



The Spirit of Central

News about the mission of Central Lutheran Church
Downtown Minneapolis

Christmas 2010 December 24, 25, 26



Joe Björda

Central's children presented "Camel Tales," the 2010 Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 19.

Welcome to Central!

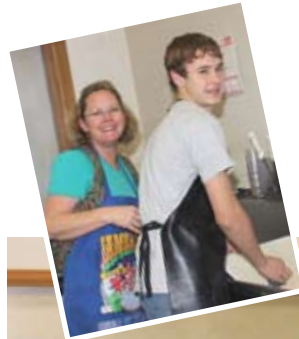
It is my privilege to welcome you, on behalf of our entire congregation and staff, to our celebrations of God's gift to the world! We are so very glad to have you join us during these holy days, and trust that you will find the light of the Christ Child shining bright and warm here at Central. This Light that has come in to the world is one which we all need, to illumine our paths and to show us the way. Thank you for allowing us to walk alongside of you on your journey of faith, and we hope that you'll join us again real soon! Merry Christmas!

Rick Nelson, Senior Pastor



“Camel Tales”

Central’s children presented the annual Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 19 with a dazzling performance of a script adapted by Greer Cherney, directed by Sara Gunsch and featuring two original songs by Simon Husbands. The program was followed by the annual Christmas Family Dinner—a good time was had by all!



Photos by Joe Bjordal

A Christmas meal for the community



Another annual event—the Community Ministries Christmas Meal—was carried out on Monday, December 20 thanks to the work of many volunteers and the kitchen staff. Two hundred pounds of potatoes were peeled, sliced and mashed while two hundred pounds of turkey was baking. Three hundred of our Community Ministry guests and clients enjoyed this very special annual tradition.

Daily Bible Readings
 Monday, December 27 — Psalm 148; Proverbs 8:22-31; 1 John 5:1-12
 Tuesday, December 28 — Psalm 148; Isaiah 49:13-23; Matthew 18:1-14
 Wednesday, December 29 — Psalm 20; Jeremiah 31:15-22; Luke 19:41-44
 Thursday, December 30 — Psalm 20; Isaiah 26:1-9; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
 Friday, December 31 — Psalm 20; 1 Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19
 Saturday, January 1 — Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 8; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:15-21
 Sunday, January 2 — Psalm 72; Genesis 12:1-7; Hebrews 11:1-12

Central Lutheran Church
 333 South 12th Street Minneapolis, MN 55404
 612-870-4416 www.centralmpls.org
 EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA WWW.ELCA.ORG

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FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS NEWS@CENTRALMPLS.ORG

Providing focus for mission

Council adopts five strategic priorities for coming year

Providing what Pastor Rick Nelson calls “focus for mission” in the coming year, the Congregation Council on October 26 adopted five strategic priorities.

“Since the work of the Council is largely to be that of governance, with broad concerns for policy, along with fiscal and program oversight, we feel it is important for us to choose particular lenses through which we will provide leadership at Central,” said Pastor Rick. “While a fantastic staff and literally hundreds of lay disciples accomplish the details of the ministry we do together, things work best and most efficiently when all ministry energy is attached to a strategy.”

“As church leaders, the Council’s primary function is to think about Central’s future and envision how to live our mission statement in this changing world,” said Congregation Council President Kristin Schoepherster. “Identifying and adopting strategic priorities provides us with the necessary focus and framework for our efforts, as well as the efforts of staff and lay ministers who are responsible for realizing the priorities during the coming year.”

“I am very excited about the 2010/2011 strategic priorities and am looking forward to all that we can accomplish together as Christ’s people,” said Kristin.

The five priorities are:

1. Create a master plan for the Central campus
2. Increase the reach of Central
3. Build awareness and ownership of the financial needs of the church
4. Discover, encourage and affirm the use of talents, gifts and passions of members and friends
5. Continue to wisely and strategically lean forward into God’s future, learning and discerning from both cultural and contextual shifts how best today to assist the congregation in strategically accomplishing our stated vision—living into the core values of gratitude, welcoming, celebration, discovery and sharing.



