

The Tidings

May 2009

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



CELEBRATING COMMUNITY 2009 is fast approaching. Join us for the Community Lunch annual fundraiser Saturday, May 9th from 2-5 pm at Richard Hugo House. It's not too late to buy tickets—you can even get them at the door.

This year features music by the Shed Boys, wine tasting by Poco Wine Bar and Eleven Winery, great food and fantastic silent auction items. Among them:

- A 7-night stay at a Puerto Vallarta, Mexico condo
- Private wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres for 40 of your friends
- Beginning flight lessons at Boeing Field
- Mariners and Sounders tickets
- 4 Season tickets to 09-10 Seattle University Men's Basketball games
- Massages, restaurant certificates, pottery, jewelry, gift baskets...and lots more!

We have great (last-minute) gifts for Mother's Day, and this year we accept credit cards for your tickets and your purchases!

See on the 9th!

*Don Jensen
Director of the Community Lunch on Capitol Hill*

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

Spring 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

Nursery Attendant:

Nicole Bateman

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: Salina Debassai, Rachel Rauch, Savannah Daniels, Carol Radke-Bogen, Claire Kaiser, Erika Kiem, Nate Copley, and Mebrat Debassai

ALTAR GUILD: Emily and Steven Samario

ASSISTING MINISTERS: Natalie Tews, Tom Donlea, Steven Chapman, Paul Huffman, Jeff Roberts, Cliff Kempner, and Allison Radke-Bogen

COFFEE: Chuck Glihsman, Karen Hoven, Bob Johnson, Lois Austin and Brian Gallatin, and Paul Huffman

COMMUNION BREAD: Brenda Michael

TELLERS: Pam Gregory, Chris Kealy, Adam Rauch, Jamie Pedersen, Cathy Woods, Paul Huffman, and Allen Jones

USHERS: Brenda Michael and Steve Gibson

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'

This is the text for the Sunday after Easter. It is the night of the first Easter day and the disciples have heard that Jesus is risen, but don't yet trust that and are in hiding. There are two things that strike me as I read this passage and think about our own faith life as a community.

First of all, Jesus comes to them. Jesus doesn't wait for them to get the nerve to leave the room. He doesn't say 'when you are brave enough to seek me out, you'll find me.' He comes to them right where they are. This is an important gospel promise for us as individuals and as a community. We don't have to let go of our fear or to make that first step because we have a God who is always searching us out. The God of the resurrection is one who does not leave us in our own stuckness. Instead, Jesus comes to us and it is in that encounter that we are transformed.

The second thing I notice about this passage is that it happens in community. The disciples are afraid. They are hiding. But they are together. Sometimes when we are stuck or unsure, we isolate ourselves. Maybe we're afraid to go to church because we don't have it all together or we're not sure what we believe. Maybe we think our faith should be stronger. Maybe we don't want others to see us as less than perfect. But it is in community that the disciples experience Jesus on that first Easter evening and Jesus promises 'wherever two or three are gathered in my name, I am there with them.'

The writer Anne Lamott tells a story about a little girl who gets lost and a stranger offers to help drive her around to find her way home. As they drive around, she spots her church and she tells him 'I'm okay now. That's my church. I can always find my way home from there.' In that story and in this story of the first Easter evening, we hear Jesus' promise to be with us in community. When things are hard, when we're feeling doubtful or uncertain, coming together in community is one way to put ourselves in a place where healing and transformation can happen.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'

This Easter season, may the gathered community of disciples in this place be a source of hope for you and may the peace and joy of resurrection find you where you are most in need.

Easter Blessings.

