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*Hope's Mission is: "To know Christ and make Christ known"  
by proclaiming the Saving Word of God through worship, community and service.*

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## Day of Outreach "Enjoyable," "Surprising"

**E**nergizing." "Enjoyable." "Very Worthwhile." "Surprising." These were some of the words used by participants in the September 9 outreach event organized by the ISIAIAH core team, designed to promote the rummage sale, encourage voter registration, and talk to University Lutheran Church of Hope neighbors about their concerns for the community.

In about 1-½ hours, about 20 Hope members spoke to dozens of neighbors, and we received a very warm reception from people who spoke of topics ranging from safety in the neighborhood (by far the most common concern) to global issues such as hunger, medical research, and animal welfare. In an interesting role reversal, we even managed to catch a Jehovah's Witness couple at home after they had finished their own day of evangelism.

One of the most meaningful parts of the day was when people shared personal concerns after we asked if they had anything they would like Hope members to pray about. So many responded that the prayer portion of the next day's service was filled with pleas for neighbors coping with worries such as a brother with Parkinson's disease, a mother who had suffered a stroke, or a sister who had committed suicide.

The Hope members who participated were asked to describe their experiences at the end of the day, and they were universally positive. Ann Beane wrote:

*"Going out in pairs to meet people in the neighborhood was energizing. It was fun to meet people that live in the Pillsbury Faculty housing just a block away. It was a wonderful connecting experience filled with hope. I would do it again."*

Wayne Westwood noted:

*"I was surprised at the disconnect between the rehearsal, where I was trying to memorize, and the first contact, where I had trouble remembering my lines. I was then surprised at*

*how quickly I learned what to say and how well my partner and I blended our conversations in response to what we were hearing."*

Uli Koester wrote:

*"I had a great time. It was enjoyable to work with a partner, and the people we met wanted to talk and were really fascinating."*

And Norry Waalen captured the feeling of many when he wrote simply:

*"Let's do it again."*

We may indeed do something like this again, but the next step was to make voter registration available at the rummage sale for the first time; we helped about 20 customers sign up to participate in the November election. We are now preparing a letter to several dozen people who shared their contact information with us, because we promised to report what we heard and discuss what we might do to address their concerns.

At the Adult Education Forum on October 1, we'll talk more about the results and next steps in greater details, and share more stories from this exciting day of outreach.

—Scott Hvizdos

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## Elaine Pagels to Speak on Jesus, Mary Magdalene, and Da Vinci

**J**esus, Mary Magdalene, and Da Vinci," presented by Elaine Pagels, Princeton University professor of religion, will be the Graduate School's annual Guy Stanton Ford Lecture. Oct. 6, 12:15 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall, UMTC. For more information, see [www.grad.umn.edu/news/ford](http://www.grad.umn.edu/news/ford), email [gsfellow@umn.edu](mailto:gsfellow@umn.edu), or phone (612) 625-7579.

## Mission Renewal Phase II— Defining New Directions

Perhaps by now you've read the Mission Renewal Task Force's "Comprehensive Report on Mission Renewal," participated in a Strategic Implementation Workshop, read last month's *Visitor* article, or attended the September Adult Forum. If so, you've heard that University Lutheran Church of Hope has a lot to consider as we define the future of our ministries and identify actions we trust will lead to growth in our membership.

Over the summer, the MRTF immersed itself in gathering and distilling congregational feedback about who we are as a people of God in this place and time. As a result, we have a better handle on what currently defines us as a congregation (i.e., our priorities, self-perceptions, and desires for enriching our personal faith). Now it's time to turn our attention to imagining how we can bring to life energizing actions that will spiritually nurture us and tend to the needs of others.

To aid in this process the MRTF has assembled three sub-teams, bringing more of Hope's creative thinking power to the table as we envision how best to live out our ministry. Following is a summary of the key objectives for each team:

### Worship Sub-Team Objective

Identify elements that make for an inspirational worship experience and identify means for consistently incorporating these elements into Hope's worship.

### Hope in the World Sub-Team Objectives

1. Examine the role that Social Justice and Outreach plays in the congregation and foster a dialogue about what we mean by "social justice" and "outreach."
2. Recommend specific ways in which Hope can concretely meet existing needs within our community (e.g., the neighborhood, the University) and beyond (e.g., Malawi connection).
3. Identify the resource (i.e., human resources, supplies, logistics, etc.) and financial implications for any recommended action items.
4. Identify ways to recognize, affirm, and lift up the "extra-congregational" efforts of our members in justice and outreach activities.
5. Recommend ideas for engaging current members and inviting new members into the congregational activities with the purpose of growth in mind. (The responsibility for coordinating communication of invitational opportunities will belong to the Board of Commissioners.)

### Staffing and Governance Sub-Team Objectives

Align Hope's paid staff positions with the missional priorities identified through Phase I of the MRTF congre-

gational feedback process. In doing so, the team will:

1. Recommend a staffing scenario(s) that reflects those missional priorities and which strikes an appropriate balance between financial resources allocated to salaries/benefits and the funding of ministry activities.
2. Recommend a governance structure that aligns with missional priorities and recommended staffing scenarios.

