.k.5472@gmail.com](mailto:janet.k.5472@gmail.com). There are 9 question or assessment factors. Considering the 9 assessment factors in the survey, identify the 3 you believe are the most characteristic of your pastor and the 3 that you believe are most important for your church. Again these answers can be given or emailed to Janet Myers [janet.k.5472@gmail.com](mailto:janet.k.5472@gmail.com).

**Part Two:** The survey for the assessment of our congregation can be found at following link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8QDSLPLJ>. The survey should take about 5 minutes to do. Any additional comments can be given or emailed to Janet Myers [janet.k.5472@gmail.com](mailto:janet.k.5472@gmail.com). **Please need as soon as possible.**

This is a reminder about May 11<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm Center UMC's One Church Board meeting in person or via Zoom will focus that evening by supporting of our SPRC as the information from the surveys is compiled and the required conference assessment forms are completed. We really do need your help both in completing the surveys and in joining that evening in person or via Zoom to complete the information. Even if you haven't been to church in the

past year, Hannah and I have worked very hard to send paper and email copies of church information and events each week as well as monthly with the Upper Room. You can help by completing the parts of surveys that apply. We can only grow and get better with everyone's input as we move toward perfection.

We are taking a short break and will resume Wednesday night Bible Study May 12, 2021 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 the church office needs the names of any graduates whether K-12 or college or special schools. We want to honor them May 16<sup>th</sup> during the service even if they cannot be present.

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.

<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.

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 loss their faithful offerings. If you are receiving a COVID stimulus check, please consider an offering to the church in thanks for the extra blessing. As we move forward, let us remember their example and give faithfully to the ministry of Christ in our tithes and offerings. 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](http://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.

We do have a request from Brent Fyock who is looking for someone to adopt his two outdoor cats for which he is no longer able to care. Please contact the church office if anyone is interested.

Remember May 22<sup>nd</sup> as Beaver Creek Youth Camp Work Day and that they are looking for counselors and campers for the summer. 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 for the Journey, *Rev. Debria Upton*