

The Tidings

January 2009

*A newsletter of Central Lutheran
Church of the Holy Trinity*

Central's Annual Meeting January 25th, 2009



Please make plans to attend Central's annual meeting the last Sunday of this month after church. This is an important time for us as a congregation to gather, to reflect on the year that has passed and prepare for the coming year. Important decisions will be made including the adoption of a 2009 budget and the election of council members and of representatives to various organizations which we participate in. Other business at the meeting will include hearing from our Long Range Planning Committee. They have been hard at work over the last two months getting feedback from our Natural Church Development Survey and will be talking to us about the next steps in the planning process. All of these decisions require your input, so please plan to be there!

In addition to the business on the 25th, we will also hold a potluck lunch. It's always fun to have some extra time to catch up with fellow Centralites and share some food. Please bring something to share.

To make it workable for as many people as possible to attend, childcare will be provided during the meeting.

See you on the 25th!

Please plan to attend the forum that morning
to get a closer look at the budget
the council will be proposing (see page 5)

Central Lutheran Church
of the Holy Trinity
1710 Eleventh Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98122
phone: 206-322-7500
fax: 206-322-0195

Winter Schedule

Singing School: 8:30 am

Choir: 9:00 am

Sunday School: 9:45 am

Adult Forum: 10:00 am

Worship: 11:00 am

Pastors:

Shannon Anderson

email: pastor@loveiscentral.org

By appointment on Monday through
Wednesday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

Verlon Brown

office hours by appointment, please call
the office, 206-322-7500

Office Manager:

Sandy Kraegel

email: office@loveiscentral.org

Office hours: 9:30-4:30 Tuesday-Friday

Music Director:

Jim Peterson

email: music@loveiscentral.org

Custodian:

Duane Miles

**We are an open and affirming
congregation, which in Lutheran
churches is called Reconciling in
Christ. We seek to share God's love
with all people regardless of race,
age, gender or sexual orientation.
All are welcome.**



Thank you!

ACOLYTES: Nicole Anderson, Miranda Anderson,
Sydney Anderson and Nate Copley

ALTAR GUILD: Emily and Steven Samario

ASSISTING MINISTERS: Jeff Roberts, Paul
Huffman, Cathy Woods, John Mostrom, and Tom Donlea

COFFEE: Kevin Urdahl, Jackie Broolsma, David
Johnson, Anna Copley, Anne Bush, Suzy Oversvee, Jeffrey
Cook, and Sally Brunzman

COMMUNION BREAD: Cynthia Wold

TELLERS: Allison Stephens, Pam Gregory, Kevin
Urdahl, Cathy Woods, Paul Huffman, and Allen Jones

USHERS: Steve Gibson, Kevin Urdahl, Carla Teigen,
and Theresa Wagner



Receive the lessons via e-mail: Many people find it
helpful to read the Sunday lessons ahead of time. If you
would like to receive a weekly e-mail with the upcoming
Sunday's lessons, please let Sandy know at
office@loveiscentral.org.



Note from Pastor Anderson

As humans, we like to mark transitions. We have rites to mark the passing of years and decades. We have rites to mark special times such as weddings and baptisms. As we pass from one calendar year to another, our culture offers us ways to make that transition. We celebrate New Year's Eve, we countdown to midnight, we make New Year's resolutions. The church, though, also marks this time with the festival of Epiphany. Epiphany is celebrated on January 6 (after the 12 days of Christmas). The bible story told at Epiphany is the story of the magi who see the star and bring gifts to Jesus. Theologically, we celebrate in this story the light of Christ which shines in unexpected places and reveals to us the presence of God. One of the ancient traditions that is associated with Epiphany is the chalking of the doors. It is a way that Christians have marked the New Year and asked for God's blessings on their homes and families. As you and your family mark this transition into 2009, I offer below a simple form of the liturgy of Chalking the Doors that you can use together. May God bless you and your family in the coming year.

