

# THE CENTRALITE

Central Lutheran Church Mission:

To be the hands and feet of Jesus by: **Loving** God and one another **Nurturing** faithful living **Serving** those in need **Sharing** the Gospel

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## APRIL 2016



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Ladonna Belton, Henry Bretthauer, Dorothy Kleingartner, D'reen Stewart-Cook. We extend our sympathy to Sally Nill, Shannon, Marty, Eric Nill and families upon the death of husband and father, Herb Nill. May faith and trust in our Risen

Lord help sustain them in their sorrow.



**CLCW NEWS** Central Lutheran Church Women's Spring Luncheon will be April 30<sup>th</sup> in the parish hall. All women and friends of Central are invited to attend. We are asking for hostesses, one for each table, who will decorate and set their table with dishes, silverware, glassware and centerpiece from their own home. Anything from Mothers and Grandmothers etc. or your favorite dinnerware will be fun. We will provide

white tablecloths. For more information contact Norma Vettrus 541-344-2321, Betsy Berg 541-746-4960 or Wendy Rase 541-686-2733. Our guest speaker will be announced soon and tickets will go on sale by April 3rd. The luncheon will begin at 11:30 with punch. This will give everyone a chance to view the tables before we are seated. Save the date for a fun afternoon.

## MESSAGE FROM INTERIM PASTOR STAN

Well, we have a call committee and they are working together and awaiting names from the Bishop, David Brauer-Rieke and Assistant to the Bishop, Susan Kintner. We can expect those names sometime in April, following Easter.

The members of the call committee are Diane Daudt, George Hanson, Sue Mathisen, Joanne Miksis, John Rowell, Merrily Sutton, and alternate, Debbie Hudson. Please keep them and our congregation in your prayers during this important time of transition.

We are still working on 'who is Central?' For the sake of the future of Central, being a member is not about minimally communing or giving. It is not about only having a place to have a funeral or memorial service someday. Membership is about discipleship.

During the transition time here at Central, many things have changed. Development of Mission/Vision statements. Alignment of the congregation behind the Mission. Attempts at removing silos. A change in the government structure. And this congregation is living into all of this.

If you have no idea about what I just said, membership is a weird concept for you. It is tough to be a member of something when we don't know what is happening or why. It is like being on a basketball team, not practicing or showing up at most of the games to play, and then showing up at one game and hoping to play, even though we have no idea what's happening on defense or offense. And then blaming everyone else because we don't know what is going on.

We know these things. Sometimes we are stuck. Being a member of a congregation means acknowledging we are stuck. Being a member of a congregation means our 'stuckness' is ours and not someone's fault other than our own. We are leaving Blame behind at Central. Blame is as old as Genesis 3. It didn't work with Adam and Eve. And it surely doesn't work in any Christian congregation.

The work at removing 'stuckness' in our personal life as we struggle with Membership, is a spiritual work. Allowing the presence of the risen Christ and the Person and Power of the Holy Spirit to mess with us is the key. God brings the power to live into forgiveness and to be a forgiver. Being a forgiver is all that is asked of us in the Lord's Prayer. This is the only action asked of us, in a prayer that highlights all the actions of God. The only action for us? Forgive. That is one of the main requirements of a member here. To live a graceful and forgiving life. That is a vision for us to live into.

A new pastor wants to work with a congregation that is dedicated to spiritual health, wholeness, and maturity. He or she, needs to have a congregation of members who are committed to the Mission of Central. That would really help your new pastor. If you are stuck, don't wait for him or her to be a mind reader. Call. Food is always good. Invite the pastor and others of the congregation to help you break through the bubble of 'stuckness'.

God's Blessings on your search for a spiritual leader. Pray.

It is my pleasure to serve you during this time of transition. You have done well. Build on it.



