# September 2021

# **CLC Newsletter**

"Gathered in the love of God, we connect and serve."



#### Inside...

Page 2 Pastor Short's Message

Page 3 Worship, Music & Arts

Page 4 Youth News

Page 5 Child Care Center News

Page 6 Milestone Ministry

Page 7 Notices

Page 8 Notices

Page 9 Notices

Page 10 Notices

Page 11 Notices

Page 12 Church Calendar

Page 13 Council Report

Page 14 Council Report

Page 15 Financial Report



Rev. Michael Short

## A Message from our Directing Pastor

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

On Sept 26<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of what became known as Central Lutheran Church. This is a great milestone in the life of our congregation. Yes, there are many older congregations in the area and across the nation. At the same time there are many others who still await this day and many other congregations have faltered and closed long ago. So I give thanks for Central and all its members as we continue to live out Christ's mission in this place.

It was on Sept. 27, 1871, that the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Winona was organized to proclaim the gospel in Winona, Minnesota. Here in this burgeoning town on the edge of the Mississippi River, on the land of our native ancestors, a church was founded. It was built on our Norwegian heritage and it flourished as the town grew. Three years later, they purchased their first building in Sept. 1874 moving it to Sanborn and Center streets. Later that structure was replaced in 1891 by a brick structure, until a new stone building was built in 1954. As the congregation grew and changed its name to better reflect who they were, so did the members. From its Norwegian roots people from across the town and region were welcomed.

I give thanks this day for the many pastors who lead this congregation through the good and lean times. For all the worship leaders, Ladies Aid and women circles groups, the youth workers, Sunday school teachers and everyday members who continued to support Christ's mission in this place. While my tenure serving among you has been short, I have come to see and understand the strength of your witness and the determination of the members to serve the needs of the community in the name of Jesus.

As we look forward to the next century and a half, I give thanks for all of you and for the leadership and vision we share. Central continues to be a place where people from all walks of life come and gather. Here the Word is spoken, the Meal is shared, the prayers of the people continue to rise as incense before our God. As the body of Christ, know that as Central grows so does our ability to continue to serve and proclaim Jesus in word and deed.

Thanks to each of you, for your contribution to Christ's mission in this place. So let us not become complacent but renew our commitment to fulfilling our baptismal promises: to gather with God's people; to proclaim the Good News of Jesus our Savior; to feed the hungry; to welcome the stranger; to care for the world God created; and to share the Love of God with everyone.

Pr. Michael



Aleah Harvey

#### A Message from our Worship, Music & Arts Director

The month of September brings about a series of transitions and a return to routine. We transition from summer travels and spontaneous gatherings to schedules and weekly commitments. As a church body, we mark and celebrate annual events such as blessing of the backpacks, distribution of Bibles, and installation of Sunday school teachers. There is a comfort in the familiarity of these annual events as well as a sense of anticipation. New to the church schedule for this fall are the activities surroundina 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary the



Worship Service at Sinclair Park

Celebration. We have many reasons to gather together this September in celebration of all that was and is and in expectation of all that is to come. September will be a very full month at Central Lutheran, and I hope that you will join us as you are able!

Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup>: Final "Worship in the Park" service. 9:30 am at Winona Lake Park Band shell. Guest ensemble, H3O Jazz Trio, will lead the music (you won't want to miss it!).

Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am & 10:15 am: Distribution of Bibles, Rally Day, and Chicken Q

Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am & 10:15 am: Anniversary Celebration Sunday. Past leaders of Central Lutheran (pastors, music leaders, & youth leaders) have been invited to participate in the services of the joyful day.

Sunday, October 3rd, 8:00 am & 10:15 am: Blessing of the Animals. Bring your animal friends to the services for a blessing (and to show them off, of course)!

We will continue to hold the second service, 10:15 am, outside for the month of September.

Blessings, Aleah Harvey Director of Worship, Music, & Arts



Children's Sermon, led by Council President-Elect, Jeremy Johnson



CLC Vocalists, leading the congregation in song

John Bartholow

# A Message from our Youth Director

Happy (Almost) Labor Day! Your youth ministry is building off of a successful summer and looking to go strong into the school year. We look forward to you being part of that adventure!

