

# August 2021

Pastor Debbie

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Center United Methodist Church

PO Box 626  
4th & Broadway,  
Center CO 81125  
Worship Services: 9 am  
Zoom: 9 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: 11 am

Pastor: Rev. Debbie Upton

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

Administrative Assistant/

Newsletter Editor:

Hannah Metzger  
Phone: (719) 989-0987  
Office Hours: TBA

Wow, July seems like a blink in my eye even with the wonderful Hawaiian vacation. So much has gone on this July and we have had so many amazing opportunities of **outreach with our community. Recently at our Cookin' With Your Neighbor, even though our guest was out with altitude sickness, we were honored to have Patricia, Lucy, Javier, Victoria, and our police chief and his lovely wife Michelle as our guests. Some of them even return the next evening for Gerardo Ortega's concert. Thank you to all who made the meal and the concert such a warm and loving time together. Geo said to express how welcomed and loved he felt by your presence, comments, and generous love offering. We will continue to collect gift cards (Visa, Mastercard, Walmart, Target, Uber, or Lyft) in \$25 or \$50 amounts to send to Pastor Kipp from First United Methodist Church of Miami who is in charge of this outreach effort for the disaster in Surfside, Florida.**

**For August we have decided not to have our Cookin' With Your Neighbor since we just had the one to welcome Geo and because we will be hosting the Teacher and Staff Luncheon for Center Consolidated Schools on Wednesday, August 11th. As we have done in previous years, we are calling for those wonderful salads from our community to help continue this annual tradition. If you can't bring a salad or dessert, it would be much appreciated if you could bring some back to school items for the kids who may not be able to afford it on their own. Right now the plan is to have the luncheon in Drummond Hall as was done in 2019. Please contact the church office or me if you are able to prepare a salad and if you are able to help serve. The Luncheon begins at 11:30 am, but salads and desserts need to be at the Church by 10 am.**

This past Sunday, we launched a yearlong project of telling our stories. In a separate part of the newsletter, you will see the steps to telling a story about your faith **journey which will combine with others in the church. If you didn't attend and didn't hear the sermon, I would recommend watching or listening to it on the website or Facebook. I've tried to outline and give the important information I shared and my reasons for asking everyone to participate in this church project for both Center and Saguache. Your personal story is important and we want to learn about it. Let the brainstorming begin.**

**We begin a sermon series on Henri Nouwen's book Reaching Out the first week of August and begin the bible study connected to the book July 28th at 6:30 pm virtual and in person at Center. An audio of the book will be available. Just contact Hannah or me for the link to be sent to you.**

**Center's One Church Board will meet Tuesday evening, August 10th, 2021 at 6:30 pm both virtually and in person. Everyone is invited to participate in this meeting.**

The Saguache church will have a one board church meeting in August. A date and time will be determined. Some of the items to address are the possibility of resuming our community meal in September. This meeting will occur after regular worship.

Movie Night at Center will be August 18th at 6:30 am in Drummond Hall featuring **Disney's Raya.**

August 28th at Center will be our Coffee with the Chief at 9 am in Drummond Hall.

**We continue yoga on Friday's at 9:30 am and if there are those who wish to resume yoga on Tuesday's at 9:30 am, we are happy to resume that group; please let me know.**

*"Live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all the power according to his glorious might."*

- Colossians 1:10-11 (NIV)

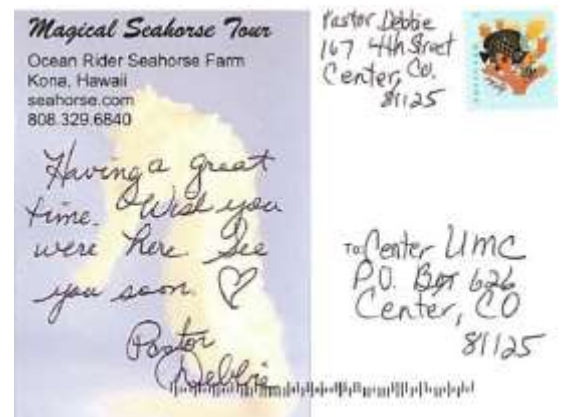
## The Twelve Disciples

### Who were Bartholomew & Philip?

This month we are focusing on the apostles Bartholomew and Philip. The only significant mention of Philip in the gospels that gives us a glimpse of his personality comes from the Gospel of John. In John 6 where Jesus famously fed 5,000 people, Jesus tested Philip by asking **“Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?”** He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. **Philip answered him, ‘It would take more than half a year’s wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!’”** (John 6:5-7). Like many of the Apostles, **Philip had trouble believing in Jesus’ divinity.** While it may be Thomas who got the moniker of Doubting, He was not **alone in his struggle to truly believe in Jesus’ relationship to the Father.** Perhaps Philip should have the name Practical Philip, for in **John 14, when Jesus famously says, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well”** (John 14:6-7). Philip struggles to understand what he truly means. Philip even asks Jesus, **“Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us”** (John 14:8). He may have had trouble recognizing the significance of Jesus at first, but like the other apostles, he went on to spread the word and follow the tasks Jesus had set before them.

