

CONNECT CENTRAL

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MARCH 2020

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CENTRAL PROUD TO HOST 2020 HOMELESS DAY ON THE HILL

Homeless Day on the Hill is a day of advocacy. Together, hundreds of Minnesotans gather and talk with their lawmakers about the need for more safe and affordable housing across the state.

Minnesota. Last year's event drew over 800 attendees, including Governor Walz and Lt. Governor Flanagan, and we are certain this year's event will be another important and productive day.

We are excited welcome them to Central and to join together as advocates to meet with legislators, share our stories, and show our support for important housing legislative agenda. It is a family-friendly event and open to all who care about ending homelessness in

Central members & friends are welcome to be an event participant or volunteer as a building host. Registration is free but recommended for participants. Register at: <https://conta.cc/3bZyflx>.



UPCOMING WORSHIP

**SUNDAY,
MARCH 1**

The season of Lent sends us out into the wilderness. It was there, right after his baptism, that Jesus is sent by the Spirit to face challenges and temptations. Rev. Colby will preach on Matthew's account of the temptation. Central Choir sings and we will celebrate the sacrament of communion.

**SUNDAY,
MARCH 8**

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS!
(SET YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD)**

In her book *Wild*, Cheryl Strayed writes about hiking through desert wilderness toward a water supply on the Pacific Crest Trail, only to find that the water tank was empty. And she would have to walk miles more until the next source. On their long journey in the wilderness, the Israelites had days like this as well, including a memorable camp at Rephidim (Exodus 17:1-7).

Rev. Colby will preach. Central Choir will sing and Sticks and Steel II will play.

After worship, there will be an annual meeting of the congregation. To learn more, see page 3.

Education for All Ages 9:30 a.m.

Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship 11:30 a.m.

A WAY THROUGH THE
Wilderness



SHARE THE SEASON OF LENT AT CENTRAL

**SUNDAY,
MARCH 15**

Our Lenten theme of finding a way *through the wilderness* can evoke such different images and feelings. Psalm 23 describes lush green pastures and still waters, but also the valley of the shadow of death. As the Psalmist imagines a table prepared, all are invited to sit at the table together for fellowship and our Third Sunday Lunch.

Central Choir will sing and the Handbell Ensemble will play.

**SUNDAY,
MARCH 22**

Our Lenten wilderness theme continues with a story from the prophet Ezekiel (37:1-14) staring into a valley of dry bones. What do we do when the world feels desolate? How do we offer words of encouragement that can bring new life when we feel most lost?

Central Choir sings and the Ars Nova Brass Quintet shares in worship.

**SUNDAY,
MARCH 29**

On this Sunday, professional musicians and the talented Central Choir will present the world premier of the cantata *To Know the Path* by composer Linda Kachelmeier. This 30-minute choral piece features texts that focus on immigration, the deep desire for comfort and safety, and how we find our path in this world.

After worship, stay for an installation of our Inspired Concert Series at 1:00 p.m. which will celebrate the music of Linda Kachelmeier, including art song, instrumental music, and choral music. During this concert, a free-will donation will be accepted benefiting Alight (formally known as American Refugee Committee) which seeks to help refugee families.

Want to learn more about this amazing composer? Then, join us before the concert at 12:15 p.m. when Linda will present a 'pre-concert' talk.

SESSION IS ORGANIZED FOR 2020

At its January meeting, the Session convened and organized itself to do efficient and effective ministry in 2020.

The *Presbyterian Book of Order* describes the leadership provided by the elders who make up the governing board for the church. "As there were in Old Testament times elders for the government of the people, so the New Testament church provided persons with particular gifts to share in discernment of God's Spirit and governance of God's people. Accordingly, congregations should elect persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit. Ruling elders are so named not because they lord over the congregation (Matt. 20:25), but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life."

Serving on Session is one way to be involved in ministry and leadership at Central, and we are grateful to those

who are called, elected, and installed in these positions. But, our Session also hopes to involve many other members and friends of Central in the work of the church. The following people will serve as leaders of the following committees, and many of those work teams would love to have other people help them dream and evaluate and plan and execute.

