



The Visitor



October 2015

Issue #9-15

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.*

A Farewell from Diane Shallue

This was one of the hardest articles I have ever written. After 11 years, there are so many memories, so many joys, so many thanks to give for your partnership in ministry... but I need to be brief. I have enjoyed working with each of you on various programs and projects. Working on small group ministries was a new but satisfying project begun in 2008. The Hope Connections small groups have been a meaningful link to new caring friends and a deepening of existing relationships for many people.

In addition, I especially appreciate the way children are welcome to worship in this congregation. To you it is normal, but accepting noisy, wiggly children in worship is a special gift from this congregation to families.

As my final chance to give you an opportunity for ministry, I challenge you to welcome children by learning their names and praying for them by name. Greet as many children as you can by name!

As I move forward, I have some goals for myself: I want to spend more time with my husband, my father, and my grandchildren. I want to improve my writing skills and create a web site to share my knowledge and expertise in Christian education. I will think fondly of the time I spent serving here at University Lutheran Church of Hope. I will carry those memories in my heart for a long time. May God bless you and this congregation as you move into the future in God's name!

Diane E. Shallue, EdD, Associate in Ministry
Director of Christian Education and Small Group Ministries

Important Upcoming Events at Hope

Sun. Oct. 4: Blessing of Animals at noon on the patio. Have you noticed the statue of Francis of Assisi in the courtyard? The church remembers Francis, who called creatures his sisters and brothers, on Oct. 4. Bring your creatures (feathered, furry, big or small), or a reminder of them (collar, leash, etc.). They are welcome in worship, and invite friends to participate. We'll also give thanks for loving pets who have died recently.

Sat. Oct. 10: PEASE Academy pancake breakfast fundraiser. 8 a.m. to noon in Fellowship Hall.

Sun Oct. 11: Special Fellowship Meal after the 10:30 service. We will celebrate Diane Shallue's retirement, and pray Godspeed for her, giving thanks for her faithful ministry at Hope and for her whole career of 25 years serving congregations as an Associate in Ministry.

Thur. Oct. 22: Young Adults at the U. 7:30 p.m. in Blarney's (basement) in Dinkytown. Seeking community? New to the area? Attending the U or working? University Lutheran Church of Hope, Grace University Lutheran Church, and Lutheran Campus Ministry are teaming up for monthly Thursday gatherings of young adults near campus. This month, beer and hymns, with songs of solidarity and protest. Please join us, and invite friends. Questions? Talk with Pastor Jen.

Oct. 25-31: Families Moving Forward. Sign up beginning Oct. 4.

Treasurer's Report for August 2015

August giving was \$34,344.05 and our rental income was \$6,410.27, for total income of \$40,754.32. Our rental income was \$680.75 under budget and our giving was \$2,372.28 under budget. Total income was \$3,053.03 under budget. We are \$7,751.77 under budget for the year to date.

Our expenses in August were \$46,188.08. The budget for August expenses was \$40,774.86 which put us over budget by \$5,413.22; \$10,635.33 of this amount was for an AC unit for rooms 201/202. This amount will eventually come out of the capital fund and be repaid to ULCH by Pease Academy. This transaction skews our numbers significantly for the month. Our net income for August was (\$8,466.25). Our net income for the year to date is (\$10,093.22).

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

| July 2015 and Year-to-Date Income and Expenses | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Summary | August Actual | August Budget | August Over / (Under) | Year to date Actual to 8.31 | Year to Date Budget to 8.31 | Year to Date O/(U) to 8.31.15 |
| General Giving | 34,344.05 | 36,716.33 | (2,372.28) | 285,101.60 | 290,780.64 | (5,679.04) |
| Rental Income | 6,410.27 | 7,091.02 | (680.75) | 64,256.27 | 66,329.00 | (2,072.73) |
| Total Income | 40,754.32 | 43,807.35 | (3,053.03) | 349,357.87 | 357,109.64 | (7,751.77) |
| | | | | | | |
| Total Expense | 46,188.08 | 40,774.86 | (5,413.22) | 359,451.09 | 361,625.36 | (2,174.27) |
| | | | | | | |
| Net Income | (5,433.76) | 3,032.49 | (8,466.25) | (10,093.22) | (4,515.72) | (5,577.50) |

Total income for Hope for the Future capital campaign in August was \$7,183.28. In July we paid out \$0.00 for the mortgage (because we posted two payments in March) and received \$209.16 for building improvements from PEASE Academy. Net income was \$7,392.44. Our building fund balance is \$290,265.44. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at treasurer@ulch.org

Tim Abrahamson
Treasurer

Welcome Zach!

