



the Spirit

JANUARY 26/27, 2019



life together

What we embody we pass on

Jesus arrives in his hometown in the gospel reading for this weekend. Luke notes that he "came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up." There in his hometown synagogue he reads a passage from Isaiah. It is a passage that gives us a vision of what Jesus embodies: good news, release, recovery, freedom and welcome for all.

If we listen carefully to Luke, we learn that Jesus was "brought up" in this vision. His mother first sang of this vision in her Magnificat in Luke 1:46-55. Mary passed on to her son all that she embodied. As Jesus begins his ministry, he celebrates what his mother embodied for him and what he now embodies for the life of the world.

As the children of God, what we embody we pass on, as well. As we embody the good news, release, recovery, freedom and welcome for all, we pass it on as individuals and as a congregation. We pass on all that we were brought up to honor and celebrate. We are grateful for all who brought us up and embodied for us the good news of God's love and grace.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Peter

Building Renewal Project Closure Meeting

Sunday, January 27, 11:45 a.m., great room

The Building Renewal Project is coming to an official close and so it is time for an open meeting to review the project, the challenges along the way, the budget and loans. Plan to attend as we give thanks and update you on all the specifics related to the project.

Budget Meeting

Sunday, February 3, 11:45 a.m., great room

We have shifted to a calendar year process and so the Annual Meeting will be held in February. As we prepare for the Annual Meeting, please join Obie Holmen, John Olson and Pastor Peter as they present the proposed 2019 budget for your review. This is your opportunity to ask questions and learn about Central's proposed 2019 budget.

100th Anniversary Year Highlights

Here are the upcoming key dates of celebrating our 100th Anniversary for you to note:

February 2019

- 10: Annual Meeting
- 17: Central Reminiscences: A Centennial Celebration

March 2019

- 3: Family Fun Event - 2DefyGravity

April 2019

- 6/7/8: Guest Preacher: Rev. David Wangaard and potluck on Sunday
- 13/14: Palm Sunday
- 20/21: Easter Sunday
- 27/28: Confirmation

May 2019

- 4/5/6: Anniversary Weekend; Celebratory Worship and Anniversary Banquets on Saturday and Sunday; National Lutheran Choir Concert Sunday afternoon
- 12: Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra Anniversary Concert
- 30: Ascension Day: "Beating the Bounds" virtual event

Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 10, 11:45 a.m., great room

Save Sunday, February 10, for the Annual Meeting. We meet to celebrate mission, hear about how God is at work in and through the people of Central Lutheran Church, adopt the 2019 budget and elect congregational leadership. A light lunch will be served immediately after the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

worship and formation

Guide to Prayer

Listening for God

Epiphany is the season of light. The star's light led the wise seekers to the Christ child. Baptismal candles shine the light of Christ into the lives of the baptized. Jesus transforms water to wine and restores joy at the wedding in Cana. Jesus begins ministry, embodying the good news of God's love.

This weekend Jesus returns home in Luke 4: When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Listening to your life

Pause for a moment each day, light a candle to welcome the presence of Christ. Who has embodied God's love and grace in your life? What did they teach you about God? What did they teach you about yourself? Take time each day to give thanks for the people who embodied God's promise of love. Offer all of this to God in daily prayer.

Sunday Morning Adult Formation

This weekend Obie Holmen, director of finance, will share his faith story, and seek connections to your journey of faith. Plan to join the forum on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the lower narthex. Coffee, tea and cookies are served in the lower narthex for the forum, as well.

On Sunday, February 3, Pastor Peter begins a series on the Creeds—the faith story of the church. Come and learn about the beginning of the Creeds and to learn about Creeds from around the world.

Spiritual Life Groups

You are invited to prayerfully consider committing to participation in a Spiritual Life Group for 2019. These small groups will begin meeting in February, will covenant to connect at least 10 times during the year and will explore faith and life through resources prepared by the pastors and supported by the Central website. Support will be given to get your group rolling.

The Spiritual Life Groups will be a great way to connect with fellow members of Central, enter an intentional year of growing deeper in faith and for our entire congregation to celebrate a deeper spiritual life together. The groups can meet in homes, out at a coffee shop or in other creative ways. You can meet and share a meal or gather to connect monthly after worship, the group will decide how and when.

There are two weeks remaining to sign up for a Spiritual Life Group. You can form your own group of 6-8 or sign up to be put into a group by time of day or geography. Sign up continues this weekend. If you have questions, you can check in with Pastor Peter after worship.

Central Reminisces: A Centennial Celebration

Sunday, February 17, 2:00 p.m., sanctuary

An hour long program of audio and video recordings, photographic montages, choral music and hymns. Come, hear snippets of some of Central's former preachers, the 1957 Lutheran World Federation meeting at Central, the Central Choir under Fred Hilary, John Ferguson and Chuck Parsons, radio broadcast recordings of the "old" organ played by Marion Hutchinson and many more treasures from Central's archival vault. The current Central Choir will sing some old favorites and we'll all sing some hymns that have been a part of our hundred-year history.

Afternoon Church with Tree of Life

Sunday, February 3, 2:30 p.m., 514 Studios, 514 N. 3rd Street, Minneapolis
Come explore the five senses in AFTERNOON worship as we interact with practices of holy sight, smell, taste, touch and sound.

