

THE SENTINEL

December 2020

Central Lutheran Church | 1000 Easton Rd. | Dallas, TX 75218 | www.centrallutheran.org
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God calls us to proclaim the Gospel and demonstrate Christ's love for all.



Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him. *-Luke 5:1-11*

As we've begun broadcasting our worship services, we've needed to shift our thinking of what worship looks like, literally. Instead of walking into our familiar sanctuary, led by ushers, we get to work with what feels like different television studio "sets". So our worship leaders and I work to incorporate the elements we need to make worship feel whole – from the communion bread loaf to the candles used during Good Friday service. We learned how to bring the voices of our choir and the organ music of Dr. Harold Knight into the video. We know these various elements are important to our worshipping community, and the absence of any one of them would make our service feel "off kilter". We are a people of ritual and meaningful symbols help us to remember that we are part of God's story in this place. But there was one week, after we changed locations, that we forgot something. I received a simple text from one of our worship leaders the next day that read, "We forgot the cross!" We forgot something big.

I know our worship team is tired. I'm tired. We're all tired. That's one reason we forgot the cross. We're tired of broadcasting online and not in-person. We're tired of feeling isolated and alone. As a congregation, we're tired of our old programs that once brought joy but now seem like chore. We're tired of saying "if we only had more kids". We're tired of having more funerals than baptisms. We're tired of feeling scared that the church won't go on.

I'm comforted in knowing, though, that Jesus called the disciples at a time in their lives and in their work day when they too were just plain tired. He came to them at the end of a hard day, stood in their cleaned boats and said, "let's go. Let's try this again. This time, though, remember I am with you." The disciples wanted to go home. They caught nothing. They felt like failures and were about to go hungry and without pay because they couldn't catch anything. But now Jesus calls them to try the same thing, but in a different way. Night fishing? Go out...again? Jesus promised them abundant life when they placed their trust in him. He showed them what he was capable of doing – far more than what they could ever imagine or do on their own.

Likewise, Jesus calls us to trust in his promise of abundant life. May we, too, be so bold as to leave everything behind. The old programs, the addiction to worship the way it was, the comfort of our sanctuary, the old spirit we held in our hearts – the things that ultimately tire us out. There is only one thing that is meaningful for us to take with us along our faith journey, and that is the reminder that God is among us, leading us and guiding us through our exhaustion. This season of Advent is here, a time of anticipation of what is to come, for renewed hope and a chance to let our tired selves rest in the comfort of God's promises through Christ. Let us never forget the cross. In that cross, let us park our weary old bones and yet be energized to go forward to share the rejuvenating love of God.

I'll "see" you soon. Worship will do this new thing both online and in the parking lot as the weather enables. Advent midweek services will be broadcast via Facebook Live. Bible studies will happen by Zoom. And Christmas will be celebrated as usual on Dec 24th. The centrality of the resurrected Christ always continues, but we learn of God's love via a different delivery system. And we are grateful. Let us never forget the cross.



- 2nd Debra Brown
- 3rd Jennifer Hart, Raymond Perez, David Quill
- 4th Kyle Jones, Garrett & Jenna Nagorzanski
- 5th Alezandria Krause
- 6th Maxwell Mendenhall
- 9th Roy Evans
- 10th Sharon Meggers
- 11th Ken Frye
- 12th Carol Paschetag
- 14th Amy Brown, Jennifer Cannatti
- 15th Jennifer Nixon
- 16th Kjesten Fiducia, Pamela Scott
- 19th Isabel Thigpen
- 20th Mary Haynie
- 22nd Anthony Hauser
- 25th Joy Bruick
- 28th Karla Buie
- 30th Noell Strahan



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|-----------------------|-------|----------|
| James & Greetha Doss | 12/19 | 49 years |
| Ben & Marilyn Hyde | 12/21 | 46 years |
| Lionel & Patsy Schoen | 12/29 | 58 years |

Church Council

President - Phillip Cannatti

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Mission & Outreach —

Stewardship —

Worship & Service — Jenny Pickett

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512/913-8436 thomasgoins1994@yahoo.com



Our Wednesday night Advent services will be held at 7:00 pm on December 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd. Our Christmas Eve service will be held at 7:00 pm on Thursday, December 24th. All services will be held via Facebook Live and FM broadcast from the sanctuary.

You do not need a Facebook account to view these services: just go to <https://www.facebook.com/CentralLutheranDallas/>



Merry Christmas!