We are pleased to announce a new Minister of Worship and Music! Zach Busch was the unanimous and enthusiastic choice of the search committee. He is a graduate of Luther College and holds a Master of Sacred Music degree from Luther Seminary. In the words of Pastor Jen, "He weaves skill, experience, diverse musical gifts, creativity, presence, and passion for worship and music." Zach started with us on Sept. 14 and we look forward to working with him as he joins our community. Please welcome Zach into our midst.

Also, remember to thank the members of the search committee that did such an outstanding job: Chair Becky Halvorson, John Beane, Mark Nelson, Rosalie Eldevik, Ben Hartmann, Shelly Parry, Louise Bjorkman, Pastor Jen Nagel, Paul Odenbach, and Garvin Davenport, and all the musicians who were part of auditions on a hot September evening.

Paul Odenbach
Worship and Music

The God of Life and Love and Freedom

In church-speak, these are the later days of this long, “green season” we call the Season after Pentecost, or in some circles, Ordinary Time. There is green like vivid, bright, early spring growth green. There is thick, lush green, where crickets make a home, in the dense, long days of summer. And, ‘round about now some shades of green creep into yellow and tan as harvest is near and the year keeps turning. At once, there is Ordinary Time like ho-hum, same old story, and there is Ordinary Time like small miracles of daily growth, movement, and breath. Truth be told, most of us need them all—the ho-hum of routine and the small miracles that break into the mundane, the shades of green that usher growth that ushers change that ushers still more growth.

So, in these months of green, Ordinary Time, in worship we’re using Marty Haugen’s liturgy, *Now the Feast and Celebration*. The Hymn of Praise (ELW #167) anchors it:

*Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy,
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore.*

I can’t help myself – singing that third line always makes me smile: “The God of life and love and freedom.” That’s the God I believe in. That’s the community of faith, commitment, and action to which I am called—to which we are all called.

It’s our God of life and love and freedom that I’m witnessing around Hope these days, and this makes me smile. I’m smiling at the great vibe and deep hospitality that surrounded the Welcome Back Students event. I’m smiling at the good and hard questions of God’s mission and staffing that face our Vision & Governance Board and our congregation. I’m smiling at Zach Busch’s arrival as our Minister of Worship and Music and, through tears, I’m smiling at the faithful and creative ways in which Diane Shallue has served Hope and the wider church over 25 years of ministry. I’m smiling at the conversations we’ve already shared and the ways you invite me into your story—in all its shades of green, in the mundane and in the miracles. Please, let us keep sharing these stories. Our God of life and love and freedom is present in it all—in you and in this community. For this—all this—and for your faithfulness, I am grateful.

Pastor Jen

New Members

Curious about membership at University Lutheran Church of Hope? This fall we will welcome new members into the Hope community. Membership is a commitment of the congregation to those individuals and families becoming members—a commitment of faithful support, and a commitment to provide meaningful opportunities for worship, service, learning, and living out our faith. It’s also a commitment of members to the University Lutheran Church of Hope community—a commitment to participate in worship, to pray for one another, and to share your time, talents, and financial resources. A number of people have already expressed interest in becoming members. If you are curious about this opportunity, please talk with Pastor Jen (jenn@ulch.org or 612-331-5988) soon.

Save the Date:

Nov. 1, 2015: All Saints Sunday (and clocks “fall back”)

Nov. 24, 2015: Shared Thanksgiving Worship

Nov. 30, 2015: Small Group Celebration Event

Dec. 20, 2015: Sunday School Christmas Program

Dec. 13, 2015: Fellowship Meal Potluck

Jan. 29-31, 2016: Women’s Retreat

Feb. 7, 2016: Annual Congregational Meeting

FAITH FORMATION NEWS



Faith Formation for All Ages on Sunday Mornings

Nursery: Clair Gustafson supervises the youngest members in the nursery on the second floor of the education wing.