WORSHIP, MUSIC, AND ARTS

Chair: Dennis Reimer

This committee oversees big-picture worship and arts planning and coordinates the work of ushers and communion preparation.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Chair: Kati Berg

This committee oversees all the programs that Central offers for children and youth, including Sunday School programming, family and youth outings and events.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 7]

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL CONGREGATION

The annual meeting of the congregation and corporation of Central Presbyterian Church will be held on Sunday, March 8 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.



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VOLUNTEER TO HELP
centralforgood.org/volunteer

VOCALPOINT RAISES \$22,613!

Thanks to the many generous donations have come in since the benefit concert weekend, VocalPoint has raised **\$22,613.59** to date for the Express Bike Shop! Thank you to the many volunteers, musicians, and singers who supported this event, including its guest performers the Flobots and students from Harding High School and Creative Arts Secondary School.





STAFF EMAIL CHANGES

Effective immediately, the email of key staff members has changed to reflect the new domain address of our website that was created during last years' rebranding.

So update your email contacts for the following new addresses:

PASTORAL / MINISTRY

- Rev. Dr. David Colby
Pastor
davec@centralforgood.org
- Maureen Smith
Pastoral Associate
maureens@centralforgood.org
- Jennifer Anderson
Director of Music Ministry
jennifera@centralforgood.org

- Katie Morris, Children & Youth
Ministry Coordinator
katiem@centralforgood.org

ADMINISTRATION

- Anna Sanchez
Church Administrator
office@centralforgood.org
- Christie Rachelle
Director of Communications
christier@centralforgood.org

Previous staff emails that ended in @cpcstpaul.org will continue to work for a little while longer to give everyone time to update their contacts. However, we encourage you to make the change in your address book sooner than later.

Also, to assist everyone with easy recall when you are unsure of the person associated with a role or their address, we have also created several alias emails. These emails will simply forward to the person responsible for that area.

- WOMEN OF CENTRAL
women@centralforgood.org
- MARTHA'S CLOSET
martha@centralforgood.org
- WED/3rd SUNDAY LUNCHESES
meals@centralforgood.org

If you have any questions or problems with using these new email addresses, please contact Anna at office@centralforgood.org.

BE ON ALERT FOR SCAMS

Churches, including Central, have been the target of scam attempts through emails and text messages. Church members have received emails and text messages that appear to be from Rev. David Colby or other staff members, but are a "spoofing" scam. These messages may request gift cards, or the transfer of money, but are sometimes just an attempt to start an email conversation that would potentially lead to you giving money or sensitive information to a scammer.

If you receive one of these messages, we recommend you report it to your server and block the sender. Please do not reply or send financial aid of any kind, personal bank or credit

information, photos, gift cards, etc.

Central Presbyterian Church and its staff will never request money or gifts outside the normal chain of giving outlined on our website at www.centralforgood.org/give. We promote giving and special event donations in the following ways:

- Checks and cash received during worship offering.
- Credit card donations through the PayPal link on our website only. You will never be asked to send credit card or PayPal information via email.
- Automatic bank transfers (ACH) set up directly with Anna in the



church office.

- Goods that you carry into the church. (Such as the Giving Tree or Diaper Drive donations).

Occasionally, we may have giving campaigns or special requests, however, you will always hear about those from the pulpit. If a request seems odd, please report the attempt to the church office. Unfortunately we are seeing a rise in this type of spoofing scam, so please trust your gut instincts if an email message seems odd or out of character.

SESSION IS ORGANIZED FOR 2020 [CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3]

NEW MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Chair: Kiera Faye

This committee will engage visitors, host inquirers' classes, and help new members get more involved. This committee is charged with recruiting and training people for Project Home and ongoing hospitality tasks in the church (such as ushers and coffee preparers).

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Chair: Stu Siebell

This committee is responsible for ensuring effective staffing for the church, and to oversee an annual evaluation process for each staff member. Some aspects of the work of this committee are highly confidential.

