



**Central United Methodist Church
of Colorado Springs**

“A Place to Begin...Belong...Become”

**THE CENTRAL FAMILY OF FAITH
GATHERED IN PRAISE AND CELEBRATION**
Rev. Deb Wacker

Sunday, July 09, 2023, 10:00 am



Prelude "Battle Hymn of the Republic" arr. R. Koury Kim Crom

Welcome Rev. Deb Wacker

Church Opportunities Pat Dudgeon

***Call to Worship** Pat Dudgeon

Leader: Holy One, Our Balm, Our Feast

People: We lift our hands and call your name,

Leader: In need of healing. We are thirsting and hungry.

People: Your steadfast love is better than life.

Leader: Open us this day to your nourishment

People: In the songs of the land, in the beauty of the sky

–in the simple and good enough moments that fill our days. Amen.

Hymn Of Praise "Gather Us In" TFWS #2236 vs. 1,2,4

Children's Message Sara Simon

Prayers of the People Rev. Deb Wacker

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

Offering: Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Generous God, in light of your extravagant blessings–
no matter what the state of the world or our imperfect lives–
We offer our gifts and ourselves, and know that you
transform what we plant into the produce of love. Amen.**

Offertory "Humble Thyself in the Sight of the Lord" arr. M. Hayes Kim Crom

Offertory Response "Good Enough" Kim Crom
[sung slowly, in harmony]
God is still here and somehow; this faith is good enough.

Hymn of Preparation: "He Touched Me" UMH #367

Scripture Luke 13: 1-9 Pat Dudgeon
At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?' ³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree

⁶ Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" ⁸ He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

A Word of God that is still speaking,

Thanks be to God.

Sermon "A Lot of Things Can Be Medicine - Part B" Rev. Deb Wacker

A Blessing for Slowing Down

***Closing Hymn** "America" UMH #697 vs. 1,4

***Benediction of the People** Rev. Deb Wacker

Postlude "You Are My All In All/Worthy is the Lamb" arr. C. Tornquist Kim Crom

(Please remain seated until the music has stopped. The service is still being streamed live on zoom.)

*Stand as you wish

Hymn Of Praise "Gather Us In" TFWS #2236 vs. 1,2,4
Here in this place new light is streaming, Now is the darkness vanished away
See in this space our fears and our dreamings, Brought here to you in the light of this day
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, Gather us in, the blind and the lame
Call to us now and we shall awaken, We shall arise at the sound of our name

We are the young, our lives are a mystery, We are the old who yearn for your face
We have been sung throughout all of history, Called to be light to the whole human race
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, Gather us in, the proud and the strong
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly, Give us the courage to enter the song

Not in the dark of buildings confining, Not in some heaven light years away
But here in this place the new light is shining, Now is the kingdom, now is the day
Gather us in and hold us forever, Gather us in and make us your own
Gather us in, all peoples together, Fire of love in our flesh and our bones
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones

Hymn of Preparation: "He Touched Me" UMH #367

Shackled by a heavy burden, 'Neath a load of guilt and shame
Then the hand of Jesus touched me, And now I am no longer the same
He touched me, oh, He touched me, And oh, the joy that floods my soul
Something happened, and now I know, He touched me, and made me whole

Since I've met this blessed Savior, Since He's cleansed and made me whole
Oh, I will never cease to praise Him (to praise Him), I'll shout it while eternity rolls
Oh, He touched me, oh He touched me, He touched me, And oh, the joy that floods my soul
Something happened and now I know, He touched me and made me whole

***Closing Hymn** "America" UMH #697 vs. 1,4

My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing;
land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride,
from every mountainside let freedom ring!

Our fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing;
long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;
protect us by thy might, great God, our King.

July 9, 2023

CHURCH OPPORTUNITIES

WE ARE LOYAL TO OUR CHURCH BY OUR

PRAYERS: Dorthy Clark, mother of Cheryl James died early Wednesday morning, July 5th.
 The family is also on vacation in Wisconsin.
 Jon Ainsworth is recovering from his medical procedure
 Ruth Schmidt, Sister to John Cox is recovering.
 Sandra Noggle; Bob Adams; Ken William's daughter, Amy Williams;
 Maxine Rummel; Ashley Aragon's mom, Kim Roman
 Travel mercies for all and our "WAVES", our country and its leaders.

Serving in mission: Kutela Katembo: Missionary in Angola, Africa
Our World: Turkey, Syria, Ukraine, and Russia

PRESENCE: Sanctuary 93, Online 10, & Nursery 6 **Total: 109**

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|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| GIFTS: | July 2 nd | June 25 th | June 18 th | June 11 th | June 4 th |
| | \$4809.00 | \$5278.00 | \$1,701.00 | \$3,981.75 | \$5,593.00 |

SERVICE: Thank you to the Youth Helpers, Cooks, Leaders, Teachers, Decorators, Strike Crew (plus JOHN)... Oh! WHAT THE HECK! THANK YOU to Central UMC and the long list of volunteers for a WONDERFUL VBS!

A Summer Party for the WAVES!
Wise And Valued Elders = WAVES
Tuesday, July 18, 10:00 a.m.
in Fellowship Hall

Everyone 80 and older is invited to a deliciously fun party
Hosted by the Caring Ministries Team.

Come and enjoy being together, with a cup of coffee or tea, great conversation, and a special surprise program... performances by some of our young and most talented.
Please call the office (719-597-6642) to let us know attendance and if you need a ride.

JULY MISSION FOCUS: Snacks to Go with Backpacks! Our Special Gift for La Puente

In early August the staff of La Puente Social Services in Alamosa, CO, will be giving out 300 BACKPACKS filled with school supplies to low-income children at several sites throughout the San Luis Valley. They have received a grant that will provide all the school supplies and backpacks, which is what we usually donate. So, here's what they need, and it's so much fun!!

300 Capri Sun juice boxes 300 Gold Fish individual packs of crackers
300 individual packs of gummy snacks of whatever type.

The juice, crackers and gummy snacks will be distributed as the children are standing in long lines waiting to receive backpacks. This is not superfluous silliness. This is helping 300 children living in poverty to enjoy a super-fun experience as they receive their backpacks.

Please bring juice, crackers or gummy snacks to the basket in the entryway any time during July. Bob and Madellen Spaete will deliver our gifts to Alamosa after July 31. You may also contribute by check payable to Central UMC and designated La Puente.

Food Gifts in July: Toilet Paper Month OR Be a Chicken Giver!!

Collection of items for the Backpack Project

The Missions Committee along with the Backpack Team are challenging everyone to bring toilet paper and/or canned chicken during the month of July. **There will be two towers:** a pile of packages of toilet paper (any size ... the larger the better ... Individual rolls will be placed in plastic bags when included in a backpack.) and a stack of cans of chicken. Nearby will be a **clipboard** for you to register your guess of the maximum height of each tower.

On Sunday July 30, after worship, the 'judges' will measure each tower. Winners will be announced the following Sunday, and each winner will receive a fabulous, eye-popping prize!
 All ages may enter their guesses (one guess per tower per person).

If a tower topples before July 30, the items must remain unstacked and a new tower begun.

Let the building begin! Buy, bring, stack and then register your guess. Let's all enjoy the giving!!