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**CENTRAL
IS
YOU!**

MAKE AN IMPRINT

FESTIVAL SUNDAY TO KICK OFF OUR FALL PROGRAMS

[BY CHRISTIE RACHELLE]

Every church is unique with a path all its own. At Central, we are unique because of you!

This month, we celebrate the return of fall programming with Festival Sunday on September 12. This day, we will hear the return of Central Choir and the Ars Nova Brass Quintet in worship, and witness a blessing of the backpacks during children’s time. After worship, stay for an outdoor service fair on the Central patio where committees will share the work they are doing and ways you can share your talents with

them. We will enjoy cupcakes and refreshments, experience a drum ‘petting zoo’ and share in activities for all ages.

As we move forward into the coming program year, we leave you with this thought:

God gave you a fingerprint
that no one else has,

So you can leave an imprint
that no one else can.

What is the imprint you will make at Central, in the community, and in your family?

UPCOMING WORSHIP

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 10:30AM ONLINE & IN-PERSON

Sunday, September 5

COMMUNION SUNDAY

JOHN 6:24-35 | MARK 6:30-46

Rev. Lou Bender will preach "The Gospel According to Mrs. Baird". Music from soloist Abbie Betinis and Jennifer Anderson.

Sunday, September 12

FESTIVAL SUNDAY!

PSALM 139:1-18, 24
MARK 8:2-35

Kicking off the new program year, join us for Festival Sunday with Rev. Carol Reed preaching "Knowing and Being Known by God". During children's time we will observe a blessing of the backpacks. Sharing in music will be a welcomed return of the Ars Nova Brass Quintet, as well as the Central Choir, with Jennifer Anderson on organ.

After worship, stay for the Fellowship Festival on the outdoor Central Patio on Cedar Street, with a service fair with all committees, yummy treats, and activities for all ages.

Sunday, September 19

PSALM 1 | MARK 9:30-37

Rev. Carol Reed will preach "Making Choices". Music will feature Gospel soloist Ivory Doublette. Ivory has been a professional performing artist for the past 14 years. Locally, Ivory has performed with Penumbra Theatre, Chanhassen Dinner

Theatres, Theatre Latté Da and many others. She and her family perform as a Gospel quartet called SeVy (Say-v). Ivory has also performed with other musical groups such as the Soul Tight Committee Band and kid favorite, The Bazillions. Ivory Doublette began teaching at MacPhail in 2015, and works as a vocalist in the Sing, Play, Learn! with MacPhail® and School Partnerships programs.



Additionally, Ivory has been a teaching artist with Children's Theatre Company, Stages Theater, Ordway Center for the Arts and Billingsley School of Music and Art. She holds a BA in Theater Arts from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities

Sunday, September 26

PSALM 19:1-10, 14
JAMES 5:13-20

Rev. Carol Reed will preach "The Prayer of Faith". Music will feature the Central Choir. After worship, all are invited after worship to the front steps of the church for an intergenerational drum circle. No experience, or drum, needed.

CENTRAL STAFF

(651) 224-4728

PASTORAL CARE

Rev. Dr. Carol Reed,
Transitional Pastor
carolr@centralforgood.org, ext. 102
Maureen Smith, Bible Study Leader

ADMINISTRATION

Anna Sanchez, Church Administrator
office@centralforgood.org, ext. 100
Christie Rachelle,
Director of Communications
christier@centralforgood.org, ext. 105
(952) 564-4472

Matt Ehling, Treasurer
William Zopfi, Treasurer Emeritus

Mary Lange, Evening Receptionist

Lavar Jones, Sexton

MUSIC

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

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

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Currently Seeking to Fill Position of
Children & Youth Ministry Coordinator
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

WOMEN'S NETWORKING GROUP

[BY SUE HOFFMAN]

Our next gathering will be at Celeste of St. Paul. Celeste is a historic venue, located across Cedar Street from Central. A few of us will plan to get there early to save space for our group on the outdoor patio. You may park at Central and walk across the street!

SAVE THE DATE!

When: Tuesday, September 2nd
 Time: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
 Where: Celeste Hotel & Bar
 26 Exchange Street East
 St. Paul, MN 55101

Please help us with a head count and RSVP if you plan to attend at women@centralforgood.org. If you would like to be added to our mailing list for future events, drop an email to the same address.



In October we will return to Zoom gatherings. Stay tuned for those details and schedule.

KNITTING GROUP FOR ALL AGES

[BY LYNNE SEVERSON]

Now that we have moved into in-person worship in the sanctuary with masks and social distancing, I am suggesting that the Central Knitting Group resume meeting on the 4th Sunday of each month.

