

CLC NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2025



Vision & Mission

"Gathered in the love of Christ, we connect, grow and serve."
Central Lutheran Church exists to make disciples: people who are passionate about following Jesus and living their faith each and every day.



ECUMENICAL WORSHIP @ BANDSHELL JULY 20, 2025

Inside

Page 2	Pastor Short's Message
Page 3	Pastor Massa's Message
Page 4	Worship, Music & Arts
Page 5	Child Care Center News
Page 6	Lutheran Campus Center
Page 7	CLC Events
Page 8	CLC Happenings
Page 9	Children, Youth & Family
Page 10	Council Report
Page 11	Council Report Continued
Page 12	Financial Report
Page 13	August Church Calendar

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTING PASTOR

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

One of my favorite hymns is I love to tell the Story. Not only do I like the song because it is easy to sing and people young and old can join in, but it tells its own story about to whom the old, old story of Jesus is for. In the second verse it speaks of telling the story to those who have never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy word. The third verse speaks of telling the old, old story to those who know it best who long to hear it like the rest. The story we tell is about the love of God, of Jesus our Savior and the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in the life of the church.

The hymn came to mind at the council meeting back in June. Among the many things we talked about at the meeting was the finances of Central. Here in the summer time of the year, history has shown us attendance drops off along with financial support. Attendance drops as families take vacations during the summer when their children are out of school. Not to mention here in Winona there are many summer events, the river and the hiking trails which offer members many options on a Sunday morning.

Often when people are not in attendance for worship it means their financial support is not received. Many people bring their support and place it in the offering plate during worship as they have always done. Except now there are so many options which allow you to support the church financially. So I ask you to consider using direct deposit from your account to Central's account to support our ministry. Please contact the church office if you have questions.

But the reason the song I love to tell the Story came to mind was during our discussion about finances was the reason people support non-profits like a church is they identify with their mission. Like many of you I get their letters and flyers all the time from museums and the colleges I attended, groups who feed the hungry and care for the sick. Each organization is telling its mission and its purpose. They tell the stories of the good they do with the support they receive in hopes you will continue to support them financially.

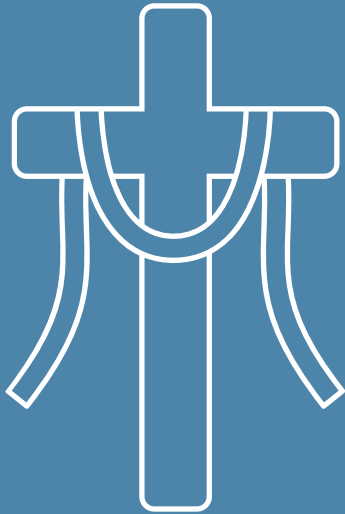
Yet we have a better story to tell and we just need to be better at telling our story. Not only the story of Jesus and his love as we sing about in the song, but of the great things we do here at Central. We can tell of our weekly worship where we praise and give thanks to God. We can tell about all the ways we live out our story in the community. We can tell the story of the thousands who were fed at the FEAST; or the hundreds of quilts and kits sent to places across the US and the world. We can tell how we cared for our world, cleaning up a stretch along I-90, or how we assisted in building homes with Habitat, or of our support of the local food pantry with thousands of pounds of food and gifts of clothing for their store. We can tell of our support of missionaries across the world, directly for Pr Kristin Engstrom in Madagascar and indirectly with our benevolence to the greater church. So many stories to tell about how we are sharing the love of God and the salvation of Jesus with the world.

About every three weeks we will be inviting a member to tell their story. To speak about why their faith matters. To share their story about why Central matters and to invite others to consider joining them. So do you have a story to tell? Are you willing to share your story?

At the same time we give thanks for the many ways each of you already support the mission and the ministries of Central, for which I am ever grateful. THANK YOU. Pr Michael



REV.
MICHAEL
SHORT



A MESSAGE FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This summer has been a whirlwind but also incredibly fulfilling. At the end of June, Central Lutheran and Faith Lutheran partnered together and brought 17 students and four adults on our mission trip to Milwaukee. We spent the week meeting new church friends from Kentucky, taste testing custard around Milwaukee, swimming in Lake Michigan (twice!) and of course, serving our neighbors in the greater Milwaukee area. Our students helped serve in food banks, food shelves, community gardens, senior homes and more. It was such a blessing to see them thrive and grow in their faith and in their relationship with each other during the week. Students came back motivated to serve others and motivated to continue growing closer to God.

