

Christ United Methodist Church

S a l t L a k e C i t y

Serving • Loving • Caring

The July 2020 Connection

RUSTY'S REFLECTIONS

For some reason, I woke up this morning thinking about the disciples just waiting around in the Upper Room for forty days after Jesus death and resurrection. The gospels are not of one accord about that time, which gives me some pause, but the Author of Luke/Acts seems to indicate they were there meeting in the upper room for 40 days until Pentecost.

Just Waiting.

That's what it feels like to me as I go into work at the church. Just waiting. Until that time when we can all meet again.

Just waiting..until I can hear the familiar sounds of the small group of regulars at the 8:00 am service welcoming each other and Rick or Louis starting the first hymn on the piano.

Just waiting until I rush from that service into my office to put my lapel microphone on and walk into the 9:00 service to see some of the folks beginning to gather and check in with the AV Team and then hear Ed beginning the Prelude on the piano or organ.

Just waiting for the Coffee Hour in the gym and grabbing a donut and saying hello to Lorraine Dale (who by the way will turn 100 this Fall) and others. Looking over to the west wall and seeing what Pat-sy and the youth have planned and just greeting folks and seeing what is going on in their lives and the life of the church!

Just waiting until the 10:30 service is filled with the sound of the Wesley Bell Choir, or ApPRAISEation, or the Chancel Choir or Faith on Fire leading us into worship.

Just waiting. Sigh. It's hard to just keep waiting!

But that's what we're doing. And I don't know how long it is that we will need to keep waiting. The Holy Spirit came and moved through those disciples and I hope and pray that the Spirit moves and keeps moving through us as we wait...and ready ourselves and busy ourselves with the work that we do even as we wait.

Tend to each other. Pay attention to each other as well as yourselves even in these days of waiting.

Rev. Rusty

Worship in the Park, Sunday July 5th at Canyon Rim Park

You are welcome to join Rev. Rusty for a worship service from 9:00 to 9:45am. John Adamson will provide music. Please wear a face covering and bring a lawn chair or blanket. We will make every attempt to keep a 6 foot social distance from each other.

Trust God! Do Good! (Psalm 37:3)

An act of kindness many years ago is having an impact today. Ireland was hard hit with starvation and people immigrating out of the country during the Potato Famine. That dates back to 1845-1849. Over a million Irish died due to starvation, exposure and disease. The peasants were allowed small plots of ground before the famine hit that barely kept the families alive. The famine devastated them. No one seemed to care. The British government, at that time, did very little to help and support the starving peasants. Many were Irish were forced to immigrate in order to survive.



Then help came from a completely unexpected source—nearly 4,000 miles away. The Choctaw Nation in Oklahoma sent \$170 to help victims of the Irish famine. Barely fifteen years earlier, the Choctaw had been the victims of a forced march from *their* homeland—from Mississippi to Oklahoma. They call that cruel exodus the Trail of Tears. The Choctaw learned about the suffering of the Irish. They were moved with compassion and sent what help they could. \$170 might seem small, but it was significant to the Irish. It made a difference. It helped the people of Ireland know they were not alone!

And now the Irish are reciprocating. The *Christian Century* June 3, 2020 issue notes that the Irish have recently responded to the COVID-19 crisis that the Choctaw and Hopi people are dealing with. They have raised over \$1 million dollars in support. Amazing! In times of trial and hardship it is important to do the good we can. Psalm 37:3 says, “trust in the Lord and do good...”

Alice von Hildebrand has written, “*In life there are moments of darkness. There are periods of discouragement. There are times when we lose sight of the beauty of the sky for all the clouds. You may have to bear severe sickness, or deal with tremendous pain, or you may be disappointed in this or that. But remember, whatever difficulty you have to face, it will not last. It is only a cloud. For God has made each of us with a purpose.*” Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, “*Let us realize the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.*” Maybe our purpose is to help the bending of that arc by striving for kindness, reform and desperately needed social justice and change.

“*Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.*” (John Wesley)

Thank you for letting me serve our gracious God with you,

Pastor Bruce Kolasch
pastor of congregational care



Deepest condolences to Mike and Paula Morris and the family and friends of their sister-in-law, Pat Foster, at the end of May.

Deepest condolences to Hallie McCarthy and family on the death of her grandmother in June.



Congratulations and Happy Birthday to Bill Silvers who turned 100 years old on June 25th!