This past month saw the reopening of the Youth Room, with its beautiful new paint job (thanks to our youth, Chris Harvey, and our BK5K grant for making that happen), snack bar, and equipment. The ribbon-cutting was well attended and a source of joyous excitement. Our arts and craft days in the parks around Winona have been well attended, and compliments have poured in regarding the Sunshine Club's work.



Confirmation/Wednesday Night Workshop Orientation for 7th and 8th grade students is on Wednesday, September 1st at 7 PM in Grace Hall. Please turn registration forms in ASAP; you can mail them to me (Central Lutheran Church, Attn: John Bartholow, 259 W Wabasha St, Winona, MN 55987); drop them by the church office from 8 AM to 4 PM Monday through Friday; or hand them to me during Sunday worship. We are grateful for Pam Davick, Gayle Garrity, Mikayla Corcoran, Josh Goede, and Heather Loomis for volunteering to be guides; we are still looking for one more (and for subs), so contact me if you're interested.

9th Grade Confirmation classes will begin meeting on Thursday, September 16th at 7 PM in Grace Hall. Letters should have gone out to families; if you did not receive one, or you have questions, please contact me.

In terms of youth group programming, we are looking into bringing back our Jesus And Me (JAM) time on Wednesdays from 3-5 PM. We need volunteers to help make that happen. We are also exploring doing a weekly or monthly youth breakfast event before school; contact me or a youth committee member if you're interested in that idea.

Steam is gathering for the National Youth Gathering (which takes place in July 2022) and the Mission Trip for Summer 2022. We need to begin fundraising efforts soon. Please take our mission trip/National Youth Gathering survey at https://forms.gle/QLxJmgad7hcjRp7dA to signal whether you/your child is interested in the mission trip or gathering.

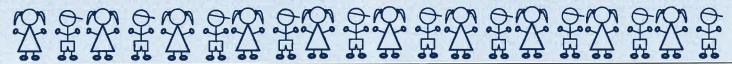
Finally, the Central Lutheran Church Youth Committee has decided to expand the Youth Group to include 5th and 6th graders in its activities; middle school events are now grades 5-8, and high school (Central Crew) events remain for grades 9-12. We are excited to offer more programming than ever to the children and youth of our congregation.

If you have any input, advice, or offers of help, please reach out to me at jbartholow@centrallutheranchurch.org or (507) 452-5156. Thank you, and happy back-to-school!

Peace, John Bartholow Director of Youth Ministries



# A Message from our Central Lutheran Child Care



**Mission:** Provide the building blocks of child care by creating learning opportunities infused with faith while supporting the whole family

What's Happening at our Child Care Center? When you walk into Central, you may not realize, there is a lot happening behind the scenes!

Children's experiences

The center teachers provide "studies" that offer depth of learning within subjects. There are many interesting studies that the children participate in; September studies include apples, fall, the color black in toddler classroom and farm animals for our younger children. The older children will have time learning, "All about Me", getting to know the classroom and new friends.

#### Contribution to the Winona Community

We currently are helping 56 families, 71 children enrolled. We work with families part time and full time to have the best experience possible at CLC CCC. We have a few families welcome little ones that we will be seeing in the future.

#### The Center's Team

The Center employs 36 staff. This time of the year we have incoming new staff as we say good-bye or see you at Christmas to some of our student employees.

#### Enjoying the Creation that God has Given us!!

The Winona community has seen more COVID variant cases in the last few weeks. Our Center Community of children can not receive any vaccine at this time and are to young to wear masks. The staff at the center will continue to wear our masks to keep the children, families and staff safe at CLC CCC.

Playground renovations are starting to be worked on. The one shed is down, a new fence in being placed and shade is next on the agenda. Thank you to all that commit to make Central Lutheran Church Child Care Center a great place to be.

**Making Memories** with our youngest community members!

Email: childcarecenter@centrallutheranchurch.org

Questions, please contact us...

