

# THE CENTRALITE

September 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 in the Garden (cap. 100)**

Please note: Garden Worship is through September 27th (except Sunday, September 6); Starting in October worship will be in the sanctuary every Sunday at 9am and 11am.

To register for in-person worship please call the church office by Fridays at noon or go to [connecttocentral.org](http://connecttocentral.org) and scroll down on the homepage for the link.

**BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING**  
**of the iPads, Chromebooks, Laptops, etc.**  
**and the kids (of all ages) who use them!**  
**Sunday, September 13th at 1:00pm**



Join us in the **Church Parking Lot** for a special blessing and to cheer on our Children, Youth & Families and all of our Teachers, School Administrators, and Support Staff as we launch into a new school year!

Dear Friends in Christ,

As I was thinking about all of you today, I was reminded of the words the Apostle Paul wrote in a letter to his young prodigy, Timothy. From the tender love in his heart Paul wrote,

"I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you" (2 Timothy 1:3-5).

I too am grateful to God as I remember you in my prayers. And I am grateful to God for the faith which was passed on to me from my mother, Esther, and so many others along the way who shaped my faith by their own faithful witness. As the community of faith that makes up the body of Christ at Central Lutheran, we have all been shaped by the faith of those who came before us. We are blessed with a rich history that includes people, who over these past 116 years, have nurtured us in faithful living and with whom we have shared both tears of joy and tears of sorrow. And just as Paul longed to see Timothy, so I long to see all of you. Yet, in light of Covid-19, at least for now, I know that is not possible. For these past several months, all of us have had to continually adjust, adapt and accept this reality. Still, even when we are physically distanced, I take comfort knowing we remain connected to God and to one another as Christ's body, the church.

As a pastor I have always looked forward to September, much like a kid at Christmas. Because typically this is the time of year when we go full steam ahead by launching into our program year with a frenzy of activities. In addition to Sunday morning worship, I have come to look forward to things like our annual Ministry Fair, Education Classes, Chorale and Handbell Rehearsals, Together Tuesdays, Music Together and Children's Choir, Youth Lock-ins, and so much more. However, this year is different—and it's unlike any we've ever seen before. I suspect many of you join me in lamenting that we can't do all the things we normally do. Still, it is my hope and prayer that we will discover new and innovative ways to connect as a community of faith. There's no "one size fits all," so some of the ways we will be invited and encouraged to stay connected to one another will be in person (practicing safe protocols), others will be via technology, and still others through phone calls or by mail. A variety of small group ministries will be unfolding over the next several weeks. A few ideas are spelled out elsewhere in this issue of the Centralite. If you feel the Spirit's nudging and have an idea for an activity, topic, or event, be sure to let me know so we can add it to the church calendar. If you're looking for a way to reconnect or to stay connected to your church family at Central, call the church office or click here: [connecttocentral.org](http://connecttocentral.org) for updated information.

In the meantime, as always, let us continue to give God our thanks and praise, trusting that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is with us always just as he promised.

In Christ's Abiding Love,  
+Pastor Laurie



## WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

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Joel Brauer; Nicole Christie; Greg Foote; Carol Haggerty; Mike Kennedy; Marie Miller; the family and friends of Gladys Johnson, age 100, upon her death and the friends and family of Pat Hall upon her death.

### A NEW MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

#### **Become a Prayer Advocate or submit a prayer request!**

You are invited to join the Prayer Ministry Team and become a Prayer Advocate. No meetings—just the opportunity to pray for your neighbors in need. As a prayer Advocate, you will receive a list of prayer requests each week via email. The list will include names and reasons for prayers. Prayer Advocates are invited to include the names of people on the Prayer List in your regular prayers. Praying is an opportunity to lift up your neighbor by showing your love for God and your neighbor. A prayer is a simple conversation we have with our God! It is enriching and fulfilling for both the one being prayed for and the one doing the praying.

If you are willing to become a Prayer Advocate, please send an email to [prayers@welcomecentral.org](mailto:prayers@welcomecentral.org) and say, "Yes! I am willing to share God's love for those in need!" Or 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,

### **Hunger in the Time of COVID-19: Life for Today and Hope for Tomorrow**

Rick Steves, guidebook author and travel TV host, the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), and the Rev. Shelley Bryan Wee, bishop of the Northwest Washington Synod of the ELCA, invite you to a virtual benefit—the first of its kind—for ELCA World Hunger. This Zoom virtual event will take place Thursday, September 24, 5pm. **Our goal is to raise \$250,000 to confront hunger in the time of COVID-19.** Call or email the church office to find out how to receive the link for this event.