Those who feel comfortable could meet to knit in the Friendship Room after worship on Sunday, September 26. We would wear our masks, keep a social distance, check on the yarn supply, and knit on our prayer shawl projects. Anyone is welcome to join the group! Our prayer shawls are given to offer comfort to people or to help them celebrate joys in life.



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
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VOLUNTEER TO HELP
centralforgood.org/volunteer

THE POPULAR QUESTION AT HAND

[BY REV. CAROL REED]

Where are we at in the search process for a new called pastor?

Calling a pastor is considered a 3-part relationship: between a congregation, a pastor, and the Presbytery. (Did you know that in the Presbyterian Church (USA) clergy are actually members of a Presbytery rather than a local congregation and accountable to the Presbytery?) In the search for a permanent called pastor, a liaison has been assigned to Central from the Presbytery to assist in the search process.

Throughout spring and summer there were listening sessions for the congregation to share what they feel makes Central unique as well as hopes and dreams for Central in the future. The idea is we need to

determine how the congregation understands itself before knowing what to look for in the next pastor. Members and friends were invited to join a number of in-person or meetings on Zoom to share thoughts about what makes. If you were unable to participate and still want your voice heard, please contact Rev. Carol Reed (carolr@centralforgood.org) and a meeting or phone conversation can still be arranged.

The Next Step

With the results of these listening sessions in hand, the next step will be to compile results that reflect Central's strength, values, and hopes for the future. Please speak to Rev. Reed if you would like to help with what should be interesting work. A ministry study will be creating which will be submitted to

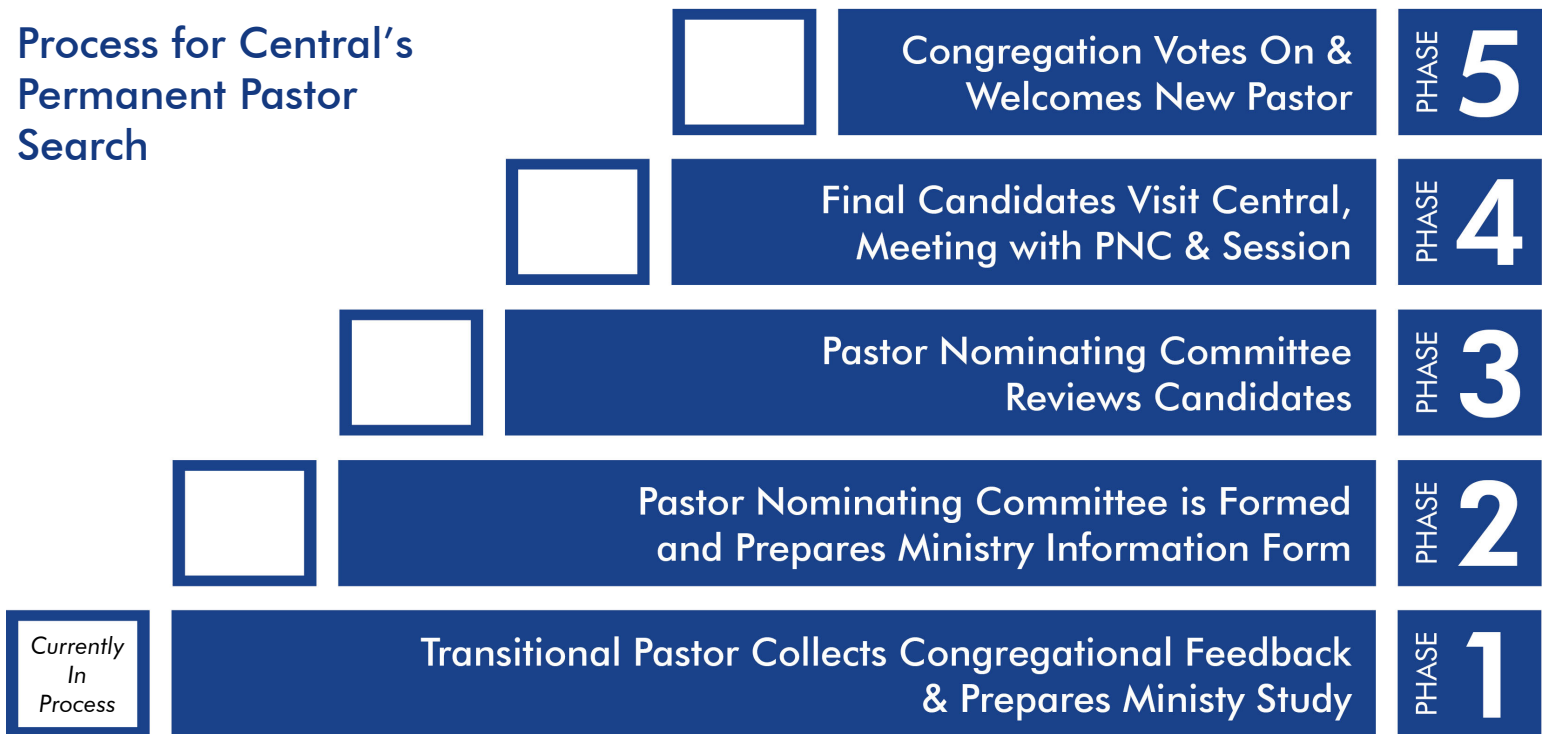
the Presbytery for review. We will then be able to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee. That ministry study will inform the job description for our permanent pastor.

