

Central Today

March 2018

www.cpcstpaul.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

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Last month's newsletter announced the great news that Central received a large gift totaling \$1.65 million dollars. This month I want to share a bit about the process that the Session will use in discernment about how best to use this gift, to encourage your excitement and continued support, and invite your input.

We know a few things. Money does not always make people happy. Countless studies have been done of lottery winners - and the surprise is that many are less happy with their lives after winning. We don't want that to happen. We also know Jesus' words, "From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required." With a gift like this, we have more responsibility to be good stewards of our resources.

Two years ago the Session did a Bible study of Jesus' parable of the talents (found in Matthew 25:14-30 and Luke 19:12-28). In this parable, three servants are entrusted with different amounts of talents (money - but it can be stretched to be a good metaphor for skills as well). And you may know the story, but two of the servants take their money and invest it and return it to the master with earnings, while the third operating out of fear, had buried the talent in the ground and returned it only to be chastised. That parable continues to serve as a framework for approaching the entire budget and this gift in particular - how can we be most faithful in how we use the talents with which we have been entrusted to do the most good in the way we think God would want us to use it?

So, the Session will be prayerful. And will work on sharing and listening in our discernment process. Over the next few months we will go from discussing the values that have shaped Central's unique history and character, to thinking about goals, and then thinking how best to use this new gift to achieve goals and build on our values. Some of the questions we will be asking include:

- Who are we?
- What makes us unique?
- What are our priorities?
- Who do we want to become?
- What do we want to do?
- How should we be different in our new financial condition?

If you have questions or ideas, please share them with me! The Session will be intentional about incorporating feedback and ideas from the staff and from the congregation, so I would love to hear from you. It's an exciting time for our community of faith - I look forward to being with you in person soon.

Peace and blessings to you and all, David Colby

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP! SUNDAYS AT

10:30 AM

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:30 Education For All Ages

10:30 Worship

11:30 Fellowship & Coffee

Worship

SUNDAY, MARCH 4

Rev. Colby will preach on "Surprising Strength" based on the Apostle Paul's words to the church in Corinth (1 Cor. 1:18-25). And on this first Sunday of the month, we will celebrate communion.

SUNDAY, MARCH 11

Rev. Colby will preach on the letter to the Ephesians. His sermon, "Foundation On Which the Church Can Thrive," will look at issues facing the first century church and our twenty-first century context.

The annual meeting of the congregation and corporation of Central Presbyterian Church will be held on Sunday, March 11 in the sanctuary immediately following worship. The annual meeting may consider such business as electing officers, hearing reports of the session along with plans for the coming year, hearing reports from the board of deacons and other organizations of the church, and transacting other business as appropriate. It shall review the adequacy of the compensation of the pastor upon report of the prior review by session.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

On this 5th Sunday of Lent, Rev. Colby will preach and the Central Choir sings. Following worship, plan to stay for our Third Sunday Lunch.

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 25

On Palm Sunday, we will remember the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, and we will look at the preparations underway for Jesus to celebrate the Passover meal with his disciples. Our children will lead the parade and sing in worship along with the Central Choir. Rev. Colby will preach.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 29 7:30 PM

On this night, Christians gather around the world to remember Jesus' last supper with the disciples before his betrayal and death.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1

Festive music on this Resurrection morning will include the Central Choir, Ars Nova Brass Quintet, organ and percussion.

Extended brass prelude music begins at 10:15 a.m. with worship at 10:30 a.m. Easter egg hunt for children follows worship.

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Adults and Children are Invited to Be a Part of Earth Mass!

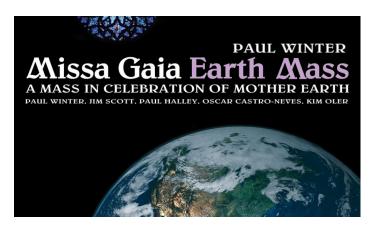
Singers are invited to join the choir and chamber ensemble for Paul Winter's "Earth Mass" as we celebrate Earth Day on April 22. This unique piece features sounds from nature incorporated into the piece, including wolf howls and whale sounds. It uses texts from St. Francis of Assisi, the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, traditional Latin Mass, and contemporary texts to convey the beauty of our created world and gratitude to our Creator.

