

The Visitor

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www.ulch.org



September 2007
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*University Lutheran Church of Hope
is a welcoming, Christian community of faith
centered in God's grace and
called to demonstrate God's love for the world.*

A Time for Prayer

In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed” (Mark 1:35, NRSV).

I spent four days at St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota, a place of prayer. The candles, chants, silence and space, monks, and other visitors yearning for God touched a longing in my heart.

During my four-day stay, I attended the community's common prayer services. The abbey prayer life benefits from a rich legacy of resources from both the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures, supported with sacred hymns and devotional meditations. The Psalms are read four times every day. The Book of Psalms anchors prayer in the emotions of the human heart and the wisdom of divine inspiration. Prayer places the monks and all believers in the presence of God, aided by fellow human beings, sacred space, music, and silent reflection in the abbey.

Very few people will deny that prayer is important. They might even claim that prayer is an important dimension of their spiritual life. But the fact is that most people pray very little or not at all.

We realize that we should not forget to pray. We know that we should take time to pray. We believe that prayer should be a priority in our lives. But these “shoulds” on their own do not have the power to become reality.

We are people of action who live in a world of action. From morning to night we hurry to do things. They may be worth doing—but unless we are on guard, we may be exhausted by doing and have no time left, either to examine our direction or to recoup our strength. Prayer, thinking about God, becomes just one more demand-

ing burden among so many other practical and pressing things.

The days of Jesus' public ministry were unbelievably full: healing the sick, traveling from town to town, and preaching from synagogue to synagogue. Yet in the middle of his rushed life we find these words: “In the morning, long before daylight, Jesus got up and went to a lonely place, and there he prayed” (Mark 1:35). Jesus matched involvement with withdrawal, action with contemplation, noise and silence.

The secret of the life of Jesus was his contact with God. Again and again he withdrew into a solitary place to meet God. Now Jesus invites us: “Come away by yourself to a lonely place and rest a little” (Mark 6:31). So we need to remember that solitude, meditation, prayer, and communication with God were at the very center of Jesus' life on earth.

I believe that this is a time of prayer for the ministry of our congregation. Our Mission Renewal Strategy has been evaluated. It provides for a staff reconfiguration, a new governance structure, compelling worship, and witness in intentional ways. But the surprising revelation, the highest correlation, the factor always present when Christian ministry and mission have worked, is prayer!

This is a time of prayer. Take time to pray for our church. Listen to the voice of God and discover God's power: “In the morning, long before daylight, Jesus got up and went out to a lonely place, and there he prayed.”

Do this, and we may rediscover both the freedom and the power of God in our lives and within University Lutheran Church of Hope as well.

—Pastor Kwanza Yu

Are You Ready?

The Rummage Sale Is Here!

September 13, 14, and 15 are the dates for the annual University Lutheran Church of Hope Rummage Sale. Come to help and buy during this fun and busy week! Please note the hours of the sale. We are open on Thursday and Friday, 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., and Saturday 9:00 — noon.

This annual event is a whole church project that helps us keep our own “house” in order so that we are free to go out and make a difference in our world. We also donate 10% of our earned money and much merchandise to charities.

Besides providing financing for projects not covered in the budget, the Rummage Sale is also a great time of friendship for those who work to make it a success—plus an appreciated service for the people of the community around Hope. Recycling our unneeded possessions is one way of being good stewards of what we have been given. Congregational matching funds up to \$700 are being applied for through Thrivent for Lutherans Central Minneapolis Branch 8816.

Please bring contributions to church during the week of the sale, between 10:30 a.m. on Sunday (after Sunday School) and Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. Any **usable, clean** items such as furniture, clothes, jewelry, toys, books, housewares, etc. are needed. Please label any electrical item with a note detailing its condition. All donations must be clean, in good working order, and not needing repair. Our trash hauler bill last year was over \$750! Please help us keep this to a minimum. If it doesn't work properly, we will have to dump it.

