

The Visitor

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November 2008
Issue #11 - 08

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.

Stewardship Sundays: The Gift of Time

T*ime is money.* That is a truism that certainly resonates for me right now.

If your house is like ours, you are usually running six directions at once, feeling overcommitted, with little down time and a sense that you simply can't take on any more commitments. If a favorite nonprofit organization asks me for help, or a favorite political campaign, I'm more likely to give money than time. It takes just a minute to write a small check; volunteering means precious hours. As tight as things are economically, for many of us right now it is *time* that feels more scarce—and more valuable—than money.

At times like these, I need to remember that God gives us the time we have. Every day, every minute, and every nanosecond is a gift. The time that we have is ours to use as we choose—or, more likely, as our hectic schedules demand. Those schedules can be full of important items, dozens of commitments, causes, and concerns that claim our time. One result is that activities and events that help us fulfill the mission of University Lutheran Church of Hope can get lost in the shuffle.

What to do?

For three Sundays in November (the 9th, 16th, and 23rd of the month), our worship will include a focus on stewardship, with an emphasis the first two Sundays on being faithful stewards of *all* that we are given. On Sunday, November 23, we will make our monetary pledges. But before that, on the 9th and the 16th, we will hear from ministry areas that are in particular need of our time. We will be invited to make a pledge of *time*—a commitment to a particular ministry task, out of gratitude for the time given to us.

We can all take some time now to reflect on the particular ministries of Hope to which we want to dedicate, or rededicate, our time. From the Altar Guild and the Education Hour to youth events and Malawi; from Friendly Visitors and the Garden Club to Families Moving Forward and choirs; we have many ministries in need of the time we've been given. This month we will *take time to make time* for the ministries of our congregation. Time, after all, is the great gift with which we've been entrusted.

—Tim Gustafson,
Stewardship Task Force

Thank You

We wish to say thank you to the many people of University Lutheran Church of Hope who visited Mildred Anderson and prayed for her, and especially to the ladies of the Funeral Committee for their service at the supper.

Sincerely,

—The Anderson,
Peterson,
and Hanson
Families

Choir Concert and Hymn Festival

The All Saints Choir Concert and Hymn Festival will be held at University Lutheran Church of Hope on Sunday, November 2, at 4:00 p.m., featuring our Senior Choir.

Please join us for this festive concert and hymn festival that highlights music for All Saints Day. This year, instead of featuring one major choral work, we will be presenting music by various composers in a variety of styles.

Much wonderful choral music has been composed that touches on the themes of saints, heaven, and eternal life. The music of Maurice Durufle, Aaron Copland, William Beckstrand, John Rutter, Bob Chilcott, and others will be featured at our concert. The congregation will also have the opportunity to participate in singing many hymns. We have enjoyed great attendance at these concerts over the past few years. Please invite your friends and relatives to join us for this festive celebration.

—Timothy Strand

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

The annual Thanksgiving Eve worship will be held Wednesday evening, November 26th, at 7:00 p.m. at Grace University Lutheran Church. There will be coffee and pie to follow, and we will need to contribute pies for the occasion. There will be a sign-up starting in November. Parking should be readily available, as the university will not be in session, so plan to attend with your friends



from St. Lawrence Catholic Church, Trinity Lutheran Congregation, and Grace University Lutheran Church.

—Pastor Craig Shirley

Thanksgiving Community Meal

University Lutheran Church of Hope's annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 27, with serving starting at 12:30 p.m. The menu will be turkey and all the trimmings. This is a time of year when Hope members are both hosts and guests. All are welcome to join us, and also to bring friends and family. If you know you can come, please RSVP to the church office if possible, but if you didn't RSVP and find you are free, please come anyway. Also, if you know of anyone who doesn't have another place to go, please invite them. Sign-up sheets for contributing food and/or money (you need not be present to contribute!) will be available on the Sunday mornings of Nov. 9, 16 and 23.

