

# The Visitor

601 - 13th Avenue SE  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414-1437  
Tel. (612) 331-5988 Fax (612) 623-0693  
www.ulch.org



March 2008  
Issue #3 - 08

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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.*

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## Lenten Wednesday Schedule for March 5 & 12

### Noon Worship in the Chapel

Focus on the "I am" statements of Jesus.

After the noon worship—soup and bread in Fellowship Hall.

### Evening Schedule

5:15 – 6:00 p.m. Adult bells in balcony

5:30 – 6:15 p.m. Soup and bread in Fellowship Hall

6:00 – 6:50 p.m.:

- Chapel Choir for children in grades 2–6
- Adult Discussion in Heritage Hall with Diane Shallue and Pastor Shirley
- Youth (grades 7–12) Discussion in the Youth Room with Megan Koepnick
- Children in the nursery with stories and videos

7:00 – 7:30 p.m. Meditative worship in the Sanctuary

### Adult Discussion Topics

March 5 – **Acting and Serving – Part Two** – The discussion from last week will continue with stories from Tim Abrahamson and Brian Kufus about Loaves and Fishes and about Families Moving Forward. How do we

act and serve so that the good news of life in Christ is proclaimed?

March 12 – **Improving Your Spiritual Health** – Now it is time for your spiritual check-up. Where do you need to grow? What types of support do you need to continue your spiritual growth? Family support? Congregational support? How do you exercise your faith so it gets stronger? How can you avoid spiritual "junk food" and nourish your faith?

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## Holy Week Worship Schedule

March 16 Palm/Passion Sunday Worship  
at 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

March 20 Maundy Thursday Worship  
at 12:00 noon & 7:00 p.m.

March 21 Good Friday Tre Ore Service  
at 12:00 p.m.

March 21 Good Friday Tennebrae Service  
at 7:00 p.m.

March 22 Easter Vigil at 8:00 p.m.

March 23 Easter Sunday Worship  
at 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

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## March Fellowship Meal

Save the date—Sunday, March 9 is the day for the Next University Lutheran Church of Hope Fellowship Meal. Join your friends and make new friends while enjoying another delicious noonday dinner. It all gets started right after the 10:30 worship service. As usual, college/university students as well as visitors are our guests.

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## Upcoming Events

**A Neighborhood Sustainability Conference** is to be held on Saturday, March 8, from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at Augsburg College. This free conference will bring together 800 volunteers from block clubs, neighborhoods, business associations, schools, and congregations to plan projects they want to carry out in the spring and summer to help reduce global warming and adapt to climate change. Teams of volunteers will receive project tool kits to help carry out their projects. See details at [www.afors.org](http://www.afors.org)

**Transforming the Difficult Child: The Nurtured Heart Approach**—a one-day national seminar, is coming to Minneapolis on Thursday, March 27, downtown at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and on Friday, March 28 at the Holiday Inn Select in Bloomington. This workshop is for parents and teachers who work with intense children or want to find alternatives to medications for children. Howard Glasser is the presenter.

The fee is \$89 if pre-registered, or \$99. Call (866) 992-9399 to register. Diane Shallue has a brochure on this event. You can also visit the web site at [www.childrens-success-foundation.org](http://www.childrens-success-foundation.org)

**Children's Book Collection continues until April 1**—The Library Committee is still collecting books for the Southeast Minneapolis Council on Learning. The Council needs new or gently used children's books, especially chapter books for boys. The collection box is under the table in the Library. These donations will be distributed to low-income children through reading programs at Van Cleve and Luxton Parks.

## Easter Memorial Plant Project

If you desire to contribute to a flower fund to have a plant placed in the chancel area for Easter Sunday in memory or in honor of a loved one, please call

Rosalie Eldevik  
1473 Hamline Ave. N  
St. Paul, MN 55108-2313  
(651) 644-0287

Donor \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be payable to “*Hope Church Friendly Visitors.*” You are welcome to contribute whatever amount you desire. The names for memorials will be included in the Easter bulletin. These plants will be delivered to our shut-ins after Easter services.

