

# THE CENTRALITE

July 2022



CENTRAL IS A RECONCILING IN  
CHRIST CONGREGATION

## Central's Staff

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

Pastor Ben Nickodemus  
Associate Pastor

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, Jean Clancey  
Vice Pres, Debbie Knebel  
Secretary, Jack Bennett  
Treas, Charlotte Bontrager  
Ron Fenchak  
Matt Haugen  
Howard Kallinen  
Jill Liedtke  
Chuck Swenson

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*



**You are cordially invited to**

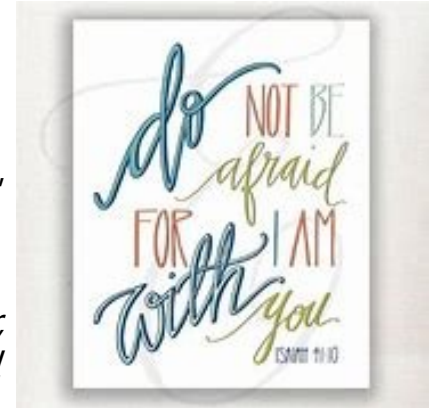
**The Ordination  
of  
Benjamin J. Nickodemus  
into  
Word & Sacrament Ministry**

**Saturday, July 9, 2022  
at 2 o'clock in the afternoon  
Central Lutheran Church**

**A celebratory reception will follow the  
festival worship service.**

Dear Friends in Christ,

*"Do not be afraid."* The Lord God Almighty said it. Angels said it. Moses said it. Joseph said it. David said it. Prophets said it. Jesus said it. Throughout the scriptures, in a variety of situations, those words: "Do not be afraid" or "Fear Not!" were spoken time and time again.



Speaking for God the Prophet Isaiah declared, *"Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand."* (Isaiah 41:10).

Jesus himself said it, *"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me."* (John 14:1) And again, *"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."* (Luke 12:32)

*"Do not be afraid."* I know, easier said than done. Many of us live in fear. We may not be afraid for our lives, as some are. We may not be afraid that our personal safety is at risk or that we are lacking what is needed for daily life. Still, many of us spend an inordinate amount of time worrying about things that may never happen. And frankly, even if they do happen, experience tells us often things don't turn out nearly as badly as we feared or imagined. Fears can immobilize us. Shut us down. Consume our thoughts. Shake our faith. Fear feeds on fear, often to the point of overwhelming us. This is as true for us today as it was for people in biblical times.

That is why you will continue to hear words of comfort and hope coming from my lips. Trust in the promise: your future, our future is secure. God is with us in the present—here and now—and God will be with us every step of the way as we journey through life—now and forever.

May that word of hope and promise sustain you, comfort you, and fill you with God's peace, the peace that surpasses all understanding. *"Do not be afraid!"*

In Christ's Abiding Love,  
+Pastor Laurie

Dear friends and members of Central,

This verse appears in our lectionary for our Fourth Sunday after Pentecost on July 3. Jesus is sending seventy of his disciples out to heal the sick and proclaim the kingdom of God. Jesus sends disciples out in a variety of places in the Gospels, here, though what makes it different is Jesus' language of harvest. There are a variety of ways to think about the theme of harvest, but I want to focus on just one way of possibly thinking about it. Harvest has within it the sense of abundance. The crops have already been planted, they've already grown, and now the labor that Jesus charges them with is to gather. It reminds us of when Paul said, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God did the growing" (1 Cor 3:6). The message is that the work of God in our world is God's work, not our own. The work we do is, in fact, God's work through us. As Lutherans we use the term "the means of grace" – our being the means of God's grace in the world – or in language closer to home - becoming the hands and feet of Jesus.

These followers that Jesus sent out report how well their message was received (10:17). There is no suggestion that the people they encountered already had heard of Jesus – instead, it was God's work – the crop had already grown and was ready for harvest. It suggests the kind of opportunities that are among us in the world – the harvest in our own world and our own contexts.

