



Christ United Methodist Church
Salt Lake City

Serving · Loving · Caring

2375 E. 3300 S. Salt Lake City, UT 84109
801-486-5473 • christumcutah.org



The Connection, February 2024

The Wesley Bell Ringers
VALENTINE'S DINNER DANCE



February 3

RESERVATION DEADLINE WEDS 1/31

\$25 PER PERSON: INCLUDES 3 COURSE MEAL, APPETIZERS & DESSERT, SILENT AUCTION, GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE DRAWING, DJ & DANCING - RESERVATIONS OPEN JANUARY 1

Ash Wednesday
February 14th



This year don't
give up something,
instead
get up to something!
(something good!)

Join us for a short worship at
12:00 noon

-or-

Drive thru Ashes anytime
between

12:30 - 1:00 p.m.

Drive Thru Ashes at Church on Westside of building.

Moving from
MEETINGS

to

Chilibowl &
Charge
Conference

February 11, 2024
11:30 - 12:45
Gymnasium, Christ UMC

All Church Charge Conference
Moving from standard committees to
a One Board model! All church
member vote required!

MISSION

I ♥ FOOTBALL SUNDAY
CHILI & CHARGE
CONFERENCE
FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Chili Bowl contestants are needed!

Come and Vote for your favorite three chills.

\$10.00 for adults and \$7.00 for kids.

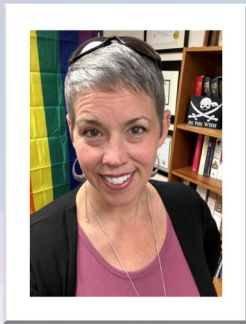
Preorder your Chili To Go! \$15.00 for a quart.

Funds raised support the Kenya Mission Trip.

Contact Jeff Tiede, Pastor Lisa, or Patsy Simons for
more info.

More information about the One Board Model will be
available at <https://www.christumcutah.org/one-board.html>

Watch your weekly email from CUMC for a link to
sign up to bring chili as well as buy tickets or pre-
order Chili To Go.



Pastor Lisa's Lines

Walk into any store today and you'll be overwhelmed with symbols of love: red and pink hearts, balloons, heart-shaped candies and teddy bears. Though this holiday has become commercialized like any other, the celebration of love is not a bad thing. Real and unconditional love is always a cause for celebration.

This year Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, falls on February 14th, Valentine's Day. The typical way to commemorate this day (Ash Wednesday that is) is to have ashes placed on our forehead and be reminded of our finitude. From dust we have come and to dust we will return someday. We remember we live for only a time, and that time is not ours to decide, but a gift from God. Thinking of our own death may feel morbid, but more so should feel healthy as it is a forgone conclusion.

Some may think that ashes are an odd thing to do on Valentine's Day, and yet it really is quite fitting when you remember that Valentine's Day originated as a liturgical feast day to commemorate the beheading of a few saints!

Today, Valentine's day is a time to celebrate loved ones, and buy flowers or candy or make dinner reservations; a time to celebrate true love. This year, it is most certainly both: a reminder of our finitude and a celebration of God's true love for each of us.

We will gather on Wednesday, February 14th at noon for a short worship service with the imposition of ashes as usual...but the ashes with a little shimmer of light as we remember God's unconditional love for us – that we are called to share with others.

Lent is often known as a time of giving something up in order to make room in our lives for spiritual pursuits. Rather than just "giving up" in Lent, the scriptures ask us to consider all that Jesus is "up to" and all that he asks us to be up to in his name.

Instead of bemoaning what we can't do, or used to do, in a culture where "measuring up" to external standards seems impossible, this Lent we will celebrate the small things that we can do right now to respond to God's call in our place, for our time. Who can we love? And who can we love well, in the name of Christ?

