

January 2022

CLC Newsletter

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

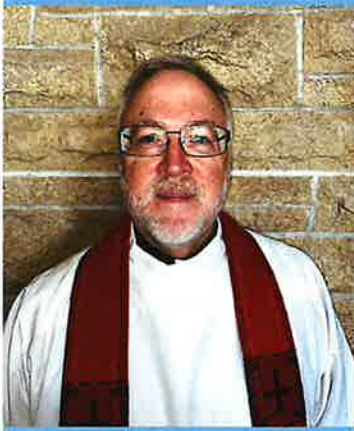


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Central
Lutheran Church ELCA



Rev. Michael Short

A Message from our Directing Pastor

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it." John 1:5

The light which has come into the world is the one we waited for and continue to wait for. Jesus, the Savior of the world, is the light which shines dispelling the darkness of sin and death. Here as we begin 2022, we do so with hope and promise that the year ahead will be brighter and more joyous than the last.

In the church year, we start with this Epiphany proclamation reminding us of the gift we have in Jesus. It is marked for us by the bright shining of a star leading the wise men across deserts and mountain passes to the manger where Jesus lay. Here by the brightness of the star they celebrated the gift of God's son given to the world. Hereby acknowledging the already arrival of the Savior of the world even as we continue to keep watch for Christ coming again.

We will also acknowledge our rebirth as we remember our baptism on the Second Sunday in January. Here as we recount the story of Jesus' baptism, we are reminded of our own rebirth in those same waters. Here we too receive the gift of the Holy Spirit who leads and guides us, who speaks for us when words cannot be found, who intercedes for us with God our Father.

The start of a new year is a reminder of the hope and the promise we all have received in the gift of Jesus, the light who has come into the world, a light no darkness can overcome. As we start 2022, we continue to be in need of light. While our days continue to grow longer, the darkness of the pandemic remains. More variants have been found, more people have become sick, more people have become positive. It seems as if this valley of darkness has been extended and the light is having a hard time breaking through. But the light will come and the darkness will be dispelled and banished.

Until that time arrives, we continue to do the best we can to put up a fight, to resist the desire to ignore the science and keep ourselves and others safe. That is difficult to do sometimes in the face of culture who is fickle and quick to toss it all aside for an easier way and a quick fix. At Central we will continue to wear masks, to provide space to physically distance when needed and to stay home when sick or unwell for whatever reason.

As the light of Christ continues to shine bright, we give thanks for the many ways the people of Central have stepped up in the past, trusting and believing they will continue to do so in the year to come. So much is being planned as we work to move forward, seeking to regain our 'old normal' way of life in this new world which surrounds us.

I continue to give thanks to God for your generosity and for your ongoing support of time and energy so Christ's mission might continue to be fulfilled in this place. In this New Year, may the light of Christ continue to lead and guide you, may His path shine brightly as we renew our commitment to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in a darkened world.

Pr. Michael





Aleah Harvey

A Message from our Worship, Music & Arts Director

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
Isaiah 60:1

Our light has come! We now enter into the season of Epiphany. The deep blues of Advent transition to bright whites with accents of gold.

Our new church year began with Advent, and we were already busy planning for the new calendar year. I want to thank the many volunteers who make the worship and music ministries at Central Lutheran possible. Thank you to the Welcome and Worship Committee members serving at the "volunteer telethon" to recruit new and experienced volunteers, the youth who participate in worship services (even some sibling duos and parents and youth serving together!), the musicians and worship leaders, the mailing volunteers, the holiday decorators, the worship assistants, and so many, many more.

If you are willing to volunteer, but haven't been asked, or are not sure which commitments you may enjoy, please pick up a volunteer card or chat with me, Pastor Short, or John Bartholow. We would be more than happy to help you find your volunteer fit!

New year blessings to you,

Aleah



Ministry Milestones

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.





John Bartholow

A Message from our *Youth Director*

Happy New Year! It is now officially 2022, with all of the new hopes and excitement of a new year, and hopefully a less complicated year than the past two. The Youth Ministry is here to connect teens with their faith, and bring some fun to Central Lutheran.

