

CENTRAL LUTHERAN MESSENGER

1604 W. Yakima Avenue,
Yakima, WA 98902 (509) 575-6490
office@clcyakima.org · www.clcyakima.org
Pastor Kathleen Anderson

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**November Messenger Deadline is
October 27th, 2021**

**Please e-mail your articles to
Central Lutheran Church
Lea.Ramirez@clcyakima.org**





TRUST THE PROCESS

Central's Ministry Site Profile (MSP) team is sending out a working copy of the congregation's paperwork for you to read and pray over and send feedback. Whether you get it via email or hard copy, please be sure to look it over carefully. This document should represent accurately and honestly the congregation, not the MSP team, not the council, not the executive committee, not any one person or group of people. This paperwork should accurately represent YOU, the congregation as a whole. It's very important for you to read it and give feedback to the MSP team about it. They have done some good work, and this is not an easy task.

Giving feedback, however, does not guarantee that whatever you suggest will be either incorporated or substituted in the document. The MSP team needs to know that you've read it, you've prayed over it, and this is what you think of it. It is the responsibility of the MSP team to make the decisions about what goes into the document. There is not enough room in it for everyone's personal comments to be included, but the team needs to know what you think, and you, the congregation, need to own this document.

It's not called a "call process" for nothing. There is a process in place for calling a pastor and it's there for the benefit of all involved: the calling congregation as well as any candidates. It's meant to be a self-study, a way for a congregation to look at themselves and be honest about where they are in their collective faith journey. It's meant to be a time of thoughtful prayer and prayerful thought. It will not serve either you or any candidate well if the process gets rushed or forced. It's up to you to trust it, the same way you trust God, because God is at work in the process. Lutherans call pastors from out of the wider community trusting in the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to do so. Too many congregations these days call a pastor only to have that relationship blow up within a couple of years. A needy and demanding congregation can burn out a pastor quickly. I know that you all are eager to forge a new relationship with a new pastor, but I urge you to trust the process, however long it takes. It will be better for all concerned in the long run.

When the call committee starts meeting, I will encourage them to find a prayer partner in the congregation. They have a big job ahead of them and they will need all the help from you they can get. Please be thinking about whether you might be willing to be a prayer partner with someone on the call committee if you are called upon, and whether you're willing to follow through. The heart, mind, and faith of everyone involved needs to be invested in this process. Considering how the relationship with your last pastor was allowed to deteriorate, I urge you to be thoughtful and prayerful this time. Consider the congregation's role in how the relationship with Pastor Carolyn ended and how you might do things differently. Just like other relationships, responsibility for success or failure rests with all parties concerned. Perceived failure or success of a pastorate is not the responsibility of only one person. Everyone in a congregation plays a part, whether it's active or passive. Remember, too, that waiting gives spiritual gifts, including the gift of becoming dependent on God.

Here are the guidelines for the call process. This is how it works here, for you and every congregation in this synod who seeks to call a pastor. Please take note of it.

GUIDELINES FOR THE CALL PROCESS NORTHWEST INTERMOUNTAIN SYNOD

1. When a vacancy occurs, the congregation members shall prayerfully begin the call process. The congregational president shall notify the bishop. The council and parish leadership shall attend to whatever emotions (i.e., grief, loss, guilt, anger, relief) the congregation and its members may be experiencing.
2. The bishop's office, in communication with the congregation council, will arrange an interim pastor.
3. The council shall review their present compensation package and their ability to adequately support a pastor. Congregations are expected to compensate according to synod guidelines. A review of financial stewardship by the entire congregation may be in order. Congregations are expected to develop a plan whereby their pastor(s)

will be compensated according to synod compensation guidelines with salary and cost of living increases every year. If a congregation is unable to compensate in this way, an alternate plan for pastoral services may need to be developed.

4. The congregation is encouraged to choose a Mission and Life Task Group that will work closely with the Interim Pastor, examine the opportunities for the congregation's mission and complete a congregational self study, sharing the results with the congregation's members. This work will assist the Mission and Life Task Group in completing the Ministry Site Profile (MSP).

