

# CLC NEWSLETTER

April 2024



## Vision & Mission

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

Central Lutheran Church exists to make disciples: people who are passionate about following Jesus and living their faith each and every day.



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REV.  
MICHAEL  
SHORT

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTING PASTOR

Sisters and Brothers in Christ;

On Easter morning we celebrated the resurrection of Jesus our Savior. The account of Jesus' resurrection in Gospel of Mark which we heard on Easter morning is a little different than the other gospels. Here the angel tells the women to go and tell the disciples that Jesus is alive and going ahead of them to Galilee, but we are told they left and saying nothing to anyone. Scribes later added an additional ending to the Gospel to make it more like the others including instructions from Jesus to the disciples to go into the world and proclaim the Good News. No matter the gospel, one thing is clear, Jesus sent his disciples and followers out into the world to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom of God.

We are both part of that world to whom the Good News was proclaimed, at the same time we are also one of the apostles, that is one of the sent ones who were told to go and proclaim the Good News to all the world. This command is one of the last of the promises we make at the time of baptism; 'to proclaim Christ through word and deed, to care for others and the world God made, and to work for justice and peace'. In other words, we are called to live out our faith in the world God made so that others might come to know Jesus.

The scriptures tell us that while we are sent to proclaim the Good News, this is not something we do alone or on our own but Christ goes with us and before us. In our day it is the church and fellow members of the body of Christ who goes with us in addition to Christ. Part of the mission of the church, which for us is the ELCA as well as Central, is to teach and to guide and to give us the resources we need as we are sent.

At the last synod meeting I attended they talked about the new ELCA Social statement on Civic Life and Faith. The draft statement has been written and they are seeking input prior to the next ELCA annual gathering the summer of 2025. It is seeking input on how the ELCA can teach and support the work of the church and its members as they give witness to their faith even as they live their life in the secular world.

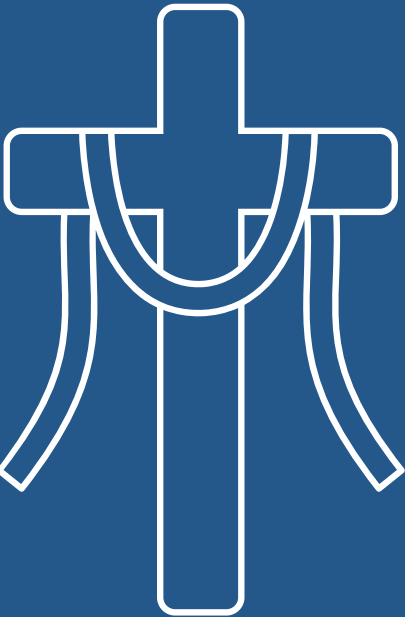
I am not sure how much Central has addressed or had conversation on the social statements of the ELCA in the past. But during the discussion they mentioned more than once that the church desires our input, mostly to ensure they get a cross section of members views. I was also reminded with these statements how the church continually seeks to be relevant in the world and to give us the resources we need to live out our baptismal promises in our daily life.

After all our faith is more than something we do for an hour, one day a week. Faith is about proclaiming the Good News each day and each hour as we live our life in the world around us, at our jobs, at school, when we play or even just work around our house and in everything we do.

We are sent in the name of the church, we are sent in the name of the ELCA and of Central and more importantly we are sent in name of Jesus by the Holy Spirit. This is the same mission to which the apostles were sent, the same mission the church has been on since the angel first told the women at the tomb to go and tell the disciple that Jesus is not there, but has been raised from the dead just as he said he would. Now they were and we are sent to go and share the Good News that our Savior is risen, he is risen indeed. Alleluia.



REV.  
KRISTEN  
MASSA



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR

String is one of the most important inventions of humankind. It connects, it intertwines, it attaches things together. String can be made out of all sorts of materials- cotton, metal, strips of tree barks or vines, etc. Yet, some of the strings in our life are invisible. Those are the strings that tie us together, bond us in relationship. Sometimes we create those invisible strings with bloodline and families, some with the closeness of those we work with, still others with friendship. Some strings that connect us are made because of events that were experienced together. Strings of love and friendship give us bonds and meaning in our lives.

I was reminded this week that some of the bonds and strings, or threads, that connect us are made out of hardy materials that don't weather or damage over time. Other threads that connect us are thin and wear out with age, connecting ourselves to someone else for only a short time or in a specific place. All of these strings weave together to form the fabric, the relationships, that catches us when we fall. It's a beautiful weaving of friendship, love, and faith that support us in life.