Each sub-team is chaired by a member of the MRTF and is comprised of 5-6 members representing a diversity of congregational demographics and perspectives. The overall intent of these sub-teams is to:

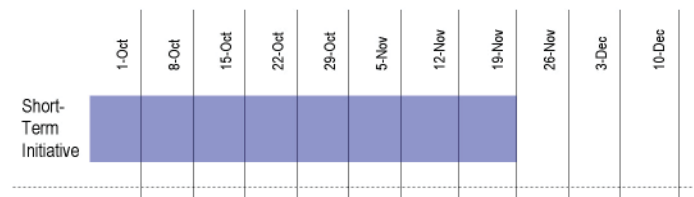
- Build upon our strengths as a congregation;
- Delve deeper for insights into questions raised in the congregational data through internal and external resources;
- Provide recommendations for specific action items that will meet the mission renewal objective.

Phase I data indicates that *Children, Family, and Youth Ministry* is a priority. Given that the "Dream Team" is already in place and working on ways in which to build a stronger Youth Ministry at Hope, the MRTF will not be establishing a separate sub-team focused on Youth Ministry; rather, it will provide representation from the MRTF to the Dream Team for continuity in Hope's Mission Renewal efforts.

The MRTF is taking a two-pronged approach as we move forward in this Mission Renewal process:

1. A short-term initiative (4-8 weeks) aimed at taking action on the data and feedback gathered this summer. This initiative is in the process of being defined.
2. A longer-term (3-4 months) undertaking to more completely understand Hope in the context of its identified priorities and to identify actions that will better align resources around these priorities. This is the work of the sub-teams.

### MRTF "Defining New Directions" Timeline



The MRTF and its sub-teams have a big task ahead in the coming months. Please keep our congregation and all of those actively engaged in the activities of this process in your thoughts and prayers. Your prayerful support is greatly appreciated and we look forward to sharing our progress with you.

—Mission Renewal Task Force

## Thank You

Thank you to the University Lutheran Church of Hope family for your many prayers of support and concern during my mother Amy's long battle with cancer. It was especially meaningful to me that we prayed for her every week here at Hope. And thanks for the many beautiful thoughts and letters of sympathy following her death. We had a glorious celebration of her life in faith at their church in Northfield on September 8. It was also especially comforting for me to have many of you in attendance at the visitation and funeral. The community of faith buoys us up in our time of greatest need.

-Tim Strand and family

## Facilities

The Room for Fresh Creations project is really almost done! And if you've been at church recently, you will see the improvements. It looks great.

I've had a lot of very kind words regarding my efforts toward the project. But I've had a lot of great volunteers, even with a lot of competing projects that also need volunteers. And John Lauber, Martin Thompson, and the whole building committee have put in tons of time leading up to and during the project. And thankfully, we have skills and talent like that for a project this big.

But I want to mention what a great Staff we, as a congregation, have! These are people that are putting in very long hours with their jobs, but then they are also working with contractors, working oodles of extra hours pulling off doors, scraping, painting, ordering furniture, carpet, colors, moving items, space planning, and everything else. There were some work nights that when I got to church, a few things on my to-do list were already done! Thanks for all you've done during this project.

We still have more work coming up (painting, cleaning, moving, hanging), so be sure to come and help out when you see the request!

—Fred Kreider,  
Facilities Commission

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## More Prayer Chain Thanks

Please say a word of thanks to two additional people not mentioned in last month's *Visitor* who have been also been part of the University Lutheran Church of Hope Prayer Chain for a number of years: Ila Mae Languth and Jan Johnson.

## Baker's Dozen—Third installment

October is the third "goal" month we set for meeting the needs of our present budget. If you remember, we embarked on a challenge this year of giving the equivalent of 13 months from January to December. We've done pretty well so far—giving is up \$11,000 for the year. (Of course, we have also been spending, and a couple of emergency repairs on the boilers last spring put us in a cash crunch that started at the end of the summer). So our goal for October is \$16,500 in Baker's Dozen giving by Reformation Sunday! The congregation has done well so far—thank you. And keep up the good work!

—Pastor Craig Shirley

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## Rummage Sale a Success!

Warm thanks are extended to all who donated, helped, or bought at this year's rummage sale. Final results will be posted when all of the numbers are in, probably a month or so.

Our customers were very pleased, as usual. We ministered to various people in different ways with our loving presence. Perhaps two of the biggest plusses of the sale are the sense of community engendered among workers, and the goodwill we receive from the community. Much excellent help and some wonderful merchandise came from outside our Hope congregation.

People came through in all departments with display techniques and more realistic pricing. And what fantastic help we had on Saturday to clean up after the sale! Our wonderful young people and their parents joined the pastors and other volunteers, and were exceptional. We finished in record time.

We have applied for Congregational Matching Funds from Thrivent for Lutherans.

Thanks again, to everyone, and especially to our ever-patient staff!