5. Fine tune the MSP with congregational input before presenting it to the Synod.

6. The congregation shall elect a representative call committee according to the provisions for such a committee in their constitution.

7. Mission and Life Task Group completes the MSP, sends it into the Synod Office, and meets with the call committee to go over the MSP.

8. The council may provide an opportunity for the congregation to nominate candidates by use of a form provided in the synod office.

9. The bishop's office (and candidacy committee when possible) shall gather appropriate mobility information on each candidate, secure permission from each candidate's bishop, and review all prospective candidates. The Bishop or his/her representative shall then present to the congregation call committee a list of 2-3 persons whom they believe match the congregation's stated needs and who have indicated they would be open to seriously considering a call to the congregation.* The bishop's office will offer explanation to the call committee of all persons nominated by the congregation who are not included among the 2-3 candidates presented by the bishop's office. If the congregation is considering a first call candidate, that candidate will be presented as a slate of one (1).

10. A representative from the synod office will go over each name with the committee, verbally sharing as much information as is available and stating why they feel this person would fit the congregation's stated needs.

11. If the call committee believes the names submitted do not match the needs of the congregation, they may be returned and 2-3 additional names will be provided.

12. At this point the prospective candidate or candidates will be contacted by the call committee for additional information and interviewed. First interviews can be done either on-site or via video conference call (Skype or Zoom). It is important that all candidates are interviewed in the same manner.

13. On-site interview with final candidate(s). This pre-call on-site visit shall be held, at the congregation's expense. If the pastor has a spouse/partner, he/she should be invited to the on-site interview along with the pastor. A visit around the community would also be helpful. The congregation should also meet the candidate(s) at a reception, coffee hour, potluck or other informal time. The Synod office will provide guidance for this on-site visit.

14. If the committee does not feel that the individual(s) met through an on-site visit meet the needs of the congregation, they shall return the name(s) and request further names for consideration.

15. If the Call Committee feels that one of the candidates met through an on-site visit meets the needs of the congregation and is their selection for pastor of the congregation, then a call committee recommends a candidate of choice to the Congregation Council.

16. The other candidates shall be told promptly when they are no longer under consideration for the call.

17. If the Congregation Council agrees with the Call Committees recommendation, a special meeting of the congregation will be arranged according to the congregation's constitution, announced (usually two Sundays prior to the chosen date) and held with a designated representative of the bishop present. Only one name will be considered by the congregation. Written ballots will be used in electing a pastor. Absentee ballots are not allowed. A report of the results of the vote and meeting shall be sent to the Synod office together with data needed for issuing of the call. (See call document) A joint call meeting shall be held in the case of a two-point or multiple parish.

18. The Letter of Call shall be signed by the President and Secretary of the congregation and sent to the Synod office for attestation by the bishop, who will send it on to the candidate. **

19. Normally a pastor should make his/her decision within four weeks.

20. In the event the pastor does not accept the call, the call committee shall continue the process beginning again at step 9.

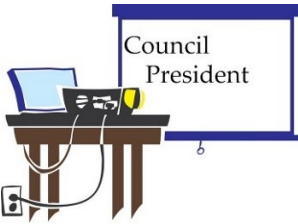
21. In the case of a call for an associate or co-pastor, the call shall “normally” be co-terminus with that of the lead or other co-pastor.

22. The council together with the pastor and bishop shall make plans for the pastor’s installation as soon after the acceptance of the call as possible. The Call Committee or another task group appointed by the council may be charged with the tasks of helping the new pastor settle into the community; i.e. finding a doctor, bank, schools, etc.

* Because of the need for individuals to be considered regionally and church-wide, an agreement has been reached that an individual’s name can only be considered by one congregation at a time. (The two exceptions to this agreement are: a) seminary assignees and b) persons Without Call). This means that when a congregation is reviewing 1-3 candidates, all other synods in the Region will be informed and these individuals will not be available for consideration until their names are released by the congregation considering him or her.

** Congregations calling first-call pastors are expected to participate with their pastor in the ELCA “First Call Theological Education” program. The program calls for additional continuing education time for the pastor and a congregational financial commitment of approximately \$500.

