

CONNECT CENTRAL

Life Together

BY REV. CHRIS CHATELAINE-SAMSEN

Something I've grown to (mostly) love is biking in cities. I used to commute to work by bike in Washington DC, and I've started biking here to Central now that I'm a bit less concerned about rogue ice across the bike lanes. It's a great commute across the greenway and up Summit!

You get to know a city differently on a bike. You smell the bakeries and the coffee shops. You hear different conversations on street corners and kids running to catch the school bus. And yes, you also find out exactly where the road needs to be repaved, which drivers are in a particular rush that morning, and how the mosquito population is doing at any given moment in time.

In other words, you really get to know a place in an intimate way, good and troubling, pleasant and messy. You see and experience things and people that you might otherwise miss going 45 mph. I think about Jesus' ministry and how critical



it was that he walked where he went. Yes, there wasn't much of an option, but how many stories in which Jesus changed somebody's life began because he noticed somebody, or somebody noticed him?

In order for that to happen, you have to slow down and get close to the world around you. You have to open yourself up to being interrupted.

As I begin to work alongside you, that's my hope. To slow down and

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 7]

MAY 2023

Have you continued your regular pledged giving?



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New to Central?

Drop us an email and say hello. We'd love to connect with you!

office@centralforgood.org

Or, call and ask about our next Inquirer's Class for prospective new members.

(651) 224-4728 ext. 100

Upcoming Worship

Sunday Schedule

- 9:30 AM Adult Bible Study
- 10:30 AM Worship Service & Children's Education
- 11:30 AM Fellowship Hour

Nursery care is available upstairs from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. on worship Sundays this month.

Worship services are streamed live each Sunday on our website at: www.centralforgood.org/stream

Sunday, May 7

COMMUNION SUNDAY

The children of Central will lead us for Spark! Sunday. Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen will preach *Gone Fishing* with a scripture reading from John 21:1-14. Central Choir will sing and Steve Swanson plays piano.

After worship we invite you to join us in the Friendship Room for a reception recognizing the year's of dedicated work by Sandy White and others in Martha's Closet.

Sunday, May 14

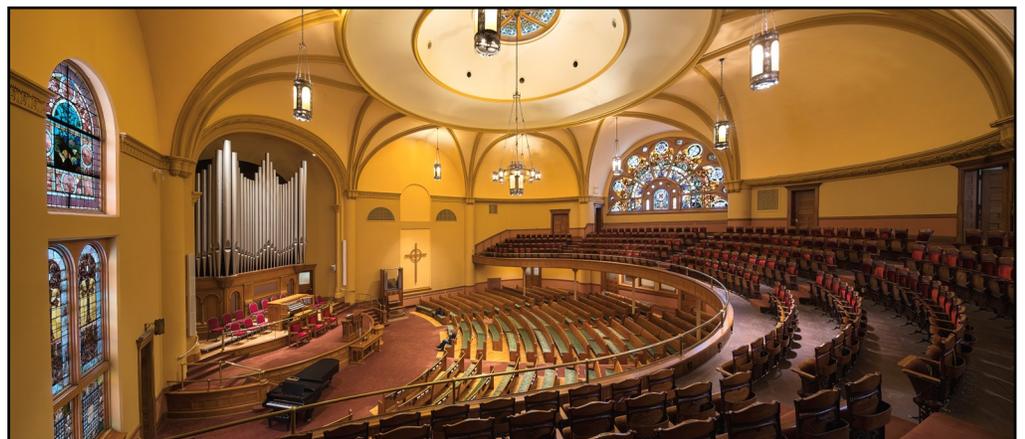
Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen will preach *Heart-Breaking and Heart-Mending* with a scripture reading from John 21:15-19. Artist-in-Residence Rod Kelly Hines will sing with the Central Choir and Barb Brooks will play piano and organ.

Sunday, May 21

Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen will preach *Lord, What About Him?* with a scripture reading from John 21:20-24. Central Choir sings and our Handbell Ensemble rings. We will also share in a special celebration of pianist Steve Swanson. This is also our Third Sunday Lunch weekend, so make plans to join us for a delicious catered meal after worship!

