

June
2024



CENTRAL IS A RECONCILING IN
CHRIST CONGREGATION

THE CENTRALITE

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*

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Semi-annual meeting June 16th:

The semi-annual meeting will be held on Sunday, June 16th between services (9:45-10:45am). The primary purpose of the June meeting is the election of new council members, next year's nominating committee, and delegates to the 2025 Oregon Synod Assembly. It will also include updates on finances, facilities, and a report from the property task force addressing the church-owned property on the corner of 18th & University, including results of the survey

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

beginning June 23rd:

- Sundays at 8:30am in the Sanctuary (or via livestream)
- Sundays at 11am at the Garden located at 2345 Laura Street in Springfield
- Wednesdays at 7pm at Emmaus Lutheran, a brief outdoor contemplative vespers service for all ages with friends of Central, United, Emmaus (seven consecutive weeks Jun 26-Aug 7)

Central's Staff

Pastor Laurie A. Jones
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Pastor Ben Nickodemus
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Campus Minister/Christus House
Deacon Clare Josef-Maier
clare@begoodsoil.org

Organist/Choirmaster
Dr. A. ElRay Stewart-Cook

Assoc. Organist/Children's Music
Dr. Lindsey H. Rodgers

Parish Administrator
Kristi Hoiland

Financial Manager
Cindy Culpepper

Minister to Children, Youth &
Families for CUE
Crystal Miller

Video & Tech Support
Todd Shorack

Church Council

President, Jean Clancey
Vice Pres, Debbie Knebel
Secretary, Jack Bennett
Treasurer, Brent Moeller
Teri Gillis
Matt Haugen
Howard Kallinen
Jill Liedtke
Todd Shorack
Chuck Swenson

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR LAURIE

*"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven..."
Eccl. 3:1*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Someone recently asked, "Does it slow down when summer comes?" My short answer was "no!" Actually we have a robust schedule over the summer as you can glean on the pages that follow. For instance, here are some of the things going on in June. We'll start off by celebrating Christus House residents (6/2), then we'll recognize our High School graduates and Foundation Scholarship recipients (6/9), followed by our semi-annual meeting (6/16), and then we'll begin our summer worship schedule (6/23) with a return to the Garden for our 11am worship service, while the 8:30am service remains in the sanctuary (and via livestream) as usual... and those are only the Sundays!

My list goes on... On Saturday, June 1st your delegates, Terie & Glenn Gillis, along with Pastor Ben, Deacon Clare, and myself, will be representing Central at the Oregon Synod Assembly via Zoom. June 9th is the last Hearth & Table (our Thursday meal for UO/LCC students) as we break until the fall term. We'll also be wrapping up our Together Tuesday program year (6/11) with an intergenerational potluck celebration at University Park. And, this month we're hosting a blood drive (6/13), a concert (6/20), and Vacation Bible School with CUE (6/24-6/28).

But that's not all... Our quilters have decided to meet EVERY Thursday over the summer (except Jun 27 and July 4). Central folks will continue to prepare and deliver a home-cooked meal to families at the First Place Family Annex each Monday. Bible study groups will continue to meet Wednesday/Thursday mornings, as well as the Book group on the 2nd Monday of June/July at 7pm (via Zoom), plus mid-week coffee hour on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays from 1-2pm.

Finally, beginning June 26, for seven consecutive Wednesdays at 7pm, Central, United, and Emmaus (CUE) are joining together for an informal and brief outdoor Contemplative Vespers service focusing on the seven days of Creation as we kick off this summer's "Season of Creation." It will be hosted at Emmaus where there's a play area for the little ones to roam and an opportunity for the gathered community to become better acquainted with one another. Then, starting the first Sunday of July, our three congregations will be sharing pulpits and bringing the message to one another as we continue our theme on the "Season of Creation."

All this is to say, we are definitely not "slowing down" at Central. Thanks be to God this is indeed a robust faith community, seeking in every season, to be Christ's hands and feet by sharing the gospel, serving those in need, nurturing faithful living, and loving God and one another. And I am so glad!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Laurie

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR BEN

"For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus."

Phil 1:8

"For even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me help for my needs more than once."

Phil. 4:16

Dear family of God at Central,

It is a joy to be back at Central. I am writing this to you on the day I have returned from full time parental leave (having returned to work part time for now). I find myself reflecting on Paul's letter to the Philippians. Philippians is an interesting letter among Paul's corpus as the occasion for it is mostly a thank you note. Paul has been imprisoned and the saints in the church at Philippi have sent him a care package along with a fellow by the name of Epaphroditus who delivers the care package and cares for Paul's needs. It makes the letter of a completely different character than Paul's usual ones. He is not concerned for the community, he is thankful for them.

These past 6 weeks, that is how I have felt about all of you at Central. Just like Paul, you have generously and consistently been providing my family gifts – some were at the great outpouring of love at our baby shower back in March, some have arrived later, and some have been quantities of food that have come to us. Some of you have been particularly generous with your time and gifts – and so I am simply thankful.