## News from the CLC Book Club

The fall kick-off meeting will take place on **Monday, September 14, 2020, at 7pm via Zoom**. We will be discussing ***The Oregon Desert*** by E. R. Jackman & R. A. Long. The discussion will be led by Meg Hicks. This non-fiction book is about the high desert region of Oregon. It highlights both the people and natural history of Oregon's eastern high desert country using serious science, first-hand narrative history, and humorous anecdotal stories. Caxton Press says about the authors: "Reub Long is a cowboy who thinks like a scientist and E. R. Jackman is a scientist who thinks like a cowboy. Together they produced a book about a unique region of the American West and its inhabitants, filled with history, lore, and humor." "Wild horses run through this book. All of the desert animals shyly peek out from its pages. Desert towns spring to life before your eyes and swiftly decay. Stories of life on the desert are told with deep subtle humor, wisdom, and charm, producing a delightful book." (from Oregon Blue Book as quoted by Google Books). **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 at [rb24berg@aol.com](mailto:rb24berg@aol.com).

**Looking Ahead:** We will meet again on Monday, October 12, 2020, at 7pm via Zoom to discuss ***Paddy's Lament*** by Thomas Gallagher.

## A Message from our Caring4Creation Ministry Team BottleDrop Information

**Merrily Sutton**

Are your bottles and cans beginning to overflow their bags and roll all over the garage floor? Ours were until friends told us about BottleDrop. BottleDrop is the easiest, cleanest way to collect the refund value on bottles and cans purchased in Oregon. When you open a BottleDrop account you will be given an ID card, either green (refund) or blue (donate) plastic bags, and barcode stickers. You can put a mix of up to 30 bottles and cans into the bags, affix your barcode sticker, and drop your bags through the door at your nearest BottleDrop location. Once your bottles and cans are tallied, BottleDrop will send an updated account to you by email. If you shop at a participating retailer, your store will give you an additional 20% credit on your groceries. All BottleDrop locations are open 7 days a week but hours may vary. Find the BottleDrop location nearest you and answer any further questions by going to [BottleDrop.com](http://BottleDrop.com).

## Annual Solicitation for Funding Special Projects

The CLC Endowment Fund Committee is actively soliciting proposals for funding special projects with the church which are outside of the normal budget. Acceptance of these proposals will be guided by the CLC Mission; to be the hands and feet of Jesus by loving God and one another, nurturing faithful living, serving those in need and sharing the Gospel. Request forms may be obtained via the Endowment page on the Central website, the church office, or from the Endowment Committee. Your proposal must be coordinated through a ministry team, committee, council, relevant staff person, and/or pastor. Please have your requests delivered to the office or to the committee by **October 1, 2020**. Endowment Fund Committee Members: Lorraine Davis, Cyndy Lane, Doug Martin, Kelly Smith, Roger Welch and Larry Sutton (Council Rep).

## Fruits from Central Endowment Grants Made in 2019

### Thank you from Seminarian Lucas Shurson

As a grant recipient, seminary student Lucas Shurson has provided Central Lutheran with this update: "School was a bit different this year since we moved online, but I still had a good year and enjoyed my classes. I just finished up my second full year of classes, and this coming school year I will be on internship at a partnership of several congregations in the small town of Kenyon in Southern Minnesota. I also completed my Clinical Pastoral Education term at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester last summer, and that meant that at the start of this year I was able to be endorsed by the Oregon Synod, which is the second of three steps in the candidacy process."

## The Central Lutheran Foundation

The Foundation is now accepting applications for grants to be awarded in early 2021. The CL Foundation's purpose is to support Lutheran, Christian, community and world-wide organizations that provide support to others. This reflects Central's commitment to Outreach. We encourage congregational members to invite organizations that qualify for funding to apply for these funds. The application can be downloaded from the Foundation section of the Central website and is also available in the church office. ***The deadline to apply is November 1, 2020.*** Over the years the CLF has provided support to numerous and varied organizations which have reported that the funding has been instrumental in helping them achieve their goals. If you have any questions, please contact Gifting Chair, Lew Blue or President, Steve Wildish.

