



The Visitor



December 2014

Issue #12-14

Complex world. Thoughtful church.

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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.*

Youth Chili Meal a Success!

As we move into December, the youth group can look back on the month of November and give thanks for all the blessings received. On November 9 the youth hosted the monthly community meal to raise money for our trip to Detroit in July, 2015, to the ELCA National Youth Gathering. Many of the youth came to church the Saturday morning before to help prepare the chili. At the conclusion of the community meal a number



of the youth were sent off with a benediction into the community to bring chili to over a dozen homebound members. The meal was an overwhelming success and the youth raised over twice as much as was expected. Thanks to a generous donation from Thrivent covering food costs, all of the proceeds were able to go straight to the cost of the Youth Gathering. Thanks to all who participated. Your contributions made a huge difference!

Also, just a couple weeks ago, some of our youth had a chance to enjoy this year's fall Moonlight Madness. Seven youth, volunteer Ryan Richie, and myself, together with over 500 other youth from the Twin Cities area, stayed up all night traveling around Minneapolis. The group enjoyed some time at Augsburg College, Grand Slam, a movie theater, and the Mermaid bowling alley. Hope has participated in this event for years, and we look forward to participating in it for years to come!

Finally, as we move from the Advent season into the Christmas season, there is still an opportunity to continue helping our youth raise money: the job board located at the Welcome center. This board allows youth to advertise work they are willing to do, and adults to offer jobs they need done. The money the youth earn through this program will go to covering costs at the Youth Gathering. Help the youth by letting them help you!

Thank you once again for all the ways you support our youth group. Because of your involvement in these fundraisers, we can continue to provide awesome opportunities to shape the spiritual lives of our young people.

– James Vitale, Youth Director

Malaria Project Book Sale

A hearty thank you to all who donated, worked, or bought at the used book sale! It was a time for great conversations about families and books. But better still, it earned \$175.25 for the Malaria Project.

Diane Shallue stated “every \$10 buys a treated bed net. So it means 17 bed nets – 17 families whose children will not get malaria while sleeping.”

Thanks again to all who participated!

– Ruth Fingerson

Shirley's Share

*But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see –
I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.” Luke 2.10*

What brings you joy? What will bring you joy in this upcoming season? Perhaps that is a good question to ponder now, before all the real excitement begins. Will having family together to share a meal or an event bring you joy? Will buying gifts for those you love bring you joy? Will sending and receiving holiday greetings bring you joy? If so, go for it! Make these things central to your holiday preparation. But if not, now is the time to make some decisions about what traditions need to go “bye-bye” so that you can experience joy and not frustration and anger during such an important season.

My hope is that what we do as a worshipping community here at University Lutheran Church of Hope will bring you Advent and Christmas joy. The Calendar is full and I invite you to be a part of as many of these experiences as you are able.

- **Sunday, November 30 – Advent 1.** We begin to light the advent wreath and decorate the sanctuary week by week leading up to the glorious Christmas season.
- **Each Wednesday evening (December 3, 10, 17) at 7:00 p.m.** Holden Evening Prayer in the chapel with soft lights and quiet liturgy – a non-preaching service, just fifteen minutes, for anyone who wants to attend.
- **Sunday, December 7 – Advent 2.** 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. worship **in the sanctuary** as we count the days.
- **Sunday, December 14 – Advent 3.** 10:30 worship with lessons and carols. We celebrate with an Advent smörgåsbord following the second service. Bring your favorite Christmas dish to pass (enough to feed 12 people). We will provide meatballs galore to serve.
- **Sunday, December 21 – Advent 4.** Almost there! Worship at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. At the 10:30 a.m. service the Sunday School will present its annual Christmas program *Too Many Sheep* – always a delight, and fun for all. Also that service will **premiere** of a new piece of music commissioned by Bryan and Kathy Kufus. Bill Beckstrand and Judy Ranheim will play, on organ and flute.
- **Wednesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve.**
4:00 p.m. Worship – Christmas Eve Communion service with children in mind. An extended children’s sermon, candles, traditional Christmas carols, and scripture to make sure you begin your celebration of Christ’s birth in the appropriate way with joy and celebration.
10:30 p.m. Worship (with 10 p.m. prelude music) – Christmas Eve Communion service with choir/instruments.
- **Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25** – a 10:00 a.m. carol Service of the Word in the chapel.
- **Sunday, December 28** – A single worship service at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. Andres Albertsen, a pastor from Argentina who is a Ph.D. student at Luther Seminary, will preach and preside. No Education Hour but bring your leftover Christmas cookies for an impromptu coffee hour after the service!

