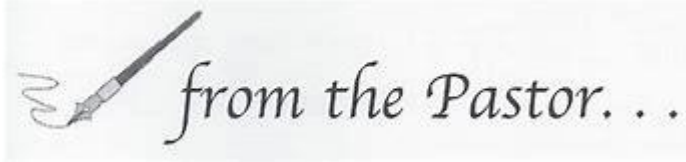


THE SENTINEL

May 2021

Central Lutheran Church | 1000 Easton Rd. | Dallas, TX 75218 | www.centrallutheran.org
214.327.2222 | central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com

God calls us to proclaim the Gospel and demonstrate Christ's love for all.



Reconciling in Christ...

Before my arrival in 2019, our congregation's leaders at Central envisioned becoming a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, and I agreed to provide the theological navigation through this journey. In late 2020, our council voted to officially move forward to begin the RIC process. COVID fouled up our plans and its urgency fell off the radar. Time escaped us. But now is the time to move forward for this much needed work.

What does this mean, and why is it important?

Look around at Central. Consider the families and people you worship beside, those who serve in leadership in our office and on our council. We have lived and loved and prayed with members of the LGBTQIA+ community for years, some have grown up in our own families. Our leadership has decided to make our congregation a visible safe space for all God's people.

Our siblings who identify as LGBTQIA+ have long felt the damaging effects of inconsistent scriptural interpretation. At its worst, organized religion has not been upfront and honest about their stance on homosexuality, and as a result, persons of the LGBTQIA+ community cannot fully trust that a congregation that says they are welcoming truly means that they are open and affirming of their entire personhood. Worshipping communities often receive a bad reputation for bait-and-switch tactics. We do not want to be one of those communities. This is why a Reconciling in Christ designation is a necessity for congregations that declare themselves "welcoming to all" - it is an indisputable symbol of trust to the LGBTQIA+ community. But we need to work through our own stuff... our own understanding about what this means for us as allies and as siblings in Christ before we can confidently say that.

This RIC designation is not demanded by the synod or the ELCA; it is not an agenda pushed by the pastor or a few persons in our congregation. This is something that has grown from the people within our church walls and for persons in the neighborhood who have turned to Central as a beacon of hope. Our assembly has decided to begin to move beyond pondering, and into radical inclusion. It is an invitation for deep reflection and honest questioning to look at who we are as a church that says "we welcome all". Therefore, we begin with the Word....

In order to better understand how our faith informs our worldview, let's turn to scripture and the love of God.

UnClobber.... A new study on Wednesdays at noon, starting May 5th. You are all invited to join in this. It is a study that will take a scriptural approach to the texts which have been used to wrestle with homosexuality. We will use the text, "UnClobber" by Colby Martin (ebook and paperback ISBN 978-0664262211). Together, let us faithfully work to reconcile the world and Word, head and heart. This Wednesday meeting will be the first of several opportunities to learn more about the RIC process and our LGBTQIA+ siblings in a non-judgmental and safe environment where honest and holy conversations will take place.

Online Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89803892463>

Meeting ID: 898 0389 2463

(346) 248-7799 (Houston - telephone connection only)

In the abiding hope of the Resurrection,

+Pr. Kristina



- 1st Amy Kjorlien-Lewis
- 5th David Swenson
- 7th Don Smith
- 9th Chrissy Townsley
- 16th Robert Schwenn
- 17th Gretchen Thigpen
- 18th Brady Pierce
- 19th Samantha Krause
- 21st Mike Oxley
- 22nd Bob Jutton
- 23rd Clay Penland
- 25th Benjamin Wrobbel
- 31st Robert Brown



- | | | |
|---------------------------|------|----------|
| Ed & Kjesten Fiducia | 5/11 | 19 years |
| David & Alesia Pearson | 5/12 | 31 years |
| Kent & Lindsey Mendenhall | 5/15 | 17 years |
| Bert & Jennifer Hart | 5/18 | 36 years |
| Ken & Starleen Frye | 5/21 | 27 years |
| Scott & Monica Hauser | 5/28 | 21 years |
| Roy & Erin Evans | 5/31 | 18 years |



