



Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

the Spirit

JULY 27/28, 2019



life together

God is at work in and through this faith community. This week was an open, honest, emotional and hopeful week as the staff-change information settles in. There were many open conversations and honest sharing of a wide

variety of emotions. There were expressions of hope for how God is leading and guiding. Thank you for the many conversations, email exchanges, phone calls and letters this week. Everyone is working to listen. We continue to let the variety of valid emotions be heard and when helpful to respond with some information. Jesus is here, guiding, sustaining and opening us to God and to one another. A few themes are emerging in these connections and in time I will seek to summarize and share these for our life together. There are many positives and some hard lessons learned.

An openness to God grounds us. This weekend, the gift of the Lord's Prayer draws us into God's openness and how that openness shapes our lives. Jesus gives us the name of God, literally puts God's name in our heart, soul and mind. Jesus uses the intimate name that opens him to God, he uses "father." Jesus knows that his name for God might not be the name that opens you to God. You are invited to ponder the name that opens you. What is the name that God places in your heart, soul and mind? It may be father, but just as easily mother, healer, guide, wisdom, friend or sustainer. What is remarkable to note is that we begin the Lord's Prayer with the word that unites us. Our father, mother, healer, guide, wisdom, friend or sustainer, all the most intimate understandings of God, are named as we gather, grow in faith and seek to live in love.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Peter

Summer on the Plaza

Summer on the Plaza continues this weekend. Plan your food truck dining through August 18. Please support our food truck vendors to allow this tradition to continue. Upcoming schedule:

- **July 28** - Food truck: Potter's Pasties; carillon recital: Jim Fackenthal
- **August 4** - Food truck: El Jibarito; carillon recital: Mitchell Stecker
- **August 11** - Food truck: Tot Boss; carillon recital: music TBD
- **August 18** - Food truck: TBD; Children's VBS; music TBD

Church Picnic

Save the date for Sunday, August 25 for the annual church picnic. The menu is set, the fun has been reserved. All we need is you.

Summer Bible Study Starts Sunday

The Book of Esther is a fascinating book in the Hebrew Bible (the Old Testament). Esther is a remarkable and courageous woman and her story is worth study. Join Pastor Stephanie and Pastor Melissa for this study on both Sundays and Wednesdays in the fireside room.

- Sunday, July 28, 9:30 a.m.
Overview of Esther
- Wednesday, July 31, 6:30 p.m.
Systems at work in the biblical story
- Sunday, August 4, 9:30 a.m.
Theology of systems of oppression
- Wednesday, August 7, 6:30 p.m.
Mordecai and Esther Speak
- Sunday, August 11, 9:30 a.m.
Vocation and Time in Esther
- Wednesday, August 14, 6:30 p.m.
Haman's Fall and Purim

worship and formation

Guide to Prayer

Listening for God

This week Jesus gives us the Lord's Prayer. He literally puts the name of God on our lips, in our heart, soul and mind. Jesus' most intimate name for God is "father." What is the intimate name for God that God gives to you? It may be father, but just as easily mother, parent, healer, forgiver, sustainer, wisdom or friend.

"Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.'" (Luke 11:1-4)

Listening to your life

What is the intimate name that God gives to you in prayer? What name helps you be drawn into the presence of God? Our father, mother, healer, friend, guide or wisdom are a few of the names that you might receive from God? We also know there is no end to the possibilities for how God opens us to name love, grace and hope. Pause for a moment each day, light a candle to welcome the presence of God. Offer all of this to God in prayer.

Wednesday Night Adult Faith Formation

Wednesdays, August 21 and 28, 6:30 p.m.

In June, Obie Holmen led a discussion of *A Wretched Man*, Obie's novel about Paul and the early church. In August, Obie will lead two Wednesday evening sessions discussing the sequel, *Wormwood and Gall* (the title comes from an Old Testament lament for Jerusalem). Set against the Roman destruction of Jerusalem in 70 C.E., the novel imagines a distraught and frightened Christian community in need of inspirational words of hope. A fictional Mark is at the center of the action as he wonders at the meaning of life in the face of horrific destruction. In the end, he compiles a narrative to be read to the assembly, which becomes the first gospel narrative that would later be included in the New Testament.

The August sessions will be Wednesday evening the 21st and 28th at 6:30 p.m. Books are available for purchase at the front desk.

Worship and Dinner with Tree of Life Lutheran

Sunday, August 4, 6:00 p.m., The Neu Neu, 514 N. 3rd St., Minneapolis
You're invited to evening prayer and dinner around the themes of abundance, work, community and creation. We'll gather for worship at 6:00 p.m. and are excited to welcome our new musician, Nate Crary, for his first official Sunday with us! There will be lots of singing (of course) and candles, communion, prayer stations and food. If you've got extra produce from your garden, bring it to share! All are welcome. Check [Facebook.com/TreeofLifeMpls](https://www.facebook.com/TreeofLifeMpls) for details or contact Pastor Marissa at PastorMarissa@TreeofLifeMpls.org.