Phone 507.452.5493

#### **Milestone Ministry**

Central Lutheran is expanding our Milestone Ministry observations. Throughout the year, each month we will honor / observe a meaningful milestone such as baptism, Confirmation, Bible distribution, anniversaries, etc. Watch for upcoming milestones so you and your family will be present in worship to receive a blessing as we observe the milestones in your life. Check out the calendar below!

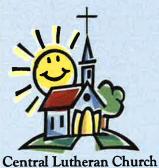
#### **CALENDAR FOR 2021**

JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	
	29 Blessing Backpacks	12 Bibles/start Confirm. 26 150 Anniversary	
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER DECEMBER		
31 Confirmation	7 All Saints Sunday 25 Thanksgiving	5 Celebrate Birthdays 19 Sun. Sch. program 24/25 Christmas	

#### CALENDAR FOR 2023

	JANUARY		FEBRUARY	MARCH	
6 9	Epiphany Baptisms	13	Anniversaries	2 13	Ash Wed Drivers Licenses
	APRIL		MAY	JUNE	
10 14 17	Palm Sunday 1st Communion Easter	22	Mission / camps	5 5	Pentecost Graduates
	JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER
17	Retirement	28	Blessing Backpacks	11	Bibles/start Confirm.
	OCTOBER		NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	
30	Confirmation	6 24	All Saints Thanksgiving	4 18 24/25	Birthdays Sun. Sch. Program Christmas

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Sunday School

#### **Sunday School Rally Day**

Sunday, September 12th, 9:10-10:10, Grace Hall & Outdoor

Families with children ages 3 to 12:

You are invited to Sunday School Rally Day!

Join us to get Sunday School information and register your child; enjoy some music crafts, and games, and get to know other CLC families!

Questions?? Contact Amber Mlynczak at sundayschool@centrallutheranchurch.org

#### Mask Wearing at Central

Throughout this pandemic Central has used CDC and MDH guidelines to guide our decision making process. The CDC has classified Winona County as one of the higher infection rate counties, which means Central needs to resume our masking policy. Central is now asking everyone to wear a mask anytime you are inside the building. This will include Sunday morning worship and evening meetings or gathering. We are saddened we had to make this decision to what feels like a step backward. But until the infection rate declines and vaccine rates increase this is a necessary step to keep everyone safe as we await the end of this COVID nightmare. Thank you for your patience and your understanding.

#### **Update from the FEAST Committee**

The FEAST committee is watching the COVID situation on the local, state and national level. Like all of you, we are eagerly awaiting a time when COVID spread is not a consideration in our decision-making.

In light of the current COVID status in Winona County, the FEAST weekly meal will be postponed until at least November. Because there was limited use of take-out meals this spring, we will not be offering those at this time.

We continue to meet as a committee, discuss risks and opportunities, and make decisions about when we can serve a meal based upon the current spread and risk of COVID. We ask for patience while we make these decisions, and encourage all to be diligent in doing their part to mitigate the risks of COVID.

#### **WSU Welcome Events-Thank you to volunteers!**

Thank you to all who helped welcome WSU students to Winona and Central Lutheran Church. A special thanks to Midtown Foods and Hy-Vee for their generous donations of food and bottled water.

#### **WELCA Annual Meeting**

Mark your calendars! The annual meeting of Central's Women of the ELCA will be held on Saturday, October 30th, from 2-3:PM, in Grace Hall. The Guest speaker will be Pastor Corrine Haulotte. All women are welcome!

#### **Donation Envelopes 2022**

In 2022, we will be mailing out donation envelopes quarterly to your home. If you received envelopes in 2021, you will be automatically added to the list to receive envelopes by mail in 2022. Anyone wanting to be added to the mailing list should contact the church with your name and address.

#### Dessert Bar for Chicken-Q Drop Off, Friday, Sept 10 Noon-5pm

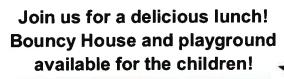
Desserts are needed for the Chicken-Q on Sept 12th. We need cookies, bars, and cupcakes to sell at the Dessert Bar. You can bake and drop them off on Friday, Sept 10, or contact Kelly Dicke with questions at childcarecenter@centrallutheranchurch.org. All proceeds go toward the 150th Peace Garden Project.