May this month of December bring you joy, no matter what your circumstances. On behalf of the staff I wish each of you a blessed Advent and Christmas season! Pax.

– Pastor Craig M. Shirley



Adult Forum Planning Team

Wanted: three more members for the adult forum planning team. Commitment: four meetings in one year, plus some time connecting by e-mail. Members help to line up speakers for the Adult Forum on Sunday morning and occasionally introduce a speaker. A new team will begin in January. Contact Diane Shallue for more information at dianes@ulch.org.



Striking a Balance

Recently a relatively new member of University Lutheran Church of Hope mentioned that he found the beginning of each 10:30 service a bit odd. While the first hymn is sung, a cross on a tall pole is ceremonially walked into the church, followed by choir, acolytes, and clergy. This person was especially surprised that some members of the congregation turned to face the cross as it was processed down the aisle. Some even bowed! There were no instructions given in the bulletin, and no announcement made from the worship leaders. He felt like an outsider because he didn't know or understand the unspoken tradition. Why, he asked, does Hope do that? And isn't it off-putting to all the visitors we get?

I'll address the liturgical question first. When the President of the United States walks into the House Chamber to deliver the State of the Union address, everyone stands and watches as he enters. We all know to stand and face the back of the church when a bride enters. In both cases the act of standing shows respect. Similarly, standing and facing the cross when it is brought into our midst shows respect for this symbol of Christ, who is both our Lord and our Host. To further emphasize their respect, some people even bow as the cross passes by. The practice of using crosses in procession dates back to at least the 4th century, and many Christian communities of all denominations still follow the practice of facing the cross and bowing as it passes.

The second question – whether all this liturgical movement is distracting or even confusing to visitors – is a harder question to answer. To be sure, Hope sees many visitors every Sunday due to its location. And clearly it is our duty as Christians to be as welcoming as possible to them. In fact, I think Hope does an exceptional job of welcoming visitors, from the simple presence of a parking lot, to the bulletin layout, to the “Holy Rovers.”

On the other hand, Hope has a strong love of liturgy. We have communion every Sunday, we sing primarily hymns written long ago with organ accompaniment, and we face a cross while it is processed down the aisle. All of this can seem strange to a new-comer. We need to be welcoming to new-comers, and we are called to share the Gospel of Christ, but we also need to be honest about what we as a community hold dear.

Since the chat I mentioned at the beginning of this article, I've added a brief line to the bulletin instructing everyone to turn and face the cross as it passes through the assembly. Hopefully this will help visitors feel slightly less lost. But I can't possibly explain the reasons behind every little action that goes on in the service. That would involve printing a medium-sized book every Sunday! Each of us is responsible for helping visitors feel welcome. When you see someone fumbling with the hymnal, give them a hand. When someone looks concerned as the offering plates approach, reassure them that visitors need not feel obliged to give something. And when they're facing the wrong way as the cross passes by, you may explain why we face the cross as it moves among us and invite them to take part in that particular expression of piety the next time they come back.

– Luke Tegtmeier, Minister of Worship and Music



Faith Formation for All Ages on Sunday Mornings

On Sunday mornings there are classes and sessions for all ages. Clair Gustafson supervises the youngest members in the nursery on the second floor of the education wing. Below is information about groups from ages three and older.

Creation Stations



Creation Stations

The goal of Creation Stations is to learn about the Bible through hands-on activities such as drama, cooking, crafts, music, and games. Fun and learning about the Bible can go together! These classes are for students in grades 1-6.

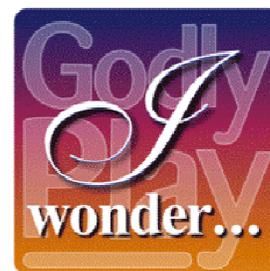
- December 7 & 14 – Jesus is Born
- December 21 – Dress rehearsal for the Christmas program in the Sanctuary
- December 28 – No Education Hour

Godly Play

Classes for children ages three through kindergarten are held on Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 10:25 a.m. in rooms 201-202. Godly Play creates sacred space to hear and learn Bible stories using objects and play. Students and teachers wonder together and then children are encouraged to respond to the stories on their own terms using art materials.