Sunday, May 28

This Memorial Day weekend, Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen will preach *So Early in the Morning?* with a scripture reading from Acts 2:1-18. Melanie Ohnstad plays the organ.



Stewardship Update

FROM THE FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The important work of Central Presbyterian Church is made possible and sustained by your generous financial giving.

Thank you.

A special thanks to everyone who has pledged or gives regularly to support the financial needs of Central. Pledged and regular, recurring giving helps us to plan and budget for our congregation and community. It enables us to better understand the stable sources of income for

everything from staff salaries to acts of service to our neighborhood - all putting our faith and commitments into action.

Although our pledge goal for the year is \$390,000, we are below that total. While this congregation is full of people generous with their time and resources, a greater proportion of pledged and regular giving will significantly reduce any uncertainty about the budget.

If you have not already, and especially if you're already planning on giving, please consider making a pledge or setting up recurring giving at www.centralforgood.org/give.

You can also reach out to Church Administrator Anna Sanchez at office@centralforgood.org with any questions. As we continue to grow in faith, let us continue to respond to God's abundance with our own, planning for an abundant future.



Help Central continue to plan and adapt by making a pledge!

"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

[Matthew 13:31]



Growing in Faith
AT CENTRAL

WAYS TO GIVE (RETURN TO CHURCH OFFICE)

- Please provide me a box of weekly offering envelopes.
- I want to pay monthly by direct bank transfer.
(Set up online at www.centralforgood.org/give)
- Please call me about donating stock or other investments.
- I want to make a donation by credit card.
(Go to www.centralforgood.org/give)
- I would like to make a special year-end gift of \$_____.

My Stewardship Pledge is

\$_____ / week, month, year (circle one)

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Memories from Easter Sunday

THANK YOU TO THE MANY PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THIS COLLECTION!



Children & Youth News

FROM JENNIFER ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & YOUTH MINISTRY

Graduation Sunday

Hard to believe, it is that time already when we talk about the end of the school year and graduations!

Central's Graduation Sunday is scheduled for June 11. During worship on this day, we would like to take a moment to recognize and honor all students graduating - be it from high school, college, or trade school programs.

If you or someone you know would like to be included in this service of recognition, please let Jennifer Anderson know by May 21 via email to jennifera@centralforgood.org.

Please note that you will be asked to participate in the service on June 11.

Camp & College Scholarships

Thanks to funds given to Central, youth scholarships are again available for camp or college from the Nella Jury - Edna Larson Fund.

Requests up to \$300 will be considered for children or youth who participate in the ministry of Central Presbyterian Church. The final award amount will be dependent on the number of applications received this year.

If interested, please submit a short letter of request by May 31.

The letter should outline your connection to Central and how you

plan to use the scholarship funds (i.e. camp or school).

The letter should be addressed to Central, to the attention of the Children & Youth committee. It can be emailed to Jennifer Anderson at jennifera@centralforgood.org.



Children & Youth Calendar

MAY 7

- 9:30 Nursery care available until 11:45 (ages 0-6).
- 10:00 Spark! Kids (grades 1-5) arrive for rehearsal.
- 10:30 Worship led by Spark!.
- 11:30 Life Boats Middle School Fellowship (grades 6-8).
- 5:45 Confirmation Class (grades 9-12)
- 6:30 Compass Senior High Fellowship (grades 9-12)

- 10:30 Worship with Sunday Connection (grades 1-5) following a Time for Children.
- 11:30 Special surprise after worship with lunch following. Lifeboats will eat together at lunch.
- 5:45 Confirmation Class (grades 9-12)
- 6:30 Compass Senior High Fellowship (grades 9-12)

MAY 14

- 9:30 Nursery care available until 11:45 (ages 0-6).
- 10:30 Worship with Sunday Connection (grades 1-5) following a Time for Children.

MAY 28

- 9:30 Nursery care available until 11:45 (ages 0-6).
- 10:30 Worship.

If you have questions about upcoming events or ways to engage your child in ministry or fellowship activities, contact:

Jennifer Anderson
(651) 224-4728 x103
jennifera@centralforgood.org

MAY 21

- 9:30 Nursery care available until 11:45 (ages 0-6).

