

University Lutheran Church of Hope

601 13th Ave. SE

Minneapolis, MN 55414-1437

(612) 331-5988

www.ulch.org

*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.*



2008 Annual Report to the Congregation

Presented at the Annual Meeting

February 8, 2009

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President's Report

2008 was another year of transition and change, as well as of renewed hope, for our congregation. From my perspective, highlights included the following:

- We ended 2008 with a net income of more than \$22,000, primarily due to lower than expected levels of staffing.
- In late February the Vision & Governance Board adopted three mission objectives for the year:
 1. Hire a young adult minister. We hired Dannica Montplaisir, and, as a result, that part of our ministry has started to blossom and grow.
 2. Collaborate with Lutheran Campus Ministry in ministry to university students. We are now represented both on the governing Board of Lutheran Campus Ministry - Minnesota and the governing Council of Lutheran Campus Ministry - Twin Cities. We are active partners in developing a new approach to campus ministry at the University of Minnesota.
 3. Initiate a small-group ministries program. Under the skilled guidance and direction of Diane Shallue, we have successfully initiated several phases of small-group ministries in our congregation. We expect this to be an ongoing priority.
- Last spring we launched a second successful capital campaign. We came close to meeting our goal of \$500,000 in pledges, and we thank Karmi Anna Mattson for her leadership of the campaign.
- Last June we brought our Bylaws in line with our implementation of Mission Renewal.
- We signed an agreement with an outside company to provide a full-time weekday janitor for the congregation. We thank Pastor Shirley and the entire staff for pitching in to keep our facilities clean during the period when we were without a janitor.
- We began the process of repairing, adjusting, and updating the sound system in our sanctuary, a process that is still underway.
- We made significant progress in improving accounting processes and related procedures. We thank Karmi Anna Mattson for her leadership and work on this, and we thank Patti Harper for the countless hours she has contributed to this effort.
- Our Personnel Committee reviewed and updated the job descriptions of the entire staff.
- We were saddened to lose the services of our Visitation Pastor David Johnson, but we are pleased to welcome Esther Dant as our new Visitation Pastor. We thank Pastor Shirley for assuming the extra responsibility of visiting our elderly and homebound members during the months when we were without a Visitation Pastor.
- We welcomed the ELCA mission congregation Mercy Seat Lutheran Church to our facilities.

- We recommended to the congregation that we make updates to our Constitution and to the governing Resolution for the Hope Church Trust.

We could not have accomplished all this without the dedication and leadership of our staff, the members of our Vision & Governance Board, and the contributions of time and effort by our members to many different committees, task forces, and tasks. During the coming year we will be asking for even greater contributions of time from our members for the sake of the church's mission.

As the outgoing President, I would like to recognize the tremendous energy, dedication, and integrity that Past President Karmi Anna Mattson has brought to her leadership roles. She has energized, pushed, pulled, and prodded all of us to achieve much during the past three years. I would also like to welcome incoming President Jack Dant, who has recently responded to our need for a Vice President and who brings a wealth of talent and past experiences to his role, including many years of dedicated work with the youth of our congregation.

Bob Moluf, Congregation President

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Congregational Meeting

Agenda for February 8, 2009

As you arrive for the meeting, enjoy Gospel Songs by the *Gospel Five*, a singing group from Judson Memorial Baptist Church in south Minneapolis.

1. Opening Hymn, Prayer, and Comments
2. Adoption of Rules for the Meeting
3. Approval of Previous Minutes
4. Treasurer's Report for 2008
5. Proposed Changes to the Trust Board Governing Resolution
6. Proposed Administrative Changes to the Constitution
7. Proposed Substantive Changes to the Constitution
8. Recognition of Outgoing Board Members
9. 2009 Leadership Development Support Team Report
10. Presentation and Approval of 2009 Budget
11. Announcements
12. Closing Blessing

Leadership Reports

Lead Pastor Craig Shirley

It is time to grow. That is a hard word to hear in this time of economic downturn. We have people in the midst of this congregation who are unemployed and looking for work and many more in our community. A recent report about the neighborhood indicates that only about 12% of the homes in our area are owner-occupied, while the rest are run by absentee landlords. To grow seems difficult.

Our building and our people continue to be our greatest asset in growth. The building is used by many and represents us well to the neighborhood. We worship as a congregation every week. But our building is also the new home for Mercy Seat Lutheran Church on Sunday evenings. They also worship here every week. And once a month, China Outreach Ministries uses our building for outreach to the Asian students who are so prevalent on the campus.

