

December 2021

CLC Newsletter

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



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150 Years Flowing



Rev. Michael Short

A Message from our Directing Pastor

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Here in this Advent season, both on Sunday morning worship and our Wednesday evening services, we will hear the story of migrants. While we do not always hear or understand the journey Joseph and Mary took to Bethlehem as a story of migrants, in many ways it was. Then if you add in the account from the Gospel of Matthew, as the angel came to Joseph telling him to take Mary and the child and flee to Egypt, it becomes clearer.

For generations, many people for various reasons have had to flee or were forced to leave their homes. Sometimes it was economic, other times it was because of war or threats of violence. In the case of Joseph and Mary it was the Emperor forcing people to relocate, if only temporarily, so they might be counted. It really does not matter the reason; people were forced to leave their homes, to travel, and to live in another town or country.

For the early Christians, these journeys were a reminder of the travels their ancestors went through: the move to Egypt, the forty-year journey in the wilderness following the exodus from Egypt, the exile and return to the Promised Land. With each journey, with each move, lives were uprooted and changed. But along the way God was watching and leading, guiding this people on the journey as they sojourned from town to town and country to country. Also along the way there were people who guided them, welcomed them and cared for them as they learned what it meant to live and thrive in a new place.

Members of Central and other local churches are in the process of sponsoring and welcoming a refugee, a migrant to Winona. The process we have been on for the last few months has lead us to this moment in time. Maybe as long as the journey the man we are preparing to welcome was on. But now we are ready to welcome a migrant, a stranger, a sojourner into our town. In the coming months and beyond we will have the opportunity to experience Winona with new eyes, through the eyes of a man forced to leave all he knew to journey to a new town and a new land.

During these days of Advent, as we await the arrival of the Christ child on Christmas day and Jesus' second coming in his glory, we are reminded that we too are sojourners. We too are waiting in a distant land for Christ's promised return. When he comes in his glory, we and all God's creation will be made new, will be welcomed home. But until then, we continue our journey in this world, led by the Spirit of God, where we are loved and cared for and are welcomed by others along the way.

Pr. Michael





Aleah Harvey

A Message from our Worship, Music & Arts Director

The season of Advent and Christmas are upon us! Despite the distraction of the fun and busyness that accompany the anticipation and planning, I can't help but feel as though darkness has nearly overtaken us as we approach the Winter Solstice. I find myself searching, yearning for the light and dreading the darkness. The words of Jan Richardson, a favorite author, prompt me to think differently about the literal and figurative darkness present in our lives:

Darkness is where incarnation begins. The gorgeous texts of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany shimmer with the light that God brings into our midst, as in the prologue to John's Gospel: *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it* (John 1:5). Yet if we lean too quickly toward the light, we miss seeing one of the greatest gifts this season has to offer us: that the deepest darkness is the place where God comes to us. In the womb, in the night, in the dreaming; when we are lost, when our world has come undone, when we cannot see the next step on the path; in all the darkness that attends our life, whether hopeful darkness or horrendous, God meets us. God's first priority is not to do away with the dark but to be present to us in it... *Can we imagine the darkness as a place where God meets us—and not only meets us, but asks to take form in this world through us?*

Take time with us in this season, to be still, to wait expectantly, and to open our hearts.

Wednesday Virtual Advent Services,

Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 7:00 pm (more info on pg. 7)

Worship Forum, Sunday, Dec. 12, 11:30 am

Blue Christmas Service,

Tuesday, Dec. 21, 7:00 pm

This annual service will be held in-person and virtually. It's not a coincidence that it is scheduled on the day holding the least amount of sunlight—The Winter Solstice. At this service we will recognize the loss in our lives: loss of job, situation, health, a loved one. Whatever the loss may be, God promises to be present with us.

Christmas Eve Services,

4:00 pm, 5:30 pm, 7:00 pm, and 11:00 pm

We are offering a fourth service this year in an attempt to give you more options in this busy season and to remain in accordance with our social distancing policies.

