

CENTRAL LUTHERAN MESSENGER

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Pastor Kathleen Anderson

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WORSHIP WITH US THIS
CHRISTMAS



**Friday December 24th Christmas Eve
Services 6:00pm and 9:00pm**

**Christmas Day Saturday December 25th
Christmas Service 10:00am**



**January Messenger Deadline is
December 27th, 2021**

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





In my pastor's report for the annual meeting, I wrote a kind of "state of the church" letter and I'm hoping that you all had a chance to read it. I'm also hoping that you as a congregation are curious enough to want to discuss it, or to want to talk about discussing it. These are issues that concern the entire congregation and should be discussed by the whole congregation if you're interested at all in the possibility of moving your church community toward health, even incrementally. Everything I've read about churches in decline proposes that when churches have everyone in the congregation engaged in mission and ministry to whatever level they are capable, they thrive. Thriving churches can attract new people, which gives you the perfect opportunity to introduce new people to experience the living God with you. That would be a big step towards vitality, health, and viability, and what a way to fulfill God's call! The key is to get **everyone** invested, engaged, and involved.

Are you interested in talking about thinking about maybe considering that step?

If you're not, then all right. Things will continue here as usual, so you don't need to worry. The boat will stay calm, and no one will have to feel uncomfortable. Christians in the United States are nothing if not comfortable. Comfort, however, is the hobgoblin of faith and Jesus definitely does not call us to be comfortable. He calls us to follow him.

If you're thinking you'd rather wait for your new pastor to come and make things better, you may be waiting for a while. No pastor is going to come here and "fix" everything for you. No pastor can do that at any church, because the work belongs to the congregation. No pastor has a magic bullet or magic formula to make things go back to the way they were in whatever year it might have been when things were perfect. Becoming fully engaged in mission and ministry might be hard work, but it is to what followers of Jesus are called. We are called by Jesus to follow the way of the cross, and that can be uncomfortable. In truth, it **should** be uncomfortable. Following Jesus puts us at odds with the world and that is rarely a comfortable place to be.

Psychiatrist C.G. Jung talked about "inner work", which is the work of self-differentiation for an individual. This is an important characteristic to have when living in a system, and we all live in at least one system, and that's our family. A congregation is an emotional system, like a family.

Differentiation helps us not to get sucked into the drama that affects many families and congregations. Self-differentiation is what Paul was talking about in Philippians 2, especially in verse 12.

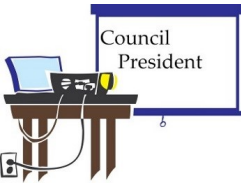
The good news is that, even though this congregation may be most of the problem, you also are most of the solution. Emotional systems, like a congregation, seek stasis, that is, stability. Stasis is a big reason why conflicts and tensions get covered over, ignored, and even denied because stasis is comfortable and most of us like to be comfortable. Comfortable, however, will not move anyone or any system forward. A system is powerful and everyone plays a role in it. If just one person changes their pattern in the system, that change eventually will affect and even change the whole system, like the proverbial plucking of one thread of the spider web. As you likely know, although change is really a value neutral word, it can be either good or bad, depending on how those in the system view it and handle it. Change can become a step down the path toward a healthier church, or it can entrench a system even more.

In which direction do you want this congregation to go?

It's up to you. If you'd like to talk about any of this, please contact me or leave a message with Lea in the office. If enough people are interested in exploring possibilities, we can call a congregational meeting in January.

