

Christ United Methodist Church  
S a l t   L a k e   C i t y

*Serving · Loving · Caring*

*The  
Connection  
May 2021*

## **RUSTY'S REFLECTIONS**

Wild Geese

You do not have to be good.

You do not have to walk on your knees

for a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.

You only have to let the soft animal of your body love what it loves.

Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.

Meanwhile the world goes on... - Mary Oliver



I don't know about you but often times I feel guilty. I feel guilty about not making phone calls when I know someone needs a good word, not giving feedback for a project someone has accomplished, not sharing a word of encouragement when someone is feeling down, not paying more attention to one or another of the tasks I have yet on my list, or worse yet not paying attention to the subtle signals a church member might be sending.

This guilt is one of the things we pastors share about our jobs. The questions arise and we talk about them when we are together, "Have we done enough?!!" We almost always fail to recognize the good things that have been done. We short change the little exchanges and bits of conversation that helped.

In one of the billboards on the way to work there is a photo of one person hugging another and at the bottom of the photo it say something like, "what it takes to prevent suicide." It is an effective ad and reminds me that sometimes it doesn't take much to keep a person tethered to the world and community and church.

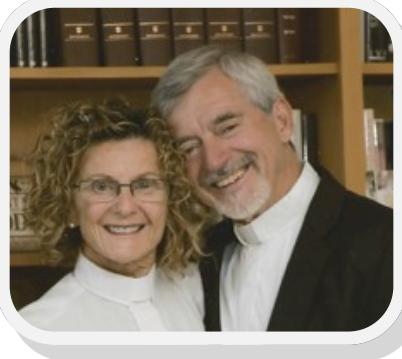
So Mary Oliver's words in her poem speak to me. "You do not have to be good." Not all the time at least. Because whatever we do or whatever we don't do...she's right you know. The world goes on.

Here's to the journey forward together my friends!

Rev. Rusty

# Holy Disruptions!

Many years ago Robert Fulghum wrote a book about relational skills entitled, "Everything I Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten." Share. Play fair. Don't hit. Say you're sorry. Flush. Warm cookies and milk are good for you, etc. We could also add, Tell the truth. Be kind. Always do the right thing.



These basic skills seem to have a huge learning curve today. Many people are just rude. Many folks say and act in ways that deliberately hurt and harm others. Chaos and confusion then reign leaving pandemonium and pain in the wake.

So, do we surrender our expectations of decency and hope? Should we pretend that everything is okay, ignoring the fear, greed and selfishness that surrounds us?

Amid the imbalance and injustice of our world, despite the appearances of all things wrong and out of order, can we find the Presence of One who is not content or pleased with how things are?

Consider Elijah. He thought all the world had gone awry, that he alone was faithful—that all was for naught. He was angry, disappointed and ready to throw in the towel. Then God's presence was made known in "a still small voice" (1 Kings 19:12). No lightning bolt. No thunder. No booming voice or world changing event. Yet Elijah experienced God's presence amidst the disarray and chaos of his day. God was on the move.

Consider Mary, Jesus' mother, when Gabriel announced God's plan through the birth of Jesus. The world was in a mess then too. Many people longed for change that seemed impossible. God's news to Mary that the Messiah was coming into the world caused her to shout and sing for joy. Her life did not magically and suddenly become easier. Greed, violence, injustice, hunger, homelessness, war, etc. have continued seemingly unchallenged since that announcement. Yet God—the Holy Disrupter—has continued to act and move, albeit silently and invisibly.

Sometimes God is hard to see. Yet if we are watching and listening we might catch glimpses of unexpected "holy interruptions." Derek Chauvin was convicted of the unjust killing of George Floyd. He could have been acquitted like all others before him. Yet something disrupted the normal trend of injustice. God is on the move.

Maybe God is waiting for us to act and wonders why we do not care enough to work for change making a difference in our world. Wondering why we do not disrupt the cold injustice and indifference that surrounds us.

Frederick Douglas once said, "I prayed for twenty years but received no answer 'til I prayed with my feet."

Pastor Bruce Kolasch  
Pastor of congregational care

Terry Waite has been named as the new volunteer director of the Adult Bell Choir (apPRAISEation). Terry was a past director of the Wesley Bell Choir and is excited about leading the adult choir. apPRAISEation had their first rehearsal recently and had 21 people in attendance.

Thank you, Terry, for filling this important role after Ed Duncan's retirement!