A wonderful aspect of this meal is that many students and others who don't have a place to go on Thanksgiving volunteer to help cook and serve. Something else you might not know is that we send leftovers home with guests who want them. So if you have extra containers at home that will work for leftovers, please bring them to church on Nov. 9, 16 or 23. Last year a gentleman showed up and asked if he could play the piano and provide some mealtime entertainment. Who knows what surprises await us this year? Who knows where God's grace will appear? I expect to find some surprises at the Community Thanksgiving Dinner, and I hope to see you there!

—Karen Westwood and the rest of "Team Turkey"
(Pauline Hendrickson, Scott Hvizdos, and Wayne Westwood)

Hope Book Club

Year of Books of Faith!

Join us on Sunday, November 9, at 7:00 p.m. in the Library to discuss:

Grace (Eventually): Thoughts on Faith, by Anne Lamott

"I wish grace and healing were more abracadabra kinds of things. Also that delicate silver bells would ring to announce grace's arrival. But no, its clog, slog, and scotch, on the floor, in the silence, in the dark."

If you have questions, please call Sonja Peterson at (612) 789-0397.

Shirley's Share

Somewhere in my distant genetic past some sun-worshipping southerner must have gotten his or her chromosomes mixed up with my stalwart Scandinavian ones, because I don't really care much for fall. I know that in our Norwegian-wool-sweater, sipping-cocoa-by-the-fire, crunching-through-the-leaves-loving Minnesota, this may sound like heresy, but on this particular topic you can go ahead and brand me a heretic. The waning light, the prospect of winter (in spite of global warming, they're still difficult), and having to work harder to be outside, all come together in fall to make me less than joyful.

But one thing that does characterize my attitude in the fall is thankfulness. The Pilgrims knew what they were doing. Fall is a time to look back on the year that has been and truly give thanks. I am thankful for our nation and all that it offers its citizens—not the least of which is a chance to voice our desires as to how we want to be governed. That means that each and every American should cast a vote on November 4. It is a great thing that University Lutheran Church of Hope is a polling place for our neighborhood. Many people will be coming and going from our facility on that day, which is a wonderful statement to the world. I am thankful.

I am also thankful for my family. Fall's emphasis on the changing seasons makes me aware of how short life is and how precious. My father's death a year ago, and the death of his brother, my uncle, six months ago, has put me in touch with the fact that I am now the "older" generation—even though I don't feel like it (my mother says the same thing!). There are certain frustrations that come with age, but also a lot more freedom! I am thankful.

I am thankful for this place. University Lutheran Church of Hope is a fine congregation. You have been generous to a fault this year—in supporting the recent phase of our Capital Campaign (though not all of you have yet done so!), as well as the day-to-day workings of the congregation through your regular giving. The budget is in good shape this fall, and if it stays that way it will be exciting to look forward to an annual meeting where we can talk about mission in ways other than monetarily! I am thankful.

Maybe your fall looks gloomier than it should. The economic downturn has affected everyone and has set a somber mood for our nation. But even belt-tightening and better stewardship of what we have so generously been given by our Creator can be a blessing. Even with gasoline prices dropping, I hear people saying that they are not going back to old driving habits, but intend to walk, bike, plan trips better, and conserve. We are becoming "green" conscious again, and that has to be good for this treasured planet we call home. I am thankful. Pax

—Pastor Craig Shirley

Watershed

If you notice the Facilities Team meeting more often in the next few weeks, *watershed* is why. Or, to be more specific, the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO). We learned about their stewardship grant program in September, and Fred Kreider and I quickly put together a letter of intent to MWMO. On Friday, October 10, we learned our letter earned us an invitation to apply for a \$10,000 planning grant. The hard part is that it is due on Saturday, November 10. And it is competitive.

Fortunately, we had asked for and were granted \$1,200 from the Rummage Sale (part of their fi-

nal distribution) to have a landscape architect come in and assess the various watershed possibilities on our property. We have just hired Emmons & Olivier Resources to conduct that assessment and estimate the general planning costs that we need to complete our planning grant proposal.