Calling All Quilters and Creatives!

BY KIERA FAYE, CHAIR OF WORSHIP, MUSIC & ARTS COMMITTEE

The Worship Music & Arts Committee is launching a project to add to the beauty of the sanctuary year-round, and we need your skills!

Inspired Art & Paraments

We'll be working together to design and create new banners and paraments for seasons and events throughout the church year.

Paraments are liturgical hangings and ornaments on and around the chancel, including cloths hanging from the pulpit or lectern. In this case, we'll also be looking at banners that hang in the sanctuary, such as the beautiful Advent candle banners created by Marie Prottengeier Smith and Wendy Flinner.

The colors of liturgical paraments are often used to mark the different seasons of the church year. For example, white is used during Christmas to represent purity and joy, while purple is used during Lent to represent penitence and preparation.



Red is used during Pentecost to represent the Holy Spirit, and green is used during Ordinary Time to represent growth and new life. What colors and themes mean the most to you throughout the church year?

Share Your Talents!

Quilting and sewing skills are welcome, but we also need concept



designers, project managers, and helpers. (Maybe some fabric donations as well!)

Curious? Or ready to jump right in? Join us in the Friendship Room after worship on Sunday, May 7 to kick-off this project and brainstorm some concepts with other creative minds as well.

Do You Love Exploring History?

BY CHRISTIE RACHELLE, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Are you a history buff? Perhaps you want to learn more about the origin, people, and stories of Central's 170+ year history? If so, there is a special project just for you!

This coming fall, we will be launching a special display about the history of Central as we open a new chapter with Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen. To do this, we need a handful of people to help with

exploring the history room to identify photographs and materials that would be a great part of the new exhibit.

To volunteer for this short-term project crew, drop an email to christier@centralforgood.org or call (952) 564-4472. We will coordinate days/times to meet based on volunteer availability.

Help Unlock the Metro & Create More Affordable Housing!

BY LEON OMAN, BEACON LEADERSHIP TEAM

Remember the old keys being collected in the Friendship Room earlier in the winter? It's time to get them ready for ACTION! Join us in a hands-on activity and learn more about a powerful way to address homelessness! It's time to unlock housing equity!

Save the Date

Central's Beacon Leadership Team members invite you to join them on May 21st in writing messages to the members of the Metropolitan Council and attaching them to the keys we collected. Our tagged keys will be combined with those collected by other Beacon congregations and presented to the Metropolitan Council at an upcoming media event presented by the larger Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative. It will be a dramatic way to publicly try to change public policy.

May 21 is the day of our 3rd Sunday Lunch. After lunch, join the event upstairs in the Friendship Room. A Beacon team member will share



about the need for deeply affordable housing, especially in the suburbs, and the importance of the Met Council making project-based vouchers more accessible to developers.

After this short talk, we'll work together on tagging our keys to get them ready for delivery. Children are welcome too!

Guess the Number of Keys!

On May 7 and 14, we will have the donated keys on display in the Friendship Room. Come guess the number and enter our contest! A \$25 gift card to "Keys" Café and Bakery (located near the church) will be presented on May 21 to the one with the closest guess!

Let's Experience the City and This Life Together CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

get close. To see and be seen. And to be changed. That's also my hope for this congregation, our neighborhood, and the cities in which we are embedded. I don't want to look out through the windows of an air conditioned car

or a comfortable office at the world around. I need to experience life with you and the city we call home. Central is *in the city* for good.

I'm looking forward to getting to know Central and the city in order

to do that good, up close, blessings, warts, and all. I invite you to help me do that work, showing me what you see, so together we can share the stories of God at work in our midst and in the city.

Test Your Knowledge of Our Church Building!

BY BARB SWANSON, FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

How well do you know our church and the work underway to preserve it? Draw a line from the question in the left hand column to the correct answer in the right hand column.

To see the answers, go page 11.



