

# THE CENTRALITE

April 2022



CENTRAL IS A RECONCILING IN  
CHRIST CONGREGATION

## Central's Staff

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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*

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK



### PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 10th

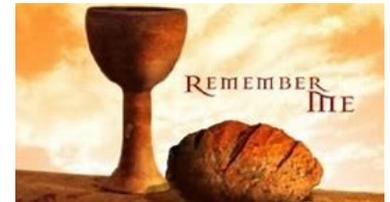
*Jesus' triumphant entry  
into Jerusalem*

8:30am and 11:00am

### MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 14th

*Jesus shares his last meal  
with his disciples*

7:30pm



### GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 15th

*Jesus is crucified*

7:30pm

### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17th

*The Resurrection of Our Lord*

8:30am and 11:00am



*Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "**See, I am making all things new.**" Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Revelation 21:1-6*

Dear Easter People,

Easter People! That is what we are! We are Easter People, people on the move. And right now we moving ever closer to the joy of Easter—soon to be evident in the plans already underway to return to many of our beloved traditions and celebrations here at Central as well as in our daily lives. Indeed, God is making all things new! There are signs of new life all around us in the budding trees and daffodils bursting from beneath the earth and the joyful sound of birds chirping as they soar.

Speaking personally, I don't recall a time in my life when I've anticipated the joy of celebrating Easter more than I am in the year of our Lord 2022! Why? Because as Easter People, we are nothing if not people of hope. And hope comes to those who wait for the Lord. More importantly, we are Easter People, people of hope because God's promises are trustworthy and true and our God is always about making all things new—bringing to fruition hope from despair, joy from sorrow, life from death.

Soon will we gather to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord with the sound of joyful voices singing, "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today." All our senses—taste, touch, smell, sight, sound—will be filled to overflowing. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. Touch one another with a greeting of peace. Smell the fragrant lilies that have replaced the stench of death. Behold the beauty that surrounds us as we look into one another's eyes. Open your ears (and hearts) to hear the word of God. Then shout, Easter People. Shout with joy:

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!  
Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

In Christ's Abiding Love,  
+Pastor Laurie

P.S. For those unable to worship with us in person, as always you are invited to worship with us via livestream at [connecttocentral.org](http://connecttocentral.org) or by clicking [here](#).

“Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus” Phil 2:5

Our midweek Lenten series this year has been entitled “At the name of Jesus” reflecting on the Christ hymn in Philippians 2:6-11. That hymn, though, is prefaced with the verse above – Let the same mind be in us that is in Christ Jesus. The hymn then goes on to describe Jesus’ humiliation, obedience, death, and his exaltation as one whose name is above every name with every knee bending and tongue confessing that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Paul, however, does not write this hymn merely to provide information about Jesus’ life. Instead, this is an ethical charge – “let the same mind be in you.” In fact, in the previous several verses before this hymn, Paul has been encouraging the congregation at Philippi to be in harmony with each other – “be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind” (2:3) rather than selfishness and divisiveness (2:4). When Paul writes this Christ hymn we have been reflecting upon during Lent, he is doing so in order to strengthen a congregation into unity and love with one another.

The way the Christ hymn, which is very much about the work and person of Christ, speaks ethically is because of the expansiveness of Christ. To be of the same mind of Jesus is to embrace those moments of the humiliation and pain of Jesus *as well as* the moments of exaltation and glory. We become of the same mind of Christ not because we can think like Jesus, but instead, because Jesus’ incarnation made him fully human in every aspect of life. When we are suffering, when we are in pain, Jesus is there. When we are in joy and delight, Jesus is there too.

Being in the mind of Christ is to be in the whole gamut of our experiences. During Lent when we focus on our own mortality and the death of Jesus, especially as we approach Holy Week with Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, we see Christ in our lives in the places of pain and grief – showing that there is no distance too great for God to reach us. But also being in the same mind of Christ is to move into Easter as we celebrate and rejoice God’s glory in the world, that is part of being in the mind of Christ as well. What’s more, after Easter when we focus on Care for Creation on our observation of Earth Day at the end of April, when we recognize the bounty of the earth for us and our calling to be stewards of the earth, we will be again remaining in the mind of Christ who lives and reigns among us.

This is what it means to be the hands and feet of Jesus as our mission calls us to be – to abide among one another in the mind of Christ, being Christ to each other as means of grace to one another in our life together as a community of saints.