Joe Bjordal

Debut of the Central Choristers

Central’s new children’s choir, “The Choristers,” made their debut at the 11:00 service on Sunday, December 19, singing “Come, Messiah, Come” by Lynn Bailey and Becky Mayo. The choir is directed by Cantor Mark Sedio and Associate Cantor Jane Lien. For the first performance, Jane conducted while Mark provided piano accompaniment. An audio recording of the Chorister’s premiere performance is on Central’s website. Log onto www.centralmpls.org and click on “Sermons and Music” under “Quick Links.”

Restoration Center Christmas Appeal funds are benefiting our immediate neighborhood

Homelessness has been prevented for ten families

Word has spread through the community that incredible generosity by people at Central Lutheran Church is making possible some lifesaving gifts this month through the Restoration Center. Over \$20,000 has been donated to the Restoration Center Christmas Appeal, including over \$500 in gift cards from the Circle of Hope and Group Travel Directors, where Annette Nelson is employed.

Rolf Lowenberg-DeBoer, Central’s Director of Community Ministries, reports a huge increase in the number of requests for financial assistance this month—far and away more what could typically be granted. The nice thing in this month of extra need is that there are extra funds, thanks to the Christmas Appeal donors. Financial assistance far over and above what is typically possible has been possible.

Financial assistance has already been given over fifty individuals and families to help pay utility bills, urgent medical expenses, transportation needs and for rental assistance. Rolf reported that ten families were literally on the verge of being evicted because of the inability to pay required bills, let alone think about gifts for Christmas. Those ten families are now safe for this month—homelessness prevented! And, in each case there is a sustainable plan in place beginning in January making it possible for them to stay in their homes.

As one example of the special assistance given this month, the Restoration Center was able to purchase books for a man who has recently been accepted as a student at the Minneapolis Community and Technical College. He is currently living at the House of Hope transitional housing and hopes to have a permanent home early in the new year.

“Here is a guy who is trying to get an education to get a job and get his life back on track. We were able to provide something he could not afford. This is just one of many examples of the special assistance we have been able to give this month because of the generosity of members and friends of Central,” said Rolf.

Campus Master Plan Task Force will help us envision future needs

Nominations received through December

On October 26 the Congregation Council adopted five strategic priorities to guide the mission of Central Lutheran Church in the coming year. Topping the list is the priority to "create a master plan for the Central campus." That strategic priority was formally launched at a special meeting of the congregation on Sunday, October 31 when voting members unanimously approved a process for the nomination and election of members of a Campus Master Plan Task Force.

According to a document prepared by the Council and distributed at the special meeting, the Task Force will engage in a "prayerful process of discovery, listening, discussion, creative imagination and visioning." It will offer for consideration by the congregation a master plan for our site that correlates facility needs with accomplishing Central's stated mission/vision objectives. The Task Force will propose improvements and changes to the campus that should be accomplished by 2020, either in total or in phases.

"It became apparent after the most recent Revitalization Task Force Report and Recommendation in 2007 that we could not proceed with addressing the need for a new kitchen without knowing how such an expense would be a part of some larger, master plan for our facility," said the state-

ment from the Council. "We believe that in order to responsibly care for our current facility, and to make changes, improvements and additions to our campus that will assist in accomplishing our mission/vision for ministry as a congregation, we need to know what is required of our total site, at least for the foreseeable future."

Nominations received through December

The Council will receive nominations for the Campus Master Plan Task Force through the current month of November. Nominees must detail "expertise and/or life experiences that make them well-suited for this task" and tell why they desire to serve Central in this capacity.

The Council will present a ballot of twelve nominees at a special meeting of the Congregation in January 2011, of which seven will be elected. If more than twelve nominations are received, the Council will narrow the field to twelve by a process of individual interviews "to ascertain individual levels of desire and commitment to task, expertise, and to ensure the diverse gifts needed in such a discernment process." One, but not more than two, Council members will be elected to the Task Force.