We have completed our transition from Board of Commissioners to Vision and Governance Board. We completed our first year of visioning as a new Board and have accomplished good work on behalf of young adults, more outreach to students and initiation of a small group ministry. Last year we approved new Bylaws and this year we will ratify a new constitution for the congregation. The structure of the congregation is in place and in good order. Now it is time to grow.

We will have to measure growth in many ways. Sure, we need to count the people who occupy the pews each week – regular worship is a habit that each member can grow. We are doing better about welcoming visitors, but there is room for better follow-up after they visit. This takes people who are willing to put themselves out there to meet new people. But we also measure growth in spiritual ways. How is your prayer life? Do you engage scripture on a regular basis? Are you caring for others in need? Do issues of justice inspire you to action? Do you ask God to grow your faith and to grow this place of faith?

It is time to grow. It is time to pray that the Spirit of God will lead us to new life as individuals and as a congregation. Pax.

Rev. Craig M. Shirley

Education Director Diane Shallue

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.” Romans 12: 4-6

This past year was filled with a variety of activities for me and the ministry teams with whom I relate. Some of the activities were Sunday School, Adult Forums, acolyte training and scheduling, communion instruction, and facilitating Tuesday morning Bible studies and Wednesday night discussions during Lent and Advent. The Festival of Hope involved food, fun and fund-raising. The Hope Connections Small Group Ministry program created new relationships and deeper connections among members. The Music and Arts Camp added puppetry to the wonderful mix of activities for children.

These programs and activities could not take place without the wonderful ministry teams and staff here at University Lutheran Church of Hope. I have been blessed by my interactions with them. We are a congregation rich with many gifts called into service by the Holy Spirit. I look forward to 2009 and the continued activity of God among us.

Your partner in ministry,

Diane Shallue

Director of Christian Education and Small Group Ministries

Interim Youth Director Megan Koepnick

It's been another wonderful year for Youth Ministry at University Lutheran Church of Hope! We've made some changes and simplified all while continuing to grow and nurture relationships within the congregation. The Dream Team continues to grow with the addition of a few more youth. We are grateful for their willingness to join us and their perspective and leadership have proven quite helpful in our planning! We put together an official job description for the youth position which will both challenge and inspire the work of future youth directors at Hope. We continue to have Sunday morning High School Youth Group, Sunday Socials, Loaves and Fishes serving, and Saturday morning Confirmation. We have traveled together to Michigan for a week of hiking and camping along the shores of Lake Superior, paddled canoes with Camp Amnicon, survived Moonlight Madness, and learned and played at service lock-ins. In the upcoming year the Dream Team will launch a mentoring program pairing adults and confirmation students together to walk together in faith, learn and grow with one another. Summer 2009 brings the National Gathering in New Orleans. We have 26 youth attending along with 5 adult leaders. It will be a wonderful time of growing in faith, serving those affected by Hurricane Katrina, and growing in relationship with one another. It has been a wonderful year and has been such a joy and blessing to serve, learn and grow alongside the wonderful adult leaders, youth and their parents!

God's Peace and Love! <><

Megan Koepnick, Interim Youth Director

Young Adult Ministry Coordinator Dannica Montplaisir

Vision Statement

Young Adult Ministry at University Lutheran Church of Hope seeks to be faithful to a rich Lutheran theological tradition and to be in dialogue with the challenges of the contemporary world.

ULCH Young Adult Ministry strives to live out the Gospel in fresh ways by creating connections and relationship with members of ULCH and the surrounding urban neighborhood. Through worship, study, fellowship, and service, members of the young adult community will experience the fullness of God's grace.

Young Adult Ministry at University Lutheran Church of Hope is alive and well! Over the past several months we have had the opportunity to walk together as young adults who are passionate about the intersections of faith and life. Through worship, faith fostering conversation, service to our community and world, study of the Word and fellowship, we have grown to know one another beyond name and face.

According to our vision statement, it is important that each month we connect around four important core values, Worship, Service, Study and Fellowship. For example, each month we gather for Theology Tavern and discuss real world topics and how our faith influences the ways in which we think and act. We have discussed such things as other faith traditions, our church's constitutional changes, forgiveness and the war in Gaza. Conversation is never lacking and ULCH young adults are very articulate about communicating their world view as influenced by their faith. We study the lectionary text one Sunday a month as we gather around coffee at Espresso Royale, and we have served our community and our world through servant events. We are a growing community, and are hoping that in the next year our young adults will continue to grow in faith and connection. Thank you for your investment in Young Adult Ministry over the past year and for your support as we move into the future!

