

THE CENTRALITE

June 2022



CENTRAL IS A RECONCILING IN
CHRIST CONGREGATION

Central's Staff

Pastor Laurie A. Jones
pastorlaurie@
welcometocentral.org
(206-354-6756)

Vicar Ben Nickodemus
Pastoral Intern

Minister to Christus House &
Campus Ministry
Deacon Clare Josef-Maier

Organist/Choirmaster
Dr. A. ElRay Stewart-Cook

Associate Organist
Dr. Lindsey H. Rodgers

Parish Administrator
Kristi Hoiland

Financial Manager
Cindy Culpepper

Minister to Children, Youth
& Families for CUE
Crystal Miller

Church Council

President, Larry Sutton
Vice Pres, Sheri Pyron
Secretary, Jack Bennett
Treas, Charlotte Bontrager
Jean Clancey
Matt Haugen
Chris Henry
Jill Liedtke
Dennis Lindsay

CENTRAL LUTHERAN MISSION STATEMENT
TO BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS BY:

LOVING GOD AND ONE ANOTHER
NURTURING FAITHFUL LIVING
SERVING THOSE IN NEED

IMPORTANT DATES IN JUNE

Join us in person for our semi-annual
Congregational meeting
on Sunday, June 5th
(9:45am-10:45am) in the Parish Hall.

[Click here for the Zoom Link](#)

- Saturday, June 4th—End of School Year/All Age Picnic & Games at Untied 11am-2pm (see p. 3 for details)
- Thursday, June 9th we are hosting a Zoom Workshop on Mental Health facilitated by Bethany Sutton (details on p. 4).
- Sunday, June 12th our 11am service moves to the Garden (see Pastor Laurie's message on p. 2 for details).
- Sunday, June 19th at 8:30am we will celebrate with Peyton Thorburn in her Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation as well as blessing our High School Graduates who will be receiving CL Foundation Scholarships: Clara Christensen, Josie Clever, and Gabby Thorburn.
- Wednesday, June 22nd, we are invited to Camp Lutherwood for a BBQ Dinner and commissioning of their summer staff (details on p. 4).
- Monday, June 26th thru Friday, July 1st, we will be hosting Vacation Bible School for Central, United, and Emmaus (CUE) children ages 3 years-5th grade. (For registration details go to p. 3)

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we move from the seasons of Easter into Pentecost and from spring into summer, you are invited to join us for worship in these ways:

- ❖ **In the Sanctuary**, with the gathered community in person, or via livestream at 8:30am;
- ❖ **At the Garden** (2345 Laura Street, Springfield) in person at 11am;
- ❖ Or, if you're traveling and neither of those options work for you, or you can't make either the 8:30 or 11am services, look for our 8:30am service worship service archived on our website connecttocentral.org.

This is also the time of year when we typically wrap up our program year activities and shift into "summer mode." However, we are not slowing down. Rather, we will continue to ramp up as we (re)engage in Our Life Together. In fact, a new ministry team is launching which is described in detail on p. 5.

Here are just a few of ways you might consider being involved beyond Sunday morning worship:

1. A small group of people continue to provide a meal for First Place Families each Monday, year-round. Kim Meyers (541) 914-8442 can connect you with others who make this happen by: picking up food from the Eugene Mission on Fridays and delivering to the church; preparing and cooking the meal in the church kitchen or in your own home; delivering it to the Annex on Monday afternoon for their evening meal.
2. Our Community Garden on the corner of 18th and University will need to be harvested regularly over the summer months. Produce is given to the Student Food Pantry run by the Episcopal Campus Ministry housed at Grace Lutheran Church (18th and Hilyard). Maija Anderson (541) 521-7916 is the point person to contact for questions.
3. There are also a number of small projects that need attention around our church facility. Join Howard and Mason on Friday mornings for work projects outdoors or talk to Pastor Laurie about some areas inside that need to be decluttered and/or reorganized throughout the facility.

Thanks for the many ways you give of your time, talents, and financial gifts to support the ministry of Christ's Church here at Central and beyond!

