



The Summer Spirit of Central

News about the mission of Central Lutheran
Church – Downtown Minneapolis

Sunday, June 6, 2010

Central's Camp Noah team aims to bring healing to Haitian congregation

When it was announced in January that \$5,000 of the benevolence funds from the Forward in Faith capital campaign would be given to Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota (LSS) to support the Camp Noah program, Pastor Rick Nelson added a challenge and an invitation. "We don't just want to give the money," he said. "We want to also give a bit of ourselves." It was at a Congregation Council Forum in January that Pastor Rick announced that Central would conduct a Camp Noah this summer. That giving of ourselves will take place June 14 to 18 as a team of 15 Centralites heads to St. Paul to bring some hope and healing to children of a Haitian congregation suffering trauma related to the massive earthquake in Haiti on January 12.



Camp Noah is described as a "safe, caring and fun environment with curriculum specifically designed to help children by processing their disaster experience." LSS says that children at Camp Noah are encouraged to understand they are part of a community that supports them; offers them a safe place to face their fears and grieve their losses; and equips them with new resiliency skills. Camp Noah began as a response to the massive flooding in the Red River Valley in northern Minnesota and North Dakota in 1997. It has developed into a nationally-recognized program for children affected by natural and human-caused disasters. In the past four years, Camp Noah has held 167 camps serving more than 7,000 children and youth through the work of more than 3,000 volunteers in 17 states.

Central's 2010 Camp Noah team has recently completed six hours of training by LSS staff members Nancy Beers, director of Camp Noah and disaster services, and Kara VerHage, national volunteer program manager. Barbara Brown, Central's Office and Program Administrator, who has coordinated the effort, said the training was very effective and provided good insight into the emotional side effects in children who are victims of disaster.

The members of Central's team are: Barbara Brown, Greer Cherney, Judy and Bob Erdman, Lynn Erickson, Jody Halverson, Barb Hoernemann, Kristen Jacobson, Annette and Rick Nelson, Barb VanDrasek, Samantha Halverson, Britta Erickson, Eleanor Powel, Oliver West and Aden Lehman. Oliver will portray Noah in a series of daily skits.

Pledges top \$870,000!



As of June 2 the response to Central's 2010-2011 stewardship emphasis, "Stewardship in the Round" has surpassed last year's effort by more than \$23,000—and the follow-up campaign has yet to begin! To date 370 Central households have pledged a total of \$870,396! And, in what Pastor Rick Nelson has termed "an extraordinary response in extraordinary financial times," 134 households that pledged last year have increased their commitments for the coming year by an average of more

than 21%! In addition, 82 households have pledged for the first time and account for more than \$154,000 of the total! **Thank you to all who have participated in this remarkable response!** A follow-up letter will be mailed the second week of June. Pledge cards are also available at the Church Office.

Our Family Album

Snapshots of Our Life Together in Mission

Images from Holy Trinity Sunday, May 30



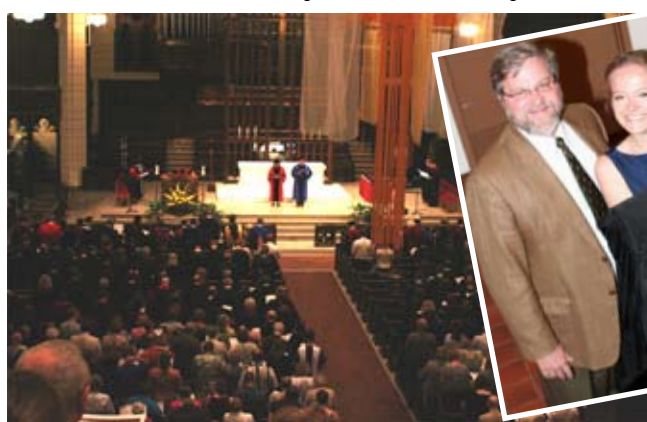
We welcomed the famed Allegro!!! String Performance

Ensemble from the Western Springs (IL) School for Talent Education as guest musicians for the day. Above director Edward Kreitman and Associate Cantor Jane Lien confer before the service.



Treasurer Mark Forsberg presided at a "Budget Q&A" before the morning worship service.

After we resumed our summer practice of "Fellowship on the Plaza."



