

# OCTOBER 2023

Volume 38 Issue 10

## Center United Methodist

### Church

PO Box 626  
4th & Broadway,  
Center CO 81125  
Worship Services: 9 am  
In person and Online (Zoom)  
Church Phone: 719-754-2243  
E-mail:  
umcofcenter@gmail.com  
Financial E-mail:  
CUMCfin@yahoo.com  
Website: umcofcenter.com

### Pastor

Rev. Amos Kariuki  
Phone: (303) 621-6351  
167 W. 4th  
Center CO 81125  
Email: akariukiumc@gmail.com

### Pastor Hours

Monday: 9:00am – 4:30pm  
Wednesday: 9:00am – 4:30pm  
Friday: Day Off

### Administrative Assistant

Hannah Metzger  
Phone: (719) 989-0987

## Pastor Amos

As we enter the fall season, I realize that it is different in the valley than other places. It is starting to get chilly, and I am thinking this is too early. But I am told that is the way it is in the valley!

Well, let me bring you to speed on a few things. Kids Hope commissioning for both mentors and prayer partners took place on Sept 10. Vicki's commitment to make this possible is laudable. I am grateful to God that we can partner with the schools next door to create a positive impact on the students. The Wednesday bible study at Janet Myers' on The Chosen is still on course. It starts at 6 pm. The Table for All will be on Oct 9 and 10 in the evening. That means we will need to decide another date for the church council as it was scheduled to be on the 10th. Hannah has worked hard to make sure that technological updates have been accomplished. I express my thanks to her for working so diligently.

Saguache UMC is celebrating 150 years on Oct 21 and that is a major milestone. Those who want to attend are asked to make reservations as of October 1st by contacting Bill Hazard- 719-850-1590, rwhazard@centurytel.net.

A new approach to ministry is in place in the UMC. Fresh Expressions, as it is called, makes space for church leaders and pastors to use both traditional services as well as innovative forms of church to live out Christ's mission. One does not replace the other, but rather creates a mutual benefit for both—a mixture of what we know as church today. To learn more on how we can participate please visit the Mountain Sky Conference UMC website.

God bless you all!

Rev. Amos Kariuki



.....  
• “Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord’s coming.  
• See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains.”  
• ~ James 5:7  
• “He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.  
• Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”  
• ~ Luke 10:2  
• .....

**Dear Pastors,**

**Thank you**  
for the early Sunday mornings & the late Wednesday nights.

**Thank you**  
for the seeds you plant & disciples you nurture.

**Thank you**  
for the sermons you preach & the prayers you lift up.

**Thank you**  
for the wise counsel & the words of encouragement.

**Thank you**  
for the sacrifice and service.

**~ Clergy Appreciation Month ~**  
**appreciate those who diligently labor**  
*esteem them very highly in love*  
**because of their work.**  
1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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://annasmissioninc.com/>

**We appreciate all donations and prayers for Domestic Violence Survivors.**

### Kids Hope Report

We had our Commissioning ceremony on Sunday September 19, 2023.

The mentor's started meeting with their students the week of September 19. We are in full swing, and appreciate all the support and prayers that the congregation continues to give our program.

Yours in Christ,  
Vicki Ratzlaff, Director of Kids Hope



Our Mentors are Kitty Entz, Lori Sanchez, Vicki Ratzlaff, and Sue McClure.

Our Prayer Partners are Glenda Holcomb, Betty Felmlee, and Linda Mix.

Not pictured Prayer Partners Cozette Price and Charleen Schaeffer.



### Donation Shout Out

Gerald Myers donated Vickie's considerable stash of fabric, yarn, and ribbon to Anna's Mission Inc. and Kids Hope USA to be used to further their missions of supporting those in need. Thank you, Gerald, for your generosity and commitment to helping your fellow man. As we use these materials, we will be thinking of you and Vickie.

### Something to Think About...

- ❖ We are hosting a Spaghetti Lunch for the Center High School Volleyball team and coaches on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. More information to come.
- ❖ We will be having our community dinner on September 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. We welcome those who attend to bring dishes they wish to share.
- ❖ Our Chosen bible study will continue to be hosted at Janet's house and the time has been moved to 6pm. All are welcome, and those who wish to join via Zoom need to contact Janet.
- ❖ There will be a community dinner next month, held on the usual first Thursday of the month. Please bring your favorite dishes!
- ❖ Just a heads up that we will be having our charge conference date given to us soon, so please start working on your reports for the year!



# Creamy Sun-Dried Tomato & Spinach Soup

Loaded with umami from tomatoes, creaminess (and fiber!) from beans and bright flavor and satisfying mouthfeel from lemon, this vegetarian-friendly soup is compulsively eatable. And it could be on your table in 30 minutes. Plus, it's jam-packed with nutrients from spinach, and we cut the salt by using low-sodium vegetable broth and unsalted cannellini beans.