We **cannot accept** tires, batteries, exercise equipment, large appliances, televisions, computers or monitors, storm windows/doors, plumbing fixtures, home-recorded audio and videotapes (copyright problems), baby food, cosmetics, over-the-counter medicines, or prescription medical devices.

This is a large sale that sells an amazing variety of usable items. Our departments are:

- Furniture
- Housewares
- Treasures (extra nice items)
- Linens
- Clothing
- Lunch counter

- Books
- Toys/Sports
- Hardware

Leftovers Go to Charities

On Saturday, some people will box remnants of the sale and deliver them to charities. The remainder is placed in the trash or packed in a rental truck (\$60) and taken to Goodwill Industries.

If you have a favorite charity and would like to pack some sale remnants, call Ruth Fingerson, (651) 633-5316, before September 9. If the items you want are not spoken for, we will try to give you permission to do this. We hope to have many charities included on Saturday.

We Need You!

This is a big job, but also fun. Can you spare an hour or two? Or a day? Please come whenever you can. Here is our schedule for the week:

Monday — 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. — set up

Tuesday — 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. — sort and price

Wednesday — 9:00 a.m. to evening — finish sorting and pricing

Thursday — 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. — sales

Friday — 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. — sales

Saturday — 9:00 a.m. to noon — bag sale

Noon till approximately 3:00 p.m. — finish, cleanup

Help Needed with Furniture, Treasures, Clothing, Sports & Hardware, Audio & Video, and Toys

Help is needed days and evenings of the sale week to organize and price the donations. We can sell more if things are properly organized and displayed. This is a good job for an individual (or family) who would like to come in and work on his or her own schedule. Just come in and start sorting, especially in Audio/Video, Treasures, Sports/Hardware, and Toys. Categories (and prices) have been set for the toys.

We have a special need for sale workers in all departments on Thursday morning.

Can you take on one of these important jobs? Please call Ruth at (651) 633-5316 or e-mail her at Rfingerson@comcast.net before September 9, or just show up. Please do not leave messages in the church office. There is a box

in the office for the rummage sale, but it is checked only weekly. Thank you!

Rummage Sale Cashiers Needed

We have a special need for men and women to cashier all days of the sale. Please call Roy or Marge Halvorsen at (651) 644-0945 if you can help.

Can You Help Haul Large Items to the Sale?

Do You Need a Large Item Hauled?

Can you help haul large items to the sale? We need vehicles and people to help load and unload the vehicles.

Do you need someone to haul a large item for you? Call Ann Agrimson at (612) 728-0386 before September 10, and she'll try to match drivers with people needing help. Requests to have items hauled need to be received by Ann by the Sunday preceding the sale. Later requests may be impossible to honor.

Can You Place a Poster?

One way we advertise our sale is to place posters in nearby neighborhoods. If you can put one in a good place, please take one or several from the office. Thank you!

—Ruth Fingerson,
(651) 633-5316, Rfingerson@comcast.net

President's Page: Upcoming Fall Changes

There are lots of exciting developments taking place this fall at University Lutheran Church of Hope!

Confidential Information Policy

Last winter, the Board approved a Child Protection Policy that covers Hope members and staff who work with our congregation's children. In response to concerns from the congregation about how the results of background checks and other sensitive information would be handled, the Board developed and adopted a Confidential Information Policy for University Lutheran Church of Hope. You can view the policy at: www.ulch.org/images/ConfidentialInformationPolicy.pdf

Rally Day Festival of Hope, Sunday, September 9

The budget that the congregation approved at our annual meeting called for a major fundraising event to raise \$4000 in revenue. That event is now upon us. Please join us on Sunday, September 9 for the Festival of Hope. A variety of activities will be available for young and old alike, as well as delicious foods, musical performances, a silent auction, a jumping castle, and a dunk tank featuring members of our staff and congregational leadership (myself included)! Tickets will be available for \$1 each, and each activity will cost a certain number of tickets. The more tickets sold, the more funds will be raised.