Peace,
Pastor Shannon

On the Epiphany of Our Lord, January 6, family and friends gather at the main entrances to homes or apartments (nursing home quarters, extended care facility, hospital rooms), and ask God's blessing on their dwellings and on all who live or visit there. Leadership may be shared with a change of voice at each Leader's part (L).

- L** Peace be to this house and to all who enter here.
- L** A reading from Proverbs: "By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures."
- L** Let us pray: Gracious God, as a shining star once guided the magi to the birthplace of the infant Jesus, so enable those who dwell here to be your light in the world; through Jesus Christ we pray.
- All** Amen.

Using chalk (hence, "Chalking the Door"), people are invited to inscribe the lintel of the home (the horizontal frame above the door) with the inscription shown below. The letters C M B come from the traditional (9th century) names for the "three kings" — Caspar, Melchior & Balthazar. Some also suggest "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" which means "May Christ bless this dwelling!" Each person is afforded a turn to make one or more of the marks: 20+C+M+B+09

- L** A reading from Isaiah: "The effect of righteousness is peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and quiet places."
- People may join hands for the prayers.*
- L** Let us pray: Sovereign God, we pray that you will bless this home and all who live here with your gracious presence, that your love may be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction; through Jesus Christ we pray.
- All** Amen.
- L** Lord, remember your children and teach us to pray:
- All** God you are life for us... (*People may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of their baptism.*)
- L** May the Lord watch over our going out and our coming in, from this time forth and forever more.
- All** Amen.

Pastor's December Report to Council (for November activities)

Every month, Pastor Shannon submits a written report of activities to the council. Below is a version of this report. Please ask her if you have any questions about her activities or any of the community groups she meets with. If you would like a pastoral visit or know someone who might, please let her know. Pastor Shannon works Saturday-Wednesday.

Pastoral Care – 15 contacts

including shut-in visits, new member visits, pre-marital counseling

Church Meetings/Events

- Council
- Long Range Planning
- KidsAreCentral
- Worship Committee
- Mutual Ministry
- Staff Meeting (2x)
- Web planning meeting
- Nominating Committee
- Duane's Review
- New Member Retreat

Community Meetings/Events/Representation

- Community Lunch Board
- Synod Council

Teaching and Study (16 hours)

- Participated in Text Study Group 11/6, 11/13, 11/20
- Taught Forum: "An Introduction to Prophetic Literature" (11/2, 11/9)
- Led Sunshine Circle 11/19
- Confirmation 11/8, 11/22

Worship

- Preached 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30



Adult Forum Schedule

Adult Faith Formation offers a variety of forums on worship, prayer and other topics of interest during the year. We hope you will join us on Sunday mornings for coffee and rich discussion. We meet at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall.

January 4th – Join Central member and legislator Jamie Pedersen to learn about the issues coming up during the next legislative session.

January 11th – FAITH (Faithful Action In Transforming Homelessness) is a small program that works with Churches to advocate for the homeless. We know that at minimum there are at least 8,400 people homeless in King County on any given night. We know that appropriate affordable housing will end homelessness. The challenge we face is not **finding** a solution, it is **funding** a solution. In this climate of budget cuts and deficits it is all the more important to speak up for the most vulnerable among us. Please join in the discussion about homelessness, the cost of housing and advocating for change.

January 18th – Representatives from The Church of Mary Magdalene will join us to talk about their work and ministry. The Church of Mary Magdalene is a congregation for homeless women in downtown Seattle.

January 25th – Our treasurer, Jamie Pedersen, will walk us through the 2009 budget which we will be voting on at the annual meeting after church this Sunday.

Kids Are Central

January 4th– Christmas Pageant and Epiphany Celebration

Our Christmas pageant, originally scheduled for December 21st, has been moved to January 4th during the church service. Please let Jonna know if your child will not be able to be there on that day. Since January 4th is the last Sunday of Christmas, we will also celebrate Epiphany that day during coffee hour. We'll have a piñata for the kids and a King's Cake. Whichever child ends up with the toy in their piece of the cake will bring the King's Cake the following year. Please contact Meredith Fane at 206-527-6209 if you have any questions.