The invisible string that attaches us and keeps us in relationship with God is also a part of this tapestry. This string of faith is one of the most important pieces of this weaving. Sometimes we might not think it's there, sometimes it's the only thing left in our weaving of support. But, it's always there, God is always there, whether we feel it or not, whether we acknowledge it or not. God's love is always there to support us, to hold us up and to offer grace to us.

Our relationships in life, whether to God, or to each other are so important. The bonds, strings and threads that tie us all together unite us in love and grace. This time after Easter, as we experience the new life found in Jesus Christ and new life found in the change of weather, I encourage all of us to find new life in relationship. Reach out to someone, grow closer to God with prayer, study and community, or maybe heal a past relationship by being the first to forgive. Let us be the ones to strengthen our invisible strings with one another as we strengthen our own relationship with God.

Blessings,  
Pastor Kristen

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR WORSHIP, MUSIC & ARTS DIRECTOR

"Every good gift and every perfect gift comes from above ..."  
(James 17:1)

## AN ABUNDANCE OF RICHES

### HENDRICKSON 30TH ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

The first of nine recitals featured Luther College professor Alexander Meszler. The February event was attended by 85 people who contributed just over \$500 to the organ fund. Dr. Meszler's outstanding performance is now streaming online. Use the link or QR code below to listen to his amazing performance!

The next recital featuring Andrew Beine from the Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary will be on April 17th.

### COMMUNITY HANDBELL CHOIR

The bells at Central have been ringing again since February. The group will give their debut performance at both services on Sunday April 7, 2024. The bells will now be known as Glorioso Bells of Winona.

### ARTS AT CENTRAL THIS SPRING

The **WSU Choirs** will present their Spring Concert in the Sanctuary on Sunday April 14, 2024.

The **Winona Brass Band** will perform their spring concert on Sunday May 5, 2024, at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The performance will feature music for British Brass Band and organ. Coincidentally, the group is also celebrating their 30th anniversary.

The following week, Central will welcome back the Rochester Area Handbells for a performance on Sunday May 12, 2024. This will be an excellent opportunity to promote our community handbell choir. It is my hope that our handbell choir will join with the Rochester players for a combined bell choir selection.

And finally, Central will welcome the **Winona Community Chorale** back on May 17 & 18 for their 2024 spring performances.

We are also communicating with the **Bach Society** of their Mobile-Mini concerts this summer.

Blessings, always.

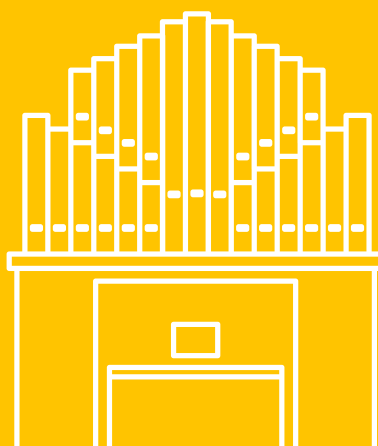
A. Eric Heukeshoven



Listen to the first Henderickson 30th recital at:  
<http://tinyurl.com/38cufj2z> or scan the QR code



A. ERIC  
HEUKSHOVEN







# April Center News

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

## Special Thank You to **Central's Quilters and Volunteers**

### **Bib**

/bib/

*noun*

1. A cover made of cloth or plastic that is worn by young children when eating to protect their clothes

### **Need for Bibs—A Call to Action**

The Center was in need of a very special bib that was created and made by Anne Deedrick many years ago as a labor of love to donate to the Child Care Center. These bibs have been well loved over the years and were very worn. We asked if the Quilter Group could help us make some as the well thought out design keeps children's clothing protected well in the infant and toddler classrooms. The group eagerly accepted our challenge even though we needed about 200 to effectively manage the number of children and use of a clean and fresh bib 3 times a day. Thank you to **Central's Quilters** for helping us!

**To date they have made 72 bibs which we are grateful for daily!!!!**

### **Extra special THANK YOU to this Bib Crew**

Pauline Meyer

Dixie Cummings

Karla Seidel

Kathy Peterson

Myrna Olson

Gloria Freiheit

Anne Deedrick

Carol Kramer

**We are beyond grateful for your time, talent and help!**



# COMMITTEE EVENTS

## Social Concerns Home Cooked Meal

In March the Social Concerns Committee prepared a hot, home cooked meal for the guests at the Winona Community Warming Center. Pictured is Gayle Garrity and staff member Sophie preparing to serve the homeless adults arriving to spend a night in the safe and warm environment of the shelter. The shelter which has twenty beds, also provides shower and laundry facilities. In October 2023, Central generously supported the WCWC Socktober Drive by donating socks, toiletry and personal care supplies. Over the winter months, those items greatly improved the health and quality of life of those experiencing homelessness in our community.



