



Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

the Spirit

AUGUST 17/18, 2019



life together

Summer Begins to Turn to Fall

I know it is still summer and we are not ready to even think of fall, but the school supplies are for sale at Target and the days are getting shorter. I am not quite ready for fall. I need to soak up more sunshine and warm evenings out on the deck. The church picnic is set for next Sunday, August 25, at 11:30 a.m. It is one of the joys of summer at Central. It is our final summer event on the plaza, which with the new facility is summer on the patio and in the great room, as well. I have so enjoyed the food trucks and carillonneurs this summer. It has been great to be outside, and when the rain has fallen to gather in the great room and still look out on a summer, Sunday afternoon.

This year the church picnic will be out on the plaza, the patio and in the great room. Dave and Dwayne will grill hot dogs. There will be games and a bouncy house for the kids and an interactive bingo game for all ages. Plan to be here next Sunday as we hold onto the last days of summer and give thanks for our life together.

On another note, you will notice work in the parking lot over the next weeks. The Fiscal and Property Committee, Dave Rodriguez and I are guiding needed improvements and maintenance. The old parking lot attendant booths are being removed, changes are being made to curbs to help with access and ease of use. When this work is complete, the lot surface will be repaired, cracks filled, resurfaced and then re-lined. We anticipate this work to be completed by God's Work, Our Hands weekend on September 7/8. It is all essential, preventative maintenance. Our worship access will not be affected; all three entrances should be open each weekend. We are also hopeful that the 15th street bridge project will be completed next week and open for use by the weekend of August 24/25.

Enjoy these days of summer, blessings from the God of all seasons.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Peter

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.

Wednesday Night Adult Faith Formation

Wednesdays, August 21 and September 4, 6:30 p.m., nativity

For two Wednesdays, Obie will lead evening sessions discussing his book, *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. Books can be purchased at the welcome desk. **Please note the change in dates: we will meet on Wednesday, September 4 and NOT on August 28.**

Prayer Walks: September 7-9

On the weekend of September 7, 8 and 9, we will celebrate with many other churches in the ELCA God's Work, Our Hands Weekend. In many congregations, this is a call to action and service. At Central we experience that call every time we gather together as a community. For us this weekend will be one of venturing out into our neighborhood prayerfully.

We invite you on a prayer walk. It is a led journey of having our eyes, ears, and hearts open and having our voices quiet for a bit. After the Saturday night worship service, after the 10:30 on Sunday morning worship service, and after the 11:00 Monday worship service, there will be our usual times of food and fellowship. Then we will meet up with a guide who will lead you on a prayer walk. When we return, we will share what we experienced and there will be a limited number of God's Work, Our Hands t-shirts available. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Pastor Melissa.

worship and formation

Guide to Prayer

Listening for God

Jesus is restless this week in the gospel reading. His restlessness catches us off guard. So often in Luke's Gospel we hear words of peace, but this week we hear about division. It is rooted in Jesus' restlessness about how we settle for peace, or perhaps even demand personal peace, when real spiritual crisis in our families, communities and world call for our attention. What happens when we tend to the real spiritual crisis? We will not agree, but the path through division leads to clarity and mission. Here are Jesus' restless words at the end of the reading:

Jesus also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?" (Luke 12:54-56)

Listening to your life

We seek the deep peace that God gives in our time of prayer and worship. How does that peace, that abiding presence of God, open us to the spiritual crisis of our time? What are the challenges of this present time that you hear God calling you to acknowledge? What emotions are stirred up when we begin to consider the challenges of this present time? We return to God with all our fears and anxieties, seeking peace and at the same time direction and for how God is calling us to grow and engage. Pause for a moment each day, light a candle to welcome the presence of God. Begin by breathing in and breathing out, a reminder of God's grace that constantly flows into your life. What do you hear in your time for prayer? Offer all of this to God.

Attention Singers!

Choir starts Wednesday, September 4, 7:15 p.m., great room
The beginning of the formal choir year is just around the corner.
Thinking about joining our incredible ensemble? This is a perfect time!
Our first rehearsal will take place on Wednesday, September 4 at 7:15 p.m. in the great room. This will be preceded by a potluck supper that will begin at 6:15 p.m. Returning choir members, please bring a dish to share—appetizer, salad, main dish or dessert. NEW MEMBERS simply come as our guests.