New Acolyte Training on January 4th

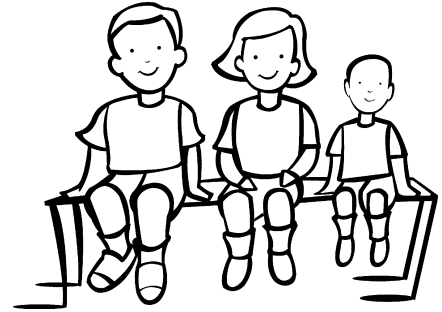
Calling all potential acolytes 10 years and older! A training will be held to learn the significance and the role of acolyting after church on **Sunday January 4th**. We'll meet in the sanctuary at 12:30pm. Pastor Shannon will describe how the role of the acolyte fits into the ritual of worship. Current acolytes are welcome to attend to describe how to perform the tasks and how to avoid things that could go wrong. Any questions, please call Carl Kaiser: 206-365-9120.



This 'n' That

**Parenting Group at Central
January 11th
9:45 am in the Adult Meeting Room upstairs**

Join Stephanie Cross and other parents the **second Sunday of the month** to share the joys and struggles of parenting, get group feedback, gain an understanding of why children misbehave, and learn skills for building a parent-child relationship based on equality, mutual respect and cooperation. Emphasis on principles of belonging and contribution, encouragement, communication, problem solving, family meetings, and positive discipline approaches.



Please Help Us Out!

Help us to care for one another as a community. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please let us know. We keep an active prayer list and your Central family would like to be able to hold you in prayer. If you or someone you know are planning surgery or are in the hospital and would like a visit, please let us know that too. Pastor Shannon would like to be able to call or visit during these times. If you have a prayer request or would like a visit, you can call Pastor Shannon or the church office.

Monday Night Bible Study starting in February

Would you like an opportunity to gather regularly with fellow Centralites? Would it be nice to have an opportunity for regular in-depth bible study? The Central bible study that started last spring is reforming and will begin meeting again in February. We will be meeting at 6:30 on the 1st and 3rd Monday nights starting on Monday, February 2nd. Join us for tea, conversation, study and prayer. Please speak to Pastor Shannon for more information.

**Central Lutheran Church...
sharing God's love for all people!**

**We are a Lutheran community challenged by the example
of Christ's life and ministry to share God's love for all people.**

Mission Statement

Special Thanks

Thanks to everyone who helped make our Advent and Christmas season a special one!

Thanks to Jeffrey Cook, and Chris & John Kealy for decorating the church sanctuary. The tree and the sanctuary looked beautiful!

Thanks to everyone at Central who volunteered to help with the Community Lunch in December:

Lois Austin	Pastor Shannon & Mitch Watney
Brian Anderson	Betty Bekemeier
Verlon Brown	Sally Brunsman & Willa Brunsman Barnett
Jeffrey Cook	Dave Copley
Nancy Fall	Jason Hahn
Paul Huffman	Allen Jones
Carl Kaiser and Central's youth	Chris Kealy
Jon & Juni Nelson	Roger Nyhus
Lecia & Alexi Phinney	Gary & Jane Russell
Brian Schoof	Karen Sy

And to everyone else who helped and whose names were not listed!!!!

Thanks to Jonna Farley, (Pageant Director), Theresa Wagner (Costume Coordinator), Jim Peterson (Accompanist), the Sunday School teachers (Jen Hartley-Fernandez, Meredith Fane, Natalie Tews, Brian Anderson, Suzy Oversvee, Barbara Palecek, Theresa Wagner, Anna Copley, & Carl Kaiser) and of course all the kids who participated in the annual Christmas Pageant! Thanks also to Rebecca Engrav and Joon-Ho Yu for providing goodie bags for the kids who participated in the Christmas Pageant.

Sustainable Living for Lent

As we move into the new year, we are aware that for many, 2009 poses financial challenges. We will be having extended conversation during Lent on our life together and how we can be faithful in these economic times. In preparation for that, I invite you to read the following reflections from the Bishops of the ELCA. In these economic times, they invite us to remember the most vulnerable.

