

# The Visitor

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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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## Mercy Seat Lutheran Church Comes to University Lutheran Church of Hope

Expanding our call to be a missional presence in our neighborhood, the facilities of our congregation are now being used by a mission-start congregation of the ELCA called Mercy Seat Lutheran Church. Led by Pastors Mark Stenberg and Kae Evensen, Mercy Seat first opened its doors on March 4, 2006, in space provided by Northeast Community Lutheran Church. Very recently, however, that building has undergone some inspection reviews and is no longer able to be used for worship. An invitation was issued by University Lutheran Church of Hope to invite this Northeast church to move to Southeast, and Mercy Seat began worshipping here on Sunday evening, December 14.

The aim of Mercy Seat, according to the May 2008 issue of *Interacts*, the Minneapolis Synod newsletter, is:

*...not to break with the past, but rather to recover the classic reformation proclamation of radical grace and revive the ancient ordo, the spine of the Western mass, as a work of the people. It is movement that the pastors playfully refer to as "creative orthodoxy."*

*Initially, they hired local jazz musician Jon Pemberton to compose three gorgeous and original liturgies. More recently, two more liturgies have been set, the first by Ben Kyle of Romantica and the second by Wes Burdine of Wes Burdine and the Librarians. Other musicians are in the process of composing new liturgies, and the pastors hope to publish a service book in the future with a dozen original liturgies, prayers, poems and illustrations.*

*Beyond their shared love of preaching and being a part of creating beautiful liturgies, Mark and Kae also found their shared love of play. The pastors create events that build community by simply having fun. They held an air show, featuring remote control blimps, Pizza delivery Sunday, Mercy Seat Salute to Wisconsin and Pajama Party Sunday.*

At this point in time we are offering Mercy Seat "in kind" support through the use of our building and one of our offices. In the future we hope that, as they grow, they will be able to share financially in the cost of building maintenance and upkeep. We are working to have a lease agreement in place prior to Hope's Annual Meeting in February. Mercy Seat meets at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday nights in the sanctuary.

—Pastor Craig Shirley

## Women's Retreat

### "Celebrating Women's Wisdom"

#### February 28 – March 2

Mark your calendars for the weekend of February 28 - March 2, 2009. Our theme for this year's retreat is "Celebrating Women's Wisdom." We are excited to have University Lutheran Church of Hope member Beata Rydeen leading the retreat. This event is open to women who are college age and up. The cost is \$113 and includes three meals. Most rooms are single, with a sink, desk, and chair provided.

Registration will be open to the first 15 people (we have 7 signed up so far). If indications are for more spots, it may be possible to secure more rooms. To sign up, please visit the table outside of the Lounge on January 11, 18, 25, or February 1, 8, 15. The deadline for registration is February 16 or until full.

For more information, contact Ann Beane at [spiritbeane@yahoo.com](mailto:spiritbeane@yahoo.com) or (651) 481-8175.

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## Can You Hear Me Now?

Current pledges to our Invitation to Hope Capital Campaign stand at \$483,154. In addition to meeting our continuing mortgage obligations, one of the new initiatives that was to be funded with our capital campaign dollars was an upgrade of our existing sanctuary sound system.

If you have been in church in recent months, you may already have noticed a difference that can be attributed to a basic tune-up by the original architects of our sound system, New Life Communications. The speaker underneath the balcony is functioning once again, as is the speaker in the narthex, much to the delight of our ushering volunteers, who can now hear the service!

Some replacement components for the system have been ordered as well, including new wireless microphones for our worship leaders that will eliminate the rustle of robes brushing up against the microphones. We have also ordered some new equipment to enhance our worship experience, particularly for our talented instrumentalists. Soon we will be able to plug a guitar directly into our sound system, so Tim Gustafson will no longer need to haul his own amplifiers to and from church!

Because worship is so important to the life of this congregation, we felt it was important to undertake these key upgrades to better enhance our worship experience. Some of the components will take longer than others to arrive and be installed, so you should continue to notice improvements in our system over the next several months.

Special thanks go to Pastor Craig Shirley, Tim Strand, John Robinson, Andy Sayre, Wayne Westwood, and Ken Sarkela for their work on this project.