The structure of the Godly Play lesson models worship with Gathering time; Hearing the Story / Word; Response Time / Offering; and Feast / Communion.

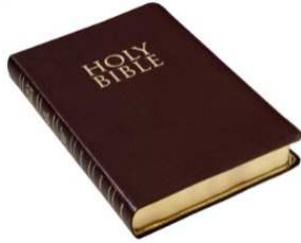
- December 7 – Joseph and the Angel
- December 14 – The Shepherds
- December 21 – Dress rehearsal for the Christmas program in the Sanctuary
- December 28 – No Education Hour



Youth Group

Youth Group meets on Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 10:25 a.m. in the Youth Room with adult leaders, Jack Dant, Leena Haugland Rapacz, and James Vitale. The discussion will focus on topics of interest to the group. All students in grades 9 – 12 are welcome. There will be no gathering on Dec. 28.





Confirmation

Confirmation Sunday classes meet at 9:30 a.m. in Room 203-204 with Kirsten Mebust with a focus on the Bible lessons used in worship. No class on December 28. The Wednesday night classes meet on December 10 with a focus on Holy Communion.

Adult Forums

(9:30 – 10:25 a.m. in Heritage Hall, below the Sanctuary)

December 7 – *Meet Tim Schroeder*. Tim Schroeder is working with Lutheran Campus Ministry and University Lutheran Church of Hope through a special grant. Hear more about this partnership and his passion for young adult ministry. Tim is a recent transplant to the Twin Cities, after spending most of his life growing up in northern Wisconsin. He studied Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management at the University of Wisconsin–Stout. At that time he found his calling to ministry and care for the church. After graduation in 2010, he worked for three years as the Director of Lutheran Campus Ministry at UW–Stout. Tim is presently studying at Luther Seminary and looking forward to earning a Master of Divinity in 2018.

December 14 – *Youth Ministry: Looking Back, Looking Forward* by Jim Vitale, Youth Director. Jim Vitale is a native of Upstate New York. In the last six months he graduated from Houghton College, concluded a youth ministry internship near Buffalo, NY, married his beautiful wife, Isabel, and moved to the Twin Cities to attend Luther Seminary. He is currently earning a Master of Divinity degree with a concentration in Children, Youth, and Family Ministry. Jim will share his background and church experiences as well as his current and future plans. After this he will move into what he has learned about youth ministry so far (particularly in Andy Root's *Bonhoeffer as Youth Worker* class), how significantly the landscape of youth ministry is changing, and how he sees youth ministry at Hope.

December 21 & 28 – no Adult Forum

Prepare the Way Intergenerational Event on Nov. 30

Prepare the Royal Highway - The Christ Child is coming! All ages are invited to build, draw and explore as we get ready for Advent and Christmas at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Enjoy conversation and special treats. Questions? Contact Diane Shallue at (612) 331-5988, ext. *819.



Sunday School Christmas Program



Lots of Sheep, a humorous re-telling of the Christmas story by the Sunday School children, will take place on December 21 during the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Thanks to the team putting together this Christmas play: Rosalie Eldevik (music), Nancy Morgan, Shelly Parry, Stephanie Struthers, and Robyn Swenson (costumes).

Rehearsal schedule: December 7 – all children will run through parts and be in their classrooms for part of the time. The Christmas planning team will come to get students from their classrooms.

December 14 – children will rotate between learning parts, learning music, and fitting costumes. Children should report to their classrooms.

December 21 – Dress rehearsal in the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m.

If you have questions, please contact Diane Shallue at dianes@ulch.org or call (612) 331-5988, ext *819.

Senior Group Christmas Gathering on Dec. 17

All seniors and friends of any age are cordially invited to our gala Christmas Gathering on **Wednesday, December 17**, beginning with punch and a social time at **11:30 a.m.** in Fellowship Hall. A festive luncheon including traditional Swedish meatballs, rice pudding, lefse, and other delicacies will be served at **12:00 noon**. Reservations for the meal should be made with your caller or by calling Pastor Esther Dant at (651) 636-7834 or (612) 331-5988, ext. *818 by **Thursday, December 11**.