The work of the Task Force will be facilitated by an outside consultant. The appoint-

ment of the consultant and the budget for the process will also be presented at the January special meeting for consideration of approval. The Task Force will not meet with fewer than four in attendance and not without "the presence and voice" of Pastor Rick Nelson and/or Business Administrator David Alexander. The Council President will be a "voice-only" member of the Task Force. The work of the task force will begin immediately after their election in January and conclude with a proposed campus master plan no later than June 2011.

Congregation to be involved

In addition to electing the Task Force and, in the end, approving the Master Plan, members of the congregation will be asked to share and discuss ideas throughout the process so that "all who choose to can be involved." There will also be ongoing communication throughout the process.

The Council will then undertake a process during summer and fall of 2011 to discern a plan for moving forward with all or part of the recommendations of the approved Campus Master Plan.

Nomination forms are available at the Church Office and on Central's website (www.centralmpls.org).



Joe Bjordal

"Mark, the ministry of Cantor is now re-committed to you"

Central Cantor Mark Sedio was installed as an Associate in Ministry on the roster of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on Sunday, December 19 by the Rev. Craig Johnson, bishop of the Minneapolis Area Synod. The installation was possible because of action taken by the 2009 Churchwide Assembly, meeting in Minneapolis. The installation marked the occasion of Mark's ten years of service to Central Lutheran Church and thirty years of service as a musician in the Lutheran Church.

Be part of a new tradition: Sunday Brunch at the Hilton Garden Inn!

Many members and friends of Central have started a new tradition by having Sunday brunch at the Great American Grill in our neighboring hotel!

Among the many brunch buffet items are eggs cooked specially to your order!

**Sunday Brunch is served
from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
—\$12.95 per person—**

The Hilton Garden Inn is our neighborhood corporate partner in feeding the hungry and clothing the poor.

 **Hilton
Garden Inn®**
Minneapolis Downtown

**4th Avenue South at 11th Street
612-339-6633
www.minneapolisdowntown.hgi.com**



The Bible in pictures

In September we received the first of three large murals (totaling 56 feet in length) depicting the Old Testament totally “in pictures.” The final two panels arrived this past week and are permanently mounted outside of the Children’s Education Wing on the second floor of the Parish House. The murals—created exclusively for Central—are “original digital art” by famed children’s book illustrator Peter Grosshauser and are inspired by the SPARK Story Bible, published by Augsburg Fortress, which contains illustrations by Peter. The murals will become an integral part of Central’s children’s education for generations to come. **Take a look! Take the South Commons elevator to the second floor after any worship service this weekend to view this amazing educational tool.**

Discerning and using our gifts

Shared Ministry is wholistic, inclusive;
completing the Personal Gift Journey is first step

The Shared Ministry Team has been designed to support and encourage the talents, gifts and passions of the disciples who are Central Lutheran Church. The team focuses on a system that is based on the principle that God calls all people to ministry. This system is a wholistic and inclusive approach and a way to discern our gifts and our call as we work

together at Central, and as we use our gifts in the world. While every person has a unique package of gifts and interests, it is also very comforting and powerful to know that these gifts and ministries are shared and supported and can grow in the service and mission of what God has created us to do.

The system of Shared Ministry includes, planning, discovering gifts, designing, recruiting, matching, supervising, and supporting individuals and teams. It also includes evaluating and managing data. It generates a dynamic partnership with lay ministers and staff ministers as we share in the mission and decision making.

The Personal Gift Journey, a survey about individual gifts, talents and passions, was distributed to our community

this fall. To date 150 persons have returned the survey and the information has been entered into the database system. Staff and lay leaders have access to the system—showing gifts and interests—when looking for new people to serve in ministries. This information is a way to connect the needs of the ministry teams with the gifts of the community.