Church Council

President - Mary Glenn

214/566-7519 maryglenn1963@gmail.com

Vice President— Ted Steinke

214/707-5913 ts@tedsteinke.com

Secretary— Amy Kjorlien-Lewis

214/686-4264 amye_2@yahoo.com

Treasurers— Janis Farrow and Amy Brown

214/328-4615 farrowcpa@sbcglobal.net

972/392-2133 davidambrown@aol.com

Activities — Susan & Tim Wrobbel

469/951-5046 susanwrobbel@hotmail.com

Administration — Nancy & Larry Anglin

214/542-5277 nanglin50@yahoo.com

Education — Ashley Goins

210/467-7486 bogisch.ashley@yahoo.com

Evangelism,/Mission/Outreach — Anne Monson

214/264-8078 annemonson@sbcglobal.net

Stewardship — Sara Jutton

214/893-0415 sarajutton@yahoo.com

Worship & Service — Janis Farrow & Sheryl Lewis

Youth — TJ Goins

512/913-8436 thomasgoins1994@yahoo.com

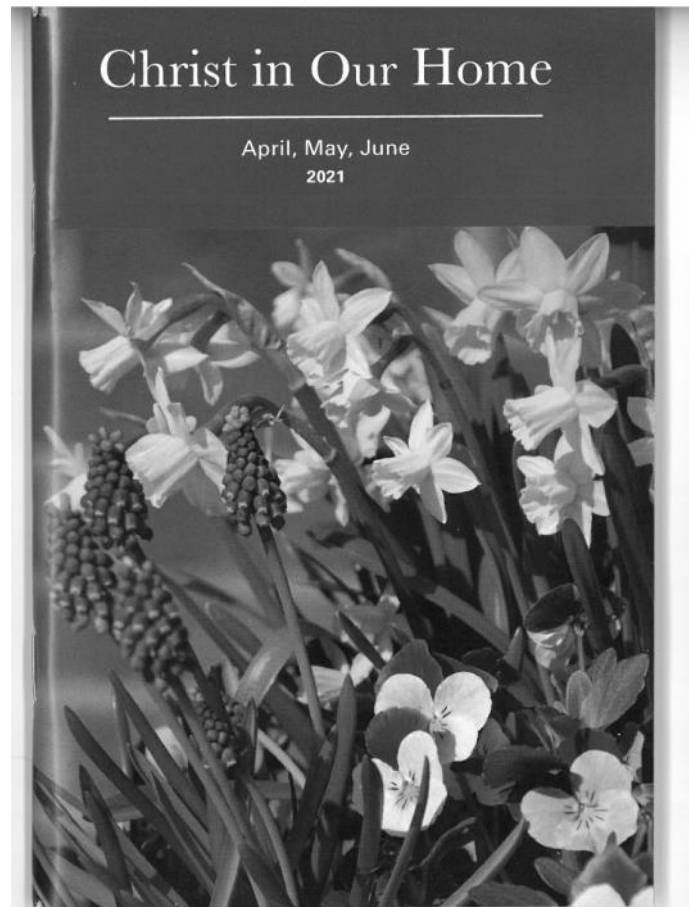
QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

The more you pray, the less you'll panic. The more you worship, the less you worry. You'll feel more patient and less pressured.

- Rick Warren

The second quarter 2021 Christ in Our Home is available in the narthex, the parlor, and on the table outside the office.

If you would like to have a copy mailed to you please telephone David in the office at 214-327-2222 or send an email to central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com A few large print copies are available.



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, Pastor

Music Director: Harold Knight

Office Administrator: David LeVasseur



Peace and Love to all of you!

I'd like to personally thank all of you for your support and patience during this time of virtual church services. This has been hard on all of us!

We will start having "in person" worship on May 2nd! Nancy Anglin has worked very hard with our air conditioning company to install an air purifier in the sanctuary; it will eliminate 99.9% of the Covid virus! (Thank you, Nancy!)

We will continue to social distance and wear masks during worship. If you are not comfortable with going into the sanctuary you are welcome to sit outside in Oak Alley or in your vehicle. We will have outside speakers so you can hear the service and we will continue to live stream on Facebook.