Addendum: when calling an Assistant, Associate, Co-Pastor, deacon, the current lead pastor has veto power in the selection process.



It's definitely fall. Apples are harvested, leaves are beginning to fall, and yes, I'm still weeding, but not as much and not early in the morning to beat the heat. by the time you read this, the MSP committee will have hopefully given their document to the call committee, or are

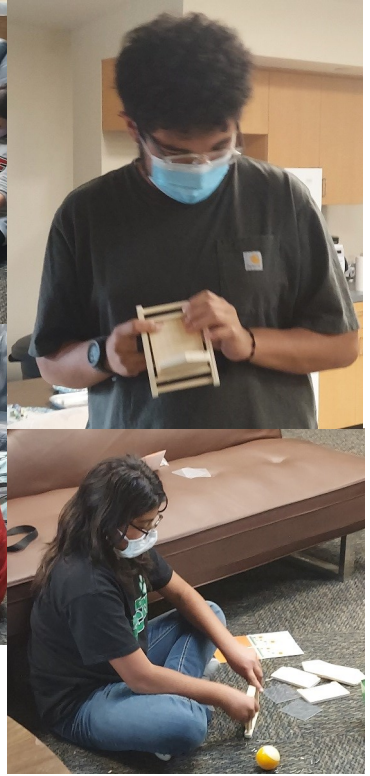
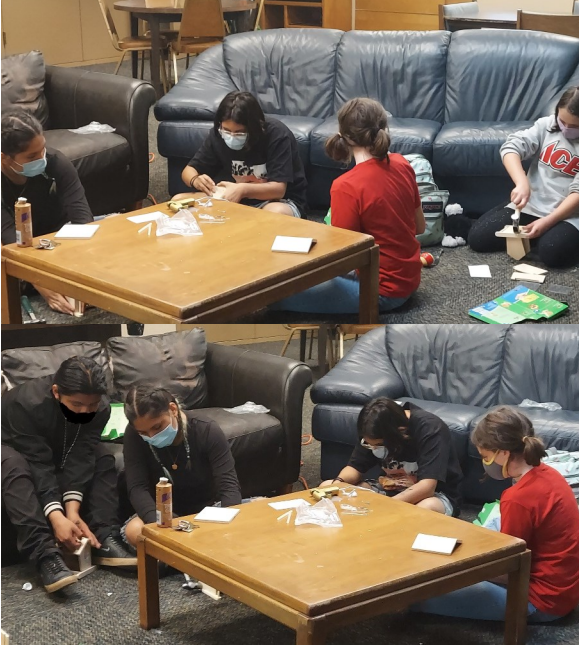
close to doing so, and we will be one step further down the road to another "threshold" I talked about in August. (Don't look it up—it's there). This brings to mind an interesting thought. We have all been praying for the arrival of a new called pastor, but if each of us is praying for a specific pastor, we are setting ourselves up for disappointment. Someone wants a young pastor, someone wants a musical pastor, someone wants a tall pastor, someone wants a short pastor..see where this goes? A friend and I talked years ago that one of the hardest things to do is to acknowledge that God is in charge, He is "driving the car", and we have to take our foot off the brake and trust Him to get us where we need to go. So as we wait (some more patiently than others), pray that we take our foot off the brake and let God get us to the right person in the right time. God's peace, k



ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting
November 21st, 2021

The annual meeting is approaching, and Council would like your help. Please prayerfully consider if there is someone in our congregation that you think would be an asset to the church council. Write the name on a piece of paper and put it in the offering plate. That's it; a lot of prayer and contemplation. When retiring council members get your input we will contact that person and ask them if they would consider joining council. Thank You



Wednesday Youth Group
enjoyed making bird houses!