It has been many years since Central Presbyterian Church did a search for a called pastor. (Rev. Dave Colby came to Central as a designated pastor, a much different process.) The Presbytery does not intend to mystify us with the process, but wants to help us find the best candidate for the church. Following is a simple graphic to illustrate the steps we will undergo.

Have Questions?

If you have questions or want to be more informed, please talk Rev. Carol Reed by calling (651) 224-4728 ext. 102 or email her at carolr@centralforgood.org.

Process for Central's Permanent Pastor Search



WELCOME NEW ARTIST EXHIBITION

[BY MAUREEN SMITH]

For the months of September and October, Mankato artist William Bukowski will be showing landscapes in our fellowship gallery.

Bukowski is Professor Emeritus from Bethany Lutheran College where he taught art for 40 years. The artwork he will be showing is primarily pleinair landscapes of Minnesota but he is a versatile artist. William has done commissioned paintings for Minneapolis and St. Paul Children's Hospitals as well as Abbott Northwestern Hospital. He has also done commission work for churches including an altarpiece on the campus of Bethany in Mankato and a series on the life of Christ for Trinity Lutheran Church in Waterville, Minnesota.

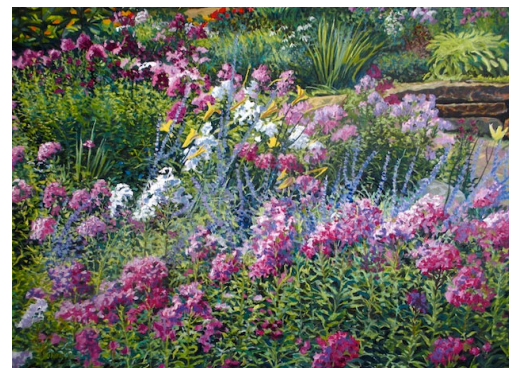
He could be described as a realist or figurative painter in the old European tradition and yet influenced by modern life. "I have always felt that the job of the artist was to see: things



and places and people and try convey what is interesting, compelling or unique about the visual matter. The idea in my painting is to achieve a perceptual experience. I also try to create interesting surfaces.

I like to show paint as paint. With commissions every thing is different because of the built in audience and the demands of the patron. I am able to work with those conditions and as an artist it is very gratifying to have artwork that enhances the space of a hospital or church for many people for years to come."

To learn more about this artist, visit William Bukowski's website at www.bukowskipainting.com.



MUSIC MINISTRY

[BY JENNIFER ANDERSON]

Carefully, we come back together, and reunite as community!

The Central Choir

An SATB adult choir that sings in worship nearly every week, September – May. While reading music isn't required, this choir moves quickly, learns a lot of repertoire, and throughout the year sings some challenging music, often highlighting the work of local composers! We are a community that cares for each other and all are welcome! Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. and we sing most Sundays.

FIRST REHEARSAL

Wednesday, September 8 at 7:15. We sing in worship on Festival Sunday, September 12!

STAYING SAFE IN COVID

Choir members must be fully vaccinated

We will be masking at this time until the delta variant is under control.

Rehearsals will be shorter.

Rehearsals will take place in the sanctuary where we can more easily spread out. We will sing in the balcony on Sundays. (Please note the balcony, while accessible via an elevator, still requires the use of several stairs. Please talk with Jennifer Anderson if this creates a barrier for your participation.)

If you have a fever or a cough, even if you are 100% certain it is not Covid, please stay home.

Sticks & Steel Percussion Ensembles

Our percussion ensembles for grades 3 – 5 (Sticks and Steel 1) and grades 6 – 12 (Sticks and Steel II), with an emphasis on discovering the unique sounds of hand chimes, bells, marimba, hand drums, and other percussion.