# Children, Youth and Families

## **VBS Registration Is OPEN!!**

Christ UMC is pleased to host **Rocky Railway** Virtual VBS June 28<sup>th</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup>. VBS will be offered for FREE with this virtual format. Families can watch the videos anytime that works best in their schedule. The children can participate in the daily Zoom gathering time. All families have the option of receiving a free music CD or digital download. Register at [www.christumcutah.org/vbs.html](http://www.christumcutah.org/vbs.html) by Friday, May 21st so we can purchase supplies.



## **Virtual Sunday School**



Our May Sunday School series will be **Wonder Women: Heroic Women of the Bible**. A video of the Bible Story reading along with a fun quick question session where children can earn Bible Bucks for participating can be found at <https://www.christumcutah.org/virtualsundayschool.html>.

## **Mother's Day**

Wishing all the women at CUMC a Happy Mother's Day on Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>!



## **Attention Families of High School and College Graduates**



CUMC will recognize our graduates on Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> during worship service. Please email Kelly the following information by May 7th.

For High School Graduates: High school, future/college/ career plans, early childhood picture, and senior picture.

For College Graduates: College graduating from and degree, future plans, and current picture.

Contact Kelly Carpenter via email, [Children.and.Family@christumcutah.org](mailto:Children.and.Family@christumcutah.org), or 801-486-5473 ext. 113 for more information.

## **Beef Jerky For Sale!**

Troops 410 and 8410 invite you to purchase some delicious Jack Link's beef jerky! These sales will help pay for Summer Camp this year and to fund other troop activities. We are hoping to sell most of our beef jerky before the end of April so get it while supplies last! We have the following options available:

Snack Packs (five packs in a box) in Original and Teriyaki flavors-\$15/box

Pepperoni Sticks-\$15/package

10 oz. Bag of Jerky in Original, Terkiyaki, and Peppered flavors-\$25/bag

If you would like to purchase or have any questions please call, text, or email Tiffany Bustin at 801-502-8741 or [kbustin@yahoo.com](mailto:kbustin@yahoo.com).

## Youth News

### Palmer Court Service Project Update for March

Youth families picked up pet food and re-bagging supplies at Patsy's house, re-bagged the pet food and treats at their own homes, then returned them to Patsy's house. Barrett and Scott Carpenter, James and Tiffany Bustin, Darlene Pulver, and Patsy delivered 41 Bags of dog food, 130 cans of dog food, 3 bags of dog treats, 55 bags of cat food, 66 cans of cat food, 17 cat treats, 30 jugs of cat litter, pee pads, coats, 6 beds, 2 carriers, a large crate, and 10 blankets to the case workers for them to distribute the following week to the residents.

Thank you to everyone who donated, re-bagged food, loaded and unloaded vehicles, drove, or helped in any way!

We are planning our next delivery for **May 21st**. Youth families will re-bag at their own homes again. All donations, especially food and treats, are greatly needed.

Contact Patsy Simons 801-808-6641 or [YouthDirector@christumcutah.org](mailto:YouthDirector@christumcutah.org) to arrange for donation drop off.

**Coming in May Youth Fundraiser Car Wash to support Youth Missions!!** Watch for date and times in e-blasts and bulletins.



### **2021 SPRING WISHLIST FOR THE YOUTH RESOURCE CENTER FOR HOMELESS & AT-RISK YOUTH IN THE SALT LAKE CITY AREA**

#### Clothing Needs (new or gently used)

Men's Boxer Briefs (must be new) sizes S, M, LG, XL, XXL	Women's Underwear (must be new; teen styles) sizes 30 - 42
Athletic Shorts (men; basketball style), sizes S, M, LG, XL, XXL	Women's Capris (teen styles) sizes 5 - 16
Men's Jeans (teen styles) sizes 30 - 38	Women's tops, long and short sleeves (teen styles) sizes S, M, L, XL
Men's belts sizes 30 - 40	
Men's T-Shirts in assorted colors, sizes M, L, XL, XXL	Women's Leggings
Men's Closed Toe Walking Shoes sizes 9 - 13	Women's Closed Toe Walking shoes sizes 7 - 10
	Men and Women Hoodies/Sweatshirts sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL
	Sweat Pants, male & female sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL

#### Hygiene Needs

Large Wide-Tooth Combs	Hairbrushes	Lotion (travel size)	Chapstick
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#### Miscellaneous Needs

Ready-to-go Meals with Pull Tops	Single Serving Snack Packs	Bottled Water	Water Bottles (new, reusable)
	Sleeping Bags	Tarps	