In Christ’s love,

Vicar Ben

## Celebrating Earth Sunday on April 24th!



*"God saw everything that God had made,  
and indeed, it was very good."*

In recognition of Earth Day, observed on Friday, April 22, our worship the following Sunday will especially lift up our faithful relationship with God's whole creation. Join us in worship to experience our worship liturgy with fresh eyes, hear God's word in scripture, and celebrate our daily invitation to recognize our unity with the earth and all its creatures.

Join us between services at 9:45am in the Central Lutheran Church Garden for a **Garden Blessing** for the season ahead. We offer thanksgiving for the UO and LCC students who tended the Garden the previous year, and celebrate the produce that supported student food security through the Student Food Pantry and Hearth & Table. We are grateful to Maija Anderson, who will be taking the lead on stewarding the Garden moving forward, and invite any and all who are interested in volunteering to connect with her. You can text or call Maija at 541-521-7916.



## Youth v. Gov Film Screening

The Care for Creation ministry team invites everyone to a special screening of the film, Youth v. Gov. on Sunday, April 24, at 4pm in the Parish Hall made possible by Interfaith Power & Light. This is a documentary that follows 21 young Americans, 5 of whom are from Eugene, suing the United States government for harming future generations through climate change, which was first heard by U.S. District Court Judge Ann Aiken in Eugene in 2020. This is a relevant topic for our community of Eugene and for the entire global community. We hope to see you there — popcorn's on us!

*"In this climate change superhero movie, armed with a wealth of evidence, 21 courageous leaders file a ground-breaking lawsuit against the U.S. government, asserting it has willfully acted over six decades to create the climate crisis, thus endangering their constitutional rights to life, liberty, and property. If these young people are successful, they will not only make history, they will change the future."*

### **Don't miss the 'Youth v. Gov' Follow-up Discussion with Vicar Ben**

Once you've joined us for the screening, join us for an opportunity to go deeper and process the issue with Vicar Ben. The follow-up discussion will be offered on **Tuesday, April 26 at 7pm via Zoom**. Join us [here](#)



## BOOK CLUB NEWS



**The CLC Book Club** will meet via ZOOM on **Monday, April 11, 2022, at 7:00pm** to discuss ***The End of Your Life Book Club*** by Will Schwalbe. During her treatment for cancer, Mary Anne Schwalbe and her son, Will spent many hours together in hospital waiting rooms and treatment cubicles. They talked about books they were reading and traded books, reminding us how books can comfort, illuminate, and change our minds. It's a loving memoir and tribute to connecting through books. 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](mailto:rb24berg@aol.com). The ZOOM link will be sent out closer to the meeting date.

Looking Ahead: **The CLC Book Club** will meet via Zoom on **Monday, May 9, 2022, at 7:00pm** to discuss ***The Last Bookshop in London*** by Madeline Martin. The discussion will be led by Sally Diehm.

## CAMP LUTHERWOOD NEWS

As the flowers bloom and the temperatures warm, thoughts turn to Summer Camp! Did you know that Central Lutheran Church has the joy of being associated with Camp Lutherwood, a wonderful camp nestled in the foothills of the Coast Range. Many of our members have either been to the camp or have sent their children or grandchildren to this spiritual place. Many changes and improvements are being done and you now have an opportunity to see it all during one of 2 volunteer days to spruce up the grounds in preparation for the summer. On May 7th and June 4th from 10:00 - 3:00 (lunch included at the new pavilion) you can join people from other congregations and see for yourself what a jewel we have with Camp Lutherwood. Sign up at [lutherwoodoregon.org](http://lutherwoodoregon.org) or call me, Debbie Knebel at 541-689-8918, with any questions.



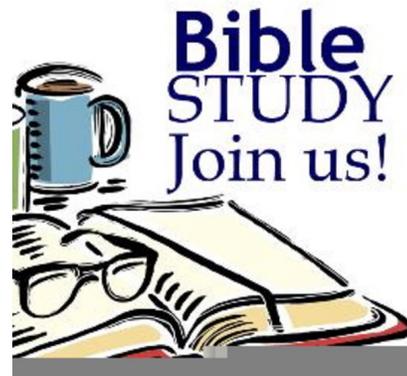
## WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

Baby Michael, Lue Berg, Tracie Boring, Terry Chap, Bonnie Betts, Linnea Embleton, Carolyn & Bob Evans, Rhea Forum, JoAnne Hynes, Joy Lathrop, Doug & Jody Martin, Chris & Dave Prescott. And the Family and friends of Ellen Rasmussen upon her death.

Click [here](#) to submit a prayer request.  
Or, email: [prayers@welcometocentral.org](mailto: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](mailto:cdietz41@gmail.com).

## PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

All are welcome to join Pastor 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. (Note: This Bible study group will not meet on Ash Wednesday.)

## 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](mailto:dietzal@aol.com).

## Highlights from Church Council

Church Council met Wednesday, March 16 at 6:30pm via Zoom. Below are some of the highlights from the meeting:

### **Action items**

Approval of a second three-year term on the Endowment Committee for Kelly Colvin-Smith and Doug Martin. (Terms will be completed June 30, 2024.)

Approval of the recommendation by the Endowment Committee to allocate the available Funds from the Perpetual Fund earnings of \$34,152 for the following purposes:

Organizational/Administrative Support and Coordination

Communication Services and Supplies

Volunteer Engagement/Coordination of Ministry Teams

Approval of the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to affirm Ricardo Gutierrez Barrera as the Graduate Resident Director (GRD) of Christus House for the 2022-23 academic year.

Date for the June Semi-Annual Meeting was set for June 5, 2022 between services from 9:45am-10:45am.

Treasurer's report: (see back page). The Oregon Synod has provided a grant of \$10,000 in support of Christus House/Campus Ministry which will be allotted in equal monthly payments.

Christus House Solar Panel Project Update: We have received a grant from EWEB of \$6,188 for the project. This will lower the total cost to \$26,312 (funded by a donor). The start date of installation is July 18, 2022.

Vicar Ben was given approval from the Candidacy Committee of the Oregon Synod on 3/10/22 to be ordained in Word and Sacrament Ministry in the ELCA pending completion of his internship.

## Children, Youth & Family News & Events

### Children's Music Ministry at Central

Check out [musictogether-eugene.org](http://musictogether-eugene.org) for information or to register for the Spring session of Music Together. These 10-week sessions, hosted at Central 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](#).

Central's Children's Choir (for ages 6 and up) has resumed! Rehearsals are on Sunday mornings between services from 10:00am-10:45am. Families are encouraged to attend the 11am service.

#### Saturday, April 9th 10am to 2pm - Easter Celebration

All kids are invited to a pre-Easter celebration to be held at United Lutheran Church. We will gather together to learn about Holy week and the Easter Sunday story. Our time together will include crafts, games, and story exploration. Please let Crystal know if you or your teen are able to volunteer for this activity. RSVP by Sunday, April 3rd.

#### Saturday, April 16th 10am - Easter Egg Hunt

Children of all ages are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt at Central.. Meet in the parking lot at 10am for instructions and then we'll head across the street to Pioneer Cemetery for the Egg Hunt.

#### Saturday, May 12th 10am to 2pm - Earth Day Celebration

All kids are invited to a late Earth Day celebration to be held at Central Lutheran Church. We will garden together, create recycled art, play games, and do much more. Teen and adult volunteers are needed, please let me know if you can help in this way. RSVP to Crystal by Sunday, May 6th.

#### 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.

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

	<b>Jan-Feb 2022</b>	<b>Jan-Feb 2021</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Regular Envelopes	\$ 100,120.50	\$ 110,689.92	\$ (10,569.42)
Other Offerings	298.00	\$ -	\$ 298.00
Holiday Offerings	-	\$ 350.00	\$ (350.00)
Other Income	3,184.72	\$ (9.32)	\$ 3,194.04
Departmental Income	19,386.71	\$ 9,803.55	\$ 9,583.16
Total Income	\$ 122,989.93	\$ 120,834.15	\$ 2,155.78
Total Expenses	\$ 134,945.21	\$ 122,533.33	\$ 12,411.88
YTD Net Income	\$ (11,955.28)	\$ (1,699.18)	\$ (13,654.46)
Prorated carryover- Previous Year	\$ 6,363.00	\$ 10,222.34	\$ (3,859.34)
Net after carryover ap- plied	\$ (5,592.28)	\$ 8,523.16	\$ (14,115.44)



Maggie Yoder  
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