

CENTRAL LUTHERAN MESSENGER

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Pastor Kathleen Anderson

VOLUME 72 Number 2

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Please join us
February 6th after Worship
in the Sanctuary for a special
Congregational Meeting



**February Messenger Deadline is
February 23rd, 2022**

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

Lea.Ramirez@clcyakima.org



This and That

Here's a couple of things I've been thinking about lately.

The Lord's Prayer

Most of you probably have noticed that the Lord's prayer printed in the bulletin is a little different than what you are used to, but I'm sure you know that there is both a so-called "traditional" version and an "ecumenical" version in the hymnal. The "traditional" version uses, in my opinion, antique language and some King James English. Of course there's nothing wrong with that. Those of us who grew up with the old red hymnal, Service Book and Hymnal, got a taste of Anglican chant in the liturgical music and a whole lot of King James English to go along with it. I remember very well following along in the hymnal at weddings and thinking that "thereto I plight thee my troth" was a complicated and ultimately silly expression. But that's the way it was for a long time. After a while, I started to think that Latin would make more sense than King James English.

Then the LBW came along and we were introduced to the ecumenical version of the Lord's prayer. This version was issued in 1988, along with ecumenical versions of the creeds. The funny thing is that these versions of the creeds were quickly adopted by most congregations, but this version of the Lord's prayer has gained much slower acceptance. I suspect that part of that goes back to earlier hymnals, from which so many of us learned both the prayer and Psalm 23. I can still recite the twenty-third psalm from memory—in King James English.

That doesn't mean I always use that version, though. It's good for us to hear things that we know very well in a different version sometimes. It can help us pay more attention to what that poem or that prayer is saying. When we pray the words, "your kingdom come", what if we really meant that? Think, some time, about what the words that you're saying mean, even when you're saying them by rote. Words can and do have meaning, and usually a deeper meaning than we give from simply reciting something.

The upshot, of course, is that I think we don't all need to be praying the same "version" of the Lord's prayer. Nowhere does either Jesus or scripture say that it needs to be recited in unison with everyone using the same rhythm and cadence. In some places where this is done, it sounds cultish. That's never a good thing. You are welcome to use whichever version you prefer, including another language if you like. The words will still mean the same things.

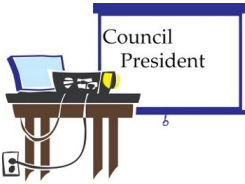
The Word "Amen"

This is a word that comes to us from both Hebrew and Greek scripture, and it's used a bit differently in the New Testament.

Sometimes we'll read or hear about Jesus starting a sentence with the words "truly, truly I tell you. . ." The word "truly" in this case is "amen" in Greek (ἀμήν). When this phrase comes up, "truly, truly I tell you", that's our clue to understand that Jesus *really* means whatever comes after it. It's an affirmation.

The word "amen" is an affirmation for us, too. This is another word I hope you'll think about the next time you say it. We use it to conclude prayers: "through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen." What you are saying, there, is "yes, we do ask these things through our Lord Jesus Christ." It is the proper response to receiving the body and the blood of Jesus: "the body of Christ, given for you. Amen." It's your yes to what is being said or what you are experiencing. Yes. This is the body of Jesus, given for me, and his blood shed for me. Yes, I believe this is true. Yes, I believe.

Remember that "amen" is your, the congregation's, word. It is not usually the pastor's word. It is your seal of approval, your statement that yes, this is true. It's your "yes, I believe" in response to prayers or actions. So don't be afraid to belt it out. "Amen" tells the world and those around you that you believe. It tells the pastor the same thing and is music to God's ears, too. Amen. So be it.



Letter from the Council

January is the longest month of the year in my mind. The days just drag on and its dark so early. But we have passed Winter Solstice and here it is time for a new letter from a new council president.

Our days are staying light longer and spring won't be too far away. I expect we will see changes here at Central the way everything changes - some you may not notice and others will be glaringly obvious. Bear with us, and continue to pray for our church, as we navigate these changes.

One of the first things you may see is my approach to leadership is not what people expect. I've spent years volunteering with Girl Scouts and have embraced their culture of facilitating. I will be asking a lot from our church, its won't be me doing the leading alone. Though we've not had our first meeting with me facilitating yet, I will be asking this year's council to help me write these monthly newsletters. You will be seeing a rotation of us writing these letters rather than me writing every month.

You will also hear me say to please talk to anyone on council about anything concerning you. Find the person you feel most comfortable with, I believe we are all equally important team members. We are adding names & contact info for all the council members in this newsletter as well as to a board in the Narthex.

We have been approached by a Girl Scout on her way to earning her Gold Award about starting a crafters/makers group, part of her journey is working out the details but we hope to present this group in the near future.