As I write this, though, it can be hard to see that harvest already grown. In the past few weeks, especially after the most recent Supreme Court rulings, we have seen how deeply divided our society is and how those divisions have been expressed in people's deep emotions. In the wake of the pandemic, we have felt deeply the pain and suffering of isolation. As it has become far more safe to gather together, we recognize what we missed in each other's lives over the past two years.

Where is the harvest here? I grew up on a farm and I remember, even as a child, that harvest time was exciting because it was when we would reap the benefits of the summer's work, but it also was incredibly chaotic. There was no great gain without some loss. It was a time of anxiety and not knowing precisely what to do – would the weather hold out for the kind of work we needed to do? How could we organize enough people to be here at the right time so that we could bring the harvest in? Sometimes the harvest was very good – others times it was not. It was hard to predict. We would never know exactly what would happen next. Every growing season brings its own surprises – some good, and some bad.

That kind of harvest is the kind Jesus is talking about. It is the kind that is unpredictable. The kind where Jesus is presenting us opportunities that we cannot imagine. God is not done with us yet. The opportunities continue to arise and live in us daily. I write this as one who has been called by you to be your Associate Pastor. None of us know precisely what the future will hold for me or for Central. There are some things we can probably expect, and other things that will come up we could not have anticipated. I am excited, though, to find out how God's grace will appear in our lives together as a community. It might at times look messy and chaotic, and other times look well executed and ordered, but it will always be full of the grace and love of God in our community together.

In Christ's love,  
Pastor-Elect Ben



## Quilting News

There will be no meetings of the quilting group in July. Please join us the first and third Thursdays of the month beginning in August. We meet in the gathering room from 9:00am-11:30am. No sewing skills required; your help is welcome.

## Congratulations to Our Award-winning UO Graduates!

We celebrate the accomplishments of our gifted Cantors...

**Blake Balmaseda:** Outstanding Undergraduate Performer in Voice

**Leah Burian:** Outstanding Undergraduate Scholar in Musicology/Ethnomusicology

**Naomi Castro:** Outstanding Graduate Performer in Voice



## Sarah Vettrus is turning 50!!

Stop by for some cake and lemonade at a mini-tail gate party in the Central Lutheran Church parking lot (1857 Potter St) from **10 – 11 am on Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup>** to greet Sarah with a **"Happy Birthday!"**

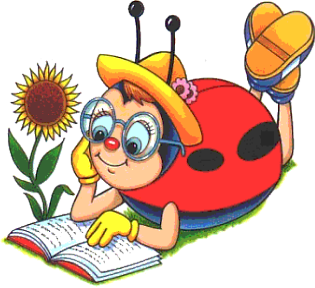
Be sure to wear your Duck gear!

**Congratulations to John Brombaugh who was recently awarded an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Oberlin Conservatory of Music at Oberlin College, Ohio!**



## BOOK CLUB NEWS

The CLC Book Club will have its **Annual Book Choosing Meeting** on **Monday, July 11, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom**. Each person may recommend two books which you have previously read. Be prepared to give a summary of each book and why you think we will enjoy reading it. After a vote and elimination process, we will select the top ten books to read and discuss next year. The books should be available in paperback or inexpensive hardcover. There will be no meeting in August. The next discussion will be on September 12th. **New members are always Welcome!** If you've been considering joining the Book Club, please come to our July meeting even if you don't have a book to recommend! If you would like to attend, please email Betsy Berg at [rb24berg@aol.com](mailto:rb24berg@aol.com) or contact the church office. **Zoom log-in details will be emailed to you closer to the meeting date.**



**In order to help facilitate this Zoom meeting, and although other book recommendations may still be made at the meeting,** the group agreed that it is most helpful for everyone to have the same compiled list of book recommendations, with synopses, prior to the meeting. To help make this list possible, we are asking everyone to please: **By Friday, July 1st:** forward each of your book recommendations (up to 2 per person) via email to Betsy [rb24berg@aol.com](mailto:rb24berg@aol.com). Please include the Complete Book Title, the Author's full name, whether it's Fiction or Non-Fiction, and a Brief Synopsis. A week later, 3 days prior to the meeting, Betsy will email the compiled list of book recommendations, with synopses, to the Book Club email list. Everyone will have the opportunity to share more about each book at the meeting. **Remember**— email Betsy your book recommendations with synopses by July 1st. We hope you'll join us!

