

# ***CENTRAL LUTHERAN MESSENGER***

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Pastor Kathleen Anderson

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**July Messenger Deadline is June 26, 2021**

**Please e-mail your articles to  
Central Lutheran Church**

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One thing that a transition calls into visibility is congregational patterns. Every congregation has them; some to a greater extent and some to a slightly lesser extent.

Congregational patterns are not the same, either, from place to place. And of course every congregation has its own unique history in their formation, their members, and their pastors. To people who know to look for such things patterns can become a valuable tool for health. There are unhealthy patterns and there are healthy patterns. One goal for congregations in the call process is to identify unhealthy patterns so those patterns might have a chance of being changed.

Individuals also have patterns. Sometimes these patterns are identified as “pushing [your] buttons”. These patterns are so called because we choose, consciously or, more usually, unconsciously, how we respond to other people. Patterns can be passed down from generation to generation. For example, my mother reacted to a procedure I once had done by saying, “No one in my family has ever had ‘female problems’.” This was blatantly untrue, as two of her sisters had had breast cancer and so did she, although she never acknowledged it. We know, of course, that breast cancer is not limited to women, but in my mother’s mind it was. She didn’t like talking about anything that she thought related even remotely to anything sexual, so she repressed it. When I find myself reacting in a similar way, I force myself to stop and ask myself why I’m reacting that way to this particular thing. Once I have identified the source then I can deliberate the next time about changing my response.

All of this relates to the work of Dr. Murray Bowen, a psychiatrist who died in 1990. He was a pioneer in family therapy and a founder of systemic therapy. Systemic therapy, like family therapy, addresses relationships in order to nurture change and development in the system as a whole and seeks to change for the better interactions between family members. Bowen saw families as emotional systems in which each family member plays a role and the whole family is linked to one another emotionally. It’s easy to see from this definition that one person’s emotions can affect the rest of the family, or, in Bowen terms, the whole system. When one person is happy, the rest of the family rejoices, too. When one person’s anxiety rises, the anxiety level of the rest of the family rises, too.

It was Dr. Edwin Friedman, a rabbi from New York, who applied systems theory to congregations, beginning with his own synagogue. He noted that a congregation acts like a family system where people have specific roles and where the emotions of one person can affect the whole. Congregations are historically anxious organizations so you can imagine what happens when one person’s anxiety rises, especially if that person is in a leadership position.

Patterns in individuals develop when they observe their parents respond to situations. Congregational patterns also can be set in the early days of their formation and other patterns can form as time goes on. A lot of pattern development depends on leadership, both clergy and non-clergy, and how they respond to situations.

You have your own system and your own patterns here at Central Lutheran. I don't know how many, but a few strong ones have already asserted themselves in the short time I've been here. One highly passive-aggressive pattern occurs when a person decides to be disgruntled or offended by something coming from staff or, especially, the pastor, and the person will call for discipline or a reprimand or a review. This call, then, reveals another pattern of secrecy on the part of the council, who will conceal what may be considered "bad news" from the rest of the congregation.

This is not how the body of Christ is called to interact with one another. Paul gives us a snapshot of in his letter to the church in Rome, specifically in chapter 12, where my Bible has a subheading that reads "Marks of the True Christian". Keep in mind that Paul was an apologist for Jesus—meaning that he took it upon himself to explain what Jesus meant by what he said. I ask you to keep this in mind because I suspect that there will be some diversity of opinion on what the "marks of a true Christian" are. Some may disagree with this famous laundry list of Paul's. I think this list is not necessarily complete. But this is Paul's vision for Christianity in its infancy, and we haven't come up with anything better since then. These marks undoubtedly are Paul's vision for an ideal community. He, too, found out the hard way that communities of people, even those who follow Jesus, are far from ideal. That doesn't mean that we can't or shouldn't strive for these things. It does mean, however, that we should keep these in mind when dealing with one another within God's intention and will for us:

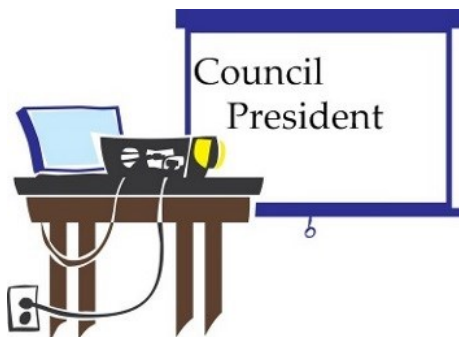
### **Marks of the True Christian**

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

How many of these marks do you think the North American church hits today? The church in Rome in Paul's day certainly didn't hit all of them. But Paul was hopeful that, if people who claimed to follow Jesus kept striving for these things, eventually they could become reality within the body of Christ.

