



The Spirit of Central

News about the mission of Central Lutheran Church
Downtown Minneapolis

Summer Weekly Update
August 13/14, 2011

Off to camp!

Kristen Jacobson



Several Central children and families are taking advantage of the opportunities offered by church camps this summer. During the past week nine Central elementary students attended Camp Onomia in Onamia, Minnesota. This weekend 35 people are participating in Family Camp at Wapo Bible Camp in Amery, Wisconsin.

In the photo: Some of the Central campers at Camp Onomia, August 7-12.

Generous support for hunger relief continues

Last weekend we reported a very generous response to giving during “Loaves and Fishes Weekend” July 30/31, when members and friends were asked to give out of the abundance demonstrated in the story of Jesus feeding the five thousand. Special gifts were sought to feed the hungry—here at home through the work of Community Emergency Services (CES), our local food pantry partner and in the horn of Africa through the work of Lutheran World Relief (LWR), our global partner in disaster relief and sustainable development. The generosity continued last weekend pushing the total given for CES to \$1,774 (up from \$624 the previous week, in addition to 200 pounds of food) and for LWR to \$4,270 (up from \$2,540)! Gifts may continue to be made to either cause through the offering plates (indicate LWR or CES in the check memo line or on the front of a pew envelope). Gifts to Lutheran World Relief’s East Africa Drought Fund may also be made through Central online at www.centralmpls.org. *Thank you for your generosity!*

Buy school supplies now for October 1 service day

On Saturday, October 1 members of Central Lutheran Church Women will assemble school bags for Lutheran World Relief and Central’s Restoration Center. Please consider donating needed items for the bags and take advantage of school supply sales now underway. Items needed include spiral notebooks, black or blue pens, No. 2 pencils, blunt scissors, individual pencil sharpeners, 24-count crayons and 12-inch rulers. Drop donations off at the Church Office. Thank you!

Joe Bjordal



The chairs have arrived!

The arrival of the new chairs for Fellowship Hall, prematurely announced last week, finally occurred on Monday, August 8. On hand to assist members of the building staff was long-time Central member Harold Clough (in sunglasses), who was also on hand when the old chairs arrived 54 years ago!

— events/opportunities —

Summer Worship

Saturday — 5:30 p.m.

Sunday — 10:00 a.m.

This Weekend

Heritage Hall Opens

The hallway connecting the Parish House and Education Building has just come alive with historical artifacts and interpretive displays depicting Central's rich legacy. Docents will be on hand following worship this weekend to help interpret the exhibit. — *Located on the second floor of the Parish House. Take the South Commons elevator to "2" or the stairway adjacent to the Church Office.*

Chair Donations Sought

Please consider donating the cost of one or more of the new Fellowship Hall chairs at \$36.00 each. Members of the Fiscal and Property Committee will be on hand following worship this weekend — with sample chairs — to accept donations.

The Coming Week

Central Meetings, Events and Community Service

The Restoration Center will be closed this week for maintenance.

Tuesday, August 16

General Staff Meeting, 10:15 a.m.

Congregation Council, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 18

Open AA Meeting, 9:00 a.m.

Global Mission Ministry Team, 6:30 p.m.

ELCA Churchwide Assembly

August 15-19

"Freed in Christ to Serve" is the theme of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, meeting this Monday through Friday in Orlando, Florida. Follow the work of the assembly, including live video streaming, through links on the home page of the ELCA website (www.elca.org).

Next Weekend

Soft Rock in a Cathedral Setting

Sunday, August 21

The final installment of our summer music series, "Bluegrass, Dixieland, Soft Rock and Classic Carillon" will "play out" on Sunday, August 21 as we welcome Beautiful Grey, the band from Spirit Garage, a Christian faith community that

meets at the Loring Theater. The congregation was established and is sponsored by Bethlehem Lutheran Church in south Minneapolis. Beautiful Grey will lead the music during the 10:00 a.m. worship service and perform on the North Plaza during fellowship time. The participation of Beautiful Grey at Central is made possible as part of a grant from the Lily Endowment that is funding, in part, Pastor Rick Nelson's sabbatical.

Looking Ahead

VBS Family Party in the Park

Tuesday, August 23

All families and friends are invited to Como Park, Como Zoo and Como Town Amusement Park for the finale of our 2011 Vacation Bible School! All food and beverages provided. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Visit the Como Zoo. Unlimited ride wristbands are available thanks to a generous donation by Kathryn Holum. The wristbands must be reserved in advance through Greer Cherney at gcherney@centralmpls.org.

— *Party runs from 4:00 to 10:00 p.m. Como Town is open until 7:00 p.m. Deadline to make reservations is Monday, August 22.*

Sweden's Bachspeglarna in Concert

Thursday, August 25 - 7:00 p.m.

Bachspeglarna (the Bach Mirrors) is a group of ten singers from the south of Sweden — an area from which many Swedes immigrated to America. This summer the group is touring "in the footsteps of the emigrants" presenting concerts featuring a mix of styles — from classic to folk music. — *A free, public concert. All are welcome! A wine and cheese reception follows — featuring cheeses and treats from Sweden.*

Confirmation Parent and Student Meeting

Sunday, August 28

All incoming and returning Confirmation students and parents are asked to attend to receive information and outline of the program, hear about the fall and more. This is the beginning of your Confirmation commitment. — *11:00 a.m. in the Confirmation Room.*

OWLS to Visit the Arboretum

Thursday, September 8

Join Central's Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors for a trip to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, home to world-class gardens and plant collections. The visit will include a one-hour tram ride and a "flower pot" lunch in a private dining room. Cost for all is \$20.00. Motorcoach departs Central at 11:00 a.m. and returns by 3:30 p.m.

— *Reservations will be taken Sundays, August 14 (Fellowship Hall) 21 and 28 (North Plaza). Reservations limited to 42 persons.*

Water Tip

Each weekend during this "Year of Water," the Central Cares for Creation Team is offering a brief bit of information or tip about water.

Repair any water leaks you find. Anyone can learn to replace washers and use plumbers tape! Or swap a delicious casserole and baked bread with someone in your congregation who can help with minor repairs. Source: *Being Good Stewards of Water* (2010 Women of the ELCA)