On the Current Financial Crisis

The Conference of Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, October 7, 2008

Almighty God, ...teach us how to govern the ways of business to the harm of none and for the sake of the common good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 78

Grace and peace to you.

As bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we are deeply concerned about the current financial crisis, which is affecting not only our nation but the entire global economy. This crisis is causing fear and loss in our country as thousands of families face unemployment, foreclosure, and uncertainty about savings and pensions. Meanwhile, they struggle to put food on the table and gas into their cars. The future is uncertain for all of us, but it is especially frightening for those who are already vulnerable and struggling to survive. We offer our prayers for those whose lives are being affected and for our national leaders as they seek to address this complex matter.

We call on all people in our own communities of faith and those from every segment of our society who seek the health of our nation to join in conversation and prayer about our collective economic life, our financial behaviors, and the interconnectedness of all life and creation that cries out to be reclaimed.

This church has addressed the issues surrounding economic life in its social statement, "Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All," (www.elca.org/What-We-Believe/Social-Issues/Social-Statements/Economic-Life.aspx), and we encourage the use of this statement as a way to understand more fully how the following theological and biblical principles are central as we respond to this situation.

Concern for People in Poverty

The constitution of the ELCA calls this church to serve by "standing with the poor and powerless and committing itself to their needs." (ELCA 4.02.c). We are grateful for the pastors and leaders in our congregations who already have stepped forward to care for those who are suffering, and we encourage them to continue this response and to provide leadership in the task of turning our attention to the causes and effects of this crisis. We are called to work toward an economic system that truly serves the common good and especially the needs of the poor. We look for partnership with all those who seek to address this financial crisis in a way that also recognizes the humanitarian issues involved.

Personal and Corporate Responsibility

The ELCA social statement on economic life calls for individuals to live responsibly and within their means and to beware of the dangers of over-consumption and unnecessary accumulation, which draw us beyond authentic need into excess and destructive indebtedness. We call on businesses and corporations of all sizes to consider the social implications of company policies and to practice good stewardship of creation (Genesis 1:26).

The Need for Good Government

We hold and teach that government has an instrumental and constructive role to play in our shared life. This role includes “limiting or countering narrow economic interests and promoting the common good” (“Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All,” p. 11). We call on government to hold corporations and other powerful economic actors accountable for the effects of their practices on workers, communities, and the environment.

The Benefits and Limits of Free Markets

For many people, the current market-based economy has proven to be effective as a system to meet material need, generate wealth, and create opportunity. However, we hold and teach that any economic system should be measured by the degree to which it serves God’s purposes for humankind and creation. Those who have been blessed by the fruits of our economy are called to be generous in giving to those who have lost much and to advocate for accountability and appropriate regulation in this system.

As people of the God who calls us out of fear into hope and community, we welcome all people into widespread and respectful discussion about this current crisis. In this way we can create partnerships that will help those whose lives are being shattered and encourage responsibility and integrity in our national economic life.

As people of faith we pray:

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ dignified our labor by sharing our toil. Guide us with your justice in the workplace, so that we may never value things above people, or surrender honor to love of gain or lust for power. Prosper all efforts to put an end to work that brings no joy, and teach us how to govern the ways of business to the harm of none and for the sake of the common good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Conference of Bishops
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
October 7, 2008



Our Gang

What did you do during the snow storm? We hope all Centralites kept safe and warm. **Lecia Phinney** says that she is grateful during this time for power and heat. This special edition of *Our Gang* is dedicated to the many ways that Centralites found to pass the time away during December's historic storm. A number of Centralites took to the streets in their skis. **Wayne Johnson** enjoyed Telemark turns on the hill on Phinney Ridge. **Darla DeFrance** got out her downhill skis and enjoyed hills in south Seattle and up north, **Tom Donlea and Julia Maywald** got out their cross country skis while their kids, **Leo and Siri** enjoyed the sledding. **Christa Dumpys** used her skis to get to work. Walking in the snow with their dogs was a fun activity for some Centralites including **Joscelyne Gray, Summer Waldron and Cindy Johnson**. Summer also enjoyed some of the down time to work on her crochet.

