

Dear Central UMC,

**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>** - This Sunday is a big Sunday! **We will celebrate Epiphany of the Lord and the Baptism of the Lord on the same day.** The calendar is a bit messed up with Christmas being on a Sunday, but the two fit beautifully together. We will begin a new sermon series called: *Glimpses of the Kin-dom*. Come and re-affirm your Baptism. **Our scripture will be Matthew 3:13-17 on the Baptism of Jesus and our sermon title is *The Waters Fine*.** Cynthia Pechacek will be our liturgist and Karen Hobson will bring our Children's message, Kim Crom will be our pianist and our Choir will be returning.



**WE ARE HIRING**

**Central United Methodist is Hiring!**  
A Youth Ministries Director  
**KNOW ANYONE?**

We are looking for an individual to lead our Youth and Children's Activities  
The job is part-time at \$20/hour. Must be 25 years or older.  
Experience with youth required.

Contact Central UMC Office @ 719-597-6642 for application and appointment

## Worship News

**Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> - Martin Luther King Day**

**and we will dedicate our 2023 Church Leadership.**

**Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> - February 12<sup>th</sup> - is the ordinary time of the Season of Epiphany**

**Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup> - Transfiguration Sunday and "Super Sunday". Yes, it's Football!**

## News from our District Superintendent, Rev. Tezenlo (pron. D-zenlo)

We have two exciting events coming up in January and February 2023. Early next year, we will send out reminders but wanted you to have the dates saved early enough to make yourselves available.

January 19, 2023, Thursday, 6pm: Community Organizing

We are not out of the woods yet, but many churches are ready and hungry to engage/re-engage their communities in the "post-pandemic" world, and many of you have expressed a need for resources to do so. I am glad to let you know that Brad Laurvick (Lead Pastor) and David Ried (Community Builder), First UMC, Fort Collins, are willing to facilitate a conversation on community engagement. They will share with us some central concepts of community organizing as well as about their project and experience in collaborating with their community. Also, they will be available for questions and answers.

We are holding this event in the evening to make it possible for your lay leaders to participate. So, please invite as many lay leaders as you are able.

February 23, 2023, Tuesday, 1pm: Colorado Universal Pre-School Program

As you are aware, the Colorado Universal Pre-School Program will be implemented in the fall of 2023. How will this impact the existing church pre-school ministries? For many churches that have the space, how can we collaborate with the county/state to provide service to our communities?

Jeremy Scott will once again pick up from where we left and facilitate the conversation on the upcoming Pre-School Program. We are also hoping to learn from the directors and key leaders of existing pre-schools. Please invite all who are involved and interested in pre-school ministry and engage in this important conversation.

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Shalom - Be Well Always!

Rev. Tezenlo Thong, PhD

District Superintendent, Peaks/Pikes Peak District, Mountain Sky Conference of the UMC.

### Prayers

Billie Owings, Kathy Andrew, Chelsea Bosick, Mike Wheat,  
Sandra Noggle, and Kim Crom's Father, Wen Anderson  
"WAVES," our country and its leaders.

In mission: Kutela Katembo, Missionary in Angola, Africa

### Planning Ahead

If you would like to receive envelopes to use for your 2023 offering, please let Cheryl James or Kathy Andrew know so that they can get them to you. You can also leave a message in the office (719) 597-6642 or email the office at [office@cumccs.org](mailto:office@cumccs.org).

### Giving Opportunity



**A blessing for when you want to change by Kate Bowler**

*God, I carry around this incompleteness, this drive for fulfillment that always seems just around the corner.  
If only I could get it together and find my true calling, my real passion, or the right plan.*

*God, help me, guide me. What am I missing?*

*Blessed are we who strive earnestly to change ourselves and the world around us, but feel the drag and pull of what won't budge, the weight of all our limited and frail humanity.*

*We carry it with us.*

*Blessed are we, the hungry, in lives that are both too much and not enough, willing to tell the truth to ourselves and to each other, that we languish here...in "what is perhaps the central paradox of our condition—that what we hunger for more than anything else, is to be known in our full humanness, and yet that is often just what we also fear more than anything else." (Frederick Buechner)*

*To be fully known, and fully loved, in all our humanity.*

*And that is a God-sized project.*

*Blessed are we, thankful that we can live our human-sized lives in the glad company of the vulnerable and the broken, the imperfect made whole in the love of God, through Jesus Christ.*

*Maybe it's right to be hungry. And stay that way.*