At **1:00 p.m.** a Holiday Concert entitled “*We Need a Little Christmas*” will be presented by the North Suburban Chorus from the Roseville area. This delightful group of about fifty talented and enthusiastic seniors, under the direction of Jonathon Nye, has been bringing the joy of music with singing, a bit of dancing, and lively sing-a-longs, to audiences in the metro area since 1976. **Come**, enjoy an afternoon of great Christmas music – favorite carols and secular tunes – as we share together the spirit and joy of the Christmas Season!

Invite others! **Everyone is welcome!** Please know that even if you are unable to attend the luncheon you are always welcome to attend just the program. Contact Leona Reyelts at (612) 378-2444 if transportation is needed.



Joy to the world, the Lord is come.



The Hope Book Club

The Hope Book Club invites you to join us to read and discuss a great book for the Holidays: *Made for Goodness and Why This Makes All the Difference?*, by Desmond & Mpho Tutu, on December 14 at 7 p.m. in the University Lutheran Church of Hope Library.

“We know all too well the cruelties, hurts, and hatreds that poison life on our planet. But my daughter and I have come together to write this book because we know that the catalogue of injuries that we can and do inflict on one another is not the whole story of humanity, not by a long measure. We are indeed made for something more. We are made for goodness.”
– Desmond Tutu.

Jan. 11, 2015: *The Cross and the Switchblade*, by Rev. David Wilkerson and John and Elizabeth Sherrill.

Please contact Sonja Peterson with book suggestions or questions at (612) 789-0397 or speterson@dunnwald.com.

“Reading without reflecting is like eating without digesting.” – Edmund Burke

Women's Retreat

Days & Dates: Saturday & Sunday, January 31 to February 1, 2015, with a Friday night option.

Time & Place: Saturday at 9 a.m. until Sunday at noon at Dunrovin Retreat Center.

Topic: *"What's Next in Your life? - To Be Decided !"*
Women of all ages are welcome. We will explore how faith and the paths we take (known or unknown) can be intertwined.

Cost: Saturday & Sunday with 3 meals (Saturday lunch and dinner, Sunday brunch) – \$133.50; Saturday with lunch – \$70.50; Saturday with lunch and dinner – \$82.00

Friday night option: \$36

Registration begins December 14! Come to the Welcome Center for retreat sign-up.

Registration deadline – Wednesday, January 18, 2015.
NO REFUNDS

If you have questions contact Ann Beane or Beata Ryden at spirit.beane@gmail.com or beatarydeen@comcast.net.

Prayer Shawl Update

Last year at the Women's Retreat we created Prayer Shawls for the Compassion Care Ministry team and the good news is they have all gone to people who need them. That means there is a need for even more shawls. We will once again create Prayer Shawls using fleece fabric.

Be on the lookout for fabric sales – two yards of fleece fabric, at least 54" wide, will yield two shawls. The ideal size is 27" x 72". Bring your fabric, scissors, and fringe-making options to the retreat. We will also have fabric available.

Questions? Contact Beata at beatarydeen@comcast.net.

Visitation Pastor – Safe People, Safe Settings, Generous Youth

While lunching with a friend this week, we began talking about people who bring out the best in us, to people with whom we feel safe – and also settings in which we feel safe. This week our chapel provided that kind of setting. My friend Pat, for the first time in a group setting, shared the deep, painful, courageous story of her daughter's suicide four years ago in New York. She began with excerpts from Kahlil Gibran's writing *On Children*:

Your children are not your children. You may give them your love but not your thoughts. For they have their own thoughts. You may house their bodies but not their souls. For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, even in your dreams. You are the bows from which your children, as living arrows, are sent forth.

She said several times "It takes a lot of courage to grieve." Her courage and our quiet encouragement for her in our sacred chapel space made it a powerful time for all of us.

So I reflect on this and on the Youth Group today. Jim Vitale invited me to sit with them and listen to their stories of visiting our Homebound with chili last Sunday. Gratitude filled me for this group of youth and their leaders who see how important it is for this ministry to do meaningful things together and for others. Our sermon today encouraged us to reach beyond our fears and live in abundance. What a good day it was for our Homebound to welcome their beautiful faces and generous hearts and remember them as they ate their delicious chili.

Golden words I heard one of the youth say: "Do we have to wait another year to do this again? Couldn't we go more often?"

YES!!!!!!!!!!

