

CONNECT CENTRAL

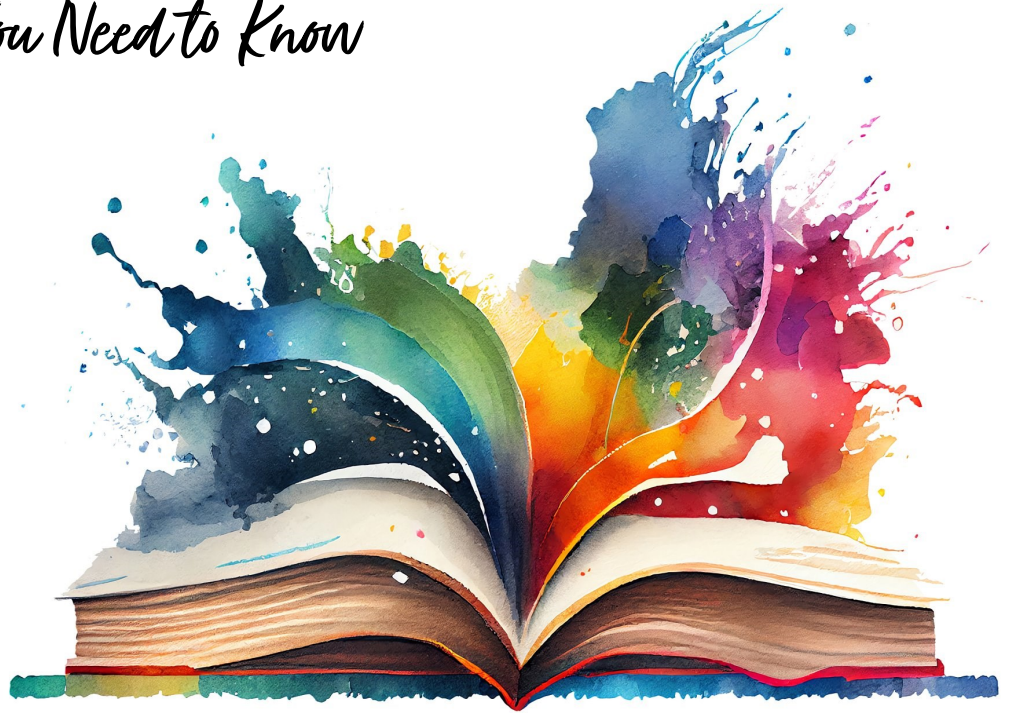
Eight Bible Stories You Need to Know

FROM REV. CHATELAINE-SAMSEN

We're already halfway through a summer sermon series on what I believe are eight Bible stories you need to know. These eight stories span the Bible from beginning to end, marking critical milestones in the stories of Israel and of the followers of Jesus.

Why does it matter that we know these stories? Some of my favorite memories are of stories shared by family members, especially grandparents. Stories of ancestors coming to America. Stories about the things we still laugh about. Stories about making commitments and facing consequences. Stories about the big stuff and the little stuff, all shaping my understanding of the world and who I am in it.

That's why we tell important stories over and over again. Those stories, even when they're about other people, are about us. They orient us to our place and purpose. So when we share stories from Scripture, we're



sharing those stories that have formed generations of people into a common and complex faith. They matter to us because, even if we don't realize it, they have formed who we are, what we believe, and where we're going. And, as it turns out, they tell the story of a God who has always had it in mind to love and care for the whole of creation.

I hope you find some good storytelling time this summer.

Maybe over a campfire, or with some friends and family over for a weekend. Listen and tell those stories with an ear towards why they matter and how they've made you who you are. And may you notice that, sometimes obviously and sometimes quietly, that God has been there in those stories all along.

Peace,
Chris

JULY 2023

What Bible stories do you like to share?



CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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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

JOIN US FOR OUR NEW SUMMER WORSHIP SERIES!

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

Sunday, July 2

COMMUNION SUNDAY

Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen will preach *Coming Home* with scripture reading from Isaiah 40:1-22. Barb Brooks sings piano.

Please note: there will be not be nursery care available this day.

Sunday, July 9

Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen will preach *Jesus of Nazareth* with a scripture reading from Philippians 2:1-11. Shanta Hejmadi, soprano will sing and Alex Woods will play piano.

We will have mini-camp (open to those entering grades 1-8) after a Time for Children, offering a fun, engaging time with hands-on activities in the Galilee Room.