July brought not only a week at Good Earth Village for me, but also an amazing week of VBS! We had 30 elementary aged students, 15+ high school and confirmation students and over a dozen adult volunteers who helped put Vacation Bible School together this year. I was completely blown away with how the church came together to take charge and put on amazing week. Everything from monetary donations to prayer helped us be successful in reaching out to students in the area while we learned about who our neighbor was and how we are called to serve them. We topped off the week with a fun, albeit a little chilly, Friday night at the pool, where church came together to celebrate and be in fellowship with one another.

As I look forward to what this next school year brings us, I am filled with gratitude as to what God called us to, and what we were blessed with this summer. Sometimes, to look forward also means that we have to look back and see just how far we have come. I am grateful for each and every person in this church who continues to steward their time, talents and treasures into the ministry and mission of this church. The Holy Spirit continues to push and guide us into new waters, and the church continues to show up to serve and follow that call.

May the peace of Christ be with you always,

Pastor Kristen Massa



REV.
KRISTEN
MASSA



A MESSAGE FROM OUR WORSHIP, MUSIC & ARTS DIRECTOR

"The choir and trumpets made one voice of praise and thanks to God - orchestra and choir in perfect harmony singing and playing praise to God: Yes! God is good! His loyal love goes on forever!" (2 Chronicles 5:13)

SEPTEMBER "MINI" BACH FESTIVAL

Johann Sebastian Bach was a devout Lutheran composer, deeply rooted in the traditions and theology of the Lutheran church. He viewed his music, both sacred and secular, to glorify God and refresh the spirit, often signing his works with "S.D.G." (Soli Deo Gloria), meaning "Glory to God Alone". His music was heavily influenced by his Lutheran faith and the writings of Martin Luther.



To celebrate the 275th anniversary of Bach's death, Central is holding "mini" Bach festival, including noontime organ recitals, a play about Bach, and the return of the Bach Society of Minnesota.

BACH AT LEIPZIG

Several months ago, Mike Speck approached me with the idea of producing a semi-staged reading of the play "Bach at Leipzig" at Central. I've known Mike for many years and respect his work as a theater director. Mike applied and consequently received a grant from the Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council (SEMACE) to fund the project.

Itamar Moses' play "Bach at Leipzig" imagines the competition for the organist position at Leipzig's Thomaskirche, highlighting six musicians vying for the role. The play uses the structure of a fugue, with multiple voices debating innovation, tradition, and religious beliefs, drawing comparisons to Tom Stoppard's works. Bach never appears in this farce about a job opening for an organist that ultimately was awarded to Bach himself – Yes, it's a comedy!

Several of J.S. Bach's organ works are played during the performance and I will be the organist for the performance. "Bach at Leipzig" will take place in the Sanctuary on Saturday September 13, 2025, at 7 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door for a "Pay What You Can" suggested price of \$10 Adults and \$5 Students and Seniors.

NOONTIME ORGAN RECITALS

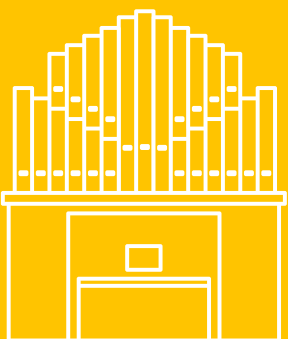
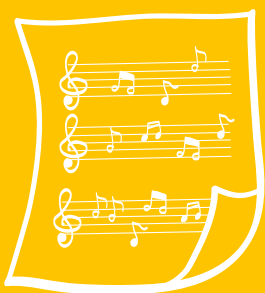
Our Hendrickson Organ recital series last year was enjoyed by many in our community. As part of the festival, we will welcome three outstanding organists to perform works by "Papa" Bach, his children, and works dedicated to Bach.

On Wednesday September 3, Matt Gender will perform the first of three noontime recitals. Matt is the Director of Worship Arts at Zumbro Lutheran Church in Rochester. On September 10, we welcome back John Stender from First Presbyterian in Rochester. John was one of the Hendrickson recitalists and performed in last year's Messiah Sing-In. Rounding out the recitals on September 17, will be Daniel Lewis – Director of Music at St. Martin's Church in Winona. Dan also performed last year. The recitals will be from noon to 1 p.m. and are free and open to all.