Dannica Montplaisir, Young Adults Coordinator



122 West Franklin Ave Suite 600, Minneapolis, MN 55404
Phone: 612-870-3610 Fax: 612-870-0170
E-mail: info@mpls-synod.org

**Annual Report to Minneapolis Area Synod Congregations
From Bishop Craig E. Johnson
January 2009**

Grace to you and peace in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord. In order to give you a broad look at the work of our synod office in the Minneapolis Area, I will organize this report in the four-fold way we focus upon our work of mission.

Mission

This year our churchwide organization through the Office of Evangelical Outreach has provided a full-time Director for Evangelical Mission. In partnership with our synod, Pastor Susan Tjornehoj was appointed to the ELCA position. Pastor Tjornehoj will be gathering our leaders together to dialogue about the targeting of new mission starts so that we are ready for the 1 million new people coming to our metropolitan area by 2020. She will also engage our pastors in conversations about reflecting and acting upon what God continues to call us to be doing in our congregational arenas. Pastor Tjornehoj will also be encouraging transformation in congregations that want missional movement forward.

The Bishop's Associates are actively at work in helping congregations discover new ways to reach out to their neighborhoods and to accomplish the mission which God is calling us to do. The funding of our mission and the stewarding of our resources is overseen by Pastor Heather Hammond. Pastor Hammond does great work in interpreting the work of our churchwide organization to our congregational leaders. This year Vice Presidents' gatherings begun to better communicate the work of our church.

Making a World of Difference was a development of the Minneapolis Area Synod in order to fund new mission starts, redevelopment in congregations, global mission efforts and evangelism. To date, we have received pledges for \$5,343,927 through 2011, and to date, we have received \$2,799,045. My thanks to Terri Endres, DM, for leading this important work of funding the mission of our church in the Minneapolis area and beyond.

Partnering

The Office of the Bishop is to encourage congregations to work together to accomplish Christ's mission. Pastor David Wangaard is actively seeking willing suburban or urban partners for urban core congregations, which are working often times with the most vulnerable in our society and need funding to accomplish this task.

Through our global mission and the work of Kris Perry, DM, and Bishop's Associate Glendy Ose, we are continually creating intersecting points between congregations and our companion churches of the Leipzig District of Saxony and the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria. This partnership which we have focused upon since 2003 is flourishing and each year more congregations become a part of these partnerships. Pastor Wangaard is also leading the synodical inreach. The intention of which is to gather information from all across our synod so that new directions of Gods calling will emerge along with shared leadership growing within our synod. When our congregations find themselves in deep conflict and are unable to efficiently carry out Christ's mission, Glendy Ose and I become involved to help congregations to heal or find new leadership. The purpose of this work is basically missional to aid our congregations to receive the potential of a new day.

Leadership

This year, we were actively involved in 58 call processes within our synod helping congregations reflect on their mission and then to guide them in a process to find the best candidate to become their pastor, diaconal minister or associate pastor in Minnesota. More than one third of our congregations found themselves in a call process. We are blessed in the Minneapolis Area Synod to have effective wonderful rostered leaders. Each quarter, our staff gathers potential candidates from around the country and locally to seek qualified candidates to serve our congregations as rostered leaders. These mobility conversations have borne much fruit in finding effective leaders across our church. This year we interviewed between 80-100 potential candidates.

We also are growing leaders. One hundred and thirty four candidates from the Minneapolis Area Synod are seeking ordination through our candidacy process. My thanks to Pastor Heather Hammond for leading this comprehensive effort in our synod.

Public Voice

This year is a year with unprecedented budget deficits in our state. We will be working closely with our churchwide partners: Lutheran Coalition for Public Policy in Minnesota and other Minnesota synods to focus on three vital issues—Care of Creation, ending poverty in Minnesota and caring for the hungry. Our synod has been a leader on hunger issues for many years. My thanks to you for this great support. This year I testified at the legislature on Care of Creation issues and on the important work of helping and supporting the disabled.

It has been a joy for me to serve our church in Minneapolis as Bishop. I am grateful to our wonderful staff and our great congregations for all that is done in the name of Jesus Christ.



Bishop Craig E. Johnson

Ministry & Team Reports

Communications Task Force

The Communications Task Force has the responsibility for development and implementation of the Congregation's communication strategy, including a monthly newsletter, a web site, and any advertising paid for by the Congregation.