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

Chair: Rich Binger

This committee encourages generous and faithful stewardship and analyzes and recommends the strategic use of financial resources. With the treasurer, this committee interprets income, expenses and financial realities and priorities to the boards and to the congregation.

COORDINATED MISSION

Chair: Sharon Zopfi-Jordan

Central does lots of mission, or community outreach through the use of our building, our dollars, and our volunteer time. The job of this committee is to coordinate, implement and execute our mission or community serving efforts, so that we can be most effective.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND RISK ASSESSMENT

Chair: Carl Willis

Working with the Church Administrator, this committee addresses building, grounds, and safety issues.

If you want to learn more about the work of these committees or become more involved in the activities and teams guiding the church, we invite you to speak with the committee chairs directly at anytime. If you want to learn more about where your skills may be of best fit or identify where the need is greatest, we invite you to contact Church Administrator Anna Sanchez at (651) 224-4728 ext. 100 or email her at office@centralforgood.org to get connected.



EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

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.

To order flowers for this service, please complete this form, attach your payment, and return it to the office (or in the offering plate). Checks should be made payable to Central Presbyterian Church.

**Orders are due by
Sunday, April 5.**

Your Name: _____

Phone / Email: _____

If you are purchasing on behalf of another, please complete the following:

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

PLANT	PRICE EACH	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Azaleas	\$15.00		
8" Lily	\$17.00		
Mums	\$10.00		
Hydrangeas	\$15.00		
Daffodils	\$ 4.00		
Gerber Daisy	\$ 4.00		

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

DISCUSSION ON ANTI-RACISM

Last month, the Bible Study hour was dedicated to a two-day discussion on anti-racism. Anti-racism is an every day, every moment process which requires persistent self awareness, self-criticism and self-examination. The group shared with each other moments where they themselves had been racist or anti-racist, reflecting on Ibram X Kendo's book *How to Be Anti-racist*.

Everyone, every day, through action or inaction, speech or silence, is

choosing in the moment to be racist or anti-racist. It follows then that those identities are fluid, and racism is not a fixed character flaw. "What we say about race, what we do about race in each moment, determines what - not who - we are."

We invite you to give further thought and study to this topic. There are several copies of Ibram X Kendo's book *How to Be Anti-racist* available for check out from office.



MARCH FAMILY EVENT

The Children and Youth Committee invites you to:

INDOOR PLANT-POWERED PICNIC POTLUCK

When: March 21, 11:30am-1:00pm

Where: Central's dining room

Why: As people of faith, caring for God's creation is part of our call. As we see the destructive effects of climate change on God's creation, including a disproportionate impact on those living in poverty and in the least developed countries, we are reminded of the urgent need for global action.

Join us this Saturday morning to learn about one way to take action: Creation Care through Cooking Classes to Combat Climate Change!



What: During our time together, we'll try some plant-based food potluck-style, learn how to make some family-friendly snacks, and make some things to take home. We'll also talk about other ways that we can make small changes in our daily lives to address climate change!

RSVP: Please email Katie Morris at katiem@centralforgood.org by

March 14 if your family would like to join us!

Please Bring: A plant-based meal or item that you would like to try! This might be a new recipe you've been wanting to make, a vegan treat you've seen at the store, or an old favorite that you want others to try. If you make a dish to bring, please bring a copy of the recipe to share with others.

CHILDREN & YOUTH SUMMER FUN

SUMMER CAMP IN THE CITY

We are partnering again this year with House of Hope Presbyterian Church for Camp in the City! Join us for a fun-filled week of Bible stories, art, music, outdoor activities, and more.

Running June 22-26 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., this program is run by the Clearwater Forest staff. Cost is \$60 per child and is open to children 4-years old by September 1, 2019 through those who have completed 5th grade by June 2020.



Registration is now open through a link with House of Hope at: www.cognitofrms.com/HouseOfHopePresbyterianChurch/CampInTheCity.

Scholarships are available, contact Katie Morris for more information.