# OREGON SYNOD DAY OF LEARNING

**SEPTEMBER 19, 9:00am-5:30pm**

This one-day virtual event is for the entire synod. You can come to one-session, or all day. The keynote speaker is Randy Woodley, Keetoowah Cherokee leader and activist.

## Session topics include:

- Innovative and Online Worship Ideas
  - Oregon Synod Horizon, Values, and Stepping Stones for the Future
  - Health Care and Racial Equity: What COVID-19 has revealed
- And much, much more!

**\$25 per person for adults over 21; under 21s are free!** Go to [oregonsynod.org](http://oregonsynod.org) to learn more and/or to register. Registration closes September 13 at midnight.

## Launching Small Group Ministries at Central Lutheran Church

Be a part of a small group or host one  
(via zoom or limited in-person)



## Ideas include:

- |                       |                        |                       |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Bible Study Groups    | Faith & Film           | Prayer Ministry       |
| Book Club             | Game Night             | Service Opportunities |
| Crafts & Conversation | Mediation Group        | Theology on Tap       |
| Education Classes     | Parent's Afternoon Off | Youth Chats           |

For more information check out

SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES

[connecttocentral.org](http://connecttocentral.org)

## “God’s work. Our hands.”

Every year the ELCA promotes a day of service. This year “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday is September 13, 2020. This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Service events offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ—every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life—flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace. In other words, this is one way to demonstrate our unity in Christ in a public way, but it’s also intended to inspire in us not just a day, but a lifetime of service! Given the pandemic, this year we have suggestions of ways you and your household can consider serving, not necessarily on September 13th, but whenever it fits best in your schedule.

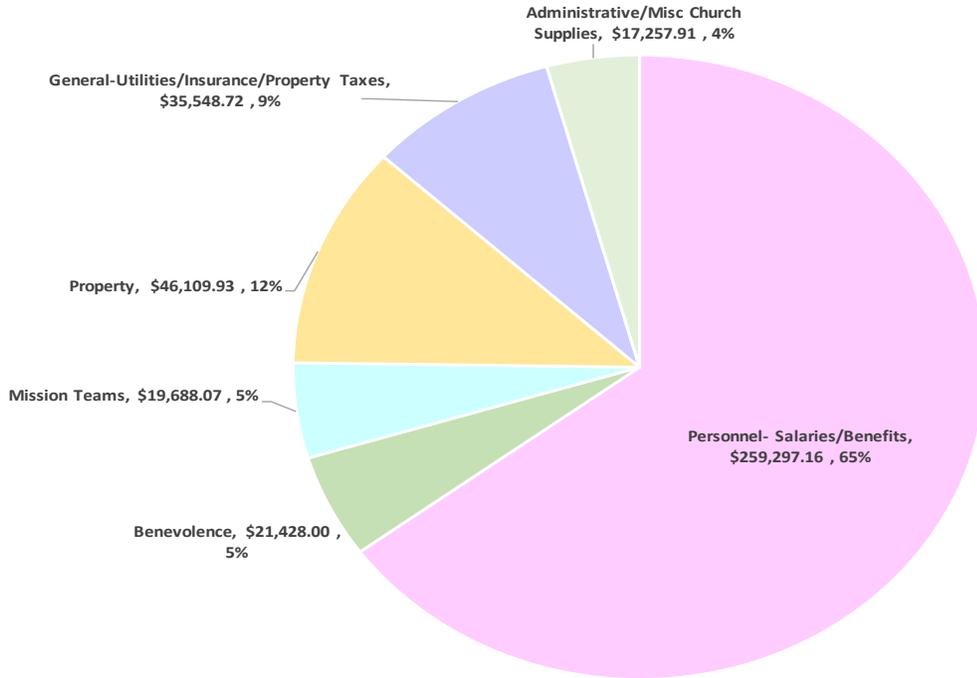
### **IDEAS FOR SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE TIME OF COVID-19**

- Spend some time working in our community garden on the NE corner of our church’s property. The produce is designated for food insecure students at the University of Oregon, Bushnell University, and Lane Community College and is distributed through the Episcopal Student Food Pantry now located at Grace Lutheran Church (contact Merrily Sutton for details).
- Volunteer to prepare and/or deliver a meal to First Place Families housed at the Annex (contact Kim Meyers, Carol Shepherd or Bernie Bopp for details).
- Volunteer to provide on-line tutoring to a student in need (contact a school in your neighborhood or call Pastor Laurie to be matched with a child from Central).
- Volunteer to staff the phone at Friends In Service to Humanity—FISH (contact Norma & Steve Edman for details).
- Become a prayer advocate (contact Gary Wolfe for details).
- Become a “phone buddy” with another member of Central (contact Kristi for names and phone numbers).

