

JULY 2022

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Center United Methodist Church

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Saguache United Methodist Church

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Pastor Debbie

As of the setting of appointments at Mountain Sky Annual Conference in Helena, MT, Bishop Karen has appointed me for another year at Center and Saguache United Methodist Churches, so I am blessed to have a fifth year with the folks of Center and Saguache. We have a lot of work to do as



we begin this fifth year with a focus on a Place at the Table for all to You will see this logo as our conference moves forward to continue making disciples for the transformation of the world.

It was a wonderful time to connect with colleagues and support friends who were finally able to be ordained. Prayerfully, my cohort group and I will be ordained next year at Annual Conference in Colorado Springs June 20-22, 2023. I hope many of you will be able to put that date on your calendar and join me in that celebration next year. My reading team will make a site visit to both churches during the coming year, so I will keep you updated.

As we move forward together this year, I would ask you to think about your gifts. Perhaps there are gifts you don't claim to be gifts, but I will be reaching out to you individually and collectively to see if we can identify them. There are some of you that love touching base with friends and community by phone and checking to see how they are. That is a fantastic gift of gab that is vital to the body of Christ as we connect with each other to belong and to lift up needs of the community, not for the sake of gossip but to join together in prayer. There are those of you who have beautiful handwriting and love to send cards. You are a vital part of the body of Christ. Everyone feels so special when they receive a card in the mail. We will be making cards and postage available in the church office, if this is your talent. There are some of you who are crafty with sewing, quilting, crocheting, knitting, and many other areas of crafting. Your gift is needed in many ways – for worship design and for sharing with our homebound and those in hospitals, nursing facilities, rehab, and the veteran's center. There are those of you who like to shop; we are in need of your gift as well, especially around holidays for those we seek to bless and if you decide to keep the manna bags going or make migrant bags or whatever the Lord lays on your heart.

I believe there are so many more gifts we don't think of as gifts but they are needed. Center folks, I invite you to swing by the Soulful Sweets and Sips Coffee Shop Monday – Friday from 2-5 pm and have a cup of coffee or tea or some refreshment and share with us your dreams and visions for our community. Saguache folks, I invite you to join us on Sundays after church for our common meal to share with us your dreams and visions for the Saguache community. We can always come up with excuses why we don't, but while we have the time, let's work together so that we all can join together in common ground as we move forward this year. As we discovered with COVID, we don't realize what we have until we lose it, whether it is time, community, health, friends, and family. At both Center and Saguache, I am looking for folks who want to deepen their daily walk with Christ and be part of a Discipleship Huddle. What's this about? Why this? In our district superintendent's words, "I'm convinced that we've sown the seeds of our own decline by letting ourselves believe discipleship just happens. Go to worship. Serve on a committee. Do a book study. Voila, disciple! In reality, we know following Jesus involves intentionality and a commitment to grow and be transformed. Our Wesleyan Methodist roots are marked by extraordinary growth when people discovered a sense of purpose and power in the outpouring of God's grace. I'm convinced that these discipleship huddles are a means to reclaiming that part of our story in the face of persistent decline. They offer simple tools and an intentional focus on living a Jesus-shaped life together.

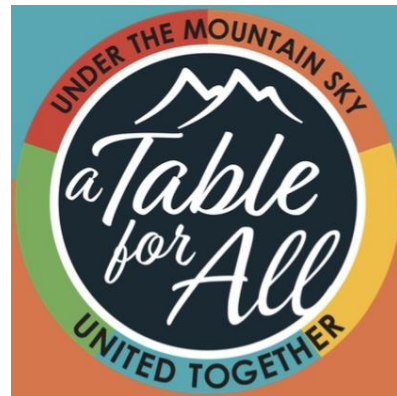
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• “Every good and perfect
• gift is from above,
• coming down from the
• Father of the heavenly
• lights, who does not
• change like shifting
• shadows.”
•
• James 1:17
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They're not the whole answer, but they are a starting point. I hope you'll watch the video of the Zoom. <https://mtnskyumc-org.zoom.us/rec/share/MnatAz8uX32f-GWRroZVkWxWgxcUFZ6b5kgOGc7gjWJ8H1iQXCQRxErHI7YSlg6j.lGeUKOhGDdg1BjLy?startTime=1644372196000> (Passcode: dN6#.um). Or look up 3dmovements.com. If you are interested for more information, please let me know. Depending on the folks who want to be involved, we will determine when and how we meet.

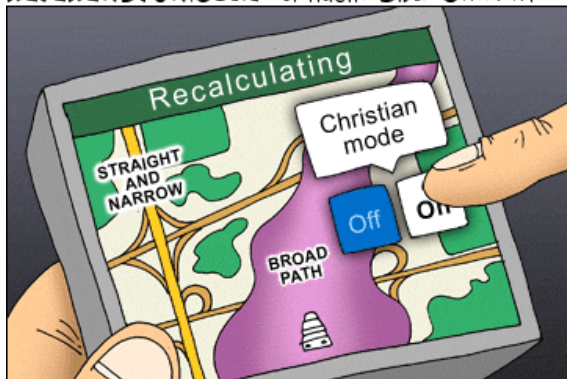
In August on Tuesday evenings at 6 pm, I will be offering a Methodism 101 class for folks who want to know more about the Methodist church, what we believe, and our history. It will be open to everyone from both churches and will be in person at Center and also online.