New Vision & Governance Board

The old Board of Commissioners has been put to rest, and the new Vision & Governance Board has arisen to take its place. Members of the Vision & Governance Board are listed on the back cover of The Visitor. The new structure is designed to allow members to serve in areas that specifically appeal to them, and not be burdened with lots of committee meetings. To find your place in the new governance structure, visit the Ministry Area displays at the Festival of Hope on September 9. We need your help to make this new system work!

New Service Times

Starting Sunday, September 15, our worship times will change. The first service will be held at 8:15 instead of 8:30, and the late service will begin at 10:30 rather than 11:00. This change was made in response to surveys taken during our Mission Renewal process. For more information about this change, please read the Quarterly Note of the Worship Planning Team, located at: www.ulch.org/images/WMMinistryQuarterlyNote200706.pdf

—Congregational President Karmi Anna Mattson,
president@ulch.org



Education News

A Godly Play workshop will be held on Saturday, September 8 from 9:00 a.m. – noon. Godly Play is the curriculum used for ages 3 through grades 1. Kathy Meyer, a nationally certified Godly Play trainer, will be with us to conduct the workshop. This workshop is free to all members—parents, grandparents, teachers, and other interested adults. You can still register. Call Diane Shallue at (612) 331-5988, ext 19.

The Godly Play curriculum encourages children to wonder. Deeply spiritual and highly creative, Godly Play is used in churches across many denominations. Children learn the art of using religious language—parable, sacred story, silence, and liturgical action—to become more fully aware of the mystery of God’s presence in their lives and the surrounding world.

Faith Weavers is a new curriculum for grades 2 and older. It teaches Bible stories by revealing God’s character and helping children know, love, and follow Jesus. Each lesson concentrates on one important idea from the Bible. The lessons are designed to keep children moving and active, with a focus on building relationships among the students and between them and God.

Sunday School Registration will be held on September 9—the Festival of Hope. Students from Pre-K through grade 8 are to meet with their teachers from 11:00 — 11:30 a.m. **Students who meet their teacher and turn in their registration form will receive a FREE ticket good for games or food.** Look for your grade level outside one of the classrooms in the Education Wing. Registration forms will be mailed to homes before September 1, can be downloaded from www.ulch.org, or can be picked up Sunday mornings in the library.

Regular Education Hour Begins on September 16 at **9:15 a.m.**

All students will meet in the chapel at 9:15 on September 16 and will then be dismissed to their classrooms.

Godly Play Lesson Topics:

September 16 – Creation

September 23 – Noah

September 30 – Abram & Sarai

Faith Weaver Lesson Topics:

David becomes king. 2 Samuel 5:1-5

David is merciful. 2 Samuel 9:1-13

God forgives David. 2 Samuel 12:1-7

Confirmation Sunday morning classes begin on September 16.

Grade 7 will meet in Room 107.

Grade 8 will meet in Room 104.

High School Discussion will begin on September 16 in the Youth Room.

Adult Forums will begin on September 16 in Heritage Hall.

September 16 – “The Mystery of the Creeds” by Pastor Craig Shirley. What are they? When were they created? By whom and why?

September 23 – Dr. Martin Ramsden will be here again to update us on his Alzheimer’s Research at the University of Minnesota. This will be a follow up to his very interesting presentation last fall.

New Youth Director Begins September 1!

Megan Koepnick will begin work as our half-time youth director as she begins her studies this fall at Luther Seminary, working toward a Master of Divinity degree. Megan is from Elkhorn, Wisconsin. A graduate of Augustana College in Rock Island, Ill., she has experience in youth ministry from her work at Camp Lutherdale in Wisconsin. You can learn more about her in the next issue of *The Visitor*.



Blessing of School Backpacks and Briefcases

Students of all ages are invited to bring their backpacks or briefcases used for school materials to worship on September 9. There will be a special blessing at the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Confirmation Orientation

Confirmation Orientation for 7th and 8th graders and their parents will take place in Heritage Hall, September 18, at 6:30 p.m. See you all!