## Game Day

Join us April 12th, 1-3 PM for the last game day of the season. Remember to bring your favorite game (if you'd like) and a snack to share; open to all adults. If you need a ride to Central, contact the church office, 507-452-5156, by Thursday, April 11th before 4:30 PM.



## Sewing Volunteers

The Child Care Center at Central is in need of a special style of bib for their toddlers and have asked the Central Quilters for help. There is a specific pattern that works well for protecting the toddlers' clothing. They need 200 bibs! We are still looking for volunteers to sew some bibs at home. Quilters will supply the pattern, material, and instructions. If you have any fun kid material and would like to donate the material to this project or participate in this project please contact Gloria Freiheit at (507) 450-5132.



## Let's Get Crafting!

The Central Quilters craft sale was so popular that they've decided on a new schedule for 2024. If you've been looking for something to do while you're cooped up inside, you could get those creative juices flowing and start making some crafts to donate. Before you know it Spring will be here and you'll want to be doing things outside, so start now and beat the Fall rush!

### 2024 Quilter Craft Sale Schedule

- Sunday, October 6th- Halloween/Fall craft sale
- Sunday November 3rd- Thanksgiving/Holiday craft sale
- Sunday December 1st- Holiday craft sale
- Sunday December 14th- Holiday craft sale and the WELCA Bake Sale and Lunch

## Central Book Group

The Central Book Group meets in Grace Hall at 10 am the first Thursday of the month. The books we read are suggested by group members and they are ordered online at bargain prices. In April we are reading "A Canticle for Leibovitz" by Walter M. Miller Jr and in May we will read "Inspired" by Rachel H. Evans. All are welcome to join the group and read some books you may not have selected on your own.



# UPCOMING

## WIN

Opportunities continue for those interested in being involved with the WIN efforts. We are happy to announce that Julio and Jazmina have settled into Winona this past month and now call Winona their home. We invite the congregation to welcome Julio, Jazmina, Alex, Veronica, and Jeronimo on Sunday April 7th during coffee hour in the Narthex at Central Lutheran.

During the past month the Church of Brethren and St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Lewiston hosted a Lenten dinner and welcome for these individuals in which they were able to introduce and have the opportunity to share a little about themselves. During the month Pastor Short was a part of a panel on Immigration hosted by Winona State University and the First Congregational Church in Winona hosted a Congo concert and reception on March 24th for WIN.



## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SUNDAY

Whether you give your time and talents everyday or one hour a month, your contributions do not go unnoticed. You are GREATLY appreciated! On April 21st, Central is honoring all of the volunteers by inviting you to breakfast in Grace Hall, 9:30-11:00 AM. In addition, we will, again, be offering the opportunity of a relaxing massage provided by Amber Bork from Star Massage. She will have her massage chair in Grace Hall to give 5-10 minute neck, shoulder, or back massages upon request. Rebecca Valentine will also be giving hand massages. Please RSVP for the breakfast by contacting Shayna in the Church Office, 507-452-5156, by April 17th. We hope to see you there!

## FEAST

The FEAST Committee and regular volunteers are busily serving 120 or more each week. While we are thrilled with an uptick in numbers since restarting after COVID closures, we still need members of Central to come forward and volunteer. Our critical need is in the area of dishwashers (really dish dryers) and silverware wrappers. Silverware wrapping takes wrapping takes 1.5 hours or so and can be done on Tuesdays or Wednesday morning. It's very easy and really helpful. Why? Because wrapped silver on the table means clean silver on the table, it's a quality control help. Please consider!

If you know how to throw a dish towel over your shoulder, and count to 25, you can help with dishes. You don't have to worry about the dishwasher- that's covered. We need dryers who can stack plates in stacks 25. You, yes YOU can do this. If you can help with either of these tasks, please call Laurie Laib at 458-3194.

We have only 6 meals left this season, with great cooks and menus- please join us.