If our planning grant proposal is accepted, we will have until late summer to have the selected plans developed. Then we will have the opportunity to apply for a \$50,000 action grant next fall. During that period we will also be providing the congregation and neighborhood with information about the vari-

ous watershed techniques we can or will use, will look for other fundraising possibilities, and will determine what we can go ahead and do ourselves using our own tools, talents, and experience. Although you will get information on green roofs, permeable pavement, rain gardens, etc., please note that even just planting a tree decreases the amount of water that could end up in the sewer system.

If you want to get involved with this project, please contact Fred Kreider or me and we'll make sure you are on the watershed information contact list.

—Kathy Knudson

Young Adult Coordinator—Dannica Montplaisir

My name is Dannica Montplaisir, and I am the new Coordinator for Young Adult Ministries at University Lutheran Church of Hope. Before coming to Hope and to the Twin Cities area, I was a youth director for four years in Moorhead, Minnesota, and now am here completing my M.A. in Youth and Family Ministry at Luther Seminary.

I have a passion for the future of the church and am constantly discovering new things about my call and the way that God is using me in this world. It is exciting to see that Hope has recognized young adult ministry as an important part of congregational life, and I look forward to serving God and this community of young adults through relationships and fellowship! I have made some connections already, and I look forward to getting to know those of you who worship at Hope and support the growing ministries here.

I'm excited to have the opportunity to walk together with you over the course of the next year!

—Dannica Montplaisir,
Young Adult Ministries Coordinator

Youth News

How often do you talk about faith outside of Sunday morning? How often do you take the opportunity to dig out your Bible and read a few verses? I'm sure that our answers run the gamut from "every day" to "hardly ever."

I have had many of these kinds of conversations over the past few weeks while working with the confirmation students on their statements of faith. It has been interesting and a great experience to hear what the kids have to say about God, the Lutheran faith tradition, and where their hearts are regarding their own faith. I was so glad to have the opportunity to talk with them about these subjects, and I wish I could meet with all our youth one-on-one to hear what they have to say!

What do the youth in your life have to say about faith and belief? What are their questions? Take some time to have these conversations and see where they lead. Working out our faith together is part of being family and community, and leads to great connections and strong relationships.

God's peace and love! <><

—Megan Koepnick,
Youth Director

Date of Annual Meeting

Please mark your calendars: the Annual Meeting of University Lutheran Church of Hope will be held on Sunday, February 8, 2009, at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. *(Note also that, for once, the date of the Annual Meeting will NOT be on Super Bowl Sunday!)*

In addition to elections and budget decisions, there will be a mission focus to this year's meeting.

—Bob Moluf,
Congregation President

Global Mission Group is Active

A Global Mission group was formed two years ago to visit Malawi and see what we could do for God's people there. There is a lot that we can do for people in one of the poorest countries on earth.

One of the things our congregation did was to fund a church and parsonage at Mulanje Parish in southern Malawi. We hope to have some University Lutheran Church of Hope members at the dedication of those facilities in late June of next year. Would you like to go? Please contact Jerry Johnson at johns018@umn.edu or (612) 789-7965.

The group is also looking at other ways to serve our brothers and sisters in Africa. We are especially concerned with nutrition and education. If you have any interest in or questions about this group, please contact Jerry Johnson, or contact Ruth Fingerson at Rfingerson@comcast.net or (651) 633-5316.

An Adult Forum with a Global Mission theme is planned for January 25. We hope to have a guest preacher for the worship service that day.

Proposed Constitutional Changes

The Special Committee appointed by the Vision & Governance Board to explore changing University Lutheran Church of Hope's constitution to permit the calling of a gay or lesbian pastor is scheduling a series of events and discussions regarding this issue, in accordance with Hope's *Statement on Moral Discourse*.

The following events are being scheduled prior to the Annual Meeting to be held on February 8:

Adult Forum on Sunday, November 16, at 9:30 a.m.: Members of the Special Committee will be present at the Adult Forum between services to discuss the proposed constitutional change to allow a gay or lesbian person in a committed relationship to serve as a pastor of this congregation. What would this mean for Hope? What are the ramifications? Time will be allotted for questions and discussion of the issue.