1. What year was Central's current building built?	A. The front where large brownstones and stained glass window covers were replaced.
2. What is the street address of Central?	B. The Minnesota Historical Society awards us grants (that we must match) to cover some costs.
3. What is the building's architectural style?	C. 500 Cedar Street, Saint Paul, MN 55101.
4. What materials were used?	D. 7
5. What was discovered in the building in 2016?	E. Brownstone, brick, limestone, iron, copper, decorative stone
6. What was assessed in 2018?	F. 1889
7. What is on the west side of the church?	G. Loose, large decorative stones.
8. How many restoration phases are there?	H. Historic Architect: "Exterior condition is 'fair to poor' and will continue to deteriorate rapidly." Restoration began.
9. What is our current phase?	I. Richardsonian Romanesque ; it's on the National Registry of Historic Places.
10. \$1,000,000	J. The cost for phases 4-7. (North and south sides, belltower, window coverings, front railings, and cracked step replaced).
11. What does MNHS stand for?	K. Phase 3 (The side most in need of restoration.) Re-pointing, replacing 2,160 bricks.
12. How will the cost be shared?	L. Grants + Central members, friends, and community.
13. How will we share this space?	M. Our restored church provides a safe and beautiful structure for worship, growth and God's work for good. Its door will continue to be open and welcoming for our community to share our spaces.



Women's Networking Group

FROM SUE HOFFMAN, WOMEN OF CENTRAL

May Gathering

On Monday, May 1, we will be going to The Lost Fox (213 4th St. E., Suite 100, St. Paul, MN) located in the Depot building. We can walk/light rail at 5:15 p.m. from church or you can meet us there at 5:30 p.m. Please RSVP by Friday, April 28 to women@centralforgood.org to let us know if you can join us.

June Gathering

On Monday, June 5, the Women of Central will have a special potluck event to discuss our plans for the future. Sally Mortenson and Casey Wells will host us at Kellogg Square Apartments (111 Kellogg Blvd. E., St. Paul, MN). We will gather in the building's community room at 5:30 p.m. This room is great for visiting and we will make the most of it! Indoors offers a full kitchen, tables and chairs, as well as sofas and chairs for visiting with one another. Outdoors there is a great patio with a grill and other seating areas.

For this potluck, the Women of Central will provide burgers, hot dogs, and veggie burgers for grilling. We will also provide buns (including

gluten-free), and condiments - plus plates, silverware, and napkins. If you can join us, we ask that you bring a side dish to share. This could be a salad, dessert, appetizer, chips, or whatever you like. Please also bring your own beverage.

During the evening, we will share in conversation about what you want to see and do as the Women of Central. The last time we held this type of discussion was in 2016, so it is again time for us to plan for our future! You don't need to prepare anything. Just come and share your thoughts and ideas.

Reserve Your Seat!

If you plan to join us for the June potluck gathering, please RSVP by Thursday, June 1 via email to women@centralforgood.org. We will send parking and access information to those who plan to attend by June 3.

Stay Informed

Not on our mailing list? Email women@centralforgood.org to be added to the list and get all the latest news and event updates.

stay
CONNECTED



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FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM
instagram.com/centralforgood



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



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VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.centralforgood.org



VOLUNTEER TO HELP
centralforgood.org/volunteer



CALL ANYTIME WITH QUESTIONS
(651) 224-4728

Announcements

SUBMIT YOUR CHURCH NEWS TO CHRISTIER@CENTRALFORGOOD.ORG BY THE 10TH OF EACH MONTH.

Reception of Gratitude for Sandy White

On Sunday, May 7 we will hold a special fellowship hour to recognize Sandy White for her years of volunteer service to Central and Martha's Closet where she served as its director for many years until its closure in 2022.

We encourage all to join us after worship this day to thank Sandy and other Martha's Closet volunteers for their service. Cards and notes of thank you are welcome and can be dropped in the basket in the Friendship Room on this day.

In Memoriam

Former Dayton Avenue Presbyterian Church member Judy Schuberg passed away on March 21, 2023. Memorial details will be shared as they become available.

Come Enjoy Wednesday Community Lunch

Have you experienced the many delicious menus Chef Barb Westman and her team of volunteers creates each week? If not, we invite you to do so this week! Offered every Wednesday from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.,

lunch is open to everyone in the community. There is a suggested donation of \$10 per person. However, all who are hungry are invited to eat, regardless of their ability to pay. Often you can also purchase an extra loaf of bread to take home. (And trust me... you want it!) To see the menu each week, check our Facebook page or visit our website.

