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FEBRUARY 2019

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VOCALPOINT CONCERTS

Join us February 9 & 10 at 4:00 p.m. for VocalPoint's concert 'Holding Space'.

In seven seasons, VocalPoint has raised nearly \$200,000 to support the work of Open Arms of Minnesota, Avenues for Homeless Youth, Neighborhood House, The Advocates for Human Rights, Upstream Arts, One Heartland, and Twin Cities RISE.

This year, VocalPoint is partnering with the Walk-In Counseling Center as its beneficiary. The Walk-In Counseling Center provides free mental health counseling to help thousands of people address issues

of depression, anxiety, chemical abuse and dependency, trauma, domestic violence and a variety of other emotional and interpersonal concerns. VocalPoint will be telling Walk-In's story that focuses on how we can hold space for others when they are needing someone to listen without judgement.

VocalPoint has invited singer/songwriter Sara Thomsen to help tell that story. Sara's award-winning music speaks of healing and comfort. With a voice rich as the best mid-west soil, Sara writes music that allows us to "hold space" for each other - to give each other permission to grieve,



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WORSHIP

Note: Assuming that Ashley Bair is elected by the congregation on January 27, one of the first things Ashley and Dave will do after she starts is schedule preaching assignments. So plans and passages and themes may change between the date of this newsletter going to print and the day of worship.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

In February, we will be hearing great passages about Jesus' ministry from the Gospel of Luke. On this day, we hear of Jesus getting to read scripture and preach (Luke 4:21-30). The people were amazed, Luke says, but despite Jesus' preaching a very short sermon, they soon grew irate. Prophets often are tasked with delivering an unpopular yet important message that the people need to hear. How do we cultivate a prophetic imagination? How can we listen for holy voices from the wilderness?

Ars Nova Brass Quintet plays and the Central Choir sings.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

On this VocalPoint concert weekend, we will be looking at issues of mental health and wholeness. And our gospel reading (Luke 5:1-11) has something important to say. On its surface it is a fishing story. But Jesus' instructions to cast your nets into the deep waters offer important wisdom to all of us.

Our Sunday School Singers sing in worship with Sharon Kleckner serving as the guest organist.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

The gospel series continues with the Beatitudes ("blessed are the poor...") in Luke 6:17-26. In pairing this reading with Psalm 1, the day offers an opportunity to reflect on what it means to be righteous instead of wicked and how to participate in God's work in our world. Central Choir sings.

Following worship, all are invited to join us for a Third Sunday lunch. And, after lunch, a town hall forum (see page 9).

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24

The beatitudes shift to one of Jesus' most difficult commands to follow - "Love your enemies." Understood in the context of first century Palestine, this passage (Luke 6:27-38) offers tools for a holy resistance.

Central Choir sings.

Education for All Ages 9:30 a.m.

Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship 11:30 a.m.



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or hurt, or heal. When we hold space for each other, we let ourselves simply BE, without judgement or without trying to fix it or without changing the subject.

VocalPoint is also working with three amazing composers, and will be premiering their pieces during the February concerts:

TIM TAKACH: A new SATB setting of Tim's work *Mantra* which speaks about how we can care for ourselves when we are in a dark place - but it offers a warning about thinking there is a "to do" list for fixing brokenness. Instead, we may

just need to remember that we aren't in need of fixing at all.

LINDA KACHELMEIER: Linda has previously worked with Voices of Hope - a choir based in the Women's Correctional Facility in Shakopee - as a guest composer. She worked with the women (80% of whom have a mental illness) using their words, to write a 4-movement piece that gave voice to their hopes and fears about being an incarcerated person. Linda is re-arranging one of the movements (called *Lift Me Up*) for SATB choir.

ABBIE BETINIS : Abbie is re-arranging several of Sara Thomsen's solo pieces for SATB choir as well as reprising a favorite original composition of Abbie's as well.

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME!

Help support the 2019 concerts by signing up to assist with rehearsal reception, musician dinner, ticket sales and ushering. Find a link to the volunteer sign-ups on our website at www.centralforgood.org/volunteer.

To learn more about VocalPoint and the Walk-In Counseling Center, go to www.vocalpointchorus.org.

BENEFICIARIES FROM VOCALPOINT PAST

For seven years, VocalPoint has produced annual concerts, raising their voices, raising awareness and raising nearly \$200,000 (including matching grants) for several deserving local organizations.