During 2008 the Communications Task Force assisted with:

- The *Invitation to Hope* capital campaign;
- Monthly production of *The Visitor*;
- The congregation's advertising in print-based publications.

Objectives for 2009 include:

- Identifying functional requirements for the congregation's web site;
- Collaboration with other congregational groups on an information kiosk;
- Collaboration with other congregational groups on interior and exterior signage;
- The recommendation of an official nickname for the congregation that would contain fewer than eleven syllables.

Bob Moluf, Board Liaison for the Communications Task Force

Education

Christian education is a life-long course of study, and at University Lutheran Church of Hope we aim to provide education opportunities for all ages.

At ULCH we have a dedicated team of Sunday School teachers, many of whom having been teaching our children for five years and more. Our Adult forums are informative and relevant to the spiritual lives of our members. We also have a number of intergenerational events each year at which members of all ages can interact and learn about faith together. During Advent and Lent we have had Wednesday evening studies of topics for the season, including this past advent when we studied the passages from Handel's Messiah relating to Christmas.

This past year Christian Education at Hope has been enhanced by the addition of small group ministries of many types. Included in these small group ministries are a number of neighborhood groups, a bicycling group, and a leadership development group. More groups centered around the common interests of small groups of members are being proposed and formed under the direction of Diane Shallue, Director of Education and Adult Small-Group Ministries and the Small Group Ministries Task Force.

Dan O'Loughlin, Board Liaison for Education

Worship & Music Ministry Area

In University Lutheran Church of Hope's first year with only one full-time pastor, worship has continued to flourish through excellent efforts by both staff and laity. We give honor and gratitude to our Lord every Sunday morning through services that are both consistent in their approach to liturgy and diverse and exciting in music and style. For this we give thanks to Tim Strand, our 3/4 time cantor, Pastor Craig Shirley, and the Worship Planning Team under Lisa Morse's leadership.

Pastor Shirley gives great energy into keeping Sunday mornings "together," through his preaching (mostly three times a month), pastoral care, and attention to liturgical elements and seasonal decor. At the same time, Tim's inspires us every week by bringing Hope's musical talent to reflect upon and expound the gospel. His organ playing, three splendid choirs, and instrumental offerings bring true glory to God. Especially noteworthy are the record size of the Chapel Choir (grades 2-6) and the talent of young adults in providing trumpet, vocal, and other solos.

Meanwhile, the laity of Hope has increasingly become leaders in creating worship opportunities for us. Here are just some highlights:

- * A Taizé-style worship service, now once a month at 8:30am
- * Thrilling children's Christmas performance
- * Regular jazz ensembles
- * A mission-oriented Sunday with special music and preaching
- * Reliable worship assistance in ushering, altar guild and communion, lectoring, and prayer
- * A strong guest preaching program

These and many other elements of our worship and music would not happen without members like you taking initiative and leadership. Every Sunday, thank at least one of them. Then feel free to lift your voice. Perhaps your idea will be next in bringing our church in closer communion with God.

Uli Koester, Liaison to the Board for Worship and Music

Hope in the World

Social Justice, International Ministries, and Outreach and Evangelism are the constituent groups of Hope in the World Ministries. These groups were active during 2008, particularly in the following ways:

International Missions:

We have received word from Bishop Bvumbwe that construction of a chapel and parsonage are nearing completion in Malawi, and we expect to hear shortly that they are finished and about to be dedicated. Money for the project was presented to the Bishop during his visit to University Lutheran Church of Hope in June of 2007.

Social Justice:

- Loaves and Fishes meals are served at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in south Minneapolis once a month.
- Families Moving Forward: University Lutheran Church of Hope hosted homeless families for a week at a time twice in 2008. We also made a monetary donation from the Hope in the World budget and collected a special offering during a worship service.
- Meals on Wheels makes deliveries to homebound residents of Southeast Minneapolis.
- Isaiah: This group continues to engage in efforts to effect change at a policy level through multi-denominational lobbying (particularly in areas of immigration rights, education and health policy).

Outreach and Evangelism:

The church sponsored its Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner, serving approximately 120 guests while welcoming volunteers and guests from the community and from the congregation. This year's meal featured music volunteered by a local pianist and a local strolling violinist.

Karen Westwood, Liaison for Hope in the World

Youth and Young Adult Ministry Area

This has been a great year for Youth and Young Adult Ministry at University Lutheran Church of Hope. We've seen new programs and great involvement in all groups involved - High School Youth, Young Adult and University Students. Here's a quick synopsis of the year's activities:

Senior High Youth

- Continued inspirational leadership from Megan Koepnick with the support of the Dream Team and volunteer leaders Ann Agrimson, Jack Dant and Paige Whitney.
- Summer and winter wilderness trips, service projects and Sunday morning discussion groups.
- Preparation for the National Gathering in New Orleans
- Youth participation in Sunday morning worship and many other facets of life within the congregation.