**April 3:** cook: Mandy Olson; shredded barbecue chicken sandwich, coleslaw, fruit salad, dessert

**April 10:** cook: Joe Palubicki; turkey gravy over stuffing, corn, green beans, fruit salad, bread, dessert

**April 17:** cook: Jay Dureske; pulled pork sandwich, mac-cheese, baked beans, fruit salad

**April 24:** cooks: Keith-Marie Holmquist; hamburger-rice hot dish, green beans, bread, dessert

**May 1:** cooks: Haley Martin-Jan Blomsness; mystery meal

**May 8:** cooks: Thrivent; brats, baked beans, potato salad, chips dessert.

# April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		9:00 am- Quilters	4:45 pm- FEAST Meal 6:30 pm- Confirmation	10:00 am- CLC Book Group 6:00 pm- Handbell Choir 7:00 pm- Adult Choir		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:30 am- Traditional Worship 9:30 am- Sunday School 9:30 am- Welcoming WIN Families 10:30 am- Modern Worship	9:00 am- WELCA 6:30 pm- WIN	9:00 am- Quilters 6:30 pm- Council Meeting	4:45 pm- Feast Meal 6:30 pm- Confirmation	10:00 am- Welcome & Worship 6:00 pm- Handbell Choir 7:00 pm- Adult Choir	1:00 pm- Game Day	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:30 am- Traditional Worship 9:30 am- Sunday School 9:30 am- Youth Cinnamon Roll Fundraiser 10:30 am- Modern Worship 4:00 pm- WSU Choir Concert	9:00 am- Social Concerns	Newsletter Articles Due 9:00 am- Quilters	12:00 pm- Hendrickson 30th Organ Rectal 1:30 pm- Esther Circle 4:45 pm- Feast Meal 6:30 pm- Confirmation	1:30 pm- Hannah Circle 6:00 pm- Handbell Choir 7:00 pm- Adult Choir		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:30 am- Traditional Worship 9:30 am- Sunday School 9:30 am- Volunteer Appreciation Sunday 10:30 am- Modern Worship 10:30 am- Sunday School Children Sing	5:30 pm- Welcoming Table 5:30 pm- Youth Committee	9:00 am- Quilters 9:00 am- Newsletter Volunteers	4:45 pm- FEAST Meal 6:30 pm- Confirmation	6:00 pm- Handbell Choir 7:00 pm- Adult Choir		
28	29	30				
8:30 am- Traditional Worship 9:30 am- Sunday School 10:30 am- Modern Worship		9:00 am- Quilters				



# CHURCH COUNCIL

## PAST PRESIDENT

Steve Ringlien

## PRESIDENT

Kati Stoltman

## PRESIDENT ELECT

Scott Mlynczak

## TREASURER

Mark Boysen

## SECRETARY

Myrna Olson

## AT LARGE

Tammy  
Swenson-Lepper

## AT LARGE

Tim Laib



# COUNCIL REPORT: FEBRUARY 13, 2024

**PRESENT:**Pastor Short, Pastor Massa, Kati Stoltman, Steve Ringlien, Tim Laib, Mark Boysen, Myrna Olson

**ABSENT:** Tammy Swenson Lepper, Scott Mlynczak

Kati called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Myrna will have devotions in March.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Pastor Short added the Root River Conference and Synod Assembly to the agenda under New Business. With these additions, Steve moved, Mark seconded, carried to approve the agenda.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mark moved, Tim seconded, carried to approve the January 9, 2024, minutes.

## TREASURER'S REPOR

Mark provided the following January financial report:

### January 2024 Central Lutheran Church Financial Report Operating Fund

As is usually the case, January was a lower month for income at \$28,993. Last year, without the ERC, the income was \$32,451 and this year was 10.6% lower than last year.

	Monthly	Budget	Diff vs Budget
Income	\$28,993	\$32,268	\$3,275
Expenses	\$60,346	\$55,975	\$4,371
Gain/Loss	\$31,353	\$23,707	\$7,646

Variations in expenses vs the budget was the 4% Benevolence – SE MN Synod. A large payment (\$5,870 vs \$1,700 budgeted) was paid upfront and lower payments will be made throughout the rest of the year. Facility Maintenance was slightly higher than budgeted for January, but not significantly so.

	YTD	Budget	YTD Diff vs Budget	
Income	\$28,993	\$32,268	\$3,275	10.15%
Expenses	\$60,346	\$55,975	\$4,371	7.8%
Gain/Loss	\$31,353	\$23,707	\$7,646	

### Child Care

YTD gain of \$34,742 and fund balance of \$114,214.

Child care	Dec '23	Child Care	YTD
Income	\$62,548.38	Income	\$792,822.83
Expenses	\$72,855.74	Expenses	\$758,290.31
Gain/Loss	-\$10,3307.36	Gain/Loss	\$34,532.52

# CHURCH COUNCIL

## PAST PRESIDENT

Steve Ringlien

## PRESIDENT

Kati Stoltman

## PRESIDENT ELECT

Scott Mlynczak

## TREASURER

Mark Boysen

## SECRETARY

Myrna Olson

## AT LARGE

Tammy

Swenson- Lepper

## AT LARGE

Tim Laib



# COUNCIL REPORT CONTINUED

Following discussion, Tim moved, Steve seconded, carried to approve the Treasurer's Report.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Committee for Organ Refurbishment

Pastor Short reported the committee has met to begin discussions for fundraising for the repairs of the organ. Committee members are Keith Holmquist, Karen Littlejohn, and Karen Jacobson. Another member may be added.