We sing in worship, Sunday, April 22 at 10:30 a.m. Call is 9:00. a.m.

Adult Rehearsals (must attend 4 of 6 rehearsals).

- * Wednesday, March 14 from 7:15 8:15 p.m.
- * Wednesday, March 21 from 7:15 8:15 p.m.
- * Wednesday, April 4 from 7:15 8:15 p.m.
- * Wednesday, April 11 from 7:15 9:00 p.m.
- * Wednesday, April 18 from 7:15 9:00 p.m.
- * Saturday, April 21 9:30 11:30 a.m. (dress rehearsal)

Adults who are interested in singing should contact Jennifer Anderson by March 4 at jennifera@cpcstpaul.org or (651) 224–4728 ext. 103.



Children's Choir Rehearsal-for ages 7*-12 (*6-year-olds who are interested may join us with special permission. Please contact Jennifer Anderson). All children must attend 3 of 4 rehearsals and MUST attend the dress rehearsal.

- * Sunday, March 25 from 11:45—12:15 p.m.
- * Sunday, April 8 from 11:45—12:15 p.m.
- * Sunday, April 25 from 11:45—12:15 p.m.
- * Saturday, April 21 from 10:15—11:00 a.m. (dress rehearsal)

Children who are interested in singing should contact Jennifer Anderson by March 18th at jennifera@cpcstpaul.org or (651) 224-4728 ext. 103.

Vacation Bible School

ENJOY EVERYTHING WONDERFUL ABOUT CAMP AT PRESBYTERIAN CLEARWATER FOREST, BUT RIGHT HERE AT CENTRAL THOUGH CLEARWATER'S CAMP-IN-A-VAN!

DON'T MISS OUT!

Games Worship

Small group Bible study

Arts and crafts

Snacks

Storytime Recreation **When?** June 18—22, 2018

Who? Kids completed grades K-6

What? A fun quality Christian ministry experience building

relationships with young adult role models as well as the

people within the congregation.

If you have questions, contact April Greibrok, Child and Youth Coordinator at aprilg@cpcstpaul.org or 651-224-4728 ext 109.

Thank You, Bill Zopfi!

At its February meeting, the Session elected Matt Ehling as Treasurer, and named Bill Zopfi Treasurer Emeritus. We are so grateful to Bill for decades of service as Central's Treasurer. Bill became treasurer during his working career at 3M. Upon his retirement from 3M, Bill was a regular in the church office, taking on duties of treasurer, doing accounting work, as well as building maintenance work. Bill is looking forward to continuing his involvement, and helping to assist Matt during this transition.

We will be communicating details about an event that is in the early stages of planning to thank Bill and honor his service.

Matt Ehling has served on Session, chaired the Finance and Stewardship Committee and chaired the Investments subcommittee. Matt is a writer and television producer, and the president of Public Record Media. He has served on the boards of non-profit organizations, including Minnesota Coalition on Government Information and St. Paul Neighborhood Network.

News From Facilities Management and Risk Assessment Committee

We are grateful to the Minnesota Historic Society for awarding us a Legacy Grant in the amount of \$50,000. The money is to be used to hire a Historic Architect to do a survey of the condition of the exterior of our church including stonework, brickwork, steps, and protective covering of the stained glass windows.

The committee received four proposals in response to a request for proposals and has chosen Denita Lemmon from Miller Dunwiddie Company to carry out this project. We expect a kick-off meeting with Denita and her team in about 2 weeks. In early March they will undertake an intensive two-to-three day inspection of the exterior of the church. Based on that they will begin to prepare a report and basic architectural drawings. The end goal of the project is construction drawings and prioritized plans for work to be done.

- Fluryanne Leach, Chair of FMaRA Committee



Central has received a significant financial donation to explore how we can expand our ability to feed people who are hungry.