Peace to you, Pastor Anderson

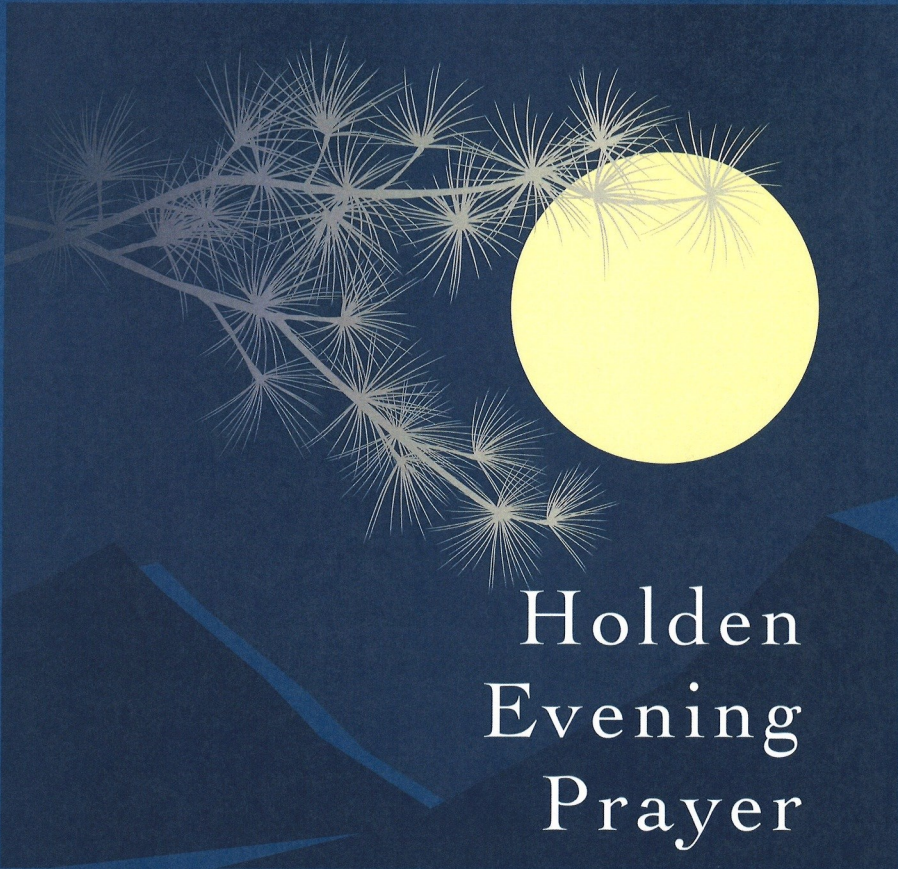




Wow. Where did this year go?! Last day of November already. The annual meeting is over, and a huge thanks to all who participated. We have new council members for 2022, the budget is passed, and Central Lutheran is looking forward to a new year and maybe (hopefully) a new called pastor.

I've done a bit of Christmas decorating at church and at home. Our neighbors all have outside lights up, some even have Christmas trees up in the front windows. I guess I like to take my time to put things out, to savor the season and what it really means. Yes, we'll have family dinners with the kids all home, presents under the tree, and choir(!) singing familiar anthems. But through it all, to slow down the hustle and bustle and remember it isn't all the stuff that brings meaning to the season, it's the event, the birth in Bethlehem, the forgiveness and grace brought to all mankind in the gift of Jesus. So enjoy the season! Enjoy the family, friends, carols and gifts, but please also remember the gift from God, brought down to earth for us. Merry Christmas! Karen





Holden
Evening
Prayer

MARTY HAUGEN

**Join us in the sanctuary at 4pm,
on Sundays during Advent, for
Holden Evening Prayer**

“Celebrating Central”

