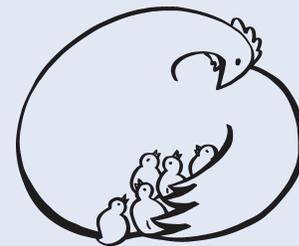




the Spirit

MARCH 16/17, 2019

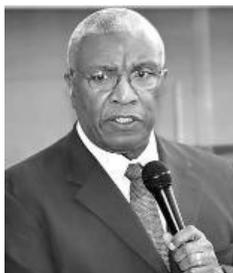


life together

**Welcome the Rev. Ken Wheeler on Sunday;
Seminarian Amanda Hutchinson on Saturday**

On Sunday we welcome the Rev. Ken Wheeler to Central's pulpit and to the Engaging Conversation Forum at 12 p.m., sponsored by the Peace with Justice Team. As part of our Lenten theme on faith stories, and in response to our newly-adopted welcome statement, we welcome Rev. Wheeler to be with us to share his story to inspire, challenge, educate and lead us into living more deeply into our welcome statement: "You are welcome. No Exceptions."

Rev. Wheeler was born in Vicksburg, Miss., raised in Jackson, Miss., and educated in the Jackson public school system. He graduated with a B.A. in Religion from Concordia College, Moorhead in 1974. He completed his M.Div at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio in 1982. He received an honorary Doctor of Divinity from Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa, in 2018. He served in four called congregations: Fellowship Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, Fla., Community Lutheran Church, Los Angeles, Calif., Hephatha Lutheran and Cross Lutheran, Milwaukee, Wis. He served as the assistant to the bishop in the Greater Milwaukee Synod for 18 years. The Rev. Wheeler spent sabbatical time in Tanzania, Africa in 2000 studying the growth of the church and in 2009 co-led a group to the Holy Land. He is a sought-after speaker for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebrations across the country. He is married to Cloria. They are the parents of three adult sons and grandparents to five grandchildren, Maya, Brooklyn, Skye, Elijah and Noah.



We also welcome Seminarian Amanda Hutchinson, who will preach on Saturday night. Amanda has served as one of our CPL (Christian Public Leader) students for the past year and a half. She studies at Luther Seminary and is awaiting her internship assignment. It is our great joy to have two seminary students learn and grow at Central for two years. Amanda and Danielle will complete their work this spring and then go out on internship. We will be sad to see them go!

What a blessing to welcome these preachers to Central this weekend!

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Peter

100th Anniversary Year Highlights

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

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

Guest Preacher and Potluck April 7

We welcome the Rev. David Wangaard on the weekend of April 6/7/8. Rev. Wangaard serves as senior advisor for church and congregational relations for Lutheran World Relief. Fun fact: David is related to one of our founding members, Christian Wangaard. He will preach for all the services and join us for a potluck on Sunday, April 7.

For the potluck, if you are coming with a crock pot, please drive up to the loading dock and volunteers will take them into the kitchen. Please don't forget to label your crock pot or serving dish, and cut your food beforehand. Our new kitchen has warming ovens if you need to keep your food warm and no need to bring serving utensils. We have enough.

Please bring a food item according to your last name:

- A-K: Main Dish
- L-R: Salad or Sides
- S-Z: Dessert

Exploring the promise of God for all

worship and formation

Guide to Prayer

Listening for God

The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, March 6. Jesus invites us to listen for God's love in our lives and to align our inner and outer lives by that love. Yet, we are busy people. How does our busyness keep us out of alignment with God? In the gospel reading this weekend, Jesus laments how we can be like scattered chicks that a hen struggles to gather in.

Luke 13:34: "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!"

Listening to your life

Pause for a moment each day, light a candle to welcome the presence of Christ. Busyness can be connected to good things, like family schedules, work commitments and personal interests. Sometimes busyness is a way we hide from a deeper life, from honest reflection and abiding in God. Where do you feel the challenge of busyness? How is the good busyness a challenge to a deeper life of faith? Where are you tempted to a busyness that is not helpful and cuts you off from God? Remember that God always seeks to gather you in, like a mothering hen. Offer all of this to God in daily prayer.

Sunday Morning Adult Formation

Faith Stories – Our Lenten Journey

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

This weekend we continue to celebrate faith stories, gathering to hear a fellow member share their story as a way to honor one another and see how we are connected in faith. We will also have time for you to connect, reflect and ask questions of each of our fellow members. Hearing one another's faith stories opens us to God and to one another in remarkable ways.

Here is the schedule for the Sunday adult faith formation hour faith stories:

- Sunday, March 17 – Paul Pribbenow
- Sunday, March 24 – Danielle Dunasky
- Sunday, March 31 – Bobbie Spradley
- Sunday, April 7 – Amanda Hutchinson

Wednesdays in Lent

The Creeds theme and faith stories also guide our Wednesday mid-day prayer and helps shape the evening prayer experience.