We have never turned anyone away from our Wednesday Community Lunches or Third Sunday Lunches for an inability to pay, but with this gift we now can be more intentional about meeting the needs of people in our neighborhood. Our staff, especially Barb Westman and Sue LeClaire, are brainstorming possibilities; we are researching what other nearby organizations provide; we have created a small stock of food in the church office; and we are actively exploring ideas.

If you have ideas or questions to consider, or a passion for this project, please be in touch with Rev. Colby at dcolby@cpcstpaul.org.

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Central Choir Joins Other East Metro Churches to Raise Donations for March Food Drive

On Sunday, March 11, the Central Choir will be singing with other East Metro churches in hopes of bringing lots of food donations to local food shelves. The worship service/concert will be at 2:00, and all that is needed to attend is a donation of non-perishable food (or money).

Special musical guest is LUMINA Women's Ensemble.

Lumina is a professional women's ensemble dedicated to the mystery, beauty, and hope inherent in music. Their programming draws from a rich well of musical sources, including Medieval chants, Renaissance motets, folk song traditions, and works by living and local composers. Lumina's goal is to share the spiritual experience of music through performance, participation, and education. Based in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota, Lumina has collaborated with faith communities, schools and choral organizations to present concerts, special church services, and educational workshops.



Date: Sunday, March 11 from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

(Choir gathers at 1:00 to rehearse)

Where: First Presbyterian Church

of South St. Paul 535 20th Ave. North, South St. Paul, MN 55075

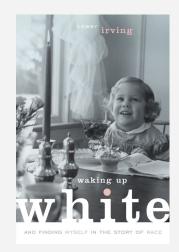
No tickets are required; simply donate a non-perishable food item.

Book Discussion for Waking Up White Continues

The Co-Moderators of the 222nd General Assembly (2016) of the Presbyterian Church have encouraged the church to read and discuss the book *Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race* by Debbie Irving).

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said that "it is appalling that the most segregated hour of Christian America is eleven o'clock on Sunday morning." Much has changed since. But, much has not. If the church is to be involved in the work of justice and racial understanding and reconciliation in our society, we must engage in some self-examination and learning.

Discussions will be held Sundays, March 4, and 11 Following Worship, Meet in the Lounge



Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless

HOMELESS DAY ON THE HILL

MARCH 6, 2018

8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.



@MNHomelessCo | #MCHDOTH

Join us for Homeless Day on the Hill!

Who:

You!

When:

Tuesday, March 06, 2018 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. – Registration 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. – Advocacy Training 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – @ the Capitol advocating!

What:

Advocacy training, legislator meetings, and more!

Where:

Central Presbyterian Church 500 Cedar Street St. Paul, MN 55101

Minnesota State Capitol 75 Rev. Martin Luther King Drive St. Paul, MN 55101

Contact: Eden Fauré at 651-645-7332 or eden@mnhomelesscoalition.org

Registration is free but required here! www.mnhomelesscoalition.org/advocate

The Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless (MCH) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) public policy and advocacy organization that works to ensure statewide housing stability and economic security.

The mission of the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless is to generate policies, community support and local resources for housing and services to end homelessness in Minnesota.

We achieve our mission and vision through advocacy inside the Capitol, outside the Capitol and in the media. With our partners, MCH has advocated for state funds to build over 9,000 units of affordable housing, and cultivated over \$270M in legislative wins for housing stability across the state. We've moved upstream to improve economic policy for families in Minnesota living in deep poverty.

Homelessness is declining, but we still have work to do!

For more information, check out the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless website at www.mnhomelesscoalition.org.

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Joint Religious Legislative Coalition Day on the Hill

JRLC is the largest and most inclusive interfaith public interest group in Minnesota — people of diverse faiths bringing vision and wisdom to the public realm for the well-being of Minnesotans. When JRLC was founded in 1971, it was the first interfaith public-interest lobby group in the United States. JRLC now has an extensive body of public policy statements and continually influences Minnesota legislation in many policy arenas including: welfare reform, housing, health care, human rights, criminal justice, environmental stewardship, tax policy, ethics in government, gambling, economic justice, bias crimes, firearms regulation, and other policy areas.

