

FEBRUARY 2023

Pastor Debbie

Volume 38 Issue 2

Center United Methodist

Church

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4th & Broadway,
Center CO 81125
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In person and Online (Zoom)
Church Phone: 719-754-2243

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Saguache United Methodist

Church

6th & Christie, Saguache
P. O. Box 184, Saguache, CO
81149
Worship Service: (11 am)

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It's hard to believe that the first month of 2023 is coming to an end. It's been a full month with our successful Charge Conference on January 14th. Again, I would like to thank everyone who participated in preparing and being present for this important day in our churches. We continue to wait to find out if we have been selected to receive the Table for All grants.

Center's Potluck will be Thursday, February 2nd at 5:30 pm. Saguache's Dinner with your Neighbor will be February 9th with an Italian flair with lasagna and other delicious dishes.

A special thank you goes to all those folks who have helped me through the ordination journey, especially the folks who were able to meet January 27th with my reading team for the site visit. I'm am so grateful for your prayers and support. I will have to attend a week of interview, meetings, and training in Cheyenne, WY the first part of March which is where I will be told whether I will be ordained this June at Annual Conference in Colorado Springs, so I would ask for you to continue your prayers for my journey.

I would like to thank those folks who are joining us in a Discipleship Huddle which meets on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm usually through Zoom. We won't meet when Center's One Church Board has a meeting.

I also want to thank all who are supporting our Kids Hope ministry through their gifts, their prayers, and their service. A special thank you to our director and our mentors for giving of their time and talents to make a difference in four children's lives. Center is blessed to have a director who has been faithfully volunteering as a teacher helper since the beginning of the school year and has worked so hard to get Kids Hope established at Haskins Elementary. I also want to thank Saguache's volunteer who gives of her time as a teacher assistant this week. Working with children is a wonderful ministry, so pray about becoming part of these growing ministries.

• • • • •
• "Love is patient and kind;
• love does not envy or boast;
• it is not arrogant or rude. It
• does not insist on its own
• way; it is not irritable or
• resentful; it does not rejoice
• at wrongdoing, but rejoices
• with the truth. Love bears all
• things, believes all things,
• hopes all things, endures all
• things."

• • • • •
• ~ **Corinthians 13:4-7**
• • • • •

• Chair yoga continues each week at Saguache in the senior center on Wednesdays at
• 10:30 am and at Center on Fridays at 9:30 am. The Senior Fitness Room at Center
• continues to be open. We are still accepting donations of funds and items for Kids Hope
• USA and Anna's Mission as ongoing mission opportunities.

• Wednesday, February 22nd which is Ash Wednesday, there will be Imposition of Ashes at
• Saguache United Methodist Church at noon and at Center United Methodist Church at
• 6:30 pm.

• Our Bible study on Philippians has begun and meets in person or on Zoom Wednesday
• evenings at 5:30 pm. Ash Wednesday will be our pivot to our Lenten Journey and we will
• begin the week after Ash Wednesday the Lenten study by Matt Rawle Jesus Revealed.

• Also, my colleague and I are starting a small group circuit open to both laity and clergy
• throughout our conference on the third Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm via Zoom

called Lights, Cameras, and God in Action. It is a unique group where we will use movies and scripture to examine, discuss, and motivate us to action. <https://www.smallgroups.church/auth/sign-in> Go to the link and make an account and join our group.

Easter will be here before we know it. Just as last year, we will celebrate Holy Week beginning on Palm Sunday – April 2nd, Maundy Thursday – April 6th, Good Friday - April 7th, and Easter - April 9th. Center will host its Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt the afternoon of April 8th.

We have focused on the Light of Christ and as we move into Lent we will be focusing on the Love of God. This February 14th – a day of love, I would encourage you send messages of encouragement to our brothers and sisters in the faith.

Rainbow's End/ LaPuente

Make clothing, household items, and furniture donations to Center's Rainbows End. Make canned food donations to Center's Rainbows end or LaPuente in Alamosa. Make monetary donation to LaPuente though the church or online at: <https://lapuentehome.org/donate/>

Kids Hope USA (Haskin Elementary)