Young Adult

- A new and growing Ministry lead by Dannica Montplaiser – a great addition to the staff!
- Monthly Theology Tavern discussions at local establishments.
- Miscellaneous meetings hosted by members of the Young Adult Group
- Monthly newsletters from Dannica – Re:vision.
- Great involvement in worship, small group and governance functions

University Students

- Increasing number and involvement of students!
- Fritz Wehrenberg's presence and participation in worship has been a great connection to the University students.
- Members Bob Moluf and Mike Fingerson serving on Lutheran Campus Ministry Board.

The future leadership of Youth and Young Adult ministry is under consideration due to budgeting constraints. Options include continuation of short-term Luther Seminary students for Youth and Young Adult leadership or hiring a permanent part time staff member as recommended by in the updated governance structure.

The Youth and Young Adult Ministry Area is strong and growing, but we continue to seek individuals to join in this ministry. The Dream Team is always looking for people with an interest in contributing to youth ministry and any participation in this or young adult activities would be welcomed.

- Jack Dant, Liaison for Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Facilities

Facilities had a lot of activity in 2008.

Jayce Parry did a wonderful job of planning and implementing the cleanup of the islands in the parking lot through his scout troop.

A small group of volunteers cleaned the kitchen and a smaller group painted all the walls, from top to bottom.

The Garden Group did a wonderful job of keeping the new gardens alive and looking beautiful. A few of them were over here almost every Wednesday night, and a couple was here on a lot of Saturdays, too! Like to garden? Join the group!

Thanks to Andy Sayre and Ken Lynes, we now have internet access in the Conference Room, Heritage Hall and Fellowship Hall.

Thanks to the Rummage Sale folks, we had funds available for the following projects: Created three additional handicapped parking spots by the offices; Venting for the boiler room so it doesn't get so hot that some of the plastic modules break down before their time; patching of some of the big sink holes and loose gravel in the parking lot; and funds to hire a firm to study the feasibility of stormwater runoff from the roof and parking lot.

We just found out that we won a \$10,000 grant for additional work towards making our property a stormwater runoff site. This will entail more research, plans for what is available for us to do, and hard costs of what it will take to do it. Then in late 2009, we will apply for a \$50,000 grant to do the actual work, if it's found to be feasible. We will have an Adult Forum in March that will explain more about our project and stormwater runoff in general.

The downsides are, we had quite a few acts of vandalism this year, and while our costs are limited to \$1,000 per incident, the long term could affect our insurance rates. And, we have a smell that comes and goes in Heritage Hall near the elevator door.

Be sure to volunteer when we have some work days... And if you'd like to become a part of Facilities, just let any of us know.

Fred Kreider, Facilities Team Chair

Financial Reports

University Lutheran Church of Hope
Income & Expenses
January through December 2008

	<u>Jan - Dec 08</u>	<u>Jan - Dec 07</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
1500100 · General Giving	486,433.46	507,510.47
1500300 · Rental Income	67,700.22	55,418.94
Total Income	<u>554,133.68</u>	<u>562,929.41</u>
Expense		
1600100 · Salaries & Benefits	325,270.66	358,334.13
1600200 · Administration	28,108.86	31,103.94
1600300 · Operations	104,775.19	74,655.79
1600400 · Education Ministries	3,895.42	3,154.09
1600500 · Hope in the World	5,319.56	5,899.67
1600600 · Worship Ministries	4,710.31	3,313.33
1600700 · Relational Ministries	(1,304.66)	(1,139.68)
1600800 · Benevolences	29,271.25	32,183.05
1601100 · Other Expenses	777.76	
1602000 · Finance	30,696.00	30,696.00
Total Expense	<u>531,520.35</u>	<u>538,200.32</u>
Net Ordinary Income	22,613.33	24,729.09

University Lutheran Church of Hope
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2008