The JRLC Legislative Network involves over 8,000 faithful citizens and volunteers who act upon timely action alerts and issue briefings, and organize activities to shape public policy.

On March 13, 2018, we will convene our Day on the Hill conference at Central Presbyterian Church and the State Capitol. Participants will be briefed on social justice issues and then visit members of the legislature. In 2017, over 700 people from 64 of Minnesota's 67 senate districts participated.

The theme for this year's Day on the Hill is "If not now, when?" inspired by the famous quote from Rabbi Hillel. JRLC's Day on the Hill is an opportunity for people of faith from around the state to join together, be inspired, learn about critical issues, and have an impact at the State Capitol.

If you support our work for social justice, please join us! **Registration can be done online** at https://jrlc.org/day-on-the-hill/registration. If you are interested in volunteering at Day on the Hill and receiving free event registration, please contact Katie at kpowell@jrlc.org.



Day on the Hill participants will meet with likeminded people of the same and differing faith traditions, while hearing from policy and religious leaders about prescient issues. Time is built into the day for participants to learn more about their state legislators, to develop a plan for meeting with their legislators and to learn effective tactics for these meetings, and to leave with specifics actions to continue to be an advocate beyond Day on the Hill.





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Easter Flowers

Order Form

Due by Monday, March 26.

To donate flowers in memory or honor of a loved one, please fill out the information, attach your payment (checks payable to Central), and return it to the office (or in the offering plate).

Flowers will be used to decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Following the service, our Deacons will deliver them to Central's home-bound members.

Type of Flower	Price	Quantity	Total Amount Due
Azaleas	\$14.00		
8" Lily	\$16.00		
Mums	\$9.00		
Hydrangeas	\$14.00		
Calla Lilies	\$14.00		

Your Name: _	
Phone/Email:	
In honor of:	
In memory of:	

Summer at Clearwater Forest Camp

Registration for Clearwater Forest summer programs 2018 is going strong! Go to www.clearwaterforest.org today to check out the 2018 lineup and register online! The theme this

summer is "Light the Fire," where campers will explore the big questions surrounding how we can impact the world with the light of Christ. Clearwater Forest offers programs for anyone grades 3rd through recent graduates, and with all of the fantastic options available this summer there is sure to be something for everyone!

Campfires, kayaking, high ropes, sailing, worship, hiking, archery, swimming, giant games on the Playfield, and s'mores are only small parts of what Clearwater Forest is all about. Living in community, learning independence and cooperation

simultaneously, developing new friendships in a safe environment, experiencing outdoor ministry, and developing a deeper relationship with Christ makes a week at Clearwater Forest a truly life-

changing experience.

"I really like Clearwater, because all the kids and counselors there are really nice and welcoming. You get to be in nature a lot, like the lake, games, and morning and evening worship. When you enter even the first time, you feel really welcomed."

- Amaya, Central Youth

Summer camps available for all ages and families! Learn more at www.clearwaterforest.org or find them on Facebook.

Several families have already signed up for the week of July 29 - August 4. If your child would like to go with a buddy this is a good week to consider. If you need help covering the cost of camp please let April Greibrok know at aprilg@cpcstpaul.org or 651-224-4728 ext 109. We have scholarship funds to help make sure camp can happen for your family.



Pizza Party!

The 4th + Sunday school crew has been working with a new curriculum relating faith and family to pizza. It might seem like a stretch, but they have been learning a lot. We will be celebrating the end of this with theme with a pizza party on March 11th. We will meet in the kitchen to make our own mini pizzas. Pizzas and games in the John Huss room from 12-1:30. We look forward to seeing you there.

Youth Activity

At Central our Easter tradition includes an egg hunt following worship on Easter Sunday. Youth in grades 6+ help make this wonderful event happen by stuffing eggs and hiding them throughout the sanctuary. Sunday, March 11 following worship youth are invited to meet in the John Huss room for snacks and step one filling the eggs. We will fill several hundred eggs, so the more help the faster the project goes!