And in the afternoon we welcomed a near-capacity crowd for the 141st Commencement of Luther Seminary.

The Rev. Dr. Richard Bliese, president of the seminary and Central member had the pleasure of conferring the degree of Master of Arts on another Central member, his daughter Stephanie!

Photos by Joe Bjordal

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, June 7 — Psalm 68:1-10, 19-20; Genesis 22:1-14; Galatians 2:1-10 **Tuesday, June 8** — Psalm 68:1-10, 19-20; Genesis 22:1-14; Galatians 2:11-14 **Wednesday, June 9** — Psalm 68:1-10, 19-20; Jeremiah 8:14-22; Luke 8:40-56 **Thursday, June 10** — Psalm 32; 2 Samuel 13:23-39; James 4:1-7 **Friday, June 11** — Psalm 32; 2 Samuel 15:1-12; Romans 11:1-10 **Saturday, June 12** — Psalm 32; 2 Samuel 18:28-19:8; Luke 5:17-26 **Sunday, June 13** — 2 Samuel 11:26-12:10; Psalm 32; Galatians 2:15-21; Luke 7: 36-8:3

Central Lutheran Church

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CentralLights

The Summer Central People Series

Shining the spotlight on some of our shining lights—
lay ministers who serve faithfully, often behind the scenes



Pramila Nelson

Member of Central since 1990

*Lutheran World Relief Quilters; OWLS
Planning Team; Sunday School Teacher;
Communion Server; Reading Partner;
also worked in the Clothes Closet and
assisted with youth ministry*

Pramila Nelson was introduced to Central by the god-
parents of her son twenty years ago. She had just been
divorced and it was, as she describes it, “an unsettling
time.” She said that from the very beginning she felt “a lot
of comfort here;” was warmly welcomed; slowly became
involved and has for years felt like Central is her second home.

Having taught Sunday School when her son was young and being involved in youth
ministry as he grew, today Pramila is focused on two areas of service at Central. She is a
faithful member of the Lutheran World Relief Quilting team of Central Lutheran Church
Women and serves on the planning team for the OWLS (Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors).
She says she loves to help plan the monthly outings for the OWLS—noting that the trips
are a very important part of the lives of many of our seniors—keeping them connected to
each other and to Central. She also serves as the publicity liaison to the Office of Commu-
nications for the OWLS program.

And she loves to cook! Trained professionally as a chef in her native India, she has cooked
in restaurants on three continents and even at Camp Amnicon when her son was young.
She has prepared very special Indian meals for the staff as a way of honoring them.

When asked why she has invested so much of herself in the mission of Central over the
years, she has an immediate reply: “God has called me here. God wants me to stay here.
God wants me to serve here.”

When asked about what’s happening at Central today that really excites her and gives her
hope for the future, Pramila has another immediate reply: “It’s the children!” She says
that Pastor Rick Nelson has brought renewed efforts to involve children prominently in
the life of the congregation, as evidenced by the many children who come forward for the
children’s message each Sunday and the facility improvements in the Sunday School.

“These children are the next generation and its very important that we include them in
worship and the life of our congregation,” she said. “They are the future!”

**Bring your lunch and join in a faith conversation
about the Psalms with Pastor Kristen and
other Central women! Thursdays in June, July, and
August. 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. in Fireside Lounge**

For more information, contact Karen Knox,
612-767-9211 or kknnox@centralmpls.org



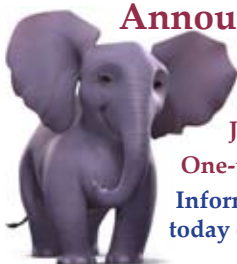
Announcing our 2010

Intergenerational Vacation Bible School!

Five Wednesday Evenings – 5:30 to 7:00
June 30; July 14, 28; August 11, 25

One-time fee: \$5 per person/\$10 per family

Information and registration forms available
today on the Plaza after church!



Events and Opportunities

Today

Join in Fellowship on the Plaza!

All are invited to gather on the North Plaza for coffee, beverages and treats following the worship service—our summer practice of fellowship and hospitality!

This Week

Central Meetings and Community Service

Monday, June 7—

Community Worship, 10:00 a.m.

