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A LOOK TOWARDS HOLY WEEK
SHARE THIS EASTER AT CENTRAL

[BY REV. CAROL REED]

As we move through the weeks of Lent, the Scripture lessons that guide our worship have pointed us towards considering the gifts of grace we have from God and what it means to us individually to be a follower of Jesus Christ. At the end of Lent, we arrive at Easter, the day of resurrection, the most holy day for Christians.

At most churches attendance goes up for Palm Sunday and Easter. There is always wonderful music on those Sundays, an uplifting and celebratory feel to those services.

Between those Sundays is Holy Week where we are reminded of things we do not want to dwell on because they are too sad or difficult and ask something of us. However, if we want to truly experience the joy and meaning of Easter, Holy Week is truly important.

The youth at Central will be leading the Maundy Thursday service this year which as always, will conclude with communion, recalling the Last Supper Jesus shared with his disciples. Whether or not you are

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 5]

UPCOMING WORSHIP

WORSHIP IN-PERSON SUNDAYS AT 10:30 A.M.

SERVICES STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

Thank you to all who have stepped in to help with our video live-stream. If you would like to be trained on video services for future volunteering, please contact the office to be put in contact with head videographers Josh Voelker and/or Kiera Faye.

Sunday, April 2

ISAIAH 43:16-21
JOHN 12:1-8

On the 5th Sunday of Lent, Rev. Carol Reed preaches "God's Grace as an Extravagant Gift" and we will hear music from Central Choir and Steve Swanson, piano.

Sunday, April 10

PALM SUNDAY

LUKE 19:28-40

Celebrating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, Rev. Carol Reed will preach "God's Grace That Cannot Be Silenced". Join us for a processional with bells, children, the Central Choir, Organ, and palm branches!

This day we will also receive a special offering for One Great Hour of Sharing, including Fish Boxes!

Thursday, April 14

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Come and experience this fully youth-led service that will take place in

stations around our building. We will remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples as we celebrate Communion together in worship at 7:00 p.m. Wendy Flinner offers meditative music on the piano.

Sunday, April 17

EASTER SUNDAY

LUKE 24:1-12

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Festive worship to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ as Rev. Carol Reed preaches "The Day of Resurrection". We will hear music from Central Choir, Chamber Ensemble and the Ars Nova Brass Quintet. After worship, children are invited to stay for our egg hunt tradition in the sanctuary.

Due to the Easter holiday, there will be no Third Sunday Lunch this month.

Sunday, April 24

JOHN 20: 19-31

Rev. Carol Reed preaches "Working Our Way Through Doubt" and Patrick Henning plays the organ.

New to Central?

**Drop us an email
and say hello.**

**We would love
to connect with you!**

office@centralforgood.org

CENTRAL STAFF

(651) 224-4728

PASTOR

Rev. Dr. Carol Reed,
Transitional Pastor
carolr@centralforgood.org, ext. 102

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William Zopfi, Treasurer Emeritus

Mary Lange, Evening Receptionist

Lavar Jones & Peter Evarts, Custodians

PROGRAMS

Jennifer Anderson,
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jennifera@centralforgood.org, ext. 103

Laura Walls, Sunday Connection
Coordinator, ext. 109
lauraw@centralforgood.org

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

Megan Beese, Preschool Teacher

Maureen Smith, Bible Study Leader

COMMUNITY MEALS

Barb Westman, Chef & Manager
barb.westman@gmail.com

Sue LeClaire, Sous Chef

MARTHA'S CLOSET

Sandy White, Director
martha@centralforgood.org, ext. 112

MAKE AN OFFERING (OF LETTERS) TO FIGHT HUNGER!

[FROM LEON OMAN]

The Hunger Task Force at Central is sponsoring a letter/email writing event on Sunday, April 3, after worship in the Friendship Room, during coffee time.

In partnership with Bread for the World, we will join hundreds of churches nationwide in writing our members of Congress to pass legislation to help end hunger. The topic this spring is Global Malnutrition.

