

May 2, 2021

# CENTENNIAL NEWS

## RACIAL JUSTICE IS CHRISTLIKE

[\[CLICK HERE\]](#) for helping the community of Brooklyn Center with in-kind and financial donations and for any other updates regarding the trial and other events and opportunities.

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### Join us for our Sunday online services:

Join Sunday worship for both campuses through our website, or our Youtube Channel. You can also join a live watch party for St. Anthony Park's worship with other members of the Centennial Community at 10:00am Sundays on our SAP Facebook page.

## • TOP ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS •

**Hybrid Kids on a mission: Animals:** June 14-18 | Sign up is now open for our summer VBS (Vacation Bible School)! We will have two outdoor in-person options for group engagement to open and close our week with. The week of VBS will be virtual activities with morning meetings from 9-9:30am and 11:30am -12pm with ample activities to do in the middle of the time- all supplies and instructions provided! Please register your family by Monday, May 31st so we have enough supplies ordered and can ensure we have enough space for all in attendance for the in-person activities. See the event description in our registration for more information, including our covid precautions we will take for our in-person activities. [\[Click here\]](#) to register!

**Centennial for Racial Justice is hosting Monday night Q&A sessions to discuss the Racial Reconciling Covenant:** Join us on Monday nights 7-7:30 for Zoom Q&A sessions to discuss the Racial Reconciling Covenant. This is a time and space that is available for anyone to drop in with questions or concerns and stay as long or as little as you wish. All questions are welcome! Join Zoom Meeting: [\[CLICK HERE\]](#)

**March Food Drive Thank you:** Church and Society would like to thank everyone who donated to the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign this year. A total of 165 pounds of food was donated to the Ralph Reeder food shelf and 98 pounds to Keystone food shelf. In addition, \$3,881 was collected for the project and will be equally split between Ralph Reeder and Keystone. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

**Are you ready to be outdoors?** It's soon time for the Church Garden Team to plant and maintain the church grounds for a beautiful summer and fall on the church campuses. No gardening experience is necessary and all ages are welcome to join our efforts! We would like helpers on both the Roseville and the St. Anthony campus to do planting and also do some light weeding, trimming maintenance on the plants around the church campus grounds. The schedules are flexible to fit in with your summer, and we would really enjoy having as many people as are interested. Come join the Garden Team! Please contact Kathy, 612-306-0465 or Norm 612-296-1934 or at [nknelsonnb@gmail.com](mailto:nknelsonnb@gmail.com). Thank you.

## • CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS •

**Healing Circles:** Ramsey County, in partnership with the City of St. Paul, is offering virtual and in-person community healing circles that are welcoming, safe and supportive spaces for participatory dialogue, building connections, and addressing trauma caused by the killing of George Floyd last summer, the civil unrest that followed in our neighborhoods and the ongoing trial. Ensuring the health and wellbeing of community is at the center of our response plan during these difficult times and we're working with several cultural healers who use their lived experiences, expertise and training to facilitate conversations that get at shared healing. [\[CLICK HERE\]](#) for the flyer, which includes a schedule of healing circles for the month of April. Additional information can be found on Ramsey County's healing spaces webpage. Please share these opportunities with your networks.

**UMW - Story of Loaves and Fish:** The UMW Board decided to donate a basket for the upcoming Emma Norton Services GALA Event. Someone offered to donate three hand embroidered dish towels — and soon enough items were donated for 12 Baskets for the Gala Silent Auction where it is hoped \$100,000 will be raised to support the women and families ENS serves. Register at [www.emmanorton.org/engage/events/](http://www.emmanorton.org/engage/events/) for this **Virtual Gala Event to be held on Thursday, April 29, 2021, 7:00 pm**. And bid on a basket and other items. You might be lucky and get one of these useful baskets made by our UMW. Questions: Judy Phillips 651-484-9522

### Preaching this week:

Roseville Campus: Pastor Brian Hacklander

St Anthony Park: Rev Amanda Lunemann

**Caring for others? Connect with 2nd Half with Lyngblomsten for support.** Are you or someone you know helping a spouse, parent, friend, or neighbor with memory loss and you're looking for support? Connect with 2nd Half with Lyngblomsten for help in navigating your caregiving journey. The 2nd Half with Lyngblomsten Caregiver Services team is available for telephone support, education, access to resources, support groups, caregiver coaching, an online group e-respite program for persons experiencing memory loss, and more. **Due to the pandemic, The Gathering (in-person group respite program) continues to be temporarily suspended.** Our congregation is partnered in ministry with Lyngblomsten, a senior services organization whose 2nd Half with Lyngblomsten life enrichment centers are connecting adults ages 50+ to community services, resources, and opportunities for enhancing their quality of life. For more information, visit [www.lyngblomsten.org/caregiving](http://www.lyngblomsten.org/caregiving) or contact them at (651) 632-5320 or [caregiving@lyngblomsten.org](mailto:caregiving@lyngblomsten.org).