In Christ's Abiding Love,

+Pastor Laurie

Children, Youth & Family News & Events

Children's Music Ministry at Central

Check out musictogether-eugene.org for information or to register for upcoming Music Together classes. The 6-week summer sessions, hosted at Central Lutheran for members and friends of Central, as well as the wider community of Eugene/Springfield, are geared for children ages 0-5 (accompanied by a parent/grandparent). Questions can be emailed to our Center Director, Lindsey H. Rodgers, by clicking [here](#).

End of the year all age picnic and games on June 4th

All are invited to picnic with carnival games on Saturday, June 4th from 11am to 2pm. We will gather at United Lutheran Church and spend time playing and eating together. **Families are invited to bring a picnic lunch for their household.** There will be games and activities for all ages. Please let Crystal know if you are available to help set up or can volunteer during the event for part of the time. If your family will be joining us for this event please let Crystal know ASAP.

Vacation Bible school Summer 2022: "Christmas in July"

- When: June 27th through July 1st, 9am - 12:30pm each day
- Where: Central Lutheran Church
- Who: Campers are all kids ages 3 years to going into 5th grade and volunteers are middle and high school teens and adults of all ages
- Cost: We are asking for a suggested donation of \$25 per camper or \$50 per family. If you are able to give more please consider doing so to help support our ministry of making VBS available to all families. Please send your payments to Central Lutheran Church.
- Yes we need volunteers! If you are able to volunteer in any capacity I would love to hear from you. It is our teen and adult volunteers that make camp possible.
- **To register please follow this link: : <https://forms.gle/WauCtyzZVp355Kkc6>**

At this time our COVID policies are in flux and we will continue to follow state guidance and will update and clarify our policies closer to the start of camp.

Summary of event:

Youth Mental Health 101 is designed primarily for adults (parents, grandparents) who care for young people. Navigating mental health issues can be overwhelming, frustrating, and lonely. This discussion will aim to normalize therapy and mental health services, while also highlighting available resources for parents and families. COVID has served as an accelerator for mental health issues. We will discuss factors that impact mental health, what mental health looks like at different stages of child development, and what role you can play as a caregiver.

Bio:

Bethany Sutton (she/her) is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. Bethany enjoys working with children, adolescents, and adults. She has experience treating anxiety, depression, grief/loss, and trauma. Bethany has a specific passion for working with foster and adoptive families, as well as the individuals in the LGBTQ+ community. Bethany lives in Puyallup, WA with her husband, two children, two cats, and nine chickens.

Here's the Zoom Link:

Join the Zoom Meeting on June 9, 2022 at 6pm

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84196540060?
pwd=oPNufAbc1uqLuXkiwyHWeogfia7K6Q.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84196540060?pwd=oPNufAbc1uqLuXkiwyHWeogfia7K6Q.1)

Passcode: 950168

Editor's Note: Bethany (Watson) Sutton and her husband, Pastor Nathan Sutton, both grew up in Eugene and were, along with their families, members of Central Lutheran. He's the son of Merrily and Larry Sutton. She's the daughter of Janet and Mark Watson and the granddaughter of Shirley Watson.

INVITATION TO CAMP LUTHERWOOD

You are invited to a (free) BBQ Picnic Dinner and Commissioning of Lutherwood Summer Staff on Wednesday, June 22nd.

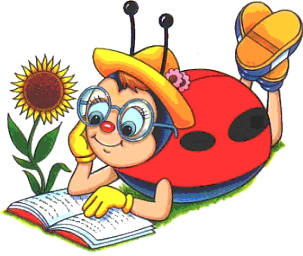
4:30-5:30pm Arrival, camp tours, free time to enjoy the great outdoors

5:30-6:15pm(ish) BBQ Dinner (buffet style)

6:30pm Commissioning Service (lower Campfire)

Call the church office if you'd like to carpool to/from Camp.

BOOK CLUB NEWS



The CLC Book Club will meet via ZOOM on Monday, June 13, 2022, at 7pm to discuss Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass by Frederick Douglass. This first-person account of birth in slavery, escape, and creation of a public life as an abolitionist is a vital insight into United States history. Douglass was a strong voice for Black citizenship at a time when many wanted to free the slaves and send them to Africa. The discussion will be led by Ginger Bopp.

New members are always welcome! If you are not on the CLC Book Club email list and would like to join the discussion, please email Betsy Berg < rb24berg@aol.com >. The ZOOM link will be sent out closer to the meeting date.