Birth Through Age 3 Parent-Child Classes

A new Sunday program for parents and children from birth through age 3 will begin on September 23, with a focus on Noah and the Ark. The parenting discussion will be about brain development in young children and how this impacts reading and telling Bible stories to small children. This class will consist of finger plays, action songs, visual Bible stories, and a parenting discussion with free time for play for the children.

This class will meet the third Sunday of each month in the nursery: September 23, October 21, November 18, and December 16. For more information, or to register, contact Diane Shallue (dianes@ulch.org)

Help Needed from Youth and Parents for the Rummage Sale!

Once again this year, the Rummage Sale committee has made a very generous commitment to our youth group with \$2,700 of proceeds toward the 2007 youth trips—the Confirmation trip to Chicago and the trip to Queens in New York. **Wow!** Let's do our part in helping with the Rummage Sale, by helping with clean-up.

Saturday, September 15, 11:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

(Come for a free lunch before the clean-up.)

If you absolutely cannot help on September 15, please try to find a couple of hours to volunteer during the week for set-up, sorting, & pricing.

Library News

What begins as two bored but precocious teenage boys soon becomes an amusing and insightful look at faith in the book *Godless* by Minneapolis author Pete Hautman. “Jay-boy” and his friend Shin decide it’s time for a new world religion, and so they invent it, with the city water tower as its god (“Isn’t water the source of all life?”). Shin begins to write the scriptures for this new faith while Jay-boy is fascinated by Magna Price, who works at the juicerteria. She is invited to be the high priestess, and then she and Henry—the town bully, decide that they need to have their first worship service—at the top of the tower! That’s when things get interesting. Though this book is written for the teenage audience, its insights are for all ages, as is its humor. Pete Hautman has written a number of adult novels but may have done some of his best work in this simple story.

—Pastor Craig Shirley

Facilities: Countertop Install Help Needed!

Kathy Knudson has done a heap of work in getting the Lounge Kitchen rehabbed. The painting is done, the new sink and countertop are in and ordered, and now we need some expert installation help. If you have skills installing countertops and/or sinks, we would love for you to donate your time. We can do the tear-out, but we need serious help to do the install. If you don't have the skill, but would like to underwrite the cost of a professional installer, let me know! Contact me at freddad@usfamily.net or (612) 722-5666.

—Fred Kreider

Life Enrichment Adult Forums for Seniors

The LEAFs(Life Enrichment Adult Forums for Seniors) program will begin on September 17 at St. Philip's Lutheran Church in Fridley. The program consists of opening devotions, a choice of three classes, refreshments, a large group presentation, and then lunch. This program is held on every other Monday. The cost is \$38 in advance for the series or \$12 per session (\$14 per session at the door). See the bulletin board for registration information, or contact Diane Shallue.

A Life-Changing Opportunity

The members of University Lutheran Church of Hope represent a wealth of life experience and a rich variety of occupations, interests, passions, and expertise. The Outreach Team and Lutheran Campus Ministry are partnering in a mentorship project linking students at the University of Minnesota with individual Hope members who are willing to share their perspectives on work and life. Each participating student would be matched with a mentor whose life experiences relate to the student's areas of study or interest. The initial commitment is quite modest: a one-hour person-to-person conversation to share ideas and experiences. If further conversations are mutually agreed upon, the potential is there for Hope members to have a major impact on the lives of young people who are beginning their journey.

The Mentorship Program is one of the volunteer opportunities that will be presented on the Outreach Team poster at the Festival of Hope on September 9. If you are willing to devote a little time in your busy life to be an active listener and supportive presence for a University student, please sign up at the Festival of Hope or, if you're unable to attend the Festival, notify Marty Lewis-Hunstiger of your interest by September 15 at mlewishunstiger@hotmail.com We will send you a brief questionnaire about your areas of interest and experience, so that we can match student to mentor as closely as possible.