—Ruth Fingerson

## Shirley's Share

I am back in my office and I think it's great—new windows, new ceiling and lights (so much easier to work on a cloudy day), new carpet, and an interesting pattern of pipes across my ceiling to accommodate the new sprinklers.

We are planning a grand rededication party for Sunday, November 19, 2006. That is fifty years and one day from the original dedication in 1956! On the 19th we will worship together at 10:00 a.m. Bishop Craig Johnson will be present! Then we will spread out through the building and dedicate the various areas that have been renovated. Finally, we will all gather in the Fellowship/Heritage Hall to share food and make our financial commitment to the congregation for 2007! It will be a morning of great fun and celebration!

Some of you have been wondering about our ongoing relationship with PEASE Academy. I want to clarify that PEASE is back with us after signing a three-year lease that assures them that they do not have to move again anytime soon, while also assuring us that we can depend on their rent to help pay for the Room for Fresh Creations project as we had planned. In addition, PEASE is paying for two important upgrades; new convertible “white boards” in the classrooms will allow both University Lutheran Church of Hope and PEASE a place to teach, as well as convertible bulletin board space. They are also helping to pay for the new cabinets and sinks in the science/art room as well as air conditioning in the large room on the lower level they use for their computer lab. And yes, for you fiscally aware members, there is an escalator clause that allows us to keep up with inflation over the next three years if costs rise dramatically.

This project is indeed reason to celebrate as we enjoy a refreshed building full of color and light and new spaces. Mark your calendar NOW for November 19! Pax.

—Pastor Craig Shirley

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## Equipping for Peacemaking: A Workshop

Equipping for Peacemaking is an intensive day and a half training designed to equip you with the tools for peacemaking in the world, through your church and community. It will strengthen your skills in understanding, educating about, and acting for peace. It is built around lively and compelling activities, audiovisuals, and discussions.

This workshop is sponsored by the Minneapolis/St. Paul Area Synod Peace with Justice Committee. The facilitator is to be Glen Germehl, Director of Lutheran Peace Fellowship who is renowned for his knowledge and experiences in peacemaking in many areas of the world.

The workshop is Friday and Saturday, 13-14 October at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Roseville. The cost is \$40, which includes two meals, snacks, and a manual. For further information and an application you may contact Donna Neste at (61) 827-5919 (day) or (612) 721-7590 (evening).

—Donna Neste

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## Lunch Out and Ten Thousand Villages Sale

Sunday, December 3, 2006—a day for a change in tradition. The Ten Thousand Villages store is no longer coming to us, but we will be going to the store. University Lutheran Church of Hope has a two-hour block of time on Sunday, Dec. 3. Ten percent of the entire store sales for that two-hour block will go to a cause of our choice—that choice being the Malawi mission. So join us for lunch after the 11:00 service, then come some shopping at the store. Or, if you just come just for lunch or just for shopping, that works too. Our shopping time slot is from 2-4 p.m. There will also be Hope music (Tim Gustafson and friends) and simple refreshments. This will also be a chance to spread the news about what's happening at Hope. Let's start a new tradition!

—Ann Beane

## The Four Keys for Families

This is the last in a series of four articles written about nurturing faith and values in children at home. In July we discussed Caring Conversations; in August, Family Devotions; in September, Family Service; and this month Family Rituals and Traditions.

These four KEYS were identified by the Youth and Family Institute to help adults pass along faith to the next generation. Family Rituals and Traditions are important because families identify themselves and tell their family stories through daily routines, celebrations, and special rituals.

Whether it's annual summer vacation, hanging Christmas ornaments, or an informal liturgy before bedtime, these activities speak volumes about what the family values, believes, and promotes, and how much the family values its faith. Praying at meal times or before bed are rituals done by many families.

One family puts the Christmas cards in a basket on the dining table and each night chooses one for special prayers. Another family had the yearly tradition of working at the Thanksgiving Meal served by our congregation. Talk with your children or grandchildren about the rituals or traditions you do in your family. You might be surprised at what they consider a "tradition." Think of how you can establish new traditions in your family.

*Your partners in ministry,*

—Diane Shallue and Audrey Keller

## Hope Senior Club

All seniors and friends are cordially invited to the University Lutheran Church of Hope Senior Club luncheon and program on **Wednesday, October 18**, at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall. Reservations for the \$5.00 meal should be made by **Thursday, October 12** with your caller or by contacting Diane Shallue at (612) 331-5988, ext. 19.

"Churches in Minnesota" will be the theme of the 1:00 p.m. program by famed photographer and public speaker Doug Ohman. We will journey with him on the back roads and city streets of Minnesota, viewing white spires, one-room chapels, or grandiose cathedrals through his striking and magnificent photos. Each church has a unique story and and present, in the community. We stories, which may childhood church



**Please note:** photographs of many and has offered to like to see, if available. Leona Reyelts at (612)

Mr. Ohman has photographs of many Minnesota churches bring those we would able. Please phone 378-2444 by October 10 with the name and location of a church of interest to you.

