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**FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT
PENTECOST WORSHIP ON JUNE 5**

[BY REV. CAROL REED]

They devoted themselves to the Apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their

*number those who were being saved.
- Acts 2:42-47*

The beginning of the second chapter of Acts of the Apostles tells the story of the day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit came upon the believers who until that time had been uncertain what to do after Jesus had left them. Everything had changed. No one knew what was to come.

Sound just a bit familiar? So much of what we do these days has gone through changes. There is still a lot of uncertainty about when we can return to “normal.” People miss the way things used to be. Central Church has gone through huge changes of

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 3]

UPCOMING WORSHIP

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

**SERVICES STREAMED LIVE
ONLINE ON OUR WEBSITE AT
www.centralforgood.org/stream**

Our music ensembles take a well-deserved break for the summer months. During worship, we will welcome section leader soloists, our talented staff keyboardists, and wonderful volunteers to share music with us.

Sunday, June 5

Abbie Betinis returns as a soloist with Patrick Henning on organ. Rev. Carol Reed preaches *The Day of Pentecost* with scripture readings from Psalm 104:1-9, 24; Acts 2:1-21.

Sunday, June 12

This Trinity Sunday, Rev. Carol Reed preaches *God in Three Person* with scripture readings from:

- Psalm 8
God Our Creator
- Matthew 28:16-20
Jesus the Christ
- Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
The Spirit of God

Steve Swanson will play piano with soloist Adam Van der Sluis.

Sunday, June 19

Rev. Carol Reed preaches *Seeking God in Our Midst* with scripture readings from Psalm 42:1-5 and Luke 8:26-39. Patrick Henning is organist.

Sunday, June 26

Rev. Carol Reed will preach *God's Holy Ways* with scripture readings from Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20 and Luke 9:51-62. Steve Swanson play piano with soloist Adam Van der Sluis.



Central's Coordinated Mission Committee is once again hosting a diaper drive to support the families of the Interfaith Action's Project Home.

Diapers are a necessary and expensive item for families with babies and toddlers. For those who face financial strain, diapers are not an eligible item for food stamps or other government programs.

If you are interested in donating diapers and/or wipes, please bring donations to Central's Friendship Room on Sundays, June 5, 12 or 19. There is a need for all sizes, especially those that fit larger toddlers.

If you have questions, feel free to contact the church office.

Thank you!

CENTRAL STAFF

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PROGRAMS

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Megan Beese, Preschool Teacher
Shanika Whitmore, Nursery Care

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

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

FUN AND ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES!

[FROM JENNIFER ANDERSON]

You are invited to share in these activities hosted by Central's youth groups for the entire church.

Tie Dye and Ice Cream

JULY 24

Nothing says summer more than tie dye and ice cream! Join us after worship on the back lawn for some ice cream (sponsored by the Welcome & Hospitality Committee) and a chance to do some creative tie-dyeing. We'll provide the dyes and equipment, you bring something to tie dye! We'll have some extra items that you can use (just ask that you cover the cost of the garments you use.)

Care Packages for Our Neighbors

AUGUST 14

As a partnership with the Coordinated Missions Committee, the youth groups are going to be overseeing our "care packages" that we offer to our neighbors who come to Central asking for food, hygiene items, or winter items such as hats and mittens. During the weeks leading up to August 14, we will be asking for the following items to be donated:

Unopened small hygiene items:

This is a perfect time to grab those hotel items such as travel size soaps, toothpaste, toothbrushes, lotion, Kleenex packs, Chapstick, etc.

Reusable bags and backpacks:

We find that nearly everyone who comes to Central asking for items also asks for a good bag to put it in. Canvas, nylon, etc. (Think of the bags that

you might get from donating to your favorite non-profit organizations. If you have an extra, consider donating it to this project!)

Winter gear: Hats, mittens, scarves, and socks! Warm socks (such as white athletic socks) are ALWAYS in need and a common item that goes overlooked when people donate.

Snack Items: Will be purchased with funds from the Hunger Initiative (granola bars, nuts, fruit snacks, etc.)

Together, after worship on August 14, all ages are invited to help assemble these care packages that we will keep on hand in the church office and give to people who are in need. Central's youth groups will continue this project on an ongoing basis. So, you can continue to donate hygiene items, bags, and winter gear throughout the year, and

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its own and is living in its own in-between, liminal time.

By the end of the second chapter in Acts, we read that the believers had found a sense of purpose in worship, teaching, and mission. The passage mentions the numbers who were being added to their ranks, but I don't really think that head count was what mattered. It would be a very long time before people became organized as the church and even longer before churches became institutionalized with a building and staff. During the long in-between time, the believers would need to

depend on God and one another.

While change is hard and uncertainty is even harder, it is not all bad. In this in-between time that Central finds itself, there are opportunities to consider what it means to be the church and what to focus on going forward. And if this time of uncertainty about the future means growing closer to God, and to one another, that will be a blessing.