Camp Cleanup Day

Camp Clearwater Forest needs you! Winter is always a challenge to our facilities, trails, and grounds. Our spring work day will be Saturday, May 19 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. with a FREE lunch for those who help out.

From raking leaves, cleaning cabins, picking up downed branches, cleaning windows, sorting crafts, pulling out the boats to more skilled projects which include building a screened in porch on the Hermitage and painting the Grouse Circle bathroom, there is a project for all skill levels and groups.

Please let us know if you are able to come so we can have enough lunch and materials available. You can learn more at www.clearwaterforest.org or talk with April Joy Greibrok at 651-224-4728 ext 109.

Scholarships Available!

Thanks to funds given to Central, youth scholarships are available for camp or college from the Nella Jury - Edna Larson Fund. Requests up to \$300 will be considered, with final awards depending on the applications received. If interested, please submit a one-page letter by **April 16th for college or June 1st for a camp scholarship**. The letter should outline your connection to Central and how you plan to use the scholarship funds. The letter should be to Central, to the attention of the Children & Youth committee or emailed to aprilg@cpcstpaul.org.

For students interested in attending Clearwater Forest, additional scholarships are also available. Contact Kati Berg at the camp office directly for more information at katiannberg@gmail.com.

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Women of Central News

Women's Networking Dinner

We enjoyed Babani on February 7th. Marcia Robert recommended this restaurant for our group and it was excellent! We had 10 people and hope for even more in March.

Join us for these upcoming events!



March 8 Moscow on the Hill 371 Selby Ave, St. Paul



April 4 Downtowner Woodfire Grill woodfire Grill № 253 West 7th Street, St. Paul



Please RSVP to the church office or to Sue Hoffman (612-998-6389 or syhoffman123@comcast.net), as it helps us get a count for a table reservation. Join the fun!

4TH SUNDAY KNITTING GROUP—MARCH 27

We continue to create beautiful prayer shawls that bring comfort to people experiencing difficult times. The supply of yarn for donation to knitters/ crocheters is dwindling, so if you are inclined to donate yarn, it would be greatly appreciated. Three skeins is generally enough for a prayer shawl. Also please try to minimize wool content in the yarn.

Our next 4th Sunday Knitting group will meet on March 27th after worship. Join us!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SPRING GATHERING—APRIL 28

The Presbyterian Women of the Twin Cities Presbytery will hold their spring gathering on Saturday, April 28 at First Presbyterian Church of Rochester. The gathering is from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We will plan to have a carpool driving to the event, departing from Central.

Registration forms for the event will be available in late March on the Women of Central bulletin board. The cost of the event is \$15.

SAVE THE DATE!

FALL FAMILY RETREAT September 21 - 23, 2018

More information will be provided closer to this date. Contact April Greibrok at aprilg@cpcstpaul.org with questions

Happy Birthday!

Caitlyn Welch3/2	Sally Mortenson	3/14
Barb Westman3/3	Alexis Linner	3/15
William Zopfi3/3	Gracyn Jagger	3/16
Cheryl Williamson3/4	Lawrence Larson	3/17
Bradley Peterson3/5	Cora Jones	3/18
Soren Johnson3/7	Jeffery Linner	
Andrei Kelly-Kennedy3/8	Gloriana Wolf	3/18
Amy Adams3/9	Abe Smith	3/19
David Fisher3/9	Paula Cooey	3/21
Marilyn Gjerde3/9	Grace Toikka	3/22
Laura Henry3/10	Derek Peterson	3/25
Farie Hogue3/10	Mary Rose Lee	3/26
Linda Clay3/14	Annie Siebell	3/28
Stephanie Geisler3/14	April Greibrok	3/29

If we erroneously missed your name, please send us a note so that we can correct our records: office@cpcstpaul.org

The Ahmady Family: One Year Later



It's been one year since the Taher, Awesta, Adiba, Waris, and Betol traveled from their home in Afghanistan to their new community in Minnesota.