Christmas Day Service, Virtual only, 9:00 am

Sunday, Dec. 26, ONE SERVICE ONLY, 9:00 am

Sunday, Jan. 2, ONE SERVICE ONLY, 9:00 am





John Bartholow

A Message from our Youth Director

It's already Advent! Time to prepare for festive family parties, friends, Winter Break, and honoring the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ. Here at Central, we have a lot going on just for you!

We will be having Christmas parties for our middle school youth group, the Central Crew (high school), and young adults. We will be offering programming during Winter Break, such as sledding, snowshoeing, and other adventures. We will do Christmas crafts, and remember our members on the prayer list and the visitation list. Please check the church calendar and youth calendars for this information. Table Teens will also continue on Wednesdays from December 1-15, where we will offer a meal for any teen ages 12-18 in Grace Hall from 5-6 PM.

We still have a number of late registrations open for the Niagara Falls mission trip and National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. Please contact me ASAP if you (or your child) is interested. The mission trip is open to grades 6-12, while the National Youth Gathering is for grades 8-12.

This past month, we saw Confirmation Sunday happen, where seven of our very best teens were confirmed. Pastor Short and I were very impressed with their faith statements, and we, along with Pastor Linda Helberg, were excited to attend their Night of Honor banquet, a tradition revived this year after a one-year hiatus due to the pandemic (with significant restrictions to keep people safe). We also saw a contingent of Pastor Short, eight youths, a college student, and me go to the Habitat for Humanity Re-Store in Winona to volunteer on some after-hours projects in the store. We also made cards for veterans, held a craft night, movie night, and Table Teens.

As always, please contact me with any input or suggestions you might have at jbartholow@centrallutheranchurch.org or (507) 452-5156. Have a Happy Advent season and a very blessed Christmas. May God bring us good tidings in the new year ahead.



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; December studies include Christmas celebrations, the color red, holiday treats, and New Year celebrations.

Contribution to the Winona Community

We currently are helping 54 families, 65 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 38 full/part time staff.

COVID rules at the Center

We continue to navigate through these COVID times. The State of MN has very strict guidelines that all licensed facilities must comply with to avoid fines and citations to make sure we are taking care of the children in our care. Our Center proactively reviews compliances each week to ensure we are following masking, social distancing and illness enforcement to what is required. We thank all congregation members for doing their part to keep everyone, especially the young and unvaccinated, safe. We have a big responsibility and take it very seriously.

Butter Braids coming in January

Need a gift to someone that has everything? Bake a few of your Butter Braids for gifts because in January you will want to purchase fresh ones!!!

Making Memories with our youngest community members!



Questions, please contact us... Phone 507.452.5493

Email: childcarecenter@centrallutheranchurch.org

in the midst, it felt like grace

I'm going to do it- I'm going to start this email by naming the obvious thing that nearly 86% of all emails have said for the past year and a half. These have been challenging times...

Okay, now that that's said, let's get to the story...

Amidst the challenges of this year, there are also, mercifully, moments of joy and courage.

Like on Friday, the 5th.

When Susan and Mary Ellen's terms were up on the LCC Board, they left us with a gift certificate to rent a cotton candy machine. (It started with a dream my kids and I started forming at some point in 2020- "When we can gather again, we're gonna rent a cotton candy machine and have a party and anyone can come!")

Well, we are still in a pandemic, but last week felt like just the right time to spin cotton candy and hand out some sweet treats to students and passersby. Perhaps the colorful cotton could serve as a glimpse of joy beyond, and in the midst of, these hard days.

LCC student leaders planned to hand out cotton candy at the gazebo on campus, but due to covid restrictions, we had to move to the outside of the LCC building. If you can remember that first Friday in November, it was a particularly blustery autumn day. Wisps of sugary floss and fluffy pink and blue clouds danced with the leaves. This all might sound like I'm trying to make something of nothing, but it actually was that magical.

And, I wasn't the only one to notice.