Spirit of God, filling our hearts with hope, steadying our nerves with

peace, comforting our lives with love;

Spirit of God, come to us now – surging through the darkness of our lives, sweeping over our weariness –

so that, in this time of Pentecost, the sparkling light of faith,

the rushing wind of hope and the joyful sound of praise

may echo round the world, may echo in the church, and find their response in us. Amen.

By John Harvey in *Fire & Bread*,
Wild Goose Publications

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

[FROM JENNIFER ANDERSON]

What's Happening Sundays This Summer?

From Memorial Day to Labor Day, the Sunday Schedule looks like this:

9:30 a.m. – Nursery is open

10:30 a.m. – Worship Hour

Lifeboaters (Middle Schoolers) are invited to sit together in the "Lifeboat" part of the Sanctuary.

The Time for Children will take place as a "Faith Field Trip" throughout the church building. Kids are welcome to join Jennifer as we explore the building and learn important elements of our faith. (For example, we might visit the Communion Closet and talk about what communion is and why it's important.) After the Time for Children, 1st graders and under are welcome to go to the nursery. Older kids will receive a special activity packet to do back in their pews during the service that fits with the theme of the field trip.

After church, games and treats in the Friendship Room! Plus special intergenerational events for everyone on July 24 and August 14!

Youth Group Summer Calendar

JUNE 5: PENTECOST

Lifeboats participate in worship (arrive by 9:45 a.m.) by being the "flames of the Spirit", and then Lifeboats meets after worship at 11:30 a.m. for youth group.



Compass (Sr. High) has a bonfire (on day of Pentecost!) at Jennifer's home at 6:00 p.m. Dinner and s'mores included, of course!

July 24: Tie-Dye and Ice Cream after worship! Lifeboats and Compass will be helpers for the event. (Bring your own items to tie dye as well!)

July 31: Lifeboats trip to the St. Paul Saints Game! Meet at church by 1:00 p.m. We'll take the light rail over to the St. Paul Saints for an afternoon game. We'll be back to the church around 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$10 plus any money for snacks. Please RSVP to Jennifer by July 17 for a limited number of tickets.

August 2: Compass Goes Canoeing on the St. Croix! Spend the day on the river with your high school friends. Meet at church at 9:00 a.m. and bring a lunch as we enjoy a beautiful trip down the St. Croix river. Friends are welcome, but you must RSVP to Jennifer Anderson by July 18.

August 14: Create Care Packages

after church for neighbors in need.

Clearwater Summer Camp

Bring on the games, boating, hikes, worship, laughter, fun, triumphs, songs, skits, and adventure! Registration is now being accepted for youth entering 3rd grade through those currently finishing their senior year. Scholarship funds are available through Central, so please don't let financial need get in the way of attending camp this summer.

Learn more about camp options, call Clearwater at (218) 678-2325 or go to www.clearwaterforest.org/summer-camp. Don't let the opportunity to see what God can do in a child's life slip through your fingers - register them today!

Camp & College Scholarships

Thanks to funds given to Central, youth scholarships are available for camp or college from the Nella Jury - Edna Larson Fund. Requests up to \$300 will be considered, with final awards depending on the number of applications received.

If interested, please submit a short request by June 10th. The letter should outline your connection to Central and how you plan to use the scholarship funds (ie. camp or school). The letter should be to Central, to the attention of the Children & Youth committee and sent to Jennifer Anderson via email to jennifera@centralforgood.org.

A GLIMPSE OF CABARET'S OZ!



See more event photos at www.centralforgood.org/photos!

FROM THE ANTI-RACISM TASK FORCE

[FROM REV. LOU BENDER]

My anniversary of joining the Anti-Racism Task Force at Central has just passed. Two years. We were living through history back then. We always are, of course, but at that time history loomed extra-large. The Task Force had been up and running for several months, the brainchild of people whose foresight had established the group as an outgrowth of the Coordinated Mission Committee.

A few short months later, we were in quarantine and George Floyd died, one of untold numbers of people of color to lose their lives to racism. The Task Force called the congregation together on Zoom. We raged and reflected, stunned and sobered at the enormity of the offense, wept and watched as our cities burned. We took a confessional stance in that moment, acknowledged that we have participated in great evils in this world, and vowed to be part of making it right. Change comes slowly, and at the same time tumbles down suddenly. The timing is God's, and we work to ready ourselves to be of use when the ripe occasion arrives.

There was - there is - so much work to do. Stories to be unearthed and freshened in the telling. Meanings to be surfaced and shared anew. Consequences to be faced as our excuses run thin. And, at least within our group, the growing awareness that we'd better settle in, because although "task force" sounds like a fleeting group with defined work to accomplish in the short-term, our



mission is unlikely to be realized within our lifetime.