Annual Conference Report from Rev. Rusty

The Mountain Sky Annual Conference was held by Zoom on June 19th and 20th. Over 600 people participated online. While there were only nine petitions voted on, the voting process itself happened fairly smoothly.

You can find video recordings of the plenary sessions by going to the Mtn. Sky Conference website. (<https://www.mtnskyumc.org/>)

There will no doubt be a push in the future (in my opinion) to save money, depending on the year, by doing online voting rather than bringing all the people together. We continue the process of evolving as a conference using these new tools.

If you need to visit the church at this time, please enter through the West door, even if you have a key. There are masks, sanitizing wipes and gloves available on a table by the door, which is open from 9am to 1pm Monday-Friday.

Please wear a face covering in the building, and observe social distancing guidelines. And please use the sanitizing wipes to clean the surfaces you touch, to protect others that may come in the building after you as well as our Family Promise Guests.

Please **do not** bring any rummage until after the church is re-opened for meetings. The Ringers are unable to move items from the donation closet to the basement at this time. Anything left outside the building will have to be thrown away

Children, Youth and Families



KNIGHTS OF NORTH CASTLE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 6 - 9, 2020



CUMC is offering our online VBS for FREE from July 6th - 9th. We have a few slots open where supplies can be guaranteed. Grandchildren are also welcome to attend. You can watch the videos anytime during the day that works best in your schedule. All families have the option of receiving a free music CD of this year's songs. Register or for updates and more information, go to the VBS website at www.christumcutah.org/vbs. Please contact Kelly Carpenter at children.and.family@christumcutah.org or 801-486-5473 ext 113 with any questions.

Summer Mom Zoom Nights

All Moms are invited to join us for our Summer Zoom meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 8:00 pm. We would love to "see" you, even for a few moments. Our next meetings will be July 7th and July 21st. Log in at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84632283177>.



Need a Bible?

If your family would like to follow along with the *Deep Blue Bibles for Kids* that we are using during this time and you do not have one, contact Kelly at children.and.family@christumcutah.org and we will get a copy to you.

July Youth News

Palmer Court Service Project Update for May: Youth families picked up and re-bagged the pet food and treats at their own homes. Mike Hampton, Scott Carpenter, and Patsy delivered 52 Bags of dog food, 151 cans of dog food, 24 bags of dog treats, 45 bags of cat food, 129 cans of cat food, 28 bags of cat treats, and 30 jugs of cat litter to the Palmer Court case workers, for distribution 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 **August 14th**. 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.

Thank you all for supporting Youth Missions. This year our Junior High and Senior High Mission Trips had to be cancelled. We are looking forward to the 2021 Youth Mission Trips. Our Senior High hopes to go to Costa Rica or Puerto Rico.



GOLDEN CELERY 2020

Golden Celery Competition (*quarantine style*)

July 1-31, 2020

What a year we've had! This year, we are in need of the Golden Celery more than ever! Join us for the biggest Crossroads food drive of the year

You may drop off your donations at Christ United Methodist Church at the west side door, closest to the office, between 9am and 1pm, Monday through Friday, beginning July 1st. Cash donations are welcome through the CUMC website, or by mail. **Please make sure to indicate your donation is for Golden Celery.**

You may also drop off donations at Crossroads, 347 South 400 East, Mon-Fri 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., . Make sure you tell us you are donating for the Golden Celery Challenge. This is very important!! **PLEASE CALL TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT BEFORE DROP OFF.** We are currently operating with limited staff, so will need to make sure we have the personnel to help you unload and organize the food in the pantry. **Call or text Jess at (858) 354-2356 or email at jessica@crossroadsurbancenter.org to set up a drop off time.**

There is not a limit on bulk items. However, any package or bags over two pounds must be broken down into quart size, clearly labeled zip lock bags. We will not be accepting #10 cans (the big ones) nor water as a countable donation. We only accept liquid milk in quantities of 1 quart or less. We do need juice/juice boxes.