Students and community members heading in for a cup of coffee, or walking their dogs down the street, laughed at the scene, noting the poetic and playful sight. A few people pulled their cars over, and we handed cotton candy in through their windows. One teenager's eyes lit up, and her father laughed with his serious coffee in hand. Some asked, of course, what this was all for. "Just because," we'd say. Or, "For fun." Or, "This is from the LCC, and we just thought we could all use a little joy these days." That's all.

It was so simple. Nothing really to write home about, except that when I left, the boulder that's taken up residence in my chest felt lighter, and I smiled remembering the faces light up at the gift of a free cotton candy cone, just because. And, for a little while, we all looked up, away from screens and our own navel gazing, and saw each other. We got caught up in it all.

It felt like grace.

One more thing- unrelated, but also beautiful- Our student ministers, Hannah and Kendra, are leading an incredible Bible Study this semester on the book, "Practically Divine" by Becca Stevens. Last week, a new first year student showed up for Bible Study, and it was like she'd always been there. We talked about prayer, justice, and creation, and at the end, students received prayer shawls knitted and crocheted by many of you. Thank you for that.

With joy & peace,
Pastor Corrine Haulotte



Upcoming Events



Quilters' Christmas Coffee Hour

Tuesday, December 7th, 10:00 AM, Grace Hall

Bring a treat to pass and spend some social time together.

Coffee and hot water for tea provided.

Rotary Lights "Gala"

Saturday, December 11th

Meet at the church at 3:45 to Carpool to Lacrosse, WI, Rotary Lights.

There are over 3 million lights decorating the Riverside Park alongside the Mississippi River, as well as a live nativity scene! It's absolutely beautiful. Admission is free, but visitors are encouraged to donate non-perishable food items or cash. We will go out for dinner after touring the park. Join us for this fun event! Call Shayna 507-452-5156 with your name and contact information by Monday, Dec. 6th to participate.



Worship Forum

Sunday, December 12th, 11:30 AM, Grace Hall

Please come with feedback regarding the Traditional and Modern worship services. Comments, questions, and ideas are welcome. This forum will help us determine how to shape worship services for the remainder of the winter and spring. Pastor Short, Aleah Harvey, and council members will be present to answer questions.

"Sensational" Stewardship

Each week from mid November through December, we will showcase a different ministry of Central Lutheran on our church Facebook page, *Central Lutheran Church ELCA Winona, MN*. Your donations to the general fund support the important missions of the church. Watch for fun snapshots of each ministry!

Communication and Calendaring Convention

SAVE THE DATE! January 16, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

The chair or a member of each of Central Lutheran Church's committees, groups, and activities is invited to attend a meeting to learn about new communication tools the church has and to plan the next six to twelve months for the church calendar.

The Communication Committee will provide a variety of soups, breads, dessert, and coffee. All you need to bring is an appetite and a sense of what you want to plan for the next six to twelve months. By doing this, we can publicize events and activities well in advance and avoid time conflicts.



Food Shelf

During October 2021, you've donated 265 pounds of food and \$131.00 in cash which converts to a total of 527 pounds of food. This brings our grand total to 11,346 pounds of food donated this year. People of Central Lutheran your sensational giving of food and money to Volunteer Services to feed the hungry people of Winona is outstanding. Look at how close we are to averaging 1,000 pounds per month or more again, WOW! Keep it up Central Lutheran!

SERVICE NOTICES

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Come worship with us!

Blue Christmas Service

Tuesday, December 21 at 7:00pm *

Christmas Eve Service

December 24 at 4:00pm *, 5:30pm, 7:00pm, and 11:00pm

Virtual Christmas Day Service

December 25 at 9:00am **

Sunday Service

Sunday, December 26 at 9:00am

** = Service only VIRTUAL

* = Service is offered in person and VIRTUAL

For unto us a child is born
Unto us a son is given
Isaiah 9:6

Ministry Milestones

Sunday, Dec. 5: Birthdays

During our services we will honor all those celebrating a birthday ending in "0" (0, 10, 20...90, 100!)

