



CONNECT CENTRAL

Embrace the Promise and Hope of Easter

FROM CHRISTIE RACHELLE, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

We are fast approaching the Easter celebration of Jesus' resurrection on Sunday, April 9. We hope you have been journeying through the season of Lent with us, reflecting on the words of the season's devotional "Water & Spirit" and participating in worship and other activities at Central. It is now time to embrace the promise and hope of Easter!

The events of Holy Week offer an opportunity for us to mark our journey of faith, contemplating each year, as well as the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

It is also a time for us to reflect on the mystery of how God continues to work in the world today and in our own daily lives.

It is our hope is that you will look for new ways to learn, grow, and experience the richness of God's abundant blessings. We also encourage you to invite friends, family, and neighbors to share this time and journey with you.

Join us in celebration of Holy Week at Central Presbyterian Church!

CELEBRATE *Holy Week* AT CENTRAL



Palm Sunday
APRIL 2 - 10:30 AM



Maundy Thursday
APRIL 6 - 7:00 PM.



Easter Sunday
APRIL 9 - 10:30 AM

APRIL 2023

Alleluia! Shout Christ is risen this Easter Sunday!



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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 most worship Sundays this month.

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

Welcome Rev. Christopher Chatelaine-Samsen and family! April 1 marks Pastor Chris' first day working at Central.

Sunday, April 2

PALM SUNDAY

Spark! kids help us usher in Jesus as the crowds shout "Hosanna!" Come and join in the palm parade before we move into the Garden of Gethsemane and the poignancy of the week ahead.

Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen will share his first sermon titled *What We Hope For* with scripture readings from Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 and Matthew 21:1-11. We will share communion with music from the Central Choir, Handbell Ensemble, and guest organist, Patty Conners.

Thursday, April 6

MAUNDY THURSDAY - 7:00 PM

Readings from the Gospel of John

lead us through the journey from the upper room to Gethsemane to Jesus' trial and crucifixion. Come and see the good news of Jesus' self-giving love.

Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen will preach, we will share communion, and Central Choir will sing. This service will not be live-streamed.

Sunday, April 9

EASTER SUNDAY

Join the disciples by the empty tomb as we celebrate the vindication of Jesus' ministry of love. Ars Nova Brass and Artist-in-Residence Rod Kelly Hines join the Central Choir and organist Melanie Ohnstad in leading a joyful celebration!

Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen will preach *There in God's Garden* with scripture readings from Acts 10:34-43 and John 20:1-18. After worship we welcome all children the stay for an Easter Egg Hunt in the sanctuary!

Sunday, April 16

Those of us who sometimes feel less certain about our faith may find a faithful friend with the disciple Thomas.

Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen will preach *The Blessings of Uncertainty* with scripture readings from Acts 2:14a, 22-32 and John 20:19-31. Central Choir will sing and Steve Swanson will play piano.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

A New Season of Ministry

BY REV. CHRISTOPHER CHATELAINE-SAMSEN

Let me begin this note to you with gratitude. Over the past few years, you have navigated the work of pastoral transition with, as our ordination vows go, energy, imagination, and love. To the members of the PNC who searched and deliberated, to Pastors Carol, Anne, and Gregg who accompanied and guided you, to each member and friend of the congregation who remained energized in the work of ministry and shared in the transitional process, and to those in the presbytery who walked alongside, thank you.

We are beginning a new season of ministry that builds upon a long legacy. I come with great anticipation, knowing both that we will continue the faithful work that Central has been doing for years, as well as knowing that there are things to come that will yet be revealed.

We sow with one hand and reap with another.

My goal over these next weeks and months will be to come alongside you and get to know you. You as individuals, you as a community, you as ministers of the Gospel. As I reach out to each of you, I invite you to do likewise. I'm looking forward to the conversations over the phone,

Zoom, and perhaps even over coffee that we will have!

As we walk together through Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection, and into this new season of unknowns with one another, receive this Prayer of Good Courage.

God's Peace,
Chris

O God, you have called your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown.

Give us faith to go out with good courage,
not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Upcoming Worship CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Afterwards, join us for Third Sunday Lunch as we share in an activity to get to know Pastor Chris a bit better!

Sunday, April 23

EARTH DAY WEEKEND

We remember this day that God created all things and called them good, and that it is our privilege to care for this good earth. Give thanks

as we celebrate the baptism of Jyri Woo-Joo Anderson!

Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen will preach *Our Home is Not Here* with scripture readings from Genesis 1:9-12, 20-22, 24-31 and Revelation 22:1-5. Central Choir will sing, Handbell Ensemble will ring, and Steve Swanson plays piano.

Sunday, April 30

YOUTH SUNDAY

Receive the blessing of our youth with the inaugural Youth Sunday with worship led by Life Boats and Compass!