## Easter Plant Distribution

If you can assist in delivering Easter plants to shut-ins after the 11:00 a.m. service on Easter Sunday, March 23, please sign your name and phone number below and leave it in the offering plate or in the church office.

Thank you!

—Friendly Visitor Committee

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Shirley's Share

**H**oly Week is perhaps the most ancient of the festivals of the church, and the entire week walks us through the story of Jesus in his last days, from the entrance into Jerusalem on Palm/Passion Sunday to Easter—the Day of Resurrection. Holy Week begins on Sunday, March 16.

**Palm/Passion** Sunday begins with blessing of the palms and our processional into the sanctuary. Jesus was welcomed by the crowds (but not necessarily by the Sanhedrin) that day, and boughs were laid before him as he rode on a foal through the streets.

**Maundy Thursday** commemorates the Last Supper our Lord shared with his disciples—the Passover meal that Jewish people had observed for thousands of years before Jesus and still observe today. Bread (unleavened) and wine are important parts of that story and meal, and it was these “earthly elements” that Jesus used to give a “new mandate,” that his body and blood would become the food that nourishes the soul as well as the body. After that meal he was arrested in the garden and taken before Herod and Pilate. During this service we “strip” the altar—taking away all paraments to leave it as a stark reminder of shame and degradation. Holy Communion is not celebrated again until Easter.

**Good Friday** is the darkest of services. *This year we will be trying something different!* In the past we, along with Grace University, Trinity on the West Bank, and Lutheran Campus Ministry, have had a “walkabout” in our various neighborhoods, learning more about where we live and how we serve. This year, with it still being potentially very wintry, we will have a Three Hour (Tre-Ore) service of readings, preaching, and hymns. It will begin at 12:00 noon and conclude at 3:00 p.m. (traditionally observed as the time period during which Christ was hanging on the cross).

- The service will be in 20-minute segments—each built around one of the seven last words.
- We understand that people may not be able to stay for the entire three hours—so you can feel free to come and go at any of the 20-minute marks.
- Various folks will be preaching: Mary Halvorson, Jane Buckley-Farley, Alem Asmelash, David Johnson, Mulu Kelecha, Megan Koepnick, and others.
- The service will be held at University Lutheran Church of Hope.
- We will still have the 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae service with the “closing of the book” representing the closing of the tomb.

**Easter Vigil** commemorates the “night watch” that disciples, soldiers, and others endured at the door of the tomb. The service begins around an open fire and then proceeds to recount God’s story through scripture. Baptism is the sacrament that brings us into God’s presence as children, and we renew our baptismal promise before we enter the sanctuary to the glorious sight of Easter—the first-dawn “sunrise” service!

**Easter Sunday** is pure festival celebration. We Christians “pull out the stops” with music, color, flowers, and joyful acclamation that *“Christ has risen indeed!”* It is the holiest and most joyous of the days of the church year. Don’t miss a single step in the journey this year. See you in church!

Pax

—Pastor Craig Shirley



## FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Sunday morning programs \* 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.



The B-3 parent/child class will *not* meet in March. The next meeting will be on April 20.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Godly Play Lesson Topics:</b> <i>For ages 3 – grade one</i>	<b>Faith Weaver Lesson Topics:</b> <i>For grades 2–6</i>
March 2	Bartimaeus, a blind man & Jesus	Jesus gave the Beatitudes
March 9	Celebration of Prayer Event	Celebration of Prayer Event
March 16	Jesus the King	Jesus enters Jerusalem
March 23	<i>Easter – No Sunday School</i>	
March 30	Jesus and Mary Magdalene	Jesus teaches that we are salt & light

**Confirmation** on Sunday mornings for grades 7 & 8 is held each week. Adam Morton is the instructor for grade 8. Bob Moluf is the instructor for grade 7. No class on March 23.

**High School Discussion** will be held in the Youth Room, with Jack Dant, Ann Agrimson, and Megan Koepnick leading the discussion.