### **Ideas especially for our Children, Youth & Families:**

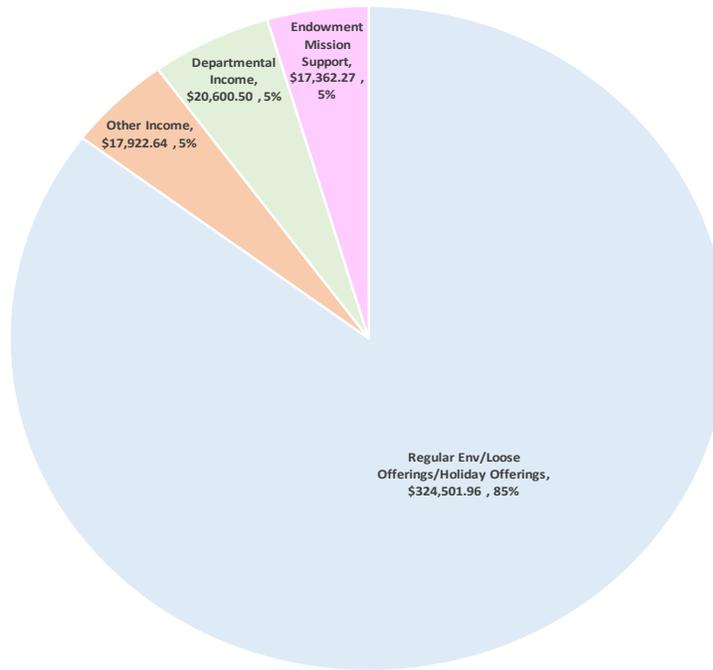
- Make a card and send a short note or drawing to one of Central’s elder members (names and addresses can be provided for you by calling Kristi at 541-345-0395).
- Head out to Camp Lutherwood to help with a variety of on-site projects (make arrangements by contacting Camp staff at 541-998-6444).
- Help out with our **new** “Kids Drop-In” program on the third Wednesday of the month from 4-6pm (contact Pastor Laurie or Crystal Miller for details).

### Central Lutheran Church Expenses Jan-July 31, 2020



■ Personnel- Salaries/Benefits 
 ■ Benevolence 
 ■ Mission Teams 
 ■ Property 
 ■ General-Utilities/Insurance/Property Taxes 
 ■ Administrative/Misc Church Supplies

### Central Lutheran Church Income January-July 31, 2020



■ Regular Env/Loose Offerings/Holiday Offerings 
 ■ Other Income 
 ■ Departmental Income 
 ■ Endowment Mission Support

## Central Lutheran Church

### Jan-July 2020 Compared to Jan-July 2019 Income:Expense Summary

	Jan-July 2020	Jan-July 2019	Difference
Regular Envelopes	\$ 318,334.06	\$ 343,556.79	\$ (25,222.73)
Other Offerings	\$ 1,914.90	\$ 5,342.44	\$ (3,427.54)
Holiday Offerings	\$ 4,253.00	\$ 7,270.80	\$ (3,017.80)
Other Income	\$ 17,922.64	\$ 49,348.31	\$ (31,425.67)
Departmental Income	\$ 37,962.77	\$ 70,573.21	\$ (32,610.44)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 380,387.37</b>	<b>\$ 476,091.55</b>	<b>\$ (95,704.18)</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 399,329.79</b>	<b>\$ 466,304.39</b>	<b>\$ (66,974.60)</b>
<b>YTD Net Income</b>	<b>\$ (18,942.42)</b>	<b>\$ 9,787.16</b>	<b>\$ (28,729.58)</b>



**Please make the following changes in your directory**

**Brian & Wendy Rase**

2020 S Monroe St #338 Denver CO 80210

**Paul & Elsie Hellwege**

2750 Bailey Ln Eugene OR 97401

**Dorothy and Archie Kleingartner**

4282 Grand Avenue Ojai, CA 93023

**Bettina Norden**

91565 Donna Rd, Springfield OR 97478

### 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.WELCOMETOCENTRAL.ORG](http://WWW.WELCOMETOCENTRAL.ORG)