FIRST EVENT

All Ages Drum Circle on front steps of church, Sunday, September 26, following worship.

Drums are provided, and no experience necessary. This is a great event for intergenerational fun!

STAYING SAFE IN COVID

We will be outside.

You are welcome to wear a mask.

Bell Ensemble

This is an ensemble for adults and high school youth who have music reading skills and can play independently. This group will experiment with sounds and timbres and use repertoire that stretches the limits of what we think of as "bell choir music." Come and experiment with us!

FIRST EVENT

Rehearsals begin at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, starting Sept. 28; We ring in worship on October 10th.

STAYING SAFE IN COVID

Ensemble members must be fully vaccinated.

We will be masking at this time until the delta variant is under control.

Rehearsals will take place in the larger choir rehearsal room downstairs.

We will have surgical-grade air purifiers on during the rehearsal.

If you have a fever or a cough, even if you are 100% certain it is not Covid, please stay home.

Central Chamber Ensemble

Open to adults and youth (grade 8 and up) who have played traditional band/orchestra instruments for at least three years. We rehearse on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 for 40 minutes and play in worship about once per month.

FIRST EVENT

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, October 6 at 6:30 p.m. We play in worship on Oct. 24th.

STAYING SAFE IN COVID

Ensemble members must be fully vaccinated.

Rehearsals will take place in the larger choir rehearsal room downstairs.

We will have surgical-grade air purifiers on during the rehearsal.

If you have a fever or a cough, even if you are 100% certain it is not Covid, please stay home.

LOOKING FOR OTHER WAYS TO BE MUSICAL? Reach out to Jennifer Anderson at (651) 224-4728 ext. 103 or via email to jennifera@centralforgood.org and explore ways to meet your interests.



A LOOK AT CENTRAL FINANCES

[BY CHRIS SMITH & MATT EHILING]

A Unique Year

Financially, Central Presbyterian Church has weathered the pandemic rather well so far and we are grateful to everyone who has helped us towards this accomplishment. Over the summer we've been a little further behind on giving than usual. If you are able to catch up on your pledge at this time it would be greatly appreciated.

Building Restoration

The church treasurer works closely with Central's investment advisors at RBC Wealth Management, advising and making recommendations to the Finance & Stewardship Committee related to Central's monthly and long-range financial requirements.

Thanks to Flurryanne Leach's dedication to the restoration of the church's exterior, we have approved matching funds for a grant application for some foundation work that, if approved, could be completed next year.

Going forward, a capital campaign will be necessary to fund significant projects that remain. The Finance & Stewardship Committee has had ongoing discussions about the timing of this. Though a campaign is unlikely to begin this year, we have set up a reserved account for building restoration. If you find yourself in a position to contribute funds to this project at this time, please know that they are welcome and will be reserved for this

important work.

As we approach fall we are making plans for our stewardship drive. Watch for more in the coming weeks!

Committee Membership

Current members of the Finance & Stewardship Committee are Phyllis Brashler, Matt Ehling, Craig Foss, Cindy Jessen, Barb Swanson, Carl Willis, and Chris Smith (chair). Rev. Dr. Carol Reed and Anna Sanchez, church administrator, also contribute.

For now we are still meeting via Zoom, at 6:30 on the 2nd Thursday of the month. While not the perfect way to gather, we did get to have a few members coax their cats to make an appearance in honor of the Cat Video Festival in St. Paul in August. If you have input or are interested in serving on our committee, please contact the church office. We'd love to hear from you!

Money Management

Now we will pass the baton to Matt for an overview of Central's financial picture which includes three different pools of money:

CONTRIBUTIONS

Central's annual operating expenses (including the bulk of staff salaries) are largely paid by member contributions. Central relies on these contributions to keep the church operating, without having to use investment principal.