With great thankfulness,

– Pastor Esther Dant

President's Perspective

As you are probably well aware, the Vision & Governance Board has spent a great deal of time and energy this past year evaluating, refining, and developing our sense of Hope's mission and vision – what some Board members have thought of as our collective “holy purpose.” This self-study process involved a Congregation survey, dozens of interviews and focus groups, a written report from our study partner Kairos and Associates, presentations to the congregation, and many, many Board meetings and conversations.

The goal of all this work is to assemble a vision and concise statement of principles that will guide our decision-making and programming in the next few years, from the work of the Call Committee and Mission Appeal Team to all of the work of our Board, Leadership, and Staff.

Well, we think we are getting close. Take a look at the draft statements below and see what you think.

Mission

A welcoming, Christian community of faith centered in God's grace and called to demonstrate God's love for the world.

Values

- Inspiring WORSHIP
- Nurturing COMMUNITY
- Challenging STUDY
- Life-Changing SERVICE

WORSHIP: We celebrate our Lutheran heritage through liturgy, challenging preaching and vibrant music reflecting many traditions.

COMMUNITY: We are an urban spiritual center in a changing university neighborhood, opening our facilities and ministry to groups and individuals outside the congregation.

RELATIONSHIPS: We are a diverse community empowered by the love of Christ to care for and support one another as we grow in our faith lives.

LEARNING: We are thoughtful believers dedicated to faith formation and mindful inquiry expanding our understanding of how God is at work in our lives.

SERVICE: We commit ourselves to Christ's command to love our neighbor through life-changing service to others.

MINISTRY PLAN & MEASURABLES:

- Vital Worship & Music – WORSHIP
- Belonging & Connecting – RELATIONSHIPS
- Roots & Exploration – LEARNING
- Blessed to be a blessing – SERVICE & VOCATION

VISION FRAME

In a changing community, in dramatic shifts in the culture, in a time of rapid change, University Lutheran Church of Hope will be a place where people of all generations will experience:

- Vital and inspiring worship through music, challenging preaching, and the best of Lutheran liturgical tradition.
- A sense of belonging, being known and knowing one another in community, meaningful connections of mutual support and conversations.
- Learning and a deep rooting in the richness of Lutheran faith, thoughtful and challenging exploration of this faith in a complex world with a lens of justice and peace.
- Being equipped for life-changing service, connected to service opportunities and fed spiritually to live out personal vocation in daily life.
- An energized community of faith, transformed and equipped for a life of service and witness in the context of a changing community.

<continued on next page>

President's Perspective contd.

Well, what do you think? Does this sound like Hope to you? Does it capture who we are and our appropriate role in the lives of our congregation, our campus community, and our Twin Cities metropolitan area more generally?

The Board isn't completely locked in just yet. Some of us were hoping for something a little flashier, a little more concrete, or even more ambitious. On the other hand, others feel like it is an open and honest assessment of our vision and needs. Our hope and prayer are to have a concise vision statement of principles, a collective "holy purpose" that will help guide and inform all of our efforts and activities in the crucial coming months of planning and transition.

So again, we welcome your reflections and suggestions as we try to lock in on a vision that can guide all of our work, planning, and decision-making here together over the next few years.

– Doug Hartmann, Congregation President

Connecting with Others



All those interested in a small group or already part of a small group are invited to the **Hope Connections Celebration Event** on Monday, December 1, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Come and enjoy conversation, candles, quiet music, and special desserts! No reservations needed but please let Diane Shallue know if you need child care. Write to dianes@ulch.org.

This event is brought to you by the Hope Connections Task Force (John Beane, chair; Marilyn Asp, Sarah Gomez, Gretchen Peik, Renee Real-Banas, and Alden Tetlie, with Diane Shallue, staff support) and the Small Group Ministry Team (Randy Brooks, Don Hauge, and Carol Steinberg).

Vision & Governance Board

The Vision & Governance Board of University Lutheran Church of Hope held its regularly-scheduled meeting on Tuesday, November 11, 2014. We heard reports from the newly formed Call Committee, the Mission Appeal Team, the Hope Forum Group, and the Treasurer. In terms of new business, we reviewed the letter of appeal for our annual Stewardship campaign and approved a proposal from Pease Academy for some additional rental space in the education wing. Looking toward the future, we did some preliminary work toward building our 2015 budget, discussed the status and possible uses of the Trust, and agreed upon the need to continue to evaluate our staffing and leadership roles and responsibilities in the coming year. The meeting concluded with a discussion of the Hope Vision and Mission document presented above.