Looking Ahead: The CLC Book Club will hold its Annual Book Choosing Meeting on Monday, July 11, 2022, at 7pm via Zoom. This is when we decide on the reading list for next year. Stay tuned for details.

NEW MINISTRY LAUNCHING THE FIRST SUNDAY OF JULY...

PRAYER OUTREACH MINISTRY

OPPORTUNITY:

The CLC *Women's Prayer/Bible Study Group* identified a need for a hands-on prayer opportunity for those seeking healing, connection, understanding and peace. Sharing this perceived need with *The Andrea Wiggins Comfort and Joy Team* and *Stephen Ministry* Leaders, they concurred that this is a timely need and are willing to actively support it.

THE GOALS:

- To provide individual, confidential prayer to those desiring focused prayer for their specific needs—prayers of joy and thanksgiving, and/or prayers of lament, loss, grief, healing, etc.
- To extend God's love, demonstrating a caring spirit and concern for each individual requesting support.

Following the 8:30am worship service, on the first Sunday of the month, prayer ministers will be available in the chapel to pray with those who desire a time of prayer with a prayer advocate.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2022 GRADUATES

Clara Christensen—South Eugene High School

Josie Clever—South Eugene High School

Gabby Thorburn—Sheldon High School

Jerik Embleton—University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK

Jordin Johnson—Southern Oregon University, Ashland, OR

Kiersten Knebel—University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND



THANK YOU TO OUR CHILDREN'S CHOIR under the direction of Dr. Lindsey H. Rodgers





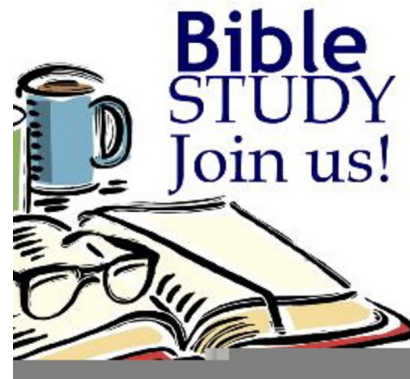
WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

Baby Michael, Lue Berg, Tracie Boring, Joshua Chamness, Terry Chap, Bonnie Betts, Linnea Embleton, Carolyn & Bob Evans, Arline Fors, Rhea Forum, JoAnne Hynes, Joy Lathrop, Doug & Jody Martin, Christine & Dave Prescott, Marilyn Tollefson.

Click [here](#) to submit a prayer request.
Or, email: prayers@welcometocentral.org.

NURTURE FAITHFUL LIVING

...by diving into the word of God



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Bible Study meets weekly in person on **Wednesdays at 7am** at the Pancake House on Franklin Blvd. Newcomers are always welcome. For more information contact Chuck Dietz at cdietz41@gmail.com.

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

All are welcome to join Pastor Laurie and Vicar Ben on **Wednesdays at 11am** via Zoom as we study the readings for the upcoming Sunday. No preparation needed. Click [here](#) for the Zoom link.

WOMEN'S PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Prayer and Bible Study meets weekly on **Thursdays at 11am** on Zoom using the Bible study guides found in the ELCA's *Gather Magazine*. For more information and to receive the Zoom link to your inbox please contact Arlene Dietz at dietzal@aol.com.

NEWS FROM OREGON SYNOD ASSEMBLY (May 13-15)

All Resolutions and memorials passed, some as written, some as amended.

Resolutions (enacted within the Oregon Synod immediately)

Resolution on Formation of an Oregon Synod Antiracism Network

(sharing of resources of what churches have been doing in antiracism activities)

Resolution Regarding Type of Synod Assembly

(Online Synod Assembly two out of three years, meet in person on the third year to be coordinated with the election of the bishop)

2022 Inclusive Call Process Resolution

(Resolution looking to increase equity in the call process specifically for BIPOC Rostered Ministers)

Lift Every Voice Oregon Synod Resolution in Support of IP 17 and IP 18

(Support of two ballot initiatives to ban assault rifles)

Memorials (Sent to churchwide so that churchwide might make a resolution on this topic – no direct action in the Oregon Synod, but requests for churchwide assembly this summer)

Reparations and Land Return Memorial to the 2022 Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA

(Asking churchwide to set a policy and plan for reparations)