I'm excited that Brent Vernon will be coming Thursday, July 21 to entertain us with music and his friend Sam. This will be a great evening for families and kids, so please start inviting folks now for a wonderful evening. There is no charge for admission and he will have his children's books and music available before and after the concert.

The sermon series for the summer is taken from Brene Brown's Atlas of the Heart, so I hope you will join us Sundays as we continue our journey through the portals of language, feelings and emotions.



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Thanks to Richard Germain (See Matthew 7:13-14) 08-13-2010

Joke of the Month

A Pastor in Florida lamented that it was very difficult to get his message across to his congregation. "It's so beautiful here in the winter," he said, "that heaven doesn't interest them. And it's so hot here in the summer that hell doesn't scare them."

In a moment of creative inspiration, the entrepreneur who owned the Laundromat beside the church commissioned this sign for his window: "Where cleanliness really is next to Godliness!"

Fourth of July Dump Cake

Ingredients

- 1 (21 ounce) can cherry pie filling
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 1 (15.25 ounce) package white cake mix
- 1 cup unsalted butter, melted
- 1 cup chopped nuts

Recipe by: raquelk (Allrecipes.com)

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C).
2. Layer cherry pie filling, blueberries, cake mix, melted butter, and nuts in a 9x12-inch pan.
3. Bake in the preheated oven for 45 minutes.
4. Serve with whipped cream on top.



Allrecipes.com

Note: if you would like a touch more blue, add a little blue food coloring.

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/284325/4th-of-july-dump-cake/>

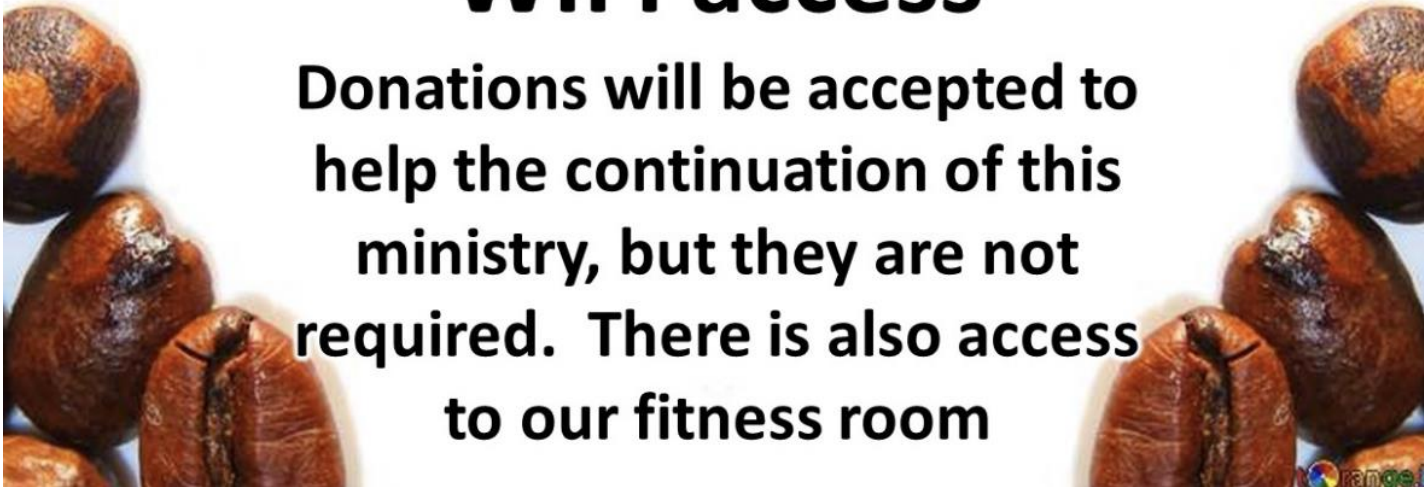


**Center United
Methodist Church
invites you to our
Drummond Hall for
SOULFUL SWEETS &
SIPS COFFEESHOP**


MONDAY-FRIDAYS 2-5 PM

**Sweets and coffee and tea
will be available along with**

WIFI access



**Donations will be accepted to
help the continuation of this
ministry, but they are not
required. There is also access
to our fitness room**



The Songs & Stories of

BRENT VERNON

SINGER-SONGWRITER • VENTRILOQUIST
AUTHOR • ILLUSTRATOR

WITH A SPECIAL
APPEARANCE BY

Sam



A LIVE CONCERT EVENT
FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Thursday, July 21st at 7pm
Free Admission

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