The Central Choir is our congregation's longest ongoing group—offering a different dimension regarding worship participation; an outlet for using one's talent, with fellowship and just plain fun! The choir rehearses each Wednesday from 7:15 to 9:00 p.m. in the great room. The choir sings September through May at our 10:30 a.m. worship services. In addition to weekly anthems, liturgical music (psalm settings, hymn stanzas, etc.), the choir focuses on larger works with orchestra presented in the context of worship or as afternoon concerts. No audition is necessary but good music reading skills are a must. To join, simply come to one of our regular weekly rehearsals. Contact Mark Sedio at msedio@centralmpls.org for more information.

Youth Fall Programming

Sunday school and confirmation classes will begin in one big opening experience in the largest Sunday school room called Transfiguration on September 8 at 9:30 a.m. Parents and children are expected to attend together to learn about the program year. Sunday school and confirmation classes will actually begin on September 15 at 9:30 a.m. The high school youth group will begin on September 15 at 9:30 a.m. also.

Adult Faith Formation

For this program year, from September—May, the invitation to be open to the mystery of God will help shape worship, faith formation, community life and generosity. For adult faith formation, it is an exceptional invitation to help us grow in an awareness of God, one another and our relationships with all our neighbors.

There are many opportunities for adult faith formation. Below are some of the invitations as they are shaped by the invitation for us to be open to the mystery of God.

September

8 – Sunday: God's Work, Our Hands Weekend

9:30 a.m. – Introduction to the Year with Pastor Peter

11:45 a.m. – Neighborhood Prayer Walk, Open to the Mystery of God

15 – Sunday

9:30 a.m. - Dr Guillermo Hansen – Open to the Mystery of God

12:00 p.m. Empowering Conversations (Peace with Justice) Forum:
Dr Guillermo Hansen – Open to the Mystery of God, who is God and what does God call us to care about?

22 – Sunday

9:30 a.m. - Eli Yackel-Juleen, Young Adult in Global Mission presentation, serving in Jerusalem

community

Last Call! Backpacks and School Supplies Needed for Children in Minneapolis' Shelters

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.

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.

September OWLS Trip

Wednesday, September 11

In September, the OWLS will go on Al and Alma's lunch cruise on Lake Minnetonka. We'll enjoy the perfect fusion of spectacular scenery and attentive award-winning service aboard Al and Alma's magnificent Lake Minnetonka Fleet. Cost is \$30. The bus leaves Central at 10:30 a.m. and returns at 3:15 p.m. Sign up at the welcome desk on August 17/18 and 24/25. Payment at time of sign up is preferred. For more information, contact Vicki Bierlein at wandav885@gmail.com.



Sign up at the Welcome Desk

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

- Purchase Obie Holmen's Books
- Name Badges
- Drop Off School Supplies (pick up receipt for school supplies)
- Sign up for OWLS September Trip

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

A Different Kind of Book Club

Our book club meetings will resume in September. We meet on the second Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at Central. All are welcome. Our fall schedule is as follows:

- **September 12:** "The Nightingale" by Kristen Hannah, a novel of courage and survival in France during the WWII German occupation.
- **October 10:** "The Second Mountain, The Quest for a Moral Life" by David Brooks. The New York Times columnist explores the commitments that define a life of meaning and purpose.
- **November 14:** "Educated" by Tara Westover. A memoir, the self-taught daughter of survivalists in the mountains of Idaho leaves home for university.

For more information contact Bonnie Palmquist at 612-822-4348 or bonnieskier@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 11:45 a.m. Summer on the Plaza
- 1:30 p.m. Funeral for June Cavert

MONDAY, AUGUST 19

- 9:00 a.m. Emergency Rental Assistance
- 10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
- 10:00 a.m. Augsburg Central Health Commons
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Community Meal
- 12:00 p.m. Bible Study

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20

- 10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens
- 2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. New Member Gathering

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

- 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. Adult Faith Formation with Obie Holmen

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

Building Closed

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24

- 9:30 a.m. Downtown Grief Support Coalition
- 5:00 p.m. Worship
- 5:45 p.m. Saturday Evening Fellowship

Because of you...

More than 60 voices make up the Central Choir. They practice on Wednesday nights and join together to participate in the 10:30 a.m. worship service most Sundays between September and May. Thank you choir members and Central's music staff!

CENTRAL LUTHERAN
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centralmpls.org

"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