LONG TERM INVESTMENTS

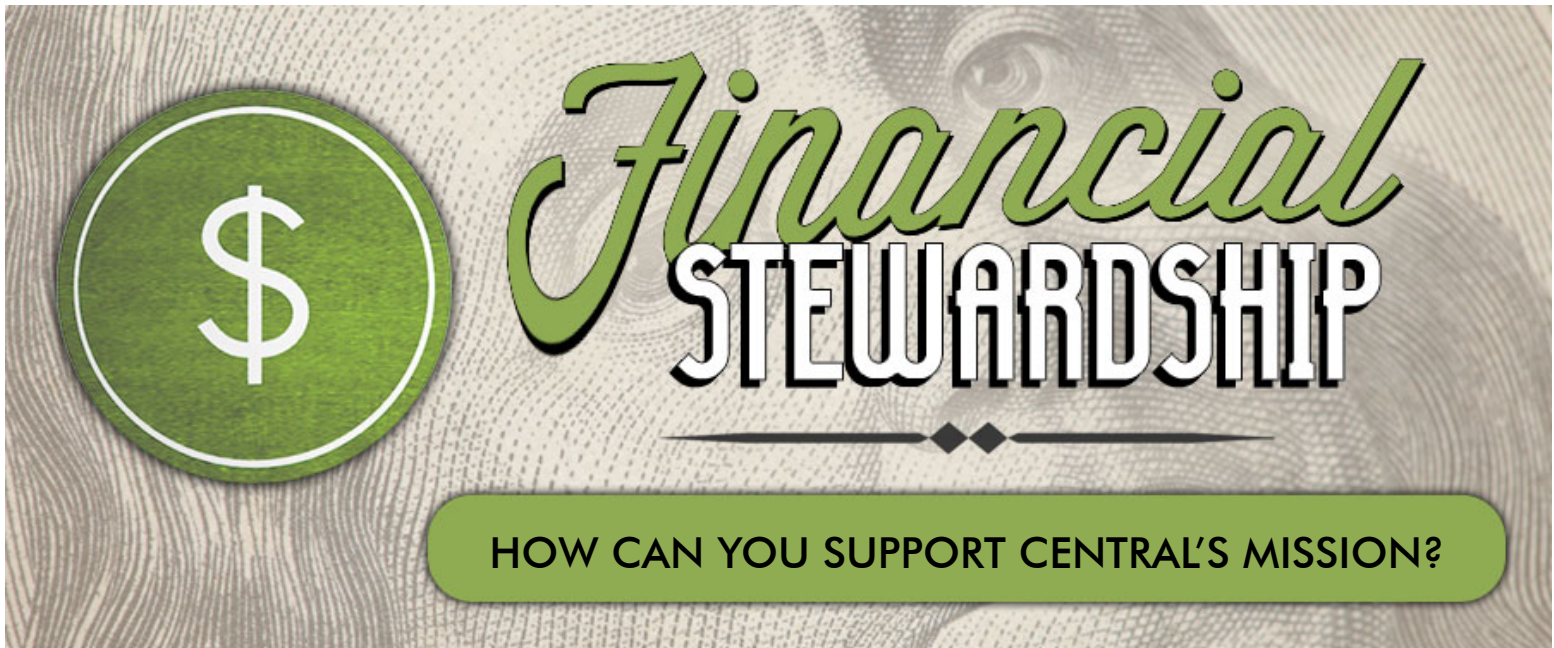
For many years, Central did not have enough member contributions to pay its annual expenses in full, and had to "fill the gap" between contributions and expenses by using principal from its investment funds. However, this was not sustainable over the long term, as the investment principal would eventually run out.

Due to a significant financial gift that re-capitalized its investments, the church has only drawn income - and not principal - from its long-term investments since 2018. These investments include the Endowment, Operating, and Mission accounts. The Operating and Endowment accounts generate supplemental operating income that the church uses to cover its expenses during the summer months, when church attendance - and giving - is down. The Mission account generates income that is used to fund scholarships, mission activities, and support for the Deacons' programs. By not touching principal in these accounts, Central will be able to rely on them for income generation for years to come.

PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The Program account is a special-purpose account that was established in 2018 with the remainder of the large financial gift that Central received. At the time, Session designated this money as "one-time" program money that would be spent on three initiatives:

a. \$200,000 was designated for building repairs, and has been spent.



b. \$300,000 was designated for six years of “staff support” money to provide raises for key staff - administrative, music, and children/youth staff. We are now half-way into that spend. In three more years, Central will have to raise an additional \$60,000 per year in contributions to fund these raises, since the “one-time” Program money will have run out. However, Central’s contributions have been trending slightly down, rather than up, over the last few years, so there is work to be done to fund these positions for the long-term, using sustainable, recurring funds.

c. \$600,000 was designated for six years of an associate pastor hire. Session’s idea was to expand the pastoral staff using this “one-time” money, and provide six years in which to have that pastoral staff build church membership. An associate pastor was hired, but only stayed for one year. Then COVID hit; Rev.

Colby moved on; and decisions about hiring an associate pastor took a back seat to hiring a new, permanent pastor.