Anyone—member or friend alike—who would like to become involved in the many lay ministries of Central is invited to take the Personal Gift Journey. The survey is available at the Church Office or in the Lay Ministry section of www.centralimps.org.

Currie Avenue Partnership named one of the “Ten Best Things to Happen in Downtown Minneapolis in 2010”

In January, as part of the final disbursement of benevolence gifts of the Forward in Faith campaign, Central donated \$20,000 to Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness, of which Central is a founding member. The funds were joined with a total of \$70,000 from faith communities and \$250,000 from the member businesses of the Downtown Council to create the Currie Avenue Partnership—an unprecedented effort to move 150 people permanently out of homelessness.

The Downtown Journal has named the Currie Avenue Partnership as one of the “Ten Best Things to Happen in Downtown Minneapolis in 2010. Here’s the story:

Currie Avenue Partnership unites business, faith and government to house homeless

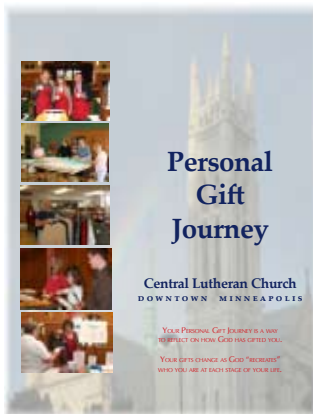
Like 300 other communities around the country, Hennepin County has an official 10-year plan to end homelessness. But unlike those other places, our plan involves the faith community.

During the final week of 2009, an interfaith coalition of 13 Downtown congregations—the Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness (DCEH), comprised of Lutherans, Unitarians, Jews, Catholics, Methodists, Episcopalians, Presbyterians and Muslims—banded together in a flash-fundraiser, collecting more than \$70,000 in a period of about three weeks. The effort was needed to trigger a similar donation from the business community. If the churches could pull together \$70,000, the Downtown business community would chip in \$250,000.

The \$350,000 total provided a shot in the arm for Heading Home Hennepin, Minneapolis’ 10-year plan to end homelessness. The fundraiser was the birth of the Currie Avenue Partnership, an unprecedented, three-way collaboration between religious, business and government groups. By November 2010, it had gotten 150 formerly homeless people out of two shelters on Currie Avenue and into permanent housing.

Almost one year later, the novel partnership, both public and private, religious and secular, has become a model for homeless efforts in cities around the nation.

Learn more about the work of
Downtown Congregations
to End Homelessness at
www.dceh.org





Thank you to our Christmas Garden donors!

Contributed by In memory of

Jim & Edith Adams

Lewis & Signe Adams,
parents
Burns & Myrtle Hvambal

Fred Aderhold

Eleanor Aderhold

Dan, Ryan and Brady Ahlberg

Linda Olberg Ahlberg

Bob Anderson

Mr. & Mrs. L.J. Norby

Chuck & Joyce Anderson

Hartvig & Lydia Anderson &
Manford Amundson, parents

Gary & Julie Anderson

Jordan & Ona Teigland
Adolph & Ann Anderson

Kari & John Aasan

Denise O'Neil

Jeanne Bengtson

Paul & Doris Bengtson

Lois & Laverne Bergan

Carl & Mabel Bergan
Eldon Bergan
Marvin Bergan
Clarence & Ida Larson
Charles Larson
Odell Larson

Dean & Joyce Bliss

Lloyd Bridge, father
Oriet Bridge, mother
Bertha Bliss, mother
Don Bliss, father

Keith Boe

Karen Boe

Barbara Brown

Phyllis Wallis, Milt Brown &
Patti Brown

Mead & June Cavert

John Mead Cavert

Pastor Christopherson

Beverly Christopherson
Grandparents

Don & Phyllis Crooker

Loved ones

James Dahl Family

Raymond & Dorothy Sandin,
parents & grandparents
James & Alice Dahl, parents
& grandparents