Central Lutheran Church

1000 Easton Road, Dallas, TX 75218

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Communion Every Sunday

Rev. Kristina Lampson-Truhan, Pastor

Music Director: Harold Knight

Office Administrator: David LeVasseur



Friday, November 13, 2020

“Well, it’s Groundhog’s Day... Again...”

This is a year that has presented us with many challenges, made us yearn for the ‘normalcy’ of seeing friends and family whenever we want, unfortunately left us with some tragedy and losses, and hopefully made us truly appreciate what our church family means to us. We enjoyed a glimmer of ‘return to normalcy’ when we were able to return to church for live services ... before the county directed that church services no longer be live. And thus, it was with a fair bit of frustration (among other emotions) that we once again returned to our Facebook-live broadcasts (only).

But this unusual time has not stopped our Church from marching forward and continuing with its day-to-day tasks, responsibilities and activities. We still get together (albeit by phone, Zoom, or wearing a mask at 20 paces) and the council continues its efforts to keep moving forward so that when we get to return to a more normal church life, Central Lutheran will look and be as normal as possible. There’s still routine maintenance, upkeep, a mortgage and bills to be paid, and the other aspects of Central such as outreach, our community garden, the scouts, etc. that continue.

A couple of the many, many things ‘on our plate’ are identifying candidates for next year’s panel of church council members and starting the call process. This year has been blessed with a strong council comprised of members like you who care about their church and have been willing to share their time, talents and ideas. And we are a better church for it, and my fellow council members are a large part of why we have been able to weather the ‘COVID storm’ as well as we have. Please consider sharing your time and talent by joining council. The second is participating in the call process. Almost 1 ½ years ago we were fortunate to have found Pastor Kristina as our interim pastor, and we recognized the blessing by deciding to keep all options open to consider all candidates identified during the call process – including Pastor Kristina – for the permanent pastor position. As interim pastor, her job has been to guide us, unite us, and lift us up after Pastor Rich’s departure. I know she certainly didn’t contemplate COVID, and she (and many others) have taken the needed steps to continue church online, and we are very grateful for those efforts. It’s now time for our entire church to thoughtfully consider what we want and need in our permanent pastor position – including whether Pastor Kristina already fits those needs. This required process starts with the formation of the call committee, followed closely by prayerful input from each member of our church on (i) what we have, (ii) what we want, (iii) what we need, and (iv) who is best suited to fulfill the wants, needs, and desires of our church. While council members will be calling those who come to mind as call committee members, **we want your input and participation**. Please consider joining the call committee to help shape the future of our church.

Normally, we’d be planning on our Thanksgiving fellowship later this month: we’d celebrate in church, and then come together for a holiday meal and share our time and talent pledges. And while our sense of normalcy has been disrupted, your church still needs everyone to think about the gifts and blessings you have as well as how you can share your time and talents to help the church not only survive this COVID fiasco but also establish a robust “root” structure to help prepare us to grow strongly in the near future.

Since it is November – a time in which we give thanks for the many blessings in our life – our loved ones, our friends, our neighbors, and our church – I want to encourage you to spend a little bit more time with the *Sharing our Gifts of Time and Talents* sheet you are now receiving. It'd be all too easy to be focus on the fact our collection plate has received ≈\$70,000 less this year (*more than 25% down*) and the primary reason we are still “in the black” is the extraordinary confluence of belt tightening and other measures. And while this is true, we've managed to stay positive while focusing on the next steps to help our church continue to grow. All that I'll say on this front is this: please complete your pledge card and continue to help financially support your church.

One of the greatest attributes – if not the greatest attribute – of our church is its members and how we will give of ourselves and make everyone who enters our doors welcome like family. There is no shortage of ways you can help, and the time and talents sheet identify some ways:

- **Worship** – Our Sunday morning services are not a “pastor-only” gig, we need lectors for the readings, usher to shepherd the lost sheep to their seats, communion assistants, greeters and ushers, acolytes, etc. Trust me when I tell you age doesn't (often) determine qualifications for any of these – you've seen me there, remember?
- **Youth and Education** – have you ever wondered who puts together the Sunday school, adult classes, bible studies, Lydia circle, Elizabeth Circle, Kids' Klub, etc.? The answer is you, and other members. We need to refresh the talent, perspectives, etc. that go into this to further improve these wonderful programs.
- **Outreach & Evangelism** – there's an old joke about Lutherans and evangelism, but it is truly what we are good at already: extending a welcoming hand and open arms through visiting those who can't make it to church (*yes, that's all of us these days*), prayer chains, Meals on Wheels, Ken Lewis Ministry, Back-to-School Bash, and so much more that won't fit here. Give one (or more) a try and you'll find it is a rewarding experience that makes you feel good (both about yourself and the good you are helping do).
- **Hospitality & Fellowship** – Good lord we are going to need Friendship Club, Prime Timers, Supper Club, Golf Tournaments and many other ways to get (back) together when we emerge on the other side of this COVID fiasco. But don't wait: some of you have creative ideas on getting together (even now) and we need your ideas
- **Church Home Care** – three words that can either be summed up with three letters (TLC) or one word (maintenance). You may not have noticed (because of the hard, non-stop work of our current administration) but we have a building that is fast approaching 60 years old. You can help keep our church buildings in 'tip-top shape' in many ways, whether you are handy with a wrench, a brush, a mower, or a rag. There are ways to help!

And just like that, I've rambled for nearly two pages when I thought I wouldn't fill a paragraph and I now realize there are pages more of ways you can and should help your church not only get through this COVID fiasco but also emerge strongly on the other side. I can't wait to see each of you, and hope you will spend a bit more time thoughtfully the many ways you can help your church today and throughout the year.

We will keep you updated, and we look forward to hearing back from you, too.

Phillip E. Cannatti
President

Please continue to pray for those in need:

Members homebound, in hospital or in senior care facilities: Theresa Brown,
Barbara Hunt, Bill Paschetag, Faye Zimmermann.

Members with prayer needs: Pat Buie, Paul Chambers, Judy Christiansen, Jan Hare, Harold Knight, Jerry Krause, Carol Lamberson, Mark Moody, Stan Nagel, Shana Price, Stephanie Price, Patsy & Lionel Schoen, Tina Smith, John & Mary Swenson, Gary Townsley.

Members' Family and Friends:

Scott Albrect	Patsy Gist	Dr. Lawrence J. Rasero, Jr.
Jeff Barton	Paul Gourley	Tony Reyes
David Batman	Niyah Graves & family	Bekah Roebuck
Jeffrey Betz	Dawn Gray	Grace Rothman
Willie Bishop	Dottie Sue Gregory	Donna & Gregory Rutz
Katsie Brock	Wanda Groothuis	Bonnie Knight Sato
Jeffrey Brown & family	Shirley Harrison	Lisa Sato
Josh Bryce	Bruce Hesse	Katie Smith
Tom Calello	Issac	Heath Stafford
Leah Campbell	Gayle Jacobs	Ruth Steiner
Desiree & Dani	Jace Josephson	Jill Studley
Diane Castillo	Jessica & niece Corinne	Roy Taylor
Carol Cantesano	Josh	Jess, Cathy & Rich Terrace
Holly Christianson	Jennifer Kikta	Carton & Jeanine Wendel
Sean Corkery	Uriah McGee	Didi Wendel
Jerry Crawford	Marian Morgan	Susan Wilson
Clayton Daniels	Char Paul	
Jackie Dove	Dolores Peluso	
Sheila Dustin	Joanne Prokop	
Kim Faulkner	Tom & Joan Quiett	

Military: Michael Barton, Ken Bethke, Isaac Burge, Jason Caldwell, Brandon Chapman, Merrill Cline, Jerry Crawford, Paul Giguere, Brad Glasgow, Steven Glenn, Derek Krause, Robert Krause, Josh Lawson, Tim Miller, Walker Mosely, Robert Rogers, Darrin Sandifer, Jared Sank, James Scott, Tyler Srun, Brandon Stock, Aaron Thrash, Nathan Wrobbel.

White Rock Center of Hope

Some of our members have resumed volunteering again now that the resale shop has reopened on Mon, Wed, and Fridays (9am-4pm). They do still need some volunteer help there. If you are available and are comfortable helping in the shop (while wearing a mask) either half days or full days, they could use your help! They also need volunteers in other areas (see below) that have less personal contact.

Call Tracee (214) 324-2020 to volunteer in the shop. The food pantry continues to provide service Monday-Friday.