– Doug Hartmann, Congregation President

Treasurer's Report for October 2014

October giving was \$35,718.52 and our rental income was \$8,870.74 for a total income of \$44,589.26. We are \$3,082.74 under our budget for October income and are \$10,375.41 under our budget for the year to date. Our giving is \$15,085.89 under our projected budget. Our rental income has exceeded our budget by \$4,710.48 for the year. Fortunately, our rental income is taking up some of the shortfall in giving. **The decrease in giving is something we all need to be aware of as 2014 comes to an end. We lowered our giving budget for 2014 (vs. 2013) by \$9,400.00 yet we are currently \$10,375.41 under budget for giving.**

Our expenses for October were \$58,374.32. We budgeted \$60,121.43 for expenses. Thus we were \$1,747.11 under budget for the month. Year to date we are \$14,530.49 under budget in expenses.

October net income was (\$13,785.06), over budget by \$1,335.63 (that is, we lost ground; \$1,335.63; with respect to the budget) leaving us only \$4,155.08 over budget (less than last month) for the year to date.

Thank you again, for your financial gifts. Thank you for all the other ways you contribute to the life and health of this congregation, as it serves the community in SE Minneapolis, and around the world. It is wonderful to see our members contribute not just their financial resources, but all of the volunteer hours that make this congregation a vibrant and thoughtful presence in the community.

October 2014 and Year-to-Date Income and Expenses

Summary for 2014	Oct. 2014 Actuals	Oct. 2014 Budget	Oct. 2014 Over/(Under)	2014 Year-to-Date Actuals	2014 Year-to-Date Budget	2014 Year-to-Date Over/(Under)
General Giving	35,718.52	38,741.00	(3,022.48)	369,774.11	384,860.00	(15,085.89)
Rental Income	8,870.74	8,931.00	(60.26)	87,134.48	82,424.00	4,710.48
Ttl Income	44,589.26	47,672.00	(3,082.74)	456,908.59	467,284.00	(10,375.41)
Ttl Expense	58,374.32	60,121.43	(1,747.11)	462,521.19	477,051.68	(14,530.49)
Net Income	(13,785.06)	(12,449.43)	(1,335.63)	(5,612.60)	(9,767.68)	4,155.08



Total income for the Invitation to Hope 2 (I2H2) bridge campaign in October was \$5,518.20. We paid out \$6,918.89 for the mortgage and \$4,184.31 for building repairs and received \$209.16 for building improvements from PEASE Academy. Our total expense was \$10,894.04. The net loss for the month was \$5,375.84. Our building fund balance is \$200,325.14.

If you have any questions or comments please contact me at treasurer@ulch.org.

– Tim Abrahamson, Treasurer

Staff

Pastors:

Rev. Craig Shirley

Rev. Esther Dant

Minister of Worship and Music:

Luke Tegtmeier

Director of Education and

Adult Small-Group Ministries:

Diane Shallue

Youth Director:

James Vitale, Jr.

Administrator:

Gayle Bidne

Custodian:

Geremew Beshah – weekdays

Working in partnership with

Lutheran Campus Ministry

Tim Schroeder

Rev. Kate Reuer Welton

Vision & Governance Board

Officers:

President: Doug Hartmann

Vice President: Beth Kautz

Past President: Karen Westwood

Treasurer: Tim Abrahamson

Ministry Areas:

Worship & Music: Paul Odenbach

Youth & Young Adults:

Cory and Katie Olson

Education: Kirsten Mebust

Hope in the World: vacant

Relational Ministries:

Paige Whitney

Operations:

Tim Abrahamson

Karen Westwood

Leadership Development

& Communications:

Doug Hartmann

Beth Kautz

The Visitor

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Articles for *The Visitor* may be submitted via e-mail or directly to the church office. They must be signed. Electronic submissions in either Microsoft® Word or plain text format are strongly preferred. Articles may be edited for length. Contributors are responsible for clearly identifying any material that is from published sources and for obtaining appropriate permission(s) to republish. 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.

Copies of the current issue of *The Visitor*, as well as back issues, are at www.ulch.org/VisitorArchive.asp or by contacting the church office.

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