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APRIL 2019

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HOMELESS DAY ON THE HILL BRINGS GOVERNOR TO CENTRAL



The first sitting governor to participate in Homeless Day on the Hill, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz advocating for housing for all says "This is a moral imperative".

March brought the biggest Homeless Day on the Hill in the history of the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless.

Advocates brought with them two big agenda items to the capitol.

(1) To increase MFIP (Minnesota Family Investment Program), a cash assistance program that's maximum payout, \$532 a month, hasn't increased since 1986.

(2) To increase the Emergency Services program, giving homeless shelters across the state a \$15 million dollar increase.

And they got a boost that they hadn't expected: The first appearance by a sitting governor to the events, Governor Tim Walz, and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan who told the group that she is where she is today because of the MFIP program.

WORSHIP

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

Worship, featuring Arvo Pärt's Berliner Messe. Berliner Messe (or Berlin Mass) is a mass setting by Estonian Composer Arvo Pärt.



Arvo Pärt is a deeply spiritual composer. He is Eastern Orthodox, and finds God in the silence between sound, and the patterns that music made. He also uses composing as a way to discover more about life, music, and work. Pärt uses his tintinnabuli technique throughout, with movements taking many forms within that style - flowing from quietly reverent duets between parts to full chorus proclamations of faith.

We invite you to find the calming patterns of notes and the rhythmic ebb and flow as a way of meditation. You can listen to the piece on YouTube by searching "Berliner Messe Part" or purchase a download from your favorite music source.

The Central Choir will be joined by other choral musicians as well as guest organist Liisa Keränen.



PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14

On Palm Sunday, we will remember the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, and we will look at the preparations underway for Jesus to celebrate the Passover meal with his disciples. Our children will lead the parade and sing in worship along with the Central Choir. Rev. Colby will preach.

The Central Choir will be joined by our Sunday School Singers for a special celebratory anthem as we usher in Palm Sunday.



MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 18 7:30 P.M.

On this night, Christians gather around the world to remember Jesus' last supper with the disciples before his betrayal and death.



EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Festive worship this morning to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Sharing in worship are Central Choir, Ars Nova Brass Ensemble, and the debut of the Central Chamber Ensemble.

Extended prelude music begins at 10:15 a.m. with worship at 10:30 a.m. Easter egg hunt for children follows worship.

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

The Rev. Dr. David Van Dyke will preach. Dr. Van Dyke retired as the pastor at the House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul in early 2018. He will preach on the gospel story of "Doubting Thomas" and reflect on how people of faith deal with disappointments and how hope persists.

Education for All Ages 9:30 a.m.

Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship 11:30 a.m.

PC(USA) EXAMINATION AND ORDINATION

[BY REV. ASHLEY BAIR]

On Saturday, March 16, I had the pleasure to go before the Presbytery of Lake Michigan to be examined for ordination. This examination was my final step in the ordination process, one that I had been working toward for four years.

Each Presbytery has their own committee to oversee the process of ordination. I began the process for ordination in 2015 right before entering seminary. At the time, I had many questions about what my future might hold and what kind of rigorous procedure I would be put through. These past four years have been spent in education through seminary, clinical pastoral experiences, church engagement, and research. I also had to successfully pass five ordination exams covering the topics: Bible Content, Worship, Polity, Theology, and Exegesis (in either Hebrew or Ancient Greek).

After all education and exams are completed, a candidate for ministry can begin looking for a call - and when a call is offered and accepted, then a candidate can go before the Presbytery for their final examination on the floor for ordination.

When I was examined on the floor of the Presbytery, I read aloud my personal statement of faith and opened myself up for questioning. There were over 200 people in attendance and any of them could ask me any question they wanted - any question they wanted. To put it mildly, it was a bit nerve wracking. However, this is a vital part of the

ordination process - a chance to test each candidate on their knowledge, ability to adapt, and pastoral presence. Life in ministry is full of unknown questions and answers.

I am happy to say that I passed the examination and will continue to minister with the Central Presbyterian Church community. In case any of you may wonder what kind of questions the Presbytery asked me, or are thinking about asking me questions yourself, here is a list of questions I was asked on the floor:

- What scripture passage are you currently struggling to understand?
- As a young woman in ministry, you may find yourself challenged and questioned by others - what will your mantra for the church be?
- The church seems to be losing its social authority, how do you think the church should engage the community at large on social issues?
- What is your favorite confessional doctrine?
- What are some of the most pressing social justice issues for the church today?
- How should Christians relate to other communities of faith in a society that likes to find someone to blame for moral failures?
- How important is the order of the Trinity?