Pastor Shannon



From the Co-Presidents

Dear Congregation Members~

The Church Council gathered in March and April for our monthly meetings which included our regular meal together over shared devotions and prayer. We are always eager to share more specifically the work of our group, but here are some of the highlights from the last two monthly meetings:

- Our devotions have included individual sharing about our Council Member Working Agreements. We have taken time to focus each month on one agreement. It has not only helped remind us of our commitments to how we relate to one other, but has also increased our own sense of connection to each other. Thus far, we have reflected on: **remembering our shared values, contributing actively, and listening carefully to one another.** We have learned much about each other in this process.
- We have also made some changes to the structure of our meetings that come from Pastor Shannon's training she attended on Board Leadership. We now make use of a **Consent Agenda**. It is a tool for avoiding "micro-management," by taking routine approvals and reports out of the discussion agenda by collecting them all into one "consent agenda," which is read before the meeting, and then voted on at the beginning of the meeting. Any member has the right to remove any item from the consent agenda. Examples of items in the Consent Agenda might be the treasurer's report, minutes from the previous meeting, or a committee report. This has created more time for meaningful discussion of one or two topics that we really "dig" into at each council meeting without necessarily making decisions about—just great conversation. Our goal in using the Consent Agenda is to spend more of our meeting time focusing on the church's mission and council's role in moving the congregation to fulfill its mission—and less time on merely overseeing operations.

Another change to our meeting structure has been to include an **Executive Session** at the end of our meetings. We excuse all clergy and staff members, if present, and have a brief conversation about how the meeting went. How are we doing as a council? Are there concerns that need to be raised with clergy or staff? Immediately after adjournment, the council chair(s) brief the pastor about the executive session.

We continue to evaluate these structural changes and explore other ways to improve council functioning.

- Council approved the change in name of the Nominations Committee to the **Leadership Development Committee** to more accurately reflect its mission and goals.

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From the Co-Presidents

...continued from page 4

- Council approved in principle BOF's (Building Our Future Committee) current plan on **church signage** which includes: restoring the existing wooden sign between the buildings; replacing the "reader" boards on either side of the Sanctuary entrance with updated features; and placing three banners on 11th Ave. and two on E. Olive St. Consult BOF members for more details!
- We continue to consider the **Michelsen Bequest**, and with Pastor Shannon's leadership we have begun developing a **Policy on Undesignated Bequests and Gifts**. Our March meeting included a lively and rich discussion. We were all posed with the question beforehand about the most important way to expand Central's mission in the near future and what that might look like. We hope to move toward a responsible and spirit led proposal as we listen, pray, retreat and study together, along with you and the Long-Range Planning Committee.
- After some "personnel" and leadership changes, as well as scheduling challenges to the Personnel Committee, it is now working hard to develop a timeline/process for Pastor Shannon's review.
- Finally, we look forward to our **retreat together May 1-3** at Mason Lake on the Hood Canal (compliments of Cheri's parents). We invite you to join us on **Saturday from 10 AM- 4 PM** when the Long-Range Planning Group and the Church Council are holding an "Action Planning Workshop," an important next step in our long-range planning process. The purpose is to establish goals and action plans around "Need-Oriented Evangelism," the characteristic where our congregation scored lowest on the recent Natural Church Development Survey. (See Retreat Invitation in The Tidings for more details.)

We continue to appreciate the opportunity to serve you in this shared ministry at Central! The joy culminates in our worship together as we sing, dance, mourn, pause, and celebrate our life together.

In Christ,
Jackie Broolsma & Cheri Cornell

Central Lutheran Church...

Following Christ;

sharing God's love for all people.

Mission Statement

Pastor's April Report to Council (for March 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 – 17 contacts

Church Meetings/Events

- Council
- Executive Committee
- Long-Range Planning
- Staff Meetings
- Worship Committee
- Adult Faith Formation
- Building Our Future
- Nominations
- KidsAreCentral
- Mutual Ministry
- Web Team

Community Meetings/Events/ Representation

- Community Lunch Board

Teaching and Study

- Participated in Text Study Group 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26
- Bible Study 3/2, 3/16
- Led Forum on Vocation and Sustainability 3/15
- Led Youth Retreat to Camp Zanika 3/20-3/22 (12 youth)

Worship

- Preached 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/29

Administration

- Working on getting a new copier
- Had the stained glass in the sanctuary evaluated

Coming Up

- Synod Assembly May 15-16
- Pentecost and last day of Sunday School – May 31
- Youth Sunday -June 14
- Church picnic -June 14



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.