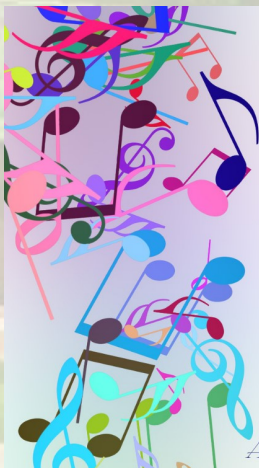
I hope we might be reminded of the love the Lord has for us, and share that love in all our actions.

Take a lunch break and join us for a short Ash Wednesday service at noon as we "get up to something good" – the love of Christ, something to celebrate always.

See you in Worship,

Pastor Lisa

Lead Pastor, revlisap@christumcutah.org, 386-2002-3669



UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

- Sunday, January 21st - 4:00 pm
Sloe Jam Bluegrass Revival Style Sing-Along
- Sunday, February 18th - 4:00 pm
A Listener's Guide to the Organ
- Sunday, March 17th - 4:00 pm
Ringing into Spring - Bells
- Sunday, April 21st - 4:00 pm
Rooted in Music - Cello & Piano

All Concerts in the Sanctuary at Christ UMC, 2375 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City



Reba likes to shop. I don't. Occasionally we go to Fashion Place Mall so she can shop. We go together. She shops and finds bargains. I walk.

Recently, we were doing just that. Observant fellow that I am, as I walked I realized that a lot of the people walking the mall like me were "older." Couples. Single people. All walking the same direction. Walking for the sake of moving their bones and exercise. I had to laugh at myself and us. Am I in that age bracket? Hmm.

Maybe.

Another observation. After a while, I decided to take a break. I went to the E-Bar, sat down to read and watch the walkers. I wanted to cross a leg over my knee, but...I had to lift my leg to rest on my knee! Again I had to laugh at myself. Time. Change. Life. Sometimes we can laugh at the process of life. Sometimes we cannot. Not every change that comes our way is easy. Some of our members are facing huge life challenges. Be aware and think of them.

Christ United Methodist Church is an excellent congregation. We care for each other. We care for our community. We care for our environment. We care for our world. We care. Yet there are times when some of our members have things happen and miss church. If that happens, call them up and tell them you missed them. Find out how they are. It is easy to feel forgotten.

We are offering classes and miniature workshops on different skill sets involved in caring. If you'd like to learn more about skills in caring, we invite you to be part of this training time. You don't have to become a part of the care team to participate. Just have a desire to learn and grow. We invite you to come.

Pastor Bruce Kolasch
Pastor of Congregational Care
pastorbruce@christumcutah.org
406-891-0434

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Dr. Theresa Werner for being appointed as the new deputy director of Huntsman Cancer Institute.



Deepest Condolences to Kelly and Scott Carpenter and family on the death of Kelly's father, Ben Findeisen, January 4, 2024.

Deepest Condolences to Sylvia Spangler on the death of her brother, Brian Dietz, January 7, 2024.

Deepest Condolences to Tammy and Greg Iriondo (Sylvia Spanger's daughter and son-in-law) on the recent death of Greg's sister.

Deepest condolence to Pastor Jean Schvien at the passing of her sister Peg, who died unexpectedly of complications from autoimmune disease; she was 69 years old. Prayers are appreciated. Cards may be sent to Jean at 14690 Rd 35.9, Mancos, CO 81328

Deepest Condolences to Peter Rigstad and family on the death of his brother, Mark Rigstad, January 17th.

Children and Young Family Ministries at Christ United Methodist Church

News and Notes

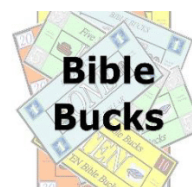
I ♥ Football Sunday



February 11th is I ♥ Football Sunday from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm. Come as a family, eat chili, and enjoy fun football and Valentine's Day themed activities. We will have games, crafts, and possibly face painting.

Bible Bucks Store

February 25th, our Bible Bucks Store will be open from 9:30-10:00 am and 11:00-11:30 am in room 208. Please stop by with your child(ren) so they have a chance to shop. Lot of fun items will be available. Children can earn Bible Bucks by attending Sunday School, bringing their Bible, memorizing Bible verses, and good behavior.