1st Elaine Bueling

3rd Fransisca Trevino

5th Madeline Falk

7th Abby Christianson

8th Nancy Smart, Carole Folsom-Hill, Anna Greenside

9th Grant Reiersen, Rachel Roll

10th Courtney Franks

11th Matthew Imbrock

20th Nancy Roehr, Myrna Hillestad

21st Wayne Hahn, Suzanne Tarr

23rd Dale Miller

25th Carol Nelson

27th Deanna Pappas

28th Asael Rabadan

29th Noelle Roehr, Lori Wilson

30th Kenan Rottman, Soren Rottman

31st JoAnn Schliemann



1st Jeremy & Shayna Brown

3rd Walter & Edith Mabry

4th Tim & Judy Johnson

17th Dale & JoAnn Schliemann

19th Art & Toni Perschke

28th Mike & Faith Richardson

29th Paul & Holly Gonseth

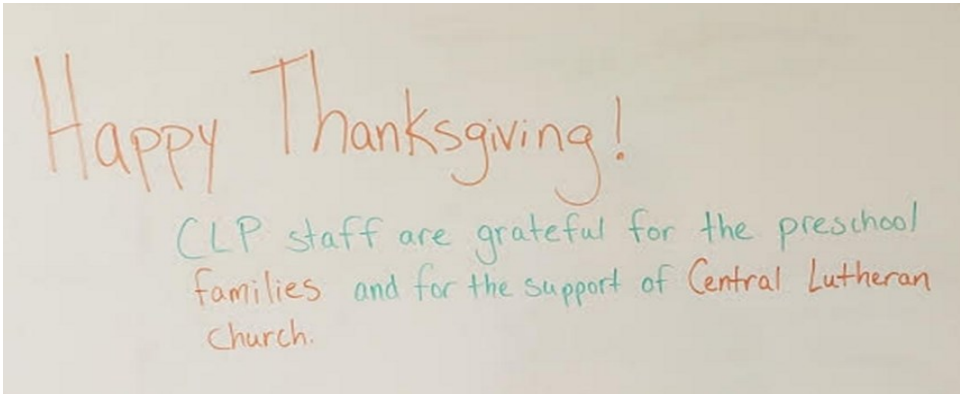


IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

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*)
Dale Miller (*Yakima*)
Wilma Aspevig (*Yakima*)
Doris Benish (*Yakima*)
Chet Hausken (*Yakima*)
Marie Halverson (*Yakima*)
Kyle Dixon (*Yakima*)
Tim Schulz (*Yakima*)

Nice Message to a Friend

Paula Arndt came by for a short visit on Friday. She brought me one of your quilts. It is so lovely and perfect color for my bedroom. Thank you all for your work, and Paula for the gift. Pass this on to all, and I miss all my Central friends so much. – Dorothy Brink


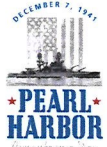


Happy Thanksgiving!

CLP staff are grateful for the preschool families and for the support of Central Lutheran Church.

The white board by the Preschool had this message on it!

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>Gym Schedule: Youth Group Wednesdays 4 until 6:00 pm OTC Tuesday and Thursday 3 until 6:00 pm Preschool Monday through Thursday 9:30 until noon Rosebud Dance Sundays 5 until 7:00 pm CRU Volleyball Monday through Thursday 6:30 until 8:30 pm</p>		
<p>5 Second Sunday of Advent</p> <p>9:00 am HOLY COMMUNION 10:15 am SUNDAY SCHOOL 4:00 pm WORSHIP</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:00 a Men's Bible Study 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a TOPS 6:30 p Boy Scouts</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00 a Foot Care 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 3:00 p 'On the Corner'</p> 
<p>12 Third Sunday of Advent</p> <p>9:00 am HOLY COMMUNION 10:15 am SUNDAY SCHOOL 4:00 pm WORSHIP</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8:00 a Men's Bible Study 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a TOPS 6:00 p Grid Kids Dinner 6:00 p Property Committee</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00 a Foot Care 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 3:00 p 'On the Corner' 6:00 p Grid Kids Dinner</p>
<p>19 Fourth Sunday of Advent</p> <p>9:00 am HOLY COMMUNION 10:15 am SUNDAY SCHOOL 4:00 pm WORSHIP</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:00 a Men's Bible Study 10:00 a TOPS 6:30 p Church Council</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00 a Bible Study</p>
<p>26 First Christmas</p> <p>9:00 am HOLY COMMUNION 10:15 am SUNDAY SCHOOL 4:00 pm WORSHIP</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>

2021

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday/Saturday
1 9:30 a Preschool 4:00 p Youth Group	2 9:30 a Preschool 2:00 p Worship Committee 3:00 p 'On the Corner'	3 8:00 a Foot Care
		4
8 9:30 a Preschool 4:00 p Youth Group	9 9:30 a Preschool 11:30 a OTC Committee 3:00 p 'On the Corner'	10 8:00 a Foot Care
		11
15 9:30 a Preschool 4:00 p Youth Group	16 9:30 a Preschool 3:00 p 'On the Corner'	17 8:00 a Foot Care 12:00 p Staff Lunch 7:00 p Rock & Mineral Club
		18
22 4:00 p Youth Group	23	24 6:00 p Worship 9:00 p Worship  Christmas Eve
		25 10:00 a Worship  CHRISTMAS DAY
29	30	31  New Year's Eve
		 Welcome 2021