Presentation by the Minneapolis Area Synod on Monday, November 17, at 7:00 p.m.:

Glenny Ose, Bishop's Associate for Rostered Ministries in the Minneapolis Area Synod, will be present to answer questions regarding the Synod's position on the possible constitutional change and its ramifications for the congregation.

Presentation by Pastor Anita Hill and screening of "THIS Obedience" movie on Sunday, December 7, at 3:30 p.m.: Pastor Anita Hill, a lesbian in a committed relationship, was irregularly ordained by St. Paul Reformation Lutheran Church in 2001. The movie "THIS Obedience" follows Pastor Anita and St. Paul Reformation from their decision to commit "ecclesiastical disobedience" by ordaining Anita, through the decisions made at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly. Pastor Anita will be present to discuss how St Paul Reformation's decision and the accompanying fallout and disciplinary action have affected the congregation since 2001.

Presentation by Lowell Erdahl: Bishop Emeritus of the St. Paul Synod and former Hope pastor

Lowell Erdahl will be joining us to discuss his work on this issue. Due to Bishop Erdahl's extensive travel schedule, a date and time for this presentation is still to be arranged. Watch the bulletin and the Weekly Epistle for further information.

Shower of Stoles: A portion of the Shower of Stoles exhibit will be displayed in Hope's Lounge in January. The Shower of Stoles is a collection of over one thousand liturgical stoles and other sacred items representing the lives of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people of faith. Each stole contains the story of a GLBT person who is active in the life and leadership of their faith community in some way: minister, elder, deacon, teacher, missionary, musician, administrator, or active layperson. The collection celebrates the gifts of GLBT persons who serve God in countless ways, while also lifting up those who have been excluded from service because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Please watch the bulletin and the Thursday Epistle for detailed information on these upcoming events.

—Karmi Anna Mattson,
Congregation Past President

President's Perspective

I'm pleased to report that, as our congregation moves closer to the holidays and the winter season, many of the foundational things your Vision & Governance Board has been trying to see accomplished this year have either been completed or are making good progress. We are very close to reaching our full goal for the current phase of our capital campaign (we would like to hear from *everyone*, even if the response is, "I'm sorry, but I'm not in a position to help at this time."); we have completely revised and updated our Bylaws in line with our Mission Renewal emphasis and our mission priorities; we have hired a Coordinator of Young Adult Ministries; we are launching the first phases of a formal small group ministries program for adults; the giving level of our membership remains positive; and we are actively working with Lutheran Campus Ministries at both the state and local levels to achieve a new, collaborative approach to campus ministry at the University of Minnesota. Numerous other significant projects are also underway, which are regularly reported in *The Visitor*.

But before we start congratulating ourselves too much about what has been accomplished, we should remind ourselves that the measure of our success as followers of Jesus and members of the body of Christ is not in the things we do. As Lutheran Christians we try to focus rather on what God is continually doing for us. And it is on that basis that we can continue to move forward as disciples, seeking new opportunities for ministry and service in this time and place.

—Bob Moluf, Congregation President

Hope Senior Club

All seniors and friends are cordially invited to the **Thanksgiving Gathering on Wednesday, November 19**, which begins with a delicious turkey-and-all-the-trimmings luncheon at noon in Fellowship Hall. Reservations should be made by **Thursday, November 13** with your caller or by phoning Diane Shallue at (612) 331-5988, ext. 19.

The program, "I Will to You," by Herbert Brokering, will follow at 1:00 p.m. in Heritage Hall. A Last Will and Testament tells family and friends what is to become of our property, but what about the spiritual gifts and memories we want to leave to those we love? Pastor Brokering will help us reflect on this as he shares and wills to us heartfelt and teachable moments from his eighty years of living. Over the past sixty years his ministry has included being a pastor, educator, pilgrimage leader, beloved hymn-writer (known particularly for "Earth and All Stars"), and author of more than forty books, including his latest publication, *I Will to You*. You will not want to miss this creative, inspirational, and personable presentation!

Can't attend the luncheon? Everyone is *always* welcome to attend just the program. If you have questions or need transportation, please phone Leona Reyelts at (612) 378-2444.