 How does the church begin reconciliation with God's creation?

I invite you to think about these questions yourself and ponder how you might answer. While the Presbytery may have wanted deep theological engagement in my answers, I think these are questions we all can respond to as we continue to live out our shared ministry as the body of Christ.



EARTH DAY CITY-WIDE CLEANUP

Join us for the Saint Paul City-Wide Spring Cleanup!

SATURDAY, APRIL 27 FROM 9 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

We will be picking up litter and cleaning the grounds at Indian Mounds Regional Park Lookout, at 10 Mounds Blvd, St Paul, MN 55106. We will meet in the parking lot inside the park (there is ample parking).

Supplies of bags and gloves will be provided by the City of St. Paul, but you are welcome to bring your own gloves if you wish. Snacks will be provided. Come when you can, leave when you must. If questions, please contact Kati Berg or Sharon Zopfi-Jordan.

Please sign up at: www.centralforgood.org/volunteer

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month and with it comes an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the work that our many volunteers do yearround in so many areas.

Be it those who usher, serve coffee and help in the nursery each Sunday, or those who step up to help each November for Project Home and December for Deck the Halls, there are so many ways to help and so many ways we are blessed by volunteers who enable Central to be in the city for good.

If you have not yet volunteered at Central, we hope you will consider doing so in the coming year. Areas where volunteers are often needed include:

- Ushering during worship and special events
- Serving coffee on Sunday
- Nursery care
- Sanctuary pew organizing
- Serving lunch at Mary Hall
- Wednesday and Third Sunday Lunch service
- Martha's Closet organizing

If you are interested in learning more about ways you can connect and serve at Central, we invite you to volunteer! To see a list of current open volunteer needs, go to www.centralforgood.org/volunteer. This list changes continuously throughout the year and includes both recurring and one-time opportunities.



Matt Ehling plays with children in the nursery during Sunday worship.



Craig Foss and
Todd Mikish
help as ushers on
Sunday, greeting
visitors and
collecting the
offering.





Sue Hoffman serves as the leader for the Women of Central, coordinating networking events.







Miss Cora and Avis Tilden are smiling faces in fellowship as they serve coffee and juice.



Dwight Colby and Dick Swanson enjoy lunch at a local historic favorite, Mickey's Diner, after volunteering as Central's "Pew Patrol" — straightening hymnals and Bibles, restocking envelopes and pens, and making progress on matching pew cushions to their correctly-sized pew.









Casey Wells, Craig Muntifering and Sandy White share their time by helping to prepare Wednesday and Third Sunday Lunches.

HOMELESS DAY ON THE HILL | BY REV. ASHLEY BAIR]

I've seen a few busy Wednesdays here at Central Presbyterian Church. Our Wednesday lunches attract a great crowd of people hungry for good food and lunchtime fellowship with our neighbors. Last Wednesday, March 13, however, was the busiest Wednesday I've seen yet. With over 800 participants, the Homeless Day on the Hill filled our sanctuary with people from all over the State of Minnesota ready to advocate for those experiencing homelessness. These people were hungry, not just for food, but for change.

Minnesota's unsheltered population is still very high. In fact, the state's unsheltered population has increased by 41% in four years. Families experiencing homelessness often apply for the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), an assistance program that provides temporary cash assistance to children and families. Minnesota is one of three states that has not increased

the maximum benefits of MFIP in 33 years. A family today would receive the same cash amount that a family in 1986 received.

There are at least 6,000 youth in Minnesota experiencing homelessness every night. Sometimes homelessness seems like an invisible issue. Many people experiencing homelessness are not necessarily living on the street; people live in cars, temporary housing, and float from loved one to loved one. While shelters remain one of the most comprehensive places to receive quality support, 63 out of the 87 counties in Minnesota do not have emergency shelters.

Homeless Day on the Hill gathered folks from these counties to advocate at the Capitol for better support for our homeless neighbors. Right now, our districts need more funding for emergency shelters and MFIP. With additional resources,

Minnesota would be able to shorten shelter stays, enhance quality programming, and increase the number of families receiving support to work toward full housing and employment. We would be able to ensure housing needs and homes for all.