**The CLC Book Club will meet on Monday, April 11, 2016, at 7:00 P.M.** in the CLCW Room to discuss ***Under the Banner of Heaven: A Story of Violent Faith*** by Jon Krakauer. Using the 1984 murder of a young Mormon wife and her 15-month-old daughter as a

launchpad to probe the roots of all religious faith and the extremes to which it can be taken, Krakauer weaves the story of the Lafferty brothers and their fanatical brethren with a clear-eyed look at Mormonism's violent past. He examines the underbelly of the most successful homegrown faith in the United States, and finds a distinctly American brand of religious extremism. He takes readers inside isolated communities in the American West, Canada, and Mexico, where some forty-thousand Mormon Fundamentalists believe the mainstream Mormon Church went unforgivably astray when it renounced polygamy. Defying both civil authorities and the Mormon

establishment in Salt Lake City, the leaders of these outlaw sects are zealots who answer only to God. This work of nonfiction illuminates an otherwise confounding realm of human behavior. (There is even a connection to the recent Malheur Occupation.) Betsy Berg will lead the discussion. Come join us! Looking ahead: **The CLC Book Club** will meet on **Monday, May 9, 2016, at 7:00 P.M.** in the CLCW Room to discuss ***The Road to Character*** by David Brooks. Arlene Dietz will lead the discussion. Come join us!



We all know that sugary drinks are bad for the teeth, but it turns out that sugar-free drinks are also bad if they contain acid, which I understand they usually do. The acid damages the teeth as much as the sugar does. These drinks include not only

soft drinks, but sports drinks and flavored waters as well. A dentist I know told me that he recently treated four college athletes who had very little enamel on their molars because they had consumed so much Gatorade, which is acidic. He said that citrus based drinks are worse than colas, and that Mountain Dew is the worst and root beer the least damaging. So how do you know if the drink is acidic? Check the label for words like phosphoric acid, sodium citrate and citric acid. Rinse your mouth with water after drinking them. (Some references say that you should have your baby rinse from a bottle of water after a bottle of milk. I think it would be a hard sell if the baby is sleeping.) Chewing sugarless gum may help by increasing saliva flow. Some fluoride mouthwashes may help too, but talk to your dentist. Don't forget that cola drinks of all kinds are very hard on your bones!! Clarice Bates, RN, source: Weill Cornell Medical College Women's Nutrition Connection. PS My dentist buddy has a new website with more information: [www/carlknoxdds.com](http://www.carlknoxdds.com)

**THE PREZ SEZ...** Central Lutheran Church is a wonderful community with wonderful people of faith. We have had a bit of a bumpy road the past couple of years, but we all hung in there, and with the help of God, the guidance of the Spirit, and the presence of our interim pastor, Stan Berntson, we are coming out into the sunshine of new hope.

We have a Call Committee, we have participated with a Habitat build, initiated a focus on the homeless with the Eagan Warming Centers, Emerald Village, and the Tiny House, and completed a number of organizational changes to facilitate communications within and outside our walls. The second service is building in momentum and has attracted new members. We are working hard to be the hands and feet of Jesus in Eugene, Oregon. We have many more things which need attention: our physical plant, the completion of the call of a permanent pastor, doing a better job of letting the community know about us and the word of God, improving our administration and internal operations...and on and on.

This is where YOU come in...if you have ever had an idea on how to do something better, or wondered why something in the church is done the way it is; if you have felt the tickle of wanting to deepen your faith and your spiritual practice; if you want to be an active part of this body of Christ...then consider running for the council, or be part of the Nominating or Audit committees. Your talents and skills are what will help us all continue to grow in our collective and our individual faith journeys. Call or text me so we can talk further about these opportunities to serve.  
Joyce Spence 541-521-0362

**CENTRAL COFFEE DRINKERS!** Did you know that all of the wonderful coffee we consume is thanks to an anonymous local Coffee Broker who donates the coffee beans? He wishes to remain anonymous; however, Roger Welch is the person to thank for doing the roasting, grinding and delivery of the coffee to Central. This includes the coffee used in the Latte Cart. Just imagine coming to a meeting or worship service and no coffee being served due to the lack of coffee grounds! Are we Lutheran? Thank Roger for this wonderful service. We could call it the "Coffee Ministry".

**FAITH FORMATION** is a new concept here at Central but it's also new in general. At our Faith Formation Forums, I talked about how Faith Formation came into being around 20 years ago and it's just now something that churches are adopting as a model. Ministry models take some time work their way into churches so we are ahead of the curve in this area.