—Marty Lewis-Hunstiger

Hope Book Club Year of the Classics

Come and join the Hope Book Club on September 9, 2007 at 7:00 p.m in the Hope Lounge to discuss:

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe. Our line-up for the rest of the year is as follows:

Oct. 14: *1984*, George Orwell

Nov. 11: *The Scarlet Letter*, Nathaniel Hawthorne

Dec. 9: *Winter of Our Discontent*, John Steinbeck

Feel free to call Sonja Peterson at (612) 789-0397 if you have questions or suggestions.



Senior Club Gatherings Begin September 19

Attention all seniors and retirees! Mark **Wednesday, September 19** on your calendars now!

This is the date when University Lutheran Church of Hope Senior Club will begin another great year of monthly gatherings for Christian fellowship and fun, stimulating and inspirational programs, and, yes, good food. You are cordially invited!

The September gathering will begin with a luncheon at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall, followed by the program at 1:00 p.m. The **North Suburban Chorus** of the Roseville area will present a variety show of Broadway tunes, featuring favorites from “The Sound of Music.”



This delightful group of forty talented and enthusiastic seniors has been bringing the joy of music, a bit of dancing, and lively sing-alongs to audiences in the metro area since 1976. Come, join in the enjoyment of the “good old music” that will live forever. Invite your friends!

Reservations are needed for the \$5.00 luncheon. If you are not called, please phone Diane Shallue at (612) 331-5988, ext. 19, by **Thursday, September 13**, to reserve a meal. You are always welcome to attend just the program if you choose. If you need transportation, please phone Leona Reyelts at (612) 378-2444.

Senior Club gatherings are usually held the third Wednesday of each month. Please watch *The Visitor* for future dates and programs, and plan to participate!

Inreach Fall 2007:

- **2005: The Building**

- **2006: The Mission**

- **2007: The People**

Nothing is more important in a congregation than the relationships among its members. But we rarely make a concerted effort to strengthen these relationships. After several years of time and talent poured into remodeling the building and renewing the mission, it's time to take a few months to become a stronger community in faith.

In September, the ISAIAH core team will lead a team of 25-30 Inreach visitors to conduct more than 100 “one-on-ones” with members of University Lutheran Church of Hope. These are half-hour conversations to discover the important hopes and passions of our members. No solicitations or “asks” are involved; it's just a way to develop relationships and build community, especially across the usual boundaries of day-to-day church life. The Inreach was approved by the HOPE Board at the July meeting.

Some of you will be asked to be Inreach Visitors; others—particularly newer members—will be invited for a one-on-one between September and November. Inreach Visitors will be asked to do five visits. There will be two chances in mid-September to get training in the one-on-ones, and we will have a closing event in mid-November to discuss what we learned.

Although ISAIAH is a social justice organization, the Inreach process is not about social issues. By becoming a stronger community in faith, it strengthens our ability to serve ourselves and our world as witnesses of Christ's love.

If you are at Hope because you love the people and the community, this is an outstanding opportunity for you to build or deepen relationships. To make sure you don't miss your chance to participate, contact Scott Hvizdos at (612) 861-2972 or shvizdos@msn.com, or Kirsten Mebust at (612) 226-9836 or kmebust@twincitizen.net.

—Scott Hvizdos

University Lutheran Church of Hope

Festival of Hope



September 9,
2007

Food Court, Silent Auction, Raffle,
Free Blood Pressure Checks 11:00 - 1:45

Meet Your Teacher 11:00 - 11:30
(Kids from Pre-School thru Grade 8 get one free carnival ticket
when they meet their teacher for the coming year.)