Earlier this year, the Session voted to take the remaining associate pastor money, and invest it for three years to help generate operating income for the church, while longer-term decisions about pastoral staffing are being made. While the investment restriction is in place, the “associate pastor” Program account principal cannot be spent, but income generated by those investments can be used. It is anticipated that this pool of money could generate an extra \$15,000 per year, which can be used to help

cover church operating expenses. That amount of income growth has not occurred quite yet, but the account is on track to be able to deliver that amount of money for 2022. This is why Program account funds cannot be used to fund improvements to our building and were not able to be used to move the children and youth position from part-time to full-time, as some members have inquired about.

Want to Learn More?

For further questions about Central’s financial position, please contact church Treasurer Matt Ehling via Central’s office.

COMING UP IN OCTOBER!

Join us for the **Justice Choir Sing-A-Long** both in Worship and out on the front steps following

worship! Open to all ages; wear your *Love is Love* t-shirt. Extras will be available!

MUSIC SPOTLIGHT

Why is Music Ministry at Central Important To You?

The music ministry is important to me because it allows me to lead and encourage the congregation to be involved in worship. Being a member of the singers and handbell choirs brings us together as part of a close knit community.

- Casey

The music ministry at Central is important to me because.....It helps me explore avenues to feed my soul.

- Tracy

The music ministry enhances my worship experience, elevates my spiritual connection with the prayers, scriptures, and sermon. has a positive effect on my well being and mental health. I enjoy being "included" as a part of the Music Ministry, albeit a small part. As a newer member, being a part of Central's Music Ministry has helped me meet people and feel a part of the larger Central Church Family.

- Margaret

You are welcome to join us as we make music together and share our offerings with this community. Please email Jennifer Anderson, Director of Music Ministry, (jennifera@centralforgood.org) if you have any questions, or would like to get involved!



MUSIC OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERYONE

Join us for an **All Ages Drum Circle** on front steps of church, Sunday, September 26, following

the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Drums are provided, and no experience necessary. This is a

great event for intergenerational fun!

TURNING TO GOD IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

[BY REV. CAROL REED]

One week in mid-August, the daily Psalm we read at the beginning of staff meeting was Psalm 42.

*As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.*

*My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.*

*When shall I come and
behold the face of God?*

*Why are you cast down,
O my soul, and why are you
disquieted within me?*

*Hope in God; for I shall again praise
him, my help and my God.*

The poetry of that Psalm spoke to me that day. I sensed other staff members were struggling with planning for September in the midst of so many uncertainties. In the midst of news about infection rates and of deaths in this country and around the world, it has been hard to keep a sense of hope.

None of us could have guessed the magnitude of disruptions that would happen when the pandemic first shut down our lives in March of 2020. Even then I expected there would be a clear end to the pandemic. As tired as we are of wearing masks or the politics of wearing a mask, tired of the uncertainty of whether we can go to the state fair or send children back to school, tired of not knowing how to make plans for the coming months or discerning what is safe and unsafe, the delta variant is letting us

know we do not yet have this virus under control.

We are surely all longing for this time to be behind us. Alongside that is concern about what our world, our country, and even the church will look like when the pandemic is finally behind us.

This is a really hard time. We need to continue to be patient and kind, with ourselves and with one another. We need to continue to stay close to God. Go outside, feel God's presence in the beauty of this creation. Find hope in knowing that God, who has traveled with people throughout other incredibly dark and difficult days, is traveling with us through these days.

*Hope in God; for I shall again praise
my help and my God.*



4 WAYS TO GIVE

While we are unable to pass the collection plate in our online worship, we invite you to give through several other ways.



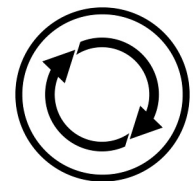
Donate Online

www.centralforgood.org/give



Mail a Check

500 Cedar St, St. Paul, MN 55101



Recurring Transfer

Set up an automatic bank transfer



Deliver In-Person

Contact the office to arrange a day/time for drop off.

QUESTIONS?

Call (651) 224-4728 ext. 100

ANTI-RACISM AND THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

[BY AVIS TILDEN]

On Central's Anti-Racism Task Force, we seek equitable justice under the law, but we have to acknowledge our state's wide racial disparities. For example, the website law.umn.edu offers "The Minnesota Paradox: A Discussion about Racial Disparities in the Criminal Justice System," based on a 2018 study.

Blacks were 6% of the general population, but 27% of the adult felonies and 36% of the prison population. Comparable figures for Native Americans were 2, 9 and 10 percent; Hispanic and Asian numbers were between 3 and 6 percent in all three categories. In contrast, whites were 84% of the general population but only 46% of the imprisoned, and accounted for 57% of the adult felonies.