# 150th Celebration Chicken-Q

Sun, Sept 12th 11:00am—1:00pm

Location: Central Lutheran Church Back Parking Lot

Bring your family to this family friendly event!



Chicken-Q tickets available at a church office 452-5156

Must be purchased by Sept 2nd

Meals include: 1/2 chicken, baked beans, fresh fruit, roll



# Support Central's 150th Anniversary Celebration!

Exclusive

CLC

items available!

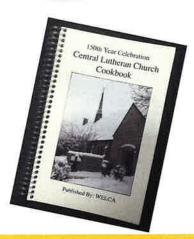




Stop in to the office or purchase on Sunday mornings.

Current Items: Beverage bottle, tumbler, WELCA Cookbook, Historical booklet

Coming soon: 150 Years Flowing,
The Artwork of Central Lutheran Church
booklet





Look in your closets, basements, attics and garages for the things you have that are ready to move to a new home. Fill boxes and bags and bring to Central to help us raise funds for the general needs of our Youth program and to help our young people attending the National Youth Gathering being held in Minneapolis in the summer of 2022.

Date: Saturday, October 16th, 2021

Place: Central Lutheran Church, Grace Hall

Time: 9 AM to 3 PM

Donation Times and place: Thursday October 14th, 6 to 8 PM; Friday October 15th, 9 to noon, drop off at Central Lutheran

<u>Items not accepted:</u> microwave ovens, construction material, used light fixtures, cribs, car seats, high chairs, entertainment centers, hide a beds, mattresses, anything with a cord that does not work.

<u>Volunteers needed:</u> 4 hour shift (5 to 9) on Thursday, October 14th; 3 hour shifts on Friday, (8am to 8pm, donation and set up) 3 hour shifts Saturday (8 am to 5 pm, sale and clean up). Sign up sheets will be available at the church as well as an online sign up.

Covid protocols effective on these dates will be followed.

This is a congregational effort to provide quality used items to the community and raise funds for our youth program. It will also be an opportunity to work together, socialize and re-connect with other church members. If you have questions about a donation or the rummage sale in general, please contact: Pam Davick 507-452-0622, Karen Lukaszewski 715-470-1261, or Gayle Garrity 507-961-0465.



#### **Central Travel Group**

The Welcome and Worship committee is looking into finding ways to help build community by hosting 'travel' opportunities. This could include traveling to Rochester or the Cities to watch a play or go to a ball game. With enough interest we would be able to purchase tickets at a group rate to reduce the cost. Depending on where we would travel and the number of members interested the cost could include transportation.

Suggestions have included acts at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, the Chanhassen Theater for *The Fabulous Armadillos*, in early November, or The Guthrie Theater for *A Christmas Carol*, in December. Next summer could be a Twins or St. Paul Saints game.

Nothing has yet been scheduled, but if this is something that interests you, please email Carol Kramer – rckramer@hbci.com or Karen Lukaszewski – pinkflamingokl@gmail.com.

#### **Red Cross Blood Drive Update**

Four competent Red Cross workers conducted another great drive at Central. Thirty-two units of blood were collected. Thank you to the donors and the dedicated Central workers who helped make this day a success: Mia Martin, Connie Larson, Marylou Hurley, Kathy Benke, and Bev Spande. Our winter drive will be January 13, 2022. MARK YOUR CALENDARS. ~Social Concerns

#### **Amazon Smile**

AmazonSmile is a way customers can support Central Lutheran every time they shop with Amazon, at no additional cost. 0.5% is donated to the organization of your choice.

- 1. Visit smile.amazon.com
- 2. Sign in with the same account you use for Amazon.com

- 3. Select your charity
- 4. Start shopping! Remember to always checkout at smile.amazon.com to generate donations for Central Lutheran. Tip: Add a bookmark to make it easier to shop at <u>smile.amazon.com</u>.