After steadily declining for a decade, global hunger is on the rise. A shortage of food will make things worse - a crucial portion of the world's wheat, corn and barley (and even fertilizer) is trapped because of the Russia/Ukraine war. Malnutrition is the leading risk factor for death among children globally, accounting for 45 percent of all child deaths - losses that are almost entirely preventable. Our letters will urge members of Congress to support the bipartisan Global

Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act of 2021 and increase global nutrition funding.

More information about the bill and sample letters will be available to help you write or prepare your email. If you prefer using an ipad/tablet, you can even bring yours with you. You'll also enjoy a "bread" treat prepared by Maggie Gordon.

Please join us for this Bread for the World Offering of Letters!

NEW ART ON DISPLAY AT CENTRAL

[FROM KIERA FAYE]

The gallery in the Friendship Room now features abstract watercolor and collage works by Marie Panlener. We are working on scheduling an artist reception sometime after Holy Week. However, in the meantime, we invite you to visit the new exhibition and see Marie's watercolor paintings. You will delight in the luminous color that is full of movement. It complements the colors of the stained glass windows so beautifully!

"I started my professional art career in a corporate graphics department in print design, and moved into web design, then video production and editing. I retired and am now able to watercolor paint daily, right after I drink a cup of coffee and catch up with the funnies," states Marie Panlener. "The qualities of watercolor: movement, transparency, color, value, are so absorbing that all other things retreat. There is a lot to

learn and lots of choices to make. It took me five years to settle on the colors in my palette and now and then I still find a new color to try. Watercolor painting takes years of commitment, including lots of failure (just part of the process). But then again I might be a slow learner."

Stop by the Friendship Room the next time you are at Central and see Marie's works. Then join us when we announce the date of the artist's reception and learn more about the inspiration, process, and works direct from the artist. See more from Marie at www.mariepanlener.com.



UPDATE ON SEARCH FOR INSTALLED PASTOR

CENTRAL'S MISSION STUDY HAS BEEN APPROVED!

[FROM REV. CAROL REED]

Back in November, the Commission on Ministry of the Presbytery informed us they wanted us to do supplemental work on the Ministry Study we had submitted. We are a connectional church and as such, needed to get the approval of the Presbytery before we could start the process towards calling a new installed pastor.

Capturing Voices

In the months since then there have been opportunities for the congregation to let their voice be heard about goals for the church and what kind of leadership could lead the church forward towards reaching those goals. There was a retreat for leaders, questionnaires in Sunday bulletins, as well as a gathering of the entire congregation following worship one Sunday.

A report of our findings was compiled into a Ministry Study and sent to the Presbytery for approval in

March. (It can be downloaded at website www.centralforgood.org/pastor-search)

The Nominating Committee, following informational meetings for those interested in serving on the Pastor Nominating Committee and countless phone calls, presented a slate of names that was voted on at the annual meeting of the congregation on March 27.

- Gifty Amarteifio
- Sue Hoffman
- Jackie Klaehn
- John Lee
- Todd Mikish
- Lynda Petrie
- Josh Voelker
- Al Zdrazil

What Happens Now?

The Presbytery has assigned Diane Smith, a Ruling Elder from House of Hope Presbyterian Church, to serve as a liaison to the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). They will begin their work as soon

as they are able to gather together as a group. The first steps that will be done, after they elect a moderator, will be to refer to the Ministry Study in writing the Church Information Form (CIF), a job description and informational form that will be distributed to potential candidates. Together with the help of the liaison from Presbytery, the CIF will be entered in a data base of the denomination and a nationwide search will begin for an installed pastor. We will look forward to hearing updates from the PNC about the process as it moves forward.

Thank You

Thank you to all those who participated in the process to date as well as those who gathered people and information that was compiled into the Ministry Study: Phyllis Brashler, Laura Hutton, Christie Rachele, and Carol Reed. Please hold the PNC in prayer as they work together to find the best candidate for Central Presbyterian Church.

WHERE ARE WE IN THE PASTOR SEARCH PROCESS?