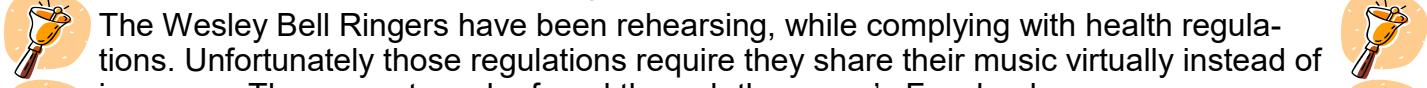
What we need most: individual juices • snacks (ex. granola bars) • saltines • canned chili or pasta • canned fruit • tuna/canned meat

<https://www.crossroadsurbancenter.org/>



You are invited to watch The Wesley Bell Ringer Live Stream Concert

Saturday, June 27th at 7:30pm



The Wesley Bell Ringers have been rehearsing, while complying with health regulations. Unfortunately those regulations require they share their music virtually instead of in person. The concert can be found through the group's Facebook page:

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



It should also be available on our website, <https://www.christumcutah.org/sermons> after the concert.





Thank you to those of you who have given part or all of your government stimulus check to the church. That is a great gift to the church during this time and helps the church to meet its financial obligations...and helps to provide a way that we can help others who are going through a difficult time.

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. If you are donating to Crossroads for the Golden Celery Challenge, please be sure to indicate that on your donation.

The Navajo Nation in the four corners region has been hit especially hard by the Covid19 Virus. Pastor Jean Schwien and First UMC in Cortez are working with citizens of the Navajo Nation to get much needed supplies out to those in need. Cash donations are welcome. Checks should be sent to First UMC of Cortez, PO Box 1016, Cortez, Co 81321.

Here's an update from Pastor Jean

The Navajo COVID Relief Project has reached 550 households on the Navajo Nation with food, cleaning supplies and water. We continue to keep food and supplies on hand for emergent needs. As other relief groups begin to provide food assistance, the United Methodist project will start offering hay to families with livestock. Sheep, goats and cattle provide both income and food, and with the extreme drought, normal grazing is not available. It is critically important to the well-being of Navajo families that the animals stay alive.

Financial donations are still very welcome. As we move toward autumn, we will shift to providing elders with wood and coal for heating.

THANK YOU for your tremendous outpouring of support! We could not be as successful with this program without you!



We are hosting Family Promise for the rest of the year.

Charitable donations are most welcome during this time. Donate to Crossroads at

<https://donorbox.org/support-crossroads-urban-center>

Donate to Family Promise at

<https://www.fpgives.org/organizations/family-promise-salt-lake>

Adult Children of Alcoholics & Dysfunctional Families (ACA)

This Meeting is a 12-Step Discussion Format and Open to All. The program is about healing from the effects of having been raised in a dysfunctional family environment and how that has manifested into problems in adulthood (addictions, relationship problems, mood disorders, anger issues, physical illness, etc.)

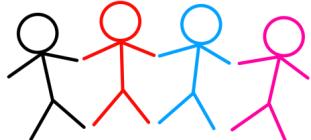
Meetings are currently taken place via Zoom on Tuesdays. The meeting room opens at 6:00pm, with the actual meeting beginning at 6:30.

The Zoom link is

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/vJUpf-2trD4oStYMtbn6YW6fYfPadjuDQ>

Meeting ID: 114-845-252 Password: millcreek1www.adultchildren.org

VOA Youth Resource Center Wish List June - August

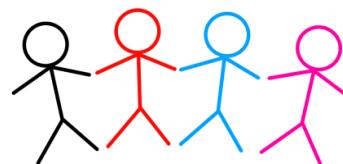


Homeless Youth need our help now more than ever. Due to Covid-19 the Youth Resource Center is not able to accept your in-kind donations until further notice. However, the youth remain in great need of the items normally donated to the Center for them. A wish list has been set up on Amazon of their current most-needed items. Those who wish to help our local homeless youth (ages 15 - 24) can access the Wish List here:

<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/26RVC5Z0T5MEC?sort=default>.

In these challenging times, it's nice to know we can still reach out and be the answer to someone's prayer.

Thank you!



CUMC HELPS

If you need help during this time of isolation, or are available to help, go to christumcutah.org/cumchelps

or call the office at 801-486-5473 ext 113 and leave a voicemail on Kelly's phone.

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801-486-5473
www.christumcutah.org



Worship in the Park

Sunday July 5th

Canyon Rim Park

9:00am

⇒ Bring your own chair or blanket.

⇒ Face Masks are required.

⇒ Please maintain a 6 foot social distance.

If you cannot, or feel that you should not, attend, please know this outdoor service will be recorded and shared on our website and perhaps on Facebook.
Watch for details in your email.