I also wanted to let you know, just as Paul did with the Philippians, how much I have longed to be back at church during my leave. I needed that leave while Holly was recovering and continue to need to be able to help out while she still recovers – but we believe we can do that with me being back at work part time – but I also was longing to be here. Living at Anderson House, I continually saw you all gathering across the parking lot and would be reminded of the joy and meaning in your assembly – sometimes it seems that we never know how valuable our community is until we are absent from it.

This past week, we all celebrated together as we baptized baby Isaac and welcomed him into the new life in Christ as part of our community of faith at Central. I and my family are excited to be reengaging with you in the coming weeks and months.

In all, with Paul I say, I thank my God every time I remember you (Phil 1:3).

Pastor Ben

Image below: Family at Isaac's baptism



OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Mark your calendars for these events in June:

- **Christus House Sunday on June 2nd** with coffee hour between services at CH hosted by residents.
- **HS Senior Recognition & presentation of CL Foundation Scholarships on Sunday, June 9th** at 8:30am worship with a reception in honor of the graduates between services.
- **Last Together Tuesday of the program year on June 11th** at 5:15pm with a potluck celebration for all ages at University Park (23rd & University). Bring a dish to share (cold drinks and tableware will be provided).
- **A Blood Drive will be hosted at Central on Thursday, June 13th** from 10am-3pm. Schedule an appointment online: redcrossblood.org.
- **The semi-annual meeting will be held on Sunday, June 16th** between services (9:45-10:45am). The primary purpose of the meeting is the election of new council members, next year's nominating committee, and delegates to the 2025 Oregon Synod Assembly. It will also include updates on finances, facilities, and the property task force addressing the church-owned property on 18th & University.
- **Summer Worship Schedule begins on June 23rd** with Worship in the Sanctuary (or via livestream) at 8:30am and Worship at the Garden (2345 Laura St., Springfield) at 11:00am.
- **Vacation Bible School June 24th-28th from 9am-12:30pm** hosted at Central. Register online at: <https://forms.gle/p5eqJdmEeQjVEUck6> or contact Crystal Miller (crystal@unitedlutheran.org or 503-320-4055).
- **Central, United, Emmaus "Contemplative Vespers/Season of Creation"** for all ages hosted at Emmaus at 7pm on seven consecutive Wednesdays from June 26-August 7.

JOIN US FOR "MIDWEEK COFFEE HOUR"

on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays
June 12 & 26 from 1:00-2:00pm
in the Terrace Room



CHECK OUT CENTRAL'S NEW "PRAYER MINISTRY LENDING LIBRARY"



Wherever you see the rolling cart, feel free to take a book to read and return. Otherwise, you may keep it or pass it along to someone else who may benefit from reading it.

Sponsored by our Prayer Ministry Team and made possible by a Central Lutheran Endowment grant.

Also: On the first Sunday of the month, following the 8:30am worship service, prayer ministers are available in the Chapel for individual prayer.

WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

Terry Chap, Lehua DeLong (granddaughter of Eunice & Ron Fenchak), Chuck Dietz, Ron & Eunice Fenchak, Dal & Gaye Haverland, Doug & Jody Martin, Gretchen & Jeff Simas, and David Zhou at the death of his father in China and other relatives who are sick.



Prayers of comfort and support for the family and friends of Dick Haugen upon his death May 23. A memorial service will be held at Central on Saturday, June 15 at 2pm with reception following.

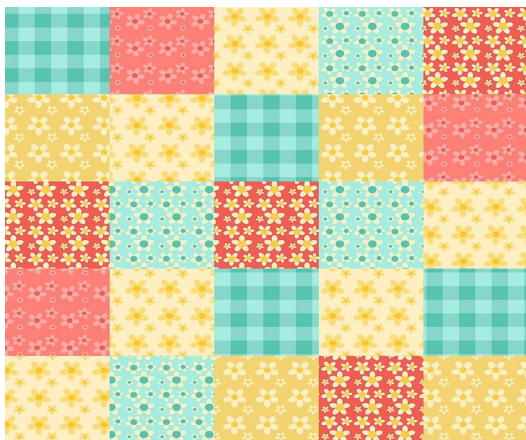
[Click here](#) to submit a prayer request.
Or, email: prayers@welcometocentral.org.

BOOK CLUB NEWS

The CLC Book Club will meet via Zoom on Monday, June 10, 2024, at 7:00pm to discuss Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng. Published in 2022, this novel is a reaction to the fears and racism in America following the COVID-19 pandemic. Twelve-year-old Bird Gardner lives a quiet existence with his loving father, a former linguist who now shelves books in a university library. His mother Margaret, a Chinese American poet, left without a trace when he was nine years old. He doesn't know what happened to her—only that her books have been banned—and he resents that she cared more about her work than about him. Then one day, Bird receives a mysterious letter containing only a cryptic drawing, and soon he is pulled into a quest to find her. His journey will take him back to the many folktales she poured into his head as a child, through the ranks of an underground network of heroic librarians, and eventually to New York City, where he will finally learn the truth about what happened to his mother, and what the future holds for them both. Our Missing Hearts is an old story made new, of the ways supposedly civilized communities can ignore the most searing injustice. It's about the lessons and legacies we pass on to our children, and the power of art to create change. The discussion will be led by Sally Diehm.