Volunteers Needed for Upcoming Events

In order to make our children's ministry program as fun and successful as possible, we need help from parent and member volunteers. Volunteers are essential for every single event inside and outside the classroom. We have many fun activities and events planned for this spring, but we will need the help of volunteers to make these events successful for the children! If you are available and willing to volunteer for any of the following events, or just want to know more, please contact Alicia Simons at children@christumcutah.org. We truly appreciate everyone who has made our events a success in the past, and with your help we will continue to create a fun and welcoming environment for the youngest in our church family.

Events: I ♥ Football Sunday – 2/11 • Easter Eggstravaganza – 3/23 • Spring Family Event – 5/5
• Vacation Bible School – 6/25-6/28

Upcoming Events

Feb. 11th - I ♥ Football Sunday

June 25th-28th – Scuba VBS

Feb. 25th – Bible Bucks Store

Mar. 23rd – Easter Eggstravaganza

May 5th – Spring Family Event

Children's Ministry Leaders: Alicia Griffing and Alicia Simons

children@christumcutah.org, 801-486-5473 ext. 113

CONGRATULATIONS

TO

SHELLIE ERICSON

WHO WON THE

CHILD CARE EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

FROM THE



We are so proud
of you!



Shellie Ericson won the Child Care Educator of the Year award from the Salt Lake County Health Department. This is the nomination that was submitted about Shellie:

I am writing to recommend an exceptional educator, Shellie Ericson, for the Child Care Educator of the year award. With a tireless dedication to nurturing growth, fostering connections, and enhancing the early childhood learning experience, Shellie exemplifies the vitality and passion of a truly extraordinary teacher.

As she prepares for retirement after years of dedicated service, she continues to invest in learning new skills and acquiring knowledge. Her commitment exceeds typical working hours, reflecting a genuine passion for helping children blossom. This selfless dedication and drive to continue advancing her skills, despite nearing her retirement, sets her apart as a unique beacon in our learning community.

Shellie embraces the diversity of her students, adapting her teaching practice to align with each child's unique needs and personalities. Shellie communicates with clarity to both parents and students. She sets consistent, clear boundaries that nourish children's sense of safety and respect. Shellie has remarkable talent for positive reinforcement. She helps children grow their self-esteem through validation and encouragement. She uses engaging, child-friendly strategies to cultivate deep, meaningful relationships with her students.

Shellie is also a devoted team player. She brainstorms with other members of the team to problem solve. Shellie Ericson has devoted her whole career to serving children and their families. She is so well-loved in our little community. She deserves to be celebrated! We admire and respect her for all her selfless efforts.

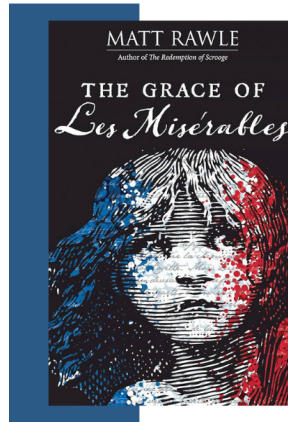
Cornel Faith, Explorer Preschool Director

Adult Small Group Opportunities

Sunday Morning Adult Sunday School, 9:00am in the Chapel-Resumes February 18th, the first Sunday in Lent.

Wednesday Morning Study, 10:00am, Parlor.

See the graphic about the study for February. For information contact Evelyn Kasworm at 801-942-1383 or 801-712-0236.



WEDNESDAY MORNING STUDY GROUP LENT STUDY

Starts Wednesday, February 7th by watching *Les Misérables*. The following 6-weeks will dive into the six ideals found in the story through Matt Rawle's *The Grace of Les Misérables*.

Men's Breakfast Group, Thursdays, 8:00am This group is open to all men. For more information talk to Dale McCormick or Larry McGill. Call the church office for contact information. 801-486-5473

The Witty Knitters meet from 1:30 - 3:00pm on the second Monday of every month in the Parlor. We enjoy fellowship while working on our projects for the CUMC Prayer Shawl Ministry. **Newcomers are welcome!!!** Questions may be directed to Pat Linnebur at 385-237-9476.