Vision & Governance Board Highlights

The Vision & Governance Board did not meet in September, due to numerous schedule conflicts among members of the Board. The Executive Committee met as usual and took care of a few administrative decisions for the Board, including setting a date for the Annual Meeting and making arrangements for terminating the lease with Phoenix House.

At the October meeting the Board began the process of budgeting for the next calendar year, and this will be a major focus for the meetings in November and December. Other priorities for the fall are planning an offsite, day-long retreat where the Board can have more extended discussions of our mission and strategy, as well as beginning the process of identifying and recruiting leaders for next year.

The Board also discussed current plans around education and for a renewed focus on communications, including the church's web site.

Rummage Sale Final Report

The Rummage Sale Committee met for the final time in September. It was a bittersweet time for all. It is hard to give up such a wonderful community event just because of the week-ahead-of-sale set-up work. (If any group in the church would want to reinstate any part of the sale, they will have lots of help!)

- The stained glass accrual fund (approx. \$4000) will be offered to the Hope Church Trust. This fund was begun by the sale for stained glass window repair/replacement.
- Facilities will get \$5000 for boiler room venting, parking lot patching, handicap signs/posts, rain barrels/cistern, and landscape architect fees (see the articles by Kathy Knudson and Fred Kreider in this issue of *The Visitor*.)
- The remainder of the funds (around \$5200) will go to a Kitchen Fund, which will be part of the general budget. This money may be spent for major equipment or small

items such as dishes, pots, pans, etc.

- The Kitchen Fund will be overseen by a Kitchen Task Force, composed of one person from the Funeral Committee (Arloene Stevens, to begin with), and two kitchen workers. Ann Kreider has offered to be on this committee. The Kitchen Task Force will work under the auspices of Treasurer Mike Fingerson and the Operations Support Area.
- Rummage sale equipment and supplies will be offered to the Sunday School. Diane has requested some of this. The rest will be offered to Families Moving Forward, or will be turned over to Craig Wiester to give to his community of churches, be recycled, or be put in the trash.

Thanks for your support of the Rummage Sale over all of these years. Verle Rhoades began it over 40 years ago, and to date it has earned more than \$300,000.

—Ruth Fingerson



Friendly Visitors—An Update

The Friendly Visitor program at University Lutheran Church of Hope has been an important part of our ministry for almost 40 years. During this time active members have reached out in caring friendship to those with special needs. In a variety of spiritual and material ways, visitors have brought God's love into the homes of Hope's extended family—those who cannot make it to worship or who need our extra support.

This ministry has also provided beautiful plants for Easter worship, after which they are distributed to homebound and grieving members of the congregation. Plants are also given to people celebrating 90th birthdays or 50th wedding anniversaries.

Over the years many people have made a vigorous and faithful commitment to Friendly Visitors. Verle Rhoades and Bertha Hanson, who were enlisted at the very beginning, have recently retired from their duties. Other visitors and committee members have come and gone and we give thanks for the loving service of each of them.

Friendly Visitors is supported under the Relational Ministries Ministry Area, led by Leslie Frost. Activities are now being coordinated by Marilyn Asp. Rosalie Eldevik, Kathy Knudson, and Pat Lindquist make up the flower committee. The work of the group is supervised by the pastors.

Blessings flow in many directions through the Friendly Visitor program. If you are looking for ways to share your faith and love, here is an opportunity for you.

—Marilyn Preus,
former chair, Friendly Visitors

Hope Connections

You can still attend one of the Hope Connections small groups. Contact Diane Shallue for information about a group that is meeting in your area. The goal of this program is to build connections between members of University Lutheran Church of Hope and between visitors and friends of Hope. For more information contact any of the members of the Small Group Ministry Task Force: John Bablitch, Marty Dorow, Diane Shallue, Stephanie Struthers, or Paige Whitney.

Participants in the Hope Connections Small Groups are invited to a **Candlelight Celebration** on Monday, December 1 from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Come for a nice dessert and coffee or tea.

Gathering Time begins at 6:30 p.m. There will be free child care in the Nursery.

Facilities Report

We have had a few things going on with Facilities recently.

In August the Kitchen received a fresh cleaning and a coat of paint.