#### **Food Shelf Donations**

During June and July your donations of food and cash converted to a total of 1,571 pounds of food. This brings our grand total to 9,095 pounds of food donated this year. People of Central Lutheran, your generosity to this program has once again exceeded wildest expectations! Who could imagine that during a pandemic, as well as all the demands of summer, that we would be at over 9,000 lbs. of food donated to those who would otherwise be going hungry. Wow! Thank you to each and everyone of you who have helped in this special effort!

#### Winona Warming Center

It won't be long before the Winona Warming Center will be opening for the 2021-2022 season. Plans for staffing and meals are in the process of being finalized. We hope you will prayerfully consider taking part in this important ministry. Please watch for more information in the coming weeks. If you are interested in helping with this important ministry, please contact Denise Bernatz, dmbernatz@gmail.com.

# September 2021

			6:30 pm Confirmation/WNW	Meeting FEAST Committee Meeting		9:30 am Teen Time 10:15 am Worship-Outdoor
		tion	Sessions 5:00 pm HBCl TV Broadcast	5:00 pm Youth Committee		and In-Person 9:10 am Sunday School
		7:00 pm 9th Grade Confirma-	d Me (JAM)	Quilters	7:00 pm Spectrum Broadcast	itream
		30	29	28	27	26
			5:00 pm HBCI TV Broadcast	6:30 pm Council Meeting		9:10 am Sunday School
		7:00 pm 9th Grade Confirma-	d Me (JAM)	Quilters	7:00 pm Spectrum Broadcast	stream
25	24	23	22	21	20	19
			Topic/Single Parenting			
			6:30 pm Confirmation/WNW 7:00 pm Parenting Teens:	Meaning		11:00 am Chicken Q 150th
				Property Committee	Spectrum Broadcast	Sunday School
		7:00 pm 9th Grade Confirma-	Due 7 3:00 pm Jesus and Me (JAM)	9:00 am Quilters	9:00 am WELCA 4:30 pm Welcoming Table	8:00 am Worship-Live Stream 9 and In-Person
18		16 Council Reports Due 17	15 Newsletter Article	14	13	12 Rally Day
			5:00 pm HBCI TV Broadcast 6:30 pm Confirmation/WNW			
		Mooning. Claco Hall	3:00 pm Jesus and Me (JAM) Sessions	or or with the second	Choose all programme	
		10:00 am Welcome and Worship	2:00 pm 150th Anniversary 1	9:00 am Quilters	Day  Spectrum Broadcast	9:30 am Worship-Live Stream
11	10		6 8	7	Office Closed/Labor	5 6
			7:00 pm Confirmation/WNW Orientation for Students			
4		<b>ω</b>				
Saturday	Friday	Thursday	Wednesday	Tuesday	Monday	Sunday

#### **Church Council**

PAST PRESIDENT
Scott Mlynczak

PRESIDENT
Chris Nisbit

PRESIDENT ELECT
Jeremy Johnson

TREASURER
Paul Ness

SECRETARY Geri Quinlan

AT LARGE Myrna Olson

AT-LARGE Tammy Swenson-Lepper

# Council Report: July 20, 2021

Present: Pastor Short, Scott Mlynczak, Chris Nisbit, Paul Ness,
Tammy Swenson Lepper, Jeremy Johnson, Myrna Olson, Geri Quinlan
The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. Tammy opened with devotions.
Myrna moved, Jeremy seconded, carried to approve the agenda