Every Sunday in worship we recite the Lord's Prayer, which includes the ask, "Lord, may your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven..." I imagine that in heaven, every person is fed and housed and thriving. It is our call here to fulfill God's will, that it may be on earth as it is heaven; working to make sure all God's children are fed and housed and thriving.

To learn more about the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless or future Homeless Day on the Hill events, go to www.mnhomelesscoalition.org.



800+ advocates participated in the 2019 Homeless Day on the Hill, including Gov. Walz & Lt. Gov. Flanagan.







Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan speaks to those in the room experiencing homelessness "Your voice is the most important voice in this room."







DID YOU KNOW?

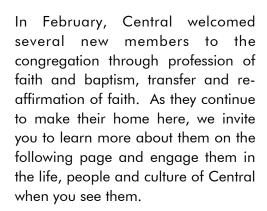
The \$532/month benefit received by MFIP program for a family of three has not been increased since 1986. Read about the new funding proposal bill (HF799) at www.house.leg.state.mn.us/SessionDaily/Story/13711.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!







If you are interested in learning more about Central, the process of becoming a member or getting more involved as a volunteer or connected as a visitor, please contact New Members & Volunteer Committee Chair Alex Bollman at alexmbollman@msn.com at anytime.

DWIGHT & NANCY COLBY

Yes, of course, we are Dave's parents! Although we have attended Central for several years, our membership has been at another church. Sometimes church membership poses questions for parents of clergy! Why join now?



JIM & MARGARET CELLETTE

Simply, it just feels like the right time.

We are longtime Roseville residents and Macalester alums; Nancy is a lifelong Presbyterian, and Dwight almost. Before retirement, Dwight worked in the field of computer and network security, and Nancy in education. Our seven grandchildren and their parents are the center of our lives, although we do find time for a few other things. Dwight loves fishing, especially fly fishing and sporting events. Nancy likes to read, garden, and participate in two French conversation groups.

We look forward to being full-fledged members of Central!

MARGARET & JIM CELLETTE

Margaret and Jim Cellette live in the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood. They are retired and have three grown children. Margaret was born and raised in Illinois and has deep roots in the Presbyterian tradition. She volunteers in an



KOLWICZ - BENDER FAMILY

Alzheimer's respite care program and at the Center for Victims of Torture. Margaret is active in PEO, and she also rings in a local hand bell choir. Jim grew up in Northeast He volunteers as a Minneapolis. teaching assistant at the International Institute of Minnesota. He has been researching his family history and also participates in a writer's group at Merriam Park Library. Margaret and Jim enjoy music, travel, attending Twins games, and taking care of their granddaughter, Emily, on Mondays and Fridays.

KOLWICZ - BENDER FAMILY

Judy Kolwicz and Lou Bender are lifetime Presbyterians who, with their daughters Elizabeth and Jiahong Bender, arrived at CPC looking for a good sermon, adventurous music, a diverse community, and active mission. Both are theologically trained and worked in church ministry for many years. Judy retired from executive service, and Lou now teaches special education high

school students. Elizabeth is a first year student at Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia, majoring in applied mathematics in the preengineering program. Jiahong, an artist and fierce advocate for justice, is a junior at Avalon School. The four of them share interests in reading, music, travel, and creating equitable communities.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to Avis Tilden, Nancy Colby, Erika Kelly-Kennedy, and Andrei Kelly-Kennedy for serving as welcoming and friendly volunteers during the Homeless Day on the Hill. Your helpful presence was crucial in making Central a gracious host for over 800 people!

Thank you to Will Beall for your years of volunteer service as an evening receptionist in the church office. We will miss your welcoming presence as you "retire" from your position to deal with health concerns.

Thank you **Wendy Flinner** for volunteering your musical talents as guest organist during worship this month.

Thank you **Pat Cook** for all the extra hours putting together furniture and helping to prepare a new office for Rev. Ashley Bair.

Thank you **Mel Leach** and **Jim O'Neill** for your willingness to assist with snow removal on a busy Sunday morning!



Orders are due by Monday, April 15.

Flowers will be used to decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Following the service, our Deacons will deliver them to Central's home-bound members. To donate flowers in memory or honor of a loved one, please fill out the information, attach your payment (checks payable to Central), and return it to the office (or in the offering plate).