Donna Dokken

Erling & Peter Christian
Dokken

Cheryl Doering

Elsie Dyrud
Arthur Mammen

Cindy Doran-Tews

Andrew Doran
Florence Doran
Ione Dybsetter
Amanda Dybsetter

Muriel E. Dostal

Guel M. Dostal, husband

Dick & Barb Edlund

Mabel Klarquist & Marge
Edlund, our mothers

Jeff Elavsky

Family members

Judy & Bob Erdman

Anna Melin Lund

Joyce & Bruce Ellingson

Stanley Elliott, father
Sidney Ellingson, father

Maurice Foslid

Julius Foslid and family
All my friends that have
passed away

Funeral Ministry Team

Phil Ranheim

Lowell Giere

Mrs. Esther Giere, mother
Rev. Verne Giere, father

Grace Circle

Departed members

Larry & Zee Gregerson

Perk & Pearl Gregerson
Leland Hughes

Lloyd C. Grinde

Hannah Grinde

James and Cheryl Groettum

Our parents

Audrey Grote

Herman & Eleonora Grote

Mildred Gullickson Starr

Charlie & Mathilda
Gullickson, parents
Richard, husband & Al, son

Elaine A. Gunderson

Louise M. Larson, mother

Mary Gunderson

Rory Gunderson
Pam Beaulien

Bryon, Sara & Lily Gunsch

Harold Gunsch

Joan and John Hagman

Our parents

Linnea Hanley Hanson

Rev. Dr. Paul A. Hanson,
father

Anne Louise Hanson

Rev. Dr. Paul A. Hanson,
father

Dolores Hanson

Rev. Dr. Paul A. Hanson,
husband

Don Haugo

Craig Haugo
Hazel Haugo

Jim & JoAnne Heintz

Parents

Carol Henderson

Oland T. Henderson
Vern & Lois Jones, parents
Irene McPherson Burns, aunt

Harold & Margaret Herum

Parents

Joan & Dick Hilden

John Dewey

Wally & Karen Hinz

Warren Anderson
Ev Anderson

Ben & Mary Ho

Russ Lindquist

Barb & Carl Hoernemann

Jack & Betty Watson
Fredrich & Edna
Hoernemann

Ruth Hoff

Loved ones

Kathryn Holum

Mary Holum
Liz Holum Johnson
Jeffrey Cavanaugh

Ruth Hovden

Merlin Hovden

Peggy & Dave Jacobson

Ellen & Bill Holm

Tom & Sue Jorgensen

Joseph & Alice Jorgensen
Hugo & Lillian Hinenthal

Sara Klomp

George Klomp

Joanna Krause-Johnson

Vic Krause
Florence Krause

Gary Johnson

Carl & Grace Johnson

Judith Korogi

Gerald Korogi
Olga Listoe

Norma & Kim Kusnier

Andrew & Karin

Kevin Lile

Leslie & Kathryn Lile;
Jerry Mancilla

Judy Lillestol

Leif & Doris Lillestol,
parents

Rose Lillestol

Robert, husband &
Corey, son
Lewis & Lillian Woodstock,
parents

Avis Lindquist

Russell W. Lindquist

Sherwin Linton

Harry Linton, father
Perline Linton, mother

Chris & Kari Lyle

Erling & Peter Christian
Dokken

Anita B. Mattson

Ole & Ragnhild Mattson,
parents

Neola Melby

Mother and Dad
Martinus & Art, brothers;
Ada, sister

Kay Mensing

Alice Mensing
Fred Mensing

Hazel Milne

Family

Patti Munzenrieder

Raymond and Ellen Hanson

Don & Karen Natwick

Clarence Natwick
Myrtle Natwick
Maynard Voth
Marian Voth

Thomas G. Neadle

Mr. & Mrs. George Neadle
Mr. & Mrs. J.T. Neadle

Beth Nelson

Bonnie Lou Lykken
Jack Wolter

Pramila & Pawan Nelson

Samuel & Mariam Nelson
Parents and grandparents

Mary Oelke

Kurth & Martha Oelke

Daphne Ofsthun

Carroll Ofsthun

Jerry & Rosemary Olerud

Our parents

Lance Olson

Ima Olson

Warren Olson

Global Health Ministries

Phil & Eve Overby

Mark, son
Our parents

Martin & Ann Oyen

Marguerite Piltingsrud
Sig & Martha Oyen

The members and friends of Central listed here (in bold) have helped to carry on a decades-old tradition by purchasing plants that adorn our worship space this Christmas, which will then be delivered to our homebound members.