Sunday, July 16

Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen will preach *The Church* with a scripture reading from 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10.

Shanta Hejmadi, soprano, will sing and Jennifer Anderson will play piano.

Sunday, July 23

This week we conclude our summer worship series with the sermon *A Future Hope* from Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen based on scripture reading from Revelation 22:1-5. Ars Nova Brass Quintet will play.

Sunday, July 30

The Sanctuary Choir from the First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa, under the direction of Matt Bishop, will be our guest choir! See 7 to learn more about this choir.

This summer we have been moving through a sermon series called *Eight Bible Stories You Need to Know*, telling the story of God’s love from some of the first pages of the Scripture to the very last. As we move into July, we will continue to find the stories that anchor the people of Israel and the followers of Jesus – stories that interrelate, looking forward and back to God’s hand through history.

If you missed a sermon in the series, we invite you to watch it on our website.

Women of Central News

BY WENDY FLINNER AND SUE HOFFMAN

Planning for the Future

This past month, the Women of Central gathered for a delicious meal, followed by a conversation about the activities and future of the Women of Central. Current activities include;

- Meeting monthly to share a meal and grow in community.
- A multi-generational knitting ministry to create items for our congregation and the greater community.
- Sponsoring the Thank Offering on behalf of Presbyterian Women, for projects and start-ups related to health ministry around the world.
- Hosting brunch for *Deck the Halls*, connecting all generations over a meal, on a day filled with festive activities church-wide.
- Supplying support to service projects within the church.

We are beginning to look forward to help us grow in our spiritual lives and provide service in our congregation and community. Many ideas were discussed, and questions were raised about how to engage more women in our community.

- Moments for Mission for Central Closet, Knitting Group, Coffee Fellowship, and Landscaping.
- Supporting the moms in our

community with a Saturday gathering that includes childcare.

Women of Central welcomes those of all ages who identify as women in our congregation. If you want to know more, get involved, have questions or ideas for involvement, we invite you to reach out to us at women@centralforgood.org.

Networking Group

On Monday, July 10, the Women's Networking Group will meet at Barrio in Lowertown (235 6th St E, St Paul, MN).

You can meet us at church at 5:15 p.m. to walk over there as a group,

or simply meet us at the restaurant at 5:30 p.m.

Please RSVP by Thursday, July 6 to women@centralforgood.org if you plan to join us.

In August we plan to return to Red River Kitchen at City House (258 Mill Street, St. Paul, MN). This is a favorite location for this group because of the casual atmosphere, good food, and great views of the river.

Want to stay in the loop on WoC upcoming events? Drop an email to women@centralforgood.org to be added to the mailing list for upcoming event announcements and group news.

Upcoming Worship CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Sunday, August 6

Abbie Betinis, alto, will sing and Alex Woods will play piano.

We will have mini-camp (open to those entering grades 1-8) after a Time for Children, offering a fun, engaging time with hands-on activities in the Galilee Room.

Sunday, August 13

Eric Barlett will sing. We will also share in a drum circle for all ages! If you would like to participate, come at 10:00 a.m. to find a drum that you like, learn

a few short patterns, and participate in the service. No experience or drum necessary.

Sunday, August 20

Adam Van der Sluis, tenor, will sing and Alex Woods will play piano.

We will also have Mini-Camp again for those entering grades 1-8, after worship's Time for Children in the upstairs Galilee Room.

Sunday, August 27

Abbie Betinis, alto, will sing and Alex Woods will play piano.

Beacon Celebrates Exciting Accomplishments!

BY LEON OMAN, BEACON LEADERSHIP TEAM, PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN SEVERSON

The past couple months have been a very active time for Central's mission for housing justice and we thank you for your support and engagement in the work to drive change.

Legislature Responds

The Beacon Leadership Team at Central is celebrating major accomplishments at the State Legislature this year with the entire Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative network.

Bring It Home, Minnesota passed, creating 5,500 new rent vouchers for Minnesota families with low incomes. There are many more who need this help, but this is a fantastic start to an idea which began four years ago – a solid foundation to build on in future legislative sessions.

Overall, the Minnesota Legislature dramatically increased investment in housing, which has historically been a low percentage in the overall State budget. Included was \$200 million dollars to build new affordable housing – and \$25 million for a new “strengthen supportive housing program” that will fill currently unfunded but necessary elements to supportive housing like front desk and security personnel.