Volunteer needs include: help in the resale shop (M,W,F); sorting clothing (Mon-Fri), interviewers & help in pantry 1st & 4th Saturday, 9am-noon; Pantry worker Thursday & Friday 9am-2pm. For more information about volunteering, call Ted Beechler at 214-328-2978

Current food needs include: canned meats – including chili, Chef Boyardee, tuna, etc
Canned vegetables and fruits, canned tomato products, Mac & Cheese & other pasta, soups, peanut butter, and other shelf items like hamburger helper, suddenly salad, rice, dried beans... holiday meal items: stuffing mix, canned veggies, canned fruit, etc

We still have our food drop off box at the door entrance by the choir room if you'd like to drop off there; otherwise, food can be dropped off at WRCOH Mon, Wed, Fri: 9am-3pm.



We still have some of the church yard signs available if you'd like to have one for your yard to share our ministry with your neighbors – they can join us in worship!

Contact Alesia Pearson or TJ Goins if you'd like to have a sign delivered to you!

A Lutheran World Relief "In-Gathering" occurred recently to receive the various kit donations from Lutheran congregations. Thanks to your support, we were able to assemble 11 Baby Bundles and 26 Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief.



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.



Mrs. Marlys Carlson Wing

March 19, 1932 - November 10, 2020

Marlys Wing, a long time resident of Dallas, died quietly at home on November 10, 2020 due to pulmonary fibrosis and rheumatoid arthritis. She was 88.

Marlys is survived by her devoted husband, LeRoy F Wing; her children Ken Wolfe and Bruce Wolfe; her grandchildren Matthew Wolfe & wife Raymi and Michael Wolfe; and two great grandchildren, Jedidiah and Zadok.

Marlys Ann Carlson was born March 19, 1932 in Mankato, Minnesota, the first child of Eugene and Margaret Carlson. She and her dear sister Barbara grew up in Western Springs, Illinois. She started undergraduate work at Carleton College. For her junior year she transferred to SMU where she graduated with a BA and met Jerry Wolfe. They married in 1952, had two sons, and divorced in 1961. She was stricken with rheumatoid arthritis in 1956, two weeks prior to her 24th birthday.

Marlys began teaching French at Dallas' Bryan Adams HS in 1961, where she was affectionately known as "Maman Wolfe". Later she took a sabbatical to pursue a Masters in French at SMU. After graduating she resumed teaching, this time at Dallas' W T White HS. She did not confine her teaching to the classroom. Her sons complained that they were the only ones in their elementary school who knew what the English subjunctive mood was and how to use it properly.

July 17, 1971 she became "Maman Carter" to her students when she married Chuck Carter. Their marriage lasted 25 years until his untimely death from brain cancer on January 31, 1997.

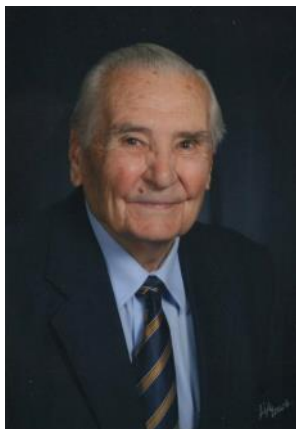
Marlys retired in 1993, but she never stopped teaching. She was an English tutor for immigrant children for several years. In 2020 the ultimate technophobe even learned Zoom so she could continue to lead her Bible study class.

In 2001 Marlys met the love of her life, LeRoy Wing. They married the 25th of August that year. They were faithful members of their church. They loved traveling and collected refrigerator magnets from all over the country and the world from their journeys.

She loved her family and extended family. We will miss her beautiful smile and open, loving heart. She is also survived by step children Charles and Suzanne from her marriage to Mr. Carter, and Ken, Karla, Kevin, and Kim from her marriage to Mr. Wing.

Marlys faced many challenges throughout her life, which she never complained about. She had an inner strength and faith in God that got her through everything, until it was impossible to go on.

Due to Covid restrictions on in-person gatherings, a memorial service has not yet been scheduled.