—Karmi Anna Mattson, Capital Campaign Committee Chair

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## Hope Book Club

Join us on Sunday, January 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lounge to discuss

*Man's Search for Meaning*

by Viktor Frankl

"*Man's Search for Meaning* chronicles Frankl's experiences as an inmate in a concentration camp and describes his method of finding a reason to live. At the core of his theory is the belief that man's primary motivational force is his search for meaning."

Please call Sonja Peterson at (612) 789-0397 if you have questions or suggestions for books for us to read.

**February 8:** *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time*, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin

**March 8:** *Markings*, by Dag Hammarskjöld

## Shirley's Share

Let's get to know the neighbors! Come to a special lunch conversation between University Lutheran Church of Hope and St. Lawrence Catholic Parish on Sunday, January 25, in the Fellowship Hall of Hope immediately following Sunday services.

Over the years our congregation has been represented on the Synod/Diocesan Lutheran/Catholic Covenant Commission, dating back to a period when Bishop Lowell Erdahl helped draft a statement used by both Catholic parishes and Lutheran congregations when addressing marriage between a person of each faith.

A covenant was signed almost 20 years ago between the two bodies, and every year since then the Commission has sponsored events to commemorate and renew that covenant. I have served on that commission for five years now.

This year we would like to get Lutheran and Catholic church members talking together, and so we have invited congregations in close proximity to come together for dialogue. We will spend some time getting to know one another and talking about issues common to us in our Southeast neighborhood. But we would also like to address the question, *What would it take to have full communion between the two bodies (Lutheran and Catholic) by the year 2017?*

### Some History

- The year 2017 is the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther posting his 95 *Theses* on the door of the Castle Church (All Saint's Church) in Wittenberg, Germany, the event that began the Reformation.
- The 95 *Theses*, written in Latin, invited members of the university community to debate the issue of the church's practice of selling indulgences to grant reduction of time in purgatory—either to the buyer of the indulgence or, as was often the case, on behalf of a relative who had already died.
- For centuries after the Reformation, Lutherans and Catholics were not welcomed or allowed at each other's celebration of Holy Communion. This practice was called "closed communion."
- In 1965 the first formal discussions in North America were held between Lutheran and Catholic theologians, initiating a long and ongoing series of Lutheran–Roman Catholic dialogues. Since then a number of documents have been issued by that group, which speak to topics of common concern such as baptism, marriage, the Virgin Mary, papal primacy, and the creeds.
- In 1999 a "Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification" was signed in Augsburg, Germany, by representatives of the Lutheran World Federation and the Vatican. This document represents official theological agreement on the most contested topic of the Reformation, whether justification of human beings in the eyes of God is accomplished purely by grace through faith, or whether good works also play a role.

In spite of that declaration, there is still not full communion between the two bodies, and interfaith families often find that one or the other member is not allowed or does not feel comfortable receiving communion in the other's church. The same is true if one is a guest at a wedding or other worship event where communion is served. With many of the issues that once separated us now resolved, what is it that keeps us apart at the Eucharistic table?

Plan to be a part of this interesting dialogue. Plan to stay after church on January 25, have a light lunch, and dialogue together for about 90 minutes. We will keep a summary of the discussions for the Commission to use.

Pax.

—Pastor Craig Shirley

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## Sunday Morning Contemplative Worship Opportunities

University Lutheran Church of Hope will offer a contemplative worship experience at the 8:30 a.m. service on the fourth Sunday of the month, on January 25, February 22, and March 22. Through Mission Renewal explorations and ISAIAH Inreach conversations over the past couple of years, there has been a desire expressed among members for more opportunities to meditatively worship in community. The Worship Planning Team invites your participation and welcomes your feedback as it considers future opportunities for contemplative-style worship.

—Lisa Morse, Worship Planning Team



# Faith Formation News

## High School

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

## Confirmation

Confirmation classes for grades 7 & 8 meet on Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 10:25 a.m. The seventh graders are studying the Ten Commandments and the Story of Jesus with instructor Bob Moluf. The eighth graders are studying about Martin Luther and The Lutheran Confessions with instructor Adam Morton. The Saturday class will be held on January 10 with a focus on the Early Church and the Book of Acts.