Thanks to everyone who joined in advocating for new laws and appropriations. You helped by sending emails; calling elected officials; attending hearings and rallies; and praying for justice.



Keys to Unlock the Metro

Thank you as well to everyone who helped out with the Beacon "Keys" collection and activity this past month. Together, 688 keys were collected and tagged with messages to the Met Council to unlock the metro to deeply affordable housing. Central's Beacon team is especially joyful that many of you joined in housing advocacy for the first time! (See next page for pictures from that event.)

On June 14, 40 people from across the Beacon Interfaith Collaborative gathered at Central. Our keys combined with other churches totaling over 1000 - representing a portion of the affordable apartment homes that need to be built in the suburbs of the wider Metro. They cannot be built unless the Metropolitan Council creates a

consistent policy for providing project-based vouchers for deeply affordable housing development.

After rehearsing songs of justice in our sanctuary, Pastor Chris blessed us and sent us on our march to a meeting of the Met Council. There, we presented the keys and Rev. Elijah McDavid spoke to the full Council on our behalf.

Moving Forward

This summer, we will still be working hard, especially in following up with the Met Council to "Unlock the Metro" and create a policy of more project-based rental vouchers. This can have a huge impact on growing affordable housing in the suburbs, including Beacon's new development in Maplewood - Gladstone Crossing - which will bring 40 units of low-income housing to support families like those served by Project Home.



Get Involved

Do you want to be more involved in housing advocacy and justice missions? If so, contact the office and a member of Central's Beacon team will get back to you.

Central's Music Ensembles Welcome You!

BY JENNIFER ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & YOUTH MINISTRY

A new program year will soon begin for our music ministry here at Central, and this is a great time to join an ensemble. We have several adult ensembles that meet regularly, and special events for all ages throughout the year.

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 also care for each other and laugh often.

Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. beginning September 6.

Chamber Ensemble

Open to adults and youth (grade 8 and up) who have played traditional band or orchestra instruments for



three years. We rehearse on Sundays after worship occasionally. Contact Jennifer Anderson for music and a schedule.

Bell Ensemble

This is an ensemble for adults and high school youth with music-reading experience. This group will experiment with sounds and timbres and play interesting bell repertoire. Come and experiment with us, Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Contact Jennifer Anderson if you'd like to join us so a part may be assigned.



Sticks & Steel Percussion

Throughout the year, during Sunday Connection, our elementary age kids will have an opportunity to discover the unique sounds of hand chimes, bells, marimba, hand drums, and other percussion, and to share their gifts in worship.

If you want to learn more about any of our music ensemble opportunities, or other areas of our music ministry, reach out to Jennifer Anderson, Director of Music & Youth Ministry at jennifera@centralforgood.org or (651) 227-4728 ext. 103.





Sanctuary Choir Coming to Central

Central Presbyterian Church is pleased to welcome the Sanctuary Choir from the First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa to worship on Sunday, July 30.

A premiere adult church choir in the Midwest, the Sanctuary Choir offers a variety of great choral music with an 85-member ensemble. The choir has a rich history of providing great music in the Quad Cities, having been featured for over two decades as part of the Quad City Symphony Orchestra's Holiday Pops concerts and twice on national PBS-TV.

The Sanctuary Choir has commissioned and premiered a number of choral works and

arrangements, including anthems by such renowned composers as William Mathias, Howard Helvey, John Gere, Gary Fry, Stephen Mager, Jay Flood, and Mack Wilberg; building on the choir's commitment to creating new music, featuring a new commission by renowned British composer Jonathan Dove.

The choir has also worked with such distinguished composers and conductors as Jester Hairston, Andrew Carter, and Dale Warland. In the summer of 2018, the choir made its first international tour with a music outreach trip to Germany, and plans to return to Europe in 2021 with a tour of Ireland.

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CALL ANYTIME WITH QUESTIONS
(651) 224-4728

Children & Youth News

FROM JENNIFER ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & YOUTH MINISTRY

Our program year may be taking a summer break, but we have an exciting calendar full of fun activities for our children and youth.

If you have questions about any of these upcoming events or ways to engage your child in ministry at Central, please contact:

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

Fri-Yay Party!

Who: Lifeboats (Grades 6 - 8)

What: Games, food, prizes. . . don't miss this! This event also includes dinner.