Deborah Circle meets the third Thursday of every month at 10:00am in the Parlor. Questions may be directed to Bev Mittelstadt at bevjm4287@yahoo.com.

United Women in Faith Book Club meets Monday, February 26th at 1:00pm in the Parlor. The book for February is *The Plot* by Jean Hanff Korelitz. For more information please contact Bev Mittelstadt at bevjm4287@yahoo.com or 801-272-7137 or 801-755-4115.

Young Adults Our Young Adults participate in every aspect of the church. Twice a month there is a book discussion. Contact Dana at dana5320@gmail.com for information.

Church Women United, A multi faith gathering of Christian Women

CWU is truly grateful to Christ United Methodist Church for ALL of its efforts in making the 2023 World Community Day Celebration a meaningful, enjoyable, and intimate event. Thank you for your welcoming hospitality and a wonderful lunch coordinated by Kathie Mawson, Rick Mawson, and Bev Mittelstadt. Although the group was small, the comments were positive. A special "Thank You" is extended to Pastor Rev. Bruce Kolasch for his extended participation, Chuck Mittelstadt for his tech support, and to Sue Nissen for her willingness, leadership, participation, and overall coordination.

With Grateful Sincerity,

Church Women United Board for Metropolitan Salt Lake City & Bountiful



PALMER COURT

DONATE ITEMS BY FEBRUARY 1ST TO BE RE-BAGGED:

- DRY DOG FOOD ● DRY CAT FOOD
- CAT TREATS

DELIVERY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

VOLUNTEERS ARE GREATLY NEEDED TO RE-BAG PET FOOD FEBRUARY 2ND-8TH.

**CONTACT PATSY SIMONS
FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Christ UMC Helps



Rides to/from church
Rides to/from appointments
Meals after medical procedures

christumcutah.org/christumchelps

YOUTH RESOURCE CENTER (YRC)


WISH LIST

The list of needs can be found on the church website, in the weekly emails and by the collection bin by the church kitchen.

YRC is a safe place for homeless and at-risk youth (ages 15-22) to shower, eat, and do laundry. Counseling, education assistance and job training are available.

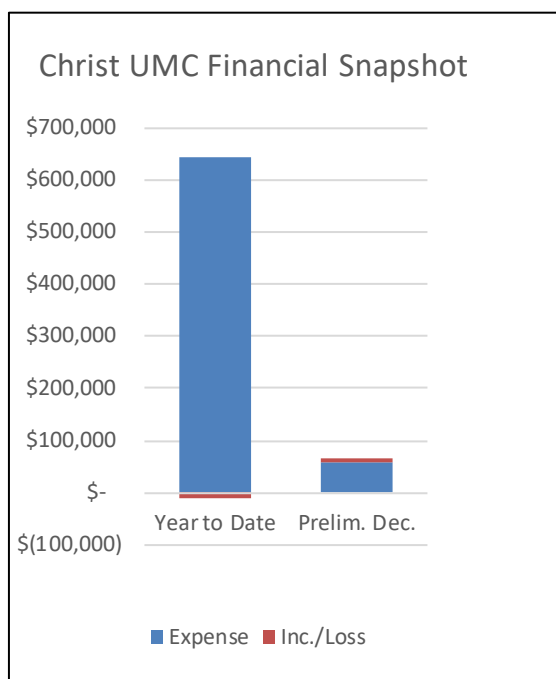


www.christumcutah.org



Permanent Endowment Fund

Did you know that you could make Christ United Methodist Church a beneficiary of your estate or IRA or other retirement account? The Endowment Fund Committee can provide information on how you can do this. Contact Doug Hattery at douglashattery2937@comcast.net or (801) 268-9251 to find out more.