- Phyllis Gillihan (*Ponderosa*)
Joanne Puyear (*Arbor House*)
Art Ries (*Livingcare*)
Toni Perschke (*Avamere*)
Walter & Edith Mabry (*Yakima*)
Betty Douglas (*Moxee*)
Elaine Bueling (*Covenant House*)
Mel Carlson (*Fieldstone Memory Care*)
Gary Pierone (*Good Samaritan*)
Dale Miller (*Yakima*)
Wilma Aspevig (*Yakima*)
Doris Benish (*Yakima*)
Chet Hausken (*Yakima*)
Marie Halverson (*Yakima*)
Kyle Dixon (*Yakima*)
Ana Jane Schulz (*Yakima*)

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

"Celebrating Central"



2nd Brian and Melanie Sanderson

6th Mark and Nancy Roehr

7th Larry and Connie Stephens

16th Tim and LeNee Gatton &

Leah and Steven Meiser

1st Norma Perala, Sarah Sanchez, Ron Burkhardt,
and Antonio Mendoza

3rd Aliena Marsical, Ann Willis, and Nicole Pierone

4th Doug Pray and Sandi Gibson

5th Kris Loyd

6th Dee Lund

7th Melissa Falk

8th Katie Bishop

9th Jase Gillespie

11th Jeanne Dillahunt and James Miller

12th Bruce Willis

14th Arddelle Ringhouse

16th Carvel Eaton

17th John Baken and Art Ries

18th Jeanne Underwood

19th Jennifer Loyd and Velda Schafer

20th Alexia Dobbs and Tim Reierson

21st Kevin Barnes and Jennifer Crane

22nd Orion Karn

24th Connie Stephens


26th Ashley Wilson, Linda Gordner, Randa Emmel,
Rick Rodden, and Kyle Dixon

27th Valerie Imbrock


31st Paige Falk



October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
3 19th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 am WORSHIP 10:15 am ADULT ED & SUNDAY SCHOOL 4:00 pm WORSHIP	4 8:00 a Men's Bible Study 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a TOPS 6:30 p Boy Scouts	5 8:00 a Foot Care 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study
10 20th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 am WORSHIP 10:15 am ADULT ED & SUNDAY SCHOOL 4:00 pm WORSHIP 6:15 pm YOUTH & FAMILY COMMITTEE	11 8:00 a Men's Bible Study 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a TOPS 10:00 a Camp Hope 6:00 p Property Committee 6:30 p Boy Scouts	12 8:00 a Foot Care 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study
17 21st Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 am WORSHIP 10:15 am ADULT ED & SUNDAY SCHOOL 4:00 pm WORSHIP	18 8:00 a Men's Bible Study 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a TOPS 12:00 p Jr League 6:30 p Council Committee 6:30 p Boy Scouts	19 8:00 a Foot Care 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 3:00 p On The Corner
24 22nd Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 am WORSHIP 10:15 am ADULT ED & SUNDAY SCHOOL 4:00 pm WORSHIP	25 8:00 a Men's Bible Study 8:30 a Financial Literacy 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a TOPS 6:30 p Boy Scouts	26 8:00 a Foot Care 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 3:00 p On The Corner 6:30 p On The Corner Committee Meeting
31 Reformation Sunday 9:00 am WORSHIP 10:15 am ADULT ED & SUNDAY SCHOOL 4:00 pm WORSHIP 	<p>Office is closed on Mondays</p> <p>Office hours are Tuesday through Friday 9:00 am until 2:00 pm</p>	

2021

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday/Saturday
6 9:30 a Preschool 4:00 p Youth Group	9 9:00 a Piecemakers 9:30 a Preschool	8 8:00 a Foot Care 5
13 9:30 a Preschool 4:00 p Youth Group	14 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a Worship Committee	15 8:00 a Foot Care 7:00 p Rock & Mineral Club 16
20 9:30 a Preschool 4:00 p Youth Group	21 9:00 a Piecemakers 9:30 a Preschool 3:00 p On The Corner	22 8:00 a Foot Care 23
27 9:30 a Preschool 4:00 p Youth Group	28 9:30 a Preschool 3:00 p On The Corner	29 8:00 a Foot Care 30
 <p>OCTOBER 31ST</p>		



A big thank you to everyone
who has worked so hard
on the MSP Task Force.



Pastor Nomination Form Northwest Intermountain Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

You can submit a name of a protentional pastor to the NWIM Synod Office for consideration to serve in your ministry or congregation. There are only a couple of simple rules guide the process.