2012: OPEN ARMS OF MINNESOTA

\$17,366 raised for an organization that ensures people living with serious illness don't go hungry.



2013: AVENUES FOR HOMELESS YOUTH

\$17,848 raised for an organization that raises awareness about the prevalent problem of youth homelessness in Minnesota and shelters these young people.



2014: NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

\$22,190 raised for an organization that helps people, families and organizations develop the skills, knowledge, and confidence to thrive in diverse communities.



2015: THE ADVOCATES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

\$24,209 raised for a local organization that works globally to support human rights of all people.



2016: UPSTREAM ARTS

\$21,621 raised for an organization with the mission of enhancing the lives of adults and youth with disabilities by fostering creative

communication and social independence through the power of arts education.



2017: ONE HEARTLAND

\$24,888 raised for an organization that brings young people around campfires to deal with life challenges.



2018: TWIN CITIES RISE

\$25,929 raised for an organization whose mission is to transform lives out of poverty through meaningful employment.

Join us Feb. 9 & 10 as VocalPoint builds on this legacy to the benefit of The Walk-in Counseling Center.

WELCOME, ASSOCIATE PASTOR ASHLEY BAIR!

The process to identify and select a Designated Associate Pastor for Central Presbyterian Church was thoughtful, deliberate, collaborative and intentional in scope, process and in aspects of decision making.

Since November 2018, 791.25 man-hours were committed by our Designated Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (DAPNC) to explore, interview and assess candidates identified by Presbytery Task Force.

On January 27, we were pleased to receive Ashley Bair as the nominated Associated Pastor for Central and to hear her preach during worship this day. After worship, a congregational meeting was held. Upon hearing the final report of the DAPNC and election was held. First, a vote was received of the children and visitors as an advisory to the congregation. 13 votes of children, 24 votes of visitors all as yes. Then came the vote of

the congregation and with the ballots of 65 members in hand, it was a unanimous YES!

And so, we welcome Ashley Bair as our Associate Pastor elect and look forward to her joining our staff and congregation. Her installation at Central Presbyterian Church will be at a date yet to be determined, but as soon as possible. To learn more about the next steps for Ashley, go to www.centralforgood.org/dapnc.





To see more photos from this day and other events, go to our website at www.centralforgood.org/photos



SESSION LEADERSHIP AND WORK AREAS

At its January meeting, the Session organized itself to focus on the work of the church involved in our ministry and mission. Each of the committees and work groups welcome input and participation. If you have curiosity, questions or a desire to get involved, please contact the committee chairs who are listed (or our Church Administrator, Anna Sanchez, can help connect you as well.)

Many thanks to those who serve on the Session, Board of Deacons and as volunteers throughout the church. In each case, the elder who will chair the committee is listed first.

Personnel Committee

- Chair: Stu Siebell
Fluryanne Leach
- Lynda Petrie
- Al Zdrazil

Children and Youth

- Chair: Kati Berg
- Alex Bollman
- Sharon Zopfi-Jordan

Finance and Stewardship

(3 elders: 1 from each class as required by bylaws)

- Chair: Rich Binger (2021)
- Craig Foss (2020)
- Fluryanne Leach (2019)

Worship, Music and the Arts

- Chair: Dennis Reimer
- Sally Mortenson

New Members and Volunteers

- Chair: Alex Bollman
- Kati Berg
- Rich Binger

Coordinated Mission

(with Deacons)

- Chair: Sharon Zopfi-Jorda
- Dennis Reimer

Facilities Management and Risk Assessment

- Chair: Fluryanne Leach
- Craig Foss
- Carl Willis

Nominating Committee

(2 elders, 1 deacon, 2 at-large)

- Chair: Carl Willis
- Stu Siebell
- Mel Leach
- Wendy Flinner
- Craig Muntifering

Clerk

- Sally Mortenson

Treasurer

- Matt Ehling

Deacons

- Mark Vance
- Mary Kay Vance
- Craig Muntifering
- Sharon Knowlton
- April Greibrok
- Chris Bremicker
- Carolyn Hess
- Laura Williams
- Susan Seymour

Openings on Session

The Nominating Committee will be looking to nominate people who can put their faith into leadership by filling two unexpired terms on our Session or governing board. Whether new to Central or long-time members, we are looking for people who are wise and willing. Self nominations encouraged!