Carnival Activities 11:15 - 1:45

- ☺ Jump for Joy Fun House
- ☺ Ark Animal Face Painting
- ☺ Walk-in-Jesus-Footsteps Giant Cookie Walk
- ☺ This Little Light of Mine Candle Shootout
- ☺ Walls of Jericho Can Knock-Down
- ☺ David & Goliath Sling Shot Challenge
- ☺ Ducky Disciples Duck Pond

Head, Neck & Shoulder Massage 11:15 - 1:45

Performance by Tim Gustafson
and the Ad Hoc Working Group 11:30

Dip in the Nile Dunk Tank 12:30

Performance by Dexter Nelson
& Ben Stein in Loud + 2 1:00

Special appearance by Tim Strand 1:45
as the Madam President of the Ladies Auxiliary
in a cameo performance of *"Lime Jell-O,
Marshmallow, Cottage Cheese Surprise"*

Raffle Drawing and Festival Close 1:55

Worship
10:00 AM

Festival
11:00 – 2:00 PM



**Join us for
worship
and
fun-filled
festivities!**

601 13th Avenue SE, Minneapolis ❖ 612-331-5988 ❖ www.ulch.org

All proceeds from this event support the operations and ministries of University Lutheran Church of Hope.

The Treasurer's Report

Contributions Report (Includes All Sources: Envelopes, Electronic and Holiday, Rentals)

<i>Month-to-date:</i> \$ 46,901	<i>Needed per budget:</i> \$ 48,259
<i>Year-to-date:</i> 315,000	<i>Needed per budget:</i> 323,798

The Facts: Revenue is short, year to date (8798), per above and the table below. Expenses are under budget by 1124. But some commissions have lagged in their spending. We anticipate they will spend their budget. The numbers result in an overall shortage of (7674) compared to our budget. Our budget is set monthly based on our history. The solutions are spelled out below.

Action Steps for All of Us

- Be sure to have your contributions up to date.
- Update your electronic giving amount to reflect your contribution/pledge.
- Adjust *your* contributions % to help meet **our goal of a 7.4% increase**.
- Help us make our budget (see below) at December 31.

2007 Presents New Challenges for Revenue

Our Past Success

Our 2006 contributions increased 14%
 The 14 % increase is outstanding
 The revenue increase was \$ 65,226

Our 2007 giving increased has increased

Our Challenge

2007 budget increase is 7.3%
 This year's increase is *1/2 as much*
 Revenue increase this year is \$ 34,400

We can do it.

General Fund

2007 Revenue Comparison of Actual to Budget: Each Month & Year to Date As of July 31, 2007

Month	Sunday #	Actual Month	Budget Month	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget	Over (under) Budget
January		\$ 39,250	45,352	\$ 39,250	\$ 45,352	\$ (6,102)
February		46,284	47,963	85,534	93,315	(7,781)
March		40,851	44,355	126,385	137,670	(11,285)
April	5	50,923	53,768	177,308	191,438	(14,129)
May		49,631	42,934	225,662	234,372	(8,709)
June	*	42,436	41,167	268,099	275,539	(7,440)
July	5	46,901	48,259	315,000	323,798	(8,798)
August			40,624	364,422		
September	5		53,749	418,177		
October	*		44,171	462,342		
November			41,496	503,838		
December	5		<u>60,850</u>	<u>564,687</u>		
Totals			\$ 564,687			

—Norris Waalen, Treasurer

Lutheran Campus Ministry: Fall on Campus

Welcome to all who come new to this academic community, and a special welcome to Pastor Fritz Wehrenberg from Ames, Iowa, who will be the interim pastor for Lutheran Campus Ministry for this coming academic year. He arrives with experience in interim ministry, parish ministry, and campus ministry. You will get a chance to meet him as he worships in our Covenant Congregations and becomes involved in the campus ministry outreach. He will be helping us to take a deep breath, to evaluate, and to envision the future of our ministry together. He will ask a lot of questions and listen really hard. It is the desire of campus ministry to involve as many people as possible in the conversation necessary to do this work. Please feel free to contact him at fritzatuminn@hotmail.com.

New things for the fall include a midweek gathering time for students at University Lutheran Church of Hope on Tuesdays at 8:15 p.m., and a Soup and Bread Lunch at Grace University Lutheran Church on Thursdays from noon to 1:30, besides the normal Soup and Bread at the LSM House on Tuesdays at the same time, a Bible study on Monday nights at 7:00, and the “Are Your Spiritual or Religious?” group on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m.