May 3rd – Prophetic Voices, Amos the Shepherd

As we bring the year to a close, we'll look at one more prophet from the Old Testament. Join Pastor Shannon for a brief look at the book of Amos.

May 10th and 17th – Long-Range Planning, Next Steps. On May 2nd, the council and the Long-Range Planning Team will be spending the day working on an action plan based on the Natural Church Development Survey (members are invited to this event, see article page 9). At forums on May 10th and 17th, members from the Long-Range Planning Team will share the action plan that is developed on the 2nd and talk to us about how we can all be involved. Please join us.

May 24th – Memorial Day Weekend. No Forum.

May 31st – Pentecost and Last Day of Sunday School. Forum Topic To Be Announced.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH HOLY WEEK INCLUDING:

Special Musicians – Jonna Farley, Joscelyne Gray, David Kaiser, and Shannon McMullen

Easter Vigil Readers – Mitch Watney, Bill Donkervoet, Carl Kaiser, Anna Copley and the Youth Sunday School Class, Meredith Fane/Jen Hartley Fernandez and the Potters Sunday School Class, Brian Anderson/Suzy Oversvee and the Weavers Sunday School Class, Theresa Wagner and the Carpenters Sunday School Class

Marinko Kordich for taking care of the Easter Vigil bonfire

Pam Gregory, Nancy Fall, and Mike Lough who helped us get Easter Lilies

Theresa Wagner for organizing the Easter Potluck

Steven Samario and Verlon Brown for taking charge of the clean up

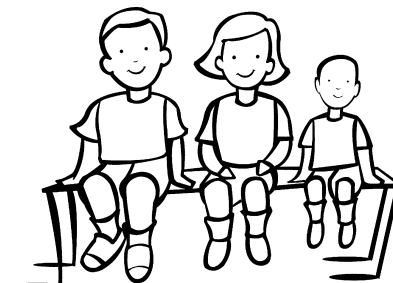


This 'n' That

Parenting Group at Central

May 10th at 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.



Monday Night Bible Study meets May 4th and May 18th

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? We will be meeting at 6:30pm on the 1st and 3rd Monday nights of each month. Join us for tea, conversation, study and prayer. Please speak to Pastor Shannon for more information.

Healing Service on May 17th

We will once again be offering prayers for healing at worship on Sunday May 17th. During communion, those who would like prayers for themselves or someone else will be invited to stay at the communion rail for individual prayer and anointing with oil.

Central Men's Group is meeting May 19th at 7:00 p.m.

We will gather at the Elysian on 13th and Pike near church. Please join us for conversation and refreshment. If you have any questions, please contact Mitch @ mitch.watney@gmail.com.

Wayne, Mitch, Joon and Bill

Church Picnic June 14th

Central's annual summer picnic will be **Sunday, June 14th** after worship. You and your family are invited to come, bring a dish to share and a blanket to sit on. After church, we'll head over to the park and enjoy good weather and good company. We'll bring tables from the church to put the food on and will set up a couple for people who are not comfortable sitting on the ground. Watch for more information in the June Tidings.

Dear Central Members and Friends,

The Church Council and The Long-Range Planning Committee invite you to join us for a day retreat on May 2, 2009 Saturday, from 10am – 4pm over on Mason Lake on the Hood Canal. We are holding an “Action Planning Workshop,” an important next step in our long-range planning process. The purpose is to establish goals and action plans around “Need-Oriented Evangelism,” the characteristic where our congregation scored lowest on the recent NCD (Natural Church Development) survey. The final action plan will provide a blueprint for implementing changes that will help us better in our mission of **‘following Christ and sharing God’s love for all people.’** The NCD research shows that concerted effort addressing a congregation’s “minimum factor” results in a stronger, healthier congregation and leads to growth. This is a great opportunity for us to give focused attention to the area where our congregation most needs to improve.

Please RSVP (so we can plan lunch!) by April 28th to Lois Austin at austin@zipcon.com or (206) 856-7863. Lois can provide you with the directions and other logistics.

Hope you can join us! If not, we welcome your thoughts!

The Church Council and The Long-Range Planning Committee

Jon and Juni Nelson will be celebrating their 50th anniversary in June. They would like to invite the members of Central and friends from around the Seattle area, to celebrate with them at an open house Coffee Hour after church on May 31st, from 12:15 to about 2:30 or 3:00. No gifts please, but they invite anyone who would like to, to join them in making a gift to the Community Lunch program at Central in honor of the occasion. Please join us in marking this special event.



Our Gang

At church, it's the season of Easter (Christ is Risen, Alleluia) and Central celebrated in a big way. It was fun to see lots of family members in town for the big day including **Allen Jones'** mom Dorothy who has recently moved here (and we hope to see more of her). Also with parents visiting for Easter were **Cheri Cornell, Betty Bekemeier, and Darla DeFrance. Brenda Michael** was excited to welcome her daughter Becky to worship with us on Easter...In addition to being the season of Easter, it's also springtime and that means baseball! **Katie Gilliam** is excited to have a 6 game pass and at her first game this year got to see Ichiro hit a grand slam! Let's hope that is a good sign for the season.

Wayne Johnson has some good news to share. He's just been offered full time work at the company he's been contracting with. Congratulations Wayne! Also sharing good news is **Roger Nyhus** who reports that his mother Phyllis' chemo has been going well and she might be able to take a few months off from treatment this summer.

Do you like beautiful music? Have you noticed some new voices in the choir recently? One of those voices belongs to **Shannon McMullen** who started coming to Central at the invitation of her college buddy **Bill Donkervoet. Shannon** will be sharing her musical talent with us at a recital here at church on Sunday May 3rd. **Jim Peterson** and **Joscelyne Gray** will also be performing with her (and there's dessert afterwards).

Many Centralites enjoy the writer Anne Lamott. She was in town last month and spoke at a church on Mercer Island. **Jackie Broisma** was lucky enough to be able to go as was **Pastor Shannon...**Also feeling lucky are **Kari Roe and Steven Saito** who are taking a post Easter trip to Japan and Taiwan. We wish them safe travels and everyone at Central a happy May.

See you next month.

Mark your calendars now for this year's Vacation Bible School program.

We will be meeting the 2nd week of August (August 10 – 14).

We are already making plans, so if you have time to help out with this year's camp, please let Pastor Shannon, Darla DeFrance, or Meredith Fane know.



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!

Jude Small	5/02
Nancy Tuininga	5/03
Kevin Urdahl	5/06
Olivia Johnson	5/07
Jonathan Larson	5/07
Stephanie Cross	5/09
Jonathan Schoof	5/11
Summer Waldron	5/12
Nate Copley	5/14
Nora Yu	5/14
Suzy Oversvee	5/15
Dave Cross	5/16
Decker O'Donnell	5/16
Lois Austin	5/17
Heather Fryhle	5/17
Brodie Myka	5/20
Nancy Jefferson	5/25
Roger Heuss	5/26
Erika Kiem	5/28

Playing Games

The thunder rolled across the sky. "I'm scared, Mommy!" "It's OK, 'tis only the angels bowling." Bowling? Does God have time for games?

In a world that is crazy; where some have little to eat, others are homeless, wars are constant, and despair is the menu for the news, is there time to play? For the Christian, is play even an option?

Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?
 A: Your mother ate us out of house and home.
 Q: Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?
 A: Because Noah was standing on the deck.
 (Groan. . .)

Maybe the bible stories are too sacred to utilize for humor? Should we be seriously serious whenever we approach the words that convey the gift of life? Or, is it possible that the "words of life" are also meant to tickle our funny bones, engender a deep belly laugh, bring about that joyous contagion that only Play, in all its aspects, can bring?

Can you imagine Jesus with a smile on His face? We can imagine Moses angry, afraid, or triumphant. How about smiling? Do you suppose God chuckled when the people at Babel tried to communicate? Or how do you think God reacted when David danced so exuberantly around the Ark of the Covenant that his short ephod flew up and revealed his nakedness?

I can't help but give thanks that the God I know smiles, laughs, dances, plays games, and deeply encourages us to find the time to Play with each other and with him. Do you suppose that he plays with you, too? Stay alert!

*March
Attendance*

March 1st	104
March 8th	78
March 15th	78
March 22nd	78
March 29th	101



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 Schlecht
Doris Carlson

Ill and recovering:

Kathy Twohig
Cliff Kempner's niece Jessica
Roger Nyhus' mom Phyllis
Tom Donlea's niece Amy and her son Hudson
Natalie Tews' cousin Amanda
Brian Anderson's mom JoAnn
Jim Peterson's partner Billy
Jonna Farley
Emily Griffin
Yada Hartmann
Meredith Fane's mother Cathy



*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.

May 3rd- Cindy & Wayne Johnson and Kristen Hansen Steele

May 10th- Brita Decker, Ned Jursek, and Pam Johnson

May 17th- Julie Havlicek and Jamie & Eric Pedersen

May 24th- Yada Hartmann and Allen Jones

May 31st- Special coffee hour in honor of Jon & Juni's 50th wedding anniversary

June 7th- Melissa Ford Shah and Kjersti Braunstein

June 14th- Mike & Dana Lough and Bernice Meyer

June 21st- Julie Mattson and Brenda Michael

June 28th- John Mostrom and Cathy Woods

In Mourning:

Betty Bekemeier and her husband Ed on the death of Ed's brother Joe
Karen Hoven and her family on the death of her mom Maryan
Steven Chapman and his family on the death of his aunt Sharon
Gary Russell on the death of his brother Dennis

Expecting:

Greg and Emily Griffin
Jamie and Eric Pedersen



Central Kids' Page

Find the Letters

To find the letter for each number, look down the column to the dot and find its corresponding letter along the left. To help you solve the puzzle, read Exodus 20:12.

1	15	18	15	5	16	15	4	5	8	6	3	1	17	5	6	18	7	
16	15	4	5	11	15	3	1	17	5	12	15	3	1	6	3			
16	15	4	5	7	6	16	12	11	6	16	9	17	14	15	18	10		
13	18	3	1	17														
14	6	18	7															
3	1	6	3	3	1	17												
14	15	5	7															
16	15	4	5	10	15	7												
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10	13	2	13	18	10													
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Answer: Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

Make a Card for Mom



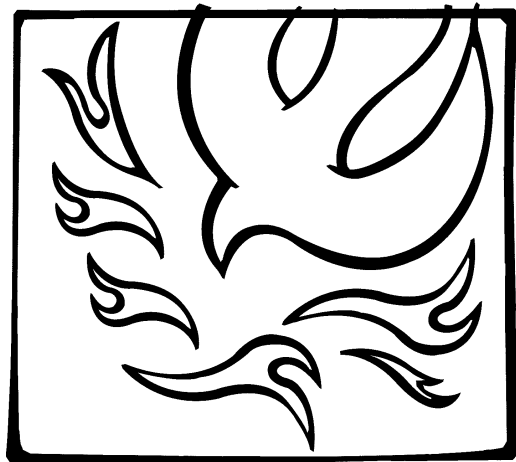
Fold a piece of heavy paper in half. On the inside – write a poem or just tell Mom how much you love her. On the front – decorate with a picture or a design. You can use ribbon, lace, buttons, sequins, beads, fabric or any trimmings. Markers or crayons can be used as well.

May 31st is Pentecost!

Please join us for a Spirit filled worship on the 31st.

This is the last day of Sunday School.

Summer Schedule begins June 7th.



Central Lutheran Church
1710 11th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122

Non-Profit Organization
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RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED