



WWW.CENTRALFORGOOD.ORG

SPRING 2024

Thriving, In the City

Friends of Central,

April 1st marked my first anniversary as your pastor! This past year has been a joy. I've gotten to know you and be welcomed into your church family. I've gotten to hear what you're passionate about, what you envision both for this congregation and for the world. We have prayed together, learned together, sung together, had meetings together, and more. Thank you for this last year, I hope the first of many.

What have I seen over the last year? Countless signs of thriving. Once a month, dozens of us gather together to read Scripture and wrestle with some of the most complex issues of our time in the Faith Formation class. Our children and youth ministries have expanded by leaps and bounds. Sunday worship is full of people and joyful ministry. We welcomed an innovative new ministry, serving asylum-seeking people experiencing homelessness. Our Wednesday lunches have continued to expand. I could go on.

These and more are signs of thriving. Not just in numbers, but in faith. You continue to invest your lives and your resources into worthwhile things,

growing in love of God, learning the stories of Scripture, commending the faith to the next generation, and serving those on the margins with whom Jesus so closely identifies.

Thank you for a wonderful first year, and thank you for joining together as a people seeking the good of the city and the world to which God has called us.

God's Peace,
Chris

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: What the Bible Does(n't) Say MAY 5: QUEER IDENTITY

As we conclude our year-long series on What the Bible Does(n't) Say, we end with queer identity and the Bible. For people who have been routinely excluded, made invisible, or worse, is there room in the Bible for people who don't conform to a heterosexual gender binary? (Hint: there is!) Where do we find these entry points into God's expansive identity, and what do we do with those passages that have been weaponized to catastrophic ends? Joins us after worship on **May 5** for that conversation!

Sunday Schedule

Join us online or in-person!

9:30 AM	Adult Bible Study
10:30 AM	Worship Service & Children's Education
11:30 AM	Fellowship Hour

Worship services are streamed live each Sunday on our website:

www.centralforgood.org/stream

Children & Youth Sunday Schedule

CHILDREN AGE BIRTH – 6: Our beautiful nursery is staffed by professional caregivers and full of fun toys and good friends. Childcare is available from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. (Summer hours 10 - 11:30 a.m.)

10:30 WORSHIP: following the Time for Children, kids grades K – 8 are invited upstairs for Sunday Connection (a time of learning and growing!)

11:30 On the first and third Sundays: Lifeboats Middle School Youth Group

If you are new to Central, or have questions about C&Y ministry, please reach out to Jennifer Anderson at jennifera@centralforgood.org.



UPCOMING WORSHIP & SUNDAY EVENTS

Sunday, April 28

Youth Sunday! You won't want to miss the opportunity to hear directly from our 6th - 12th graders about "For Everything, There is a Time." From the message to the music, our young people will be sharing the worship leadership on the text from Ecclesiastes 3: 1 - 8.

Sunday, May 5

On a day that we learn more about Faithful Hospitality during worship, we welcome Paul Damico-Carper back with the Central Choir. Stay after worship for the final Adult Faith Formation Class of the series.

Sunday, May 12

Music in worship today features the Central Choir joined by the Handbell ensemble.

Sunday, May 19

It's Pentecost! Tonia Hughes-Kendrick will lead us in music that celebrates the power of the Holy Spirit in our midst! This will be the last day of regular Sunday Connection for our

children, but don't worry: Mini Camp is back for the Summer! Following worship is the 3rd-Sunday Lunch and Youth Group.

Sunday, June 2

Teacher and Graduate Recognition, and first day of Mini Camp! During worship on this day, we will recognize our Children & Youth teachers and caregivers, and honor all students graduating - be it from high school, college, or trade school programs. If you or someone you know would like to be included in this service of recognition, please let Jennifer Anderson know by May 12 via email to jennifera@centralforgood.org.

Please note that you will be asked to participate in the service on June 2.

Volunteers are Needed

On Saturday, May 10 from 11 am - 1 pm, 8 to 10 volunteers are needed to serve lunch and help with meal prep at the St. Paul

Opportunity Center. Volunteers must be at least 14 years old (those under 18 must be supervised by an adult) and should wear appropriate closed-toed footwear.

The St. Paul Opportunity Center is part of Catholic Charities and is located at 422 Dorothy Day Place, St. Paul, MN 55102

To sign up, please visit our website www.centralforgood.org/volunteer. The link will take you to the Catholic Charities website to register.