Faith Formation has been a progression in ministry. The oldest model of Christian growth in churches is the Educational Model. In this model, if you want to learn about prayer you'll read the Bible passages and you will study prayer. The next model that you see comes out of a response to have a little more application so you see the Spiritual Formation Model. In this model, if you are learning about prayer you'll still read your verses but you'll also practice prayer. You may meditate, pray with prayer beads, or pray through a labyrinth but it's all about the practice. In the Faith Formation Model, there is a shift toward relationships. If you learn about prayer you will read your verses and you will practice prayer but instead of praying alone you'll do it as a group. For instance, when you pray with prayer beads you might make your beads together in a class setting then discuss the Bible verses on prayer before praying aloud with one another.

While Faith Formation is very new there are four main things on which the majority of people agree. Education, small groups, intergenerational activities, and outreach/service are the main parts. Central does education exceptionally well so I am spending the majority of my time working on building the relational aspects of Faith Formation. One thing I have consistently heard from every demographic of people I have talked with here is that we need more relational ministry programs.

One of these relational opportunities will be on April 10<sup>th</sup> after second service, we are having a Celebrate Central lunch that is an intergenerational lunch. It is our goal that during this lunch people who don't know one another well can get to know new and different people. This is also a time to celebrate those of us who attend here, volunteer time to minister in different missional teams, and a time to celebrate the families of our church who will be the future of Central. There will also be a dessert auction in order to raise funds for the Madagascar church.

There is a lot of work being done in laying a solid foundation for ministries here. We are working on ensuring that policies exist so that we can keep people safe and well. We are working on creating a healthy church system that works in alignment with the mission and vision of Central. We are working on creating a welcoming place so people want to come and be a part of our community. Faith Formation is a big job and thankfully we have two staff people, an Education Team, a Welcoming Team, and a Children's Team that working hard to run our programs. We are all working to make Central the place where people grow in Christ, relationships are formed with God and one another, and people are loved into eternal life.

Blessings,  
Sarah Cordero, Director of Faith Formation



**HELPFUL REMINDERS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:** If you would like announcements in the Sunday bulletin they are due in the church office Thursdays at 10am. Articles for the newsletter are due in the church office noon on Friday, April 15. Please coordinate the use of the church for meetings, etc., with Kristi in the office so all groups may be accommodated. Thank you

**DID YOU KNOW** You can listen to one of our Sunday worship services and/or the sermon every week by going to our podcasts on the website. You do not need to register to listen. You can listen to the sermon again. Enjoy the inspiring music. Listen in your car while traveling. Listen at home or in the hospital if you are ill and not able to join us on Sunday. Just go to our site: [welcometocentral.org](http://welcometocentral.org). At the bottom of the first page you will see "Podcasts" listed under "Categories." Click on "Podcasts" and on the new page you will see a link to our worship podcasts. You can select this Sunday's worship or review worship services, music, or sermons from months back. Many thanks to Gary Wolfe who produces the podcasts each week. The Sunday podcast is normally available sometime on the following Tuesday. Give it a try

# CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>
<p><b>Sunday Worship can be heard at 11:00a.m. on radio station KORE 1050 on your AM dial</b></p>		
<p><b>3</b> 8:30 &amp; 11:00 Holy Communion 9:45 Cascade Hospice Presentation Education Opportunities 12:15 Financial Leaders meeting 4pm Youth Task Force 6:00 Middle school/high school bowling event</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b> 8am Meditation Group 1 Alzheimer's' Support Group 5:30pm Dinner 5:30 Children's Choir 6:20 Alleluia Choir 6:30 Classes 7:00 Confirmation and Middle School youth group</p>
<p><b>10</b> 8:30 &amp; 11:00- Holy Communion 9:45 Education Opportunities Noon Celebrate Central Lunch 2pm Harpsichord workshop 6:00 High School Youth Group</p>	<p><b>11</b> 7pm Book Club</p>	<p><b>12</b> 8am Meditation Group 12:15 Finance Committee 1 Hannah/Deborah Circle 1 Alzheimer's Support Group 5:30pm Children's Choir/Dinner 6:20pm Alleluia Choir 6:30 Classes 7:00 Confirmation and Middle School Youth Group</p>
<p><b>17</b> 8:30 &amp; 11:00-- Holy Communion 9:45 Education Opportunities/Comfort &amp; Joy 6:00 High School Youth Group</p>	<p><b>18</b> 1pm Prayer Shawl Knitters</p>	<p><b>19</b> 8am Meditation Group 1 Alzheimer's Support Group 5:30 Dinner/ Children's Choir 6:20 Alleluia Choir 6:30 Classes 7:00 Confirmation/Middle School Youth Group</p>
<p><b>24</b> 8:30 &amp; 11:00-- Holy Communion 9:45 Education Opportunities/Comfort &amp; Joy Blood Pressure Screening-cry room 6:00 High School Youth Group</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b> 8am Meditation Group 1 Alzheimer's Support Group 5:30pm Children's Choir 5:30 Dinner 6:20pm Alleluia Choir 6:30 Classes 7:00 Confirmation and Middle School Youth Group</p>