Music will include our Chamber Ensemble and Central Choir, both with youth guests participating.

Homeless Day on the Hill Brings Governor to Central!

BY CHRISTIE RACHELLE, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION

On March 8, over 900 Minnesotans gathered in at Central for the annual Homeless Day on the Hill event.

In reporting on the event to the Coordinated Mission Committee, chair Virgie Bundy said it best, "We have to believe that Warren Hayes, the well-known architect who designed Central would be pleased that community, educational, governmental, and religious gatherings are continuing to happen in this space. That was what he envisioned as he planned our 1,200 seat capacity space."

This day we were pleased to welcome advocates from many areas and backgrounds, as well as our own Governor Tim Walz and Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan, as they focused priorities on the following 2023 legislative agenda:

- \$200 Million one time investment to expand and preserve shelter space. (HF444 | SF388)
- \$40-70 Million per year over the next four years for an ongoing investment to the Emergency Services Program. (HF444 | SF388)
- \$200 Million ongoing for the Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program. (HF | SF 2040)
- \$5 Million ongoing to establish the Landlord Risk Mitigation Program. (HF | SF)



- 30% Income modification for the Housing Support Program in partnership with Catholic Charities. (HF732 | SF992)
- \$1 Billion one-time investment in homes in partnership with Homes4All. (HF302 | SF1094)

This marks the second time Gov. Walz and Lt. Gov. Flanagan visited Central, last speaking at the 2019 Homeless Day on the Hill events.

Thank you to our Central volunteers who served as building hosts, helping to make it a memorable and fun day, including Roger Grussing, Mark & Wendy Flinner, Jane Lonergan, Joan Kelly, and Heidi Jernsted. Thank you Virgie Bundy for recruiting our volunteer crew, as well as Anna Sanchez and Peter Evarts for your unending list of tasks done to help make it all happen!





St. Paul City-Wide Clean Up for Earth Day

FROM CHRISTIE RACHELLE, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

The Saint Paul Parks & Recreation and Public Works teams are hosting the 37th annual City-wide Spring Cleanup on Saturday, April 22, rain or shine! Individuals and groups of all ages come together to pick up litter that has recently become exposed due to the melting snow. Join with your neighbors to clean up our parks and neighborhood streets.

Participating is easy! Stop by your local kick-off site any time between 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on April 22 to check in and pick up bags / gloves. Then, head out to collect litter at your park or neighborhood of choice.

Full bags of litter can be deposited in or next to any City of Saint Paul Parks garbage can. You can also drop full bags at one of the many drop-sites around the city. Please deposit bags at drop-sites by noon.

To see a list of clean up sites in St. Paul, visit the city website at:

www.stpaul.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/natural-resources/natural-resources-volunteers/citywide-spring

Or, take a visit to this shorter URL!

<https://tinyurl.com/u4wnazsf>



One Great Hour of Sharing

FROM COORDINATED MISSION COMMITTEE

In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all

work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you deploy resources to people in need all around the world, and in our own communities. You are working alongside families to restore not only structures, but hope.

Central will collect this special

offering on Palm Sunday (April 2). Donations can be made through the worship offering plate or online at www.centralforgood.org/give and click on *One Great Hour of Sharing* from the special offerings.

To learn more about One Great Hour of Sharing and how donations are put to use throughout the world, visit www.pcusa.org/oghs.

Chao, Aloha, Salaam, Shalom, Peace!

FROM REV. ANNE FISHER AND REV. GREGG DANA, BRIDGE PASTORS

Our brief time with you draws to a close on March 31. After just a few weeks of saying "Hello," we are now saying "Goodbye." Some languages have words that encompass both greetings, and we prefer them at a time like this.

It has been a privilege and a delight to meet you, worship with you, eat meals with you, and roll up our sleeves to work with you. As we pass the baton off to Rev. Chatelaine-Samson, we hope and pray that you join with him in active ministry, filled with joy, creativity, energy, and love.

We encourage all of you to welcome him with warmth, candor, and openness. Help him understand how you live out your mission as a congregation that is in the city for good.

As we leave, we take with us warm memories of all the ways that you have welcomed us. When our paths cross again as fellow Presbyterians, we will say with enthusiasm, "Chao, Aloha, Salaam, Shalom, Peace!"

May God be with you,
Anne Fisher & Gregg Dana

Sharpen Your Pencils, Again!

FROM BARB SWANSON, HUNGER INITIATIVE TASK FORCE

Thank you, Central members, for your response to our March Food Drive! Your contributions benefited Interfaith Action's Department of Indian Work (DIW) Food Shelf, a common recipient of Central's hunger mission activities.