Congregation Discussions of History, Strengths & Goals 	Write Ministry Study & Submit to Presbytery for Approval 	Establish Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) 	Complete Ministry Information Form (MIF) 	Review Applicant Submissions (PIFs) 	Candidates Visit Central, Meet with PNC & Session 	Extend Call to Selected Candidate 	Central Congregation Votes on Selected Candidate 
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HOLY WEEK

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1]

able to attend the service that evening, consider spending time in reading the account of that last week of Jesus' life from John's Gospel.

- Monday, April 11:
John 14:1-7, 27
- Tuesday, April 12:
John 12:20-36
- Wednesday, April 13:
John 13:21-32
- Maundy Thursday, April 14:
John 13:1-17, 31-35
- Good Friday, April 15:
John 18:1-19:42

"For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

- First Corinthians 1:18



EASTER FLOWERS ORDER FORM

Orders are due by Monday, April 11.

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 (payable to Central), and return it to the office or place 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	\$18.00		
Large Lily	\$20.00		
Mums	\$11.00		
Hydrangeas	\$18.00		
Small Lily	10.00		
Gerber Daisy	\$ 5.00		

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

Checks should be made payable to
Central Presbyterian Church.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

[FROM JENNIFER ANDERSON]

Sunday Mornings

- 9:15 A.M.
Nursery care is available with Megan and our volunteers.
- 10:30 A.M.
Following Time for Children in worship, kids are invited upstairs for Sunday Connection with Laura Walls and our volunteers

During Lent, our theme is "Overflowing with Grace." While we consider what it means to live a life abundant in grace, we can also share abundantly with others!

Our children received the One Great Hour of Sharing Fish Boxes in March. Remember to bring your fish boxes back to church as part of the Palm Sunday Processional on April 10.

Sunday Connection

Sunday Connection takes place upstairs in the education wing on Sunday mornings following worship's Time for Children.



Typically led by Laura Walls (Sunday Connection Coordinator), this involves our elementary-aged kids learning about the Bible story, doing an activity or craft, praying together, and talking together about what may be on their minds.

Buy A Chair!

We are re-doing the Elementary Classroom upstairs to make the space more user-friendly and age-appropriate. Can you help?

We are in need of child-size chairs. Currently, we have little bitty chairs for our youngest ones, and we have adult chairs, but we do not have chairs that fit our 2nd – 5th graders. If you are able to contribute to the purchasing of child size chairs (and tables to go with them!) and other room upgrades, please write a check to Central Presbyterian Church (with "Chair" in the memo line). Many thanks for your generosity!

Have questions? Please speak with Jennifer Anderson or Phyllis Brashler. Many thanks!

Volunteers and Staff Needed for Children's Ministry on Sunday Mornings

Caring adults are needed upstairs to provide a safe environment for our young ones on Sundays.

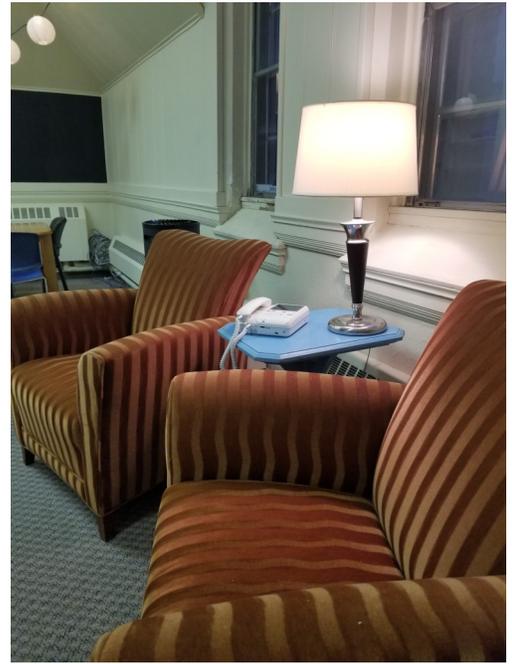
We are looking for both volunteers (**please consider signing up for 1 Sunday per quarter at centralforgood.org/volunteer**) and we are hiring some paid staff as well.

Do you know a great candidate? If so, please share this opportunity with anyone who has a heart for young children and is looking for part-time employment.