	Dec 31, 08	Dec 31, 07
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
1100001 · Wells Fargo Checking	51,524.82	39,115.28
5100001 · Wells Fargo Savings	154,541.72	72,115.11
Total Checking/Savings	206,066.54	111,230.39
Accounts Receivable		
1100101 · Accounts Receivable	(5.00)	510.74
Total Accounts Receivable	(5.00)	510.74
Other Current Assets		
1499 · Undeposited Funds	40.78	(391.37)
Total Other Current Assets	40.78	(391.37)
Total Current Assets	206,102.32	111,349.76
Fixed Assets		
1101001 · Equipment	46,368.43	46,368.43
1101002 · Buildings	866,318.48	866,318.48
1101003 · Parking Lot	93,370.63	93,370.63
1101004 · RFC 2006 Remodeling	1,649,271.97	1,649,271.97
1101005 · RFC 2006 Furnishings	11,722.25	11,722.25
Total Fixed Assets	2,667,051.76	2,667,051.76
TOTAL ASSETS	2,873,154.08	2,778,401.52
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
2000 · Accounts Payable	1,418.50	940.84
Total Accounts Payable	1,418.50	940.84
Other Current Liabilities		
1200101 · OASDI Withheld	0.00	0.01
1200108 · FSA & Pre-Tax for DES	11.00	0.00
1200109 · Voluntary BoP Withholding	50.00	50.00
1200110 · Credit Union Savings	0.00	3,331.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	61.00	3,381.01
Total Current Liabilities	1,479.50	4,321.85
Long Term Liabilities		
1500001 · Thrivent Mortgage	1,676,703.95	1,724,172.10
Total Long Term Liabilities	1,676,703.95	1,724,172.10
Total Liabilities	1,678,183.45	1,728,493.95
Equity		
1700000 · Dedicated Accounts	133,091.51	61,440.93
3000 · Opening Bal Equity	444,481.06	444,481.06
3100 · RFC Fund Remodeling	429,850.75	429,850.75
3900 · Fund Balance	114,134.83	47,457.61
Net Income	73,412.48	66,677.22
Total Equity	1,194,970.63	1,049,907.57
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	2,873,154.08	2,778,401.52



Benevolence Beneficiaries

Congratulations and thanks are due to University Lutheran Church of Hope members who donated over \$600,000 to our *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 (www.lcm-mn.org)
\$ 6,000	The Malawi Project: Introducing Solar Ovens
\$ 5,000	The ONE VOICE Campaign of Lutherans Concerned North America (www.lcna.org)
\$ 5,000	ISALIAH Sustainers Fund (www.gamaliel.org/ISALIAH)
\$ 5,000	ELCA Benevolence via the Minneapolis Area Synod (www.mpls-synod.org)
\$ 2,000	International Student Scholarship Fund at Luther Seminary (www.luthersem.edu/gifts/financial.asp)
\$ 2,000	Lutheran International Library Assistance Program at Luther Seminary (www.luthersem.edu/library/lilap.asp)
\$ 1,000	Tree House Youth, an outreach of Family Hope Services (www.treehouseyouth.org)
\$ 1,000	Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem, a hospital of the Lutheran World Federation (www.elca.org/disaster/article.asp?id=57&mode=1)
\$ 1,000	Manna Madagascar, a program of the ELCA Division for Global Mission (www.mannamadagascar.org)
\$ 1,000	Mano A Mano Medical Resources in Bolivia (www.manoamano.org)
<u>\$42,500</u>	

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, Room for Fresh Creations Benevolence Committee



At this congregation's annual meeting four years ago, we debated whether to embark on a remodeling project in order to allow PEASE Academy to stay in our building. We moved forward in faith, and a sprinkler system installation quickly turned into a \$1.7 million renovation project. Our initial capital campaign, *Room for Fresh Creations*, raised over \$600,000 over the course of the three-year pledge period that ended in June 2008.

Planning for our follow-up campaign, *Invitation to Hope*, began in January 2008. The Invitation to Hope Leadership Team consisted of Chairperson Karmi Anna Mattson, Bob Moluf, John Lauber, Mark Nelson, David Ranheim, Tim Abrahamson, and Pastor Craig Shirley. The team's goals were two-fold: to raise awareness of stewardship within the congregation, and to raise funds to continue to pay down the mortgage debt from the remodeling project. Ideally, the team sought to raise enough money in pledges over the next three years to not only meet the mortgage obligations, but to embark on some much-needed projects within the congregation (such as reparation of the sanctuary sound system) and set aside some funds for impending large repairs (such as the sanctuary roof).

During the month of May 2008, key donors received in-home visits from members of the Advance Giving Team, which was chaired by Tim Abrahamson and David Ranheim, and included Louise Dovre Bjorkman, Alden Tetlie, Garvin Davenport, and Gregg and Nicole Landmark. On a sunny weekend in June, members of the *Invitation to Hope* Leadership Team were joined by Karen Westwood and Mateo Pignatello, Tom and Leslie Frost, Tim Hopkins, Carol Steinberg, Mike Fingerson, and Jack Dant in hand-delivering *Invitation to Hope* materials to members of the congregation.