# APRIL 2016

<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
		<b>1</b> Christus House retreat	<b>2</b> 9am-3pm AARP Drivers Class
<b>6</b> 6:30 Women's Bible Study 7:00am Men's Bible Study 10:30 Bible Study 7 Chorale	<b>7</b> 8:30 Stewardship Team 9:00am Quilting Noon Worship, Music & Arts 5:15 Handbell Ensemble 7 Cello rehearsal	<b>8</b> 7:30pm Organ recital	<b>9</b>
<b>13</b> 6:30 Women's Bible Study 7:00am Men's Bible study 10:00 Ruth Circle 10:30 Bible Study 7:00 Chorale	<b>14</b> 9am Music Workshop 9:00am Quilting 5:15 Handbell Ensemble 6:30 Stephen Ministry 7 Music rehearsal	<b>15</b> 9am Music rehearsal Noon Centralite articles due	<b>16</b> 7:30pm Concert
<b>20</b> 6:30 Women's Bible Study 7:00am Men's Bible study 10:30 Bible Study 6 Church Council 7:00pm Chorale	<b>21</b> 9:00am Quilting 4pm Endowment Committee 5:15 Handbell Ensemble	<b>22</b> 7pm Central Friends concert	<b>23</b> 9am High School Garden service project
<b>27</b> 6:30 Women's Bible Study 7:00am Men's Bible study 10:30 Bible Study  7:00pm Chorale	<b>28</b> 5pm Opera rehearsal 5:15 Handbell Ensemble 6:30 Stephen Ministry	<b>29</b> Synod Assembly- April 29-May 1 @ Valley River Inn	<b>30</b> 11:30 Ladies Spring Luncheon

## **PASTORAL NOMINATIONS FROM CONGREGATION MEMBERS**

Do you know someone that you think would be a good candidate for the Synod and Central's Call Committee to consider for the permanent pastor at Central? If so, you may nominate that person. The process will involve the following:

- All nominations from the congregation must be submitted to the synod office in writing.
- Keep in mind the results of congregation member's input as you consider your nominee's suitability for call.
- A pastor is usually not eligible for consideration if he/she has served less than 3 years at his/her present call.
- Interim pastors serving your congregation during the vacancy are not eligible to be considered for the call.

Nomination forms are available in the church office from Kristi. Once the form is completed return it to the office and it will be forwarded to the synod office. No nominations will be made from the floor during a call meeting.

**CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH** has 16 Eucharistic Ministers who take communion to 17 receivers. We call on receivers in pairs. If you would like to be a Eucharistic minister, or know someone who would like to receive communion, please contact Pastor Stan, Kristi, or Gaye Haverland.