In September we received funding from the Rummage Sale proceeds to help pay for: Boiler room venting, parking lot patching, additional signs for more handicap parking spaces, rain barrels/cisterns for diverting rain water from the roof, and stormwater architect fees. We also patched the sanctuary roof for the second time in three years. It's costly, but it's better than the alternative.

In October we had the parking lot paved for some pretty major divots and places where it was just crumbling. The boiler room venting is complete. We also won the right to bid on a \$10,000 and \$50,000 grant for storm water improvement for our property, over the next two years. There will be a lot of time required to do all the paperwork and to get the number of volunteers, both from our church and from the community, to make this work. If you have any experience or interest in working with us on this, please let me, or Kathy Knudson, or any Facilities member know. We'd love to have your help. See Kathy Knudson's article in this issue of the *Visitor* for more information.

In November we hope to add a minimum of two additional handicap parking spaces, hopefully three.

In the not-too-distant future we will see the addition of a new baptismal font, being designed, developed, and donated by Ann and Wayne Lee.

—Fred Kreider

Sunday School Social Hayride Outing

All Sunday School students from pre-school through grade six are invited to go on a hayride on November 16. This will be a time to have fun with your Sunday School friends, get to know kids from other classes, eat some hotdogs and roast some marshmallows, and go on a hayride! Details are below. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to join us.

What: Sunday School Hayride Outing

Who: Sunday School Students Pre-K through 6th Grade (older and younger siblings are welcome, too)—and feel free to invite a friend!

When: Sunday, November 16. Meet after the second service (around 11:30) in the north parking lot.

Where: Bunker Hills Park Riding Stables

Return: Around 3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$10 per child (if money is tight, please talk with Diane Shallue. Scholarships are available and will be kept confidential.)

Bring: Warm clothes (that can get dirty) because we'll be outside.

Be ready for fun!

Permission Slips/Sign-ups will be available at Sunday School.

Questions? Call Karen Westwood (612)-724-5721 or Sheila Hougen (612)-724-4765.



Are you ready for ADVENTure?

Everyone is invited to the ADVENTure Event on November 30 during the Education Hour in Fellowship Hall from 9:30 – 10:20a.m. This event will help all ages get ready for Advent. Enjoy special treats. Do craft projects. Make an Advent chain. Visit with friends. Prepare for the coming of the Christ Child.

100 Words from China Service Ventures (CSV)

“I know what their great dreams are by communicating with them. They all have great dreams. May their dreams come true in the near future. We all value the 5 days we spent together. Our friendship will cross the ocean, the deserts, and mountains. We will value our friendship forever.”

These words come from a female high school student living in Xi County, Henan Province, China. She was one of 65 Chinese high school students participating with American high school students through CSV’s summer Youth Service Project.

We served together cleaning two nursing homes for elderly residents and repairing a road leading to a village school. This work was neither particularly strenuous nor back-breaking, and our working hours were not extremely long. The *real work* came as Chinese and American youth came together to talk about their lives and their hopes and dreams. Imagine the leaders of tomorrow sharing dreams with one another.

CSV wants American youth to understand Lutheran mission history, the work of the Church in China, and how they are partners in this ministry. Now is the time for groups as well as individuals to consider becoming a part of our summer service project. The dates for 2009 are July 15-30. Join us as we continue to bring youth together to build friendships as we witness to the kindness of God. If interested, please contact Pastor Steven F. Ray at steverayCSV@aol.com

Faith Formation

Adult Forums

November 2 – Stories of Hope. Hear Wayne Westwood and Stephanie Struthers share about their faith journeys.

November 9 – “The Evolution of the Bible.” Bruce Eldevik, a librarian at Luther Seminary, will share information on how the Bible we currently use came to be.

November 16 - Members of the Special Committee appointed by the Vision & Governance Board will be present to discuss the proposed constitutional change to permit the calling of a gay or lesbian person who is in a committed relationship to serve as a pastor of this congregation. What would this mean for Hope? What are the ramifications? Time will be allotted for questions and discussion of the issue.