We are pleased to report that the *Invitation to Hope* campaign netted \$475,354 in pledges over the 2008-2011 time period, sufficient to make our continuing mortgage payments as well as engage in some new projects and large repairs. For this we are grateful.

On behalf of the Capital Campaign Committee and the Vision & Governance Board, I would like to thank all those who contributed to our pledge campaign. In particular I would like to thank members of the Leadership Team, the Advance Visitor Team, and the Neighborhood Visitors for the generous amount of time they dedicated to making this campaign a success.

- Karmi Anna Mattson, Invitation to Hope Chairperson

Other Reports

The Hope Church Trust

In 2008, the University Lutheran Church of Hope Trust Board authorized 14 distributions totaling \$18,095.00. The largest distribution was \$6,000.00 for young adult ministry.

Project	Amount Granted
Mount Olive Neighborhood Ministries	500
Campus Ministry Spring Break Servant Trip	350
Campus Ministry Welcome Week Brochure	800
Camp Amnicon Scholarships	1,000
Fairview CPE Scholarships	1,950
Lounge Pew Cushions	700
Orff Instruments	800
Choir Robes	3,000
ULCH Senior Group	500
Nursery / Conference Room Windows	350
Young Adult Ministry	6,000
Worship Training Workshops	1,435
Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem	200
Tape Ministry	510
Total	18,095

During the year, all of the distributions were made with the exception of \$700.00 for the lounge pew cushions, \$150.00 for the nursery window safety film, \$510.00 for the tape ministry, and \$1,240.00 for the worship training workshops. At the December 7, 2008 trust board meeting, it was decided to honor these commitments in 2009 if the funds were still needed.

On the investment side, the story is bleak as the investment results mirrored what has transpired in the financial markets and overall economy the past year. As a result, the Endowment Fund earnings to date (ETD) dropped to a negative number for the first time in years. The ETD number is the accumulated earnings to date of the Endowment fund since inception. If the ETD is not a positive number, distributions cannot be made per the Trust constitution.

Contributions to the Endowment Fund during 2008 totaled \$6,651. On December 31, 2008, the ULCH Trust Board manages assets totaling \$319,261.00. These assets are divided among three funds:

1. The ULCH Endowment Fund: \$277,938.00
2. The Special Gifts Fund: \$26,911.00
3. The Johnson World Mission Fund: \$11,811.00

While these are three distinct funds managed by the ULCH Trust Board, each fund does not have its own account. The money for all three funds are intermingled in the same

investment accounts and are adjusted based on the investment results. Historically, the Endowment Fund and the Johnson World Mission Fund have been debited or credited based on the results of the four principal investments. Because of the special nature of the Special Gifts Fund, it has generally been credited with the results from the money market account previously held at UBS and now Wells Fargo. The rationale here is that the Special Gifts Fund is comprised of gifts made to the church for specific purposes, and therefore the money contributed should not be placed at any kind of investment risk. Consequently, the Endowment Fund and Johnson World Mission Fund are debited with the 2008 earnings loss while the Special Gifts Fund has been reserved at the same amount as at December 31, 2007. The bottom line here is that all investment losses and gains went to the Endowment Fund and Johnson World Mission fund leaving Special Gifts intact.

The ULCH Trust Board has its assets in 6 accounts:

1. The ELCA Foundation Fund
2. The Domini Social Equity Fund
3. The PAX World Balanced Fund
4. The ELCA Mission Fund
5. The UBS Money Market account—which is being closed out.
6. The Wells Fargo account

At December 31, 2008, approximately \$267,000.00 (83.6%) of the assets were maintained in the ELCA Foundation fund, the Domini fund, and the PAX fund. These are three conservatively managed funds that invest in socially responsible companies and investments. The Trust Board has invested in these three funds for over 10+ years. The funds are diversified in stocks and bonds, but the largest percentage of their holdings are in stocks. The funds holdings in stocks are diversified and generally are invested in large value company stocks, but they all have a percentage of their portfolios in financial stocks. The ELCA Foundation is one fund. There is no family of funds to choose from or compare their results too. Our only alternative on this Fund would be to close it out or move it to the ELCA Mission Fund where it could be invested in CDs. Both Domini and PAX are groups of funds. You have a selection of 5-6 funds to invest your money. In both Domini and PAX, the funds we are in were the best performing stock funds in their family. Our alternatives now would be to either close out the account or move our money to their bond fund or money market fund which would result in little to no investment return in 2009.