To learn more about the position, read the job description online at www.centralforgood.org/employment.



YOUTH NEWS



Check out the New Youth Space!

Huge thanks to those who have helped to create a new, beautiful, comfortable, and exciting youth room upstairs at Central!

We couldn't have done it without donations of furniture (and the delivery of said furniture) from Jeremy Berg! Gratitude also goes out to Jim O'Neill, Wendy and Mark Flinner, Pastor Carol, Jess Garner, Lucy Hiestand, Peter Evarts, Anna Sanchez, Mary Lange, Lavar Jones. —Jennifer Anderson



April Youth Ministry

- Middle School Lifeboats
Sunday, April 10 at 11:30 a.m.
- Sr. High Compass
Sunday, April 10 at 6:30 p.m.

- Special Maundy Thursday Worship Service - April 14 at 7:00 p.m. Youth arrive at 6:15. *Join us for this special service, led by our Youth. On this night that we remember and reflect, we invite you to be together as a faith community and hear again the stories of Jesus's last days and his abundant love for each of us.*
- Assist with the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter, April 17 (meet by the piano immediately after worship)

BUILDING RESTORATION RESULTS

[FROM CHRISTIE RACHELLE]

The first phase of restoration work necessary to preserve the integrity and historic character of our building's exterior has been completed. Some items, such as the replacement of the storm glass that surrounds our beautiful stained glass windows, have been dramatic changes easily observed. Others, have been more subtle and, perhaps, not obvious.

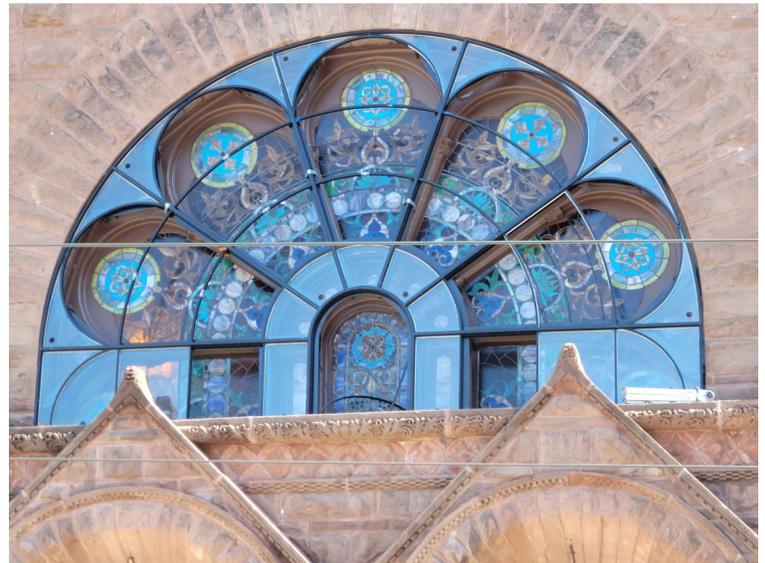
Here you will find a few of those details so you may have a better understanding and appreciation of that work, made possible in part by funding through the State of Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, administered through the Minnesota Historical Society. To learn more about our building renovation projects, contact the office or Fluryanne Leach, our project director.



BEFORE: Stone surface cracking, on the verge of breaking.



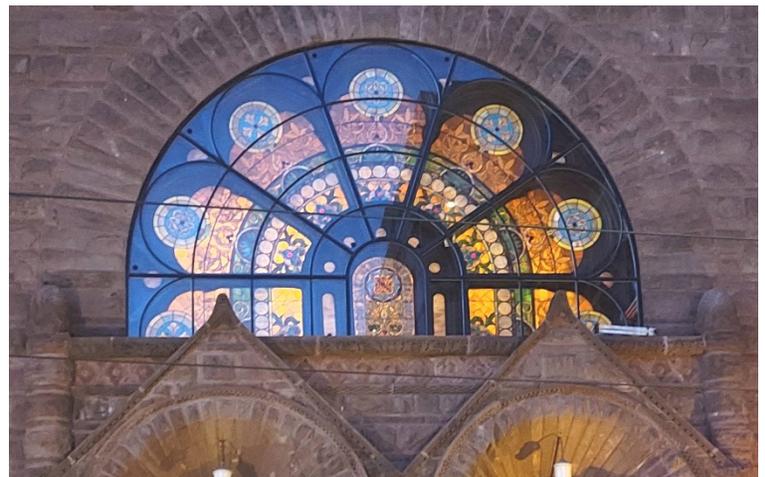
AFTER: Masons removed loose portions and patched to match stone.