Your Name:
Phone / Email:
If you are purchasing on behalf of someone else, please complete the following:
In honor of:
In memory of:

PLANT	PRICE EACH	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Azaleas	\$15.00		
8" Lily	\$17.00		
Mums	\$10.00		
Hydrangeas	\$15.00		
Daffodils	\$ 4.00		
Gerber Daisy	\$ 4.00		

TOTAL DUE \$ _____



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Checks should be made payable to Central Presbyterian Church.

WOMEN OF CENTRAL NEWS

NETWORKING GROUP

We had a great time at Tongue in Cheek! Thirteen of us braved the winter snows and enjoyed great food and conversation. This informal group gathers monthly to share food and fellowship. Please join us for an upcoming event. You can RSVP at www.centralforgood.org/women, on Central's Facebook page where events are posted or by contacting Sue Hoffman via email at syhoffman123@comcast.net. Join us for our upcoming events:



Wednesday, April 3 Ngon Vietnamese Bistro 799 University Ave W St Paul, MN



Wednesday, May 8 Gray Duck 345 Wabasha St N St Paul, MN



As always, we will meet at church at 5:15 p.m. and carpool to the restaurant or you can meet us there at 5:30. If you need child care, please let Sue know at syhoffman123@comcast.net when you RSVP.



WOMEN IN THE WOODS - SPRING ARRIVES

The Women of Central invite you to share a unique event sponsored by Dodge Nature Center. April Greibok is attending and invites us to join her on April 17 for an evening with Dodge Naturalist, Pam Welisevich, as she reveals nature secrets of this season of rebirth. Become more comfortable and knowledgeable about the natural world by joining other

women interested in getting outside. Start with a glass of wine and social time before a hike through the woods to discover all the happenings as spring returns to Dodge Nature Center.

Comfortable boots and clothing please. This program is for adult women ages 21+. Pre-registration is required.

To register, visit the following link: www.dodgenaturecenter.org/event/o-w-l-s-quilting-naturally-4-2-2-2-2



4TH SUNDAY KNITTING GROUP

We meet every 4th Sunday of the month. We gather after worship in the Friendship Room. Then we move to the Oval Room to be in a quieter space.

We have been gathering for 2 years to knit and crochet prayer shawls that are distributed by Rev. Colby, church members, and the deacons. This month we will be starting to make pocket prayer squares that fit in one's pocket. They are a reminder that our community holds you close and prays for you. These small ones will make it easy for any of us to pick one up at church and give it to someone. It is such a concrete gesture of care, binding us together.

This project is perfect for beginners or first time knitters. We will be happy to teach you how to knit and help you along the way. All materials are supplied. Just bring yourself.

Knitting (or crocheting) is a calming, companionable, meditative activity. This month we will add a short quiet period when one of us will read a passage from a favorite book, poem, meditation, or tell a story.

If you have questions, please email or call Maggie Gordon at margaretagordon@gmail.com or call 651-470-8636.

See you at our next event on Sunday, April 28 after worship!









STICKS & STEEL IN WORSHIP

Sticks and Steel is a new percussion ensemble for our 3rd – 8th graders. We welcome new players! If you have a young person who is interested in participating, please speak with Director of Music, Jennifer Anderson or email her at jennifera@cpcstpaul.org. They rehearse after worship occasionally throughout the year.























VOCALPOINT UPDATE

VocalPoint's 2019 concerts raised \$24,234.66 for Walk-In Counseling Center, which provides free, easily accessible mental health counseling to people with urgent needs and few service options.

Thank you all who attended the concerts, sang, composed, created art, volunteered, and donated for *Holding Space*. It was one of our most powerful years yet, and we are immensely grateful for

everyone who took part.

If you'd like to hear Sara's music again, we invite you to visit VocalPoint's website at vocalpointchorus.org/holdingspace. You can also follow Sara on Facebook, and see when she has shows coming up in the future at facebook.com/sarathomsenmusic.

You can see beautiful pictures of the event on our website at: www.centralforgood.org/photos.

What's Next?

- Soon we will have application information ready for our 2020 season, and after interviews, we will make a decision by late spring. We will announce our choice in early summer.
- Auditions are held in late fall.
- Rehearsals for 2020 begin in early January.

Check out our Facebook page for the latest VocalPoint news!

VBS REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

This summer Central will be partnering with Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in St. Paul to offer a fun Vacation Bible School experience for the children and youth of Central.

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 17-21, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Registration is now open and the link can be found on Central's website at www.centralforgood.org/vbs.