The results of the three funds mirror the results of the overall financial market in the past year. The attached spreadsheet shows the year end results in terms of dollars and %age. As stated earlier, the end result is that due to the investment losses in these three funds, the ETD in the overall ULCH Trust fund went from a +\$95, 886.00 at December 31, 2007 to -\$40,554.00 on December 31, 2008. Without a positive ETD, the Trust Board will not be able to make any distributions in 2009.

While the investment losses are significant, it should be noted that there was no place to hide in 2008. Funds throughout the country dropped significantly. The drop in the stock market occurred so quickly and so drastically from August through December that it was impossible to predict or react to. The ULCH Trust Board met on August 11, October 5, October 26, and December 7 to discuss investment options. The October 5 meeting was also attended by Bill Sanden and Mike Fingerson—former long term Board members—and Pastor Shirley. The consensus decision of the Board at these meetings was that these investments were a long term strategy and that we should stay the course as opposed to trying to time the market—assuming that the market will eventually come back.

The ELCA Mission Fund consists of two 2-year CDs totaling \$21,000.00. These CDs will renew in 2010. The interest on these two CDs is electronically deposited into the Wells Fargo account automatically. Prior to 2008, the interest on these CDs was deposited into the UBS account. The Trust Board voted to close out the UBS account earlier in the year because of high fees to maintain a checking account with them. The funds in the UBS account were moved to Wells Fargo where we maintain a checking and saving account and a \$20,000 CD. The checking account is the operational account for the Trust Board where distributions and deposits are made.

On 12/7/08, the Trust Board decided to have another meeting in early 2009 to once again review the investments and consider inviting an outside financial consultant to review the investments and make recommendations.

- Timothy Killeen, University Lutheran Church of Hope Trust Board Treasurer

Leadership Development Report

February 8, 2009

(Underlined names are nominees)

Officers

President	Jack Dant	2010
Past President	Bob Moluf	2010
Vice President	<u>Gregg Landmark</u>	2010
Treasurer	Mike Fingerson	2010, Term 1

Vision and Governance Board Members-at-Large

Worship & Music	Uli Koester	2010, Term 1
Education	Dan O'Loughlin	2010, Term 1
Youth & Young Adults	<u>Ann Beane</u>	2011, Term 1
Relational Ministries	Leslie Frost	2010, Term 1
Hope in the World	_____	2011, Term 1

Audit Committee

<u>Mark Nelson</u>	2012, Term 1
<u>Joan Campbell</u>	2011, Term 1
<u>Louise Bjorkman</u>	2010, Term 1

Personnel Committee

Sonja Peterson	2011
Ann Agrimson	2010
<u>Roger Anderson</u>	2012

Trust Board

John Beane	2012 (Term 2)
Deb Bordsen	2012 (Term 1)
Kathryn Carpenter	2011 (Term 1)
Paul Demueles	2012 (Term 1)
<u>Beth Kautz</u>	2013 (Term 2)
<u>Karen Lindesmith</u>	2013 (Term 2)
<u>Jim Solem</u>	2010 (Term 1)

Synod Convention - 2 Lay Delegates, 1 Alternate

<u>Bob Moluf</u>	
<u>Gregg Landmark</u>	
_____	(alternate)

Fairview Association

<u>Diane Greve</u>	
<u>Bob Hoisington</u>	

University Lutheran Church of Hope Staff

as of December 31, 2008

Lead Pastor	Craig Shirley
Visitation Pastor	(Vacant)
Education Director	Diane Shallue
Youth Director	Megan Koepnick
Young Adults Coordinator	Dannica Montplaisir
Cantor	Timothy Strand
Children's Choir Director	Kayla Else
Administrator	Craig Wiester
Nursery Attendant	Sarah Weber
Weekend Custodian	William Frank

Statistical Report

	<u>Baptized</u>	<u>Confirmed</u>
<u>Membership Beginning of 2008</u>	722	604
<u>Members Received in 2008</u>		
Baptized	7	
Other	3	2
Transferred	6	5
Total New Members Received	16	7
Existing Baptized Members Confirmed		9
Total Gains	16	16
<u>Baptized Members Removed in 2008</u>		
Death	7	7
Transfer	7	6
Total Members Removed	14	13
Net Change in Membership	2	3
<u>Membership as of December 31, 2008</u>	724	607