Also, Mr. Ohman has had several books published in the "Minnesota Byways" series and will bring the following for purchases, if desired: *Churches of Minnesota*, *Courthouses of Minnesota*, *Schoolhouses of Minnesota*, and *Barns of Minnesota*.

Everyone, of any age, is welcome to attend this outstanding presentation. Come and invite your friends!

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## Let's Make Lefse—Just for the Fun of It

Fall is here, and then come Thanksgiving and Christmas—that time of year when some of us at University Lutheran Church of Hope whip out the old lefse grill and get to work. The Craft Group is sponsoring the October "Just for the Fun of It" event, which is essentially a lefse party, on Saturday morning, October 7.

Experienced lefse makers are asked to bring their equipment and maybe a batch of lefse ready to bake. Others can just bring themselves or one or more of the following—a bag of potatoes (I've been told russets work best), butter, flour, heavy cream, or whatever else we need for our lefse recipes. This will be a time to share recipes and techniques, visit, learn how to make lefse for the first time, visit, renew old skills, and visit—just for the fun of it. Oh—and then there is the tasting....

Did you know there is a recipe book called "101 Ways to Serve Lefse"? Help us explore some of them. We're planning to start between 9:00-9:30 and we should have plenty to eat by noon.

—Kathy Knudson



## Faith Formation Opportunities

### All Ages Growing and Learning Together

Sunday mornings from 9:45–10:50 a.m.

#### Adult Forums in Heritage Hall

**October 1** – University Lutheran Church of Hope’s ISAIAH core team will report on its summer outreach project and the upcoming “Renewing the Promise” meeting to be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church on October 8 at 3:00 p.m.

**October 8** – The Malawi Trip – Hear about the experiences of the people who delivered and taught the use of solar ovens, and brought school supplies, tee shirts, and soccer balls to Malawi.

**October 15** – Pastor Orin Cummings from the Global Mission Institute will speak about Guyana.

**October 22** – “Rejoice and Rock On” by Audrey Keller, with a look back on the last year of youth ministry and how you can be a part of the continuing journey.

**October 29** – About the Children’s Sabbath Program, by Ruth Fingerson. Discuss ways to value and encourage the children in our lives.

#### High School Youth (grades 9–14)

Will gather in the Youth Room with Jack Dant and Ann Agrimson for discussion.

#### Confirmation Classes (grades 7 & 8)

Seventh grade units for this year: the Ten Commandments, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Sacraments. Teacher: Bob Moluf

Eighth grade units for this year: Worship, the Lutheran Confessions, and the Apostles Creed. Teacher: Tim Gustafson

#### Children in grades 2–6 (Life Together Curriculum)

**October 1** – How does God’s Spirit surprise you? Mark 9:38-50

**October 8** – God created people to love and care for each other. Genesis 2:18-24

**October 15** - The Rich Man – What is the “wealth” we are afraid to give away? Mark 10:17-31

**October 22** – What determines greatness? James and John seek honor. Mark 10:35-45

**October 29** – What does *grace* mean to you? John 8:31-36

#### Kindergarten & grade 1 – Godly Play

**October 1** – Ten Best Ways to Live

**October 8** – The Temple

**October 15** - Exile

**October 22** – Esther

**October 29** – Return and Rebuilding

#### Preschool – Godly Play

**October 1** – Teaching about the Liturgy Guides

**October 8** – Listening to God

**October 15** - Exile

**October 22** – Esther

**October 29** – Return and Rebuilding

## A note from the Youth Director

Hello everyone,

This month I just want to take time to share what's been going on with the youth ministry visioning process. I know you have seen announcements and heard a little buzz, but I want you to hear more about the heart of everything that has been going on.

First of all, thanks to everyone who has been actively involved in this process so far, those who attended the Fresh Creations for a New Generation and those who have been coming to Dream Team meetings (new members and those who have been participating for almost a year now).

We are at the point now where we have evaluated and discussed the key things to focus on as we move forward. The two foci are community service and education. As a team, we are coming up with ways to highlight what is already going on in these areas with young people, such as connecting the experience of the High School Sunday morning discussion group with the congregation. We are also looking to expand these opportunities, through finding ways for youth and families to connect regularly in service projects/events that build relationships and are educational. These service opportunities will be a part of community building as well.

The Dream Team is a spark in all this commotion. There have been a great group of

individuals of all ages participating in the reflection and discussion. I am always encouraging new people to be a part of this team. In order for things to happen, WE ALL have to make this a priority and spend time and energy. I just ask that you continue to pray about how you can be a part of supporting the journey in faith and life of young people.

In the past year, I have been blessed to work with and talk with really passionate people who are excited to support young people. I have also been blessed to continue to get to know the youth here...wow. They are an amazing group. I am excited to see how Christ will continue to work in our lives as we work together to be a community that invites, welcomes, encourages, and supports young people.

If you are interested in learning more about what's going on, please attend the adult forum on October 22<sup>nd</sup> (Confirmation Sunday). The Dream Team will be presenting more to you about what's been going on and what to look forward to!