## Dinner Groups Set to Resume with a Kick-off Potluck Picnic at the Dietz's

As we look to the fall and starting up activities, we would like to invite everyone who might be interested in joining a group of old and new friends monthly for dinner to a **potluck picnic luncheon at the Dietz's home (33632 McKenzie View Dr.) on July 31st at 1:30pm**. RSVP to Arlene Dietz 541-726-7050 (the message will say Rice Farms—you can leave a message or email [dietzal@aol.com](mailto:dietzal@aol.com)), or call Rosie Hatleberg 541-726-5694 or 541-517-8143 or email ([rosiehatleberg@gmail.com](mailto:rosiehatleberg@gmail.com)). What to Bring: lawn chairs, a potluck dish to share and a beverage of your choice. Arlene is planning to have lemonade available.



At the picnic, we will be asking everyone to find people they do not know and introduce themselves. We're hoping that four friends or two couples will join with two/three couples/singles they would like to get to know to form a group to meet monthly.

Everyone is welcome—couples, singles, families—young and old. If you can't come to the picnic but would like to join a group, please email Arlene Dietz or Rosie Hatleberg and we'll be sure you're added to a group.



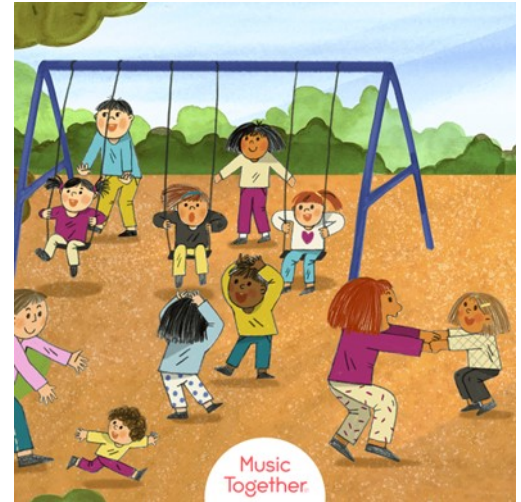
**Be sure to tell your family & friends with little ones: Music Together is at Central.**

## Summer Term 2022

Hosted at Central, Music Together programming for children under the age of 5 (accompanied by an adult caregiver) continues with a 6-week summer Term: **July 12 - August 16**. As always, complete information can be found on our website: [musictogethereugene.com](http://musictogethereugene.com).

### Banjo Collection

Include music in your family's summer plans by signing up for our summer classes, featuring a collection of favorite Music Together tunes. Enjoy classic originals like "Ridin' in the Car" and more traditional songs, like our versions of the American bluegrass "Crawdad" and the Latin American classic "Palo, Palo." In addition to classes, your tuition includes a new songbook with beautiful color illustrations for each song, a newsletter full of resources and music-making ideas, and online access to your songs through the Hello Everybody app. Each song is brought to life through colorful and engaging illustrations by award-winning artist Jaime Kim and children's book illustrator Gerald Kelley. Join us for summer fun!



### Class Schedule

Tuesdays at 9:30am with Emily  
Tuesdays at 6pm with Lauralie/Sophie



### Covid Policies

We are monitoring local recommendations and may adjust our guidelines in the near future, but for now: Proof of Covid-19 vaccination is required for all adults attending the class, and masks will be worn by everyone ages 2+. Our full Covid-19 policies and guidelines can be found on our website: [musictogethereugene.com](http://musictogethereugene.com).

### What is Music Together?

Music Together is a music class for you and your child. We sing, rhyme, dance, use instruments and get super silly, all while teaching your child the essentials of music. We know that children learn differently than adults. They learn instinctively and constantly, and teach themselves through imitation and play, through being immersed in their environment, and through interaction with adults and older children. The family-like setting of Music Together classes creates an ideal learning environment, supported by research in early childhood and music development.



## WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

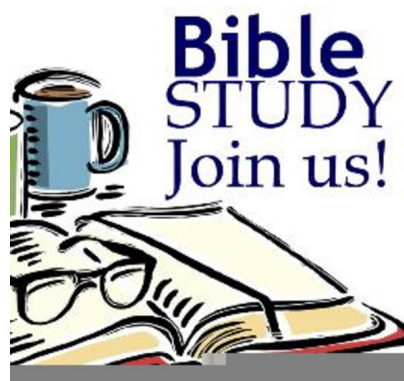
Terry Chap, Linnea Embleton, Carolyn & Bob Evans, Arline Fors, Claudia Hardwick, Joy Lathrop, Delores Lewis, Doug & Jody Martin, Christine & Dave Prescott, Merrily Sutton; Alice Rotchstein at the death of her daughter, Katie, the family & friends of Tom Brady upon his death, ElRay's extended family at the death of his brother, Richard's, 8-year-old granddaughter.

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 (NOTE: NEW TIME/NEW LOCATION)

Over the summer the Men's Bible Study will be meeting weekly on **Wednesdays at 1pm at the Dietz' home (33632 McKenzie View Dr.)** 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 Laurie and Pastor 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 contact Arlene Dietz at [dietzal@aol.com](mailto:dietzal@aol.com).

## Vacation Bible School was a huge success!



**Garden Project**



**Daily Worship**



**Fun & Games**



**Christmas in July**



**CUE — We are Church Together!**



**Play Time**



**Story-time**



**Arts & Crafts**



## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council met June 15, 2022

1. Recognition of Pastor Laurie celebrating the 25th anniversary of her ordination in 1997.
2. New Council Officers elected: President: Jean Clancey, Vice President: Debbie Knebel, and Secretary: Jack Bennett.
3. Recognition and thanks to all those who have served and are now going off council: President Larry Sutton, Vice President Sheri Pyron, Chris Henry, and Dennis Lindsay.
4. Approval of first term for Bruce Smolnisky and second term for Lorraine Davis to Endowment Committee.
5. Healing Ministry will begin a monthly individual prayer service in the chapel on the first Sunday of the month starting in July following the 8:30 service.
6. Peyton Thorburn has completed confirmation and will make public affirmation of her baptism on June 19 at the 8:30am service.
7. Task force to review property matters has been formed consisting of Howard Kallinen, Chris Henry, and Chuck Swenson

### 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 private prayer with a prayer advocate.

# Central Lutheran Church

## Jan-May 2022 Income:Expense to Budget - Jan-May 2021 Income:Expense Summary

	Jan-May 2022	YTD 2022 Budget	Variance to Budget	Jan-May 2021
Regular Envelopes	\$ 225,356.28	\$ 260,415.00		\$ 227,207.31
Other Offerings	2,304.57	2,500.00	\$ (195.43)	\$ 327.10
Holiday Offerings	9,154.00	7,450.00	\$ 1,704.00	\$ 5,590.00
Other Income	9,236.51	9,468.80	\$ (232.29)	\$ 10,942.36
Departmental Income	46,072.40	51,593.56	\$ (5,521.16)	\$ 29,619.64
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 292,123.76</b>	<b>\$ 331,427.36</b>	<b>\$ (39,303.60)</b>	<b>\$ 273,686.41</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 342,987.14</b>	<b>\$ 340,797.97</b>	<b>\$ 2,189.17</b>	<b>\$ 318,353.82</b>
<b>YTD Net Income</b>	<b>\$ (50,863.38)</b>	<b>\$ (9,370.61)</b>	<b>\$ (41,492.77)</b>	<b>\$ (44,667.41)</b>
Prorated carryover- Previous Year	\$ 15,907.50	\$ 15,907.50	-	\$ 25,555.85
<b>Net after carryover applied</b>	<b>\$ (34,955.88)</b>	<b>\$ 6,536.89</b>	<b>\$ (41,492.77)</b>	<b>\$ (19,111.56)</b>



### **Address Changes**

Allan & Sharon Gubrud  
 The Ackerly #306  
 11795 NW Cedar Falls Dr.  
 Portland, OR 97229

### CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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