Send names and background to Carl Willis at carlkwillis@gmail.com.

Be
the person
you want
to have
in your life

Your life
is as good
as your
mindset

TOWN HALL FORUM

OPEN FOR DAYTON AVENUE FOLKS (AND ANYONE ELSE!)

Do you want to get more involved, but need to know how?

Have you noticed things at Central that make you scratch your head and wonder why they are done that way?

Curious about finances? Committee structure? Future plans?

With many members of Dayton Avenue Presbyterian Church now participating in the life of Central, we think it might be a good idea for a free-flowing conversation that answers questions, considers new ideas, and imagines the future. Any and all are welcome to join Rev. Colby and leaders from the congregation on Sunday, February 17 after the Third Sunday Lunch.



NEW MEMBER CLASS

Want to learn more ways Central is in this city for good? Come to our New Member Class Sunday, February 24, 11:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Following worship that day, Rev. Colby and folks from the New Members and Volunteers Committee will hold a conversation for people interested in learning more about Central and getting more involved. We're calling it a New Member Class, but we don't twist

arms here at Central. You can come to the class with your mind open to whether membership might be right for you.

This class is for people:

- who want to get more involved at Central.
- who want to meet other people who are part of the Central community.
- who want to learn more about the mission of Central as well as its past, present, and future.

- who want to reflect on their faith journey.
- who may be or are ready to join Central as a member.

We will begin with lunch, share and learn about others, take a tour, ask questions and explore the role of faith in our lives. We will be glad to provide childcare if that will be helpful. So that we may properly plan for enough lunches, please RSVP to alexmbollman@msn.com. Hope you will join us!

CHILD & YOUTH EVENT OPPORTUNITY



VS



Join us for the Women's Gopher Basketball game against Penn State on February 17 at 1:00 p.m. at the Williams Arena.

This the day of the Third Sunday Lunch, so after lunch we will carpool or catch the Greenline train. (Be sure to bundle up as it is a 0.3 mile walk from the Stadium Village

Station to Williams Arena.)

Reserve your spot by February 9 to Kati Berg at (507) 259-1490 or katiannberg@gmail.com to ensure we can all sit together. Price is \$10 per ticket (though there is currently an inquiry pending to see if we can get discounted group pricing.)

TRIENNIUM



PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH TRIENNIUM 2019

Triennium is happening this summer! Every three summers, high school students from all over the world gather on a college campus for the Presbyterian Youth Triennium to create a community of young Presbyterians committed to strengthening their relationships with God and the church. Participants this year are heading to Purdue University July 16 to the 20th.

Any youth who are entering 9th grade or graduating high school this spring are eligible to go. Central's youth attend with a larger group from the Presbytery. We have more details for those who are interested. Please let us know as soon as you can if you would like to attend!

Ben Beese hit the jackpot and was the right age so that he was able to attend in both 2013 and 2016. Ben says, "I had a lot of fun living in the university dorms and being able to structure my own free time throughout the event. I met a lot of great people too! I also enjoyed the live music during the worship."

Registration is technically not due until May, but there will be other Presbytery events we don't want you to miss out on. Scholarships are available! To reserve your spot or to learn more, contact Anna Sanchez at office@cpctestpaul.org.

INVITATION FOR SINGERS!

JOIN THE CENTRAL CHOIR FOR ARVO PÄRT'S BERLINER MESSE.

Reviewer Gerald Fisher writes: *Arvo Pärt's Berliner Messe is a masterpiece of the composer's tintinnabulation technique, written originally for organ and chorus for the 1990 "German Catholic Day." The piece is short but liturgically complete and is particularly rich in Medieval and early Renaissance vocal textures which abound throughout but especially in the fourth movement. Veni Sancte Spiritus is the heart of the piece where the vocal lines dip, rise and hover around a simpler chordal, almost foreboding string drone. A more dynamic Credo precedes a long stretched-out Sanctus followed by an unearthly but brief Agnus Dei, which concludes the Mass on a note of expectancy.*

Singers looking for a rich, rewarding choral challenge are invited to participate with us. Rehearsals start on Wednesday, February 20 at 7:15 p.m. There is a dress rehearsal on Saturday, April 6 at 9:30 a.m and the piece will be

sung in worship on Sunday, April 7 at 10:30 a.m. To ensure we have enough music, please reserve your place by February 13 by emailing Jennifer Anderson at jennifera@cpctestpaul.org.



