

In today's Gospel lesson, Peter's going fishing suggests the disciples were unable to sustain their Easter faith beyond the connection with the actual appearances of Jesus. So, their belief in the resurrection hasn't translated into life and mission. After all they have experienced in their time with Jesus, and having encountered the resurrected Christ, they seem to have forgotten his charge to them. They are not going "fishing" – going out to catch others for Christ. They are just returning to their old business, as if nothing has changed in their lives! Even Peter's tone suggests a kind of resignation, "I'm going fishing," as if to say, "What else is there to do?" Things are falling apart and the call they received seems to have dissolved. While the disciples may have abandoned their call, it is encouraging to note that Jesus has not abandoned them. As in the beginning of the Gospel, when he first called them, and after his resurrection, when he goes to them in the locked room, once again Jesus finds them and calls them to their mission. And note where he finds them (and us) – in the midst of their everyday working lives. They are at their old work and he goes there to meet them.

Once again, the disciples are eating with Jesus and one another. Something happens at meals. This meal with Christ is another reminder that Communion is not just a harkening back to some past event. Each time we gather for Communion, Jesus is inviting us, as he did his disciples, "Come and eat." We who return to old patterns, need the constant invitation and renewal Communion offers. At the eucharistic meal we are also confronted with the question Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love me?" To the table we bring our failures of the love and service Jesus asks of us. Notice how Peter replays his threefold denial by a threefold profession of love for Christ. A forgiveness is happening here for Peter and for us, our denials are put aside and a chance is given again to respond to Christ's invitation to follow him.

Let us come to the Communion Table hear Jesus' invitation to us, again.

May 5, 2019

CENTRAL TO LIFE





SERMON SERIES

"THE SURPRISING ACTS OF GOD"



UNITED METHODIST MEN

Join us for our **May 18th** Central United Methodist Men breakfast meeting. Dr. Dave Ring, a retired New Mexico Conference UMC pastor, will be our speaker. Dave has recently written a devotional titled "Reflections 365" and will share some of the back stories behind selected devotions. Dave will also share some of his celebrated humor. He will bring copies of the devotional to the meeting. The meeting will begin with breakfast at 8:00 AM followed by the program. *Call Ed Vigil at 505-221-0041 if you need more information or to RSVP.*

ADULT MINISTRIES

- **Sundays:** Sunday School classes meet at 9:45am. Choose from a variety of classes:
- **Monday Bible Study:** Mondays, 6:30-8:00pm
- **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 (***We will not be having a May Clergy Conversation***)
- A new summer mid-day Bible study title: **Serving From the Heart** is set to begin on June 3rd – July 15th (taking June 24th off) from 11:30am-12:30pm in Rm 311. Bring your lunch and enjoy this study with facilitator Chris Briggs. *Please contact Pastor Kelly for more information.*

ATTENTION GRADUATES!

We will be recognizing spring graduates during our worship services on May 26th. If you are graduating from High School or College, please send your name, the name of the school in which you are graduating from, and a brief bio to Rev. Kelly Brooks @ KellyB@centraltolife.org no later than May 13th.

2019 Sacramento Methodist Assembly Summer Camp Dates for all ages are out! Elementary Camp (June 7-9th), Youth Camp (June 17-21st), Music on the Mountain (July 7-12th, Horse Camps for all ages, and much more! Visit www.sacramentoccamp.com for specific camp and registration information. *Questions? Contact Pastor Kelly.*

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.*

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

CHURCH STAFF

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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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