Marinko Kordich was a good citizen driver during the snowstorm rescuing a number of other drivers who got into trouble (including **Pastor Shannon** who couldn't call on her husband **Mitch** because he spent the whole weekend in sunny Florida at a wedding). Pastor Shannon was on her way to celebrate **Anika Joshi's** 6th birthday. She didn't make it, but **Meredith Fane and Nik** made sure the party went on for those who could safely arrive.

Betty Haberman reports that she loves the snow because it reminds her of her 30 years living in Alaska with her husband and children. **Katie Gilliam** enjoyed Ballard during the big snow and even made it to the Ballard Farmer's market which was open during the storm. **Jeff Roberts** had fun watching kids sledding down his street in Wallingford. **Jonna, Brendan, and Evan Farley** experienced near blizzard conditions in the North Bend home and lost power in the big storm on Saturday night. They are very grateful for their warm, toasty fireplace.

So, are we ready for the snow to be gone? **Emily Samario** is. Her birthday is at the end of the month and since snow is one of her least favorite things, she hopes it will be gone for her celebration. If you get this newsletter, it will mean that things have at least cleared up enough for someone to drive to bulk mail.



Happy Birthday

Below, you'll find the names of Centralites celebrating their birthday this month. Share a birthday wish with them and help make it a special day!

Sara Debassai	1/01
Kari Roe	1/06
Eunice Stricker	1/08
Ned Jursek	1/10
Anne Dwyer	1/15
Carol Radke-Bogen	1/17
Julie Havlicek	1/18
Doris Schlecht	1/24
Julie Mattson	1/25
Allison Radke-Bogen	1/30

A happy belated birthday to Karen Hoven
 whose birthday was omitted from the December Tidings.
 Karen's birthday was on December 21st!
 Sorry we missed it!



Faith and Everyday Life

Play

There are many ways to use this word. We “play” hopscotch, but we also “play” bridge. Young children play games very differently than professional athletes play sports. We attend a “play” which can make us weep with laughter or heart-break. We get nervous when we think someone is trying to “Play God.”

This year we will play, by ourselves, with each other, with God. Sometimes we will have fun; sometimes matters will be more serious. We were created as creatures with creativity and imagination. We can lose sight of the reality that play is as much a part of our nature as it is of God's. We can use these gifts to enhance our lives and the lives of others, or not.

We may not think of God playing, but if God is a being anything like us, play is in God's nature. Maybe God wants our redemption to free us up to play more here on earth.

Think back to your childhood. Who did you play with? What did you play? What was your favorite play activity? If you close your eyes, can you see the scenes, hear the sounds and re-experience the feelings? If you can, you are using your memory to tap into a very core part of your experience as a person, one that carries joy and happiness.

This memory is a gift from God. It is meant to cheer and sustain you. It can be a reservoir of grace for use during the difficult times in your life. It can be a point of reference as to how life could be for you this very day.

So, come play with us this year. Enjoy!

*November
Attendance*

November 2nd	108
November 9th	105
November 16th	120
November 23rd	91
November 30th	85



For Prayer

Central does have a Prayer Chain. If you are interested in joining it or have a concern you would like to have the Prayer Chain pray for, please contact Pastor Shannon(206-322-7500; pastor@loveiscentral.org).

Shut In:

Betty Haberman
Doris Schlect
Doris Carlson

Ill and recovering:

Gary Russell's brother Dennis
Jane Russell's brother Gerald
Kathy Twohig
Cliff Kempner's niece Jessica
Karen Hoven's mom Maryann
Roger Nyhus' mom Phyllis
Tom Donlea's niece Amy and her son Hudson
Natalie Tews' sister Rondi
Brian Anderson's mom JoAnn
Jim Peterson's partner Billy
Jonna Farley

Thanksgiving for recovery:

Nancy Tuininga



*Coffee Hour
Schedule*

Please find the coffee hour assignments for the next two months below. Please check your schedule ahead of time and if you are unable to take care of coffee hour on your assigned Sunday, please try to switch with someone and let Sandy know who will be taking your place.

