



Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

the Spirit

JANUARY 18/19, 2020



life together

Enlarging the Circle

Mission Forward Capital Appeal

There is good news with the Mission Forward Capital Appeal. The final pledges are in and the total committed is \$1,916,618! Our goal was to reach \$2,000,000, allowing us to nearly retire the debt on

the second loan from the Building Renewal Project and to complete a next set of projects. The Central Lutheran Foundation Board of Trustees at their December meeting voted to continue the support of the Foundation for another 3 years, with a new commitment of \$250,000. So, the grand total for the appeal is \$2,166,618. This is great news for the mission we are called to as a congregation. It will allow the congregation to tend to the second loan and now move forward with the renovation of the lower narthex, needed stone work on the historic sanctuary, relighting the bell tower, additional support for the Garden Ministry Team and the landscaping plan, the creation of a kids play area and a benevolence gift to remind us that all these gifts come from the hand of a generous God.

Thank you to all who were able to make a pledge to the Mission Forward Capital Appeal. Thanks to each of you for your faithfulness and ongoing support for the mission and ministry of Central Lutheran.

Annual Open Budget Meeting and Annual Meeting

The annual open budget meeting will be on Sunday, February 2, at 11:45 a.m. in the fireside room. You can grab your lunch and join this walk-through of the proposed budget for 2020. Treasurer John Olson, and Director of Finance Obie Holmen, will lead this meeting. The open budget meeting is the time to ask questions and learn about the many moving financial parts of Central's mission.

The annual meeting of the congregation will be held on Sunday, February 9, at 12:00 p.m. in the great room. Plan to stay for lunch and this meeting to review and celebrate the ministry and mission of the congregation. The main agenda items are to adopt the 2020 budget and approve the nominating committee recommendations for leadership for 2020. We will also hear the financial reports, strategic plan team report, an overview of the building renewal finances as that project comes to completion and reports from leaders, pastors and staff. The annual report will be available in print on the weekend of February 1/2, and a digital copy will be on the church website by that weekend, as well.

It is a privilege to serve as one of your rostered leaders as we continue to respond to God's call to be a mission forward congregation.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Peter

Exploring the promise of God for all

Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation

January

19 – Sunday

9:30 a.m. Open to the mystery of God in Diversity

12:00 p.m. Empowering Conversations (Peace with Justice) Forum. Why should the church care about diversity? (see p. 3)

26 – Sunday

9:30 a.m. Open to the Mystery of God in Generosity – with Pastor Peter

February

2 – Sunday

9:30 a.m. Open to the Mystery of God in Community – with Pastor Melissa

9 – Sunday

9:30 a.m. Open to the Mystery of God in Faith: Enneagram – Understanding Ourselves, One Another and God. Led by Pastor Stephanie

16 – Sunday

9:30 a.m. Dr. Mary Lowe, Augsburg University, Open to the Mystery of God in Women and Justice. Why does God care about women and justice?

12:00 p.m. Empowering Conversations (Peace with Justice) Forum with Dr. Mary Lowe, Augsburg University. Join this lunch and deep conversation as we ponder God's call for women and justice. Why does God care about gender equality and gender and justice?

23 – Sunday

9:30 a.m. Enneagram: How it shapes prayer. Led by Pastor Peter

worship and formation

Guide to Prayer

Listening for God

This weekend we continue to celebrate Christ's presence among us. Our texts draw us into a deeper understanding of who Jesus is and what he came to show us. Each of us is invited into beloved community with Jesus and all the disciples. In this beautiful text from John, each of us is invited to become a follower.

John the Baptist begins, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see."

Listening to your life

Everyday we are invited to "come and see." Jesus came to share in our experience—to become fully human in all of its simplicity and complexity. He came for us to see that every day carries new possibilities and opportunities for life. What do you notice about your life today? What are the possibilities for peacemaking or reconciliation? How is God calling you to love and serve your neighbor and how is God calling you to be loved and served by others? Pause this week to listen and feel where God is calling you to "come and see."

Going Deeper with the Enneagram – Prayer Class with the Rev. Kathie Nycklemoe

Sunday, January 26, 1:00 p.m., nativity

The Enneagram is a remarkable tool to help us grow in our self-understanding, our awareness of others and an attentiveness to God. Following up on that Enneagram retreat in October, the Prayer Ministry Team is offering specific classes on prayer forms that connect contemplative prayer to various Enneagram temperaments. The Rev. Kathie Nycklemoe, who has led a number of prayer classes here at Central, will offer follow-up opportunities to go deeper in the Enneagram through contemplative prayer. All who have done some basic work with the Enneagram are invited to attend. The second of these contemplative prayer times will be offered on Sunday, January 26. No need to sign up, just plan to attend! The last prayer time offered will be February 23.

Camp Amnicon is Calling

The annual high school retreat at Camp Amnicon is coming at the end of February. All students grades 9-12 are invited for an overnight at Camp Amnicon the weekend of February 22-23. We will travel by van leaving Central at 9:00 a.m. Saturday returning Sunday around 2:00 p.m. Join us for winter fun and fellowship at our favorite spot on the North Shore. Students should bring sleeping bags, pillows, cold weather clothing and a sense of adventure! Sign-up in the youth room at church or by emailing Pastor Stephanie.