(Fellowship Hall “FH”)

Clothes Closet, 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

(Restoration Center “RC”)

Community Meal, 11:30 a.m. (FH)

Tuesday, June 8—

Library Team, 1:00 a.m. (Library)

Heading Home Central Team, 6:00 p.m.

(Offsite)

Wednesday, June 9—

Heritage Ministry Team, 9:00 a.m.

(Heritage Room)

Clothes Closet, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. (RC)

Vacation Bible School Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

(Room 222)

Vacation Bible School Band Rehearsal,

6:00 p.m. (Community Room)

Summer Dot Com Worship, 7:00 p.m. (Patio)

Thursday, June 10—

Fiscal & Property Committee, 7:00 a.m.

(Fireside Lounge “FL”)

Open AA Meeting, 9:00 a.m. (RC)

Women’s Summer Faith Lunch, Noon (FL)

Clothes Closet, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. (RC)

Camp Noah Planning, 5:30 p.m. (128)

Join the Gardening Corps!

Next Meeting Thursday, June 10

The Central Gardening Corps will hold a planning meeting Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in Room 123. We are always looking for new members. Come! Check us out! No gardening experience necessary, just a love of plants. For more information contact Deborah Bauknight at deborah.bauknight@crsparch.com.

Next Sunday

“The mission of Radio/TV Caranavi in Bolivia” — A Global Mission Forum

Paul and Jay Mikaelson, directors of Radio/TV Caranavi, who are supported by Central, will speak about this media ministry that reaches the entire country of Bolivia and part of Peru and Chile—broadcasting in Spanish, Aymara and Quechua. This will be their first presentation at Central. All are welcome in Room 123, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Open House for Pastor Cherian Puthiyottil,

Sunday, June 13, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Pastor Cherian, a former associate pastor of Central, is retiring as executive director of Agora Ministries. Friends of Agora will gather to say thank you to Pastor Cherian and Carrie on Sun-

day, June 13 in Central’s Fellowship Hall, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., with a very special program from 4:30 to 5:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Looking Ahead

Annual Meeting, Sunday, June 20

The 2010 Annual Meeting of Central Lutheran Church will take place Sunday, June 20, following the 10:00 a.m. worship service in Fellowship Hall. Agenda items include: elections (officers and members of the Congregation Council; Synod Assembly Voting Members; Nominating Committee and one member of the Audit Committee); consideration and approval of the 2010-2011 budget; and the calling of Pastor Judith Stone and Mark Sedio, AiM. *The Annual Report, including biographical information about the candidates and year-end financial information will be available in print and on Central’s website (www.centralmpls.org) by Sunday, June 13.*

Oulainen Youth Choir in Concert

Monday, June 21 — 7:30 p.m.

Founded in Finland in 1972, this choir of 30 girls under the direction of Tapani Tirilä, has toured the globe and won numerous international awards. This will be a rare opportunity to hear one of the world’s most famous youth choirs. Central is pleased to host the final concert of the choir’s 32nd annual international tour. The girls will be overnight guests of several Central members following the concert. *A free, public event!*

Senior High Movie Night

Friday, June 25 — 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Dinner and treats will be served. Invite a friend. Please reserve with Greer Cherney by Sunday, June 20.

St. Paul Saints Baseball Family Event

Sunday, June 27 — 11:30 a.m.

Join other Central families and friends for a fun day at the ballpark! All ages are welcome! Bring food, snacks and drinks to enjoy at the tailgate party before the game. Tickets: \$12.00. Please reserve with Greer by Sunday, June 20.

Summer Family Camp — July 2-4

Central families will return to Camp Wapogasset—site of the successful Winter Family Camp—for a weekend retreat of fun and fellowship. Cost: \$250 maximum per family—includes all meals and lodging. *Registration deadline extended: \$75 reservation deposit is now due no later than June 15.* Register with Greer.

A Celebration of Interdependence—Dixieland Style, Sunday, July 4

On Independence Day it’s a celebration highlighting our need for each other—a celebration of **interdependence!** The famed Dixieland band “Stomp N’ Dixie” will lead us in worship, including many favorite hymns and songs. After the service, all are invited to gather on the plaza for an old-fashioned Fourth of July Ice Cream and Hot Dog Social—with more live Dixieland music! And, we’ll be inviting our downtown neighbors to join us! So come and be part of a great hospitality effort as we welcome new friends to Central!