Peace be with you all, Pastor Anderson



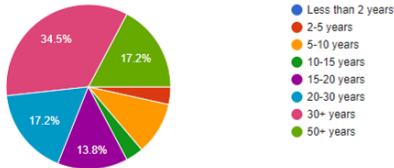
I need a break. Not that I'm still working, or that things are difficult, but it feels like recovering from Covid protocols and lock-outs and returning to "normal" is taking a lot of work, too. As we return, we ask for the same considerations we asked for starting February 28<sup>th</sup>. Remember all that? The considerations asked that we honor how other people were feeling as we inched our way forward. We're still working on following those considerations. Council has asked that we keep wearing masks for worship at least until our next council meeting, which is almost the end of the month when maybe our state will remove restrictions. But even after council says "we're good, no more worries", not all of us are going forward at the same speed. I've been a couple of places that don't require masks for "fully vaccinated" (my family is) but it's a weird feeling. I've worn my masks a few places just because it feels "safe". If someone attends worship with a mask on, even if they don't have to, that's ok. If someone is still more comfortable attending virtually, that's ok. Be considerate of our friends in Christ—we can see the light at the end of the tunnel! It's been so fun to see a few more people in church each Sunday as we work our way back; we can do this!

In the meantime, back to that break. I'm going to pull a few weeds, listen to the birds, breathe unmasked air, and celebrate that I'm here, I'm a child of God, it's spring, and God's grace is sufficient for all. God's peace, Karen

## Questions from the committee

How many years have you attended?

29 responses



We at Central Lutheran Church are on a journey to call a new pastor. This survey is just a fraction of what will go into a document we send to the Synod in Spokane. Once the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) document is finished we will renew/revote on our Call Committee at our Nov Annual Meeting. The Call Committee will do the interviewing and sorting of candidates. The Synod gives us hopeful pastors in sets of three. These are given in no particular order, it will be 3 pastors who are ready for a new call. Our Call Committee will prayerfully consider and when they are ready, we will be introduced to their suggested candidate. After flying the pastor out here and hearing them preach, the congregation may vote that pastor in and the pastor may choose to accept the offer.

The prep work done now makes the searching easier for everyone, and its so very important. We need each member, young, old, and young at heart to fill out their own survey. We have received just over 35 so far but would prefer this number be in the triple digits. Do one per person, not one per household. Talk to your friends who used to attend and have stopped coming the last few years. This is honor system stuff, a long time “visitor” has just as much voice as a current member but it won’t be helpful to find someone who dropped off the rolls twenty years ago and does not intend to return.

Once you’ve answered these questions (either online at <https://forms.gle/jRcucKnJStFNh2DRA> or on paper) the MSP committee needs them back. Please mail them, leave them in the basket at the back of the church in the Narthex, scan and email to Lea in the office, or any other method. We are taking your forms and entering them into the link above, and will have information to share with you all. Not only will we share it, we will do something with it!! Keep your eyes peeled for snippets from me. We must have everyone’s form back as soon as possible so we can move forward in our journey for a Pastor. Please aim for June 20.