The CLC Library, Felicity, and Pastor have wonderful books that can be borrowed - with easy to follow study guides and prewritten questions - for anyone willing to lead a study or small group. Council can help you find people to attend, if you're willing to lead.

Youth and Family is working on summer Vacation Bible School plans as well as looking to the future of Sunday School in the fall. We expect to continue to send home kits for this current school year for Easter. Our Wed youth group has new friends joining us and now some of those friends are bringing friends. Four o'clock Sunday worship is a small group but sees the same people attending; come join anytime.

Pastor Kathleen is asking CLC to attend a casual conversation/congregational meeting on Feb 6. Details are still being worked out but we expect to ask you to sign in as you arrive for services or just before the meeting so we can keep track of who would like to speak and not forget anyone. I would expect this is the first of several meetings we will have this year.

We continue to maintain our building through the property committee. OTC continues to request volunteers and your help spreading the word about the program in the community. Hospitality is looking for new members including a chair. Worship committee is advertising for a pianist/organist. Church in Society is another group to volunteer in.

Finally, join me in thanking everyone who has served on the 2021 council as well as those who have stepped up to serve in 2022. I'm thankful to my friends who first invited me to Central, the new friends who insisted I run for council, and for Karen Baken's leadership this last year as I learned how much we need each other's help to run a church. Steven Merz will be greatly missed but we look forward to new leadership from MacKenzie Bond, Jennifer Crane, and Kirsten Monick.

Blessings,

Melissa

Melissa Christianson

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“Celebrating Central”

2nd Mike Richardson

3rd Kathy Gillespie

5th Tim Franks

7th Jeff Roll and Ezra Rottman

9th Jacob Brown and Francisco Monroy

10th Doran Riehl, Erica Simison, and Val Perry

11th Marion Jones

13th Lynda Birmingham

15th Chris Svendsen

16th Tim Johnson

18th Sophia Rodriguez and Helen Riehl

19th Greg Bainter

20th Brynn Valicoff

24th Melanie Sanderson

27th Tim Gatton

28th Ava Christianson



13th Mike and Jean Scheid
Ron and Jennifer Loyd



**Office
Hours**

LEA AND FELICITY'S OFFICE HOURS
TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 9:00
AM UNTIL 2:30 PM. FRIDAY 9:00 AM
12:30 PM.

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		<p>1</p> <p>8:00 a Foot Care 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 3:00 p On The Corner 5:30 p Irish Band Practice</p>
<p>6 5th Epiphany</p> <p>9:00 am WORSHIP 10:00 am CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 4:00 am WORSHIP</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>8:00 a Bible Study 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a TOPS 6:30 p Boy Scouts</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:00 a Foot Care 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 3:00 p On The Corner 5:30 p Irish Band Practice</p>
<p>13 6th Epiphany</p> <p>9:00 am WORSHIP 4:00 am WORSHIP</p>	<p>14 </p> <p>8:00 a Bible Study 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a TOPS 6:30 p Boy Scouts</p> <p>6:00 p Property & Safety Committee</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:00 a Foot Care 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 3:00 p On The Corner 5:30 p Irish Band Practice</p>
<p>20 7th Epiphany</p> <p>9:00 am WORSHIP 4:00 am WORSHIP</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00 a Bible Study 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a TOPS 6:30 p Boy Scouts</p> <p>6:30 p Church Council</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:00 a Foot Care 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 3:00 p On The Corner 5:30 p Irish Band Practice</p>
<p>27 Transfiguration of Our Lord</p> <p>9:00 am WORSHIP 4:00 am WORSHIP</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00 a Bible Study 9:30 a Preschool 10:00 a TOPS 6:30 p Boy Scouts</p>	

2022

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday/Saturday
2 9:30 a Preschool 4:00 p Youth Group 6:30 p Boy Scout Leaders	3 9:00 a Piecemakers 3:00 p 'On the Corner' 2:00 p Worship Committee	4 8:00 a Foot Care 5
9 9:30 a Preschool 4:00 p Youth Group	10 3:00 p 'On the Corner'	11 8:00 a Foot Care 12
16 9:30 a Preschool 4:00 p Youth Group	17 9:00 a Piecemakers 3:00 p 'On the Corner'	18 8:00 a Foot Care 6:00 p Rock & Mineral Club 19
23 9:30 a Preschool 4:00 p Youth Group	24 3:00 p 'On the Corner'	25 8:00 a Foot Care 10:00 a Altar Guild 26
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 CRU Volleyball Monday through Thursday 6:30 until 8:30 pm	



The new year brings to us the season of Epiphany, and with it comes a certain feeling of expectation. The Divine has manifested itself in the flesh for the world.