### Adult Forums in Heritage Hall

- March 2** Bread for the World is a nationwide Christian movement that seeks justice for the world's hungry people by lobbying our nation's decision makers. Donna Neste will once again lead us in a campaign of letter writing on behalf of those who are hungry.
- March 9** "Celebration of Prayer" – Diane Shallue will be planning an interactive event around prayer, for all ages, to be held in Fellowship Hall. Don't miss the fun!
- March 16** "Stories of Faith" – Hear the faith stories of Merrill Morse and Sarah Burson.



- March 23** Easter – no Adult Forum
- March 30** "Creating a Welcoming Climate" – H. Andrew Andersen is a member at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in South Minneapolis. His presentation will be informed by his background in food service in Las Vegas, as a parish pastor, a law firm administrator, community and political organizer, apartment rental agent, and an active lay parish leader. This session will explore ways of looking at welcome and hospitality as a part of our evangelism in the 21st-century church.

## Faith Steps for Children

Each grade has a yearly faith step. Each faith step has a learning component, is recognized in worship, and is gifted in some way.



**The Second Grade Faith Step** will occur in worship at 10:30 a.m. on March 2. The students will be reciting John 3:16 and leading the congregation in praying the Lord's Prayer.



**Communion Instruction** for children ages 4 through grade 4 will take place on February 24 & March 2. Contact Diane Shallue if you have questions.

**Preschool and Kindergarten children** will receive a Bible in worship on March 30 at the 10:30 a.m. service. Parents and children will be learning about the Bible during the Education Hour that day.

**Fifth grade students** will lead the congregation in the Apostles' Creed on April 13 at the 10:30 a.m. worship service and will be creating a bulletin board on the Apostles' Creed.

**Sixth Grade students and friends** will go on an overnight retreat on April 25-26 to learn about the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. They will be recognized in worship on April 27.



## Celebration of Prayer—March 9

All ages are invited to explore prayer on March 9 in the Fellowship Hall from 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

We will have refreshments and conversation around prayer. We will create prayer beads to take home and will learn more about the Lord's Prayer. Those who have prayer partners will meet and share ideas. Everyone will be engaged in learning more about prayer and have **fun!** Don't miss it! Contact Diane Shallue with questions.

## Life Enrichment Adult Forum

**Registration is now available for the spring RLEAF** (Life Enrichment Adult Forum for Seniors). The dates are March 31, April 14, April 28, and May 12.

The classes will be held at Christ the King Lutheran in New Brighton and at Nativity Lutheran in St. Anthony Village. There are choices of attending three different classes, plus listening to a major speaker. If registered in advance, the fee is \$12 per session, or \$38 for the series, which includes a lunch. See the flyer on the bulletin board.

## Hope Senior Club

All seniors and friends are cordially invited to the Senior Club luncheon and program on **Wednesday, March 19**, at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall. Reservations for the \$5.00 meal should be made by **Thursday, March 13**, with your caller or by contacting Pastor David Johnson at (612) 331-5988, ext. 13.

"Button, Button, Who's Got the Button?" will be the theme of the program at 1:00 p.m. in Heritage Hall. You may have a valuable button in that old box of buttons! Carol (Watson) Kwiecien, a member of the Minnesota State Button Society and National Button Society, will display and speak



on buttons—from the beginning to the present time. And she would love to see your old box of buttons, or your grandma's! She can appraise them and help you appreciate and display them. Carol grew up at University Lutheran Church of Hope—she was confirmed and married here. We welcome her back!

Please know that if you are unable to attend the luncheon, you are always welcome to attend the program. Come, and bring your buttons!

## Youth Update

Think back to when you were a teenager—can you identify an important adult in your life during those years? Hopefully you were able to recall someone who made a significant impact on your life. I know that I was lucky enough to have multiple adults in my life that I knew I could count on. One of these mentors was my youth director, but I also had many other mentors and leaders within my home congregation as well. One of them, Char Carlson, has been a wonderful friend! She continues to remember me on special occasions with a card and kind words. Her granddaughter passed away this summer and I was heartbroken for her and with her. Our connection and relationship has grown and changed and we have both gained valuable knowledge from one another. Char was not the youth director, nor was she a parent of one of my friends in youth group. She was a wonderful woman who took the time to notice a teenager. She was a youth leader in her own right.