I am putting trust in the Lord in all this. I am hopeful Christ has placed compassion for youth in the heart of each of us. I pray the spirit will continue to ignite that passion in this community!

Peace be with you and your families!

—Audrey

# Youth and Family News

## Urban Immersion Retreats



**High School Youth** Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend Friday-Monday January 12-15.

This retreat will focus specifically on issues of racism.

7th and 8th grade Youth March 9–11.

*Registration forms for both of these events can be found online.*

## Dream Team Meeting Tuesday October 3, 6:45–8:30



*We have begun to take action!*

The Dream Team is a team focused on highlighting and expanding the faith experiences of young people.

Through visioning, programming, and more we are working to make this place even more supportive of young people's journeys in life and faith!

*People of all ages are encouraged to attend—youth, parents, grandparents, those who are passionate about young people and their faith.*

*Come ready to share ideas and get things done!*

## Moonlight Madness



NOVEMBER 10–11, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth—bring your friends! We will spend recreation time at Augsburg, go to Grand Slam, Movie Theatre, and finish in the morning with late night(early morning!) bowling.

To sign-up, send Audrey an email at [audreyk@ulch.org](mailto:audreyk@ulch.org)  
**High School Monthly Community Service-Loaves and Fishes**



Meet at Holy Rosary Church in Minneapolis between 5–5:30 p.m.  
the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month. Please try to carpool!

After serving a meal to those in the community, we will go out for coffee.  
We will be back to church by 8:30 p.m. We will do this EVERY month.  
For more information contact Ann Beane or Audrey Keller or visit [www.loavesandfishesmn.org](http://www.loavesandfishesmn.org)

**Adult Forums—with a focus on Youth Ministry and Young People!**



October 22—Rejoice and Rock On!  
A look back on the last year of Youth Ministry and your part in the continuing journey.



February 11 and 18—REALITY CHECK!  
Youth Culture and Spirituality  
Important information on teen culture and spirituality in the nation,  
Minneapolis area, and in our own community.

**Confirmation Month!**

Sunday October 22 is confirmation Sunday.  
Sunday October 15 is faith statement Sunday—those who have gone through confirmation  
offer a statement during worship about their faith.

*Please join in celebrating this important event with our young people!*

## ISAIAH Renewing the Promise Gathering October 8

Why should we at University Lutheran Church of Hope gather with other Minneapolis congregations at Westminster Presbyterian on October 8:00 at 3:00 p.m.?

It matters that churches listen and understand the communities they serve. It matters that we use our influence and our voices to speak from our hearts for community, hope, shared abundance, and the *shalom* of God. It matters that congregations are “in the city for good,” seeking the common good of Minnesotans. It matters that our voices are heard in this election year, when every elective state and Congressional office in Minnesota except for one U.S. Senate seat is going to be decided. (That’s right; only the seat Norm Coleman occupies is not up for election.)

And it’s going to be energizing and inspiring. We will worship and sing together. ISAIAH issues task forces will present their testimonies about why public education, public transportation, domestic violence, and immigration are matters of deep concern to people of God and to the well-being of all Minnesotans. We will talk about what our values are and our message for the world is. Minneapolis area candidates for public office will be there—to *listen* to us. There will be a spirit of community, hope, shalom, and sharing of burdens and successes. Oh, and Westminster Presbyterian is in that gorgeous building across the street from Orchestra Hall. You’ll want to be there.

University Lutheran Church of Hope members have participated in such events before, most recently two years ago at Roy Wilkins auditorium in Saint Paul. As a result of our strong showing there and a lot of follow-up work with public officials and coalition partners in 2005, we were able to convince the legislature to double the governor’s increase in funds for public education. We have more work to do on these issues and your presence is part of what convinces our legislators to take the promise of democracy seriously.

So, when ISAIAH team members call you and invite you to come and *Renew the Promise* on October 8, you can answer with our friends in the immigrant communities, “*Si, se puede!*” “*Ja, vi kann det, da!*” “Yes, we can!”

**Sunday, 8 October, 3-5 p.m. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1200 Marquette Ave., Minneapolis (downtown, across from Orchestra Hall)**

Other ISAIAH caucuses are also meeting to renew the promise on Sundays between now and November 1, in

a coordinated demonstration to our elected officials that we are people of commitment and power throughout the state of Minnesota. Those meetings are listed below. You can attend any of them too if you wish. But be sure to come to the Minneapolis Caucus gathering on October 8, because that is where University Lutheran Church of Hope is “in the city for good.”