November 23 – “Costa Rica.” Hear about the adventures of Nancy and Steve Struthers and children as they spent a year in Costa Rica while Nancy was doing medical work.

November 30 – ADVENTure. This is an event for all ages with food, songs, conversation, and activities held in Fellowship Hall. Come to have fun and get ready for Advent.

High School

High School Discussion meets in the Youth Room on Sundays from 9:30 – 10:25 a.m.

Confirmation News

Confirmation classes for grades 7 & 8 meet on Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 10:25 a.m. The seventh graders are studying the Bible and the Story of Israel with instructor Bob Moluf. The eighth graders are studying the Apostle’s Creed with instructor Adam Morton. The Saturday class will be held on November 8 with the topic, “Jesus the Priest.”

Sunday School News



<i>Date</i>	<i>Godly Play lesson</i>	<i>Faith Weaver Lesson</i>	<i>Sunday School Point</i>
Nov. 2	The Good Samaritan	Lot and Abram divide the land. Genesis 13:1-18	God wants us to put others first.
Nov. 9 Opening in the Chapel	Response Time	God makes a covenant with Abram. Genesis 15:1-18	God has good plans for us.
Nov. 16	Liturgy Guide Training	Abraham’s Visitors Genesis 18:1-19:29	God makes miracles happen.
Nov. 23	The Birth of Isaac	Isaac is Born. Genesis 21:1-6	Respond to God’s gifts with joy.
Nov. 30	ADVENTure	Advent IG event – no SS	

November 9 – Sunday School opening at 9:40 in the Chapel, with music and a presentation about Abraham by the Arkers Classroom.

November 16 – All Godly Play students (ages 3 – grade 1) and their parents will meet in the Chapel for training on the liturgical guides which are used in worship. Children will also receive prayer pillows and a story book about prayer.



Library News

The following books were recently added to the church library:

For Children

Still My Grandma, by Veronique Van den Abeele. This book explores a little girl's understanding of her grandmother's Alzheimer's disease.

Fiction

Cry, the Beloved Country, by Alan Paton. The defining novel about racial injustice in South Africa's history, written in a lyrical style with memorable characters.

The Life of Pi, by Yann Martel. The story is about the shipwreck of a sixteen year-old boy named Pi who survives with a hyena, a zebra, an orangutan, and a Bengal tiger. This hardcover book has wonderful illustrations.

Home, by Marilynne Robinson, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Gilead*. This story takes place at the same time and in the same town as her previous book, but in the household of the Reverend Robert Boughton, whose prodigal son Jack has returned home after twenty years.

The Shack, by William Young. The Triune God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) appears in amazing and compelling forms to a father numbed by grief over the murder of his small daughter. This book has been on the best seller lists.

Social Justice

Just Policing, Not War: An Alternative Response to World Violence, edited by Gerald W. Schlabach.

Treasurer's Report

General Fund

Results for September and Year to Date 2008

	September		Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Over/(under)
General Giving and Holiday	36,909	33,525	357,752	359,685	(1,933)
Rental and Extraordinary	7,791	6,552	49,596	44,664	4,932
Total Revenue	<u>44,700</u>	<u>40,077</u>	<u>407,348</u>	<u>404,349</u>	<u>2,999</u>
 Total Expenses	 41,783	 42,544	 406,076	 434,154	 (28,078)
 Net Income	 Month	 <u>2,917</u>	 YTD	 <u>1,272</u>	 <u>(29,805)</u>

This year it has been expenses under budget that has kept us near break-even. This month was different, with expenses near budget (\$761 under), but income over budget by \$4,623. We can all be proud of the results to date compared with budget.

—Mike Fingerson,
Congregation Treasurer

STAFF

Pastors:

Craig Shirley; David Johnson

Cantor:

Timothy Strand

Director of Education and

Adult Small-Group Ministries:

Diane Shallue

Youth Director:

Megan Koepnick

Young Adult Ministries Coordinator:

Dannica Montplaisir

Administrator:

Craig Wiester

Weekend Custodian:

William Frank

Working in partnership with

Lutheran Campus Ministry Staff:

Fritz Wehrenberg; Kate Reuer

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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

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

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