## Sunday School News

Date	Godly Play lesson	Faith Weaver lesson	Sunday School Point	Faith Step	Opening schedule
January 4	The Magi	Wise Men Find Jesus (Matt. 2:1-12)	Jesus deserves our worship.		N/A
January 11	Jesus is Baptized	John baptizes Jesus. (Mark 1:4-11)	God sent Jesus.	Blessing of children baptized in 2008. Use of Liturgical Guides in worship	Theme: Malawi Missions with pictures and stories.
January 18	Fishers of Men	Jesus surprises Nathanael. (John 1:43-51)	Jesus knows about us.		N/A
January 25	Jesus heals a man who cannot walk.	Disciples follow Jesus. (Mark 1:14-20)	We follow Jesus.		N/A

## January Fellowship Meal

Please join us in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, January 11, after the second worship service as we celebrate Chinese/Asian New Year. Asian food will be served to welcome the Year of the Ox, which officially begins January 26. The meal is being prepared and served by University Lutheran Church of Hope families with adopted/multicultural children. Suggested contributions are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. As usual, there is no charge to college students, who are welcomed as our guests.

—Garvin Davenport



## Book Collection for Southeast READS

We are collecting books for the Southeast READS project. This project encourages reading at home by collecting and distributing books to children at Luxton and Van Cleve Community Parks and at the before and after school programs for Minneapolis KIDS at Marcy and Pratt Schools. Please donate new and slightly used children’s books. They can be picture books or chapter books. Please put them in the collection box under the table in the church Library.



## Small-Group Ministries

**H**ope Connections Interest Groups will begin in January. At the time of the writing of this newsletter, groups are still being organized. Some of the fall Hope Connections groups will continue to meet, but with a different focus. New groups will be formed to gather in homes to eat together, to go out together to view foreign films, and to gather in homes or at church for Bible study. These groups will meet four to six times between January and April. So far 34 people have indicated interest in these groups, but there is always room for more people. Look for more information around the beginning of January, or contact Diane Shallue.

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### HOPE CONNECTIONS Summary

The six Hope Connections small groups involved 55 people in discussions about family, friends, church community, and global community over four sessions in October, November, and December. The program ended with a lovely candle-light celebration for 44 people who enjoyed yummy desserts created by Jean Tjoflat. The focus of this program was to build stronger relationships among people who attend worship at University Lutheran Church of Hope. Thirty participants said that they met someone new through this program, which was another goal. Thirty-four participants indicated that they wanted to continue in some sort of a small group. The Hope Connections program was a rousing success and enjoyed by all.

Thanks to the Small Group Ministry Task Force who created this program: John Bablitch, Marty Dorow, Stephanie Struthers, and Paige Whitney. Thanks to the small group leaders who led the discussions: Marilyn Asp, John Bablitch, Esther Dant, Jen Dotson, Marty Dorow, Christine Nielson, and Nancy Miller. Look for more information to come, as this program will continue with a focus on interest groups from January through April. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to be involved.

—Diane E. Shallue,  
Director of Christian Education and Adult Small Group Ministries

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## Help Enrich a Young Child's Life

Would you like to help encourage the development of a precious young child in Minneapolis? A **toddler classroom** in an inner city daycare is in need of **toys and other materials** to enrich its learning environment.

- New or gently-used **toys** designed for toddlers 12 months to 2-1/2 years (e.g., large-knob puzzles, cause-and-effect toys, dolls, small “people” and houses, props for pretend play, pegboards and other manipulatives, large soft blocks, etc.) would be greatly appreciated.
- The classroom could also benefit from some sturdy, child-sized tables, easels, and other appropriate **furnishings**.
- To help organize the classroom, **plastic storage containers** ranging from small to large, including laundry baskets, would come in handy.
- **Art** materials and items for **sensory** play (e.g., plastic pails, shovels, cups, and bowls) would also be well-used.
- **Language** development could be enhanced through flannelboards (felt) or magnet boards; board books, puppets, etc.
- Extra **clothes** (e.g., shirts, pants, socks, hats, mittens, scarves) in sizes 2–6 are also welcome.

If you could donate any of these items, or others that you think could help support a toddler classroom, please call the teacher, **Debra Caravitis**, or her mother, **Leona Reyelts**, at (612) 378-2444. Feel free to call with any questions and to arrange for pickup or delivery. Donations could also be left at the church.