BACH SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA

Capping off this incredible month of music will be the return of the Bach Society of Minnesota. On Friday, September 19 at 7 p.m. this outstanding chamber group will present "Vivaldi on Fire". The concert features beguiling music by Antonio Vivaldi - the "Red Priest" - a mad genius of virtuosity, bringing "follia," craziness, and boundless fun. How does Vivaldi fit into a Bach festival. Come to the concert and find out! General admission is \$25, and students get in for only \$5 – tickets available online and at the door. More info at: <https://www.bachsocietymn.org/vivaldi-on-fire> **You won't want to miss the festival finale!** It continues to be my honor, privilege, and joy to serve this amazing congregation.

A. ERIC HEUKESHOVEN





Central Lutheran Church
Child Care Center

August Center News

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

Central Lutheran Church
Child Care Center

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

4K OPEN ENROLLMENT

- Developmentally appropriate Creative Curriculum implementation, infused with faith-based learning
- Outdoor play
- Social Emotional Individualized Development Support

ENROLL TODAY

MORE INFORMATION
childcarecenter@centrallutheranchurch.org




Outside Adventures!

We have been loving this summertime weather and being able to play and learn outside! The classrooms have been doing water play, riding bikes, going for walks to see the fish, and our older 2 classrooms even had a picnic outside! One more month to go of our summer of adventures!



Pastry Puffins

Thank you to those who ordered Pastry Puffins from the Center. We raised just over \$1600 for our classrooms to purchase new materials!



**Thank you for your support of
CLC CCC and the team!**

Page 5 Together we are better!

Questions, please contact us...

childcarecenter@centrallutheranchurch.org

The first gift we received to kick off the LCC's capital campaign, "Making All Things New" came from alumnus Colton Rohde. Colton graduated five years ago in the spring of 2020. His last semester of college was in the height of the pandemic, so he knows firsthand the sudden loss of not being able to gather in our building. When I asked some of our alums if they could share what the LCC has meant to them and if they know anyone who might have affinity for campus ministry, and/or capacity to give, Colton responded immediately:

"Since graduating WSU five years ago, the LCC remains the only community in Winona that I keep in touch with. As I joined and then lost interest in other campus organizations, Pastor Corrine, the Board, and fellow students were such an anchor for me throughout college. **But there was also something special about the LCC's building that kept me just as grounded! It truly felt like a safe space and welcome refuge from the stressful hustle and bustle of campus life.**

Upon returning for Homecoming last fall, while Corrine was showing me all its scars from the fire, so many joyful memories resurfaced that I realized students are no longer able to make it there. **Whether we were enjoying dinner and worship together, writing thank you letters to LCC supporters or simply studying before exams, it wouldn't have been the same without those rooms and a roof over our heads! Without a doubt, I believe the future of the LCC and its students to come lies in rebuilding a physical space that provides a cherished safe haven for everyone."**

At the end of his email, Colton wrote that he had means to contribute thanks to the generosity of his late Uncle Russ who left gifts for him and his cousins out of his estate. "Of that, I'm willing to contribute \$1,000 to help get the new LCC building up and running!" Colton is a public health worker, a young alumnus, and a monthly sustainer of our ministry. His selfless generosity touches our hearts deeply and inspires us to move forward. We give thanks to God for Colton and his uncle's legacy.

CLC EVENTS

Central Lutheran Book Group

The book group will meet on Thursday, August 7th at 10 am in Grace Hall. This month we are reading "The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio-How my mother raised 10 kids on 25 words or less" by Terry Ryan. Sounds interesting, right? Check with Shayna to see if there are books available. The next meeting will be September 4th. All are welcome to join the group.

Habitat for Humanity

On Tuesday, August 12th volunteers from Central Lutheran will spend the morning working on a new building or rehabbing an older home. All levels of ability are welcome as Habitat makes sure everyone feels helpful. There will be more information about what our task will be closer to the date. Please let Shayna know as soon as possible if you would like to help. It is work but also fun!