We will be publicizing fundraising events for the mission trip and National Youth Gathering very soon. We will need to raise a great deal to afford these two awesome trips. Fundraising activities aside, if you'd just like to donate towards the summer trips, you can donate money through the church office or the offering plate (label the envelope and/or the check's memo line with "Youth Mission Trip"); if you go to www.centrallutheranchurch.org/donate, you can donate online (put in the "Other" line "Youth Mission Trip Fund").

We will be having a snowman art contest from January 5th through January 12th. Please see me to get a sheet and participate; it's open to grades 5-12. On Tuesday, January 13th, we are having a Hawaiian-themed party with a movie night for Disney's *Lilo and Stitch*. This will tie to a discussion on the importance of our duty to our neighbors as Christians, and the importance of family (and how Lutherans believe family can take many forms).

On Martin Luther King Day (January 19th), we will be offering day camps to offer arts/crafts, songs, and other activities for youth with a day off from school. More information will be forthcoming.

On Saturday, January 29th, we will take a group trip to Pine Island for Winterfest. We'll leave at 9 AM for this exciting event, and return by 3 PM. If you are interesting in attending (or chaperoning), please contact me!

Lastly, we will be continuing to offer Table Teens in January on Wednesdays from 5-6 PM, where teens in grades 5-12 are offered a meal before Confirmation classes begin. We plan to offer this until the FEAST starts back up. We will continue to offer Teen Time between services in the Youth Room on Sundays from 9-10 AM.

As always, if you have input on youth programs, ideas and suggestions, or you want to volunteer to help, please do not hesitate to contact me at jbartholow@centrallutheranchurch.org or (507) 452-5156. Thank you!

Peace,

John Bartholow
Director of Youth Ministries



Keira Bratland during Teen Time



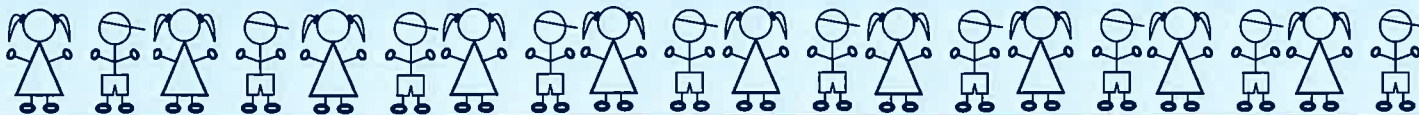
John Bartholow visiting Jack Herczeg during a swim meet



CLC members Morgan Starzecki & Jack Motl at band concert



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

The CLC Child Care Center Staff are proud to contribute to the Winona community!

Introducing our Center team ready to serve in 2022!



Butter Braids Fundraiser Jan. 10-25

Butter Braid Sales in 2022 will look a little different, but the use of the money will stay the same. We are raising funds to split between classrooms to update equipment/activities.

Please purchase yours through the church. We ask this year that you call or e-mail the office.

Each frozen pastry costs \$14/\$14.50

Thank you for supporting your Child Care Center!



Flavors Available

Cinnamon
Blueberry Cream Cheese
Strawberry Cream
Cheese
Apple, Cherry
Raspberry
Caramel Rolls

Celebrating Christmas with our youngest community

The children at Central Lutheran Church Child Care Center celebrated on Facebook this year! This virtual presentation for families reached many more people in this unique year of celebrating the Birth of Jesus.

If you are interested in experiencing the children's expressions of Joy for the Christmas Season, find the videos on our Facebook page.

Infants: December 21

Toddlers: December 22

Preschools: December 23

Enjoy watching our unique annual Christmas Celebration!

Questions, please contact us...

Phone 507.452.5493

Email: childcarecenter@centrallutheranchurch.org

Close to Home

Edelber Arrives in Winona!!!

The Winona Immigration Network, "WIN," is excited to announce that Edelber, the Colombian asylum seeker we are sponsoring, arrived in Winona on Tuesday, Dec. 14th! WIN includes Central Lutheran partnering with Cedar Valley, Faith Lutheran, Grace Presbyterian, and St. Paul's Evangelical Church in Lewiston. Other local churches have indicated support of this ministry as well. Katherine Chatelaine from the ELCA is also assisting us. We will be supporting Edelber, and walking alongside him as he completes the asylum process, finds employment and becomes self-sufficient. One of our biggest needs right now is a cell phone and plan. The cell phone is \$179.00 and the plan will be \$55 per month. It would be wonderful if some generous person or people might be willing to pay for, or donate toward the phone, or pay for a month of the plan. If you would like to support the WIN ministry in this way please make your check out to Central Lutheran Church and write "WIN Phone" "WIN Plan," or just "WIN" for ongoing expenses of this ministry in the memo line. The Winona Immigration Network deeply appreciates your ongoing support of this important ministry. If you would like to join WIN, there is much to be done, and we will find meaningful ways for you to contribute regardless of how much or little time you have available. You will be hearing more about this ministry in the future. Contact Denise Bernatz, Judy Davis, or Pastor Short with questions.