**Thank you so much** for sharing your resources and helping these dear young ones grow and prosper!

## Support Services for Nicollet Square

### A Development for Homeless Youth

Those of us who have adult children usually continue to support them in variety of ways, big or small, after they graduate from high school and either go off to college or find employment. We may have even invited them back home after college graduation to stay for a while until they became employed.

Kids who have been in foster homes do not have this kind of support, and many of them eventually become homeless.

Plymouth Church Neighborhood Foundation wants to address that problem. They have raised funds to build a new development for homeless youth. However, they want to include support services to help them find employment, receive funding for school, develop job skills, and so forth.

The Social Justice group is asking your help with a postcard campaign to our county commissioners that will ask for funding for these services. The services are to be housed in the Nicollet Square Development, scheduled for completion in 2010.

If you are willing to help, please see Donna Neste during the Adult Education hour. She will give you a postcard to sign and send.

—Donna Neste

## Adult Forums in January

Are you interested in learning how to get the most out of your Bible? Do world mission experiences interest you? What is in the 2009 church budget that you will be asked to vote on in February? How can we best safeguard our children at church? These are the topics for the January Adult Forums on Sundays at 9:30 in Heritage Hall.

### January 4

Diane Shallue will introduce us to the **Book of Faith initiative** sponsored by the ELCA in order to increase biblical literacy and fluency for the sake of the world.

### January 11

*January 11* will be **World Mission Sunday**. We have invited Bishop Emeritus Bob Berg of the Northwest Wisconsin Synod to preach about his experiences. The Adult Forum will feature University Lutheran Church of Hope members of all ages who have had foreign mission adventures.

### January 18

Treasurer Mike Fingerson will present the **2009 budget** on *January 18* and answer your questions. This will give you a chance to learn about the budget before voting on it at the February 8 Annual Meeting.

Our congregation is participating in **Safeguarding God's Children**, a program to ensure that our children are safe in the church environment. Leslie Frost will explain the program, and why we are doing this, on *January 25*.

Adult Forum **brochures** are in the pews, telling more about the Forum schedule. Check ahead, so that you will not miss out!

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## Great Preaching Continues

Early 2009 will of course feature the preaching of our pastor Craig Shirley. You won't want to miss his sermons for our season of Epiphany. He has agreed, however, to cede the pulpit on the following Sundays:

**January 11** will be Mission Sunday, and for that occasion we have invited **Bob Berg** to preach. Pastor Berg is a retired ELCA bishop from Wisconsin who was instrumental in connecting us to the Lutherans of Malawi.

**Fritz Wehrenberg**, our University of Minnesota Interim Pastor, returns on **February 15** for another lively sermon. Watch where you sit!

A week later, **February 22**, **Loren Halvorson** will preach. We look forward to another engaging message from Loren.

Stay tuned! Our spring will feature a host of talented preachers, most of them women. As we plan for the second half of 2009, we would love to have your suggestions. Is there someone you would love to see invited, or maybe a preacher from last year we should have back? Let us know! We'd love to hear from you.

—Louise Dovre Bjorkman,  
Becky Halvorson,  
and Uli Koester  
(aka The Preaching Team)

## Youth News

**H**appy New Year! The new year brings the promise of new beginnings and new adventures. Each year I make a list of goals. Some are accomplished and some are not. Regardless, I get excited about all the new things I can do each year.

What are your goals for this year? Are you looking for ways to get more involved around University Lutheran Church of Hope? One of the goals of the Dream Team is to begin a mentorship program with our youth and others in the congregation. We would love for you to be part of this exciting project!

One of the other projects we have been working on is now on display! You may have noticed some new faces on the bulletin boards in the hallway by the offices. We are highlighting our senior students from now until the end of the school year. Come take a look. Perhaps you share their wacky talent or love of a certain TV show!

I'm looking forward to the adventure of the new year and our continued partnership in the Youth Ministry of University Lutheran Church of Hope!