SHARING STORIES OF PUERTO RICO



This past month the Puerto Mission Trip Team shared stories and insight from the recent trip, including one question... "When do we go back?"

The January Child & Youth Outing brought the Jones, Colby and Berg families to the Landmark Center for their Urban Expedition: Puerto Rico learning event. It coincided perfectly with the Central mission trip team's presentation on their visit to this country the same day.



WOMEN OF CENTRAL

WOMEN'S NETWORKING GROUP

We had a great time at Holman's Table this past month. What a great spot! There is no networking event in February. But, here is the lineup for the following months.



Thurs., March 7th
Tongue in Cheek
 989 Payne Ave.
 St. Paul, MN



Wed., April 3rd
Ngon Vietnamese Bistro
 799 University Ave
 W St Paul, MN



Wed., May 8th
Gray Duck
 345 Wabasha St N
 St Paul, MN

As always, we will meet at church at 5:15 p.m. or you can meet us at the restaurant at 5:30. We will plan to drive to Tongue in Cheek in March as it is too far to walk from church. Please RSVP to Sue Hoffman (syhoffman123@comcast.net) to reserve your spot and let her know if child care is needed.

4TH SUNDAY KNITTING GROUP

The knitting (and crocheting!) group will meet on Sunday, February 24th at 11:45 a.m. We will discuss projects for 2019. If you are interested in becoming a leader for this group, please contact Sue at syhoffman123@comcast.net. Join the fun!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PER CAPITA

In 2018, we received a tremendous amount of time and support from Presbytery staff and members in our search for a Designated Associate Pastor. Our mission trip to Puerto Rico provided an opportunity for fifteen Central folks to see up close the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. An important way we support the work of the church beyond Central is by contributing a specific amount of money per adult member of the church to the presbytery, synod and general assembly. These funds go to missionaries, service projects, disaster assistance, and programs like "Theocademy.com" with its video lessons for new members and elders and deacons. We encourage all members at Central to support the work of the church by contributing \$35.70 in addition to your pledge.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Susan Seymour..... 1/1
 Ingrid Bollman 2/3
 Marlena Haugen 2/3
 Laura Varanasi..... 2/4
 Veronica Amarteifio 2/5
 James Bergman..... 2/7
 Kris Baird 2/9
 Stephanie Getschmann 2/9
 Ryan Kimani..... 2/9
 Melissa Varanasi 2/9
 George Lonergan 2/10
 Margo Nicoll..... 2/10
 Victoria Pyan 2/11
 Ned Taylor..... 2/13
 Christopher Amarteifio..... 2/14
 Laura Williams 2/15

BOOK GROUP

Book group meets the second and fourth Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Friendship Room. The February dates are Feb 12 and 26. The book selection is the 4th book in the series by Louise Penny called *The Cruellest Month*.

DORCAS CIRCLE

Dorcas circle will meet Thursday, February 14 at 11:30 a.m. in the Friendship room. Bring your own lunch with coffee to be provided. We are looking at Lesson 6.

NEW PHOTOS

It was a historical and exciting time at Central in January. Be sure to check our website for links to see new photos in our gallery at www.centralforgood.org/photos.

Ian Berg 2/17
 Jon Juffer 2/17
 Sara Bartlett 2/18
 Eddie Sanders 2/18
 Barbara Swanson 2/19
 Ellie Schlittenhart 2/20
 Joshua Soderbeck..... 2/22
 Lynne Severson..... 2/23
 Nora Welch 2/24

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

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

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

ADMINISTRATION

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

Christie Rachele, Communications
cpc@christierachele.com

Matt Ehling, Treasurer
 William Zopfi, Treasurer Emeritus

Mary Lange, Evening Receptionist

Patrick Cook, Sexton

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

Megan Beese, Preschool Teacher

FOOD INITIATIVE

Barb Westman, Chef & Manager
Barb.westman@gmail.com, ext 114

Sue LeClaire, Sous Chef

Peter Evarts, Dishwasher

MARTHA'S CLOSET

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



CENTRAL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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CENTRAL IS *in the city for good!*

In December, Central was pleased to host Schubert Club's annual 'Songs for the Season' holiday concert, curated and hosted by Central's own Composer-in-Residence Abbie Betinis. This was a great night of music featuring an eclectic array of music by Minnesota composers and the Central Choir as the guest choir.