January 4th- Cheri Cornell and Dave & Stephanie Cross

January 11th- Sara Debassai and Darla DeFrance & Marinko Kordich

January 18th- Bill Donkervoet, Julia Maywald & Tom Donlea

January 25th- ANNUAL MEETING

February 1st- Jen Evans, Andrew Rapp and Nancy Fall

February 8th- Meredith Fane and Jonna Farley

February 15th- Jen Hartley Fernandez, Alex Fernandez, and Barbara Palecek

February 22nd- Craig Fryhle, Summer Waldron, and Joscelyne Gray



Happy New Year from the Compass Center!

As the Christmas season continues into the New Year and cold weather continues, your friends at the Compass Center want to remind you that the need for shelter and services to our homeless neighbors is greater than ever; however, you can help! With our 3rd charity auction just weeks away, we are looking for donations of goods and services for our auction that are new and smaller than a bread box. We are most eagerly seeking:

Restaurant gift certificates

Coffee cards

Event tickets

Grocery gift cards

Airline miles (yes, you can donate these! Call for details)

Electronics & small appliances

Themed gift baskets

Fun local trips

Items are due before **Friday, January 30th**, so that they can be properly listed in our catalog and you, the donor, may be formally thanked! Email Kim Halvorson at khalvorson@compasscenter.org (or call 206-357-3119) to make a donation, share fun ideas, or ask any questions. We also have a wonderful new online donation form that you can fill out at home, then we can arrange for delivery later. It is at www.compasscenter.org/auction-donation.php. Gift certificates can be mailed to or dropped off at:

The Compass Center

Attn: Kim Halvorson

77 South Washington Street

Seattle, WA 98104

The Compass Center thanks you for your generosity, kindness, and support of this important ministry.



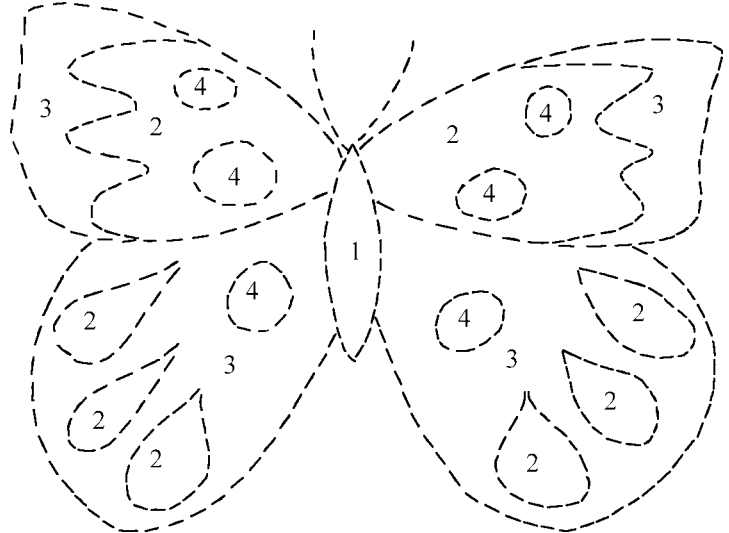
Central Kids' Page

Connect the Lines

Butterflies are a symbol of new life. Connect the dotted lines and color the butterfly with the colors listed below, or your choice of colors.

Color

- 1 = Black
- 2 = Blue
- 3 = Purple
- 4 = Green



Decode the Code

Using this code, discover what God said to Moses in Exodus 12:2.

A ·	H · --	O ···---	U ---··
B ..	I ·---	P -·	V ---···
C ...	J ··-	Q --·	W ---··
D _	K ···-	R ---·	X ---···
E --	L ···---	S -··	Y -·-
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Answer:
 This month shall mark for you the beginning of months;
 it shall be the first month of the year for you.



Don't forget Central's
Annual Meeting after
church on Sunday,
January 25th!

Central Lutheran Church
1710 11th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122

Non-Profit Organization
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RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED