



the Spirit weekly

News about the mission of Central Lutheran Church
Downtown Minneapolis

Sunday, June 14, 2009



A Celebration of Interdependence Dixieland Style Sunday, July 5 All are Welcome!

10:00am — Worship with Dixieland Jazz Band

- ♦ favorite hymns and songs
- ♦ Dixieland-style procession to the plaza

Followed by a picnic on the plaza!

- ♦ an old-fashioned 4th of July picnic
- ♦ no charge
- ♦ all are welcome

The picnic on the plaza is co-sponsored by our new neighbor,

The Great American Grill in the



Hilton Garden Inn to co-sponsor July 5 picnic

We're making new friends in the neighborhood! Our newest neighbor, the Hilton Garden Inn, will be our co-sponsor for the picnic on the plaza following the morning worship on July 5. The picnic will feature food from the Great American Grill, the restaurant in the Hilton. In return, news of the sponsorship and the hotel's logo will appear in ads and publicity for the July 5 worship service and picnic. It is anticipated that this combined advertising will help capture the attention of more than the "usual suspects" and help us welcome many guests on that day.

Special discounts for Central members and friends; your bulletin is your coupon!

The Hilton is also offering some "neighborhood specials." The breakfast buffet, normally \$12.95, is available to Central members and guests for only \$8.95, a savings of more than thirty percent! The breakfast buffet is served until 1:00pm on Sundays. Your Central worship bulletin is your "coupon" for this special deal. In addition, a 25% discount on lunch is available Monday through Friday. (Just tell your server that you are a member of Central.) Other specials can be found in a flyer in the info racks.

It is anticipated this new neighborhood friendship will be beneficial to all parties. Central has already seen an increase in parking revenue since the opening of the Hilton, which exclusively recommends Central's lot and ramp as the "no valet" parking alternative for their guests.

Sunday evening worship service to go on hiatus

The Congregation Council has approved a recommendation by the Worship Life Team to put the Sunday evening worship service on hiatus from Labor Day 2009 to Memorial Day 2010. During that time period a task force will evaluate what type of Sunday evening service best carries out Central's mission and meets the needs of the community. The action was taken at the Council's May 26 meeting.

The Worship Life Team's proposal was the result of a request from members of the Council and the pastoral staff to review the evening service. The service, which currently offers Evening Prayer with Holy Communion, has had an average attendance of 32 persons so far in 2009.

The Worship Team's exact recommendation reads as follows: *The Worship Life Team recommends that the Council authorize a task force that would evaluate the nature of an evening worship service at Central that would best meet the needs of the mission of Central and the needs of the community, and complement the morning services. Factors that the task force would consider would include the intended assembly, and the type and purpose of the service. The task force would present its recommendations to the Council no later than the May 2010 Council meeting.*

The Worship Life Team also recommends that the current evening service at Central go on hiatus from Labor Day 2009 (September 6) through Memorial Day 2010 (May 31) to allow for a period of study and possible experimentation.

Pastor D. Foy Christopherson, who oversees Central's worship planning, says various models of weekend evening worship will be tested during the hiatus period including offerings such as Easter-season paschal vespers, choral evensong, Taize-style prayer services, a Sunday evening Lenten series and special baptism festivals.

On a Journey Together

AN OCCASIONAL PHOTO FEATURE



A Commissioning at Camp

The 2009 summer staff of Camp Amnicon was commissioned on Saturday, June 6 by members of the board of directors of the Amnicon Foundation, including Centralite Deborah Bauknight (white jacket, back to camera), who serves as board president. The service, which took place in Camp Amnicon's outdoor chapel, also included the recommissioning of the year-round staff. Deborah reports that some of the staff, as guides, will spend up to five days in a row with groups of teenagers in physically and mentally challenging situations and says she admires their "strength, faith and dedication to Camp Amnicon."



Men's Fellowship Group travels the Indian Ocean

The final monthly Saturday breakfast of the program year of the Central's Men's Fellowship Group on June 6 provided an opportunity to "travel" to ports of call around the Indian Ocean through the images and words of Centralite Tom Hoffmann. The group, which is now planning for a new series of breakfast meetings beginning in September, welcomes new members. If you have an interest, contact Bob Tufford at btufford@tufford-hughes.com.



A wedding in the family

Rolf Lowenberg-De-Boer, Central's Community Ministries Coordinator, was married to Olivia Christensen on Sunday, June 7. Pastor D. Foy Christopherson officiated. As a result of an "open invitation" to members of the congregation, many Centralites attended the service.

The couple is currently honeymooning in France. Rolf will return to work in late

June. The Restoration Center and the Clothes Closet will be closed for two weeks beginning June 15.



A fresh word from Nairobi

Central member Dr. Carl Follingstad, who with his wife Joy, resides in Nairobi, Kenya, addressed the Global Mission Forum on June 7. Carl, who serves with Wycliffe Bible Translators, spoke about Bible translation projects currently underway in east Africa—just some of the known 1,900 Bible-related translation, literacy and language-development projects underway worldwide. He personally trains and leads a team of translators in a cluster project involving several related languages. Carl is the son of Centralite Henry Follingstad.



Annual Report Available Today

In preparation for next Sunday's Annual Meeting, the 2008-2009 Annual Report of Central Lutheran Church is available today in print at the

Church Office and on Central's website at www.centralmpls.org.

Presiding Bishop Addresses Holocaust Museum Shooting

CHICAGO (ELCA) -- The Rev. Mark S. Hanson wrote letters to 14 Jewish leaders in the United States, expressing his "sadness and concern" at the shooting incident June 10 at the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. Hanson is presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), the nation's largest Lutheran denomination.

Stephen Tyrone Jones, a security guard at the memorial, was killed. Police shot and wounded the alleged shooter, an 88-year old man. The suspect remains in a Washington-area hospital in critical condition.

The full text of Hanson's letter was released June 11: *I write to express my sadness and concern about the impact of the shooting which took place on June 10, at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. It is reprehensible that such an attack occurred at this place of solemn remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust.*

Our prayers are with the families of the guard who was killed, as well as with all those present or who work at the Museum and who will remain traumatized by this terrible event.

Even though this was the act of one disturbed individual, it is deeply troubling that anti-Semitic acts, such as this one, are still occurring. Such acts only increase anxiety and fear in your community and threaten the security of all.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America deplores the presence of anti-Semitism in our society and has called upon its members to recognize in it "a contradiction and an affront to the Gospel, a violation of our hope and calling." (From the 1994 "Declaration of ELCA to the Jewish Community") Therefore, we will continue to live out our pledge "to oppose the deadly working of such bigotry, both within our own circles and in the society around us." (Declaration, 1994)

Still time to register for Vacation Bible School!

This year we've reinvented it as an intergenerational experience
June 29-July 2 | 5:30 to 8:00pm



We've planned a series of intergenerational evenings where families, adults with no children or without children at home, friends and young adults can grow together in relationship with one another and with Jesus.

The evening will include: **dinner and opening worship**, led by gifted counselors and musicians from Luther Crest Bible Camp; **45 minutes of intergenerational time**, coming together as a large group to have fun with special visitors, such as Heart of the Beast Puppet Theatre; **45 minutes of separate children and adult learning**. . .camp counselors will lead the children in

lively, interactive Bible studies, and **the adults will be led by Pastors Rick and Kristen, as they delve into "Strange Birds In Our Family Tree"**...a fun look at our Family of Faith "tree," discovering together a few of the interesting "birds" in our family! Come and see how we might connect their stories with the birds in our own family trees; and **closing worship**, wrapping everything up by 8:00pm. The final evening will be a pot-luck picnic at Como Park.

The intergenerational times will include "Rockin' Reptiles," featuring live snakes, lizards, and turtles from Como Park Zoo, and a presentation by Heart of the Beast Puppet Theater, "Land of 10,000 Lakes," about Minnesota's 150-year connection to water, created and performed by Paulino Brener.

The cost is \$30 per person; not to exceed \$75 per family. Registration forms are available at the Church Office.

Carrying on a legacy of hospitality to the wider church Will you help this summer?

Central Lutheran Church has a legacy of extending hospitality to the wider church that is unique in Lutheran History. Of course it's about having the largest Lutheran worship space in either North or South America and a decades-old location adjacent to the primary convention venue in Minneapolis (the old Minneapolis Auditorium and now the Convention Center). It all started in October 1930, when Central hosted the American Lutheran Conference, comprising the American Lutheran Church, the Augustana Synod, the Lutheran Free Church, the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America and the United Danish Lutheran Church. Other gatherings through the years have included the 1957 Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation, the constituting convention of the American Lutheran Church in 1961, the 1995 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and, two mergers before that, several national conventions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELC), which considered Central its home base.

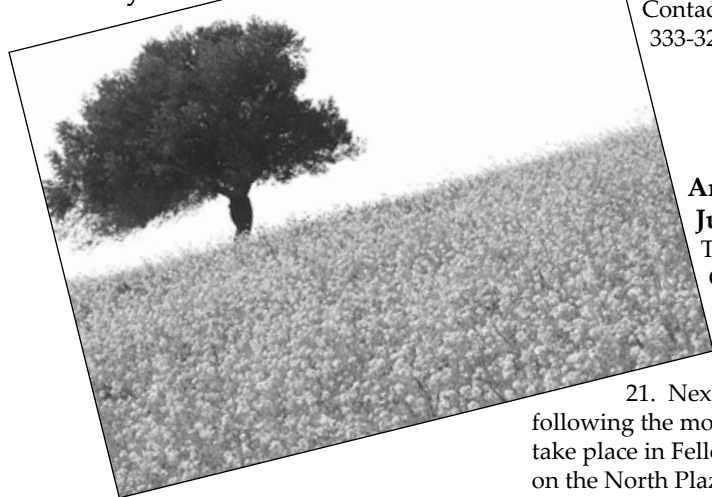
For the 1958 ELC convention more than 400 Central volunteers served full meals in Fellowship Hall, snacks in the "Snack Shop," and coffee and goodies under a tent that spanned the space between the "new church" and the "old church" (where the Parish House now sits). Total people served: 14,567!

This summer we have an opportunity to do it all over again as we help to welcome the 2009 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, August 17 to 23. Over 1,000 volunteers are needed at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Volunteers can sign up for as little as a half-day of service to much more. More information and online volunteer registration is available at www.mpls-synod.org. Volunteers are also needed at Central during the week for a variety of hospitality and service opportunities. If interested in learning more about opportunities at Central, please contact Barbara Brown at bbrown@centralmpls.org or 612-767-9210.

Events & Opportunities

Today

In the South Commons Gallery:



The Photography of Hans Aus

Long-time Central member Berit Aus is delighted to present “the developing photographic eye” of her brother, Dr. Hans M. Aus. After retiring as a professor of medicine in Wuerzburg, Germany in 2005, Hans picked up a camera and developed a “second career.” Read more about Hans and see samples of his work in South Commons today.

Global Mission Forum, June 14

The Rev. Loren and Elizabeth Bliese, ELCA missionaries in Ethiopia for 44 years, will be the featured speakers at the Global Mission Forum today (11:00am, Community Room). For many years Pastor Bliese has worked among the Afar people, identified by many Christian organizations as one of the most-unreached peoples of the world. When Bliese began his work, the Afar had no written language. He received permission from the Afar chief to open a school for children and also began translating biblical material.

This Week

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, June 15 - Psalm 52; Ezekiel 31:1-12; Galatians 6:11-18

Tuesday, June 16 - Psalm 52; Jeremiah 21:11-14; Revelation 21:22-22:5

Wednesday, June 17 - Psalm 52; Jeremiah 22:1-9; Luke 6:43-45

Thursday, June 18 - Psalm 107:103,23-32; Job 29:1-20; Acts 20:1-16

Downtown Grief Coalition, June 20

The Downtown Grief Coalition meets Saturdays from 9:30 to 11:30am at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1200 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis. On June 20, Rebekah Brandvold will speak on the topic “The Problem of Pain.” Contact: Joan Van Wirt at 612-333-3273.

Next Sunday

Annual Meeting, June 21

The Annual Meeting of Central Lutheran Church will take place following the morning (10:00am) service on Sunday, June 21. Next Sunday fellowship time following the morning worship service will take place in Fellowship Hall instead of on the North Plaza. Printed copies of the Annual Report are available at the Church Office. The report is also available on Central’s website at www.centralmpls.org.

Looking Ahead

Join Central’s OWLS on a St. Croix Riverboat Cruise, July 16

The OWLS (Central’s Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors) will cruise the scenic St. Croix River on Thursday, July 16. Buffet lunch onboard included! Cost: \$19. Motorcoach departs Central at 10:00am and returns by 3:30pm. **Sign up today!**

Gifts and Souvenirs now on sale!

Postcards, gallery-quality prints, compact disc recordings, fair trade products that support Lutheran World Relief and more. Details and prices can be found in a brochure in the information racks. The items are on sale at the information desk in the South Commons on Sundays and weekdays.

Calendar

Sunday, June 14

7:30am - Upper Room Open for Prayer
8:30am - Summer Bible Study (Fireside)
9:00am - Early Bird Coffee (Holy Grounds – South Commons)
10:00am - Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
11:00am - Fellowship Time (North Plaza)
11:00am - Global Mission Forum (Community Room)
11:30am - Central Friends Meeting (Room 123)
6:00pm - 8 – 80 AA (Community Room)
7:00pm - Evening Prayer with Holy Communion (Sanctuary) followed by fellowship in South Commons

Monday, June 15

No Events Scheduled

Tuesday, June 16

No Events Scheduled
(Several Central staff members will be attending a national conference for large congregations of the ELCA Tuesday through Thursday in Burnsville.)

Wednesday, June 17

No Events Scheduled

Thursday, June 18

12:00pm - Women’s Summer Faith Lunch (Fireside)
5:30pm - Hospitality Ministry Team (Fireside)
6:30pm - Youth Ministry Team
6:30pm - Global Ministry Team
7:30pm - Central Pacific AA (Fellowship Hall)

Friday, June 19

12:00pm - Downtown Bible Study (Fireside)

Saturday, June 20

7:00pm - Youth Event: St Paul Saints (OFFSITE)

Sunday, June 21

7:30am - Upper Room Open for Prayer
8:30am - Summer Bible Study (Fireside)
9:00am - Early Bird Coffee (Holy Grounds – South Commons)
10:00am - Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
11:10am - Annual Congregational Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
3:00pm - Salt of the Earth Storytellers (Fireside)
6:00pm - 8 – 80 AA (Community Room)
7:00pm - Evening Prayer with **Holy Communion (Sanctuary)** followed by fellowship in South Commons

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