

# THE CENTRALITE

December 2020



CENTRAL IS A RECONCILING IN  
CHRIST CONGREGATION

## Central's Staff

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

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

Organist/Choirmaster  
A. ElRay Stewart-Cook

Associate Organist  
Lindsey H. Rodgers

Parish Nurse Sally Diehm

Parish Administrator  
Kristi Hoiland

Financial Manager  
Cindy Culpepper

Children, Youth & Family  
Coordinator Crystal Miller

## Church Council

President, Dennis Lindsay  
Vice Pres, Larry Sutton

Secretary, Jack Bennett  
Co-Treas, Joyce Spence &  
Charlotte Bontrager

Matt Haugen

Chris Henry

Deb Hudson

Lauralie Kallinen

Sonia Macke

Ike Olsson

Sheri Pyron

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  
SHARING THE GOSPEL*

## WORSHIP WITH US Our Sunday Schedule

- **Sundays at 9am from home via live-stream**
- **Sundays at 9am in the Sanctuary (cap. 50)\***
- **Sundays at 11am via Zoom (no in person)**

Please note: effective immediately we are trying something new... There will no longer be an opportunity for in person worship at 11am, however, you are invited to join us for worship via Zoom. That way you can see your friends from Central as we worship together. The link has been sent out via email to members/friends of Central. However, if you're not currently on our listserv, or you didn't receive it, please call the church office to request the link.

Don't have a computer? No worries! You can also access Zoom Worship from any landline or smartphone. Call the church office for more information on how to connect.

\*In keeping with OHA guidelines, worshipping in person at 9am still requires registration. You can do so by calling the church office or by going online at [connecttocentral.org](http://connecttocentral.org).

## Our Advent/Christmas Schedule

**For a schedule of all the special opportunities during Advent and Christmas, please check out the next page.**

Dear Friends and Members of Central,

I know many of you have been wondering what we have planned at Central to celebrate Advent and Christmas for what has proven to be a most unusual year. Since one of our primary concerns remains keeping everyone healthy and safe, your staff has been busy putting our creative thinking caps on in order to offer a few of our most beloved traditions to celebrate the season. I sincerely hope and pray this is indeed a blessed Advent and Christmas for all of you as we offer thanks and praise to God for the gift of the Christ-child born anew in our hearts each day.

In Christ's Abiding Love,

+Pastor Laurie



### **Daily Devotions for Advent - Starting November 29<sup>th</sup>**

A daily devotion will be posted on Central's FaceBook group page. However, if you prefer to receive these devotions directly to your inbox click [here](#).

### **Holden Evening Prayer - Available December 10<sup>th</sup>**

During the season of Advent you are invited to make Holden Evening Prayer a part of your personal/family devotional life. This cherished Marty Haugen liturgy invites you to enter into the spirit of the season by singing along from home and can be viewed as a podcast as often as you'd like. To view click [here](#) and scroll down until you locate the video among the options listed.

### **Advent Lessons & Carols - Available December 13<sup>th</sup>**

A long-observed and beloved Central tradition, this year the service of Advent Lessons and Carols will feature many of our gifted musicians and vocalists, along with a variety of voices reading the ancient scriptures of prophecy and hope. Only this year it's being pre-recorded and will be available as a podcast. To view click [here](#) and scroll down until you locate the video among the options listed.

### **Blue Christmas - December 20th at 5pm via Zoom**

Even under normal conditions this time of year can be difficult for many among us—surely even more so during our current circumstances. In recent years Central began observing a Blue Christmas service which takes place on or near the winter solstice, the day when those of us in the northern hemisphere experience the longest night of the entire year. Gather with your Central friends to be reminded that we are all in this together—even during this time when we are apart. Receive the Zoom link [here](#).

### **Christmas Eve Festival Worship - December 24th at 4:30pm**

The traditional Festival of the Nativity Christmas Worship Service will be live streamed on Christmas Eve starting at 4:30pm. For those who are unable to worship with us as at that hour the service will also be available as a podcast for later viewing. To view click [here](#) and scroll down until you locate the video among the options listed.

### **Christmas Message for Children of All Ages – Available December 24th**

This video will feature the Christmas Gospel told by some of Central's children and youth along with a Children's Message. Look for the link to be sent out via email to Members and Friends of Central or click [here](#) to receive it directly to your inbox.

### **Christmas Lessons and Carols - December 27th at 9am**

On the 3rd Day of Christmas our gifted musicians and cantors will be playing and singing many of the beloved carols that fill our hearts with joy as we continue to celebrate the Christ-child's birth. The service will be live streamed at 9am or you can view the podcast later. To view click [here](#) and scroll down until you locate the video among the options listed. Limited numbers can also worship in person by calling the church office or by registering [here](#). (Please note: There will be no service at 11am on 12/27/20.)





## WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

David Beckstein; Lou Berg; Karl Bergstrom; Terry Chap; Nicole Christie; Judy Collins; Richard Cook; Greg Foote; Doug Martin; Marie Miller; Bob Reed; Pam Scarberry; Richard White and the family and friends of Paul Vettrus, brother of Dennis, who died in early November.

## News from our Prayer Ministry Team

### Walking and Praying Together

As part of our Prayer Ministry, you are invited to join Ruth Vettrus and others for a walk around the neighborhood while silently praying for our world, our church, and our neighbors. The Prayer Walk will take place on Thursday afternoons from 4-5pm. All are welcome to gather in the church parking lot safely masked and appropriately distanced. During inclement weather the "walkers/prayer-ers" may move inside.

Praying is an opportunity to lift up your neighbor by showing your love for God and neighbor. It is enriching and fulfilling for both the one being prayed for and the one doing the praying. Walking while praying will be good for your spiritual well-being as well as your health! Come and join us.

### Submit a prayer request!

If you would like to submit a prayer request, you can do so by sending an email directly to [prayers@welcometocentral.org](mailto:prayers@welcometocentral.org). Please tell us your name and the reason for your request. If you are asking on behalf of someone other than yourself, please seek their permission first. Prayers can be for thanksgiving, health, struggles, guidance, support, or anything else you desire.





## News from Central's Book Club

**The CLC Book Club** will meet on **Monday, Dec. 14, 2020, at 7:00pm** via Zoom to discuss ***The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates**. This is a story of Hiram Walker, born into slavery and the son of the white owner of a Virginia plantation and one of his slaves. Although gifted with a mysterious power and

born with the gift of photographic memory, the one thing he cannot remember is his mother who was "sold south" when he was 9 years old. A brush with death brings "an urgency in Hiram and a daring scheme: to escape from the only home he's ever known." (goodreads.com)

The story blends the brutality of history with more imaginative elements. Beginning on the plantation, it moves North to Philadelphia where Hiram's enlisted in the underground war between slavers and the enslaved. Eventually, with Hiram's resolve to rescue the family he left behind, the story turns back to his southern birth place. The discussion will be led by Terie Gillis. **The ZOOM link will be sent out closer to the meeting date.**

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).

Looking Ahead: **The CLC Book Club** will meet on **Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, at 7:00pm** via Zoom to discuss ***The Nickel Boys*** by Colson Whitehead. The discussion will be led by Sally Diehm.

## LISTEN FOR THE CHURCH BELLS AND PAUSE TO PRAY

Every Thursday at 11am, many of our churches in Eugene and Springfield will be tolling our bells for 2-3 minutes in honor of all frontline workers throughout our community who put their lives on the line every day—especially medical personnel, caregivers, first responders, police officers, and firefighters. Please pause and pray for them, as well as their families, that they may have stamina to meet the challenges they face and that God will protect and keep them healthy, safe, and free from harm's way.

## WELCOME INTO OUR FAMILY OF FATIH



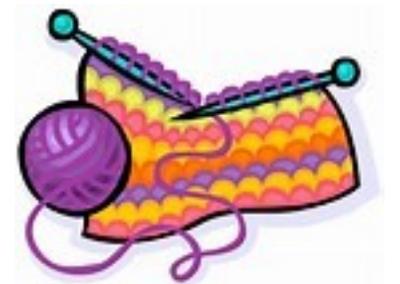
**Reier James Tennyson**, son of Noelle and Chad Tennyson and brother of Elliot Mae was baptized on November 21, 2020.

**Adrienne Elizabeth Ellison-Hougland**, daughter of Lyndley Ellison and Matt Hougland, sister of Alexander will be baptized on December 6, 2020.

**We welcome these little ones into the body of Christ and into the mission we share as they join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

## THANK YOU CLARINE BREMER

During the pandemic Clarine has been busy knitting caps for some of our neighbors without homes. After each one is finished she offers a prayer for the person who will receive it—that God will watch over them and keep them safe.



## DID YOU KNOW...

That since June, each week a meal is being prepared by a few of Central's members and that meal is delivered every Monday to the First Place Families living at the Annex so they can enjoy a home-cooked meal?

And...

That since Hearth & Table hasn't been able to provide a community meal for food insecure students this fall, Chef Ryan has been preparing nutritious and delicious "To Go" meals and Christus House residents have been distributing these meals to University/College students from a table set up in our parking lot each Tuesday between 5-6pm?

These are just two examples of how Central is living out our mission of being the hands and feet of Jesus, but there are so many other examples of work quietly being done behind the scenes. Blessed to be a blessing—that's what we are! Thanks be to God!



**On behalf of your staff at Central—Kristi, ElRay, Cindy, Lindsey, Sally, Crystal, Sister Clare and myself...**

***Thank you for your generosity and support!***

**As we quiet our hearts and minds in anticipation of the Christ-child's coming among us, and as we look for signs of the in-breaking of God's reign on earth as it is in heaven, may the seasons of Advent and Christmas fill you with hope, peace, joy, and gratitude for God's abundant blessings!**



**Central Lutheran Church**  
**Jan-Oct 2020 Compared to Jan-Oct 2019 Income:Expense Summary**

	Jan-Oct 2020	Jan-Oct 2019	Difference
Regular Envelopes	\$ 446,921.81	\$ 467,343.78	\$ (20,421.97)
Other Offerings	\$ 2,690.90	\$ 6,483.63	\$ (3,792.73)
Holiday Offerings	\$ 4,253.00	\$ 7,270.80	\$ (3,017.80)
Other Income	\$ 25,329.27	\$ 56,674.91	\$ (31,345.64)
Departmental Income	\$ 47,470.00	\$ 83,793.35	\$ (36,323.35)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 526,664.98</b>	<b>\$ 621,566.47</b>	<b>\$ (94,901.49)</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 562,589.76</b>	<b>\$ 630,511.69</b>	<b>\$ (67,921.93)</b>
<b>YTD Net Income</b>	<b>\$ (35,924.78)</b>	<b>\$ (8,945.22)</b>	<b>\$ (26,979.56)</b>

**CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

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