March 9th marks a year of hard work and intense learning for The Ahmady Family and for everyone at Central who helped them navigate the culture, language and bureaucracy of their new home. Central members helped with innumerable initial tasks, including furnishing and arranging their new apartment, taking them to appointments, registering for school, finding a good paying job, getting a car, and learning how to drive it.

After one year in the United States, the kids are loving school and picking up English extremely quickly. Friends from Central continue regular visits for English lessons with Awesta, social time, and continued support navigating American life. Taher has a full-time job in security at Regions Hospital and they hope to eventually move closer to Saint Paul.

Announcements

BOOK GROUP

Meets Tuesday, March 13 and Tuesday, March 27 at 10:30 a.m. in the Friendship Room. The March book selection is *The Perfect Horse* by Elizabeth Letts.

DORCAS CIRCLE

Will meet Thursday, March 8 at 11:30 a.m. in the Friendship Room. Bring your own lunch, coffee will be provided. We will look at Lesson 7.

BARGAINS GALORE!

SALE TIME AT MARTHA'S CLOSET

March 22, 11 a.m. -2 p.m. The public is invited and encouraged to shop for women's clothes. Prices range from \$1-\$7. In addition to creating rack-space for spring donations, the proceeds help fund the purchase of new underwear.

Located on the Upper Level of Central, Martha's Closet is a free clothing closet for women, offering work-place appropriate clothes to help low-income women who are recently employed or in job searches. We serve women in the seven-county Twin Cities metro area. Women must have a referral from a social service agency or work-training program, and may visit Martha's Closet two times per year. Subject to availability, women may receive:

- 3 complete outfits
- Panty hose
- 2 pair new underwear
- Shoes
- Bag, purse, jewelry or other accessories
- Personal care items

If you have clothing to donate (clean, good-condition), you may stop by any time the church office is open: Monday–Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

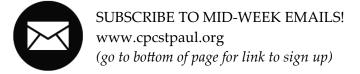


Don't miss out on important reminders, event announcements and church news! Follow Central online!











VocalPoint Concerts Raised Over \$26,500 for Twin Cities R!SE!

A huge thank you to the Central Church community for your support of our 7th Season of VocalPoint!

This was our biggest year yet:

- Over 80 singers in the choir
- 1,060 in attendance at the 2 concerts
- Over \$26,500 raised for the empowering work of Twin Cities R!SE!

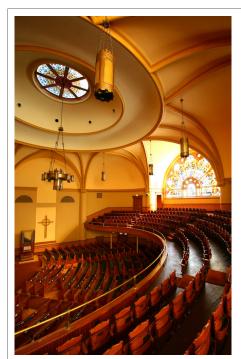
From ushers, to ticket-sellers, to hospitality, to staging set-up, and so many more tasks, THANK YOU for being such a generous host to these concerts.

- Jennifer Anderson, Artistic Director of VocalPoint









CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

500 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55101 651-224-4728 | www.cpcstpaul.org

Rev. Dr. David D. Colby, dcolby@cpcstpaul.org, ext. 102	Pastor
Maureen Smith, mcsmith@tc.umn.edu, ext. 118Pa	astoral Associate
Jennifer Anderson, jennifera@cpcstpaul.org, ext. 103	Director of Music
Anna Sandberg Sanchez, office@cpcstpaul.org, ext. 100	Office Manager
Christie Rachelle, cpc@christierachelle.com	Communications
April Joy Greibrok, ext. 109 Children & Youth Minist	ries Coordinator
William Zopfi, billz@cpcstpaul.org, ext. 104	Treasurer
Steve Kesner, ext.116	exton/Custodian
Barb Westman, barb.westman@gmail.com, ext. 114Food	Service Manager
Sue LeClaire, ext. 114	Sous Chef
Sandy White, wjands7@aol.com, ext. 112Director of	f Martha's Closet
Rebecca GudknechtNurse	ry Care Provider
Megan BeesePi	reschool Teacher

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