As we continue to move forward, in the coming months we will need volunteers to be ushers and Lector readers. This is the time to come together as a church family and give of your time and talents!

Jan Moody and Steve Haynie have graciously agreed to be on the Nominating Committee, and we still need two more people. The Nominating Committee is important for the council to get new members in order to keep all council positions filled. Please consider volunteering your time!

My God Bless you all and keep you safe! See you May 2nd!

Mary Glenn
Council President

Lydia Circle is continuing to meet monthly on Zoom and just started a new study: Jesus: A Study on the Words of Matthew, Mark, Luke & John by David Steele [available in paperback or Kindle versions from Concordia Publishing (cph.org) or on Kindle through Amazon]. We meet the third Monday at 7:00pm. Contact Lisa Barse if you want the Zoom link to join us. (lq_barse@yahoo.com). We do plan to reschedule a cookie exchange when that is possible and will also plan for our fashion show benefiting WRCOH when we are able.

Blessing Bags

We have given out all our Blessing Bags and need to replenish our supplies! Donations can be delivered to the church by the choir room or contact TJ Goins for help with picking them up directly from you. You can also provide a donation to the church specifying blessing bags and we'll do the shopping for you. For those not familiar with these, we prepare gallon-size ziplock bags with some basic snacks, water, and socks or toothbrush & toothpaste to have available to hand out to those we may come across in need. A blessing to provide for basic needs during challenging times.

Suggested items to donate:

Bottled water or Gatorade	granola bars
Peanut butter crackers	snack bags/chip bags
Fruit/applesauce cups	Vienna sausages
Single serve tuna	socks
travel-size toothpaste/toothbrush	gallon zip-lock bags

Lutheran World Relief Kits

We will be continuing our support for these kits and collecting/purchasing items for baby bundles and personal care kits in 2021 – but not just yet. Although we traditionally do that collection this time of year, our area collection was moved to November last year (because of Covid) and we recently learned will likely be in November this year. We will continue to coordinate our efforts with area Lutheran congregations and will let you know when we will be collecting items and monetary donations later this year. This extension also gives us an opportunity to discuss if we want to participate in making quilts or do additional kits like school supplies or sewing kits – we have time to do more or something different if we want to expand our program! Contact Alesia Pearson with any questions or if you want to head up efforts for one of the types of kits, alesia-r-pearson@swbell.net

Please continue to pray for those in need:

Members homebound, in hospital or in senior care facilities: Greg Boatright, Theresa Brown, Mary Haynie, Barbara Hunt, Bill Paschetag, Muriel Peiffer.

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

Members' Family and Friends:

Scott Albrect	Jeff Barton	David Batman
Jeffrey Betz	Willie Bishop	Katsie Brock
Josh Bryce	Tom Calello	Diane Castillo
Carol Cantesano	Holly Christianson	Jerry Crawford
Clayton Daniels	Jackie Dove	Sheila Dustin
Charlotte Erlandson	Kim Faulkner	Patsy Gist
Paul Gourley	Dottie Sue Gregory	Wanda Groothuis
Shirley Harrison	Gayle Jacobs	Jace Josephson
Jennifer Kikta	Fred Krause	Uriah McGee
Marian Morgan	Byron Myrick	Norma Ruth Myrick
Char Paul	Dolores Peluso	Theresa & Kurt Peter
Joanne Prokop	Tom & Joan Quiett	Dr. Lawrence Rasero Jr.
Tony Reyes	Bekah Roebuck	Grace Rothman
Donna & Gregory Rutz	Bonnie Knight Sato	Lisa Sato
Katie Smith	Ruth Steiner	Jill Studley
Roy Taylor	Carton Wendel	Jeanine Wendel
Didi Wendel	Susan Wilson	

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.



Stepping back in time...

Central Lutheran Church had its start in July, 1922, at a meeting of five people at the downtown YMCA. The service was led by the newly graduated Rev J.M. Rhome, just out of seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. He was sent to Dallas as a missionary to establish a new Lutheran congregation. Many of us remember Henry Grann, who passed away in 2006, who, as a four year old, was the youngest chartering member, a fact for which he was very proud.

The first building was located at Carroll and Victor Streets. Although the original name of the church was St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, the name was changed to Central Lutheran to better reflect its location in the growing city. Two brothers, Mary Swenson's father, Mike Grann, and Henry's father, Tom Grann, were two of the primary master carpenters and craftsmen who built that first building. There were a few additions and remodels along the way before moving to our current location on Easton Rd in 1960.

There were many "firsts" in that new congregation and building:

Margaret Hansen married Robert Frost in 1923 for the first wedding there.

Margaret's sister, **Hattie Hansen, was the first organist.**

Lutheran Brotherhood was organized in 1925 with **Luther League** starting soon after.

By **1929** they already needed the **first addition** to the building for more Sunday School rooms (and it was built in a way to be a future parsonage) and enlarged the chapel in 1933 – which was also the first year they held **Vacation Bible School.**

Continuing the mission of our original formation, Central Lutheran worked to establish or assist with establishing several sister congregations including Oak Cliff Lutheran in 1948, King of Glory Lutheran in 1957, and Ascension Lutheran in 1964 – helping to spread Lutheran congregations to the growing Dallas area.

We continue our history of outreach in many ways including live services on Facebook, support of White Rock Center of Hope and working with our neighboring congregations Bethany Lutheran and First United to serve the East Dallas community. We are excited about celebrating our 100-year anniversary in July 2022 and are working to plan some special events – stay tuned!

OPERATION SALVAGE DONATIONS TO BE DONATED

As you know, it was not possible to have Operation Salvage in 2020, and it does not look promising for 2021 as well.

We are left holding your generous donations in The Shed behind the kitchen. And it is full to overflowing.

Therefore, we will be increasing out stewardship from Central by donating these items to White Rock Center of Hope.

Thanks to everyone who donated. Your gifts will still be put to good use and we look forward to our own Operation Salvage in the not-too-distant future. Just think how much we will have stored up to donate by then!! Biggest Operation Salvage ever!!!

POSTCARD OUTREACH COMING

Do you remember postcards in the pews and in the rack on the wall of the Narthex? There were lovely photos and scripture verses on them. They were available to send to someone you had not seen in church recently. Someone having a birthday. Someone who had been ill. Michael Phillips designed them and he and David Hopson created the art for the postcards.

We will be sending packets of postcards to each of you sometime after Easter for your personal use in reaching out to friends from church. Or to send to folks you think could use a nice hello. Feel free to use them as you like.

From the Members of the Call Committee and the Bethany/Central Merger Committee:

Thank you to the congregation of Central Lutheran Church for being present and participating in the Sacred Conversations which were held the week of April 5th. We were excited to see your faces and hear your voices! You as the Central Lutheran Church Community provided necessary and valuable input for both committees to use as we move forward in both activities. Central Lutheran Church is a blessed church family.

**SAVE THE DATE:
OPERATION SALVAGE SHED CLEANING**

From 9 to noon on Saturday, May 1st, we will empty the Operation Salvage shed of it's donated contents and redistribute them to White Rock Center of Hope. This is our primary source for Operation Salvage materials left unsold. Since we do not know when we will hold the next Operation Salvage, it seems like good stewardship of these gifts to donate them to our partner. WE NEED: hands for unloading and pick up truck for transporting the goods to White Rock Center of Hope on Garland Road, near Peavy Road. QUESTIONS? Call me at 214-264-8078. Please leave a message if I do not answer. Thanks. Anne Monson

KLAIS ORGAN FUNDS REDISTRIBUTION SURVEY

The Klais Pipe organ was packed and shipped to it's new owner in the Phillipines on Wednesday, 4/14. The total of donations and the sale of the organ leaves \$15,439.44 in the Klais Organ Fund. We have sent out a Survey Monkey questionnaire to get congregation input on how these funds should be redistributed. If you have not received the online survey or wish to take it in writing, it is duplicated here. Just fill it out, cut it out and mail it to the church office. Or copy and paste to a word doc, fill it out and attach to an email to: info@centrallutheran.org

Please return to the church by May 15th. Thanks for your help.