#### Gift Card Needs

##### \$5 & \$10 gift cards to the following:

- Smith's (for miscellaneous items and prescription co-pays)
- Walmart (for miscellaneous items and prescription co-pays)
- Target (for miscellaneous items and prescription co-pays)

**Homeless and at-risk youth** are offered much-needed services at VOA's Youth Resource Center in Salt Lake City. At first, individuals may come to the YRC for a shower, to do laundry or get some food. But once trust is built, the Center is able to serve them in more meaningful ways, breaking down barriers that led to homelessness and allowing teens to transform their lives. Each year the YRC serves about 800 homeless/at-risk teens. They offer emergency shelter beds, 24/7 assistance, three meals a day and free legal services through their Homeless Youth Legal Clinic, programming dedicated to education assistance, job training, counseling, and other programs.

**Thank you for your donations! They DO make a difference in someone's life.**



A Celebration of Life will be held for Sonja Hilding May 8th at 1:00pm. This will be an in person event, as well as livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

Deepest condolences to Marianne Sheeley and family and friends of Mark Sheeley, who died April 11th. Mark and Marianne were active at CUMC in the 1980s and 1990s. Marianne can be reached at 1942 Split Rock Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601.

Deepest condolences to Rosalie Gibbens on the death of her forever friend, Ronald Gibbens, April 10th.

Deepest condolences to Gayle Fjelstad and her family on the death of their husband and father Don, Wednesday, April 8th. A Celebration of Don's life was held Sunday, April 18th. The service was recorded, and is available to view on our website: <https://www.christumcutah.org/sermons>

Deepest condolences to Donna Adams on the death of her son Brian Friday, April 9th. A service was held April 12th.

Deepest condolences to Fay Losser on the death of her friend, Teri Young on March 10th.

Deepest condolences to Judy Gallager, and all the friends and family of Jim Gallager, who died March 23rd.

Deepest condolences to Lynne Whitt and family, as well as the friends of Patrick Whitt, who died March 23rd.



John Lay was recently recognized by the Utah Subdistrict as a "Quiet Disciple" for his work in helping to organize a project to take truckloads of wood to the Navajo Nation last Fall. John worked with a number of volunteers from CUMC to cut, load, and transport wood from the big wind-storm that hit SLC last Fall down to Cortez, Colorado. Thousands of pounds of wood was moved to people on the Navajo Reservation in the Four Corners area.

Congratulations John on your recognition, and thank you for all you do for CUMC!

Dayna and Tom Beckman have announced that they are moving out of Utah. Their new address is:

2670 East Genevieve Way  
Green Valley, AZ 85614

**United Methodist Women's Book Club is meeting via Zoom at 1:00pm.** The book for May 17th is **Not Your Princess** edited by E. Charleyboy & M. Leatherdale or **Rise** by B. Hegedus (about Maya Angelou) For more information about the book club please contact Bev Mittelstadt at [bevjm4287@yahoo.com](mailto:bevjm4287@yahoo.com) or 801-272-7137 or 801-755-4115.

UMW INVITES ALL CUMC WOMEN TO OUR ANNUAL PICNIC

Thursday, June 3, 2021 - 12 Noon

Evergreen Park, 2200 E Evergreen Avenue (about 3500 S)

Everyone is excited to be able to plan group events again, especially with the recent hints of sunny, warm days ahead. UMW members are overjoyed to be able to schedule our annual picnic this year. PLEASE SAVE THE DATE, THURSDAY, JUNE 3, INVITE A FRIEND AND JOIN US IN EVERGREEN PARK AT NOON.

Because some precautions are still needed, we ask everyone to bring her personal lunch and beverage. The good news is that we will be able to enjoy our lunches and beverages TOGETHER! There will be time for catch-up on how and what we all are doing – past successes, challenges survived, and even future hopes and plans. Paper products will be available for all at the picnic.

Having missed our usual gatherings for over a year, some traditional mission efforts have not been well communicated. The first of those is your opportunity to pledge your support to our UMW unit's mission work. THE PICNIC WILL PROVIDE AN IN-PERSON OPPORTUNITY TO FILL OUT A PLEDGE CARD AND PROVIDE THAT MUCH-APPRECIATED FINANCIAL SUPPORT.



THE SECOND IS THE ANNUAL CALL TO PRAYER AND SELF-DENIAL. If you are able to contribute to that program, we encourage you to do so. That offering will be collected at the picnic.