The University Episcopal Center now has office hours two days a week at the LSM House and invites all to their Prayers and Lunch at noon on Wednesdays.

Students for Spiritual Understanding and Empathy is a student group that grew out of the Social Justice Leadership Retreat last January, and they will have their first meeting on September 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the LSM House. They are interested in education, interfaith dialog, and eliminating bias. You can Google them to learn about future activities.

On Tuesday afternoons at 3:30 you will find a group of Knitters for Peace that formed after the Spring Break trip sponsored by Students Today Leaders Forever. They are involved in learning to knit as well as making peace stoles. Last spring they presented several stoles to the Sheila Wellstone Foundation. The group is open to all and you can learn more on their Facebook page.

You will also be hearing more about how you can volunteer to mentor students in their vocational quest or, if you are student, request a mentor in your field of study to tell you about their experience.

LCM will—through its brochures and printed materials as well as the newly constructed web site—provide infor-

mation about all events at the Covenant Congregations and will continue to invite students to morning worship as well as to the LCM-sponsored worship every Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m., at Grace University Lutheran.

It is said that a personal invitation is the best way for people to get involved. A newsletter article is not very personal, but this one does contain information that you can use to invite students to what, I believe, is a welcoming environment provided by our Lutheran presence together—that they might continue in their faithful journeys.

As we begin again, LCM thanks you for your partnership.

—Jerie Smith, on behalf of LCM/LSM

Board of Commissioners / Vision & Governance Board Meeting

August 8, 2007

Present: Pastor Craig Shirley, Administrator Craig Wiester, Worship's James Hlavka, President Karmi Mattson, Jack Dant, Past-President Garvin Davenport, Facilities' Fred Kreider, Care & Nurture's Sharla Aaseng, Stewardship's Tim Gustafson, Social Justice's Donna Neste, & Outreach's Marty Lewis-Hunstiger.

Absent: Education's Lisa Morse, Social Justice's Karen Westwood, Vice President Bob Moluf, Treasurer Norris Waalen, & Pastor Kwanza Yu.

President Karmi Mattson started the meeting shortly after 7:00 p.m. She welcomed Jack Dant, attending as a new member of the Vision & Governance Board. We went around the table for a check-in.

Karmi reminded us of the minutes approval process.

Confidential Information Policy. We discussed the Confidential Information Policy, in a newly revised draft by Vice President Bob Moluf. Past President Garvin Davenport moved adoption, this was quickly seconded. We opened the floor for discussions. After a few perfunctory questions, we voted to adopt this policy. Administrator Craig Wiester will publish it on the web site.

Code of Conduct. Moving on to the Personnel Committee's draft Code of Conduct, Karmi delivered a brief explanation of why we developed this policy and why now. She went on to explain a few items brought up at last week's Executive Committee meeting. She moved that we refer it back to the Personnel Committee for some further work. Her motion was seconded. She went on to outline some of the changes being suggested.

Social Justice's Donna Neste joined the meeting at 7:18; Marty Lewis-Hunstiger came in at 7:22.

We had considerable discussion of the implications of one policy regarding specific scenarios. The motion to return the policy with comments carried.

Rally Day Festivities. September 9, Rally Day, will feature a single service followed by the Festival of Hope, which will serve as the Board's fund-raiser event. Karmi outlined some of the plans and needs. The office wing, for instance, will be a display area for our Ministry Areas with incentives for members to pay close attention to those displays. We'll also have a dunk tank. We have 3 volunteer dunkees now and are asking for more. Several people around the table opted in. We have several musical groups on tap. Sharla Aaseng has some good ideas on the Silent Auction and will follow up. Fred Kreider has a couple of ideas; he also reminded us of the impending deadline for information on community events in The Bridge newspaper.