**THANK YOU** for your thoughts, prayers, hugs, cards, calls and all the love and care shown our family following Bill's death. Thank you to Pastor Stan for his visits and calls. It was very comforting and we feel blessed to be a part of this church.  
*Helen Knebel and family*

**THANK YOU** for all the prayers during my surgery and healing. *Geri Hanson Dullea*

## **LIVING STEWARDSHIP: BEING THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS**

How do we put stewardship at the heart of our congregation's life because we are convinced that stewardship is a powerful word that properly understood can strengthen both the discipleship of members of our congregation and the mission and ministry of our congregation itself? To do this, we need to focus our stewardship differently. We must boldly proclaim the good news that everything belongs to God and that God loves us enough that God has claimed us and entrusted into our care some of that which God owns. I invite you to consider how everything you "have" is really God's and you have the privilege to care for some of God's "stuff" as you travel through this life. Change your thinking from asking, "What do I want to do with this?" to "What do I think God wants me to do with this?" We need to stop talking about the congregation's bills and financial situation and start talking more about the congregation's mission and ministries. When we hear the biblical message of stewardship, understand how life is an opportunity to live generously with what God has entrusted into our care, and believe our congregation is effectively doing God's work in the world, then we will give more. Remember: Stewardship is everything we do after we say "I believe."

**THE ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE** is excited to celebrate the, 'gift of giving,' within the life of the congregation. Thank you for the donations from faithful stewards! Thank you for your commitment, support and generous gifting. Through these bounties we celebrate the distributions made possible to the various ministries at Central. Last month we highlighted CLC Archives and Godly Play. This month we are highlighting Parish Nurse Training and Stephen Ministry Leader Training as recipients of the Endowment Fund distributions.

**PARISH NURSE TRAINING** - Funds were made available for six days of training provided by Faith Community Nursing/Health Ministries Northwest. Not only did this training program meet the job requirements for the CLC Parish Nurse, but it provides educational resources, visitation and care coordination for the holistic health of the CLC community. It also provides direction for the Health Ministry at Central. Our Parish Nurse, Sally Diehm, along with the Health Ministry Team, is establishing a data base using the software provided by FCN/HMN to assist the new

pastor in getting acquainted with the segment of the church population directly served in the area of health advocacy, visitation and support. They also assess the needs of the congregation and provide educational opportunities, blood pressure screening and will be hosting an AARP Driver Safety Class on Saturday, April 2 at 9:00 AM.

**STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADER TRAINING** - Through the Endowment Fund a Stephen Minister was sent to Stephen Leader training in Anaheim, California for a week of intensive leader training. Having an additional leader allows the program greater flexibility and opportunity for training new Stephen Ministers as well as providing continuing education and support to those already in the program. This increases the ability for outreach and ongoing care to our church family. Stephen Ministry helps fulfill Central's mission of loving, nurturing, serving and sharing the Gospel.

Thank you to the many members who contribute by tithing in time, talent and treasure to the ministries at Central. We will continue to share the blessings from other ministries assisted by the Endowment Fund. For information on how you can leave a legacy for ministry, please contact any of the Endowment Fund committee members: Arlene Dietz, John Jarrett, Kim Meyers, Sheri Pyron, Jim Reinmuth or Sonja Vik.

## THE SUN

Submitted by Nick Tasker

"In the beginning...darkness covered the face of the deep"

The sun has been a beautiful obsession of Mankind throughout time. The sun is light. The Great Light that stretches further than anything and reaches us faster than anything we know. The Sun is bright. So bright that it shines even in the darkness and to the farthest reaches of our universe. The sun is warm, so warm that despite it being over 93 million miles away it only takes minutes for us to feel its presence. The sun is energy, it fuels our world and what makes Superman so Super! The sun is inspiration. Man's creation of fire was to recreate the sun to feel its presence even in the absence of light. So without the sun we have no inspiration to create, plants would not grow and Superman would no longer be super. Without the sun we have no heat to keep us warm, days would not exist and goodness would not exist. Without the sun, we would have no light and would be lost in darkness.

"And God saw that light was good"

Then there are days when we don't see the sun and our lives become very different. Days and days will go by. The rain comes and comes and never seems to stop. We forget about the sun. The darkening of clouds with their heavy rain that is so needed for this great earth to drink and be nourished from makes us forget to even look up and when we do it is not to think about the sun but it is to wonder, not when but if this rain will stop. When it rains we pull up our hoods, and point our faces to the ground. Our world shrinks in these moments, days and seasons. With these sun absences we start to lose our warmth, our energy, even our inspiration. In the overcast downpour we don't experience light the same way. Seasonal Affective Disorder has been in effect in the natural world since the beginning. In extreme cases some animals hibernate in an attempt to wait for the sun's return. But in most cases, activity is put to a near stand still to preserve our caloric intake in the event the light doesn't come back. We need the sun. Leaving us with the conclusion that when we lose our sun we are in fact lost.