Learning about life after incarceration has been only a small part of our efforts. Life after incarceration begins at least six weeks before release, I learned in a Minnesota Public Radio program, *"Locked Out - The Path From Incarceration to Inclusion."*

In my follow-up to the that broadcast, I exchanged emails with the mother of a young offender who had found the Power of People program helpful while he was at Faribault Correctional Facility; he participated in a six-week course before he left.

"My son didn't really participate in any reentry programs besides the support/assistance he received from the half-way house in St. Paul. I think work and school and re-connection



with family and a group of more stable friends helped him. He did get assistance for work clothes for a men's Dress for Success program. He attended a follow-up chemical dependency program. He now is in his third year at the University of Minnesota."

I first heard about Power of People on the MPR broadcast. It is one of the organizations that offer help in identifying resources to prepare for meeting challenges mentioned in the "Adult Pre-Release Handbook" available from the Minnesota Department of Corrections. Where will you live? What kind of work can you perform? What is your social network? Where can you turn for help?

In the MPR show, host Angela Davis interviewed Brother Shane M. Price, co-founder of The Power of People Leadership Institute. He is the lead trainer in the personal development and

leadership training program that has been offered to offenders at the Minnesota Correctional Facility at Faribault since December 2005 and has since expanded to facilities in Lino Lakes, Moose Lake and Rush City. He also directs the program's two re-entry houses in north Minneapolis.

Other panelists provided further insight into other facets of re-entry. Lacking education, Josh Wilson endorsed the job training he received from the show's co-sponsor, Tech Dump, a leading recycler of electronic waste and job trainer/employer.

Nadine Graves, Hennepin County public defender, described discriminatory practices against non-whites by public prosecutors and in housing. And Richard Lemore of Lemore Holdings, who was imprisoned as a teenager, described the challenges of being 37 and

“learning everything” — how to drive, apply for a job, interact with the public. A prison workshop of the Alternatives to Violence Project (avpusa.or) was especially helpful.

To learn about other agencies assisting in post-incarceration re-entry, I turned to JRLC (Joint Religious Legislative Coalition). Central Presbyterian Church is one of its member congregations, and I have been an individual member for many years.

Joan Miltenberger, statewide organizer, identified several other non-profits that assist with reentry, including:

- **Community Re-entry and Non-Profits / Department of Corrections** (mn.gov)
- **Amicus** (which now is part of

Volunteers of America)
www.voamnwi.org/community-justice

- **180 Degrees**
www.180degrees.org
- **Better Futures** (housing and services)
www.betterfuturesminnesota.com
- **Volunteer Lawyers Network** (expungement support through volunteer attorneys)
www.vlnmn.org

The Urban League and Minneapolis NAACP may also offer services or work on the policy side of the issue. Additional resources on the issue of disparity include:

- **Racial disparities in the Criminal Justice System:**

www.law.umn.edu/sites/law.umn.edu/files/mn_paradox_a_discussion_about_racial_disparities_in_the_criminal_justice_system.pdf

- **Reducing Racial Disparity in Sentencing and Probation:**
<https://mn.gov/msgc-stat/documents/meeting%20materials/2019/October/CJIProbationPresentation.pdf>
- **Racial Disparities in the Minnesota Justice System:**
www.robinainstitute.umn.edu/sites/robinainstitute.umn.edu/files/moriearty_racial_disparities_in_the_minnesota_criminal_justice_system.ppt.pdf
- **ACLU of Minnesota:**
www.aclu-mn.org/en/issues/racial-justice

AN UPDATE FROM SESSION

[BY SALLY MORTENSON, CLERK OF SESSION]

Festival Sunday will be here soon - September 12. Session Committees will each provide a display at the event, telling their goals and activities, and offering you an opportunity to participate in the committee.

Session Committees are preparing goals and budgets for 2022 to present to the congregation at our annual meeting. Our theme for 2022 stewardship giving will be tied into larger church program themes of

igniting momentum.

Art Exhibits in the Fellowship Room will begin again in September with an exhibit from landscape artist William Bukowski. Displays have been on hiatus since March, 2020. Each display features the work of an area artist.

The bells of Central Presbyterian Church will be rung as part of an event at the Minnesota Capitol on September 11th to commemorate the 9/11/01 events in New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington D.C. The bells will be rung at the time of each of the four attacks.



THE ABSENCE OF YOUTH PROGRAMMING

[BY REV. CAROL REED]

Looking at our September newsletter, typically full of children and youth activities, makes one question, "Where in the world is children and youth programming this fall"?