Last spring, you participated in a Bread for the World 'Offering of Letters' campaign advocating for increasing the effectiveness and priority of U.S. government nutrition programs. (Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. By changing policies,

programs, and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist, we provide help for all.) Now, it's time to sharpen our pencils again!

Every five years, the federal Farm Bill comes up for renewal. On Sunday, April 23 (after worship), again in partnership with Bread for the World, we'll write letters to our members of Congress to support the renewal of the Farm Bill which will help to build healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems.

Stay tuned throughout April to learn more about what's needed in these renewed food and farm programs!

stay CONNECTED



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VOLUNTEER TO HELP
centralforgood.org/volunteer



CALL ANYTIME WITH QUESTIONS
(651) 224-4728

Children & Youth Ministry News

BY JENNIFER ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & YOUTH MINISTRY

Palm Sunday Processional

All children are invited to join in the Palm Sunday processional on April 2.

Simply meet in the back of the sanctuary before worship to receive a palm branch, and join in the parade as we welcome Jesus on a very special day. Elementary-age kids stay in worship and help lead on this Spark Sunday

Easter Sunday Egg Hunt

Invite your friends and family for this special activity after worship on Easter Sunday, April 9.

Grades 6 - 12 will hide eggs in the sanctuary immediately after worship. Those up through grade 5 will meet in the Friendship Room to decorate bags, then head to the sanctuary to

find the eggs!

Special Life Boats Event

We have a really special Life Boats on April 16! Youth won't want to miss it! The days schedule includes:

- 11:30 Lunchtime trivia with Pastor Chris
- 12:15 Special orchestra practice (for those involved)

The rest of the time will be full of games, activities, and preparation for Youth Sunday.

We will be done at 3:00 p.m.

Special Youth Orchestra

Any 6th - 12th grader who plays a traditional orchestra/band instrument is invited to learn a piece

for Youth Sunday, April 30.

Rehearsals will be held April 16 at 12:15 p.m. (after Third Sunday Lunch), April 23 at 11:30 a.m. and before worship on April 30.

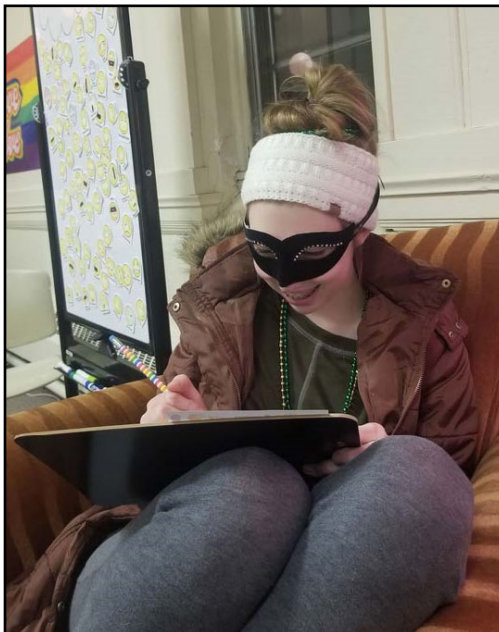
You will need to get music from Jennifer Anderson ahead of time, so be sure to talk with her soon!

Special Youth Choir

Do you love to sing? Any in grades 6 - 12 who wants to learn a special song for Youth Sunday is invited to come to rehearsal on Wednesday, April 26 at 7:00 pm. You will sing a special song in worship with the Central Choir on April 30.

Talk with Jennifer Anderson if you're interested.





Children & Youth Calendar

APRIL 2

PALM SUNDAY

- 9:30 Nursery care available until 11:45, ages 0-6.
- 10:00 Spark! Kids arrive
- 10:30 Worship with Palm Sunday parade for all kids! (Meet in rear of the sanctuary). Kids stay in worship.
- 11:30 Life Boats and Compass help with Easter Egg prep up in Youth Room.

No Confirmation Class or Compass Fellowship tonight.

APRIL 9

EASTER SUNDAY

- 9:30 Nursery care available until 11:45, ages 0-6.
- 10:30 Worship with Sunday Connection (grades 1-5) after Time for Children.
- 11:30 Easter egg hunt in sanctuary!

APRIL 16

- 9:30 Nursery care available until 11:45, ages 0-6.
- 10:30 Worship with Sunday Connection (grades 1-5) after Time for Children.
- 11:30 Special Life Boats time until 3pm today!
- 5:45 Confirmation Class (grades 9-12)
- 6:30 Compass Fellowship (grades 9-12)

APRIL 23

- 9:30 Nursery care available until 11:45, ages 0-6.
- 10:30 Worship with Sunday Connection (grades 1-5) after Time for Children.
- 11:30 Special Life Boats (grades 6-8) for Youth Sunday, including orchestra rehearsal and other preparation.