When: Friday, July 14
5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Where: At Central

Bring: A Friend!

RSVP: By July 9 online at
www.centralforgood.org/youth

Tie Dye & Ice Cream

Who: EVERYONE!

What: Tie Dye and Ice Cream

When: Sunday, July 30 after worship

Where: Out on the back lawn

Bring: Something to tie dye. (Light colored and cotton is best)

Plan: On August 6 wear your tie-dye to church. We will take a group photo after worship!

Boating on the Mississippi

Who: Entering grades 9 - 12

What: Boating on Cris Ross's boat along the Mississippi

Where: Watergate Marina (2500 Crosby Farm Road)

When: August 12
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

RSVP: By August 6 online at
www.centralforgood.org/youth

This event is weather permitting. Cris's boat is beautiful, has a kitchen and a bathroom on board, and is very safe. We'll have snacks and soak up the sun!

Drum Circle

Who All ages!

What: Playing the drums during worship

When: During worship August 13, from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Meet at 10:00 a.m. to choose your drum and to practice a few rhythms!

Bring: No need to bring anything; however if you have a hand drum you are welcome to bring it.

Como Zoo!

Who All ages (Kids, bring an adult with you for this event!)

What: Spend a few hours with your church friends at Como Zoo!

When: Thursday, August 17
from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Meet at the Zoo at the Bird Exhibit just inside the Como Zoo at 1:00. We'll plan to stay about 3 hours, however you can leave sooner if that works best for you!



Children & Youth Calendar

Bring: Recommended donation to the zoo is \$4/adult; \$2 kids

RSVP: If you plan to attend, please send an email to jennifera@centralforgood.so that we make sure to watch for you! Friends are welcome!

Middle School Mystery Event

Who: Entering grades 6 - 8

What: A mystery event! It will be somewhere in St. Paul!

When: Sunday, August 20, after church at 11:30 a.m. We'll return to church by 1:30.

Where: Somewhere in St. Paul

Bring: \$5.00. Friends also welcome!

RSVP: By August 13 online at www.centralforgood.org/youth

Galileans Needed to help on Festival Sunday!

Help us create Galilee! We need adults who are willing to dress as a 1st century Galilean towns person and help lead activities on Festival Sunday, September 10 following worship. We need some adults to help set-up the space and create a fun hands-on opportunity for our kids. Got an idea for a Galilean town? Let me know!

Talk with Jennifer Anderson before August 15 if you are willing to be a part of our Galilean town.

JULY 2

10:30 Worship in the sanctuary with a Time for Children.

There is no nursery care today.

JULY 9

9:30 Nursery care available until 11:30.

10:30 Worship with Mini-Camp for Grades 1-8 after Time for Children.

JULY 14

5:00 Lifeboats Fri-Yay party (for those in grades 6-8).

JULY 16

9:30 Nursery care available until 11:30.

10:30 Worship with a Time for Children.

JULY 23

9:30 Nursery care available until 11:30.

10:30 Worship with a Time for Children.

JULY 30

9:30 Nursery care available until 11:30.

10:30 Worship in the sanctuary with a Time for Children.

11:30 Tie-Dye and Ice Cream Party

AUGUST 6

9:30 Nursery care available until 11:30.

10:30 Worship with Mini-Camp for Grades 1-8 following a Time for Children.

AUGUST 12

2:00 Compass Boating on the Mississippi (grades 9-12)

AUGUST 13

9:30 Nursery care available until 11:30.

10:00 Drum Circle Rehearsal

10:30 Worship with a Time for Children and all-ages Drum Circle.

AUGUST 17

1:00 Como Zoo meet-up for All-Ages

AUGUST 20

9:30 Nursery care available until 11:30.

10:30 Worship with Mini-Camp for Grades 1-8 following a Time for Children.

11:30 Middle School Mystery Event in St. Paul

AUGUST 27

9:30 Nursery care available until 11:30.

10:30 Worship with a Time for Children.

Announcements

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

New Puzzle Library Open

Central is happy to announce that we have opened a puzzle library in the Friendship Room! If you enjoy jigsaw puzzles, please feel free to borrow as you wish to enjoy at home.

There is no need to “check out” – just return when you are finished. If you wish to donate to the puzzle library, we ask that puzzles be complete (and not missing pieces), with the pieces bagged inside the cardboard box. You can drop them off in the main office on Sundays or regular office hours.

