



# the Spirit

MARCH 30/31, 2019



## life together

It is an experience to go away and then return to a place that you love.

Thankfully I didn't turn to dissolute living or eating the pig's slop while I was on sabbatical, but I can imagine there are a few things the son who returned in this weekend's gospel and I have in common after being away.

The first is that the people who stayed change while you are gone. There are babies who were born while I was on sabbatical and I noticed how much some of the Sunday school children have grown. There are a few folks who have died while I was away, and I miss their presence in the communion line with their palms outstretched. Folks kept doing good ministry and new systems were begun and old practices that didn't serve us were put away. We got new glass wear for funerals and special occasions. It's nice! I am also trying to come back alongside all of you and learn how the Spirit moved in your midst while I was away and how I can best honor that change.

The second is that you change when you are away. I am returning still as the pastor who loves all things community, and I am also the person who remembers what else in the world brings me joy. I love my husband and my kids. I like spending time with them and being there for them. Larye and I love to travel, and we will try to do more of that. I love watching movies and reading books. I need to carefully cultivate my days off so that I do more of the things that bring me joy that do not involve my beloved work here at Central. I come back rested and with a little more Spanish on my tongue. I am trying not to lose this feeling upon my return.

I wonder what changed in the lives of the people the son left behind when he took his inheritance and stomped off? I wonder what changed in him when he returned and received open arms and a big party? I am thankful for all of you and the amazing ministry we get to be about together through Central. Thank you for my time away and for the warm welcome on my return.

Shalom,  
Pastor Melissa

## Guest Preacher and Potluck April 7

We welcome the Rev. David Wangaard on the weekend of April 6/7/8. 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**

## 100th Anniversary Weekend 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 along with catered anniversary banquets.

On Saturday evening, May 4, the elegant 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. On Sunday 11:45 a.m., May 5, former Central member and published author Greg Bancroft will speak at the family-friendly banquet. A violin/harp duo provides music. On Monday, May 6, worship is at 11:00 a.m., featuring festive worship with a unique walk down memory lane, and the catered meal at 11:30 a.m.

Thanks to Central Lutheran Church Foundation for underwriting the Saturday and Sunday banquets, tickets are just \$15 for adults. Kids 12 and under eat free. Tickets are available online and are available at the welcome desk on Saturday and Sunday. There is no charge for the Monday banquet.

# 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. One dimension of Jesus' love is how he embodies God's eternal patience. God is the giver and perfecter of waiting. What does it mean that God is patient? When have you experienced grace in God's waiting for you? Hear Jesus' inviting us into this gift in the gospel reading: "So he (the prodigal son) set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate." (Luke 15)

### Listening to your life

Pause for a moment each day, light a candle to welcome the presence of Christ. Remember that God is always present, the Divine One who waits for you. Where do you need God's patience in your life? Where do you need the gift of patience? 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 31 – Bobbie Spradley
- Sunday, April 7 – Roger Lilleodden

## Wednesdays in Lent

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

**12:15 p.m.** - Service of Word and Prayer, and faith story from Pastor Judith Stone

**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

## 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

## Continuing our Conversation on Race

Saturday, April 6, 7:00 p.m., Calvary Lutheran Church, 3901 Chicago Ave, Minneapolis

Come hear author and Pastor Lenny Duncan talk about his new book: "Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S." on Saturday night. This is a fundraiser for the Emmaus Collective, an organization focused on congregations doing anti-racism work to become "safer" spaces for people of color. Suggested donation of \$10. If you have questions, contact Pastor Melissa at mpohlman@centralmpls.org.

## Does Your Faith Call You to Action?

Homelessness in Minnesota has increased by 10% since 2015 and you can help make a difference. Information will be available on tables this weekend asking you to sign-up for advocacy alerts to influence Minnesota Legislators to address this critical problem. Contacting lawmakers is a simple yet powerful way to be a change-maker addressing this critical issue.

## Mother-Daughter-Sister-Friend Breakfast

Saturday, May 11, 9:00 a.m., Edina Country Club  
Experience Happiness is the theme for our 19th annual breakfast celebrating all women. Our speakers, Linda Saggau and Nancy O'Brien, will talk about the Happiness Practice that helps people thrive by building cultures of wellbeing. Of course we'll have a head start with the happiness that comes from sharing a delicious meal with friends and family in a lovely setting.

Register at the welcome desk beginning April 14. The cost is \$25 for adults and \$15 for girls under 12. Menu choices are available at registration. This event is sponsored by Central's Circle of Friends and Normandale Lutheran's Priscilla Circle.