- Great River Interfaith Partnership (Saint Cloud Area): Tuesday, September 26, 7-9 p.m., Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 4310 CR 137, Saint Cloud.
- Saint Paul Caucus: Saturday, October 1, 2-4 p.m., St. Pascal Roman Catholic Church, 1757 Conway Street, Saint Paul.
- Northeast Caucus: Sunday, October 15, 3-5 p.m., Saint John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church, 835 Second Ave. NW, New Brighton.
- Northwest Caucus: Thursday, October 12, 7-9 p.m., 7180 Hemlock Lane, St. Joseph the Worker Roman Catholic Church, Maple Grove.
- Southeast Caucus: Tuesday, October 24, 7-9 p.m., Roman Catholic Church of Saint Peter, 1405 Highway 13, Mendota.
- Southwest Caucus: Thursday, October 26, 7-9 p.m., Pax Christi Roman Catholic Church, 12100 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie.

—Kirsten Mebust

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## QRS On the Go

The QRS committee has come up with a number of outings scheduled for the coming year.

December 3 – the History Theatre production, “The Lutefisk Champion & Other Frozen Holiday Tales.”

December 4 – The annual Christmas concert with the Roseville Community Band.

February – Old Log Theater production, “Over the Tavern.”

May 6 – Chanhassen Dinner Theatre exclusive production, “Easter Parade.”

May 7–12 – Branson

May 30th – Fogey Follies

More information will be provided as the dates gets closer.

## Lutheran Campus Ministry

A woman named Harriet L. Schwartz, who is the assistant director of the Career Center at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, has put together a book entitled, *Spirituality 101: The Indispensable Guide to Keeping or Finding Your Spiritual Life on Campus*). In it are contributions by college students from 30 campuses across the United States. The students represent a wide spectrum of beliefs from all to nothing. Each contribution is interesting, and the book is organized to help students seek help...spiritual help in many different areas of their lives, from career to sex.

The discussion guide focuses on the challenges that might face students in regard to spiritual commitments and religious beliefs, such as: “How will your religious/spiritual life be challenged by your academic life? How will your religious life challenge your social life? How will your social life challenge your religious life? What are you looking for in a religious community while in college?”

One writer comments, “At least one relevant issue is whether academic learning is only about building your professional and scholarly identity or also for helping build your authenticity. Another writes, “In a world where so many people practice a religion based on anger and hate, each of us has the potential to create a religious life, and to continue writing our own story, based on something better.”

So we are way into another new year. We are so grateful for the partnership of our Covenant Congregations as we all work together with students to acquire and practice the skills that bring personal authenticity but that also contribute to creating a religious life that will bring something better for this world.

We are also grateful for the manifestation of LSM on a regional and national level that contributes through its events to the building of personal authenticity, and to a community that cares about justice. Please consider the regional retreat to be held November 13-15 in Aberdeen, S.D., and/or the National Gathering in New Orleans, December 28–January 1. You can find out more information at our web site, and also by emailing Sarah Nelson, who is the local LSM President. Her email is nels2450@umn.edu.

Check the LSM web site for updates on service projects and news about a Habitat build in October. And then, for fun, add to your social calendar a Halloween Party at the LSM House, October 31 at 8:00 p.m.

—Jerie Smith,  
for Lutheran Student Movement/Lutheran Campus Ministry

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## 2006 Graduates

As we launch into another academic year, let's take time again to reflect on the accomplishments of the 2006 graduates in our congregation. Last May we honored our graduating students at a coffee hour hosted by the Congregational Care and Nurture Commission. For those of you who were unable to attend that celebration, here is a list of the students recognized that day and the schools from which they were graduated:

- Anya Abrahamson, Pathfinder home school
- Tyler Beane, St. Olaf College
- Andrew Engan, University of Minnesota School of Architecture (master's degree)
- James Frost, Century College, and Law Enforcement certification
- Marykay Frost, The New School (New York City), (master's degree in Sociology)
- Leena Haugland, College of St. Catherine (doctorate in physical therapy)
- Sam Kanenwisher, Augsburg College
- Rita Pearson, North St. Paul High School
- Kevin Rudi, Minneapolis South High School
- Eric Sayre, Minneapolis Southwest High School
- Sam Wojta, St. Paul Central High School

We praise the Lord for these graduates and we praise them for their achievements. May God bless them and keep them on their journeys.

—Kathy Kufus,  
Congregational Care and Nurture Commission

# Financial Fitness Club



## Shape up your financial future at the new Club in town.

Wish you could save more and spend less? Want to be more financially fit? You're not alone—join the Club!

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**The Club starts at University Lutheran Church of Hope  
On Tuesday, October 3 from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m  
In the new Second Floor Meeting Room**

Stephanie Vazquez will be the leader

Join the Club and get 5 sessions for \$39 (includes orientation kit),  
or join with a friend for just \$69.

# Treasurer's Report

## Results for seven months:

Actual revenue Jan – August is \$ 352,868 versus Budget for same period \$ 360,823. Difference is \$ (7,955). *This includes both General Giving and the Bakers Dozen – Combined.* General Giving exceeded budget by +11267 and Bakers Dozen was under budget, by (20,285)

<u>The Bakers Dozen</u>	Actual		Year to date		Over
	<u>Received</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>(under)</u>
<b>Progress report through August 31st</b>					
Goal by: Sunday, April 23, 1/3 of goal	\$ 7,061	16,500	7,061	16,500	(9,439)
Sunday, July 31, 1/3	3,848	16,500	10,909	33,000	<b>(22,091)</b>
Sunday, Oct. 15, 1/3	1,806	16,500	1,806	49,500	

**What is the Bakers dozen?** Our congregation has extra needs this year. Support it by giving an extra months worth, (actually 11% ) to meet our budget.