Memorial Calling for a Just Transition to 50% Reduction in US Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2030 (Asking churchwide to set a policy and plan for carbon neutrality)

Budget

Approval of 2023 Oregon Synod Budget

Elections

Elections of various officers

The Assembly booklet with all resolutions and memorials can be found here:

<http://oregonsynod.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/2022-Oregon-Synod-Assembly-Booklet.pdf>

Central's Lay Delegates were: Chris Henry, Jill Liedtke, John Shurson. In addition, Rostered Leaders: Deacon Clare, Vicar Ben, Pastor Laurie and Synod Council Members: Becky Shurson and Clara Christensen (Youth Representative) were in attendance.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL

The Council met May 18, 2022 at 6:30pm via Zoom

Treasurer's Report (see last page of the Centralite)

At the recommendation from the Finance Committee a letter will be sent to the entire congregation explaining the current financial state of the church which will be sent from the President and Treasurer.

Planning for Semi-Annual Meeting:

Council planned for the Semi-annual meeting between services on June 5, 2022. The congregation will be voting on issuing a call to Ben Nickodemus to serve as Associate Pastor. The agenda includes electing new council members and next year's nominating committee, as well as updates on finances, Christus House/Campus Ministry, and property matters.

Action items:

Move to approve Personnel's recommendation of two peer ministers for positions at Christus House for the 2022-23 academic year. They are: Donia Abuelfetouch for Commitment & Integrity and Yulia Graham for Hospitality & Inclusion. These are funded through the CH Budget.

Move to approve Personnel's recommendation of hiring Beth Trower for the position of Video & Tech Support (live-streaming). Beth will serve as additional Tech Support and as a backup for Thomas Stine. This is funded by a grant from Endowment.

Move to approve Personnel's recommendation of hiring Kelly Colvin Smith as an Independent Contractor to update the database of the Central Lutheran membership in order to produce a new directory with pictures to be used by members only. This is funded by a grant from Endowment.

Move to approve Personnel's recommendation as amended to adjust the current Organist/Choirmaster's terms of employment to allow an additional month of paid leave beyond his accrued vacation of 20 days (4 weeks) per year. This will reduce annual compensation by 1/12. In 2022 this will be prorated from Jun-Dec with no change to the benefits package. (This came at ElRay's request so that he can spend more time traveling abroad. Lindsey will be compensated for worship services during this additional time off.)

Other Matters:

Pastor Laurie will be on vacation from May 25-Jun 1. She has been asked to officiate at a family member's wedding over Memorial Day weekend.

Central Lutheran Church
Jan-Apr 2022 Compared to Jan-Apr 2021 Income:Expense Summary

	Jan-Apr 2022	YTD 2022 Budget	Variance to Budget	Jan-Apr 2021
Regular Envelopes	\$ 176,839.53	\$ 208,332.00	\$ (31,492.47)	\$ 198,291.31
Other Offerings	1,804.00	2,000.00	\$ (196.00)	\$ 297.10
Holiday Offerings	8,729.00	7,450.00	\$ 1,279.00	\$ 5,550.00
Other Income	7,226.90	7,585.04	\$ (358.14)	\$ 7,386.88
Departmental Income	34,919.92	37,132.48	\$ (2,212.56)	\$ 25,116.79
Total Income	\$ 229,519.35	\$ 262,499.52	\$ (32,980.17)	\$ 236,642.08
Total Expenses	\$ 272,260.11	\$ 275,078.91	\$ (2,818.80)	\$ 251,966.76
YTD Net Income	\$ (42,740.76)	\$ (12,579.39)	\$ 30,161.37)	\$ (15,324.68)
Prorated carryover-Previous Year	\$ 12,726.00	\$ 12,726.00	\$ -	\$ 20,444.68
Net after carryover applied	\$ (30,014.76)	\$ 146.61	\$ (30,161.37)	\$ 5,120.00



Address Changes

Andrew Haugen
 2228 Ridgeway Dr Eugene 97401; 541-510-4295

Judy Johnson
 65 W 30th Ave #3214 Eugene 97405

Maggie Yoder
 50 Ruby Ave #219 Eugene 97404

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
 1857 POTTER STREET EUGENE 97403
 541-345-0395 ~ ~ 541-345-2499(FAX)

WEBSITE: WWW.CONNECTTOCENTRAL.ORG