Everyone will be invited to enjoy a birthday cupcake after each service!



Sunday, Jan. 9: Baptisms

As we mark the Baptism of Our Lord, we will also recognize all who have been baptized in the last year.



Advent Series

Wednesday Advent Series, Dec. 1,8,15,22, 7:00 PM

Virtual only

We will follow Luke's account of Christ's birth and reflect on the scriptures and words from the devotional *Heaven and Nature Sing*; the music, from *Holden Evening Prayer*, will be lead by several voices and accompanied by flute and piano. Stop by the church to pick up your free copy of the devotional! The services will be available on Central's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

heaven and nature sing

DEVOTIONS FOR
ADVENT & CHRISTMAS
2021-2022

Sunday School Christmas Program

Sunday, Dec. 19, 10:15 AM

The Sunday School children will tell the Christmas story through drama and song. Sing-along to your favorite Christmas carols!



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Central Lutheran Partners with Winona Volunteer Services

In November, members of CLC continued a longstanding partnership with the Steak Shop and Winona Volunteer Services. Twelve to fourteen meals were delivered daily to homebound and nutritionally insecure residents of Winona. Volunteers were always greeted with a warm smile and "Thank You" by participants in the program. It was a wonderful opportunity to be "Central to Winona".



Pictured above: Bev Spande, Bev Hoenk, Kay Peterson of WVS, Kathy Benke, Myrna Olson, and Maggie Lambert.

Winona Warming Center Needs Volunteers

The Winona Warming Center is up and running again. They opened Nov. 1, and will be open through March 31st. They need our help. This year they are offering four shift options for volunteers. The options are to volunteer from 8:30 PM to 11:00 PM, 5:00 AM to 7:30 AM, 8:30 PM to 2:00 AM, or 2:00 AM to 7:30 AM. Whether you are a morning person or an evening person, is there a shift that could work for you? Volunteers and guests are required to mask except when sleeping or eating. The beds are six feet apart with plexiglass partitions. MOST guests are vaccinated and they offer vaccination clinics periodically. If you have volunteered before, the Warming Center sign up is on line. Please see the steps below for how to sign up. SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone, but if you prefer not to use your email address, please contact Audrey Rivenburg at Catholic Charities 454-2270 ext.230 and she will sign you up manually. If you are new to the Warming Center please contact Katelynn at 458-9197 and she will get you the forms you need and help you get signed up. As the season progresses, please watch for announcements regarding volunteer opportunities and donations that are needed. Right now they could use warm socks, gloves, mittens, hats and warm coats. Please call Denise Bernatz 459-2969 if you have a clothing donation. Thank you for your support of this important ministry.

Being Central to Winona this Advent Season

Members of CLC are asked to participate in a drive to provide gift cards to those in need in the Winona Community. Financial hardship continues to impact many of our neighbors. Gift cards are an opportunity to show our compassion for those in our own church family, Winona's homeless population, and individuals served by project FINE.

Cards purchased from local businesses will be distributed to those identified as having needs. Gift cards can be directed to the church office. Monetary contributions can be directed to the office and cards will be purchased for you. The deadline for gifts is Wednesday, December 15th.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

No Bake-Bake Sale

At the WELCA annual meeting on Oct. 30th, it was decided, due to the Covid situation, that we will have one more "No Bake - Bake Sale" in place of our traditional Christmas Bake Sale and Lunch. Although the situation is much improved, we decided to err on the side of caution for one more year. WELCA also decided that the donations to the "No Bake - Bake Sale" would be split, with half going to defray cost of youth trips and half for "WIN", which stands for the Winona Immigration Network. We hope you will be generous! Please make checks out to Central Lutheran Church and write WELCA Bake Sale in the memo line. You may mail, or bring them to the church office, or place them in the offering plate between November 27th and December 19th.