A Different Kind of Book Club

Thursday, February 13, 1:30 p.m., nativity

In February, we will be reading "Information Wars, How We Lost the Global Battle Against Disinformation and What We Can Do About It" by Richard Stengel. Discussion leader will be Myron Just. Any questions may directed to Bonnie Palmquist at bonnieskier@yahoo.com or 612-822-4348.

Prayer and Anointing for Healing

Prayer and Anointing for Healing is offered about once a month by the Worship Life and Prayer Ministry Teams. No matter your need of healing, for body, mind, spirit, or relationship, you are welcome to stop by the sanctuary prayer corner after worship this weekend.

community

Empowering Conversations

Sunday, January 19, 12:00 p.m.

We have two great facilitators helping us explore the mystery of God this Sunday: the Rev. Babette Chatman and Felecia Boone. They will be with us to talk about how they have come to understand who God is in light of God's beautifully diverse people. When God says, "let us make humankind in our own image," God then creates the people of the world of every race and culture. How does celebrating this diversity help us to better know God in whose image we are created?

The Rev. Babette Chatman currently serves on the staff of Augsburg University Campus Ministry as one of the campus pastors. A member of Redeemer Lutheran Church in north Minneapolis, Babette serves across the Minneapolis Area Synod as a member of the Mission Table, Leaders of Color and as an advisor to Strategic Organizing Against Racism (SOAR) Team.

Felecia Boone currently serves as the vice-president of the Minneapolis Area Synod. She is a member of Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church in south Minneapolis where she is a member of the property and race equity committees and the Crossroads Community Organization, a 501c3 started by Calvary.

They will lead adult faith formation at 9:30 a.m. in the lower narthex and Empowering Conversations in the great room at noon. If you are planning to take part in Empowering Conversations, please grab some lunch and sit at the designated tables near the windows.

Public Event Hosts Needed

Central Lutheran has started its next 100 years with the opportunity to host several events. With those events comes the need for public event hosts. Public event hosts greet guests, provide directions within our building, and get to listen to some amazing speakers, hear beautiful music, and observe some historic events.

A partial list includes the following. There are others in the planning stages for May and June.

- April 24: opening worship service for the Minneapolis Area Synod assembly (mpls-synod.org/our-synod/synod-assembly)
- May 17: Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra (msomn.org/shakespeare-chaminade)
- May 31: Luther Seminary commencement
- July 4-8: GALA festival 2020 (galachoruses.org/events/gala-festival)

If you are interested in being a host for these or other events, please join Judith Hedman and current hosts at lunch on Sunday, January 26 in the great room.



Sign up at the Welcome Desk

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

- OWLS February Gathering
- Confirmation Worship Notes
- Wednesday Evening Bible Study Materials

eSpirit

Stay up-to-date on the upcoming weekend happenings 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 information. If you don't receive this electronic newsletter, please sign up at www.centralmpls.org or email Sara Masters at smasters@centralmpls.org.

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

Restoration Center and Church Building Closed January 20

In observance of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, the Restoration Center and church offices will be closed on Monday, January 20. There will NOT be a community meal.

Open Budget meeting

Sunday, February 2, 11:45 a.m., fireside room

Join Obie Holmen, John Olson and Pastor Peter as they present the proposed 2020 budget for the congregation's review. This is an opportunity to ask questions and learn about Central's proposed 2020 budget.

Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 9, 11:45 a.m., great room

Save Sunday, February 9, for 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 2020 budget and elect congregational leadership. A light lunch will be served immediately after the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

OWLS February Gathering

Wednesday, February 12

It's sequins, spandex and feather boas on a Greek Island paradise! Get ready to have the time of your life with "Mamma Mia!" Don't miss the theatrical sensation that's been enjoyed by over 60 million people across the globe. A large cast, non-stop laughs and explosive dance numbers make "Mamma Mia!" a guaranteed smash hit that'll have you dancing in the aisles! Cost is \$30. Lunch will be at Chanhassen Dinner Theater. Sign up at the welcome desk on January 18/19, 25/26 and February 1/2. Payment at time of sign up is preferred. For more information, contact Vicki Bierlein at wandav885@gmail.com.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

5:00 p.m. Worship

5:45 p.m. Saturday Evening Fellowship

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Adult Faith Formation

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Confirmation/High School Youth

10:30 a.m. Worship

11:45 a.m. Community Meal

12:00 p.m. Empowering Conversations

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

Building closed - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

5:30 p.m. Generosity Team

6:30 p.m. Executive Committee

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

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: The Gospel of John

7:15 p.m. Central Choir

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

8:30 a.m. Street Voices of Change

10:00 a.m. Augsburg Central Health Commons

10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens

10:30 a.m. Prayer Ministry Team

10:30 a.m. Women's Support Network

11:30 a.m. Shalom Circle

5:30 p.m. Block/Ehley Wedding Rehearsal

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

4:30 p.m. Block/Ehley Wedding

Because of you...

In 2019, there were 26 baptisms, nine students confirmed, eight weddings, 25 funerals, and 74 new members (48 plus the 26 baptisms).

CENTRAL LUTHERAN
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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 Align Minneapolis | www.alignmpls.org