## Central's Easter Garden

Central offers members and friends the opportunity to honor or remember loved ones by contributing to our Easter sanctuary decorations. It has been a longstanding tradition and you are invited to participate this year. Floral Guild will be available to take donations at the welcome desk after worship services on March 30/31, and April 6/7. The cost is \$10 per plant. Forms and checks made payable to Floral Guild may also be mailed to Betty Reveling, 1548 Oberlin Circle S., Fridley, MN 55432. The plants will be distributed to our homebound members and friends following worship services on Easter Day, April 21.

## Online Photo Directory and REALM

David Brenke will be available Sunday, March 31, after each service to take your photo for the online directory and REALM. New members and anyone wanting a do-over should come to the fireside room and bring your best smile!



## Sign up at the Welcome Desk

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

- Anniversary Banquets
- OWLS Trip to Skyrock Farm and Carousel Museum
- Household Family Usher Team
- Central's Easter Garden

## 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.

## Bar Code on the Back of the "Spirit"

If the parking gates are down after worship, use the bar code on the back of the *Spirit* to exit the parking lot. Put the bar code up to the reader and it will open the gate. This only works when exiting.

## 100th Anniversary Logo Items Back by Popular Demand!

If you missed out on ordering 100th Anniversary logo apparel back in October, you have another chance. Come to the welcome



desk before or after worship to check out very limited samples that are for sale online. To order, follow the link on our website. Store closes on April 17. Items will be delivered to the church by Anniversary weekend, May 4-6.

# news and happenings

## Upcoming Musical Highlights

Next Sunday, April 7, we welcome back former bass soloist/section leader Harrison Hintzsche as he presents three of Vaughan Williams' "Five Mystical Songs" in our Sunday morning worship services. Harrison, who is currently studying in a Master's Degree program at Yale University, is back in town to perform with Central soprano soloist Froya Olson as a part of the concert series of 2018-2019 Edvard Grieg Society of Minnesota. Both Froya and Harrison were first-prize winners in the annual Grieg Society completion and will be presenting a concert that focuses on Scandinavian Nostalgia on Saturday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m. at Mindekirken (Norwegian Memorial Church) 924 E 21st St, Minneapolis. Tickets are \$20. For more information: [www.norway-house.org/calendar/egsmn/18-19/winners-recital](http://www.norway-house.org/calendar/egsmn/18-19/winners-recital).

## OWLS Trip to Skyrock Farm and Carousel Museum

Wednesday, April 24

Join the OWLS in April for a trip to the Skyrock Farm and Carousel Museum in Hamel, Minn. Cost is \$30. Sign up at the welcome desk March 30/31, and April 6/7. Payment at time of sign up is preferred. For more information, contact Vicki Bierlein at [wandav885@gmail.com](mailto:wandav885@gmail.com).

## National Lutheran Choir "Spring Concert: Light and Dark"

Sunday, May 5, 4:00 p.m., sanctuary

To help celebrate Central's 100th Anniversary, the National Lutheran Choir will present their spring concert at Central. Tickets: Adult \$30, senior \$28, students and children free. Use discount code 'CLC100' for \$10 off adult admission. Purchase tickets online at [www.nlca.com](http://www.nlca.com).

### Because of you...

Because of you, our worship services are vibrant, visitors are welcome and we anticipate baptizing six people at the Easter Vigil.

## SUNDAY, MARCH 31

- 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
- 9:30 a.m. Online Directory Photos
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 11:45 a.m. Community Meal
- 11:45 a.m. Online Directory Photos

## MONDAY, APRIL 1

- 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, APRIL 2

- 10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
- 12:30 p.m. Floral Guild
- 2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

- 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
- 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, APRIL 4

- 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
- 12:30 p.m. Emergency Rental Assistance

## FRIDAY, APRIL 5

- 9:00 a.m. Quilting for LWR

## SATURDAY, APRIL 6

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

**CENTRAL LUTHERAN**  
333 South 12th Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55404  
612-870-4416  
[centralmpls.org](http://centralmpls.org)

**"SPIRIT" SUBMISSIONS**  
Submit items for consideration  
by Tuesday at 4 p.m. each  
week for the upcoming issue  
to [smasters@centralmpls.org](mailto:smasters@centralmpls.org)

**PRAYER REQUESTS**  
[prayers@centralmpls.org](mailto:prayers@centralmpls.org)

Use this barcode to exit the parking lot after worship.

Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America | [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)  
and the Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness | [www.dceh.org](http://www.dceh.org)