At the meeting, it was suggested that we get a committee together to re-imagine our event for 2022. Some ideas brought up at the meeting were to include a sale of quilted items like table runners, quilts, potholders etc. to have a Christmas Market theme, and to have activities for children to make it more of a family event. What ideas do you have? If you would like to share your ideas for a fun and exciting WELCA Christmas event, or would like to be a part of this committee, please contact Denise Bernatz at 459-2969 or email dmbernatz@gmail.com

Epiphany Tea Cancellation

The Epiphany Tea will not be held this year due to the pandemic. We look forward to gathering again for the Epiphany Tea in 2023.

Eucharistic Ministers—Thank you!

In this anniversary year at Central, we lift up the Eucharist Ministers. This is a ministry that dates back to 1997. These lay ministers bring Holy Communion to homebound members and friends of Central. We thank these faithful visitors and invite you to join us in this important ministry. We will provide you with training and support. Call Pastor Linda at 597-292-6790 or the office at 507-452-5156 to join or to alert us to someone who is in need of a visit.

Winona Immigration Network "WIN"

Members of Central Lutheran, Faith Lutheran, Cedar Valley, and St. Pauls ELCA/UCC (Lewiston) and Church of the Brethren have formed the Winona Immigration Network (WIN), hoping to sponsor a refugee or asylum seeking individual or family. We have also received financial support from First Congregational UCC, Grace Presbyterian and the Southeastern Minnesota Synod ELCA. We are open to whoever the Lord sends us.

We have been asked to sponsor a 44 year old man from Colombia named Edolber. He will arrive in early December. We have much to do to prepare to welcome him! Please pray for this ministry and for Edolber. WIN membership is growing and we welcome anyone interested. Our biggest need is for a one bedroom apartment or small house that we can rent for him. We also need interpreters, household items, furniture, transportation, food and financial contributions. Please contact Denise Bernatz at dmbernatz@gmail.com, Judy Davis at jmdavis@hbc.com, or Pastor Short if you would like to be a part of this exciting ministry, or offer help in any of these areas. If you would like to support this ministry with a monetary donation, please make your check out to Central Lutheran Church and put "WIN" in the memo line. Send checks to Central Lutheran, drop them at the office or put them in the offering plate. Thank you for your consideration of this ministry.

December 2021

			1 5:00 pm HBCL TV Broadcast Confirmation/WNNW 7:00 pm Advent Service (Virtual)	2	3	4
5 8:00 am Worship Service 9:10 am Sunday School 9:30 am Teen Time 10:15 am Worship-Live Stream and In-Person	6 7:00 pm Spectrum Broadcast	7 10:00 am Quilters Christmas Coffee Hour 11:15 am CLC Staff Meeting	8 5:00 pm HBCL TV Broadcast Confirmation/WNNW 7:00 pm Advent Service (Virtual)	9 10:00 am Welcome and Worship Meeting- Grace Hall 12:00 pm Safety and Security Committee Meeting	10	11 3:45 pm Meet for Rotary Light "Gala"
12 8:00 am Worship Service 9:10 am Sunday School 9:30 am Teen Time 10:15 am Worship-Live Stream and In-Person 11:30 am Worship Forum	13 Due WELCA Welcoming Table Spectrum Broadcast	14 11:15 am CLC Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Personnel Committee Meeting	15 5:00 pm HBCL TV Broadcast Confirmation/WNNW 7:00 pm Advent Service (Virtual)	16	17 Council Reports Due	18 9:00 am Christmas Program Rehearsal
19 8:00 am Worship Service 9:10 am Sunday School 9:30 am Teen Time 10:15 am Christmas Program Presentation 10:15 am Worship-Live Stream and In-Person	20 7:00 pm Spectrum Broadcast	21 11:15 am CLC Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Council Meeting 7:00 pm Blue Christmas Ser- vice	22 5:00 pm HBCL TV Broadcast NO Confirmation 6:30 pm Advent Service (Virtual)	23	24 Christmas Eve Office Closed in observance of Christmas Eve 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Service 5:30 pm Christmas Service 7:00 pm Christmas Service 11:00 pm Christmas Service	25 Christmas Day 9:00 am Christmas Service (Virtual)
26 9:00 am *Worship Live-stream & In-Person 9:10 am NO Sunday School	27 Office Closed in observance of Christmas Spectrum Broadcast	28 11:15 am CLC Staff Meeting 5:00 pm Youth Committee Meeting	29 5:00 pm HBCL TV Broadcast 6:30 pm NO Confirmation	30	31 Office closed in observance of New Year's Eve	