We started out believing we could jump from one topic to the next as each new connection presented itself, and slowly realized we would implode without accomplishing much. Then we thought we could spend a few weeks or a few months on any one group or situation that revealed racism, and became frustrated with how little we could accomplish that way. We wanted to teach, and were surprised at how hard it was. We wanted to act, and discovered how much there still was to learn. We wanted authentic partners in our journey, and reached out, just a little, toward the people for whom we want to become solid allies.

We very nearly became paralyzed trying to decide whether to celebrate all the holidays or shine the light on all of the invisible histories, whether to provide the congregation with books to read or opportunities to lobby your legislator. But we continued to talk together and learned to trust each other. We

shared what we were experiencing in our various communities to live into our shared commitment to Anti-Racism.

And now it is two years and a few months later. We would not claim to know all the answers, of course; we are just getting started on asking all the questions! But we are settling in for the journey together, each of us finding our own place. We understand now the practice of pacing our work. We understand now the wisdom of saying "no" to some invitations so that the strength of our "yes" can thrive. And bit by bit, more of you are finding a place alongside us, to sing a song, read a book, make some art, ask a question, write a letter, explore a culture, act in faith.

Thank you for putting your trust in us. We love being your tour guides and worship leaders. We love having you respond to our invitations with curiosity and eagerness. We love having a time each month to talk about topics that are important to us. We love being your Anti-Racism Task Force! Thank you for the opportunity to serve the church and the world in this way.

**Want to be more involved
with a committee at
Central?**

**Drop an email to the
office and get connected!**

office@centralforgood.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save the Date for Tour of Sacred Sites

[FROM REV. CAROL REED]

You are invited to join the Anti-Racism Task-Force on a Sacred Sites Tour this summer, on Saturday, July 30, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Minnesota Council of Churches, led by Rev. Jim Bear Jacobs (Mohican) and Bob Klanderud (Dakota).

The tour will be an opportunity to learn about Minnesota history from a Native perspective with visits to Pilot Knob Hill, Fort Snelling, and site of the Dakota Internment Camp. More information and details to follow.

Church Directory

[FROM LYNNE SEVERSON & WENDY FLINNER]

It's time to update our church directory! We will be taking individual and family photos after worship in the Friendship Room on the following Sundays:

- June 12
- June 19
- July 17

If you cannot make one of these Sundays, we will schedule a make-up time for later in the summer, and we will also be accepting photo submissions at a later date with instructions. Stay tuned!

If you have any questions, please contact Lynne Severson or Wendy Flinner of the Welcome & Fellowship Committee.

Women's Networking Group

The Women's Networking Group had fun at Celeste St. Paul in May and now we are expanding our horizons in June!

We will meet on Monday, June 27 at 5:30 p.m. at the Pillbox Tavern – located in the Treasure Island Building (400 Wabasha Street.). Weather permitting, we will enjoy sitting on the patio at The Pillbox. You can meet us there (parking in the building) or walk over from Central's parking lot. (We will depart at 5:20 p.m.)

Please RSVP by June 23 to let us know if you plan to attend via email to women@centralforgood.org.

Please watch eConnect and our WNG email notifications to stay informed about the latest plans. You can join our WNG email list by sending note to sign up to women@centralforgood.org.



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

- Virginia Juffer 6/3
- Rebecca Thein 6/3
- Doug Throckmorton 6/5
- Vinai Vinlander..... 6/6
- Anna Sanchez 6/7
- Kerry Bollman 6/10
- Nickalos Sanders..... 6/12
- Beth Jagger..... 6/13
- Carolyn Hess..... 6/14
- Lynda Petrie 6/15
- Catherine McCarten 6/17
- John Lee 6/18
- Linda Morgan 6/19
- Richard Barker 6/20
- Doris Johnson 6/22
- Sandra White 6/26
- Zachary Bollman 6/28
- Louise French 6/30

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

SHOW LOVE TO OUR BRICKS!

Most of the bricks on the east side of our church building require full repointing, with other areas needing as much as 50% replacement.

To increase the amount needed for matching grants to replace and repair the masonry, we need to raise \$30,000 by July 14.

As of this date, we have received \$4,200. Thank you to all who have given so far! Help us reach our goal by donating \$50 or \$100 per brick. If a brownstone suits your preference, consider donating \$500. To contribute, simply drop a donation in the offering plate or return to the office, designating 'Restoration' on the check or envelope.



CENTRAL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Join Us for Lunch!

A chef-created community lunch is served each Wednesday from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Open to everyone in the community, it is a wonderful way to connect and enjoy a delicious meal.

There is a suggested donation of \$10. All who are hungry are invited to eat, regardless of their ability to give.

Love the breads? There are extra loaves for sale for only \$5 - but get there early, they go fast!

CENTRAL IS *in the city for good!*

