



This morning in worship I will be continuing our sermon series on the Apostles' Creed and the book of Romans with Part II of "Maker of Heaven and Earth." In today's scripture reading from Romans, the Apostle Paul makes several comments that relate to human sexuality; specifically about same sex sexual acts.

As we all know, anytime that we talk about controversial issues it is easy to make things personal. My suspicion is that some of you will appreciate my comments today about this passage, while others will find my comments wanting in some way. It is not my intention to summarize the Bible today, nor is it my intention to make a statement about what Central believes about human sexuality as if there is only one opinion here. Instead, my hope is that my sermon today will express the issues that we believe were part of the context out of which Paul wrote, and the context of Rome to which he wrote. Similarly, I hope that my sermon will engage our current context of life and ministry in 2017. I will take scripture seriously. I will engage our tradition. I will reason with my mind and heart. I will test my reading of scripture through the experience of ministry.

Most of all, my sermon today will be grounded in our life together as a community of faith here at Central. At the end of the service, our mission will be the same as it was when we arrived this morning; to live out the good news of Jesus Christ in the world. I am grateful to be part of a church where we can engage difficult issues. I am even more proud to be part of a church where what matters most is our witness to Jesus Christ as people of faith.

With Gratitude,  
Scott

**EXPLORATION** is a three-day event for young adults age 18-26 to listen, discern, and respond to God's call to ordained ministry and to explore their gifts for service as a deacon or elder in The United Methodist Church. If you have sensed God might be calling you to ordained ministry, wondered what ministry in The United Methodist Church is all about, would like help sifting through issues involved in an ordained vocation, or want to learn more about The United Methodist seminaries and theological schools, this gathering is for you.



Exploration creates sacred space for young adults to be in meaningful fellowship, passionate worship, theological reflection, and practical workshops as they discern whether God's call on their life is to ordained ministry in The United Methodist Church and what faithful steps they can take in response.

*For more information, please contact Pastor Kelly*



WORSHIP



NAVIGATE



SERVE



ENGAGE



**SERMON SERIES**  
**"CREDO: I BELIEVE-QUESTIONS IN CONTEXT,  
 FAITH IN ACTION"**

**CLASSIC SERVICE**  
**8:30am & 11:00am**

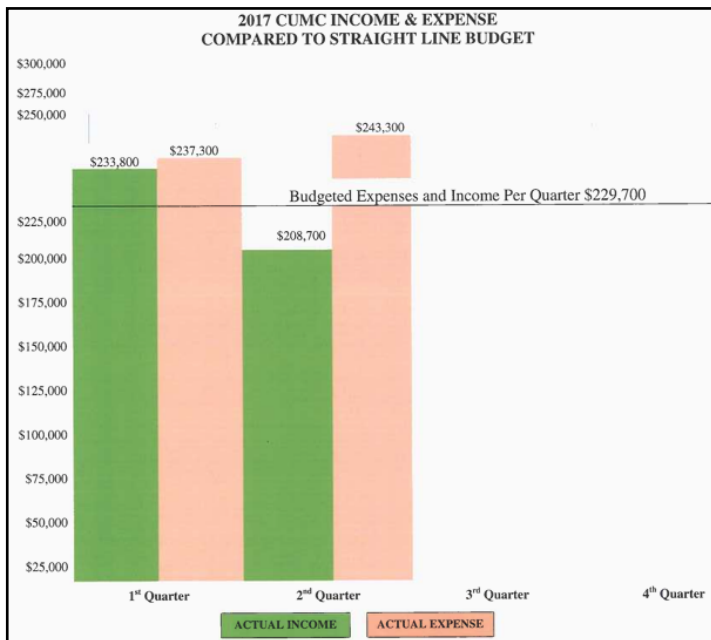
**Church-Wide Potluck**

"Please plan on attending a called Charge Conference and church-wide potluck on **September 10th at 12:30pm** in the Life Center. We will discuss and vote on two financial requests from Saranam and enjoy food and fellowship time together.

*I) Saranam, LLC Line of Credit: Since January this year, the Saranam Board has been discussing the benefits of having a line of credit to safeguard ourselves for expense and income timing differences. Having a LOC will help fill the gaps until the income comes in.*

*II) Saranam, LLC Expansion of Programming and Capital Campaign: Presentation of vision and plans to double programmatic capacity and request to change/update some language in legal originating documents accordingly. Because this will entail a large capital campaign from a very broad donor/volunteer and investor base, we request some minor changes to language in the originating legal documents to allow for options for asset distribution upon dissolution.*

*III) Saranam, LLC and Frances Thaxton Ash Homes, LLC also requests to change the legal title of the managing groups to "Board of Directors" from "Council on Homeless Ministries (CHM)."*



**Volunteers Needed for  
 Helping Hands Street Ministry**

Are you looking for a ministry opportunity that will touch your heart and soul? If so, this is the ministry for you. Once a week for two hours you can show God's love to individuals fighting for existence on a daily basis. This program has provided our friends with a safe zone in God's house for over a decade. Join a great team of folks today.

Contact Cynthia Kaiser @ (505) 249-9117

**CHURCH STAFF**

**Rev. Dr. Scott Sharp**, Senior Pastor  
**Rev. Kelly Brooks**, Executive 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



**Get connected!** Sign up for Central Connections, our weekly electronic newsletter, at [www.centraltolife.org](http://www.centraltolife.org) or send an email to Jesus Valdez at [jesusvaldez@centraltolife.org](mailto:jesusvaldez@centraltolife.org).  
 201 University Blvd NE Albuquerque, NM 87106 (505) 243-7834 [www.centraltolife.org](http://www.centraltolife.org)  
 Services broadcast on KAZQ TV-32—Sunday, 11 am & 7 pm