Eugene Reinhold Straach

NOVEMBER 24, 1921 – SEPTEMBER 26, 2020

Eugene Reinhold Straach passed from this life to his Heavenly Home Saturday September 26, 2020 at the age of 98. He was born November 24, 1921 in Miles, Texas. He was a World War II veteran and served in the United States Army Air Corp. Eugene was a 65 year member of Aubrey E. Hope Lodge #1446 in Balch Springs, TX, a 32nd degree at Dallas Scottish Rite and a Shriner at Hella Temple of Garland, TX. He owned and operated Grove Auto Supply and Grove Color in Pleasant Grove for over 50 years before retiring. He is survived by daughters, Deanna Greer of Zephyr, TX and Linda Picon of Mishawaka, IN; 2 sons Gary Straach of McKinney, TX and Richard Straach of Marble Falls, TX; 10 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren & 2 great-great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother James Allen Straach, the mother of his Children, Lillian Powell Straach and late wife Ellen Tarver Straach.

The family asks that any donations be made to these institutions that are meaningful to them: Central Lutheran Church, American Cancer Society, and the Veterans Hospital in Dallas, Texas.



Ozelle Geraldine Samples

JANUARY 29, 1923 – SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

Ozelle Geraldine Knudson Samples was born January 29, 1923 in Cove Springs near Meridian, TX, to Molden Gordon Knudson and Mattie Carlson Knudson. She was baptized March 25, 1923 at St. Olaf Lutheran Church near Cranfills Gap, TX. By the Rev. J.A. Urnes and confirmed October 3, 1937 at St. Olaf Lutheran Church in Cranfills Gap by the Rev. B.R. Maakestad. She Graduated from Cranfills Gap High School in 1940.

When World War II began, she was one of many American Women who worked in the defense industries. She worked at North American Defense Plant in Dallas until the end of the war. After the war, she attended beauty school and was employed by Marie Earl Cosmetics Company, which was located in the Sanger Brothers Department Store in Dallas, TX. She later attended an executive school to become a buyer for Sanger Brothers.

On April 12, 1947, she married O.M. "Pat" Samples. She continued to work until 1954 when she retired to become a stay at home mom. She had three sons, Mark, Terry and Garry. She was a member of Central Luther Church and enjoyed living in close proximity to the church, which was adjacent to her backyard. Sunday School was held in her den for several years while the congregation was growing and building. She was active in teaching Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and also attending the Adult Bible Class. She was a member of the Women's Organization of Central Lutheran Church, and participated in the monthly Bible Study.

In the 1973 she was employed by Avon Cosmetics as a salesperson. She was named a member of the Presidents' Club every year. She continued selling Avon for her living until she retired in 2013.

Ozelle is preceded in death by Her Husband, who passed in 1984, stepdaughter Laverne Ward, daughter in law Jewell Samples, Grandchild David Samples, and Brother Cleo Gordon Knudson. She is survived by her loving children: Mark Samples of Rowlett, Terry Samples and Wife Linda of Cranfills Gap, Garry Samples and Wife Wanda of Rowlett, and Darlene Samples Hood and Husband Malcom of Mesquite, Grandchildren: Holly Samples Schuler, Michael Samples, Jason Self, and Jonathan Self, and sister Muriel Mae Knudson Johnson of Sherman. Ozelle will be missed by many loving relatives and friends.

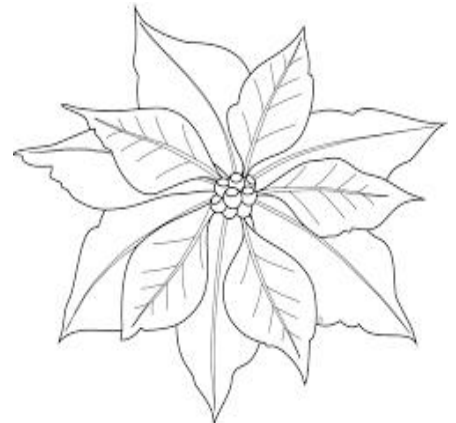


December is upon us again, and while we don't know what our Christmas Eve service will look like, we do know that, as in years past, we will have poinsettias to decorate our church. We will be ordering only 20 plants this year though, and ask that you limit your order to one per family unit. In the weeks to come, we will be working on a plan to get those poinsettias to you after Christmas.

Plants this year will be \$10.25, and you can mail your checks to the church office. Please specify that the amount is for a poinsettia!



Members will honor friends and family by purchasing poinsettias, which will decorate the altar on Christmas Eve. Cost is \$10.25 each, and you may take the plant home after services on December 27th. Fill out the form and place it in the offering plate, mail it to the church or call the church office. Make checks payable to Central Lutheran Church.



Name _____

Envelope Number _____

Amount enclosed is for ___ poinsettias.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

To the Glory of God _____