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

A Message from our Church Council

Respond to God's Love

December is a special time of year. Waiting for Christ's birth fills our hearts with wonder and anticipation. Families gather to celebrate the greatest gift of all, baby Jesus, our savior. We share gifts with one another in appreciation of how they are loved.

At Central Lutheran, December is the culmination of our church mission which is "Gathering in the Love of God, we Connect and Serve." Yes, we are giving back in our service to others. This is one of our gifts in a normal response to God's love and gifts to us. Yet this year, as was last, normality did not exist.

2021 wraps up a second year of a devastating pandemic making us change everything about how we serve our missions. While, in a way it will be a good thing to have behind us, we did learn and adapt. However, these impacts of Covid '19 are long lasting to our church. Attendance went to zero and is taking quite a time to rebound. Support for our missions in the form of contributions has been good through the summer but is faltering a bit this fall. We planned, based on experience, three times our normal monthly contributions to come in December. December is budgeted for \$95,000 of contributions to support our many missions.

We ask you to consider a special gift before year end or to just catch up on any missed past giving in response to what you have received.

There are also many different ways to financially help the church which may be beneficial to you too. Here is a list for your consideration. The church office can provide more information:

1. Contribute certain appreciated stock which can provide a tax deduction and preferred tax treatment.
2. If you are over 70 and a half, and you have eligible taxable retirement accounts, you may be able to contribute your RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) directly to the church without having to report the income.
3. If you have accounts or policies with Thrivent, you may have Thrivent Dollars to designate to a charitable cause to receive those dollars, which could be Central Lutheran.
4. Consider direct payment offerings from your bank account or through a computer app. It is easy and you do not have worry about the weekly ritual or missing a Sunday.
5. If you purchase items through Amazon, you could utilize smile.amazon.com. A small percentage of your purchase can then be designated as a gift to Central Lutheran. There is no cost to you.

Thank you for your support of the mission of Central Lutheran Church.

Council Report: October 19, 2021

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

PRESENT: Pastor Short, Chris Nisbit, Jeremy Johnson, Scott Mlynczak, Tammy Swenson Lepper, Paul Ness, Myrna Olson

ABSENT: Geri Quinlan

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Tammy opened with devotions.

Tammy moved, Jeremy seconded, carried to approve the agenda.

Tammy moved, Scott seconded, carried to approve the September 21, 2021, minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul presented the following report:

September is normally when we get back into the swing of things. This usually has a positive impact on giving. This September was a bit quiet on the giving front. General Offerings were \$28,385 compared to budget of \$42,489. This is a shortfall of \$14,104. Down 33%.

Parking revenue is down, too. Partially, the WSU parking fees have yet to be collected, but are expected in the near future.

Expenditures were \$45,807 versus a budget of \$46,222, so right on. Bottom line is a loss of (\$13,092) vs a positive \$2,517. The Mortgage Debt Service continues on track.

The Child Care had a loss of (\$4,809). We had received grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$8,500 per month for the last 7 months. None were received in September, so the shortfall is certainly attributable to the lack of a grant.

Our Operating Fund Balance continues to go negative at (\$26,023) when we planned an improved balance. This is from the loss on the Operating Fund Statement of Income and Expenditures.

The SBA Loan is still on the books. We filed for forgiveness for the entire \$150,000 and the financial institution approved our application. The SBA has yet to provide a review and response. We do not see how there can be any outcome other than full forgiveness. We met the spending and employment requirements.