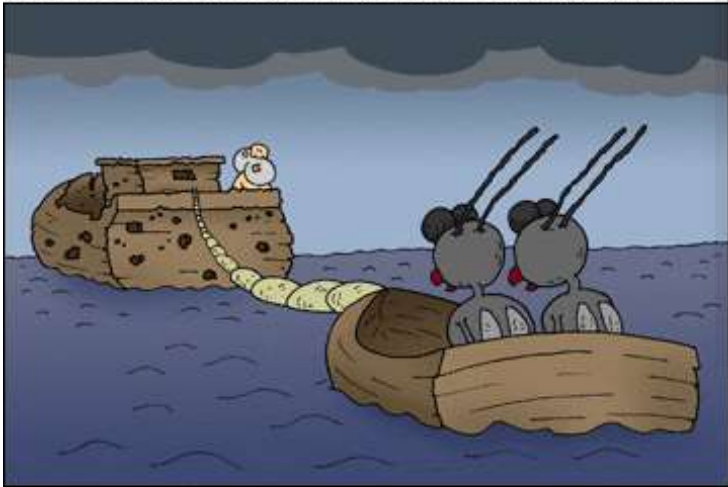
Someone who is mentioned even less than Philip, is Bartholomew. He **doesn’t have any significant mentions in the Gospels, and when he is mentioned in academic circles, it is almost always to debate if Bartholomew is also Nathanael.** But because both men are mentioned very little, there is not enough evidence to support this theory. Most of the people who believe they are one in the same use the fact that Bartholomew is almost always listed after Philip and in John, Nathanael is listed after Philip and Bartholomew is not mentioned at all. Without more evidence, it is up to the individual to decide what they believe. What we do know is that Bartholomew and Philip were apostles and to be an apostle meant that they left their lives to fulfill the Lord's work and follow Jesus. As an apostle, their first priority was to have the world see the true glory of God, not the glory of themselves. Perhaps that is why we hear very little about Bartholomew and Philip. Perhaps they placed the glory of god above their own and told people to look not to them, but to god like any faithful servant of god should do.

Coffee with the Chief  
We will be having a Coffee with the Chief again this month! All are welcome to join us for this fun event. It will be held at Center UMC at 9am on August 28th.



### Movie Night

August 19th we will be showing the new Disney film **Raya and the Last Dragon**. Please join us for this story of **a warrior's journey to find the last dragon** in order to heal their fractured land.



(See Genesis 6-8)

04-16-2002

ALRIGHT YOU BLASTED TERMITES, THERE'S YOUR NEW BOAT ... GO AHEAD, CHEW ALL YOU WANT



Gerardo Ortega  
Concert

What a wonderful evening of song with Gerardo Ortega. So grateful he could come and visit us!



## Joke of the Month

Late for a seminar and unable to find parking, I pulled into a spot behind a church. It was only after I'd gotten out of the car that I spotted this sign: "No parking. Forgiveness is our business, but don't make it harder than it already is."

## Mid-Summer Italian Bread Salad

### Ingredients

Recipe by: Tamara (Allrecipes.com)

- 1 Clove Garlic
- 1 Loaf of Italian Bread
- 1 Cup Chopped Tomatoes
- 1 Cup Cucumber (Peeled, chopped)
- 1 Cup Chopped Red Onion
- 1 Clove Garlic, Minced
- 2 Cups Chopped Fresh Basil
- 1/8 Cup Chopped Fresh Thyme
- 1/4 Cup Olive Oil
- 2 Tbsp Balsamic Vinegar



### Directions

1. Rub a peeled clove of garlic around a wooden salad bowl.
2. Pull apart or chop the bread into bite-size pieces.
3. In the prepared salad bowl, combine the bread, tomatoes, cucumbers, red onions, garlic, basil and thyme. Add enough olive oil and vinegar to lightly coat, toss and serve.

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/16226/mid-summer-italian-bread-salad/>