Blessings

Melissa Christianson Chair of MSP, Council Vice-President

# “Celebrating Central”



1st Robert Toop

4th Sandra Berry & Jordan Juarez

5th Alana Muir

6th Rick Nygard

7th Virgil Umbarger & John Molsberry

8th Paul Larson

10th Ben Barg & Jeff Hagen

11th Marie Halverson

12th Kris Vestad

13th Carissa Switzer

14th Zachary Sanderson

16th Betty Tester & Paul Melville

19th Kayla Murray, Sheila Gunderson, Doug Dalke

22nd Jeremy Brown & Samantha Meiser

23rd April Thompson, Tim Pray & Doris Bensih

24th Gordon Bueling, Anne Bounds, Paul Rogers

29th Walter Mabry & Brooklyn Bishop



5th Ted & Lois Smidt

7th Robert & Mary Toop

9th Dale & Janice Miller

12th James & Carvel Eaton

14th Scott & Jane Peterson

19th Soren & Julie Rottman

Von & Chris Steinhilb

Ellwood & Arla Crosier

Paul & Kristy Larson

21st Victor & Suzanne Tarr

Chris & Amber Keenan

Doug & Lori Wilson

Brandon & Felicity Pittman

24th Ken & Barbara Toop

28th Milton & Sheila Gunderson

John & Katy Svendsen

## Remember Father's Day, June 20th

**Father's Day** is a day of honoring fatherhood and paternal bonds, as well as the influence of fathers in society. In Catholic countries of Europe, it has been celebrated on March 19 as Saint Joseph's Day since the Middle Ages. In America, Father's Day was founded by Sonora Smart Dodd, and celebrated on the third Sunday of June for the first time in 1910. The day is held on various dates across the world and different regions maintain their own traditions of honoring fatherhood.



**2 0 2 1**  
**GRADUATION**  
**SUNDAY**

**CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*Graduation Blessings*

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June 13th

9am onwards

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FRIENDS AND EXTENDED FAMILY ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND  
BY WATCHING THE SERVICE LIVESTREAMED TO OUR FACEBOOK  
PAGE, WEBSITE, AND YOUTUBE CHANNEL  
[WWW.CLCYAKIMA.ORG](http://WWW.CLCYAKIMA.ORG)

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All members and guests are asked to wear a mask when  
entering the church.





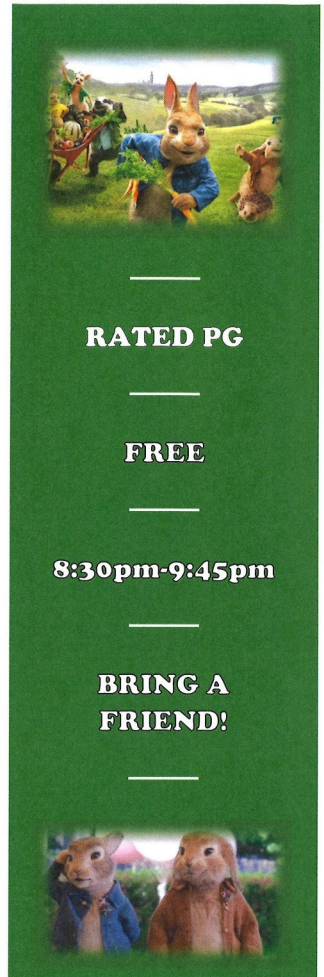
# Movie Night

**JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup>, 8:30<sub>pm</sub>**

## Peter Rabbit 2

Thomas and Bea are now married and living with Peter and his rabbit family. Bored of life in the garden, Peter goes to the big city, where he meets shady characters and ends up creating chaos for the whole family. -imdb

Join us for this family friendly on the Central Lutheran Church playground lawn on June 25th, 8:30-9:45pm. Children, and adults, are welcome to come dressed in your comfy clothes or pajamas! Bring a blanket or chair to sit on. We look forward to seeing you!



RATED PG

FREE

8:30pm-9:45pm

BRING A  
FRIEND!

CENTRAL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

CLC Backyard  
1604 W Yakima Ave  
Chestnut Entrance

CVLI #504218490

## **Committee Meetings for the month of June:**

**7th Property Committee** meeting 6:00pm Library

**17th Worship Committee** meeting 2:00pm Library

**18th Executive Committee** meeting 10:45am Room 204

**21st Church Council** meeting 6:30pm Room 204

**24th MSP Task Force** meeting 6:30pm Room 203

## **The month of June:**

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study** Room 204 at 10:00 am

### **Middle School & High School Youth Group**

Multipurpose Room, Wednesdays 4:00pm until 6:00pm

### **Piecemakers**

Rooms 107/108, 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month 9am until 1:00pm