This summer Central Church was sad to say goodbye to Katie Morris who resigned to take a full-time position at another church. We wished her well in her full time ministry position but do miss her leadership and creativity. Without a staff member to lead the programming, add in the question of how to plan for this school year without knowing whether parents want their children/youth to participate in person or if we need to continue offering options online. What will the variant do in the weeks and months ahead? Obviously, no one knows.

The Children & Youth Committee has prepared a job description and posted the position in countless places. Please pray with the committee that the right person is



found for this important position! If you know of someone who might be interested in a part time position working with our children and youth, please speak to Phyllis Brashler or myself. You may also send them to our website for info at www.centralforgood.org/employment.

Meantime plans are being made for activities this fall that can happen outdoors as long as possible. Children and youth are encouraged

to attend Festival Sunday on September 12th – in person or online – to participate in the blessings of the backpacks. There will also be a Sticks and Steel drum circle September 26th. We would love to have children and youth also participate in worship as liturgists or with a children’s message. If that is an area you or your child would like to participate, speak with Maureen Smith or Rev. Reed. More plans will be included in the coming weeks in the e-connect.

GOD GAVE YOU A FINGERPRINT

that no one else has

SO YOU CAN LEAVE AN IMPRINT

that no one else can

Leave your imprint at www.centralforgood.org/volunteer



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presbyterian of the Twin Cities Survey

[FROM SUE HOFFMAN]

Have you responded to the survey? The Presbytery of the Twin Cities Anti-Racism Task Force is conducting a survey of people in member congregations, and encourages everyone from Central to respond! It's a simple data collection form that begins to build a picture of our church and of the Presbytery. The ARTF will use the information to inform an eventual presbytery-wide plan of action in the area of anti-racism.

Please take two minutes to participate by visiting the following website: <https://rebrand.ly/PTCAquest>

Volunteer Opportunity at the St. Paul Opportunity Center

September 11th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. is the next volunteer opportunity to serve the lunch meal at the St Paul Opportunity Center (formerly Mary Hall). Nutritious meals are offered free to adult men and women in need. The St Paul Opportunity Center is part of Catholic Charities and is located at 422 Dorothy Day Place St. Paul, MN 55102.

The Coordinated Mission Committee is looking for 8-10 volunteers for each meal service date. If you are interested in volunteering please sign up at the church's website www.centralforgood.org/volunteer.

Volunteers must be at least 16 years old and should wear appropriate closed toed footwear.

We will also be volunteering on November 13th this year. If you have questions, please email the office at office@centralforgood.org.

Bible Study Update

The Bible study will be staying on Zoom at least through September and probably longer if we have Zoom hosts. We're trying to recruit more volunteers to host.

We will not meet on September 5, the Sunday of Labor Day weekend.

If you are interested in serving as a host or being a part of Bible Study, please reach out to Maureen Smith through the church office.

Blessing of the Backpacks

On Festival Sunday we are inviting children and youth to bring their school backpack to worship (or have it with you while watching the livestream service) for a blessing as students return to classes.

Following worship, there will be backpack tags that can be personally decorated. If you are watching worship from home, you can still get the tag which can be mailed to your home or available for you to pick up. To receive, simply contact Anna Sanchez in the office at office@centralforgood.org or call (651) 224-4728 ext. 100.

Worship In The Way That Works For You

Central will again offer Sunday worship in multiple ways to meet the needs of our members and visitors. Want to worship in person? Join us Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary (but remember your mask). Or, worship from home by joining us for live-stream worship on our website at the same time at www.centralforgood.org/stream. Online worship remains up and available even after that time for those who want flexibility.

Happy Birthday!

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

Marjorie Elliott	9/1
Pat Snitker	9/4
Trygve Pearce	9/5
Linda Peterson	9/7
Terry Henry.....	9/12
Gifty Amarteifio.....	9/14
David Winkworth	9/14
Barbara Hein.....	9/15
Simon Jones	9/15
Karen Hanscom.....	9/18
Elizabeth Suhfor.....	9/20
Craig Foss.....	9/21
Sean Kelly-Kennedy.....	9/23
Todd Mikish.....	9/24
Jane Gulsvig.....	9/27
Phyllis Brashler.....	9/29
Mark Flinger	9/29

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



CENTRAL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

500 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

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Every month, we use this space to highlight the ways Central and its members serve others in the church and in our community.

But, it depends on you.

This year, you will hear a lot about making an imprint. How have you helped to ensure Central remains *in the city for good?*

CENTRAL IS *in the city for good!*