## LCC Meal

The Council will be preparing food for the Lutheran Campus Center on Sunday, February 18. It was decided taco ingredients would be provided along with dessert.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Root River Conference Annual Meeting

Pastor Short informed the Council that the Root River Conference annual meeting will be held on Sunday, February 18, in St. Charles.

### Synod Assembly Southeastern Minnesota ELCA

Pastor Short informed the Council the Synod Assembly will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2024, in Mankato. Let him know if anyone wants to attend.

## STAFF REPORTS

Staff reports were reviewed.

- Pastors continue with Confirmation classes for the youth
- Fundraising with the youth groups
- Preparing for Lent
- Working with WIN
- Family skate on Sunday, February 25, if weather cooperates
- NYG fundraising, cinnamon rolls the second week of the month and fish fry at the Eagles Club on Friday, February 23.
- No confirmation February 14 and March 6
- Sunday Serve with families and youth
- Child Care Center has 67 children enrolled serving 53 families
- Child Care Butter Braid fundraiser brought in \$4,000 which will be split in each classroom to purchase new equipment or new experiences for the children
- Nine monthly organ recitals have been scheduled throughout the year in celebration of the organ's thirtieth anniversary

Steve moved, Tim seconded, carried to approve the staff reports.

The next meeting will be March 12, 2024, at 6:30 P.M.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

Myrna Olson  
Secretary

# FINANCIAL REPORT

February 2024  
Total Income: \$33,596.08  
Total Expenses: \$38,314.79

Offering Goal: March \$55,008.09  
*Thank you for your support of Central's Ministry*

Gifts in memory or honor of someone **Memorials February 20, 2024 through March 19, 2024**

### UDESIGNATED

**Memory of Barb Wahl Terlep**  
**Given by** Don & Joni Klagge

**Memory of Dr. Daniel Parker**  
**Given by** Robert & Suzanne Lietzau,  
Peggy Twait, Judy Davis

### WIN

**Memory of Lori Krumholz**  
**Given by** Judy Davis

**Honor of Denise Bernatz Birthday**  
**Given by** Gayle Gordon & Kurt Hinz

**Honor of Jill Schmidt Birthday**  
**Given by** Mike & Denise Bernatz

### AUDIO VIDEO

**Memory of David Green**  
**Given by** Conway &  
Elizabeth Elton

### FEAST

**Memory of Dr. Daniel Parker**  
**Given by** Dave & Betsy  
Rowekamp

### YOUTH

**Memory of Dr. Daniel Parker**  
**Given by** MaryAnn Severson

### THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Mark Boysen, Abbie Henningson,  
Donna Peterson, Gayle Garrity,  
Helen Johnson, Tim Laib, David &  
Sandra Matzke, Arlan Runningen,  
Michael Short

### MISSIONS

**Memory of Dwayne Benson**  
**Given by** Joan Jackels

**Memory of Dr. Daniel Parker**  
**Given by** Joan Jackels

**Memory of Rachel Kaitala**  
**Given by** Joan Jackels



## Designated Gifts in February

Building Maintenance Fund	\$878.00
Quilters	\$25.00
WIN	\$5,372.92
WVS Food Shelf	\$342.00
Youth Fund	\$350.00
Youth Mission Trip	\$2,930.00
Sunday School	\$58.75
FEAST	\$1,130.70
TV/Video	\$135.00
Flower Fund	\$350.00
Organ Fund	\$512.00
Memorials	\$255.00





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55987

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## What's Coming Up

**April 7-** 9:30 am, Welcoming of WIN Families

**April 14-** 9:30 am, Youth Cinnamon Roll Fundraiser  
4:00 pm, WSU Choir Concert

**April 16-** Newsletter Articles Due

**April 17-** 12:00 pm, Hendrickson 30th Organ Recital- Andrew Beine

**April 21-** 9:30-11:30 am, Volunteer Appreciation Sunday  
10:30 am, Sunday School Children Sing



507.452.5156

Contact Us

[centrallutheranchurch.org](http://centrallutheranchurch.org)



[office@centrallutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@centrallutheranchurch.org)

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