Now that we're in the "lazy, hazy days of summer" it's time to look ahead to fall events! If you attended the local WELCA Gathering in March you may want to attend the fall SEMN Synod WELCA Convention on Saturday, September 27th in Waseca. The theme is *Speak Up*, and it'll be at Grace Lutheran Church, featuring speaker Joy McElroy from the *Cherish All Children* organization. <https://www.lssmn.org/services/youth/education/cherish-all-children> Cost is \$25 (includes lunch) but FREE to first time Synod gathering attendees. Details are posted on the WELCA bulletin board or send Janet an email at jheukesh@smumn.edu for registration information.

The *WELCA Walkers* continue to gather on Thursdays @10 am. We leave from Judy Inman's home (468 Lake Dr) and after a walk (your choice of length!) return to Judy's home for some refreshing iced tea and a treat. Don't want to walk but your partner does? Come along and sit in the shade on the patio and enjoy the view! *ALL are welcome- all ages, bring a friend!*

The next WELCA meeting at CLC will be on Monday, August 4th at 9:30 am in Grace Hall. Interested in finding out more about our Central Lutheran WELCA chapter? You're invited to join us at any meeting. Not available at that time? Contact Janet to find out projects and opportunities for you to participate.

Sincerely,
Janet Heukeshoven (email above or let's chat at church!)

FEAST

The FEAST will kick off its fall season on September 10. Many generous folks have begun to step up as volunteers to cook. which means we'll be off to a great start!

That said, we always have a need for cooks. The folks that stepped up last year are all returning to make a meal possible this year. YOU can share in this great volunteer opportunity. Call Pam Davick 507-459-2806 to find out more or sign up for a meal. If you can't make a meal, consider making desserts for a meal.

We also need other volunteers to do dishes, set up, wrap silverware and deliver meals to the home-bound. If you can contribute time to these tasks, please call Laurie Laib at 507-454-6746.

The FEAST crew is looking forward to seeing you Wednesdays at 4:45pm, starting September 10th.

CLC HAPPENINGS

Social Concerns

On May 19th, Social concerns met with CLC residents at Sugar Loaf Senior Living. Treats were shared along with many stories from over the years at Central Lutheran Church.



Pictured: Gayle Garrity, Gloria Brekke, Kathy Benke, Rev. Kristen Massa, Chaplain Christine, Nancy Hauschildt, Marian Mason, and Arla Hjelmeland

Annual Fall Mum Sale

Mark your calendars for **September 6th and 7th** for Social Concerns **Annual Fall Mum sale**. This event is sponsored by Central Lutheran's Social Concerns Committee. Details will be announced in late August.



WIN

The Winona Immigration Network continues to meet monthly, working with our families, helping them find housing, paths to asylum, work permits, and providing necessary information. Check out the August Fundraiser, Salads of the World on Saturday, August 16th. We thank the Central Congregation for their participation in these activities, their prayers, the welcoming atmosphere they provide and for their generous gifts for families as needs arise.

Salad luncheon, Saturday, August 16th, 11-1

WIN is hosting a salad luncheon on Saturday, August 16th, in Grace Hall from 11:00 to 1:00. The luncheon will feature salads from around the world. So far we have salads from Germany, Scandinavia, Africa, the Middle East, Kazakhstan, Asia, and the southern United States. Our WIN families will prepare their favorite salads from Nicaragua and Colombia to add to the list. Bloedow's buns, dessert salads, bars, coffee, water and lemonade will round out the menu. Local harpists will play, providing a beautiful and relaxing atmosphere for our guests. You may purchase tickets from WIN members, our in the church entrance before and after services. Tickets are \$12 for one, or \$20 for two tickets. Why not double the fun and invite a guest? All are welcome! Questions? Call Denise at 507-459-2969.



FAITH IN MOTION

2025 GATHERING EXPEDITIONS

Lutherdale Camp
Elkhorn, WI

8th-12th Graders

\$100 registration
(register here!)

Oct. 31 - Nov. 2

Join Central youth as we gather with others from across the region for a weekend of worship, community, faith and service- National Youth Gathering style!