L. Anne Monson ~214-264-8078 Cell

KLAIS FUNDS REDISTRIBUTION SURVEY:

I would like to see the \$15,439.44 in the Organ Fund redistributed as follows:

_____ % to General Fund—current balance \$180,566.39

_____ % to White Rock Center of Hope—annual donation currently \$2,000.00

_____ % to The Mortgage Fund to reduce the mortgage balance of \$301,956.88.



I'm sure in July of 1922, those first few who gathered for worship probably never gave a thought to the possibility of a congregation they were starting still being active in our community 100 years later! We have a committee that has started to plan for big celebrations next year as we remember together our 100 years of worship and service.

We can use your help!

There are many areas of service and participation available if you'd like to help:

- * worship service planning
- * meals / reception planning
- * reunion group events
- * decorating / set up for events
- * organizing memorabilia
- * checking prices and options for anniversary items (t-shirts, bumper stickers / car decals, pens, etc.)
- * and more

We are currently meeting a couple of Fridays a month at 7:00 pm by Zoom, and there will be a combination of socially distanced in-person and Zoom meetings soon. Have some ideas to share? Want to be involved? Contact Alesia Pearson if you have questions or would like to join the effort! (alesia-r-pearson@swbell.net; 214-215-7670). You do not have to be able to attend all the meetings to be able to participate!

We are also currently working to select a theme scripture and/or hymn if you have a suggestion you'd like to share with us!

POSTCARD MAILING

In June, we will mail a set of postcards to each member for use in reaching out to other members or friends. The postcards were designed by our own Michael Phillips and produced by Michael, David Hopson and Anne Monson. We will send a notice when they mail out.

STORIES OF FAITH IN ACTION 2020-21



ADORE LA is a digital faith community that is driven and led by people of color and the LGBTQIA+ community, led by pastor-developer Joseph Castañeda-Carrera (left).



“COURAGE TO BE WHO WE ARE”

Ed Ramirez’s journey to find a church was a long one, filled with disappointments. Ramirez, who uses the pronouns they/them, wanted a place where they could feel at ease and fully accepted, but nothing they’d encountered in the Los Angeles area fit.

Ramirez’s search led them to Hollywood Lutheran Church, where Joseph Castañeda-Carrera served as pastor. “I was the member that zipped in and out of service,” Ramirez said. “I didn’t want to engage with the community out of fear of being rejected like in other ‘affirming’ congregations. Joseph was quick enough to catch me one day and ask what I was looking for, and I answered honestly: ‘A place where I can be all of me.’”

The pastor told Ramirez about ADORE LA, a digital faith community that Castañeda-Carrera served as mission developer.

Supported in part by grants from the churchwide organization and the ELCA Southwest California Synod, which are funded by Mission Support, ADORE LA is driven and led by people of color and the LGBTQIA+ community.

“So often in our church, we don’t have very many queer people of color,” Castañeda-Carrera said. “Community can’t build around them because we’re all spread out all over the place. ... People from all over have joined ADORE LA because it’s creating a community that doesn’t exist in their own neighborhoods.” As church buildings were shuttered and some congregations struggled to stream worship

online during the COVID-19 pandemic, ADORE LA didn’t skip a beat. It was already using digital channels and messaging apps such as GroupMe to engage members. The faith community used the time to innovate and enhance its ministry, Castañeda-Carrera said.

“PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER HAVE JOINED ADORE LA BECAUSE IT’S CREATING A COMMUNITY THAT DOESN’T EXIST IN THEIR OWN NEIGHBORHOODS.”

Ramirez is grateful for their faith home at ADORE LA. “Faith is something that has been taken from a lot of us,” they said. “So ADORE LA focuses on community that then lets us reclaim faith and grow into it together. It also helps to sow our roots like a beautiful LA palm tree because being fully yourself in this world and church aren’t always the easiest things to navigate. The faith we gain as a community provides that: the courage to be who we are, fully created in [God’s] image.”

Thank you for your generous gifts of Mission Support, which made this story of faith in action possible. Mission Support is the portion of your offering your congregation shares with your synod, and your synod shares with the churchwide organization. To learn more, visit [ELCA.org/SOFIA](https://www.elca.org/SOFIA).