APRIL 26

- 7:00 Special choir rehearsal for Life Boats (grades 6-8) in sanctuary.

APRIL 30

YOUTH SUNDAY

- 9:30 Nursery care available until 11:45, ages 0-6.
- 9:30 Youth arrive.
- 10:30 Worship led by youth (grades 6-12). All children are invited to stay in worship.
- 11:30 Spark! kids (grades 1-5) meet for prep up in Galilee Room.

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

Jennifer Anderson,
 Director of Music & Youth Ministry
 (651) 224-4728 x103
jennifera@centralforgood.org

Announcements

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

Donations Wanted

The seasonal weather is shifting and so the Central Closet offerings will now adjust to meet the new needs. Central's Closet is now in need of new or clean gently used light-weight men and women's jackets, jeans, t-shirts, sweatshirts, and hoodies. To donate, simply drop off before church on Sundays or during Wednesday lunches, placing on the marked table in the lower level dining room.

Happy Birthday!

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

Deborah Rioux	4/8
Benjamin Amarteifio	4/9
Pam Larson.....	4/11
Charles Barklind.....	4/13
Fluryanne Leach	4/15
Isabella Varanasi.....	4/15
Jon Engeswick.....	4/19
Mel Leach	4/19
Jennifer Anderson	4/20
Gayle Smith	4/26

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!

In Memoriam

Kathie Pate passed away March 7, 2023 at her home in Stillwater, MN.



In Celebration

Congratulations to Central Choir Section Leader Adam Van der Sluis and his wife Leah on the birth of their son James.

Congratulations also to Terry & Laura Henry as they celebrate the birth of their 9th great-grandchild, Asher Remi Rowden, born February 16, 2023.

Women's Networking Group

We had a great time at Celeste in March! It was snowing (surprise!) so our small group met in the parlor for great conversation and refreshment.

Our next gathering will be on Monday, April 3 at Sawatdee (486 Robert St N, St Paul). This authentic Thai restaurant is on the corner of Robert and 9th Streets. You can at Central and walk with us as a group at 5:25 p.m. to the restaurant or you can meet us there at 5:30 p.m.

Please RSVP by April 1 via email to women@centralforgood.org to let us know if you can join us.

Save the date now for our May gathering. We will go to The Lost Fox (213 4th St E Suite 100, St Paul) located in the Union Depot building. We can walk/light rail at 5:15 p.m. from church or you can meet us there at 5:30. Please RSVP by Friday, April 28 to women@centralforgood.org to let us know if you can join us.

Not on our mailing list? Email women@centralforgood.org to be added to the list for upcoming news and event reminders.

Thank you

Thank you to Mark Flinner for his hard work clearing snow and sheets of ice from Central's gated back alley, clearing a better path for staff to safely walk to the parking garage. The new gate is an amazing upgrade for security but makes winter snow removal more challenging. Mark came up with a great solution and we appreciate the time and effort!

Do You Have an Announcement to Share?

Submit your church news to our newsletter by the 10th of the month to christier@centralforgood.org. Pick up the newest edition in the church or online www.centralforgood.org/ newsletter. There you can also sign up to have it mailed to your inbox or mailbox each month.

Welcome New Member, Beverly Bodom!

FROM REV. ANNE FISHER

Beverly Bodom joined Central Presbyterian Church on Sunday, March 5 during worship by letter of Transfer from Andrew/Riverside Presbyterian Church.

Born in Tennessee, Beverly was raised in Milwaukee before moving to Moorhead where she met her former husband. Together they moved to the Twin Cities and soon joined Andrew Presbyterian Church. Beverly was a Social Worker for Ramsey County for 26 years, working with the Foster Care program.

She heard about Central Presbyterian Church when she learned that Central gave back packs each year to children. When she moved closer to Central than Andrew/Riverside, she felt it was time to explore if she fit here. On her first visit, she said people made her feel so welcome and at home that she knew it was the right choice.



Beverly has one son, Jamal, a granddaughter, Paetyn Monet (13), and two grandsons, Jayden (8) and Jahmir (5).

Recently retired, Beverly believes that God has placed her here to help everyone, including “those who look like her and those who do not”.

Welcome to Central Presbyterian Church, Beverly!



CENTRAL STAFF DIRECTORY

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Peter Evarts, Custodian



CENTRAL

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Holy Week

Our Sr. High Youth Group had a special evening reflecting on the events of Holy Week (a little early due to the school spring break), from the Palm Sunday parade to the Last Supper to the death on the cross. Next time you see one of our Sr. Highers, ask them about it and be blessed by their thoughts.

CENTRAL IS *in the city for good!*