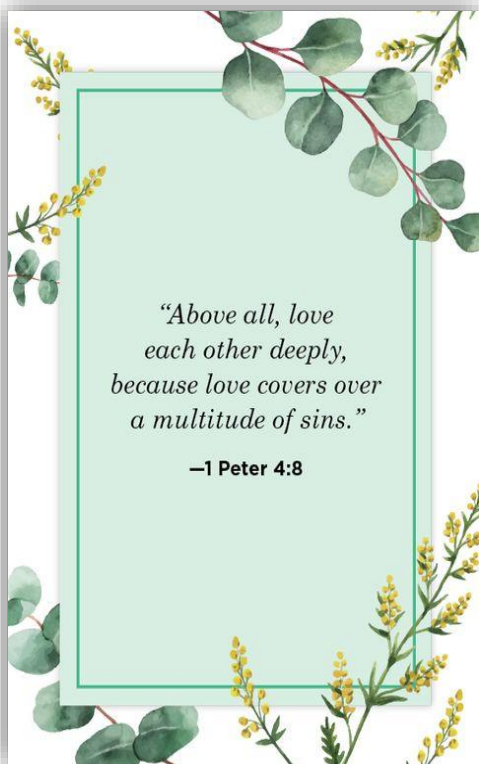
Art Supplies: paper (manila, construction, cardstock, notebooks), crayons, washable markers, pencils (colored & #2), scissors (child safe), glue sticks, yarn or string, child friendly magazines, stickers, stamps and stamp pads, rulers, watercolors, pipe cleaners.
Games: board games, chess, checkers, dice, dominoes, etc., child friendly card games (Spot it, Uno, Phase 10, Go Fish, Old Maid, basic playing cards)
Outdoor Activities: balls, jump ropes, sidewalk chalk
Books: for Kindergarten and 1st Grade.

Anna's Mission Inc.

(Ready to Go bags for domestic violence victims).

Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Body soap, Shampoo/ conditioner, Body lotion, Deodorant, Comb/brush, Razors, Small box of tissues, Gift cards to Family dollar or Dollar General.
<https://annasmisioninc.com/>

We appreciate all donations and prayers for Domestic Violence Survivors.

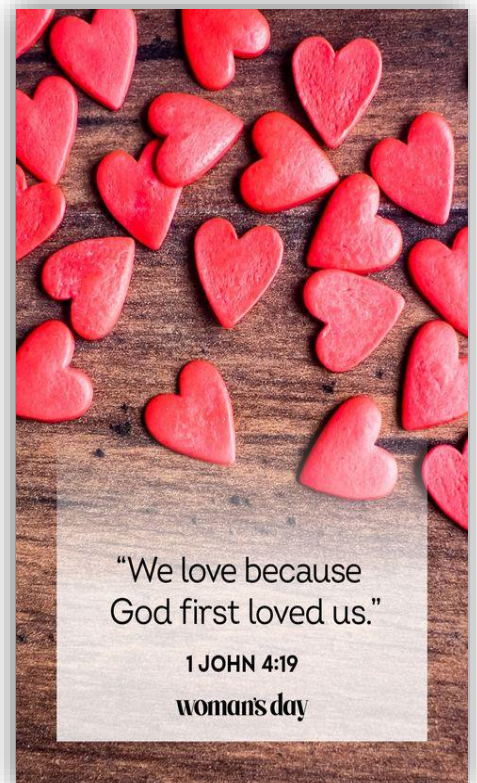


Kids Hope Report

Our Kids Hope USA program started the first part of January with three of our Mentors and their students meeting in the Library after getting their lunch from the cafeteria. Things are going well. We completed the paperwork for the fourth student, and the Mentor and student will begin meeting the last week of January.

Thank you so much for all the fabulous donations we received to help us with this program. The donation box always seems to have more in it every time I check it. Your outpouring of love and generosity is overwhelming. But so like the people of this beautiful congregation.

~ Vicki Ratzlaff, Director of Kids Hope



Red Velvet White Chocolate Chip Cookies

Recipe by: Jaclyn (Cookingclassy.com)

Ingredients

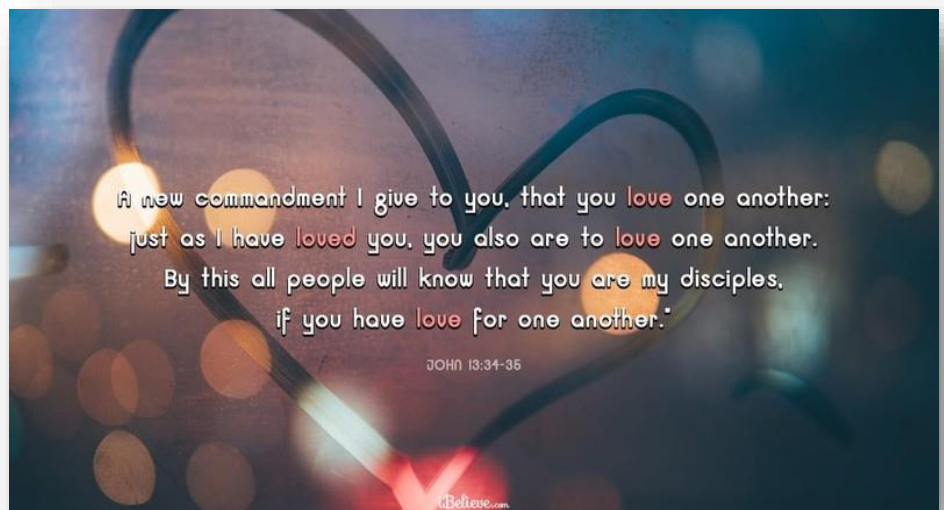
- 1 1/3 cups (189g) all-purpose flour (scoop and level to measure)
- 4 tsp (6g) cocoa powder*
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/4 tsp (heaping) salt
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1/2 cup (100g) granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup (55g) packed light brown sugar
- 1 large egg
- 2 tsp liquid red food coloring, or 1 1/2 tsp gel red food coloring
- 1 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 tsp white vinegar or lemon juice
- 3/4 cup + 1/3 cup white chocolate chips or semi-sweet chocolate chips, divided



