

Bethany

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3501 W 1st Ave ♦ Denver, CO ♦ 80219



SPANISH IMMERSION TRIP 2019

by Rev. Denise Bender

See
pictures
of our trip!
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Curtis and I - along with Bishop Karen, Robin and 9 new clergy - spent 2 weeks in Cuernavaca, MX for a Spanish language and culture immersion.

Cuernavaca is in the state of Morales and is the state north of Oaxaca. The 3 - 4 hours language classes each day increased our comprehension of the language. In addition, there were afternoons of "total hearing Spanish" during lectures called *Charlas* (translated as "having a chat.")

We discussed societal issues in Mexico and also explored historic sites of indigenous people. The colors of flowers and homes were so beautifully bright and warm. In the markets and streets, all ages of people were talking and laughing.

Being able to share in a culture that has been around longer than the culture we share in the United States opened our eyes and hearts to others in a unique and positive way.

NOTICE

Sunday

November 24

In accordance with the *Book of Discipline*, there will be a specially called Charge Conference to vote on the status of our adjoining property.



STATEMENT FROM THE WESTERN JURISDICTION BISHOPS

LAKE JUNALUSKA, N.C., Nov. 6 – As new restrictions loom against LGBTQ+ persons in The United Methodist Church, the five active bishops in the Western Jurisdiction (region of the United States) are offering a Safe Harbor to LGBTQ+ clergy and are urging bishops and other United Methodists to join them.

The bishops have asked their colleagues on the denomination's Council of Bishops to sign their declaration and urged other clergy and laypersons across the church to join them in supporting full inclusion of LGBTQ+ people in all parts of the life of the church. They made their request during the Council's meeting at Lake Junaluska, N.C.

"We intend to provide safe harbor for clergy under our care who may be at risk under the new provisions, prohibitions, and punishments," the bishops said.

"We do not believe that The United Methodist Church has the authority or the power to impose limits on the movement of God's Holy Spirit in the lives of God's beloved LGBTQ+ children.

"We intend to exercise our authority as bishops of The United Methodist Church to encourage and protect the full participation of LGBTQ+ persons as beloved children of God, embraced in God's reign of grace."

Understanding that it is impossible to accomplish this without recognizing how God calls people of all sexual orientations to ministry, they write, "We do not intend to withhold or challenge ordination based solely on a person's gender identity or sexual orientation. We are unwilling to punish clergy who celebrate the marriage of two adults of any gender or sexual orientation seeking the blessing of God and the Church for their covenanted life together."

Lectionary Readings

All Saints Day - November 1, 2019

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18
Psalm 149
Ephesians 1:11-23
Luke 6:20-31

November 3, 2019

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Psalm 119:137-144
Isaiah 1:10-18
Psalm 32:1-7
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
Luke 19:1-10

November 10, 2019

Haggai 1:15b-2:9
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
Psalm 98
Job 19:23-27a
Psalm 17:1-9
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38

November 17, 2019

Isaiah 65:17-25
Isaiah 12
Malachi 4:1-2a
Psalm 98
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

Reign of Christ

November 24, 2019

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Luke 1:68-79
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalm 46
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

Thanksgiving Day, USA

November 28, 2019

Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Psalm 100
Philippians 4:4-9
John 6:25-35