Food Shelf

During November 2021 you've donated 289 pounds of food and \$134.00 in cash which converts to a total of 557 pounds of food. This brings our grand total to 11,903 pounds of food donated this year. People of Central Lutheran, Bob Hermann, CLC's food shelf coordinator, personally thanks each and everyone of you for donating so much food and money to this great program again this year. We still have December to collect donations for all the hungry people of Winona, so let's give so more people can be fed.



Christmas Greetings Delivered to Homebound Central Members

Christmas cheer, homemade sweet treats, and beautifully designed Christmas cards were delivered to members limited by mobility or circumstances from worshipping with us in person. The ministry was supported by Church Staff, Sunday School students, and members of the Social Concerns, and Eucharistic Ministry teams.



Many are Remembered by Central Lutheran Church

Central membership graciously supported many in our church family and community with gifts of good will during the Advent and Christmas Season. Because of the generous spirit of giving, providing gift cards to local businesses, the Holiday season was brighter for many. Thank you to all who contributed!

Upcoming Events

CENTRAL SOCIALS

A group from Central Lutheran toured the La Crosse Rotary Lights in December and enjoyed dinner together afterwards. They are busy planning the next event scheduled for March. All are welcome to join any of the upcoming fun excursions! This is a great opportunity to mingle with old friends and meet new ones.



Upcoming Event: Church Basement Ladies

Saturday, March 26, 2022, 2:00 pm

We will be purchasing a group of tickets to see this comedic show! RSVP to the church office by Jan 31 to reserve your ticket. We will car pool from the church and go out for dinner after the show. Tickets are \$38 each and dinner will be at your expense.

20th
ANNIVERSARY

National Tour!
The first Church Basement Ladies opened to wild enthusiasm. We're bringing this classic back to celebrate 20 years of laughter, toe-tapping music and touching memories.

"Fans of 'Prairie Home Companion' will have no trouble translating their Catholic Experience to this Lutheran Kitchen."
- Archdiocese of Kansas City

"...wickedly funny!"
- Mpls. Star Tribune

"...an exceptional evening of rib-tickling fun."
- KRMG Des Moines, "The Culture Buzz"

"...a sweet treat!"
- Nashville City Paper

See the hit show that started it all!

**THE HIT MUSICAL COMEDY
is coming to Rochester, MN!**

Red Cross Blood Drive at Central

Central Lutheran is pleased again to team with the Red Cross to host a blood drive. If you are a blood donor, and are able to donate, please mark this date on your calendar. **Thursday, January 13, 2022, Central Lutheran Church, 12:00 PM until 6:00 PM.** Appointments are required to donate. Walk-ins cannot be accommodated. Please sign up at: www.redcrossblood.org/give/blood. Giving blood can make a big difference in the lives of others. If you can, we hope you will!

Communications and Calendaring event

On Sunday, January 16, 2022 the Communications Team at Central is inviting members of the council, ministry teams and others to join them in Grace Hall following worship (about 11:30am and lunch will be provided). The Communications Team and the staff have developed a 'marketing plan' to ensure events at Central are communicated to the members and the community at large. In order to be successful, they are asking for input about events coming up in 2022. A master calendar will be created with all the events scheduled. It will be used to assist the Communications Team to use their marketing plan and get the word out about events taking place at Central.

Come and join us. Get your events on the calendar. Enjoy some great food as we make our plans for 2022.



Special Announcements

Worship Forum

Members gathered with the council, Pr. Short, and Aleah following worship on Sunday, Dec 12th to discuss worship services at Central. The main focus was on the Modern Worship service-were we meeting the needs of the people and what changes might need to be made.