DURING: Details of the stained glass are so well seen during the replacement process.



BEFORE: Storm window covers were cloudy over the stained glass window, concealing the wood frame.



AFTER: Stained glass is visible again!



BEFORE: Previous patchwork of rosettes above main entrance were deteriorating.



AFTER: Deteriorating patches were replaced, retaining as much of the original stone as possible.



BEFORE: Cracked and crumbling concrete on steps of main entrance.



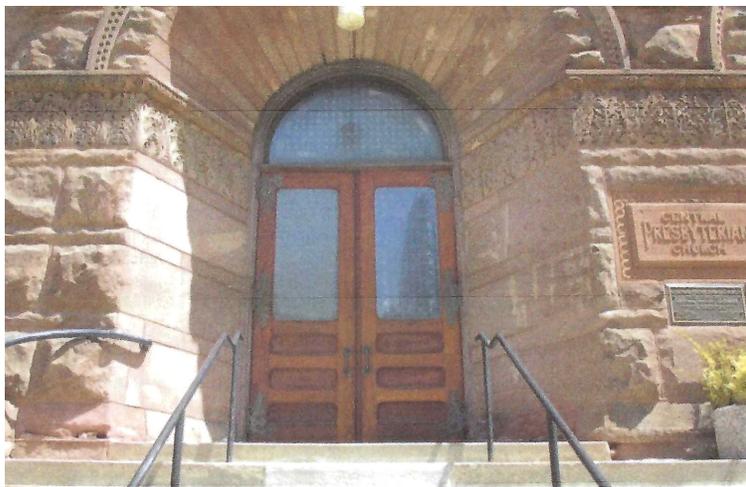
AFTER: Damaged section of stair concrete replaced.



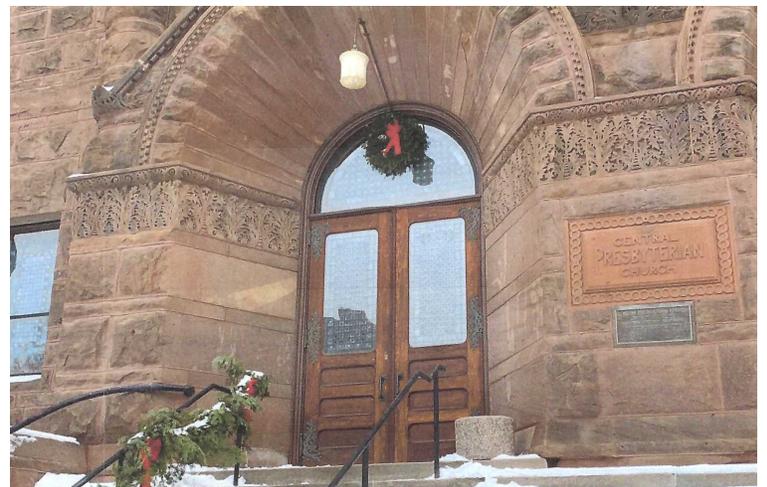
BEFORE: Spalled (fractured) and crumbling stone and mortar joints on stair wall by entry.



AFTER: Two stones replaced in wing wall, wing wall repointed.



BEFORE: Spalling (fracture) and surface erosion at the stones adjacent to the ground surfaces.



AFTER: In addition to stone repair/replacement at the entrance, the cloudy storm windows on the entrance doors and adjacent windows were replaced.