Governance Structure. Karmi broached the subject, reminding us that the Board of Commissioners will be laid to rest this evening, after which we will convene the Vision & Governance Board. Supporting this, she distributed a suggested template form for liaising between the Vision & Governance Board and the various task forces and/or ministry teams. One side of the form is the charter, the other side is a template for minutes and action items from task force meetings. Karmi solicited further ideas on this form.

Financials. In the absence of Treasurer Norris Waalen, President Karmi Mattson led us through the financial reports for July. We're running about \$8,800 under plan on revenue. Expenses are holding pretty well, for a bottom line of about \$7,700 worse than plan overall.

Karmi then directed our attention to the contribution analysis, showing how many of our giving units give in what categories of amounts. She led us through an explanation of this report. She went on to relate that Administrator Craig Wiester and Pastor Craig Shirley are the only people who have seen, and can see, information on who is giving how much. There was discussion in Executive Committee last week about expanding the list of people who can have access to this information. There is a case to be made for the Stewardship team leader, for instance, but the consensus at this meeting was that the Treasurer should not be one with that access. Jack Dant wondered about the potential benefits of publishing the contribution analysis. We discussed the somewhat-related need to purge some of our membership list, culling people. We did, however, acknowledge that this procedure can be a minefield.

We continued this discussion, considering the benefits and pitfalls of widening the circle of people with access to this information. Pastor Craig Shirley suggested we ask Stewardship to: (1) Prepare a list of inactive members; (2) Publish the contributions analysis in some form. Past President Garvin Davenport moved we send this information to Stewardship for their consideration, with an eye toward their thinking it through and bringing it back to the Vision & Governance Board in time for the fall stewardship campaign. This was seconded and carried.

Dissolution of Board of Commissioners. We bade farewell to Fred Kreider, Donna Neste, Marty Lewis-Hunstiger, & Tim Gustafson for their service as we dissolved the Board of Commissioners. Karmi also reminded us that Treasurer Norris Waalen is coming to the end of his allowable service term in February 2008. Jack Dant obtained affirmation that the interim youth director's position has been accounted for in this new structure.

Pastor Craig Shirley reported that we have still not made a decision on the interim youth director. We do have a candidate we like, but the selection team wishes to interview a second candidate. Craig would like to have our person in place by Rally Sunday.

President Karmi Mattson officially dissolved the Board of Commissioners at 8:35 p.m. on Wednesday, August 8, 2007.

Convening of Vision & Governance Board. President Karmi Mattson immediately convened the first meeting of the Vision & Governance Board with the addition of Jack Dant.

President Karmi Mattson asked if we should start future meetings earlier, for example at 6:00 p.m. The consensus was that 6:00 p.m. would be fine. Administrator Craig Wiester will make the change on the calendar. Karmi affirmed that Vision & Governance Board meetings are open to any congregation members who wish to attend.

Pastor Craig Shirley tossed in a couple of things. First, we need to start thinking ahead to the 2008 capital campaign, to start right after 2008's early Easter. One big question on this is whether or not to use an outside fund raiser. Secondly, we need to consider the state of the Credit Union. They are currently looking to close it down. Craig, however, would like to have the Credit Union Board think about ways to remain in business, returning to their original task of helping the neighborhood. There could be a revitalization of this original mandate. Shutting down may be the best option, but we should evaluate it further. We discussed some of the possibilities. Pastor Craig Shirley will invite their board in to talk with us next month.

We adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

STAFF

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

LEADERSHIP

President: **Karmi Mattson**
Vice President: **Bob Moluf**
Past-President: **Garvin Davenport**
Secretary-Treasurer: **Norris Waalen**

VISION & GOVERNANCE BOARD

Operations: **Norris Waalen; Garvin Davenport**
Leadership Development & Communications:
Bob Moluf; Karmi Mattson
Worship & Music Ministry: **James Hlavka**
Youth & Young Adult Ministry: **Jack Dant**
Education Ministry: **Lisa Morse**
Hope in the World Ministries: **Karen Westwood**
Relational Ministries: **Sharla Aaseng**

THE VISITOR

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