Looking Ahead: The CLC Book Club will have its Annual Book Choosing Meeting on Monday, July 8, 2024, at 7:00pm 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 9th. 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, have questions, or would like more details, please email Betsy Berg at rb24berg@aol.com. Zoom log-on details and other information will be emailed to you closer to the meeting date.



WANT TO LEARN TO QUILT? COME & FIND OUT WHAT OUR QUILTERS ARE UP TO!

Our quilters have decided to meet every week on Thursdays from 9am to 11 (except June 27 & July 4). No prior experience necessary... If you can tie a knot, you can quilt! Or, just come to enjoy fellowship with our quilters around 10am when they take their

Congratulations to

Megan & David Scott on the birth
and baptism of their daughter,

Emma Grace Scott!

Emma is the granddaughter of
Dawn & Roy Susuico and the
great-granddaughter of Carolyn &
Bob Evans.

May this young new family be
showered with God's abundant
blessings!



TO OUR 2024 HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES

High School

Jan Bremer, Peter Christensen, Liam Mayers

College

Heidi Knebel

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2024
CL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS RECIPIENTS:**

**Jan Bremer, Peter Christensen (not pictured),
Matthew Koscho, and Liam Mayers**



Jan is the son of Michelle & Rich Bremer. He was born at Sacred Heart Hospital on September 8, 2005. Jan was baptized as an infant and confirmed as a youth at Central Lutheran Church where he participated in many CLC activities and youth events as well as serving as an acolyte/crucifer for numerous church services and special events. Jan will graduate from South Eugene High School in June and is in the process of selecting his future college plans that will include a Business major as well as running competitively in track and field. Jan recently competed in the OSAA State Championships at Hayward Field where he placed 1st in the Class 6A 800 meter.

Jan Bremer



Matthew Koscho

Matthew is the son of Sandra and Michael Koscho. He graduated from South Eugene High School last year. Matthew has been a member of Central Lutheran Church since 2007. He has been very active throughout the years, singing in the Children's Choir, Alleluia Choir, and currently as a member of the Handbell Ensemble. Matthew has also served in a variety of worship roles including Torchbearer, Crucifer, Banner-bearer, and Lector. He also has volunteered at VBS, Safety Town, and the Eugene Science Center. Matthew has been using his gap year to help out in the kitchen, swim, bike and play the bells in church. He plans to attend Lane Community College in the fall to study Culinary Arts.



Liam Mayers

Liam Mayers is the son of Josie Van Scholten & Scott Mayers. He is graduating from Sheldon High School's Honors Program. During his time there, he lettered in lacrosse, participated in a summer program at Columbia University studying data and machine learning and was designated a Commended Student in the National Merit Scholarship Program for being one of the 34,000 highest scoring students nationwide. He will be attending Oregon State University's School of Engineering in the fall.

Central Lutheran Church

Jan-Apr 2024 Income:Expense to Budget - Jan-Apr 2023 Income:Expense Summary

	Jan-Apr 24	YTD 2024 Budget	Variance to Budget	Jan-Apr 2023
Regular Envelopes	\$ 208,798.72	\$ 213,500.00	(4,701.28)	\$ 209,361.76
Other Offerings	\$ 2,437.00	\$ 2,600.00	(163.00)	\$ 2,237.30
Holiday Offerings	\$ 4,680.00	\$ 6,800.00	(2,120.00)	\$ 9,084.00
Other Income	\$ 21,876.69	\$ 9,837.92	\$ 12,038.77	\$ 110,647.42
Departmental Income	\$ 56,818.41	\$ 54,484.54	\$ 2,333.87	\$ 41,066.68
Total Income	\$ 294,610.82	\$ 287,222.46	\$ 7,388.36	\$ 372,397.16
Total Expenses	\$ 319,886.05	\$ 315,785.90	\$ 4,100.15	\$ 319,274.63
YTD Net Income	\$ (25,275.23)	(28,563.44)	\$ 3,288.21	\$ 53,122.53
Prorated carryover-Previous Year	\$ 18,984.68	\$ 18,984.68	-	\$ 11,025.00
Net after carryover applied	\$ (6,290.55)	(9,578.76)	\$ 3,288.21	\$ 64,147.53



Address changes

Please make these changes in your Directory

Ron & Eunice Fenchak
1235 Periwinkle Ct., Fruita CO 81521

Dave & Nancy Swenson
PO BOX 5430 Eugene OR 97405

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
1857 POTTER STREET EUGENE 97403
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