Joyce Rikerd took squares from the Piecemakers to Florida with her to make quilts. Also fabric went to Alaska to make pillows, stockings and





Wednesday Youth Group

December and January

December 1st - Youth Group 4-6pm

December 8th - Youth Group 4-6pm

December 15th - Youth Group 4-6pm

December 22nd - Youth Group 4-9pm

December 29th - *No Youth Group*

January 5th - Youth Group 4-6pm

January 12th - Youth Group 4-6pm

January 19th - Youth Group 4-6pm

January 26th - Youth Group 4-6pm

BIBLE STUDY AND ADULT EDUCATION

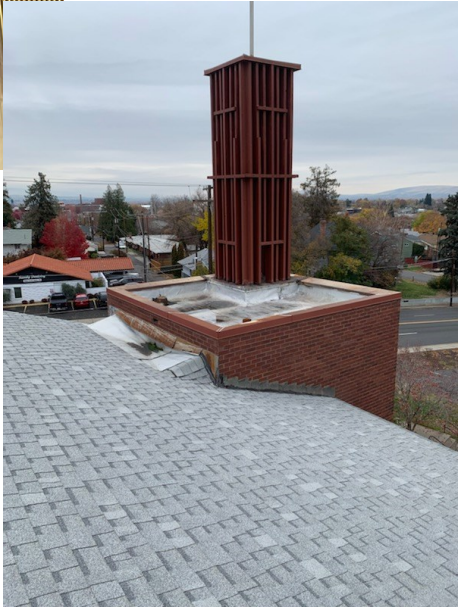
Tuesday mornings 10 am - Bible Study - Pastor Kathleen is helping this class explore how all the Bible stories we know and love fit together as the bigger story of God and God's people. You are always welcome to join any time in room 204.

Sunday mornings following worship, we'll try to start at 10:15 after worship, downstairs in the AV room. Everyone is welcome!

Monday mornings 8 am in the Fellowship Hall so you will want to use the Chestnut Avenue parking lot and lower entrance. Bring your Bible and your appropriate beverage choice and plan to spend an hour in study and prayer.

NOTE: There will not be Bible Study or Adult Ed. The week between Christmas and New Years.

Big thank you once again to the Property Committee!
The light in the Sanctuary is fixed and the roof leaks are fixed until spring. We had 2 leaks one in the library and one in the balcony off the Narthex.



Youth & Family made 150 apple pies for a fundraiser. Thanks to all that helped!

We had seven kids and about as many adults baking for a fundraiser.

We taught 3 kids to make crust, roll it out, fill pies, and add a top crust with crimping! We then had the pleasure of watching those three (who were ages 9 & 10) teach the other kids how to repeat what they learned. Thank you to those who made crusts at home.





On The Corner: December Newsletter

It's somewhat hard to fathom that Advent is here. After the slow crawl that was 2020, it feels like 2021 has been somehow sped up. Thanksgiving is now behind us and celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus is now upon us. In remembering the circumstances Christ was born under, we can remember how in any given time, societies will always be reflected in the people who have, and those who have not. Jesus, born in a manger, from an earthly mother, would become the Savior of us all. It should remind us why we have a program like OTC blessing our halls. Our OTC kids often come from very humble beginnings too. And as societies often do, people from these humble beginnings are often marginalized and pushed out towards the fringe. What a blessing it is for us to be able to serve them. Jesus takes our hands and does His work through them, though our hands also help perpetuate the sins and inequities of the societies we've been raised in. Such is the trust the Lord gives to those who would serve Him. I am blessed to be part of Central's commitment to service in the name of Jesus Christ. Covid has upended our world, and we at OTC are slowly and prayerfully building back the program with the health of our kids and our congregation in mind. Our attendance has increased weekly, and we have more commitments for December. The availability for 5-11 year-olds to get the vaccine is promising for us to serve higher numbers safely. OTC values those of you who have volunteered your time despite Covid fears. We would not be here without you.

With blessings and a Merry Christmas to all,

Jason Bond
Director-On The Corner