I encourage you to think about the ways you can become a youth leader within our congregation. There are many opportunities to chaperone, have discussions, and connect with the amazing young people of this congregation. Perhaps you already are connected with a few of them! The job requirements are few, there is no experi-

ence necessary, and the rewards are fantastic! Check out our calendar online or pick up a youth brochure on my office door to find out the great things that are going on with our youth.

God's peace and love! 

—Megan Koepnick

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## Easter Breakfast

Thank you to John Pignatello and Karen Westwood for heading up the organization of the Easter Breakfast! The Youth Dream Team is looking for some willing parents of middle school and/or high school youth to help John and Karen plan and make the Easter Breakfast happen.

Not a parent? We're interested in you, too! This is one of the big fundraisers of the year for youth activities programming. We have some good resources and lots of youth to be involved! Please contact our youth director, Megan Koepnick, at (612) 331-5988 or [megank@ulch.org](mailto:megank@ulch.org), if you're interested in helping out. Or call John and Karen directly at (612) 724-5721 for the inside scoop on the menu, the plans, and the fun!

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## Summary of Vision & Governance Board Meeting

February 12, 2008

*Present:* Pastor Craig Shirley, President Bob Moluf, Past-President Karmi Mattson, Vice President John Lauber, Treasurer Mike Fingerson, Hope in the World's Karen Westwood, Youth & Young Adults' Jack Dant, Relational Ministries' Leslie Frost, Education's Dan O'Loughlin, and Worship's Uli Koester. *Absent:* Administrator Craig Wiester

Treasurer Mike Fingerson presented the January financials. January income was slightly more than budgeted in both congregational giving and rental income.

The second round of the Room for Fresh Creations capital campaign was discussed. Past-President Karmi Mattson agreed to chair the capital campaign. She will contact additional prospective committee members suggested by the Board, in the hopes that the committee will have a full slate of members by the Leadership Retreat on March 1, at which time the Board will vote on the membership slate. The advantages and disadvantages of using an outside consultant for the campaign were discussed.

President Bob Moluf presented details for the Board and Staff Leadership Retreat on February 29 – March 1. It was suggested

that a second retreat may need to be held in the fall, after the June congregational meeting.

Bob Moluf and Karmi Mattson were presented as delegates to the Minneapolis Synod Assembly on April 18 & 19. Karmi was also selected as the Lay Voting Delegate from the Central Conference to the 2009 Churchwide Assembly.

Pastor Shirley provided an update on the hiring of a Young Adult Director. All students in Luther Seminary's program have been placed at this point, so we would be unable to receive a student from the Seminary until the fall. Pastor Shirley and the Personnel Team will work to pursue the possibility of finding a candidate from another source, as the Trust Board has allotted funds to be used for this purpose in 2008, and the position is in the congregation's budget for 2008.

The Board voted to approve the nomination of Ann Agrimsson to serve an additional term on the Personnel Team. This position was inadvertently left off the Nominating Slate at the Annual Meeting.

The Board elected Leslie Frost as the Board representative to the Executive Committee.

The March Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 11, at 6:00 p.m. At that meeting a decision will be made as to whether Board meetings should be permanently moved from Wednesday nights to Tuesday nights.

## President's Perspective

The congregation's Vision & Governance Board is off and running again, and has taken on several important initiatives for the first half of the year:

- *Setting mission objectives for 2008.* The overall mission priorities for University Lutheran Church of Hope were determined when the congregation voted in 2007 to approve the Mission Renewal plan. Specific objectives for this year will be set at the Leadership Retreat at the end of February. These objectives will help our staff prioritize some aspects of their work during the coming months.
- *Launching the next capital campaign for Room for Fresh Creations.* As was explained at the Annual Meeting, a new capital campaign is needed so that we can continue to invest in our remodeled building and in the ministries that it supports. Our Past President, Karri Anna Mattson, has

graciously offered to lead the new campaign and is now recruiting members for the steering committee.