God's peace and love! <><

—Megan Koepnick,  
Youth Director

## Prayer Partners Needed

**W**ould you be interested in being a prayer partner for a child or youth from our congregation? The Children's Ministry Team is looking for 80 people age 16 and older who are willing to pray weekly for six weeks for a child or youth during Lent. You will have an opportunity to meet your prayer partner at the Lord's Prayer Event on March 1. Expectations are that you will:

- ◆ Pray for them once a week, and
- ◆ Send them a card at Easter.

To volunteer, please contact Diane Shallue at (612) 331-5988, ext. 19, or [dianes@ulch.org](mailto:dianes@ulch.org)

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## Hope Senior Club Programs for 2009

**H**ope Senior Club will begin its New Year gatherings on **Wednesday, January 21**, with a noon luncheon in Fellowship Hall. The program will follow at 1:00 p.m. in Heritage Hall with a presentation, "What Happens to My Letter?" by Michael LePree of the U.S. Postal Service and the Twin Cities Postal Consumer Advisory Council. There will be opportunity to discuss such topics as mail fraud and scams. Also, participants are invited to bring their old postcards or stamps to share history through the Postal Service. Please make reservations for the luncheon by **Thursday, January 15**, with your caller or by phoning Diane Shallue at (612) 331-5988, ext. 19. **All seniors and friends are cordially invited.**

The remaining dates and programs through spring are:

**February 18:** "On the Homefront: Life in Minnesota in the 40s"—a look back at the war years as recorded by those waiting at home for loved ones to return, by Karen Lindesmith.

**March 18:** Lenten Service at 12:00 noon, followed by a soup and bread lunch. The program at 1:00 p.m., "Prison Ministries, will be presented by Former Governor Al Quie, who will share from his experiences as a volunteer.

**April 15:** "Silver Stars," a Senior Performing Dance Group from Fridley. Music, laughter, dancing, and song!

**May 20:** "The Brave Journey of an Orphan Train Rider," by Ann Zemke, who, through the blocks of a special quilt she made, shares the history of the orphan trains and her grandmother's heart-warming, personal story as a rider in 1906.

Mark your calendars **now** and plan to join us for fellowship, food, and fun! A warm welcome awaits all!

# Vision & Governance Board

## Highlights from the December Board Meeting

*At its regularly scheduled meeting on December 9, 2008, the Vision & Governance Board:*

**Formally elected** Jack Dant to fill the vacant position of Vice President, effective immediately. The vote was unanimous.

**Received** notification from the Personnel Committee that Pastor David Johnson has resigned due to ongoing health issues. Candidates for the position of Visitation Pastor are now being interviewed.

**Received** monthly financial reports from Treasurer Mike Fingerson. (See the Treasurer's report on p. 9 of this issue of *The Visitor*.) Contributions continue to hold steady, and expenses remain lower than expected.

**Received** an update from the last Trust Board meeting by President Bob Moluf. (See the article at the bottom of this page by Beth Kautz, president of the Trust Board.)

**Voted** to welcome the ELCA mission congregation Mercy Seat Lutheran Church to our facilities. The Board looks forward to future opportunities for cooperation in ministry with Mercy Seat and to the negotiation of a lease agreement with that congregation by February 8, 2009. (See the article by Pastor Craig Shirley on p.1 of this issue of *The Visitor*.)

**Received** an update from Past President Karmi Mattson that repairs and upgrades to the sanctuary sound system are now underway. (See Karmi's article on p. 2 of this issue of *The Visitor*.)

**Approved unanimously, and recommended to the congregation for adoption**, several updates to the Bylaws of the Hope Church Trust that have been approved by the Trust Board.

**Approved unanimously, and recommended to the congregation for adoption**, a number of administrative updates to the constitution of the congregation that either (1) are recommended by the ELCA because of recent updates to its *Model Constitution*, or (2) are necessary to achieve consistency in terminology with the revised Bylaws of the congregation adopted in June 2008.

**Approved unanimously, and recommended to the congregation for adoption**, constitutional changes that would permit University Lutheran Church of Hope to call a pastor from the Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries roster, as well as from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's roster. These proposed changes, along with the proposed administrative changes to the Constitution and the proposed changes to Bylaws of the Hope Church Trust, will be voted upon by the congregation at the regularly scheduled Annual Meeting on February 8, 2009.