### **Preschool**

Playground and gym, Monday through Thursday through June 10th  
9am until noon

### **Foot Care**

Youth Room, Tuesdays & Fridays 9:00am until 5:00pm

### **Boy Scouts**

Fellowship Hall, Mondays 6:30pm until 8:30 pm

### **Tops**

Room 108, Mondays 9:00am



Treasurer's Report		April 30, 2021		Expenses by major category		Year to date
Financial results thru		April		April		Year to date
Offerings/income		Year to date		Year to date		Year to date
General fund	28,774.10	126,970.54	Salaries & benefits	18,380.43	73,246.37	
Building Usage	40.00	100.00	Youth & Family	303.03	529.09	
other income	3.56	68.55	Worship	25.62	831.81	
Transfers			Hospitality	-	151.96	
from endowment fund		1,946.65	Stewardship/Church in Society	4,020.28	17,359.34	
from money market	316.56		Property	3,413.23	20,437.00	
Gertie Hein - Visitation	-		Office	1,207.10	5,092.07	
Total	29,134.22	129,085.74	Total	27,349.69	117,647.64	
	April 2021		operating income, net of transfers	\$ 1,467.97		
			net income	\$ 1,784.53		
	Year to date		operating income, net of transfers	\$	9,491.45	
			net income	\$	11,438.10	



Office hours are now  
Monday through Friday  
8:00am until 3:00pm

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Phyllis Gillihan (*Ponderosa*)  
Joanne Puyear (*Arbor House*)  
Art Ries (*Livingcare*)  
Toni Perschke (*Avamere*)  
Walter & Edith Mabry (*Yakima*)  
Betty Douglas (*Moxee*)  
Elaine Bueling (*Fieldstone Memory Care*)  
Mel Carlson (*Fieldstone Memory Care*)  
Gail Hills (*Home with Hospice*)  
Gary Pierone (*Good Samaritan*)  
Dale Miller (*Yakima*)  
Wilma Aspevig (*Yakima*)  
Doris Benish (*High Gate Memory Care*)  
Kathern Carmichael (*Karen Franklund's friend*)  
Chet Hausken (*Living Care*)  
Dotty Swank (*Yakima*)



Please update any  
prayer request

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Thank you once again for all the prayers, cards, and support during our time with Rudy. The Memorial was a wonderful way to share his life and memories. Lea and Family

A Huge Thank You to Central Lutheran Youth for donating 80 Mothers Day Gift Bags. Each gift bag contains a flower pot, potting soil, seeds, paint, a paint brush, crayons and a blank card. The children were overjoyed with this gift. Some classrooms got right to the craft and created some lovely pots. While others chose to send it home as a Mother-Child Craft to do on Mother's Day. -Tomi Barragan Director of Jane's House

Here are some great photos we captured while our ECEAP Preschool students painted their flower pots.



# On The Corner Update:

Thank you to all of the members that let it be known that you still wanted to see OTC stay open and doing God's work in our community. This has been an important ministry of Central Lutheran Church for the past 10 years, and now thanks to you, we will continue to serve children and their families for another decade! CLC is in the process of hiring my replacement, and I am happy to say that the church council voted that the salary for the director's position should be the responsibility of the church and not the directors job to find funds to pay their own wage.

It is bitter sweet that I write my last Messenger for a ministry that I have loved doing for the past 10 years. I am proud of the work that has been done and grateful for the opportunity to serve in such an important role. I am also very grateful for all of you that have been on this journey with me. Not all of you were able to volunteer to work with the kids, but I have felt your support in every other way. This has been more than a job for me, and a journey filled with countless heart warming memories that I will treasure always. It has been a blessing to do this work on behalf of CLC and a joy to work with so many wonderful volunteers, dedicated OTC staff, and all of the families that I got to know. Most of all I will miss seeing the kids, many who have been part of OTC for years and years. Please continue to support this ministry and the new director that will follow me. I know this ministry isn't done changing lives yet!

Blessings,  
Denise





The first recipients of the HUG (Helping Kids Graduate) scholarships were awarded at the OTC Year End Celebration held Tuesday, May 25th. The first place winners in the two categories were Marcelino Diaz and Donna Lopez. Each student received a \$1,000 scholarship to be held by HUG for any school related expenses they might have as they head into high school or for furthering their education after graduation.

Thank you to Evergreen Machine & fabrication owner Jason Galloway for starting this valuable non profit for underserved kids in the Yakima community and honoring OTC with the very first scholarships. Also, big thanks to The KILN for providing all of the pizza! We enjoyed every piece! And thank you Karen Franklund for providing a Thrivent card to help with painting and party expenses.



June