Budget preparation is beginning for 2022.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Refugee Resettlement Sponsorship – Members of the committee have been meeting with Faith Lutheran Church and Catholic Charities. Currently waiting to see who will need assistance. A meeting is scheduled for Thursday.

Modern Worship – The new worship service will begin on Sunday, November 7. More information will be included in the newsletter.

Electronic Payments - Discussion was held regarding different options for receiving electronic payments. There are multiple apps and methods to use. Following considerable discussion, Tammy moved, Jeremy seconded, carried to approve the use of Tithe.ly, Venmo and PayPal as additional methods of accepting offerings and payments.

Council Report (Continued)

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

NEW BUSINESS

Workers Comp - Discussion was held on updating the church's current worker's comp policy.

Jeremy moved, Tammy seconded, carried to approve the old and new business.

STAFF REPORTS

Staff reports were reviewed

Review of Covid Response and church is in compliance. Continue with mask requirements.

The rummage sale on October 16 was a success

There will be safety training on Saturday, October 23

Communication Committee is creating Communication Plan and Marketing Plan

Kelly provided a report on the operation of the Child Care Center

Modern service to begin November 7 at 10:15 a.m.

Wednesday Advent virtual services begin December 1 at 7:00 p.m.

The 150th Celebration Committee concluded their contributions and will no longer meet.

Youth will be going on a mission trip to Niagara Falls from July 9 – 16, 2022.

National Youth Gathering is July 24 – 28, 2022.

Confirmation Sunday is October 31.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Property Committee – Working on various changes and upgrades in church and grounds. Discussion was held regarding the purchase of a new lawnmower.

Communications Committee – Discussion of a marketing plan to promote various church events. Also discussed the use of social media.

Tammy moved, Scott seconded, carried to approve the staff and committee reports.

Devotions for next meeting: Scott

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Myrna Olson
Acting Secretary

FINANCIAL REPORT ● ● ●

OPERATING FUND - October, 2021

Total Income: \$39,695.16

Total Expenses: \$52,353.89

Offering Goal :

November \$30,678.37

Thank you for your support of Central's ministry.

MORTGAGE

Monthly payments for interest and

principal September: \$3,146.00

Gifts for Building Fund October: \$1,428.00

Gifts for additional mortgage

—Principal reduction October: \$1,690.00

Gifts in memory or honor of someone

MEMORIALS

October 17, 2021 through November 16, 2021

UNDESIGNATED

In Memory of Arlone Turner

Given by Robert & Linda Koch

In Memory of Dale Amundson

Given By Gerald & Germaine Amundson

HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT

Given by Rich & Eugenia Moe

Designated Gifts in October

Capital Campaign

Water-Damage.....\$215.00

Capital Campaign—Technology....\$15.00

Lutheran Campus Center.....\$15.00

WVS Food Shelf.....\$131.00

CLC Foundation.....\$10.00

Quilters.....\$10.00

Youth Fund.....\$394.50

Missions.....\$12.00

World Hunger.....\$50.00

Sunday School.....\$130.50

150th Anniversary Fund.....\$565.00

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.

Christmas Flowers



Celebrate the Season!

We are planning for a selection of poinsettias and greenery to decorate the sanctuary.
Please give as you are able.



Make checks payable to "Central Lutheran Church" with "Christmas Flowers" in the memo line.

Donors & dedications received by Sunday, Dec. 19th, will be acknowledged in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

Name (please print): _____

Amount: _____

Dedication (print): _____

(in honor/memory of)



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Winona, MN 55987

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507.452.5156

Return Service Requested

What's coming up?

Advent Worship Services: Wednesdays, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 7:00 pm (Virtual only)

Blue Christmas Service: Tuesday, Dec. 21, 7:00 pm (Virtual only)

Christmas Eve Services: 4:00 pm (In-person & Virtual)

5:30 pm, 7:00 pm, 11:00 pm (In-person)

Christmas Day Service: 9:00 am (Virtual only)

Sundays of Christmas: Dec. 26 & Jan. 2, 9:00 am (In-person & Virtual)