CLEARWATER SUMMER CAMP

Are any of your children or youth interested in attending Clearwater summer camp this year? For those unfamiliar, Clearwater Forest is a summer camp and wellness retreat center positioned on over 1,000 acres of land adjacent to the beautiful Clearwater Lake in central Minnesota. Let Katie Morris know so that we can connect you with other families planning to go – perhaps you can choose the same week! Central does offer scholarships for Clearwater, check in with Katie Morris to learn more.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

[FROM KATIE MORRIS]

In the last year, the Children and Youth Committee has developed and approved a new Child Protection Policy to ensure the safety of our children, youth, and all the staff and volunteers who work with them. Join us to learn about this new policy on Sunday, March 22 after worship.

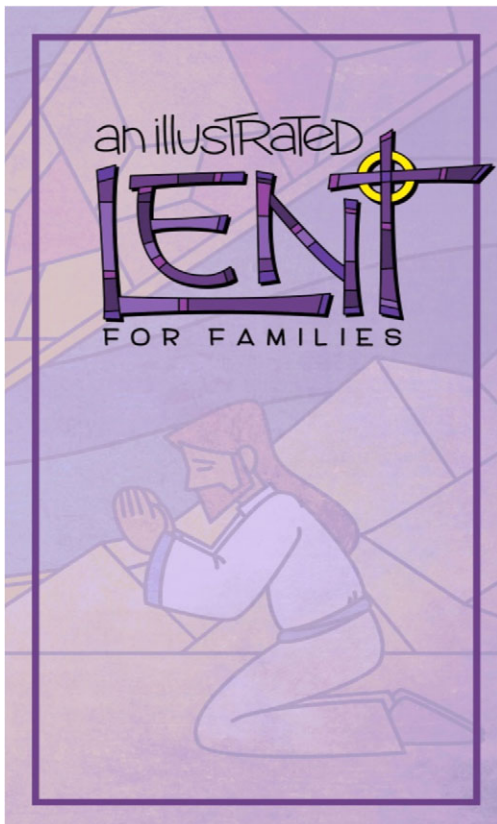
As a community of faith, we believe that children and youth are an integral part of our community, and this policy helps to uphold our commitment to nurturing them in a safe and welcoming environment. The majority of this policy simply formalizes many of the ways in which we already work with children and youth, with one additional background check piece for volunteers. The policy was approved



by Session in December, and the Children and Youth Committee would like to invite you to a time of conversation and questions about the policy on Sunday, March 22. All are welcome to join us – parents/guardians of children and youth, volunteers who work with children and youth, and any members of the

Central community who would like to learn more!

If you have any questions about this policy, or are unable to make this discussion date and would like to learn more, please contact Katie Morris at katiem@centralforgood.org or call (651) 224-4728, ext 109.



FAMILY LENTEN MATERIALS

The season of Lent is upon us!

Much like Advent, Lent is a season of waiting and preparation, and it can also be a time to intentionally slow down as a family. While we look toward the joy of Easter morning, Lent also takes us through the challenging and sorrowful stories of Jesus' arrest and execution.

The many emotions involved in the Lenten season call us to slow down and listen. Some people have traditions of "giving up" something (which comes from the practice of fasting) during the Lenten season,

and others like the tradition of adding in something new to their daily life during Lent.

Just as during the season of Advent, Lenten family devotional booklets will be available at the church throughout the season of Lent in the Sunday School rooms or in the Friendship Room during the coffee hour.

Find some time to look at the reflections together as a family each week throughout the season!

If you have questions regarding these family materials, contact Katie Morris at katiem@centralforgood.org.

WOMEN OF CENTRAL NEWS

NETWORKING GROUP

Celeste was so much fun! We had lots of great conversations in this beautiful space.



We are heading to Pazzaluna this month. Join us on Thursday, March 5 for this gathering. We plan to carpool from the parking lot at Central at 5:15 p.m., you can walk over via the skyway, or you can meet us at the restaurant at 5:30 p.m. (at 360 St. Peter Street, St. Paul, MN).

Help us reserve the space we need by sending an RSVP via email to women@centralforgood.org or to the church office no later than Friday, February 28 to let us know if you plan to attend.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:



Tuesday, April 6
Just Us Eatery
275 4th St E.
St. Paul, MN



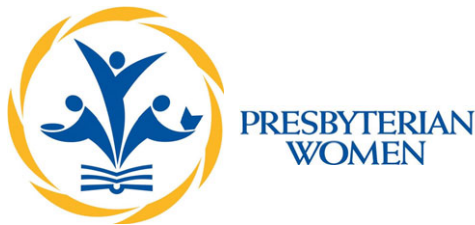
Thursday, May 7
Potluck Meal at Kellogg Square hosted by Casey Wells and Sally Mortenson

Looking forward to seeing you at these gatherings!

KNITTING GROUP

Come join us after worship on March 8 to knit and connect with one another. We have yarn, needles, help for beginning knitters and companionship. We meet in the Oval Room after gathering in the Friendship Room for a quick cup of coffee. We are working on prayer pockets and prayer shawls.

If you have questions please email women@centralforgood.org or talk with Maggie Gordon.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SPRING GATHERING

Central is hosting the Presbyterian Women of the Twin Cities (PW-PTCA) Spring Gathering on Saturday, April 25, 2020. The event begins at 9 AM and concludes by 3 PM. This event is a great way to connect with women from across the Presbytery and to share in learning, worship and fellowship with one another.

We have several volunteer opportunities that will be posted in March on Central's Volunteer page. Mark your calendars to attend the gathering. If you have questions, please send them to women@centralforgood.org or talk to Sue Hoffman.

CENTRAL STAFF

(651) 224-4728

PASTORAL CARE

Rev. Dr. David Colby, Pastor
davec@centralforgood.org, ext. 102
Maureen Smith, Pastoral Associate
maureens@centralforgood.org
Parish Associates: Rev. Casey Wells,
Rev. Doug Throckmorton,
Rev. Lou Bender

ADMINISTRATION

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

Matt Ehling, Treasurer
William Zopfi, Treasurer Emeritus
Mary Lange, Evening Receptionist
James Williams, 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

Katie Morris, Children & Youth
Ministry Coordinator
katiem@centralforgood.org, ext. 109
Natalie Pence, Nursery Care Provider
Meghan Beese, Preschool Teacher

FOOD INITIATIVE

Barb Westman, Chef & Manager
Barb.westman@gmail.com
Sue LeClaire, Sous Chef
Peter Evarts, Dishwasher

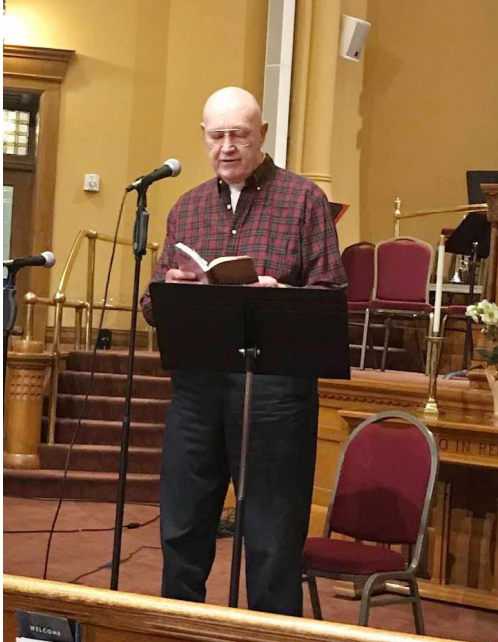
MARTHA'S CLOSET

Sandy White, Director
martha@centralforgood.org, ext. 112

THERE IS A LOT OF TALENT AT CENTRAL!

Thank you to Maureen Smith and Jennifer Anderson for sharing their photos from the All-Church All-Ages Variety Show at Central. (Now, if only these pictures had sound!)





OPPORTUNITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

Continuing on the efforts of the past year, the Coordinated Mission Committee has scheduled volunteer opportunities for Central to serve the Saturday lunch meal at the new St. Paul Opportunity Center (formerly Mary Hall). Our next volunteer date is Saturday, March 14 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Subsequent dates are Saturdays, May 9, July 11, September 12, and November 14.