The budget was approved unanimously at the annual meeting. *Help us reach our next goal on October 15<sup>th</sup>, of \$ 16,500? Do this by continuing giving to the general fund and /or to the Bakers Dozen.*

The General Fund is the *operating budget that pays the bills:* staff, programs, heat, and maintenance of our facilities. It funds our immediate needs now.

**The General fund: (these \$ do not include the Bakers Dozen)**

### 2006 Revenue Comparison of Actual to Budget: Each Month & Year to Date as of August 31, 2006

<u>Month</u>	<u>Sunday #</u>	<u>Actual Month</u>	<u>Budget Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>		<u>Over (under)</u>
				<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
January		\$ 41,699	37,854	\$ 37,854	\$ 41,699	\$ 3,845
February		48,316	46,708	90,015	84,562	5,453
March		40,327	39,623	130,342	124,185	6,157
April	5	56,922	50,531	187,264	174,717	12,547
May		40,414	41,045	227,676	215,761	11,915
June		38,724	33,068	266,301	248,829	17,472
July	5	43,882	40,923	305,475	289,752	15,723
August		34,678	38,071	340,153	327,823	<b>12,330</b>
September			41,971			
October	5		39,951			
November			39,180			
December	5		<u>63,428</u>			
Totals		\$	\$ 512,351			

**Important Notes:** Total giving has increased by 11% from August of 2005. We increased the revenue budget 2.5% plus the 11.2% for the Bakers Dozen. The difference of 2% equals the current *under budget* revenue of (\$7,955). **Total expense is (\$11,000) over budget** --- due mostly to additional “boiler surprises.” Result is (\$18,000) short from our overall budget.

**Critical Action Steps:** 1. Update your E-Simply Giving for the general fund. 2 Give to the Baker's Dozen. The next and final goal of 16,500 is October 16<sup>th</sup>. Comments are welcome.

—Norris Waalen, Treasurer

## Board of Commissioners Meeting

September 13, 2006

### Present:

Administrator Craig Wiester, Pastor Craig Shirley, President Garvin Davenport, Treasurer Norris Waalen, Sharla Aaseng (Care & Nurture), President-Elect Karmi Mattson, Marty Lewis-Hunstiger (Outreach), Fred Kreider (Facilities), Lisa Morse (Education), Valerie Sayre (Congregational Life), Diane Greve (Worship), & James Hlavka (Outreach).

### Absent

Pastor Kwanza Yu, Past-President Joan Campbell, & Jill Fedje (Stewardship).

Devotions were led by Garvin Davenport. Command of Love, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

Minutes were approved.

Congregational Life: Val Sayre was looking for someone to host the Fellowship Meal on Sunday, October 8. Could be potluck, but need a "host". For the rest of the year they are looking for Commissions to host. Val also asked to move the Board of Commissioners meeting time to 6:30 p.m. All agreed and approved. The next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m., October 11, 2006.

Mission Renewal: Lisa Morse asked if all received the Task Force printout. Passed out "Hope in the World" sub-task sheet. When asking to hone in on tasks, Outreach and Social Justice did not come out very high, mainly because they mean different things to different people. We need to have dialog as to what does this mean; find ways to identify (see Sub-Team Objectives on hand-out). Treasurer Norris Waalen broached a number of questions, probing the uses and objectives of the Mission Renewal effort. Discussion ensued. Marty Lewis-Hunstiger emphasized the importance of multiple viewpoints. President Garvin Davenport mentioned the idea of a mini-retreat for the Board of Commissioners to discuss this more fully. President-Elect Karmi Mattson suggested, on the other hand, we allow the Mission Renewal Task Force to continue their work, that we trust them and the process. Karmi moved that the Board of Commissioners continue to support the work of the Mission Renewal Task Force, commending them for their many hours of work. This was seconded and carried.

Lisa Morse went on to mention that they will need to have sub-teams getting to

work by September 28. Pastor Craig Shirley asked if it is fair to mention that an overall objective is church growth; members of the Mission Renewal Task Force responded affirmatively.

The Board of Commissioners will have overall responsibility of coordination; the Mission Renewal Task Force will look after the details.

Room for Fresh Creations. Fred Kreider indicated the frustration of moving back in; much more difficult than moving out. Volunteers have been fewer per time, but we have had more times to work. Fred is tracking volunteer hours. We're in good shape. More painting will have to be done this weekend, that's planned. Two of the containers are empty and will be removed tomorrow. The Lounge will be done mid-October; chimney work is under way. Fred commended staff members for their above-and-beyond work. Pastor Craig Shirley reminded us that November 19, 2006 will be the rededication of the building, 50 years plus 1 day from the original dedication. The ceremonies will end up with Pledge Sunday. We are also entertaining an open house for the neighborhood.