**Fruit of the Vine Food Shelf:** serving the East side of St. Paul has food available for pick up every Saturday morning from 9:30-11:30 am. The Food Shelf is located at First Covenant Church, 1280 Arcade St. in St. Paul.

**Focus Supplemental Food Shelf:** ([www.focusmn.org](http://www.focusmn.org)) located at 550 Rice Street in St. Paul offers food staples to individuals and families on the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 10-11:30 am. Please bring an ID and proof of address.

**Giving Remotely:** We continue to value your gifts during this time, which allow staff and ministry to continue on in creative ways. There are multiple ways to give while you are away from the church building. Go to the website at <http://centennialumc.org/index.php/go-serve/giving>. And yes, we are happy to receive your contribution via the postal service. Our address is Centennial UMC, 1524 County Road C2 West, Roseville MN 55113. Thank you for helping us keep ministry strong.

## • God At Work •

### Centennial for Racial Justice is Proposing a Racial Reconciling Covenant

The Centennial for Racial Justice team (formerly the Antiracism team) was formed in July 2020 in response to the murder of George Floyd. In January, the Centennial for Racial Justice Team became part of the Church Council. Since that time, the Team has been working with Dana Neuhauser from the Minnesota Commission on Religion and Race (CORR) as a coach. We are recommending that our congregation join the **Racial Reconciliation Movement** of the Minnesota Annual Conference. When joining the Racial Reconciliation Movement, a congregation commits to a **Racial Reconciling Covenant**, originally drafted by the Minnesota CORR. The team is recommending that our congregation commit to the Racial Reconciling Covenant as a church family at the All Church Conference on June 15, 2021. There will be opportunities for learning, discussion and feedback leading up to that date.

To read the Racial Reconciling Covenant that will be proposed on June 15, [\[Click Here\]](#)

Centennial for Racial Justice spent hours in discussion and prayer while considering this Covenant in its original form. We chose to add a small amount of language to the document to customize it to the work we hope to see our congregation take steps forward in, namely in repairing harm when possible and healing of hearts.

We also find it a critical step in our efforts to dismantle racism to publicly acknowledge that white bodies in the United States have benefitted from racism by their privileges, whether knowingly or unknowingly, willingly or unwillingly. And in acknowledging this, we are also acknowledging publicly that white bodies particularly have an individual and shared responsibility to take *action* against the systems that continue to maintain those unearned privileges.

This Covenant is a commitment to on-going action. There is no clear roadmap for dismantling racism, so we have much prayer, conversation and discernment ahead of us to determine what specific actions can and should be taken. The intention is that we are committing together to a process of reflection, discomfort and uncertainty as we figure out as a church family how we can take active steps in dismantling racism and continue doing so for many years in the future. This is the work we are committing to as a church family.

If we commit to the Covenant, our congregation, led by Centennial for Racial Justice, will review each year what we have done, what we are doing, and what we hope to do, and our action steps will be reassessed and re-committed to each year upon reflection, prayer, and hopefully repair for mistakes that we are bound to make along the way. We know that no single person or group has all of the answers to how to dismantle racism. This must be an on-going conversation for all of us at Centennial for generations to come.

Stay tuned for short videos about this commitment to racial justice in upcoming church services. These will be followed up with Monday night Q&A sessions, hosted by Centennial for Racial Justice at 7pm via Zoom. [\[Zoom link\]](#)

We encourage questions and feedback at all times. Feel free to reach out in any way you feel most comfortable. Contact info for the co-chairs of Centennial for Racial Justice are as follows:

Rachel Konzem, [koanra99@gmail.com](mailto:koanra99@gmail.com) | Sara Metz, [snmetz@msn.com](mailto:snmetz@msn.com) | Karensa Fischer, [patinapatina@me.com](mailto:patinapatina@me.com)

For more information about the Racial Reconciliation Movement: [\[CLICK HERE\]](#)