ANTI-RACISM TASK FORCE INVITES YOU

[FROM LEON OMAN]

Come join members of Central's Anti-Racism Task Force to tour the public exhibit at the Hočokata Ti Cultural Center, part of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community on Saturday, April 30th from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Mdewakanton: Dwellers of the Spirit Lake is an outstanding 3,805-square-foot public exhibit. It provides visitors

with a cultural experience that enhances their knowledge and understanding of the Mdewakanton Dakota people and their history.

A professional cultural interpreter will guide us on a tour through the exhibit, providing insight into the meaning behind the displays and artifacts. The Center's great gift shop will also be open. Fees are only Adults, \$8.00; Children, 6 to

12, \$5.00; Seniors over 65, Veterans, students, \$5.00

The Center is located at 2300 Tiwahe Cir, Shakopee, MN 55379. We can carpool from Central, please arrive by 9:30 a.m. To sign up, or any questions, please RSVP to the office by April 16th at office@centralforgood.org or call (651) 224-4728 ext. 100.



WOMEN'S NETWORKING GROUP

We had a great time at Celeste! It is so good to be able to be in person and to support a local business with our event.

SAVE THE DATE!

We will return to Celeste again in April on Tuesday, April 5th at 5:30 p.m. You can park at Central and walk across Cedar Street to join us. The staff at Celeste is so happy to have us visit them. And, the staff at Celeste are regulars at Central's Wednesday Lunch!

Please watch eConnect and our WNG email notifications to stay informed about the latest plans.



You can join our WNG email list by sending a note to women@centralforgood.org.

Please RSVP by April 2nd to let us know if you plan to attend by sending an email to women@centralforgood.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You Video Volunteers!

[FROM REV. CAROL REED]

Thanks to a wonderful group of volunteers who have been training with Kiera Faye and Josh Voelker, we are pleased to offer live streaming every Sunday. Thanks to everyone who has stepped in to help!

Masks Are No Longer Required

[FROM COVID TASK FORCE]

In response to the falling rates of hospitalizations and infections, and in line with city guidance, we will no longer require masks. We continue to encourage mask wearing to protect our youngest children and vulnerable adults. Please note: this policy may change based on data related to COVID-19 case numbers and positivity rates.

Can You Donate Time to Our Children’s Ministry

[FROM JENNIFER ANDERSON]

Our children’s ministry is booming! And we need some extra hands and hearts! If you are willing to donate some time on Sunday mornings (even if just one week on occasion), our young children will be cared for and loved.

There are spots for Nursery Care (9:30 – 11:30 on Sundays) and for Sunday Connection (with Laura, following Time for Children until the end of worship.) Sign up to help at www.centralforgood.org/volunteer.

Eco-Palms for Palm Sunday Celebration

Every year Central and other congregations worldwide celebrate Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem by waving palm branches.

In 2007 the PC(USA) teamed up with Lutheran World Relief, Catholic Relief Services and the University of Minnesota to offer congregations the option of purchasing responsibly harvested Eco-Palm branches for Palm Sunday. The palms we are using come from communities in Mexico and Guatemala where workers are paid fairly and engage in sustainable harvesting in order to protect the local ecosystem.

For more information, visit: www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/hunger/enough/eco-palms-2 OR visit the Eco-Palms website at www.ecopalms.org.



Happy Birthday!

Join us in wishing a joyous *Happy Birthday* to all who are celebrating birthdays this month.

- Deborah Rioux..... 4/8
- Benjamin Amarteifio..... 4/9
- Pam Larson 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
- Jennifer Anderson 4/20
- Macaran Baird..... 4/21
- James Benike..... 4/22
- Andrew Kovach..... 4/22
- John Sanchez Sandberg 4/26
- Mila Sanchez Sandberg..... 4/30

If we missed you, send a note to office@centralforgood.org so we can update our notes and share birthday wishes with you, too!



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Thank You to our Donors!

Thank you to all who contributed to our donation drive for the Department of Indian Work Food Shelf, a program of Interfaith Action of St. Paul. Together we raised 250 lbs. of donations and \$1,030 in financial contributions. Central's Hunger Task Force also made an additional \$1,000 donation from the hunger grant to Keystone Community Services for its food shelves.

CENTRAL IS *in the city for good!*