In Graph Information:	
YTD Expenses	\$ 645,100
YTD Pledges & Other Receipts	\$ 634,200
Prelim. Dec. Expenses	\$ 58,500
Prelim. Dec. Pledges & Other Re-	\$ 63,800
Prelim. Dec. Surplus	\$ 5,300
Other Information:	
YTD Actual Deficit	\$ (10,900)
YTD Budgeted (Deficit)/Surplus	\$ (34,900)
Prior Yr Receipts in 2023	\$ 19,900
YTD Investment Gain	\$ 29,700

Social Justice and Green Team News

Thank you to everyone who attended the Soup and Social Justice last Sunday. And thank you Hope for a thoughtful and informative presentation on human trafficking. One link for more information is <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/apps#> "Created by the Bureau of International Labor Affairs, Sweat and Toils is an app that can be used as a starting point to empower yourself with knowledge about child labor or forced labor around the world. Anyone with an interest in these issues - governments, businesses, academics, civil society, and consumers - can use it as a source of information to begin asking questions, taking action, and demanding change."

Our next scheduled **Soup and Social Justice will be Sunday, February 4th**, after church. Representative Doug Owens will be with us to discuss the 2024 legislative session. Rep. Owens represents CUMC in the Utah House. He is running several bills but two address Utah's water issues by restricting the use of turf in certain locations ([HB11](#)) and by creating a water science curriculum for public school grades K-12 ([HB62](#)).



Joni Furlong and the CUMC Green Team are partnering with Grow the Flow and holding a vigil at the Capitol, Monday through Friday, for the entire Legislative session. I am attaching Joni's flyer with many opportunities for us all to show up and put pressure on the legislature to save the Great Salt Lake. **Attend the Vigil for the Great Salt Lake: 5-6:00pm, State Capitol, Thursday January 25th, Thursday February 22nd and Thursday February 29th.** The evening Vigils are family friendly events. Here are additional details: <https://nanseymour.com/vigil2024>. There is more info on the Green Team's bulletin board in the hallway by the Gym.

If you are interested in joining the Social Justice Steering Committee, contact Robin Hough. If you would like to join the Green Team, talk to Joni Furlong, or fill out the form on the Green Team bulletin board, located in the hallway by the Gym.



Scenes from the Save the Great Salt Lake Rally on January 20th

February 2024 Green Team Corner

2024 will be another important year for the restoration of the Great Salt Lake. Here is some reminder information about the vigils that are continuing to being held at the State Capitol throughout February.

To draw attention to this crisis, Nan Seymour (Founder of the The River Writing Collective, Poet In Residence – Antelope Island, and the 2023 winner of the Mayor's Artist Award) has put together a program of [daily walking vigils at the Utah State Capitol](#), to be held every day during the 2024 legislative session. These vigils are to celebrate our community's love for the lake and serve as a daily reminder to the legislature that we care about them working on this issue.

Vigils will be held from 8-9 a.m. and from 5-6 p.m., They started on January 16th and will continue until March 1. We are continuing to look for members of our congregation to participate.

In the mornings, you can "Walk the Waves" [Join a demonstration of love for the Great Salt Lake](#). Each morning on the southeast sidewalk in front of the Capitol at 8-9 a.m. Participants will acknowledge the land and the lake and then silently carry giant blue and white sun-printed nearly weightless waves around the perimeter, walking counter-clockwise to turn hearts and faces back toward the lake.

In the evenings, Celebrate the Lake species - [After two years of bringing people to the lake, we are bringing the lake to the people! Each evening on the sidewalk just east of the Capitol at 5-6 p.m. Again, we will acknowledge the land and the lake and then along with brine shrimp puppets, joyfully carry flocks of birds and other lake species around the Capitol, walking clockwise to beckon the future of a fully restored Great Salt Lake!](#)

And who does not love a 1-hour walk around the State Capitol on a crisp winter day?

You can sign up for any morning or evening individually but be aware we have picked a few vigils to support as a congregation. For February they are both from 5-6 p.m. on Thursday the 15th, and Thursday, the 29th. It is preferred to sign up online but we also have sign-up sheets at the Welcome Center in the Narthex and on the Creation Justice Bulletin board in the hallway by the gym.