Yes, the time change is because of the Super Bowl. We will not have a meal but instead gather with coffee and hot chocolate for a slightly shorter than usual time together at 514 Studios. Whether you usually come to evening worship or not, we'd love to see you there! Questions? Contact Pastor Marissa at PastorMarissa@TreeofLifeMpls.org.

community

Homeless Day on the Hill

Wednesday, March 13

Heading Home Central and DCEH will be sponsoring a bus from Central to the State Capital for this important advocacy event to secure funding for affordable housing and tenant rights. Save the date. Sign up sheets will be coming soon.

National Lutheran Choir: Carols We Love to Sing

Sunday, February 10, 4:00 p.m., St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Bloomington

Carry on the Christmastime cheer, and join the National Lutheran Choir's live concert recording of Carols We Love to Sing, third in the popular Hymns We Love to Sing CD series. Audience members will have the opportunity to both listen to National Lutheran Choir perform special arrangements of carols and participate in the recording session by singing along to popular congregational hymns.

Tickets: adults \$28; seniors \$26; students and children are free. For tickets and more information, please visit NLCA.com/18-19season or call 612-722-2301.

Cherish All Children Presentation

Thursday, February 21, 11:30 a.m., great room

Joy McElroy, director of Cherish All Children, will give a presentation about her organization's work on February 21. Cherish All Children is a ministry within Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota that equips congregations to prevent child sexual exploitation through a variety of workshops, retreats, and educational programs.

This event will be hosted jointly by Circle of Friends and Circle of Hope, but all interested women and men are invited to attend. A soup and salad lunch will be available beginning at 11:30 for \$5.00. Joy will begin speaking following lunch. To take advantage of the lunch, please sign up at the welcome desk, or RSVP to aoyen@comcast.net.

Winter Weather Closings

It's that time of year when the schools close because of snow or cold and we want to remind you of our winter weather closing policy. We follow the Minneapolis Public Schools and when they do not have school because of the weather, Central will close our building and offices too. When we close, we will post it on our website and voicemail and an email will go out.

Sign up at the Welcome Desk

Here are the current things you can sign up for at the welcome desk.



- OWLS February trip to Chanhassen Dinner Theater
- Spiritual Life Groups
- Sunday/Weekday Receptionist Volunteer
- Household Family Usher Team
- Cherish All Children Presentation
- Parking Meeters with Dwayne

eSpirit

Stay up-to-date on the weekend happenings ahead of the weekend, with the weekly eSpirit newsletter. If you don't receive this electronic newsletter, please sign up at www.centralmpls.org or email Sara Masters at smasters@centralmpls.org.

Pastoral Care

When in need of pastoral care, please call the church office at 612-870-4416. In case of emergency on weekends and evenings, please call the church office and our after-hours answering service will connect you to the on-call pastor.

news and happenings

JOYA Chamber Music Concert - Charles Lazarus

Sunday, February 3, 3:00 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1601 4th Avenue, Anoka

JOYA is a chamber music series at Zion Lutheran in Anoka. This concert is presented by Charles Lazarus, Minnesota Orchestra Trumpeter, and the Lazarus Band playing music from their LoveJoy album—fresh takes on classic love songs like Stardust and I Can't Get Started, plus feel-good grooving originals. It's a cocktail of musical romance! Charles's long-time collaborators Tommy Barbarella (keyboards), Jeff Bailey (bass) and David Schmalenberger (drums) provide the tight, seasoned and inventive foundation from which the band explores an eclectic mix of originals and re-imagined favorites. Tickets for either the 'Concert & Party' or 'Concert Only' are \$20 each. Purchase them at www.zionanoka.org or www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4022647. A 'Concert and Party' ticket must be purchased on or before January 27. 'Concert Only' tickets can be purchased at the door. Students are free.

OWLS February Trip

Wednesday, February 13

The OWLS will be taking in the show "Holiday Inn" at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater in February. The bus will depart Central at 10:15; cost is \$30, lunch included. Come to the welcome desk and reserve your spot on January 26/27. Only a few spaces are left. Payment at time of sign up is preferred. For more information, contact Vicki Bierlein at wandav885@gmail.com.

A Different Kind of Book Club

Thursday, February 14, 1:30 p.m., nativity

In February, we will be reading "The Imperial Cruise" by James Bradley. In the summer of 1905, President Theodore Roosevelt dispatched the largest diplomatic mission in American history across the Pacific. The secret agreements laid the groundwork for America's Pacific engagement which would lead to WWII in the Pacific. Discussion will be led by Ann Rafshol. All are welcome.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. Adult Faith Formation
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:45 a.m. Choristers Rehearsal
11:45 a.m. Community Meal
11:45 a.m. Building Renewal Closure Meeting
1:00 p.m. RIC Discernment Process

MONDAY, JANUARY 28

10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
10:00 a.m. Augsburg Central Health Commons
10:30 a.m. Mental Health Open Hours
11:00 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Community Meal
12:00 p.m. Bible Study

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
1:00 p.m. Bible Study with Preacher
6:00 p.m. Bell Choir
6:00 p.m. Winter Bible Study with Pastor Peter
7:15 p.m. Central Choir

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

8:30 a.m. Street Voices of Change
10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
10:00 a.m. Augsburg Central Health Commons

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Building closed

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

5:00 p.m. Worship
5:45 p.m. Saturday Evening Fellowship



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"SPIRIT" SUBMISSIONS
Submit items for consideration
by Monday at 4 p.m. each
week for the upcoming issue
to smasters@centralmpls.org

PRAYER REQUESTS
prayers@centralmpls.org

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