Happy Birthday!

This month we share in wishing a joyous *Happy Birthday* to all who are celebrating birthdays.

- Cort Peterson 5/1
- Richard Swanson..... 5/2
- Elizabeth Brzoska 5/5
- Paul Gulsvig 5/8
- Charlene Fleck..... 5/10
- Susan Hoffman 5/11
- Marlyss Wolf 5/11
- Dorothy Guild-Canfield 5/15
- Jon Pearce 5/15
- William Zopfi-Jordan..... 5/15
- Mark Vance 5/19
- Jessica Jones..... 5/21
- Braylen Lawson..... 5/21
- Josh Voelker 5/22
- Richard Kinde 5/23
- Christine McCarten 5/23
- Gavia Endres 5/27
- Michele Patton 5/29
- Sebastian Rich..... 5/29
- Audrey Thompson-Amarteifio . 5/29

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

Planning for the New Program Year

BY CHRISTIE RACHELLE, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Our program year is not yet done and, can you believe, Central staff are already talking about the next program year and all the exciting things to which we look forward?

This summer will be a busy time of planning and our staff can use your help! All committees are asked to submit their proposed calendar events for September 2023 - August 2024 program year to Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen no later than June 6. This will help us ensure that the coming year runs smoothly and all activities are timed well with other worship and

church events.

We understand that not all things can be known at this time. We will look to accommodate future requests as able. However, by knowing events as early as we can, we position everyone for a more well-rounded and successful church and mission experience.

If you have questions about the church calendar or planning, please speak with Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen at (651) 224-4728 ext. 101 or email him directly at chriscs@centralforgood.org.



Celebrating, Honoring, and Giving Gratitude for Pianist Steve Swanson!

On May 21, we will be saying goodbye to Steve Swanson. Steve has been integral to our worship experiences for over 12 years. He is one of the absolute finest pianists in town, and we have been blessed to have him offer his music for us week after week. Steve and his husband Casey are moving to Seattle for Casey's job. Don't miss the chance to thank Steve and to offer your best wishes to him on Sunday, May 21. Cards and notes of thanks are welcome.



Building Knowledge CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Answers: 1.F 2.C 3.I 4.E 5.G 6.H 7.A 8.D 9.K 10.J 11.B 12.L 13.M

CENTRAL STAFF DIRECTORY

(651) 224-4728

Pastor

Chris Chatelaine-Samsen
ext. 102, chriscs@centralforgood.org

Church Administrator

Anna Sanchez, ext. 100
office@centralforgood.org

Administration

Matt Ehling, Treasurer
William Zopfi, Treasurer Emeritus
Mary Lange, Receptionist

Director of Communications

Christie Rachele, (952) 564-4472
christier@centralforgood.org

Director of Music & Youth Ministry

Jennifer Anderson, ext 103
jennifera@centralforgood.org

Children & Youth Ministry

Laura Walls, Sunday
Connection Coordinator
lauraw@centralforgood.org
Megan Beese, Preschool Teacher
Maria Stokes, Nursery Care Giver

Music Ministry

Shanta Hejmadi, Abbie Betinis,
Adam Van der Sluis, Eric Bartlett,
Steve Swanson, Barbara Brooks,
Dr. Melanie Ohnstad, Rod Kelly Hines

Adult Education

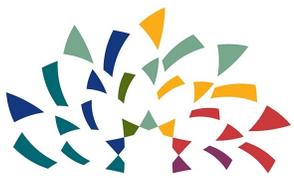
Maureen Smith, Bible Study Leader

Food Ministry

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

Building Maintenance

Lavar Jones, Custodian
Peter Evarts, Custodian



CENTRAL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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St. Paul, MN 55101

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Thank You, Donors!

The Minnesota Food Share drive held at Central this past March raised \$1,225 and 106 pounds of food for the Department of Indian Work Food Shelf, part of Interfaith Action of Greater St. Paul.

Thank you to all for
your contributions!



CENTRAL IS *in the city for good!*