Your pledge can be given on any time schedule you wish – all at once, monthly, quarterly.

## Church Women United May Friendship Day Celebration 2021 on Zoom

**"Becoming ONE in 2021 – Making Room at the Table"**

**Friday, May 7th at 9:30 a.m.**



**Keynote Speaker: Matt Minkevich, Food Pantry Director, Crossroads Urban Center**

Annual FLC: Fellowship of the Least Coin Collection / Dedication

Potential Speakers: Esther Williams Scholarship Fund Recipients

Please Register in advance for this meeting: at

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ofuGvrD8sG9LvFkuN\\_Nhm-bkq2pG6HeeA](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ofuGvrD8sG9LvFkuN_Nhm-bkq2pG6HeeA)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Contact Kathy Horvat at 801-502-0708 with any ZOOM concerns.

Community Outreach: **The CWU Esther Williams Scholarship Fund.**

Checks for the scholarship fund or CWU State and Local Programs should be made payable to **Church Women United**, and mailed to:

Desta Aure, Treasurer, 10227 Hickory Pt. Dr., Sandy, UT 84092



**Church Women United  
ESTHER WILLIAMS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP  
2021 Application**

Please submit a completed Application, a Personal Statement and two (2) Letters of Support to:  
Church Women United - Esther Williams Memorial Scholarship, c/o Calvary Baptist Church, 1090 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, or email to [karenbradakis@gmail.com](mailto:karenbradakis@gmail.com) by June 1, 2021. **Applications WILL NOT be accepted after June 1st.**  
*(Please print)*

Name _____	Address _____
email address _____	Age _____
Phone: Home _____	Other _____
Church _____	Graduation Date _____
High School _____	College GPA (if applicable) _____
High School GPA _____	_____
List High School Interests and Activities _____	
If you are a current college student, list Interests and Activities _____	
Describe Community/Volunteer Activities _____	
What College do you plan to attend? _____	
Have you been notified of acceptance? _____ Did you apply for financial aid? _____	
Degree planned or current college major: _____	
Current college students – list name of college/university: _____	
Circle one: College Freshman _____ Sophomore _____ Junior _____ Senior _____	
Signature _____ Date _____	

Please attach the following documents to this Application:

(1) Personal Statement; 2-Page, double-spaced, typed statement in which you address your career goals, statement of need, Christian/Church activities and community involvement.  
(2) Two (2) letters of support or recommendation. One (1) from a Church Leader or Pastor and one (1) from a High School Teacher/Counselor or from a College/University Faculty Member.

**Note:** *Scholarship recipients must provide proof of College enrollment before scholarship funds are released.*



**Church Women United  
Metropolitan Salt Lake/Bountiful Unit  
c/o Calvary Baptist Church  
1090 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111**

**ESTHER WILLIAMS SCHOLARSHIP**  
\$300.00

**Scholarship ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION Requirements  
2021-2022**

**Eligibility**  
Female High School and College Students  
2.3 at the time of application

**GPA**

**Residency**  
Salt Lake/Bountiful Utah Area

**Christian Church Member** Involvement in Church Activities

**Application Form**  
Attached

**Personal Statement**  
2-Page maximum to include:  
Statement of need (describe financial situation)  
Mission projects or community service  
Church activities  
Career goals and future plans

**2 Letters of Support**  
One letter from your Pastor or Church Leader, and  
One letter from a teacher or college faculty member

**Scholarship Amount**  
\$300.00

**Due Date**  
**June 1, 2021**

**Scholarships Released:**  
August 2021

Donations to support the Esther Williams Memorial Scholarship fund are welcomed. Please direct questions to: Karen Bradakis, [karenbradakis@gmail.com](mailto:karenbradakis@gmail.com) or 801-554-1174.

 <https://www.facebook.com/CWUUtah/>

**Christ United  
Methodist Church**

2375 East 3300 South  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
84109

801-486-5473  
[www.christumcutah.org](http://www.christumcutah.org)



Thank you as always for your continued support of the church. You may mail a check to the church, give through the [CUMC website](#), or text to give at 801-317-8833.

## Top donation requests for our food pantry this month:

- Chili
- Snacks (ex. granola bars)
- Saltines/crackers
- Bottled water

Donations can be dropped off at our downtown Food Pantry (347 S 400 East) without appointment, Monday to Friday 9am-3pm. Thank you for your support!  
[www.crossroadsurbancenter.org](http://www.crossroadsurbancenter.org)



You may also leave your donations in the CUMC collection bins by the west door.