Fred went on to mention that we lack drapes and blinds. The older stuff won't fit the windows. There is no budget for this. Sharla reminded us that blinds are more necessary in some rooms than others. She went on to say she can work on blinds, but is way too busy to do it now. Pastor Craig Shirley reminded us that the architects have recommendations on blinds.

Replying to a query from Marty Lewis-Hunstiger, we're switching the November Fellowship Meal from the 12th to the 19th.

Financial statements were presented by Treasurer Norris Waalen. We're \$8,000 under budget for revenue; Baker's Dozen is way behind, but general revenue is well ahead. Looking at expenses, pensions are way off apparently due to an error in calculating the budget. No particular surprises were found here. Total expenses are about \$14,000 over budget, primarily in Administration, Salaries, and Facilities.

Room for Fresh Creations finances. Norris is asking people to front-load their Room for Fresh Creations contributions, being careful to not rob from the general fund. By having more before the closing date on our loan, we can get our loan for a lower interest rate. Norris is also proposing to short-term

borrow about \$150,000 to be paid back by the Pease rental increases. This money would be used to reduce the amount we'd have to borrow for the mortgage and would also support the operating deficit. Norris moved the Board of Commissioners authorize the Finance Committee borrow up to \$200,000 short term to be paid back from Pease rent; \$20,000 would go to the general fund; the remainder would go to reduce the Thrivent mortgage. Pastor Craig Shirley suggested we even have a mini-fund-raiser in 2008 to help pay this down. This was carried.

Credit Cards. President Garvin Davenport reminded us that, last November, the Board of Commissioners took action allowing us to have members pay their pledges by credit card. Treasurer Norris Waalen mentioned that he objects to this plan, that he is upset that this was done at a meeting at which everyone knew he would not be present. He went on to explain his objections, that individuals charging items do it for their own benefit, rather than that of the church. Norris moved we rescind the Board of Commissioners approval and not have credit cards available. The motion was seconded. There was considerable discussion. The motion was defeated by a split vote. Marty Lewis-Hunstiger asked if we have a way to track these transactions, she suggested we check in 6 months.

One Voice. President-Elect Karmi Mattson mentioned a group of organizations joining together to have fund-raising campaign to raise \$2M. They are asking this church to help them raise these funds. Three members of University Lutheran Church of Hope have joined with Karmi to explore this. This is not a congregational fund-raising appeal; rather they'll go to specific individuals known to support these efforts. Karmi asks the Board of Commissioners to lend their approval to proceed. Replying to a query, Karmi mentioned that Room for Fresh Creations will provide \$5,000 for this effort. Marty Lewis-Hunstiger mentioned it is not inappropriate to have an announcement in the bulletin. This Board gives it's tacit approval to this, with the suggestion that people they approach be encouraged to invite others.

Pastor Craig Shirley announced also that he went to a Thrivent workshop for the Financial Fitness Club. We will start these sessions in October on Tuesday nights, an opportunity for members to discuss financial concerns.

Norris Waalen spoke of the door knocking last Saturday. He, and others, were exhilarated with the experience. Many neighbors really wanted to talk. They had strong responses to the final question, Do you have concerns you wish us to pray on. Norris noted we have a commitment to stay in contact with neighbors. Several women expressed concern about moving between their homes and cars at night. Pastor Craig Shirley mentioned that there had been a random attack in the neighborhood last night.

We adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

## STAFF

Pastors: **Craig Shirley, Kwanza Yu**  
Cantor: **Timothy Strand**  
Director of Education: **Diane Shallue**  
Youth Director: **Audrey Keller**  
Administrator: **Craig Wiester**  
Working in partnership with Lutheran Campus  
Ministry Staff: **Lisa Simonsen, Jerie Smith**

## LEADERSHIP

President: **Garvin Davenport**  
President-Elect: **Karmi Mattson**  
Past-President: **Joan Campbell**  
Secretary-Treasurer: **Norris Waalen**

## COMMISSIONS

Care & Nurture: **Sharla Aaseng**  
Congregational Life: **Val Sayre**  
Education: **Lisa Morse**  
Outreach & Evangelism: **Marty Lewis-Hunstiger**  
**and James Hlavka**  
Facilities: **Fred Kreider**  
Stewardship:  
Social Justice:  
Worship: **Diane Greve**

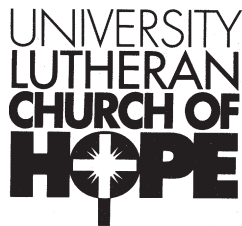
## HOPE VISITOR

The *Hope Visitor* is published monthly by University Lutheran Church of Hope, located at 601 13th Ave. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-1437.

Articles for the *Visitor* may be submitted via email or in the church office. They must be signed. Send submissions and correspondence to: [visitor@ulch.org](mailto:visitor@ulch.org). Articles may be edited for length.

**The deadline for submitting articles is the 15th of every month (for the following month's issue).**

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