



As I write this on Monday morning, it is after a rough night of sleep. After watching the Livestream of General Conference 2019 and reading some of the twitter posts, I woke up Sunday night worrying about the United Methodist Church and how to lead Central though the decisions that are made. We won't know any final decision until Tuesday night but already my heart is sad, angry, and confused. Sometime around 3:30 AM I remembered that God reminded me in my reflection time to stay focused on Psalm 46.

Nan Merrill in her book Psalms for Praying paraphrases the beginning of the Psalm this way:

The Beloved is our refuge and our strength,
A Loving Presence in times of trouble.
Therefore we need not fear though
the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
Though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult....

O Blessed One, You know all hearts,
You are ever with us;
may Love ever guide our lives!

Whatever happens, God will be with us. I hold on to that promise. Sunday we will meet in the Sanctuary at 9:45 for a Clergy Conversation about what transpired at General Conference 2019. Join Pastor Kelly and I as we report what happened and what we think it might mean for us.

Blessings,
Pastor Greg

Lent Service Dates

- Ash Wednesday Services:** March 6th at 6:30am in the Chapel, 6:30pm in the Sanctuary
- Maundy Thursday Service:** April 18th at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary
- Good Friday Service:** April 19th at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary
- Great Getting Up Mourning Service:** April 20th at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary
- Easter Sunrise Service:** April 21st at 6:30am in the Courtyard
- Sunday Easter Services:** April 21st at 8:30am & 11:00am in the Sanctuary

Lent Studies

- March 5th-April 9th, 9:00-10:00am, Rm 311** Join Rev. Jim Hawk for *40-Days of Prayer*
- March 6th-April 10th, 11:00am-12:00pm, Starbucks** Join Rev. Kelly Brooks for *The Women of Easter*
- March 7th-April 11th, 6:00-7:00pm, Life Center** Join Rev. Greg Kennedy for *Entering The Passion of Jesus*

Join others in the **#pictureLent** Challenge! Following the prompt words listed below, take a photo each day during Lent and share to your social media platform of choice. Don't forget to Tag CUMC! Need help? Contact Pastor Kelly or Jesus Valdez. Enjoy!

March 6th: Gather | **March 7th:** Fruit | **March 8th:** Heart | **March 9th:** Trust | **March 10th:** Fast

CENTRAL TO LIFE
March 3, 2019



SERMON SERIES

"A LIGHT TO ENLIGHTEN THE NATIONS"



Join us on **Sunday, March 17** for a special St. Patrick's Day concert featuring Music for all Seasons (Scott & Irma Reeder). The acoustic folk duo, which plays instruments like the Celtic Harp and the Hammered Dulcimer, will be playing Celtic selections for the day. Corned Beef and Cabbage lunch catered by Sandy Dow available for purchase (\$10 per person) starting at noon in the Central to Life Center; concert begins by 1pm. Please bring donations for SAFE House, which helps those in transition from situations of domestic partner violence. Toiletries, toothpaste, socks, and gently used household items and clothing are especially helpful. Concert is free and donations will be accepted. *To RSVP for lunch, please sign up, call the church office (243-7834), or email Karen kmarrolli@centraltolife.org by Sunday, March 10.*

ADULT MINISTRIES

- **Sundays:** Sunday School classes meet at 9:45am. Choose from a variety of classes:
- **Monday Bible Study:** Mondays, 6:30-8:00pm
- **WOW Bible Study:** Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30am
- **Starbucks Bible Study:** Wednesdays, 11-12pm
- **Brewery Study—** In Collaboration with X-Ile Ministries: Wednesdays, 6pm-8pm.
- **Clergy Conversations!** 4th Sunday of each month, 9:45-10:45am
- **Sabbath in the Suburbs: *Date and Place TBA***
Please contact Pastor Kelly for more information.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

- **Sundays:** Sunday School classes meet at 9:45am in rooms 105 (Elementary), 107 (ages 3 & 4), and 301/302 (Youth: 6th - 12th grade)
- Childcare for ages 0-8 is available during worship services and Sunday School – (Located on the Lower Level of the building.)
- Church 4 Kids takes place every Sunday during the second service. This is a time where children 0-Elementary are invited to the Chapel to spend time with one of the clergy to learn more about the scripture lesson of the day in an age-appropriate setting.

Contact Pastor Kelly with questions.

The Compass Points committee is committed to supporting ministries through the distribution of the interest from the Hanna Fund.

In November, the committee agreed to fund the following requests:

Sunday get togethers during the Sunday school hour; Design and printing of welcome packets for the pews; Helping Hands for additional funds to provide coats, socks, gloves, cereal and oatmeal; Music request for lunch concert series; Discipleship request to roll out the discipleship effort, provide curriculum, training and Sunday lunches with the Pastors; Bell Choir cases for the Hand Bells.

A second disbursement opportunity is available. If you know of a ministry that needs support or that you would like to start, please contact Pastor Kelly Brooks and/or Janice Honeycutt, Chair of the Compass Points Committee (Janice.honeycutt@yahoo.com) to fill out a request form that will be reviewed by the committee at the May meeting.

*All announcements for the CTL News are due via email to JesusValdez@centraltolife.org by **Tuesday at 5pm.***



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.
201 University Blvd NE Albuquerque, NM 87106 (505) 243-7834 www.centraltolife.org
Services broadcast on KAZQ TV-32—Sunday, 11 am & 7 pm