St. Paul Opportunity Center was constructed in 2019 by Catholic Charities and is located at 422

Dorothy Day Place, St. Paul, MN 55102. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old and should wear appropriate closed-toe footwear.

Sign up to volunteer at www.centralforgood.org/volunteer. We need 8-10 volunteers for each meal service date. 3-5 people can come as early as 9:00 a.m. if they want to as Mary Hall could use the help. If you have questions please contact Sharon Zopfi-Jordan at szj@comcast.net.

HOMELESS DAY ON THE HILL [CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1]

To volunteer for the event as a building host, speak with Anna Sanchez in the church office or email her at office@centralforgood.org.

EVENT DETAILS

When: Wednesday, March 11, 2020

8 – 9:00 a.m. Registration
 9 -10:00 a.m. Advocacy Training
 10 – 3:00 p.m. Legislator Meetings at the Capitol

Where:

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

Advocacy

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

Learn More:

www.facebook.com/mnhomelessco

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 end homelessness in Minnesota, through generating policies, community

support and local resources for housing and services. It does so through advocacy inside the Capitol, outside the Capitol and in the media. With their 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. For more information, check out the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless website at www.mnhomelesscoalition.org or www.facebook.com/mnhomelessco or contact Eden Fauré at eden@mnhomelesscoalition.org or 651-645-7332.



Inspired
 THE MUSIC OF
 LINDA KACHELMEIER

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

- Central Choir sings the world premier of Kachelmeier's *To Know the Path* in 10:30 a.m. worship.
- The composer gives a pre-concert talk at 12:15 p.m.
- Concert at 1:00 p.m. showcasing *To Know the Path* and other compositions with special guest musicians.

Free-will donation; proceeds benefit Alight (formally known as American Refugee Committee).

To Know the Path is new 30-minute choral piece, focused on immigration, the deep desire for comfort and safety, and how we find our path in this world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALE TIME AT MARTHA'S CLOSET!

Great bargains are to be had. We need to make room for spring and summer donations. Come check out the fall and winter clothing that is available at a bargain price. Prices range from \$.50 to \$5. Join us for the spring sale at Martha's Closet on March 19 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

DORCAS CIRCLE

Dorcas Circle will meet at 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room on Thursday, March 12. Bring your own lunch with coffee and tea to be provided.

NURSERY CUTENESS!



CLASS FOR NEW MEMBERS

Following worship on Sunday, March 15, the pastor and folks from the New Members and Volunteers Committee will hold a conversation for people interested in learning more about Central and how to get more involved. We will begin with lunch, share and learn about others, take a tour, ask questions and explore the role of faith in our lives. Hope you will join us!

To plan for enough lunch, please RSVP to office@centralforgood.org or call Anna in the office at (651) 224-4728 ext. 100.

HAVE A HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Caitlyn Welch.....3/2
- Barb Westman3/3
- William Zopfi3/3
- Cheryl Williamson3/4
- Bradley Peterson3/5
- Andrei Kelly-Kennedy3/8
- Amy Adams3/9
- David Fisher.....3/9
- Marilyn Gjerde.....3/9
- Laura Henry.....3/10
- Farie Hogue.....3/10
- Linda Clay3/14
- Stephanie Geisler3/14
- Sally Mortenson3/14
- Alexis Linner3/15
- Gracyn Jagger3/16
- Larry Larson.....3/17
- Cora Jones3/18
- Jeffery Linner3/18
- Abe Smith3/19
- Paula Cooley3/21
- Grace Toikka3/22
- Mary Lou Gilstad.....3/24
- Derek Peterson.....3/25
- Mary Rose Lee.....3/26
- Annie Siebell.....3/28
- April Greibrok.....3/29

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



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500 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



VocalPoint brings many, many community guests into our sanctuary - often for the first time. Thank you to Dwight Colby, Dick Swanson, and Jeff Barnaby (Central's Pew Patrol) for volunteering their time again and again to make sure our pews are always organized and ready to great Central members and guests.

CENTRAL IS *in the city for good!*