- *Recruiting members of Ministry Teams and Task Forces.* Some existing groups need additional members, and some new groups still need to be formed.
- *Preparing a proposed revision of the bylaws,* to be presented to the congregation in June. We agreed that we would update our bylaws this year to reflect the changes we have been making in how we organize ourselves for mission.

We have a great group of Board members working on your behalf. As we work together to implement the vision for mission that University Lutheran Church of Hope has adopted, I encourage each of you to consider how you can contribute your time and talents to mission.

—Bob Moluf, Congregation President

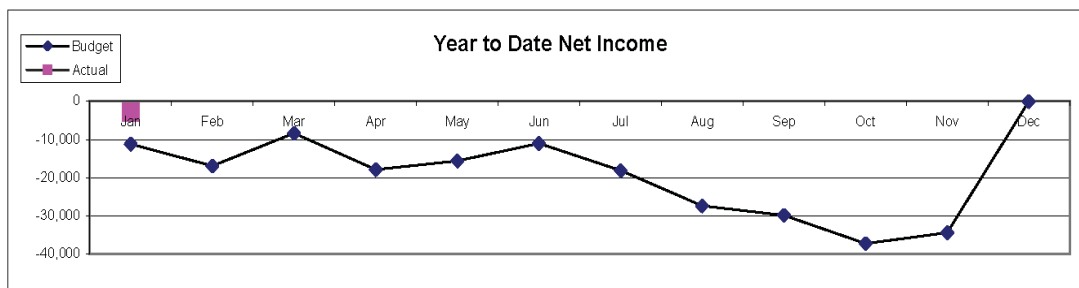
## Treasurer's Report

### General Fund

#### Results for January and Year to Date 2008

	January		Year to Date		Over/(under)
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	
General Giving and Holiday	34,896	32,651	34,896	32,651	2,245
Rental and Extraordinary	5,474	4,345	5,474	4,345	1,129
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>40,370</b>	<b>36,996</b>	<b>40,370</b>	<b>36,996</b>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>43,143</b>	<b>48,169</b>	<b>43,143</b>	<b>48,169</b>	<b>(5,026)</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>(2,773)</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>(11,173)</b>	

While the \$3,374 over budget on income is encouraging, two unanticipated items helped: a stock transfer of \$4,999 and a rental income of \$1,405.



A diamond represents budgeted YTD net income and a square represents the actual. Yes, the cumulative net income is budgeted negative all year, with recovery in December. From a financial viewpoint, a square above a diamond is good; below not so good.

Thanks to the unanticipated income items mentioned above, we have an excellent start for the year.

—Mike Fingerson, Congregation Treasurer

## STAFF

Pastors: **Craig Shirley, David Johnson**  
Cantor: **Timothy Strand**  
Director of Education: **Diane Shallue**  
Youth Director: **Megan Koepnick**  
Administrator: **Craig Wiester**  
Custodians: **Robert Bailey, William Frank**  
Working in partnership with Lutheran Campus  
Ministry Staff: **Fritz Wehrenberg**

## LEADERSHIP

President: **Bob Moluf**  
Vice President: **John Lauber**  
Past President: **Karmi Anna Mattson**  
Treasurer: **Mike Fingerson**

## VISION & GOVERNANCE BOARD

Operations: **Mike Fingerson; Karmi Anna Mattson**  
Leadership Development & Communications:  
**Bob Moluf; John Lauber**  
Worship & Music Ministry: **Uli Koester**  
Youth & Young Adult Ministry: **Jack Dant**  
Education Ministry: **Dan O'Loughlin**  
Hope in the World Ministries: **Karen Westwood**  
Relational Ministries: **Leslie Frost**

## THE VISITOR

*The 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. Electronic submissions in either Microsoft® Word or plain text format are preferred. Articles may be edited for length. Contributors are responsible for clearly identifying any material that is from published sources and for obtaining appropriate permissions. Send submissions and correspondence to: [visitor@ulch.org](mailto:visitor@ulch.org).

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

The current issue of *The Visitor* is always available at [www.ulch.org/images/TheVisitor.pdf](http://www.ulch.org/images/TheVisitor.pdf). Back issues are available by contacting the church office.



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