The Central Lutheran Church Foundation presents End of Life Series this Fall

The series will start in September with attorney Matthew Guttman on Estate Planning, and continue in October with Dr. Vic Sandler speaking on medical issues around the end of life. Pastor Peter will present Funeral Planning in November. Watch for actual dates later this summer.

community

Backpacks and School Supplies Needed for Children in Minneapolis' Shelters

It is back to school soon! It's time to prepare, especially if you're responsible for equipping the nearly 800 children living in Minneapolis shelters for their first day of school. Can you imagine shopping for that many kids? Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness (DCEH) has decided to assist by supporting an existing partnership between the Minneapolis Public Schools and People Serving People (PSP). We are requesting your help.

Although there are several programs that attempt to assist low income children in preparing for school, DCEH has decided to support the Minneapolis School District's partnership with PSP because it most directly impacts children who are experiencing homelessness. Margo Hurrle, the school district's liaison person, spends most mornings at PSP counseling parents through the enrollment process, matching children with their home schools, assigning them to the correct bus routes, and providing them with supplies. Most afternoons she visits other shelters in the city, (the Drake, Mary's Place, Harbor Lights, etc.) and trouble shoots for the children she finds there. PSP helps her reach out to children in other shelters by generously and graciously sharing from their supply closets.

Between July 27 and August 22, please consider purchasing all or some of the items on the wish list below. Bring your purchases to the welcome desk where you will find a box marked "Backpacks and School Supplies." However, if you wish to forego the fun of a shopping trip, you are invited to write a check to People Serving People indicating school supplies in the memo line and mail to 614 South 3rd St., Minneapolis, MN 55415. Michelle Whitney, the donations coordinator at PSP, estimates it takes about \$30 to equip one child for school, but she gladly accepts monetary donations in any amount.

Here is the generic wish list which PSP has developed:

#2 pencils	pencil sharpener
calculator	pens
colored pencils	ruler
crayons (24 pack)	book bags/backpacks
folders	scissors (youth size)
pencil box	washable markers

Next time you are at the store, pick up a few supplies to help these kids get off to a great start this school year. Thanks to DCEH for this collaborative effort and invitation.



Sign up at the Welcome Desk

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

- OWLS August Trip
- Purchase Obie Holmen's Books
- Name Badges
- Online Directory Photos

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. This is also the way we will communicate about funerals coming up and any parking/road closure informaton. If you don't receive this electronic newsletter, please sign up at www.centralmpls.org or email Sara Masters at smasters@centralmpls.org.

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.

news and happenings

Online Photo Directory

David Brenke will be available Sunday, July 28, after each service to take your photo for the online directory. If you are a new member or you want to retake your current photo, come to the welcome desk.

Nip and Nosh

Tuesday, August 13, 6:00 p.m., north plaza

All women of Central Lutheran are cordially invited to the 3rd Annual Nip and Nosh, Tuesday, August 13 on the north plaza. If it rains, we will move into the great room. Initiated by women of ACTS Circle, who will provide the food, you are invited to bring a beverage to share and enjoy a casual time of friendly fellowship.

Landscaping Work

The next phase in the landscaping work began this week. The Garden Ministry Team worked with a landscape architect for a masterplan. This is phase one of that work. It is also work that completes what was required by the city. Thank you to the Garden Ministry Team for all of their work. The team continues to bring beauty to the campus. It is a joy to celebrate that we are one of the largest green spaces in downtown.

SUNDAY, JULY 28

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Online Directory Photos
9:30 a.m. Book of Esther Study
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:45 a.m. Summer on the Plaza
11:45 a.m. Youth depart for Camp Amnicon
11:45 a.m. Online Directory Photos

MONDAY, JULY 29

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 Connect
11:00 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Community Meal
12:00 p.m. Bible Study
1:00 p.m. Street Voices of Change Facilitators Training

TUESDAY, JULY 30

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

9:00 a.m. Emergency Rental Assistance
10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
1:00 p.m. Bible Study with Preacher
6:30 p.m. Book of Esther Study

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1

8:30 a.m. Street Voices of Change
10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
12:30 p.m. Emergency Rental Assistance

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

Building closed

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3

9:30 a.m. Downtown Grief Support Coalition
11:00 a.m. Funeral for Richard Anderson
5:00 p.m. Worship
5:45 p.m. Saturday Evening Fellowship

Because of you...

Central Lutheran partners with Augsburg University to host Augsburg Central Health Commons. This is not a clinic and there are no fees. It is a drop-in center led and organized by Augsburg University nursing faculty, nursing volunteers, nursing students and community members. The goals are to facilitate relationship building, connecting people, and providing resources. During the summer it is open on Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

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

PRAYER REQUESTS
prayers@centralmpls.org

Use this barcode to exit the parking lot after worship.

Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America | www.elca.org
and the Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness | www.dceh.org