The Preschool and Elementary Vacation Bible School program is open to children who are 4-years-old by September 1, 2019, through Grade 6, completed by June 2019. Cost ranges from \$20-\$40 and scholarships are available.

Program opportunities include:

- Preschool Through Grade 4 Open to children who are 4years-old by September 1, 2019, through Grade 4, completed by June 2019. Cost is \$40.
- Grades 5 & 6 Students who have completed fifth and sixth grade as of June

Extended Afternoon Program This year, Gloria Dei is partnering with Pilgrim, Immanuel, and House of Hope churches to provide afternoon care during VBS week Monday through Thursday from noon to 4:00 p.m. for grades 2-6 only. Cost is an additional \$40 and a separate registration is required. Space is limited so act quickly!

Volunteers

Easy and fun volunteer opportunities are available for adults to serve as preschool or elementary crew managers or for youth in grades 7-12 to serve as crew guides and classroom assistants. There is also a need for extra hands in the kitchen to help prepare snacks each day.

Have questions?

Visit our website to learn more at www.centralforgood.org/vbs. request a scholarship or ask questions, contact Central's Children







LIKE US ON FACEBOOK facebook.com/centralforgood



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM instagram.com/centralforgood



WATCH VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE youtube.com (search for Central)



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

twitter.com/centralforgood twitter.com/cpcmusic



VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.centralforgood.org



SUBSCRIBE TO NEWS EMAILS www.centralforgood.org/newsletter



VOLUNTEER TO HELP centralforgood.org/volunteer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOOK GROUP

Book Group will meet Tuesdays, April 9 and April 23 at 10:30 a.m. in the Friendship Room. The current book is Two Kinds of Truth by Michael Connelly.

DORCAS CIRCLE

Dorcas Circle will meet Thursday, April 11 at 11:30 a.m. in the Friendship Room. Bring your own lunch and coffee will be provided. Lesson 7 will the topic.

CHURCH OFFICE

Central's church office will be closed Easter Monday, April 22. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.



Fun at the beach! Okay, maybe it was an indoor pool with no sand, but the children and youth pool party in March was a fun way to celebrate the spring season!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

rer Greibrok 4/ I
Doris Shull 4/2
Samantha Johnson 4/7
Deborah Rioux 4/8
Benjamin Amarteifio 4/9
Pam Larson 4/11
Bernice Runkle 4/11
Walker Bergman 4/12
Charles Barklind 4/13
Fluryanne Leach 4/15
Isabella Varanasi 4/15
Jon Engeswick 4/19
Mel Leach 4/19
Grace Tester 4/19

Mac Baird	4/21
Katie Morris	4/21
James Benike	4/22
Andrew Kovach	4/22
Ed Williamson	4/23
Bim Juhnke	4/25
John Sanchez	4/26
Mila Sanchez	4/30

If we missed your name, please send us a note so that we can correct our records. office@cpcstpaul.org

CENTRAL TEAM

(651) 224-4728

PASTORAL CARE

Rev. Dr. David Colby, Pastor dcolby@cpcstpaul.org, ext. 102

Rev. Ashley Bair, Associate Pastor ashleyb@cpcstpaul.org, ext. 104

Maureen Smith, Pastoral Associate mcsmith@tc.umn.edu

Parish Associates: Rev. Casey Wells, Rev. Doug Throckmorton, Rev. Lou Bender

ADMINISTRATION

Anna Sanchez, Church Administrator office@cpcstpaul.org, ext. 100

Christie Rachelle, Communications cpc@christierachelle.com

Matt Ehling, Treasurer William Zopfi, Treasurer Emeritus

Mary Lange, Evening Receptionist Patrick Cook, Sexton, ext. 116

MUSIC

Jennifer Anderson, Director of Music jennifera@cpcstpaul.org, ext. 103

Music Staff: Shanta Hejmadi, Abbie Betinis, Adam Van der Sluis, Steve Swanson, David Winkworth

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Katie Morris, Children & Youth Ministry Coordinator katiem@cpcstpaul.org, ext. 109

Natalie Pence, Nursery Care Provider Megan Beese, Preschool Teacher

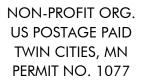
FOOD INITIATIVE

Barb Westman, Chef & Manager Barb.westman@gmail.com Sue LeClaire, Sous Chef

Peter Evarts, Dishwasher

MARTHA'S CLOSET

Sandy White, Director wjands7@aol.com, ext. 112





500 Cedar Street St. Paul, MN 55101

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