Women's Networking Group - May 6

On Monday, May 6 the Women's Networking Group is heading to Erta Ale Ethiopian Restaurant & Bar, located in Lowertown near CHS Field. If you are able to join us, please RSVP to women@centralforgood.org by May 4. Meet us at Central at 5:10 and walk to the restaurant (0.8 miles) or meet us at Erta Ale at 5:30 PM. We hope you join us for this new restaurant!

MAY FOOD DRIVE

The Hunger Task Force is sponsoring a donation drive May 12 (Mothers' Day) & 19 to benefit the Department of Indian Work (DIW) Food Shelf, a program of Interfaith Action (our partner in Faithful Hospitality). This year, we're encouraging financial contributions, which enable DIW to buy food in bulk, offering a "bigger bang for the buck."

We're also encouraging donations of FLOUR. Theresa Halvorson-Lee, Emergency Services Manager at DIW, says, "this item is huge to the families served by DIW, not only do Native families use flour to make their traditional fry bread but it's used for so many other purposes like baking, making gravy, and just regular cooking purposes." Bins will be placed for donations at Central's MPR lot entrance and near the Friendship Room. Please make financial and food donations at church on Sundays, May 12 or 19. Checks should be made out to Central, and write "food drive" on the memo space. For giving online, select "Special Offering" then choose "Food Shelf" in the drop-down menu. If you have any questions, please speak with Leon Oman or the church office.

Shoreview Water Park

Sunday, May 5 Noon - 3 pm

No cost!

**ALL
AGES!**

**End-of-year party for
Central families and
leaders!**

**Come and hang out with
your Central friends and
enjoy water slides, zero-
depth entry pools, and
water features.**

Bring:

- Towel
- Snack to share

**YOU MUST RSVP, AND TICKETS ARE LIMITED.
(PARENTS NEED TICKETS TOO, EVEN IF YOU DON'T
PLAN ON SWIMMING.)**

JENNIFERA@CENTRALFORGOOD.ORG

Garden Project Update

The mild winter gave us a chance to do some work in the front gardens on April 13. Scott Klaehn, Mark Flinner, Tony Hoffman and Sue Hoffman worked hard, removing stumps, rebuilding a wall, building a new rock landing, transplanting bleeding heart plants, cleaning up lilies, and removing weeds. We were pleased to see the plants we put in last fall are looking ready-to-grow.

Our next work day will be Saturday, May 4 from 10 AM - 1 PM. There are many more garden tasks, so if you want to help, please contact office@centralforgood.org to volunteer. Our goal is to make the front landscape inviting and welcoming for all.

Our Team is Growing!

With the growing ministries of Central, and the addition of Interfaith Action's Faithful Hospitality program, our staff is shifting and expanding to match our ministry.

We are currently hiring for an Office and Communications Manager to be in the office part-time, 20 hours per week, and another custodian to join the Facility Maintenance team, part-time up to 20 hours per week.

Please share these opportunities in your networks! Find out more at centralforgood.org/join-our-team, and direct inquiries to contact the office.

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

Laura Nichols-Endres, Treasurer
William Zopfi, Treasurer Emeritus
Jessica Clifton, Interim Office Admin
Mary Lange, Receptionist

Director of Music & Youth Ministry

Jennifer Anderson, ext 103
jennifera@centralforgood.org

Children & Youth Staff

Laura Walls, Sunday
Connection Coordinator
lauraw@centralforgood.org
Child Care Staff: Megan Beese,
Jess Garner, Maria Stokes

Music Leadership

Eric Bartlett, Abbie Betinis,
Paul Damico-Carper, Shanta Hejmadi,
Tonia Hughes Kendrick,
Melanie Ohnstad, Clara Osowski,
Adam Van der Sluis, Alex Woods

Adult Education

Maureen Smith, Bible Study Leader

Food Ministry

Barb Westman, Chef & Food Manager

Building Maintenance

Lavar Jones, Custodian
Peter Evarts, Custodian



CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



CENTRAL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

500 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

From sharing your cooking skills to digging in the dirt, reading in worship and serving on committees, your efforts make our community THRIVE.

If you are interested in volunteering, visit Central's website for the link at www.centralforgood.org/volunteer.