**Discussed** the proposed budget for 2009. The Board has developed a budget proposal that includes an overall increase in budgeted spending of about 2%, but this budget proposal will be reviewed again at the January Board meeting after year-end financial results are available.

—Bob Moluf,  
Congregation President

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## Update from the Trust Board

**T**hank you for your generous contributions this past year to the Endowment Fund and special accounts. Whether in memory of a loved one or to support a particular area of ministry, your donations are greatly appreciated. This money is invested in socially responsible funds, and a portion of the earnings is distributed each year for special projects nominated by members of the congregation. At this time, we are distributing the last of the \$18,000 allotted for projects in 2008. Normally we would now be asking you for suggested projects for 2009. Economically, however, this past year has been anything but normal. Due to the sharp decline in the stock market and the way our bylaws dictate we calculate how much money we can distribute each year, the Hope Trust Board will not be able to distribute any funds in 2009. Hopefully, a year from now, we will again be welcoming your ideas and requests for funds. Stay tuned!

—Beth Kautz,  
President, Trust Board, Hope Church Trust

## President's Perspective

**B**e careful what you ask for," I was recently told by someone after receiving an unexpected and challenging new work assignment. It was true. I had previously been asked by my supervisor how I saw my team evolving over time, and now I suddenly had the responsibility to help shape a reality that had been only a vague notion in my head.

Our congregation is now in a similar position. We recently emerged from a multi-year process that looked an opportunities for mission renewal, and we had articulated a number of ways in which we would like to be open to God's activity among us, and, by extension, in our community and world. We started the Mission Renewal process by asking what we wanted, but at the end of the process we had opened ourselves to *where God wants to take us*.

Unexpected things are starting to happen at University Lutheran Church of Hope, and those of us in leadership positions are now finding ourselves in the surprising position of *helping to shape realities that have previously been only vague notions in our heads*. One example of this is the "sea change" currently going on in the way Lutheran Campus Ministry is being conducted at the University of Minnesota. Our congregation, along with Grace University Lutheran and the statewide campus ministry organization, is actively contributing to the creation of a new model for campus ministry that is quite different from the one used for the past 50 years. We don't know how it will all turn out, but we are told that whatever we come up with may be viewed as a model for Lutheran Campus Ministry at other schools.

Another example is the sudden need for Mercy Seat Lutheran Church to have a new home, just as we were looking at how we could realistically provide a Sunday evening worship opportunity in our building. (See the article on p. 1). Things are afoot in this place—and one can't help but think that God is nudging us out of our comfort zones—for mission.

—Bob Moluf, Congregation President

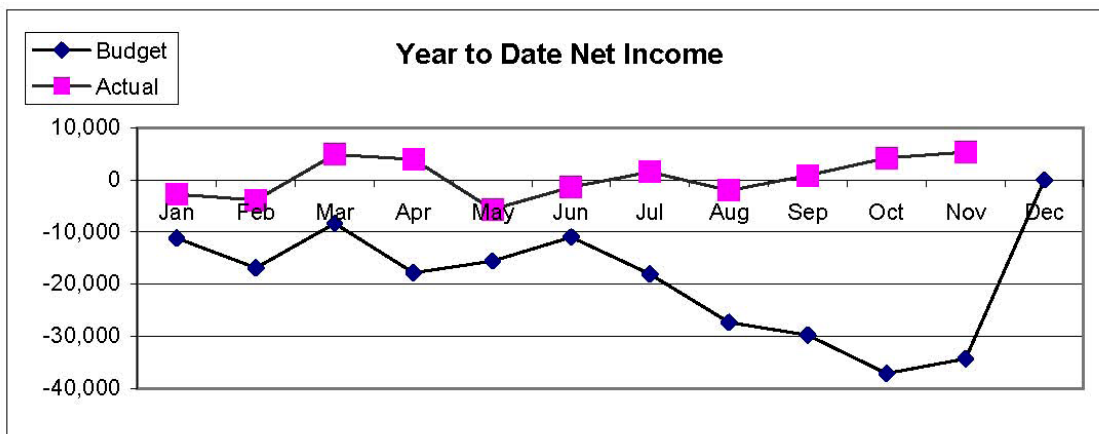
## Treasurer's Report

While income was less than budget, expenses under budget still left a net income of \$1,074. Since December is typically the best month of the year financially, we should be entering the new year with a positive balance.