Or so we think,

The beauty of Man's obsession with the sun is that the sun is never lost. The sun is, has and will be forever with us as we move about this earth. Like a moth to a flame, we follow the sun without even realizing it! There is an unexplainable comfort and joy that comes in the warmth of the sun. The sun is a beacon that brings us to greater heights. The sun is the source of our energy and greater still the source of our light. Even in the downpour, the sun can and does shine and illuminates this world. There is one sun in this solar system, one source of light, of brightness, of inspiration, and one source that makes us super. It is from that sun that creation happens and truth is realized. These are the reasons why Mankind has and will continue to worship and love the sun.

So let us continue our obsession with the sun.

### CLC Treasurers Report

Thank you to the congregation for the generous giving so far in 2016. We are ahead of projections and offering for the first 2 months has not been this high since 2010.

	Jan-Feb 2016	Jan-Feb 2015	Difference
Regular Envelopes	\$ 84,037.50	\$65,648.66	\$18,388.84
Other Offerings	\$ 622.50	\$ 365.09	\$ 257.41
Special/Holiday Offerings	\$ 305.00	\$ 251.73	\$ 53.27
Other Income	\$ 12,972.61	\$ 4,733.01	\$ 8,239.60
Departmental Income	\$ 14,369.32	\$ 2,123.53	\$ 2,245.79
Total Income	\$112,306.93	\$73,122.02	\$39,184.91
Total Expenses	\$118,571.92	\$110,182.90	\$ 8,389.02
YTD Net Income	\$ (6,264.99)	\$(37,060.88)	\$ 30,795.89

# Safeguard Our Church Families II

*Come learn and share your thoughts about  
Creating Safe & Healthy Churches\* & Ending Family Violence*



CLASSES: April 17, 24,  
May 1, 15, & 22

◆ 9:45 AM in the Chapel

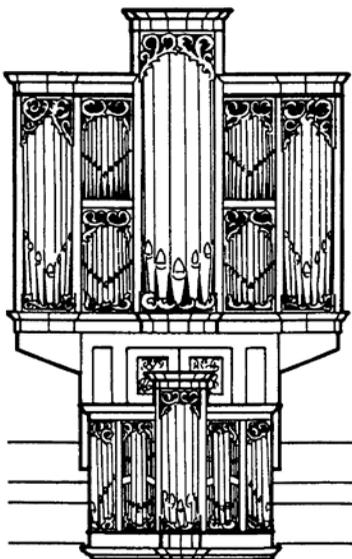
*Sessions will include:*

- Leadership: A Man's Eye View
- Faith & Marriage
- Why Women Don't Leave
- Preparing Youth for Relationships
- Planning for Safety & Security Now
- Video Presentations

ANDREA  
WIGGINS  
*comfort*  
& JOY  
PROJECT

*Dedicated to Andrea Wiggins  
who died at the hands of her husband  
but lives on in the comfort and joy  
brought by her efforts to the lives of many*

\*Safe and Healthy Churches training was sponsored by  
FaithTrust Institute ◆ InFaith Community Foundation



The Brombaugh Organ  
One of the Musical Treasures of Western America

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

presents

**WILLIAM PORTER**

**Organist**

Eastman School of Music  
Rochester, New York

*Lyle Jacobson Celebrity Organ Concert Series*

A special community outreach concert sponsored by Central's St. Cecilia Music Endowment Fund

**FRIDAY, APRIL 8**

at

**7:30p.m.**

No Admission charge

Suggested donation to FOOD FOR LANE COUNTY: \$10 per person, \$20 per family

LARGE SCREEN VIDEO TRANSMISSION TO THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH

**CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

welcometocentral.org

18<sup>TH</sup> & POTTER STREETS

EUGENE, OREGON