Registration is first come, first serve. Register by Aug. 20

PIZZA



in the park

AUG. 20

**LAKE PARK PLAYGROUND
(BEHIND BANDSHELL)**

5-7PM

Upcoming Children, Youth and Family Dates

Aug. 24- Rally Sunday, 10:30 am
Blessing of the Backpacks,
(during service)

Aug. 31- Family Worship Sunday (no
Sunday School)

Sept. 7- First day of Sunday School
Gods Work Our Hands Sunday

Sept. 10- 7th/8th Grade Confirmation:
Parent/Student Orientation
6:15pm

Sept. 14- Installation/Blessing of
faith formation teachers

Sept. 17- Confirmation Starts

VBS Pictures:



CHURCH COUNCIL

PAST PRESIDENT

Scott Mlynczak

PRESIDENT

Steve Everson

PRESIDENT ELECT

Tim Laib

TREASURER

Steve Hacken

SECRETARY

Myrna Olson

AT LARGE

Tammy Swenson-Lepper

AT LARGE

Julie Palubicki



COUNCIL REPORT: JUNE 17, 2025

PRESENT:Pastor Short, Pastor Massa, Steve Everson, Tim Laib, Steve Hacken, Tammy Swenson Lepper, Scott Mlynczak, Julie Palubicki, Myrna Olson

Steve Everson called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Tim opened with devotions.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Steve H moved, Tim seconded, carried to approve the April 15, 2025, minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Steve Hacken presented the following Treasurer's Report:

May Central Lutheran Church Treasurer Report

General financial summary numbers through the end of May:

May Income:	\$30,785
May Offering:	\$27,355
Year to Date Income:	\$187,933
May Expenses:	\$54,105
Year to Date Expenses:	\$295,193
May Balance:	(\$23,321)
Year to Date Balance:	(\$107,260)

Financial Notes:

- Income for May was nearly \$17,000 below budget
- Income year to date is nearly \$54,000 below budget
- Current expenses are approximately \$14,000 over the allocated budget
- Year to date deficit is considerably over the annual budget deficit approved at the annual meeting
- It has been reported we will need to take funds out of investments soon to meet expenses

The Council needs to consider these numbers and begin a plan to mitigate the negative numbers. The Church has just under \$320,000 in cash and investments which is not a lot more than the dedicated fund total.

Considerable discussion was held on things that could be done to remedy this. One thought was to make sure the congregation knows all the good things that are happening at church. Other ideas were discussed and will continue to be discussed at future meetings. It was decided that a schedule would be created for members to present "Central Stories" to the congregation during worship services of areas of good work being done at church. Tammy will do the first Story on June 22. Tammy moved, Julie seconded, carried to approve the May treasurer's report.

OLD BUSINESS

Organ Refurbishment

A kickoff for the organ refurbishment is being planned.

Review of Constitution and By-Laws

Pastor Short, Tammy, and Julie continue to review the documents.

CHURCH COUNCIL

PAST PRESIDENT

Scott Mlynczak

PRESIDENT

Steve Everson

PRESIDENT ELECT

Tim Laib

TREASURER

Steve Hacken

SECRETARY

Myrna Olson

AT LARGE

Tammy
Swenson-Lepper

AT LARGE

Julie Palubicki

COUNCIL REPORT CONTINUED

NEW BUSINESS

Council Summer Gathering

It was decided the Council will have a summer gathering in July at Tammy's house for a picnic along with the regular meeting.

Synod Assembly

Pastor Short and Pastor Massa, along with Steve and Vickie Everson, attended the Synod Assembly in May and gave a brief update. Bishop Hassanally was re-elected.

Picture Directory

Worship and Music will be working on updating the member picture directory. More information will be available soon.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Welcome and Worship – Summer service will start on May 25 at 9:30 a.m.
- May 11 is Mother's Day and there will be flowers for them
- Volunteer Appreciation reception went well and approximately 50 people were served.
- Rummage sale May 17
- High School Graduate reception June 1
- CLC Social Twins bus trip is June 22
- Properties Committee continues to discuss the organ renewal and updates in the sanctuary
- Door locks and handles will be replaced for doors in the Child Care Center
- Water main service on Huff Streets need to be replaced at a cost of \$10,000 to \$12,000
- Personnel Committee will be reviewing policies

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

The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 6:30 P.M.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Myrna Olson
Secretary