—Mike Fingerson, Treasurer

### Results for November and Year to Date 2008

	November		Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Over/(under)
General Giving and Holiday	38,742	42,616	435,273	437,805	(2,532)
Rental and Extraordinary	<u>5,507</u>	<u>4,354</u>	<u>60,700</u>	<u>54,342</u>	<u>6,358</u>
Total Revenue	44,249	46,970	495,973	492,147	3,826
Total Expenses	43,175	44,141	490,675	526,498	(35,823)
Net Income	Month	1,074	2,829	YTD	5,298 (34,351)



## Notice of Annual Meeting

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. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending this important meeting. A light lunch will be provided. We will be receiving reports for 2008, approving a budget for 2009, electing several leaders, and acting on proposed changes to our Constitution and to the Bylaws of the Hope Church Trust. Printed copies of the proposed changes to these documents will be available in the church Library 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

—Bob Moluf, Congregation President



## Benevolence Beneficiaries *Room for Fresh Creations*

Congratulations and thanks are due to University Lutheran Church of Hope members, who donated more than \$600,000 to our initial Room for Fresh Creations capital campaign, which culminated in June 2008. As part of this campaign, the congregation voted to donate 7% of the pledged amount to charitable organizations outside the congregation. A total of \$42,500 was paid out over the three years of the campaign, with final installments paid in November 2008. The following charitable organizations were recipients of our benevolence monies:

\$13,500	Lutheran Campus Ministry of Minnesota ( <a href="http://www.lcm-mn.org">www.lcm-mn.org</a> )
\$ 6,000	The Malawi Project: Introducing Solar Ovens
\$ 5,000	The ONE VOICE Campaign of Lutherans Concerned North America ( <a href="http://www.lcna.org">www.lcna.org</a> )
\$ 5,000	ISAIAH Sustainers Fund ( <a href="http://www.gamaliel.org/ISAIAH">www.gamaliel.org/ISAIAH</a> )
\$ 5,000	ELCA Benevolence via the Minneapolis Area Synod ( <a href="http://www.mpls-synod.org">www.mpls-synod.org</a> )
\$ 2,000	International Student Scholarship Fund at Luther Seminary ( <a href="http://www.luthersem.edu/gifts/financial.asp">www.luthersem.edu/gifts/financial.asp</a> )
\$ 2,000	Lutheran International Library Assistance Program at Luther Seminary ( <a href="http://www.luthersem.edu/library/lilap.asp">www.luthersem.edu/library/lilap.asp</a> )
\$ 1,000	Tree House Youth, an outreach of Family Hope Services ( <a href="http://www.treehouseyouth.org">www.treehouseyouth.org</a> )
\$ 1,000	Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem, a hospital of the Lutheran World Federation ( <a href="http://www.elca.org/disaster/article.asp?id=57&amp;mode=1">www.elca.org/disaster/article.asp?id=57&amp;mode=1</a> )
\$ 1,000	Manna Madagascar, a program of the ELCA Division for Global Mission ( <a href="http://www.mannamadagascar.org">www.mannamadagascar.org</a> )
\$ 1,000	Mano A Mano Medical Resources in Bolivia ( <a href="http://www.manoamano.org">www.manoamano.org</a> )
\$42,500	

Thanks to the generosity of Hope's members, our remodeling project benefited not only our congregation and the tenants of our building, but also the lives of people locally, nationally, and around the world.

—Karmi Anna Mattson, on behalf of the  
Room for Fresh Creations Benevolence Committee

## Staff

**Pastor:**

Craig Shirley

**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

## Vision & Governance Board

**Officers:**

**President:** Bob Moluf

**Vice President:** Jack Dant

**Past President:** Karmi Anna Mattson

**Treasurer:** Mike Fingerson

**Ministry Areas:**

**Worship & Music:** Uli Koester

**Youth & Young Adults:**

**Education:** Dan O'Loughlin

**Hope in the World:** Karen Westwood

**Relational Ministries:** Leslie Frost

**Support Areas:**

**Operations:**

Mike Fingerson;

Karmi Anna Mattson

**Leadership Development  
& Communications:**

Bob Moluf; Jack Dant

## The Visitor

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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)

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