Thank you to Erika Kelly-Kennedy for this fun initiative, and for stocking our new library with some great puzzles to share!

Happy Birthday!

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

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Reuben Amarteifio	7/4
Mary Kay Vance	7/5
Janet Engeswick	7/7
Dennis Rich	7/12
David Zopfi-Jordan	7/12
Peter Evarts	7/13
Megan Jagger.....	7/14
Philip Sanders	7/14
Machelle Carter	7/15
Laura Nichols-Endres.....	7/17
Ella McCarten	7/18

John McCarten.....	7/18
David Hanscom.....	7/19
Moses Kimani.....	7/21
Solomon Fisher	7/22
James Wheeler.....	7/22
Benjamin Beese.....	7/23
Keanan Dwyer.....	7/23
Gerard Dwyer	7/24
Mawalawoe Foli	7/24
Bruce Beese	7/28
Ann Juhnke.....	7/29
Natalie Kovach.....	7/30

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Erika Kelly-Kennedy	8/1
Ayriannah Lee	8/1
Emily Ross	8/2
Scott Schlittenhart	8/2
Joseph Ehling	8/5
Christopher Samsen	8/6
Scott Klaehn	8/7
De'anne LaRue	8/8
Jeffrey Olson.....	8/8
Joey Engeswick.....	8/9
Rowan Klaehn	8/9
Sara Haller	8/10
Russell Lundeen.....	8/10
Kate Pearce.....	8/10
Mary Miller	8/13
Andrew Lonergan.....	8/16
Stan Turner	8/18
Taylor Nelson.....	8/23
Ryan Weyandt	8/24
Jacqueline Vosecky	8/26
Thomas Klaehn	8/29
Jeff Jones.....	8/30

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!

New Member Directory Now Available

The new Central Presbyterian Church member directory is now available! If you participated in this year’s photo directory, you may pick up your copy on Sundays in July, in the Friendship Room following worship, or in the office during regular office hours. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please contact Anna in the office.

New this year, you can now access the member directory online through our cloud-based partner, Realm. Contact Church Administrator Anna Sanchez in the office for more details.

Central Closet Needs Donations

Central’s Closet is in need of donations of the following new or clean, gently-used men’s and women’s casual clothing: long- and short-sleeved t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, jeans, and white athletic crew socks.

Donations can be left on the front table in the dining room, before or after Sunday worship, or dropped off during Wednesday Community Lunch hours (11:45 am – 1:00 pm Wednesdays).



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,
Alexander Woods, 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

Invitation to Serve

The next opportunity for meal service at the St. Paul Opportunity Center is Saturday, July 8. We are again looking for 8-10 volunteers to serve lunch and help with various meal prep. Volunteers must be at least 14 years old and wear appropriate closed-toe footwear. Volunteers under 18 must be supervised by an adult. (St. Paul Opportunity Center is part of Catholic Charities and is located at 422 Dorothy Day Place in St. Paul.)

If interested, go to our Volunteer page at www.centralforgood.org/volunteer. The link will take you to the Catholic Charities site to register.

A Call for Helping Hands

Each Sunday we rely on the support of a team of volunteers to carry out the many aspects of worship and Sunday programs.

We hope you will consider helping in one the following areas as you visit Central for Sunday worship:

- Worship Readers (Serve during worship as a liturgist - leading prayers, reading scripture, and speaking from the pulpit).

- Worship Ushers (Welcome guests to worship, distribute bulletins, and assist with receiving offering).
- Fellowship Prep (Prepare coffee and refreshments for the fellowship hour before church from 10 - 10:30 a.m.).
- Coffee Service (Help serve refreshments during fellowship hour after worship).
- Sanctuary Pew Patrol (Help our pews organized and stocked).
- Videographer (Help as a camera operator for our live-stream broadcast video. No worries, training is provided!)

Help us maintain a vibrant and welcoming church culture and community. Sign up at: www.centralforgood.org/volunteer.

Summer Newsletters

As with past years, we are combining our July and August newsletters into this edition. You will receive the September newsletter a little earlier than usual to help with planning fall program events on your calendar.



CENTRAL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

500 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Thank You Donors!

Thank you to all who donated to this year's annual diaper drive. Donations will benefit Interfaith Action of Greater St. Paul's Project Home families.

Shown here are Project Home Director Sara Liegl and Central member Laura Hutton.



CENTRAL IS *in the city for good!*