Please help deliver the plants! Recipient addresses and plants may be picked up following the Christmas morning service (Saturday, December 25) or the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, December 26. Thank you!

Jane Panzer

Roger Panzer, dad
Joyce & Fred Hilary

Seth & Chris Peter

Marjorie McDonald
Curtis Peter

Mark, Janice, Paul, Daniel Ben Peterson

L. Marcella Nelson, our
mother (nana)

Betty J. Pomeroy

Warren L. Pomeroy, husband

Lee Reid

Winston Reid, husband
Tom Reid, son
Gwendoline Reid,
sister-in-law

Sue Reid

Tom Reid
Gwen Reid

Hazel Reinhardt

Esther Hasseler

Betty Reveling

Bruce Reveling, brother
Mr. & Mrs. I.M. Reveling,
parents

Dorothy Sorbo

Parents

Martha Schaefer

Clemence Schaefer

Rod Schmidt

Elizabeth Schmidt

Christine Schneider

James Schneider

Barb Schommer

Gordon & Elsamarie Thune

Bob & Rosie Schulte

Our parents

Marcella Seboldt

Roland, husband
Paul Martin Seboldt, son

Dick & Linda Shinofield

David True

Richard Simmering

Lawrence Simmering, father

Phyllis Skaalrud

Orville Skaalrud
Barb Skaalrud

Karen Snyder

Loved ones

Angeline Sorenson

Ken Sorenson

Dorothy Sorbo

Parents

Karl Starr & Christopher Haug

Christian Olav Osen,
nephew

Nancy Stefan

Joseph & Nelda Stefan,
parents

Karen, Kristi & Sara Strand

Karl & Geneva Strand

Steve & Ruth Studt

Clarence Studt
Fremont Isaacs
Gladys Isaacs

Julia & Bruce Taber

Gregory

Deb Thelen

Jerry Thelen

Leon & Deanne Tibben

Walter & Edith Tibben

Walter & Joan Owens

Lloyd & Jackie Thorsen

Parents
Christopher Einar, son

John & Renee Troselius

Alfred Hanson, Harold &
Geneva Troselius

Paul & Susan Troselius

John Peterson, Harold &
Geneva Troselius

Marie & Robert Tufford

Paul & Anna Nicodenus
Robert & Julia Tufford

Ushers' Society

All departed members of
the CLC Ushers' Society

Steve Verchota

Cyndi Verchota

Westby Family

Charlotte Olga Westby
Paul Ansgar Westby
Helen Irene Westby

Mae Widness

Curtis Grose, Morris Wee, &
Ronald Widness

Don & Shirley Wiese

Gordy & Megan Hed

Lois Wolff

Parents & grandparents
Siegfried & Ursula Schuehle

Contributed by:

In honor of

Jim & Edith Adams

Children & grandchildren

Chuck & Joyce Anderson

Myrtle Amundson, mother;
Children & grandchildren

Judy & Jim Betty

London, Megan, Amy &
Michael

Brad Boogren & Jon Goodrich

Our families

Barbara Brown

Tristan, Zoe & Kendall

JoAn & George Carlson

Loved ones

Jon Coltz & Jennifer Carozza

Parents

Vi Christiansen

Les Rosecke
Brent Christiansen, nephew
Christina Christiansen,
mother

Earl Christiansen, father

Sharron & Harvey Culver

Dorothy & Walter DeSwarte
Bud & Roxie Culver

Donna Dokken

Chris, Kari, Marit &
Ingrid Lyle

Judy & Bob Erdman

Our church musicians

Elaine A. Gunderson

Dorothea Miller

Karen, Tom & Anna Hielsberg

Myrtle Johnson, great
grandma

Barb Hoernemann

All volunteers

Aino M. Husen

Central's pastors and staff

Karen Knox

Central's lay ministers

Robert & Millie Jung

Family

Janet Krofta

Central's dedicated staff

Clarice Linnell

Central's staff

Marit & Ingrid Lyle

Grandma Dokken

Grandma Lyle

Bill Masche

Frances Jensen (Masche),
mother

Anita B. Mattson

Donald E. Wallin

Neola Melby

Pastor Charles & Joyce
Anderson

Pawan & Pramila Nelson

CLC Staff who supported
the OWLS in 2010

Pawan & Pramila Nelson

Soldiers & their families

Glyn Northington & Stan

Kolden

Karen Snyder

Jerry & Rosemary Olerud

Children & Grandchildren

Jerry & Muriel Olsen

Andy, Sonja, Erik & Marta,
grandchildren;
Tea Committee

Martin & Ann Oyen

Kermit Piltingsrud

Paul, Daniel & Ben Peterson

Pastor Kristen, Greer &
Allison

Martha J. Rasmussen

Central staff

R J & Mary Rehwaldt

Aunt Irene Gillogly's
100th birthday

Chas & Jeanne Scheiderer

Parents

Rod Schmidt

Family

Karen Snyder

Central Public Events Hosts
Ruth Hoff

Bobbie Spradley & Neil

Kittlesen

Kris Onken, daughter

June Spicer

Children

Clarance Smith & Denise

Kettelberger

Karen Knox

Karl Starr & Christopher Haug

Central's Floral Guild ladies

Steve & Ruth Studt

Cleo Studt

Julia & Bruce Taber

Brent & Amy

Deb Thelen

Peg Thelen

John & Renee Troselius

Betty Hanson

Paul & Susan Troselius

Audrey Peterson

Bob & Bonnie Weisenburger

John, son & family

Jeffrey Wolter

Bob Habeger, David Molvik
& Mark Brodin

To the Glory of God

Bob Boldt

Phyllis & Dave Dahl

Don & Darlene Erickson

Lynn & Mark Erickson

Leonard & Shirley Flachman

Jim & Myrt Kettner

— events/opportunities —

This Weekend

Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24
4:00 p.m. — **Twilight Service of Blessing**
10:30 p.m. — **Candlelight Service of Holy Communion**

Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25
10:00 a.m. — **Service of Carols and Holy Communion**

NOTE: There will be no Saturday evening service on Christmas Day, December 25

Sunday, December 26
Services of Holy Communion—
8:30 and 10:00 a.m.

NOTE: There will be no children's or adult education classes on December 26

The Coming Week

The Central Campus will be closed on Monday and Tuesday.

The Church Office will be open normal business hours Wednesday to Friday.

There are no meetings or events scheduled for the week of December 27.

Next Weekend

Saturday, January 1
Service of Holy Communion, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 2
Services of Holy Communion,
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Coffee and fellowship: 8:00, 9:45, 10:30 a.m.
and 12:00 Noon

Looking Ahead

Men's Fellowship to Discover Early History of Minneapolis
Saturday, January 8, 8:00 a.m.

Central member Rod Richter, a 17-year staff member of the Minnesota Historical Society, stationed at the Mill City Museum since its opening in 2003, will speak on "Minneapolis: the City Built by a River." All Central men are invited to participate in the monthly meetings of the Men's Fellowship (typically the first Saturday of the month—delayed in January because of the New Year's Day holiday.) Breakfast available for \$6.00. No reservations necessary.

Epiphany Cantata
Sunday, January 9,
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
The Central Choir and members of the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra will present Gallus Zeiler's setting of the *Magnificat* at both worship services. The performance will feature solos by Central Choir section leaders Susan Troselius (soprano), Rochelle Milbrath (alto), Roy Heilman (tenor) and Thom Dreeze (bass).