There were many good comments about the service, and in general those who spoke were supportive of the changes. A few wanted us to go farther (more contemporary) while a few wanted us to return to the more traditional service.

In the end, the general consensus was that we are on the right track. One concern was, for those who wanted a more traditional service, the 8:00am service is too early for some to attend. So, starting on January 9, 2022, our worship service times will change.

Traditional Worship @ 8:30am

Sunday School @ 9:30am

Modern Worship @ 10:30am

This will better allow those who want a traditional worship with the organ being played to attend without pushing the other service to late in the day. We will live stream the 10:30 service, and, in addition, will record the 8:30 traditional service to be broadcast over the public access channels on cable. That way you will be able to view the service you most enjoy.

A Special Message

Members of Central,

While we pray for all those dealing with the devastation of the tornados across Illinois, Kentucky, and other states, there is more we can do.

If you are considering sending support to help those in need, I want to be sure you know how the ELCA is responding. They have been there and will remain in those areas for months to come. I also want to encourage you, if you send financial support, to do so through the ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response.

The benefit of supporting LDR is all of your donations go to assist those in need. The salaries and administration costs are paid by the benevolence and support we already send to the ELCA. Links and information as to how you might support LDR is included below.

Thank you for your support not only of Central but of our brothers and sisters in need across our country and the world.

Pr. Michael

January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 New Year's Day
2 9:00 am Worship Live-Stream & In-Person No Sunday School 10:00 am Teen Time	3 Office Closed in observance New Year's Day 7:00 pm Spectrum Broadcast	4 9:00 am Quilters 11:15 am CLC Staff Meeting	5 10:00 am Program Directors' Monthly Meeting 5:00 pm HBCI TV Broadcast Confirmation/WNW	6 6:30 pm Budget Meeting- Church Council		8
9 8:30am Worship Service 9:30am Sunday School 9:30 am Teen Time 10:30 am Worship-Live Stream and In-Person	10 9:00 am WELCA 12:00 pm Communication Committee 7:00 pm Spectrum Broadcast	11 9:00 am Quilters 11:15 am CLC Staff Meeting 5:00 pm Property Committee Meeting 6:00 pm Personnel Committee Meeting	12 5:00 pm HBCI TV Broadcast Confirmation/WNW 6:30 pm	13 10:00 am Welcome and Worship Meeting-Grace Hall 12:00 pm Safety and Security Committee Meeting	14	15
16 8:30am Worship Service 9:30am Sunday School 9:30 am Teen Time 10:30 am Worship-Live Stream and In-Person 11:30 am Communication & Calendar Convention	17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day 7:00 pm Spectrum Broadcast	18 9:00 am Quilters 11:15 am CLC Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Council Meeting	19 Newsletter Article Due 5:00 pm HBCI TV Broadcast Confirmation/WNW 6:30 pm	20	21 Council Reports Due	22
23 8:30am Worship Service 9:30am Sunday School 9:30 am Teen Time 10:30 am Worship-Live Stream and In-Person	24 7:00 pm Spectrum Broadcast	25 9:00 am Quilters 11:15 am CLC Staff Meeting 5:00 pm Youth Committee Meeting 7:00 pm FEAST Committee Meeting	26 5:00 pm HBCI TV Broadcast Confirmation/WNW 6:30 pm	27	28	29
30 8:30am Worship Service 9:30am Sunday School 9:30 am Teen Time 10:30 am Worship-Live Stream and In-Person	31 7:00 pm Spectrum Broadcast					

Council Report: November 16, 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, Scott Mlynczak, Chris Nisbit, Paul Ness, John Bartholow, Tammy Swenson Lepper, Myrna Olson, Kelly Dicke, Geri Quinlan Absent: Jeremy Johnson

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. Chris opened with devotions.

Myrna moved, Tammy seconded, carried to approve the agenda

Tammy moved, Paul seconded, carried to approve October minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul gave summary of budget: Offerings for October were \$34,185 compared to budget of \$40,751. This is a shortfall of (6,500). YTD we are down (\$20,597).

Expenditures were \$48,318 budget was \$44,834.

Child Care: Kelly had a break even month at (\$395) loss. This was made possible by a \$9,730 grant income for the month.