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul gave summary of budget

Tammy moved, Myrna seconded, carried to approve the Treasurer's Report.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- 150th Anniversary Celebration Committee: Planning continues for the celebration.
   Projects on track: Coffee mugs, cookbook, booklets, and Chicken Q.
- Security Plan: Evacuation maps are printed and will be posted in every room. First aid and Emergency Response Training is scheduled for August 29th.
- Mask Mandate: August 1, 2021 masks inside building will be optional. Any unvaccinated person should continue to wear a mask. Central will continue to follow CDC and MDH guidelines on physical distancing and procedures should anyone test positive while attending a CLC function.
- Projects:
  - -House that God Built: Discussion on project/budget regarding Fellowship Hall and the improvements to sprinkler system, ceiling, and lighting. A second bid on the project was suggested.
  - -Sound Upgrade: Motion to approve sound upgrade and is estimated to be \$3,000 4,000 with funds to be taken from the operating budget. Tammy moved, Chris seconded. Approval carried and passed.
- -Monitors: Discussion on placement, size and cost. Monitors may wait until 2022.
- -Prayer Garden: Discussion on having a visual design and budget.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Administrative Assistant: Discussion on searching for candidates. Personnel meeting scheduled for next week and will look into how to advertise the position and also look into employment agency.
- Refugee Resettlement Sponsorship: Discussion on co-sponsoring a family /families with Faith Lutheran and Cedar Valley Lutheran. Pastor Short will be attending a meeting next week and will have more details at next council meeting.

#### STAFF REPORTS

- Staff reports were reviewed.
- Youth: Confirmation classes being planned for fall.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Worship: Fall services scheduled for 8 & 10:15 am, with Sunday school at 9:15 am
- Welcome WSU students move in days August 19 & 20th
  - Possible Party in the parking lot on August 21st for students. Games and food.
- Feast: The feast is scheduled for Sept. 15th . All volunteers must be vaccinated.
- Property: Discussion on upgrading the air conditioning in the nursery/office area.

Committee reports were reviewed. Paul moved and Scott seconded, carried to approve the Staff and Committee Reports.

Devotions for next meeting: Scott

The next Council meeting is scheduled for Aug 17th at 6:30p.m.

Closed with the Lords Prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Geri Quinlan Council Secretary

#### FINANCIAL REPORT • •

#### **OPERATING FUND** - July 2021

Total Income: \$36,568.60 Total Expenses: \$42,803.81

Offering Goal

August: \$39,421.27

Thank you for your support of Central's ministry.

#### **MORTGAGE**

Monthly payments for interest and principal July: \$3,146.00
Gifts for Building Fund July: \$1,018.00
Gifts for additional mortgage
—Principal reduction July: \$540.00

Gifts in memory or honor of someone

#### **MEMORIALS**

July 15 -2021 through Aug 16-2021

#### **UNDESIGNATED**

**In Memory of Marjorie Flatness**Given by Rich & Peggy Twait, Bernard Lilla

#### **MUSIC**

**In Memory of Arlene Turner**Given by Jane Haugen

#### **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

In Memory of Wade Davick

Given by Pam Davick, Paul Ness

#### **BUILDING FUND**

In honor of Don & Diane Berger's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Given by Linda Bouck

#### **HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT**

Given by Rich & Eugenia Moe

Gift given in honor of Jean Stampka's 87th birthday

Page 13

#### **Designated Gifts in July**

Quilters\$	425.00
WELCA\$	2,385.00
ELCA World Hunger\$	100.00
WVS Food Shelf\$	196.00
Habitat\$	750.00
Youth Fund\$	40.00
Music\$	20.00
Memorials\$	25.00

#### **CONVENIENT GIVING**

You can make an automatic gift to Central Lutheran Church from your savings or checking account once a week, once a month or twice a month. To request a form you can call the church or check out automatic giving options on Central's website.



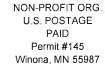
#### THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

If you have any Thrivent Choice Dollars, please consider directing them to Central Lutheran Church.



Connecting faith & finances for good.\*

Support Us With Your Thrivent Choice Dollars





259 W. Wabasha • Winona, MN 55987 www.centrallutheranchurch.org office@centrallutheranchurch.org 507.452.5156

Return Service Requested

### What's coming up?

Sunday, Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 AM – Winona Lake Park Band shell (with guest ensemble, H3O Jazz Trio)

Sunday, Sept. 12th — Rally Sunday & Chicken Q

Sunday, Sept. 26th — Celebration of 150th Anniversary

Sunday, Oct. 3rd — Blessing of the Animals

#### **Fall Sunday Morning Worship Schedule**

(starting September 12, 2021)
8:00 AM - Indoor & Live-Stream
9:10 AM - Sunday School
10:15 AM - Outdoor