With Epiphany, Christ ushers in the coming of hope, joy, and salvation for all. So, it's no small wonder that people look at a new year with expectation and resolution for something better. And though we're several years into the pandemic still navigating a rocky and winding road, we look forward while carrying the light of Jesus to illuminate the path ahead. In embracing what is to come, we must still celebrate what came before. On The Corner held its Christmas party on 12/16/21. We had pizza and snacks, watched Christmas classics like Rudolph and Charlie Brown, enjoyed a rousing game of "pool noodle hockey" in the gym, and enjoyed some Christmas activities like cookie decorating. OTC has an abundant supply of books, many of which were given out as Christmas gifts to the kids. OTC also provided the January meal for Camp Hope days after we'd received several heavy snowfalls. The residents were very grateful for a hot meal of shepherd's pie, rolls, peaches, and chocolate chip cookies during all that cold and snow. Through the pandemic, inclement weather, and the Omicron variant causing school and business closures, Central Lutheran perseveres in its ministries for our community. Together we carry God's light, manifested into the flesh through Jesus Christ, illuminating our salvation through all time past, present, and future. And may that hope, joy, and resolve Christ brings lift us up, and guide us in this new year, and all those to come.

God's Peace, Jason Bond



Preschool and neighborhood kids love playing in the snow, sledding and building forts.





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.

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.

Youth and Young Adults ages 16-24 are invited to attend Lutherhaven's "Serve and Play Weekend" April 8th-10th. If you are interested and/or have questions please contact Felicity asap. Additional information can be found on the the Lutherhaven website.



In Spring of 2021 Lutherhaven staff had put out a stack of logs that they assumed would take all day to split and stack. Our CLC team of eight were so efficient that they completed the project before lunch! Lutherhaven staff and volunteers then brought up several more trees they thought would take well into the summer to process and our team split and stacked them in time for dinner!




 IN OUR
 
Thoughts and Prayers

Phyllis Gillihan (Ponderosa)

Chet Hausken (Yakima)

Art Ries (Livingcare)

Toni Perschke (Avamere)

Betty Douglas (Moxee)

Dale Miller (Yakima)

Wilma Aspevig (Yakima)

Doris Benish (Yakima)

Marie Halverson (Yakima)

Kyle Dixon (Yakima)

Elaine Bueling (Covenant House)


Dotty Swank Yakima)

Mel Carlson (Fieldstone Memory Care)

Tim Schulz (Yakima)

Joanne Puyear (Arbor House)

Dale Schielmann (Yakima)

	Dec-21	YTD 2021	YTD Budget
INCOME	49,974	417,850	350,000
EXPENSES	27,593	394,975	359,679
INCOME Less Exp.	22,381	22,875	-9,679



Stewardship Corner

Caring For Creation:

In January we addressed the need to reduce plastic waste, and here is more on that subject:

TIP: When buying at the grocery store try to choose produce, and other products that are packaged in the least amount of plastic possible. There still are choices...if not many to buy unpackaged produce, or items in paper, rather than in plastic clamshells.

For each mile of global coastline on our earth, we produce 5 garbage bags of plastic waste each and every year. In the north Pacific there is an area of 600,000 square miles (2x the size of Texas!) that consists of floating plastic waste. Please try to do your best to reduce the amount of plastic that comes into and then is discarded out of your home.



Camp Hope

A big thanks to Jason Bond for serving a wonderful meal of Shepherd's Pie to Camp Hope's homeless population on Jan. 10th. He had a great plan to involve his On The Corner

students, but, alas, that week prior was one of numerous cancelled school days. He was appreciative of Felicity, and his daughter who also helped. Who knew, Jason is a trained chef! As you can imagine the winter cold has upped the count of homeless being served meals.

Felicity and Jennifer Crane, will be serving in March. Please let her know if you would like to offer help.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Habitat for Humanity The first home in the Vines project is nearing completion, and Central Lutheran is planning a week to help out. March 14-18th we will have a work party of congregation members to help with the fence, and outside landscaping. It will be spring by then, right? You can do heavy labor, or something as light and fun as you might choose. It is a productive and fulfilling way to be involved in a meaningful outreach. It is also a fun way to create bonds with other congregation members and share God's love in our community. You can choose to work all week if you would like to, or come a few hours if that works for you. Please contact Bruce Willis at hbrucewillis@gmail.com to let him know if you would like to be involved.



Valentine Boxes: a program of Catholic Charities

Each year with your help, Volunteer Services delivers a "Valentine Box" of food to help **70 of our low-income elders** and low-income adults with disabilities deal with winter budgets. There is 2 Valentine decorated boxes in the Northex to collect your donations of **non-perishable food items** (sorry, we can't use products past their **expiration date**). Your generosity brings so much hope and joy to our clients. Thank you!
Last day to bring items is **Sunday, February 6th.**



FEBRUARY FUN