Global Mission Forum
Sunday, January 9
The Rev. John Hutton, Student and Volunteer Development Director of the Hospitality Center for Chinese, will speak about the HCC's mission to share Christ's love through hospitality to nearly 2,000 Chinese students, scholars and their families at the University of Minnesota. The HCC programs and services seek to build bridges between American Christians and Chinese guests that they may come to experience firsthand the love of Christ. Perhaps God has a role for you!
—9:45 a.m. in Room 123

A Renaissance Evensong for the Baptism of Our Lord
Sunday, January 9, 4:00 p.m.
Spend an hour on a frosty afternoon at this contemplative service featuring music by Renaissance groups Terpsichore (viola da gamba, recorder and lute) and the Early Lutheran Music Vocal Ensemble. Part of the 2010-2011 Central Crossings season—offering an "urban sampler of Christian spirituality" as a gift to the city.

OWLS to Visit
Plymouth Playhouse
Thursday, January 13
Join Central's Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) for a performance of "Away in the Basement—A Church Basement Ladies Christmas" at the Plymouth Playhouse. Cost: \$34.00, includes buffet lunch. Learn more and make reservations at the Church Office on Sundays December 26 and January 2.

A Different Kind of Book Club
Thursday, January 13
Our study of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict continues on Thursday, January 13 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. Charles P. Lutz, co-author of *Christians and a Land Called Holy: How We Can Foster Justice, Peace and Hope*, will be present as we discuss the book *From Beirut to Jerusalem*, by Thomas Friedman. For more information contact Joyce Anderson at 952-440-4928.

Adult Education Forum
Sunday, January 16
The Rev. Hollie Holt-Woehl, Ph.D., will present "When Things with Youth Aren't Going Quite Right: Mental Illness or Adolescence?" When youth are acting out their behavior with sudden changes, the symptoms might be more than "just" adolescence. Learn common mental illnesses, symptoms and treatments of mental illness in youth. — 9:45 a.m. in the Community Room.

"Making Love Known: Christians Take Action Against Bullying of GLBT People"
Peace with Justice Forum
Sunday, January 16
Central's GLBT Ministry Team and the Joint Peace with Justice Committee of the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Area Synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America present this forum featuring a presentation by the Rev. Jeffrey Sartain, executive minister of Plymouth Congregational Church. Come and learn what you can do to stop the bullying of GLBT persons in our schools and society. Guests at the forum will be invited to record video greetings to be posted on the website www.churchpeopleloveyou.com. —12:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall; lunch is available for \$7.00—no reservations necessary.

Vocalescence in Concert
"Song of the Stars"
Friday, January 28 — 8:00 p.m.
Discovered again nearly 100 years after its 1911 Barcelona premiere, Enrique Granados's *Cant de les estrelles* (Song of the Stars) is truly a masterpiece. Written as a virtuoso piano concerto for the composer himself, accompanied by chorus and organ, this work gloriously combines modern romantic poetry and luxurious harmonies. Featuring the Vocalescence Chorus and Ensemble Singers. Gerardo Rábago, guest conductor. — a ticketed event; details at www.vocalescence.org.

Jazz Vespers for the Season of Light
Sunday, February 13 — 4:00 p.m.
This contemplative service—part of the 2010-2011 season of Central Crossings events—features the music of the jazz-fusion group "Wild Honey and the Locusts." —A free public event. All are welcome! (Pick up a Central Crossings brochure in the information racks for full details about this series!)

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 9. Watch for information about special Lenten services and educational opportunities.

Thank you decorators!

Thanks to all who worked hard to decorate our campus for December: George and Mary Holtan, Carney Meekins, Christmas Tea Team, Floral Guild, Gardening Corps, Worship Environment Team, Fine Art Team, Maintenance and Security Staff, Erica Doss, Sunday School Program Team, David Molvik, Heruy Mesfen, Paul Troselius and Pastor C.