You can't contact the pastor directly. In the ELCA we work through the bishop's office and they will contact the pastor to see if they are interested in a new call. Years of experience tells us that works for good order. The synod that the pastor is presently working in needs to release them for consideration.

You can't nominate any previous pastor or interim who has served this ministry or congregation. We look forward and not backwards!

The person nominated needs to be on the ELCA ordained roster (meaning they have to be a pastor in the ELCA).

Offering a name for consideration is not a guarantee that they will be available for consideration. There are a lot of factors that go into being available for a call and sometimes it just doesn't work at this time, due to family, congregations and ministry, etc.

Please make sure the form is legible and include your own name and contact information in the case the Synod Office needs clarification.

So with all that in mind, do you have an ELCA pastor that would be a good fit for our future ministry at (name of ministry site)?

Contact the Synod Office at cathy.steiner@nwimsynod.org or phil.misner@nwimsynod.org with the following comments. You can also mail in the form to our NWIM Synod Office at:
245 E. 13th Ave., Spokane, WA 99202

9/11/2021

To: Members of the
Central Lutheran
Church Council

I want to
extend a huge thank
you for providing the
recently published
booklet of welcome
to Central Lutheran
Church!

It is so thorough
and yet provides
simple, clear answers
to questions those new
to Central may have.

I am beyond elated!
The activity within
the rooms + walls
of Central are no
longer "a secret".

What a fantastic
job of transparency!

Thank you
Suzanne Farr



We are looking for someone to take over the Website and Facebook! Please contact the office.

We are also looking for people to sign up to do the live stream at 9am and 4pm on Sundays. Please contact Duane Monick.

Watch closely for an update from the Property Committee to clean the garage and finish up some of the rooms.



Preschool is back in session with Felicity doing chapel. Jason from OTC joined in.

Property Committee shows pride in the Church!

I would like to thank everyone on the property committee for everything they do with the building and keeping up with it! It makes it a warm and inviting place. Thank you Anne Chapman, Virg Umbarger, Wayne Hahn, Randy Town, Melissa Christianson, Paul Rogers, and Paul Soderstrom. Thank you once again - Lea



Lower doors sanded and painted!



Central Mechanical replaced existing furnaces for the fellowship hall and the library. They had to go through the roof to get to it. Then they repaired the ac to the office.



The brick around the flower box is now repaired also!



Treasurer's Report					
Financial results thru		August 31, 2021			
	Offerings/income		Expenses by major category		
	August	Year to date	August	August	Year to date
General fund	23,411.81	231,245.73	Salaries & benefits	16,918.31	144,681.30
Building Usage	40.00	4,349.31	Youth & Family	-	2,016.77
other income	3.05	127.72	Worship	310.97	1,698.43
Transfers			Hospitality	-	327.14
from endowment fund		19,647.74	Stewardship/Church in Society	6,150.00	40,959.34
from money market	42.94		Property	2,725.67	39,291.12
Gertie Hein - Visitation	-	-	Office	1,058.90	9,929.56
Total	23,497.80	255,370.50	Total	27,163.85	238,903.66
	August 2021		operating loss, net of transfers	\$ (3,708.99)	
			net loss	\$ (3,666.05)	
		Year to date	operating income, net of transfers	\$ (3,180.90)	
			net income	\$ 16,466.84	

SUSTAINABILITY CORNER

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Social Statement on: Caring for

Creation: VISION, HOPE, JUSTICE



The Social Statement continues-

- **We model God’s justice by striving to embody 4 four principles in the face of the intricate complexity of creation and of the human community:**
 - ◇ **Participation—All human beings are entitled to a voice and to have their interests considered when decisions are made affecting the creation and its resources. Human beings should be advocates for the non-human parts of creation, especially those parts that are most vulnerable and at greatest risk;**
 - ◇ **Sufficiency We are to place priority on meeting the basic needs of all humanity and all creatures and since the earth’s resources are finite, this has implication for human acquisition and consumption patterns;**
 - ◇ **Sustainability—We should act so as to provide “an acceptable quality of life for present generations without compromising that of future generations.”**

NOTE: This is part 4 of a 6 part series from the office of the ELCA.



OCTOBER