FINANCIAL REPORT

May 2025

Total Income: \$30,784.65

Total Expenses: \$53,654.55

June 2025

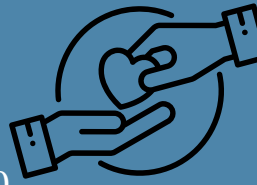
Total Income: \$44,501.64

Total Expenses: \$53,476.84

Offering Goal: \$52,253.00

Offering Goal: \$43,853.00

Thank you for your support of Central's Ministry



Gifts in memory or honor of someone **Memorials May 9 through July 10, 2025**

In Honor of Amber and Sunday School Teachers for a great year

Given by Amanda & Todd Olson

Memorial of Trisha Hooks

Given by Lynn Theuer

In Memory of Karen & O.J. Fawcett

Given by Judy Davis & Family

In Honor of Ernest Gorman

Given by Gayle Gorman

In Honor of Greta & Erick Lippman's Wedding

Given by Marie & Keith Holmquist

In Memory of JC Pfeiffer

Given by Judy Inman

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Given by LaVern Hauschildt, Mark Boysen, Julia Wolf, Marilyn Marquardt

In Memory of Sharri Hackbarth

Given by Marilyn Marquardt, Marie & Keith Holmquist, Judy Davis, Barbara & Lance Rygmyr, Kristina & Maurice Fahnestock, Denise & Michael Bernatz, David Hackbarth, Jeffrey & Marilyn Hanson, Dorothy Anderson & Ruth Dobler, Cheryl Tuxen, Marilyn Hackbarth, Pamela Davick, Myrna Olson, Carolyn Larson, Connie Tropple, Diane & C. Bryan Forsyth, Linda Bouck, Peggy Twait

Designated Gifts in May

June

Building Maintenance Fund	\$748.00	\$643.00
WIN	\$1,350.00	\$1,425.00
WVS Food Shelf	\$438.00	\$104.00
Youth Fund	\$2,049.93	\$174.00
FEAST	\$703.32	\$1,240.00
Organ Fund	\$2,250.00	\$10.00
Youth Mission Trip	\$1,639.85	\$274.00
VBS	\$10.00	\$1,020.00
Quilters		\$500.00
WELCA	\$30.00	
Funeral Fund	\$125.00	
Habitat for Humanity	\$180.00	\$300.00
Social Concerns	\$9.00	

AUGUST 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6:00 pm, Queen of the Library Performance	2 2:00 pm, Queen of the Library Performance
3 9:30 am, Blended Worship 2:00 pm, Queen of the Library Performance	4 9:30 am, WELCA 6:15 pm, WIN	5 9:00 am- Quilters	6 9:00 am, Social Concerns	7 10:00 am, Book Group	8	9
10 9:30 am, Blended Worship	11	12 Habitat Volunteer Work 9:00 am, Quilters 5:00 pm, Property Committee	13	14 10:00 am, Welcome & Worship	15	16 11 - 1 WIN Salad Luncheon
17 9:30 am, Outdoor Worship @ Windom Park	18	19 Newsletter Articles Due 9:00 am, Quilters 5:00 pm, Safety & Security mtg 6:30 pm, Council Meeting	20 1:30 pm, Esther Circle 4:00 pm, Eucharist Mtg 5:00 pm, Pizza in the Park	21 1:30 pm, Hannah Circle	22	23 9:00 am, Art and Faith
24 9:30 am, Blended Worship 9:30 am, Blessing of Backpacks 10:30 am, Rally Sunday	25	26 9:00 am, Quilters 9:00 am, Newsletter Volunteers	27	28	29	30
31 9:30 am, Blended Worship						

Charter Service- Monday's @ 7pm- Channel 986

HBC Service- Wednesday's @ 5 pm- Channel 20



259 W. Wabasha St. Winona, MN
55987

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Winona, MN 55987



What's Coming Up

Aug 16- 11:00 am, WIN Salad Luncheon

Aug 17- 9:30 am, Outdoor Worship @ Windom Park

Aug 19- Newsletter Articles Due

Aug 20- 5:00 pm, Pizza in the Park

Aug 23- 9:00 am, Art and Faith

Aug 24- 9:30 am, Blessing of Backpacks

10:30 am, Rally Sunday

Aug 26- 9:00 am, Newsletter Volunteers

Adult Ed – starting Sept 7th

Bonhoeffer – Life and Faith

A look at how his life and faith informs us for daily living



507.452.5156

Contact Us

centrallutheranchurch.org



office@centrallutheranchurch.org

259 W. Wabasha St.
Winona, MN 55987