12:15 p.m. - Service of Word and Prayer

12:45 p.m. - Light lunch follows service (soup, bread and salad)

1:00 p.m. - Dwelling in the Word Bible Study

4:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Prayer stations; prayer around the cross; labyrinth (in the sanctuary)

6:00 p.m. - Adult Faith Formation: The Creeds: The Church's Faith Story; Bell Choir rehearsal

7:00 - 7:30 p.m. - ELW Evening Prayer

7:30 p.m. - Central Choir rehearsal

The Creeds: The Church's Faith Story

Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m., fireside room

You are invited to join Pastor Peter and Pastor C 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 deepen our Lenten journey as we explore affirmations of faith.

Holy Week and Easter Worship

The Great Three Days

- Maundy Thursday Holy Communion - April 18, 7:00 p.m.
- Good Friday Adoration of the Crucified - April 19, 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Great Vigil of Easter Holy Saturday, April 20, 7:00 p.m. (no 5:00 p.m. service)

Resurrection of Our Lord

Sunday, April 21

- First Light Devotions in the Columbarium at 7:30 a.m.
- Easter Festival Choral Eucharist (with Choir) at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.
- Coffee and donuts at 7:30 and 9:30 a.m.

community

100th Anniversary Celebration Banquets

Central's 100th Anniversary celebration will reach its peak over the weekend of May 4, 5, and 6. There will be a festive worship celebration at each of the weekend services, along with a pair of catered anniversary banquets on Saturday evening (5/4) and Sunday noon (5/5).

Both banquets will be held in our new great room, and D'Amico Catering will cater both events. The menus and entertainment are different at each event, so you can pick the one that best suits your schedule and style, or attend both!

The elegant Saturday event features a reception with passed appetizers, a champagne toast to Central and a delicious meal served family style. Central member and Augsburg University President Dr. Paul Pribbenow will give a keynote message. A jazz quartet will provide musical entertainment, and a dance floor will be available.

Former Central member and published author Greg Bancroft will speak at the family-friendly banquet at noon on Sunday. A violin/harp duo provides live music.

The banquets are sponsored by a generous gift from the Central Lutheran Foundation. Seating capacity for both events is limited, and advance tickets are essential. Thanks to the foundation gift, tickets are just \$15 for adults and kids 12 and under eat free. Tickets will be available online and at the welcome desk beginning March 23.

Young Adults Group

Tuesday, March 19, 7:00 p.m., nativity

The Young Adults are gathering this Tuesday night. We will meet at church in the nativity room to make plans for hosting the Great Feast following the Easter Vigil on April 20. Bring your calendars, your imagination and your appetites. We'll sample some rich and delicious treats and make plans for Easter weekend.

Now is a great time to invite a friend or encourage others in that 20ish to 40ish age range to join us! If you have questions, contact Pastor Stephanie at sfriesen@centralmpls.org.



Sign up at the Welcome Desk

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

- Household Family Usher Team

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.

eSpirit

Stay up-to-date on the weekend happenings ahead of the weekend with the weekly eSpirit newsletter. You will also receive the edevos and any weather or meeting cancellation notices. If you don't receive this electronic newsletter, please sign up at www.centralmpls.org or email Sara Masters at smasters@centralmpls.org.

news and happenings

Lutheran Summer Music

We thank Thomas Bandar, violist, who is playing during worship on Sunday. Thomas serves as the Executive Director of Lutheran Music Program, home of Lutheran Summer Music Academy and Festival (LSM). We have many people who are products of LSM in our congregation. LSM is the nation's premiere faith-based music academy for high school students, with LSM 2019 taking place June 23-June 21 at Valparaiso University. Consider joining the LSM community for a recital and Evening Prayer service at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 24 at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 3045 Chicago Ave, Minneapolis.

Devotional Books Available

The next quarter of Christ in our Home devotional books (regular and large print) are available at the welcome desk. Donations appreciated, but not necessary.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. Confirmation and High School Youth
9:30 a.m. Adult Faith Formation
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:45 a.m. Community Meal
11:45 a.m. Choristers' Rehearsal
11:45 a.m. Empowering Conversations
1:30 p.m. Listening for God

MONDAY, MARCH 18

9:00 a.m. Emergency Rental Assistance
10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
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, MARCH 19

10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
10:00 a.m. Hennepin Health Outreach
11:00 a.m. Funeral for Matthew Reid Schmidt
2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
5:30 p.m. WorshipLife Team
7:00 p.m. Young Adults Group

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

9:00 a.m. Emergency Rental Assistance
10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
12:15 p.m. Lenten Mid-day Prayer
12:45 p.m. Lenten Luncheon
1:00 p.m. Bible Study with Preacher
5:00 p.m. 100th Anniversary Committee
6:00 p.m. Bell Choir
6:00 p.m. Adult Faith Formation
7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer
7:30 p.m. Central Choir

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

Building closed for 35W utility work

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

Building closed

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

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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