Cookingclassy.com

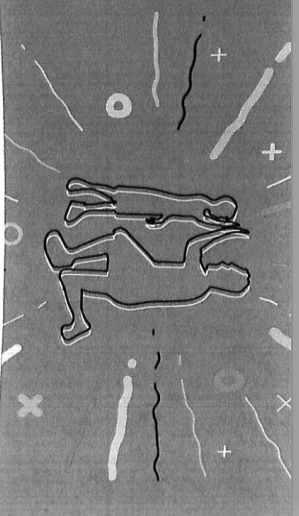
Directions

1. In a mixing bowl whisk together flour, cocoa powder, baking soda and salt, set aside.
2. In the bowl of an electric stand mixer fitted with paddle attachment cream together butter, granulated sugar and brown sugar until combined.
3. Mix in egg. Add in red food coloring, vanilla and vinegar.
4. Add flour mixture and mix just until combined. Mix in 3/4 cup white or semi-sweet chocolate chips (set aside remaining 1/3 cup to use after baking).
5. Cover bowl and chill dough 1 - 2 hours until dough is nearly firm. Preheat oven to 350 degrees near the end of dough chilling.
6. Scoop dough out and shape into balls about 1 1/2 Tbsp each (or 28g). Transfer to parchment paper lined baking sheet spacing 2-inches apart.
7. Bake one sheet at a time (keep remaining dough chilled and repeat process), until cookies appear set on the edges but slightly under-baked in the center, about 10 - 11 minutes.
8. Remove cookies from oven and gently press some of the remaining white chocolate chips into tops.
9. Let cool on baking sheet 5 minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to cool.
10. Store cookies in an airtight container. Keep a few bread slices or large flour tortillas in container with cookies to keep them soft.



WALKING TOGETHER

Mentoring makes a difference



THE NEED

All children face challenges, but some hurdles are bigger than others, and sometimes kids need a little extra support to build resilience and hope.

Our local elementary school needs people willing to build positive, caring, one-on-one relationships with students, to walk alongside them as friends and cheerleaders.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Kids Hope USA mentors (supported by behind-the-scenes prayer partners) spend one hour per week talking, reading, playing, and listening to a child at school. Research shows that by helping a child feel loved and valued, the child can better learn, grow, and succeed.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Will you be that someone who shows up once a week to share unconditional love with a child?

Learn more by visiting kidshopeusa.org/volunteer or contacting our church's Kids Hope USA Program Director:

Vicki Patzlar (719) 588-3579
purple.vic30@gmail.com

MENTOR QUALIFICATIONS

- Consistently visit one student for one hour each week during the school day.
- Commit to maintaining confidentiality and following program rules.
- Attend our church regularly.
- Successfully complete the screening and training process.

PRAYER PARTNER QUALIFICATIONS

- Believe in the power of prayer.
- Faithfully pray for a mentor and student each week.
- Contact the mentor on a regular basis for prayer requests.



one child
mentor
one hour
a week



For over two decades, Kids Hope USA mentors have been trained and equipped to build and sustain caring and safe relationships with children. Volunteer today! Contact our church's KHUSA Program Director or church office.



belong
MOUNTAIN SKY CONFERENCE

Greetings Members of the Mountain Sky Conference,

Near the end of the October session of the 2022 Annual Conference, we shared that the session information for AC 2023 would be announced as soon as possible with considerations of budget, church availability, and needs of the conference. After meeting with various stakeholders, we have decided AC 2023 will be in-person, hosted by First UMC, Colorado Springs, CO. We will also host the conference online, assuring those who wish to participate virtually, will be able to via the experience set up through technology provided by GNTV.

Save the Dates for Annual Conference 2023: June 22-25

- In-person Location: First UMC, Colorado Springs, CO
- Ordination Worship Service will be Sunday, June 25th, 2023

Please be on the lookout for more information in the early spring. Registration will open after Easter and will be open for a six-week period. Options for special meals and childcare will be available.

Peace to you during this Advent season,

Rev. Annie Arnoldy

Director of Connectional Ministry

Superintendent of Leadership Development