Operating Fund has a (\$35,545) negative balance. While most of this was expected, we have big giving targets for the remainder of the year. Our 2022 budget will be impacted on the outcome of our December gifts and offerings. Discussion followed.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Refugee Settlement/Sponsorship: Meetings will continue about the sponsorship for a man from Columbia, he is expected to be welcomed to Winona early December.

Modern Worship Service: The 10:15 service continues with the modern style service. After the service on Dec. 12th there will be a forum to give feedback.

Credit Card/Venmo Payment: Work continues on setting up this platform.

Annual Meeting: Scheduled for February 6th after the 10:15 service. Board nominations and budget will be top priorities.

NEW BUSINESS

Communication: Logo-removing 4 pillars language. Tammy moved, Myrna seconded, carried to approve.

Insurance Liability: Policy good through next year. No change needed.

Child Care: Kelly gave an update of the enrollment in the child care program. CLC Child Care has seen an increase in costs of food and supplies. A rate increase for the 2022 tuition was presented. Tammy moved, Paul seconded, carried to approve the tuition increase.

Annual Meeting: Scheduled for February 6th after the 10:15 service. Board nominations and budget will be top priorities.

STAFF REPORTS

Staff reports were reviewed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee reports were reviewed. Personnel Committee proposed a 3% staff salary increase, if it is in the budget.

Tammy moved, Paul seconded, the motion was approved and will be based on the 2022 budget.

Paul moved and Myrna seconded, carried to approve the staff and Committee Reports.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for Dec. 7 at 6:30p.m. Scott has devotions

Closed with the Lord's Prayer, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Geri Quinlan, Council Secretary

FINANCIAL REPORT ● ● ●

OPERATING FUND - November, 2021

Total Income: \$42,668.50

Total Expenses: \$41,443.39

Offering Goal

December : \$94,753.85

Thank you for your support of Central's ministry.

MORTGAGE

Monthly payments for interest and

principal November: \$3,146.00

Gifts for Building Fund November: \$728.00

Gifts for additional mortgage

—Principal reduction November: \$725.00

Gifts in memory or honor of someone

MEMORIALS

November 17, 2021 through December 15, 2021

UNDESIGNATED

In Memory of Susan Cooper

Given by: John Bartholow, Peggy & Rich Twait, Dian Biesanz, Tom & Chris Wilmot, Bob Quinlan, Myrna Olson, Sherman Summers, Linda Bouck, Bob Bambenek, Katherine Shaw, Charles & Rita Hanson, Kate Settler, Diane Kennedy, Jim & Marylou Hurley, Rick & Carol Kramer, Donald & Donna Peterson, Karin & Karl Sonneman, Carolyn Larson, Jim Fabian, Steve Hacken, Karolee Hogden, Kalene Engel, Cindy Bell, Judy Davis, John & Pat Brandt, Wabasha Class of 1971

In Memory of Kathy Kulas

Given By Don & Donna Peterson, John & Pat Brandt, Winona County Old Settlers Assn.

CHILDCARE

In Memory of Susan Cooper

Given by: CLC WELCA

YOUTH

In Memory of Susan Cooper

Given by: Bev Spande, CLC Welca, Richard & Gayle Garrity, Carol Wald Family

In Memory of Kathy Kulas

Given by: Bev Spande

RESETTLEMENT FUND

In Memory of Susan Cooper

Given by: Jeff Franko

HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT

In Memory of Susan Cooper

Given by: Sue Vandervort

Rich & Eugenia Moe

Gary Olson

TECHNOLOGY

Gary Olson

HONOR OF BIRTHDAYS

Keith Holmquist— October

Marie Holmquist— November

Mike Bernatz— November

Honor of Arnold & Alanna Fenske's 67th Wedding Anniversary

Designated Gifts in November

Capital Campaign

Water-Damage.....\$105.00

WVS Food Shelf.....\$134.00

Youth Fund.....\$260.00

Missions.....\$132.00

World Hunger.....\$100.00

Sunday School.....\$94.00

Memorials.....\$725.00

Music/Worship.....\$300.00

Resettlement WIN.....\$1,500.00



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Return Service Requested

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What's coming up?

**Annual Meeting
Sunday, Feb 6th, 2022,
following 10:30 AM Worship Service**

Worship Service Time Change

Traditional Worship Service @ 8:30 AM

Sunday School @ 9:30 AM

Modern Worship Service @ 10:30 AM