



the Spirit

FEBRUARY 2/3, 2019



life together

Open Meetings and the Annual Meeting

Last weekend many gathered for the Building Renewal Project closure meeting. We reviewed the building renewal timeline, beginning with the campus master plan and ending with the dedication of the new facility. The highlights

and the challenges of the project were shared, including how some of the challenges led to additional expenses. The finances of the project were reviewed, with the good news of a strong capital appeal and the Foundation's generous support. Good news was shared relating to the loans and financial position at the end of 2019. We were also reminded of the second capital appeal that we committed to as a congregation, an appeal that will launch this fall. Thank you to all who were able to attend, learn and celebrate how God has led us through this positive project.

This weekend we gather for an open budget meeting, held on Sunday at 11:45 a.m., or as soon as all have their lunch and are ready for the meeting to begin. The open budget meeting is an annual tradition here at Central, the chance to review the proposed annual budget, ask questions and prepare to adopt the budget at the Annual Meeting. John Olson, treasurer, and Obie Holmen, finance director, will present the proposed budget. I will be on hand to help with any of your questions. The proposed budget is balanced.

Next weekend is the Annual Meeting of the congregation. We gather to give thanks to God for the mission we are called to as Central Lutheran Church. We will hear some of the highlights of the year, elect new congregational leaders and adopt the proposed budget. We will also adopt an updated welcome statement that has been affirmed by an open discernment process. All members of the congregation were invited into this process, which met on three Sundays, January 6, 13 and 27. Thank you to all who were able to be a part of this process. The welcome statement updates our current welcome and affirms that Central will be a Reconciling in Christ congregation. The welcome statement does not try to solve all the ways we are called to welcome and grow in our intentional invitation to all the children of God. The statement begins an intentional process where we seek to learn, grow and welcome all into God's hospitality.

These are exciting days at Central Lutheran as we continue to heal, move forward in mission and live as God's open and inviting people.

Thank you for your faithfulness, openness and joy,
Pastor Peter

Exploring the promise of God for all

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 - 2 Defy Gravity

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

Budget Meeting

Sunday, February 3, 11:45 a.m., great room
We have shifted to a calendar-year process with the Annual Meeting being 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.

Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 10, 11:45 a.m., great room
Next Sunday is 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, part 2

Luke 4: When they heard this (what Jesus has taught), all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove Jesus out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Listening to your life

Pause for a moment each day, light a candle to welcome the presence of Christ. What a response to Jesus' words of grace and hope. What does it mean that fear can close us off from God's invitations to grace, love and community? What does it mean that Jesus passes through the midst of them, that he does not allow their rage to cause him harm? What does this moment reveal to you about God? Offer all of this to God in daily prayer.

Sunday Morning Adult Formation

The Creeds, the Church's Faith Story, a five-week conversation

Sundays, 9:30 a.m., lower narthex

You are invited to join Pastor Peter for a study of the Creeds of the church, from the perspective of the faith story of the church. We will look at early biblical Creeds, the development of the early church Creeds and some of the interesting Creeds developed in different contexts. These conversations are to help us prepare for Lent as we explore affirmations of faith. In Lent, members of the congregation will share their faith stories as we continue to grow in faith together. This conversation will meet each Sunday in February and the first Sunday in March. You are invited to join all five or jump in when it works for you. Coffee, tea and cookies are served.

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.

Family Fun Event: 2 Defy Gravity

Sunday, March 3, 3:00 p.m., sanctuary

As part of our 100th Anniversary celebration, 2 Defy Gravity will come and perform in our sanctuary. 2 Defy Gravity is a beautiful and death defying circus-based performance duo founded in Saint Paul and have been wowing audiences since 2009. They combine the circus arts of silks, lyra, acro-balancing, trapeze, chains and fire with dance and aerial dance. Bring your friends and family to watch this high flying duo in Central's sanctuary. Tickets are \$10 for adults purchased in advance and \$12 purchased at the door. Youth 18 and under are free. Get your tickets at the welcome desk before or after worship.

community

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 listen to National Lutheran Choir perform special arrangements of carols and also 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.

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.

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.

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.

Sign up at the Welcome Desk

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



- Spiritual Life Groups
- Sunday/Weekday Receptionist Volunteer
- Household Family Usher Team
- Cherish All Children Presentation
- Parking "Meeters" with Dwayne
- 2 Defy Gravity Tickets

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.

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.

news and happenings

The Basilica Hosts Together In Hope Choir

Saturday, February 9, 8:00 p.m., The Basilica of Saint Mary, 1600 Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis

The Basilica of Saint Mary will host the Together In Hope Choir, an ecumenical, professional-caliber 60-voice ensemble drawn from the top singers in the Twin Cities. Directed by Mark Stover of the University of Michigan and Teri Larson of The Basilica of Saint Mary, the Choir will be accompanied by present and former members of the St. Olaf Orchestra.

The evening will include a shared ecumenical message from Archbishop Bernard Hebda of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and Bishop Ann Svennungsen of the Minneapolis Area Synod. The concert is free of charge. More information at: www.mary.org/togetherinhope.

Congregation Council Update

The 2018-19 Central Congregation Council met on January 22. The meeting was called to order by President Sara Stensaas and began with Christ care prayers led by Pastor Peter. After adopting the January agenda and the minutes from the December 18, meeting, the Council listened to an update from Pastor Marissa Sotos, mission developer for Tree of Life Lutheran Church in the North Loop. She also thanked the Council and the Central congregation for its support!

After receiving the Financial Reports ending December 31, 2018, the Council was updated on the following informational items:

- Building Renewal Project
- Reconciling in Christ
- Strategic Planning
- 100th Anniversary Year
- Letter regarding access/drop-offs

For action items, the Council approved:

1. A motion to accept the 2019 Nominating Committee report and forward it to the Annual Meeting on February 12, 2019.
2. A motion to accept the 2019 Proposed Budget and forward it to the Annual Meeting on February 12, 2019.

The Council thanked Sara Gunsch, Phil Holst and Mons Teig for their faithful service as Council members whose terms have come to an end. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m., after closing with Responsive Prayer for Evening.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

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. Baptism Orientation
11:45 a.m. Inquirers' Open House
11:45 a.m. Community Meal
11:45 a.m. Budget Meeting

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

9:00 a.m. Emergency Rental Assistance
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
12:00 p.m. StreetSong Rehearsal

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
5:30 p.m. Faith and Finance Ministry Team
6:30 p.m. Global Mission Ministry Team

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

9:00 a.m. Emergency Rental Assistance
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, FEBRUARY 7

8:30 a.m. Street Voices of Change
9:00 a.m. Quilting for LWR
10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
10:00 a.m. Augsburg Central Health Commons

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

9:00 a.m. Quilting for LWR
5:30 p.m. Wilson/Hinz Wedding Rehearsal

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

3:00 p.m. Wilson/Hinz Wedding
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@centrallmpls.org

PRAYER REQUESTS
prayers@centrallmpls.org

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