## Ingredients

- 1/3 cup oil-packed sun-dried tomatoes + 2 Tbsp oil from jar
- 2 cups sliced mushrooms
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 tsp dried basil
- 1 1/2 tablespoons flour
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp pepper
- 3 1/2 cups low-sodium vegetable broth
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 4 cups chopped fresh spinach
- 15 oz can unsalted cannellini beans, rinsed
- 1 tbsp lemon juice

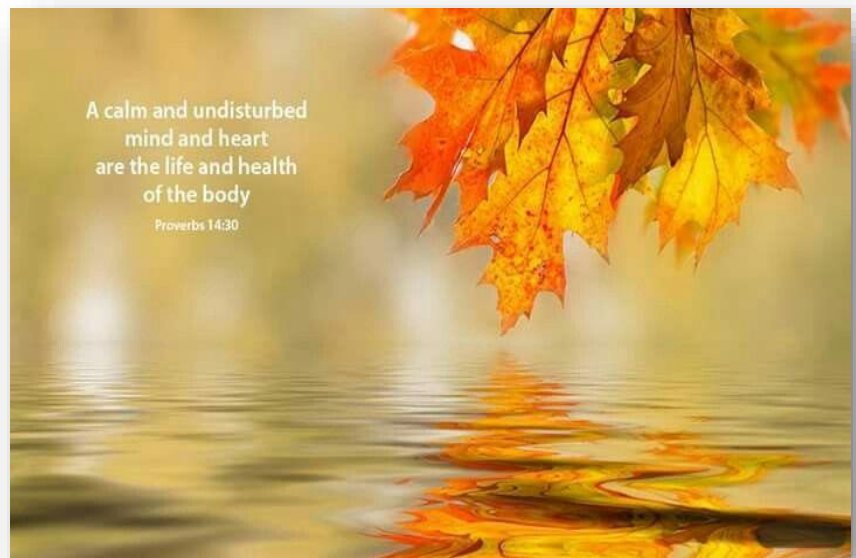
Recipe by: Carolyn Casner



## Directions

1. Heat 2 tablespoons sun-dried tomato oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Add mushrooms and onion; cook, stirring, until starting to soften, about 3 minutes.
2. Add garlic and basil; cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Add flour, salt and pepper; cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Add broth and cream; increase heat to medium-high and bring to a simmer.
3. Reduce heat to maintain a simmer and cook, stirring once or twice, until the vegetables are soft, about 5 minutes. Stir in spinach, beans and sun-dried tomatoes; cook, stirring, until the spinach is wilted, about 2 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in lemon juice.

<https://www.eatingwell.com/recipe/7958912/creamy-sun-dried-tomato-spinach-soup/>





As a follow-up opportunity to our **Fresh Expression Imagine Days**, you are invited to participate in the ongoing conversation this fall, September through December, as we continue listening for where God is moving throughout our communities.

Each month you have the opportunity to join any of the cohort conversations our team is offering (choose any session that works for you each month):

**Becoming Church (by Luke Edwards) Book Club hosted by Rev. Stephanie Moffitt**

*Discussion will focus on this guide and resource for our own work as we continue to build community and become church.*

- 1st Wednesdays, 5 - 6 pm
- Sept. 6th, Oct. 4th, Nov. 1st, Dec. 6th

**Imagining Fresh Expressions in the MSC hosted by Rev. Major Rettig & Rev. Sherry Ferriman**

*Learn about & revisit some of the key concepts from our Imagine workshop days, and be energized to continue the work where you find yourself.*

- 2nd Thursdays, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm
- Sept. 14th, Oct. 12th, Nov. 9th, Dec. 14th

**Field Guide to Creating Fresh Expressions hosted by Rev. Annie Arnoldy**

*Learn practical steps zero and one on the journey toward creating Fresh Expressions (step zero is important!)*

- 3rd Mondays, 12 - 1 pm
- Sept. 18th, Oct. 16th, Nov. 20th, Dec. 18th

**Fresh Expressions Networking hosted by Rev. Stephanie Moffitt**

*Join us to share stories and learn from each other about the Fresh Expressions in your community.*

- 4th Tuesdays, 5:30 - 6:00 pm
- Sept. 26th, Oct. 24th, Nov. 28th, Dec. 26th

[Click here to pre-register for any of these conversations.](#)

Questions? Please contact [Rev. Stephanie Moffitt](#), Developer of Fresh Expressions & A Table For All



*Celebrating  
gratitude at harvest  
season for **115 YEARS**  
and counting!*

# HARVEST HOME



Join us for **HARVEST HOME** - an evening of music, food, fellowship, and gratitude

Bowen Community Church will provide slow-roasted pulled pork and rolls, along with drinks & coffee. Anyone is welcome to bring a side or dessert.

**Come Hungry and Be Thankful!**

**Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 PM**

**BOWEN COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**1954 E County Rd 10 S**

**Monte Vista, CO 81144**

*Special musical  
guests:*

**LORRAINE  
AND AMY**

