

On Sunday, August 25 at 9:45 in the Central to Life Hall, we will take an all church vote on the following Welcome Statement:

We are a church committed to reconciliation, compassion, and acceptance for **ALL** persons. Differences of age, race, ethnicity, gender, family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic or citizenship status, political or theological positions, physical or mental ability, and life experience diversify and enrich our community. We are at different places in our spiritual journeys; we may not always understand and agree with one another, but together we strive to live this welcoming spirit into being. We warmly welcome and commit to advocate for all God's children. Jesus Christ is the ultimate example of compassion and inclusion and we seek to follow Him. We are a church, not of judgment, but of love and grace and we will grapple passionately with any issue that impacts our commitment to these principles. We acknowledge that our denomination and our church are imperfect and broken. However, we are a church of God's people committed to living in community and we invite **ALL** into that community.

This vote is only on the Welcoming Statement. The vote will be by secret ballot. Only Church members in attendance at the meeting are eligible to vote. It is a simple Yes or No vote. If the Welcoming Statement is approved, it is then forwarded to the Governance Team for official adoption.

In August, if the Welcoming Statement passes, a vote will be taken to decide if Central wants to take the next step in officially becoming a Reconciling Congregation. A yes vote on becoming a Reconciling Congregation does not change the title or denominational status of Central. It would identify Central as a church in the United Methodist Church that supports full inclusion of the LBGT+ community in the life of the Church. More to come on this in August.

Reconciling Congregation Exploration Working Group

Upcoming Opportunities for Conversation:

- Are you, your small group, or Sunday School class interested in hearing more from CUMC's Reconciling Exploration Working Group? If so, contact Barbara Allender to schedule time.
- **Today!** August 18 in the Life Center during the Sunday School hour, Bert Scott will lead a discussion on the book by Walter Wink [Homosexuality and Christian Faith](#).
- August 25 at 9:45 in the Life Center during the Sunday School hour, a congregational meeting will be held to review and vote on a Welcoming Statement and assess where Central is on the path to becoming a Reconciling Church.

August 18, 2019

CENTRAL TO LIFE



WORSHIP



NAVIGATE



SERVE



ENGAGE

A WALK THROUGH
EPHESIANS

SERMON SERIES

"A WALK THROUGH EPHESIANS"



ADULT MINISTRIES

- **Sundays:** Sunday School classes meet at 9:45am. Choose from a variety of classes. See the Pew Packets, or visit with the Welcome Desk volunteers for more information.
- **Monday Bible Study:** Mondays, 6:30-8:00pm **Will resume in the fall.**
- **Clergy Conversations!** 4th Sunday of each month, 9:45-10:45am
- **WOW:** Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30am. **Will resume September 11th.**

Please contact Pastor Kelly for more information.

Youth Fellowship and Meeting TODAY! at 12:30pm in the Youth Lounge. If you are, or if you have a youth 6th-12th grade, please come join us for lunch, fellowship, and a youth/parent meeting as we explore what the fall semester will look like for this very important ministry.

CUMC Coffee Ministry will take place the week of August 19th. If you would like to volunteer your time from 8-10am to offer a cup of coffee and a few words of encouragement to the University of New Mexico students who park in the CUMC parking lot, please sign-up at the Welcome Desk or contact Pastor Kelly.

Help CUMC raise \$10,000 for Lowell Elementary School for school uniforms this month. \$60 goes a long way in purchasing a uniform for an elementary child in our community - \$120 goes even further! Make checks to CUMC and note: Lowell.

Have you ever been interested in learning more about the teachings of Paul? Have you ever been interested in traveling to the places Paul wrote letters and traveled to? If so, you are invited to join Rev. Kelly Brooks and Rev. Jim Hawk on an Educational Opportunities Journeys of Paul Cruise taking place **September 7-19th, 2020**. Information is available at the Welcome Desk.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

- 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.

THIRD SPACE MINISTRIES

What is a 3rd Space? 3rd Space refers to places where people gather outside of their homes (1st space) and the workspace (2nd space). Examples of third places would be environments such as coffee shops, breweries, farmers markets, and parks.

- **Starbucks Bible Study:** Wednesdays, 11-12pm
- **Brewery Study:** Wednesdays (new day!), 6pm-8pm.
- **Sabbath in The Suburbs:** Oct.13th @ High & Dry Brewery.

Do you have an idea for a 3rd Space Ministry?

Contact Pastor Kelly.

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

invites all Women to "Come to The Banquet!" September 7th from 9am-3pm at the Norbertine Retreat Center, ABQ. Rev Beverly Green Tune will lead the retreat and says "During our time on retreat we will examine and experience the full table of ways to enter the Holy." Snacks and a lunch will be provided. The registration fee is \$20.00 and registration forms are available in the office. The registration deadline is August 24, 2019. Questions? Contact Karen Wilson at 505-321-7525 or kendeavorw@hotmail.com.



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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Services broadcast on KAZQ TV-32—Sunday, 11 am & 7 pm

