



The little town where I grew up had a main street that was two blocks long. On the north end was the post office, and on the south end was the city offices and the fire station. In between were the pharmacy, the grocery store, the cafe, the two beauty salons, the local tavern, Mrs. Thompson's Variety Store, and a few other businesses that came and went. About half way down main street, which was actually Pennsylvania

Avenue, on the west side, was a small park. In the middle of the park was a gazebo built of big rocks; it was a mammoth structure in terms of its materials, and it was probably smaller than I remember it being. There was a flag pole near the gazebo, but it rarely had a flag flying.

On the gazebo itself was a plaque. I remember that it had that greenish hue of metal changing color after exposure to years and years of weather. I can remember that the plaque had sort of an official presence in that it was fancy—not so much ornate, but stately. At the top of the plaque was an eagle, and below the eagle some script about sacrifice. Below the script were the names of those from my little town who had died in World Wars I and II.

I had a level of appreciation of that plaque, and the names, even as a kid. However, I have to admit, that it has been only as a parent that I have begun to really appreciate the reason why that gazebo and the plaque were in our little park at all. Someone wanted to remember. Someone must have lost a son and they wanted to memorialize their hero. How one person's desire to remember the honored dead turned into a gazebo, I do not know. All I know is that from time to time, in the midst of my playing on that gazebo, I noticed the names. In noticing the names, somehow, in some small way, those men were remembered.

Today we worship together on this Memorial Day weekend. Today we hear the story of Jesus appearing to some folks on a road. Today we remember that Christ is alive—even in the midst of loss, death, and despair; Christ is alive. Let us worship!

With Hope,
Scott

May 28, 2017

CENTRAL TO LIFE



WORSHIP



NAVIGATE



SERVE



ENGAGE



SERMON SERIES

“HE IS RISEN”

CLASSIC SERVICE

8:30am & 11:00am

COMMUNITY OF HOPE

1:00pm



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!**

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

When: **June 17th, 9:00am-3:00pm**

Theme: Hero Central

*Please visit the front desk or
contact Pastor Kelly for registration information.*



What is Church 4 Kids?

Church 4 Kids is a time during the 11:00am worship service designated for kids to hear the Gospel lesson in a different way. Kids of all ages are invited to join Pastor Kelly in the courtyard during the 11:00am worship service sermon time to listen, learn, and experience the Sunday Scripture lesson in an interactive way.

Please contact Pastor Kelly if you have any questions!

THRIFT SHOP

CLOSED Today for Memorial Day



OFFICE CLOSED

- **CLOSED Monday, May 29th** for Memorial Day



Abundant Mission

Pastor Greg Henneman is back in town. Join him for a conversation in which he will share what he has experienced in mission work over the last two years at the Church for All People in Columbus, Ohio, and what he has learned that might help inform what we are doing in Albuquerque. Join Greg at Central United Methodist Church **June 3rd** from **11:00am to Noon**.



CHILDREN AND ADULT MINISTRIES

Questions? Contact Pastor Kelly at the church office or via email to kellyb@centraltolife.org;

- **Sundays:** Sunday School classes meet at 9:45am. Choose from a variety of classes.
- **Weekdays:** Several small study groups to choose from: Monday night, Wednesday or Friday mornings.

www.centraltolife.org

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Scott Sharp, Senior Pastor
Rev. Kelly Brooks, Executive Pastor
Rev. Janet Norden, Associate Pastor
Michele Humes, Office Administrator
Kathy Gough, Office Assistant

Jesus Valdez, Media Coordinator

Jonathan Davidson, Interim Director of Music

Rick Wild, Organist

Ronselle Harrison, Audio Tech

Alesha Bird, ASL Interpreter



WE ARE A
**STEPHEN
MINISTRY
CHURCH**

Get connected! Sign up for Central Connections, our weekly electronic newsletter, at www.centraltolife.org or send an email to Jesus Valdez at jesusvaldez@centraltolife.org.
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