Stay Tuned and Join Us for more information on this and other ways to get involved! For more information go to <https://growtheflowutah.org/calendar>. Here are a few things you can do to help save the Great Salt Lake.

What YOU Can Do in January 2024 to Help Get Water to Great Salt Lake

A Creation Justice Checklist for EACH of us.

- ☐ **Join: Grow the Flow** – a public action network working constructively and collaboratively to save Great Salt Lake. Goal: Get majority of the CUMC congregation to join. (<https://growtheflowutah.org/join/>)
- ☐ **Sign the Pledge for the 4,200 Project Pledge** – fighting to restore and protect Great Salt Lake (<https://4200project.org/>)
- ☐ **Write to your Legislators during the legislative session (Jan 16th-Mar 1st)** - Here are the steps: <http://tinyurl.com/SendItYCGSL-HowTo>
- ☐ **Participate in the Vigil at the Capitol** – We are hoping to have groups from CUMC host a vigil during the legislative session....OR come any weekday (Jan 16th-Mar 1st) at 8-9am or 5-6pm (hosted by others). **About:** <https://nanseymour.com/vigil2024> **Sign-Up Now:** <https://signup.com/group/462530012052>
- ☐ **Sign Up for HEAL Utah Great Salt Lake Lobby Days** – typically held on Thursdays during the legislative session Jan 16th-Mar 1st - <http://tinyurl.com/HEALUT-LobbyDays>
- ☐ **Attend the Rally to Save the Great Salt Lake** at the Capitol on **January 20th at 3pm**. **Save the Date:** <http://tinyurl.com/GSLRally2024>
- ☐ **Join the Green Team**. Stay up-to-date on all our CUMC Green Team efforts. Volunteer to get involved in our Saving Great Salt Lake efforts! **To join, Fill out the sign-up sheet** on the Creation Justice Bulletin board in the hall by the gym.
- ☐ **Share this flyer with someone else** and encourage them to join you in taking these actions!

You're Invited

INTERFAITH HARMONY

Music Night
An evening of sharing song and faith with our neighbors.

Save the date
Thursday, Feb 1st at 6:00 pm
Millcreek Common - The Grandview
6th Floor of Millcreek City Hall
1333 E Chambers Ave.

MILLCREEK COMMON

Food of the Month

Canned Fruit

Learn about other top donation needs at our emergency food pantries on our website:
www.crossroadsurbancenter.org/topneeds

CROSSROADS
urban center

PROMISE PARTNERSHIP UTAH VOICES FOR UTAH Children

Care for Kids

CHILDCARE ADVOCACY DAY

FEBRUARY 9 8-10AM
UTAH STATE CAPITOL ROTUNDA
350 State St.
Salt Lake City

RSVP QR CODE

CHILD FRIENDLY AND BREAKFAST PROVIDED!
***BRING AN OBJECT FROM HOME FOR SHOW AND TELL!**

Email:
careforkidsnetwork@gmail.com

eliminating racism empowering women
ywca Utah

UTAH CHILDREN'S NETWORK

neighborhood house

THE SENTRY CENTER

Early Childhood Alliance

Coffee WITH A COP

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS. ONE CUP AT A TIME.

Join your neighbors and police officers for coffee and conversation.

 Tuesday, February 6, 2024	 Millcreek Coffee Roasters 1330 E Chambers Ave 1st Floor	 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM
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The mission of Coffee with a Cop is to break down the barriers between police officers and the citizens they serve by removing agendas and allowing opportunities to ask questions, voice concerns, and get to know the officers in your neighborhood.

Millcreek Coffee Roasters has generously offered to provide regular coffee to participants, as well as 25% off of specialty drinks during this event.

THIS EVENT IS PRESENTED BY THE:

Millcreek Business Council & Unified Police Department

UNIFIED POLICE
GREATER SALT LAKE

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT:
hallen@updsl.org

coffeewithacop.com

MILLCREEK COFFEE ROASTERS