Godly Play

Classes for children ages three through six are held on Sunday mornings in room 103. Godly Play creates sacred space to hear and learn Bible stories using objects and play. Students and teachers wonder together, then children are encouraged to respond to the stories on their own terms using art materials. The structure of the Godly Play lessons models worship with: Gathering Time, Hearing the Story/Word, Response Time/ Offering and Feast/ Communion. Teachers are Madhu Bhat and Sara Tufvesson Doure. Helpers are Stephanie Struthers, Melissa Odenbach, and Ann Beane.



Note: See detailed schedule of lessons on the church web site.

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.

Teachers for grades 1-2 are Kristine Robinson and Tori Simenec with helper Suzie Robinson. We meet in room 101.

Teachers for grades 3-6 are Arthur French and Sonja Peterson. We meet in room 205.

Note: See detailed schedule of lessons on the church web site.

Confirmation

Sunday classes meet at 9:15 a.m. in Room 203-204 with Kirsten Mebust.



Youth Group

Youth Group for all post-confirmation students meets every Sunday from 9:15a.m. to 10:25a.m. See Jim Vitale's article on page 7 about plans for the year.



Confirmation Class and Statements of Faith

On Reformation Sunday, Oct. 25, Liam Kneer, Oskar Grothe, Michael Schuette, and Clyde Peluf will be confirmed through Affirmation of Baptism. They will share their statements of faith during worship on Oct. 18. Please include them in your prayers at this important time, and plan to be part of worship those Sundays in prayer and support.

Three new students are beginning Confirmation Class: Josh Felling and Ian and Nicke Zibble. Three students are continuing in their second year: Brinnen Morgan, Marie Peterson, and Stella Robinson. Their confirmation program includes Sunday morning involvement in youth group, confirmation class with Kirsten Mebust focusing on the Bible, and worship leadership serving as assisting ministers, lectors, acolytes, ushers, and/or musicians. They will meet for monthly mini-retreats with Pastor Jen, Jim Vitale, and others, and will be mentored by members of our congregation. Again, please pray for these young people, their families, and their growing faith.

Adult Forums

(9:15-10:25 a.m. in Heritage Hall, below the Sanctuary)

October is mental health awareness month, and our Adult Forums will feature two presentations by Dr. Jeff Berryhill, a licensed psychologist with a PhD in clinical psychology and an MA in theology from Fuller Theological Seminary. He offers individual counseling for adults, adolescents, and children, and couple and family counseling. Jeff also is an adjunct professor for the graduate counseling program at Bethel University, where he teaches courses in psychopathology and in counseling ethics. Jeff frequently sees persons with depression, anxiety problems including obsessive compulsive disorder, ADHD, and other emotional and behavioral problems. He brings a Christian worldview to his counseling and teaching.

October 4: Light in the Darkness: Christian Faith, the Church, and Mental Illness

We will consider Jesus' approach to people who had what we now call mental illness and examine the Church's historical and current approach to these common human struggles. We will also look at how our Christian beliefs can help or hinder coping or recovery.

October 11: Overcoming Darkness: Tools to Help Others and Ourselves Move Toward Mental Health

We will build on the first seminar with more specific ways to support people with common psychological problems including depression and anxiety, as well as more chronic conditions such as bipolar disorder or schizophrenia. Bring your questions, ideas, and experiences to share in this discussion.

The following two adult forums will be presented by Tim Fries, nephew of Fred Kreider. Tim's involvement in archaeological fieldwork began in 1997 as a student volunteer on the Tel Rehov Archaeological Project. In addition to returning to the Rehov excavation as a supervisor for many summers, including the project's final season in 2010, Tim has participated on digs at two other sites, was granted a three-month research fellowship at the Albright Institute of Archaeology in East Jerusalem, and spent a year as a Visiting Graduate Student in the Bible and Near Eastern Studies program at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He earned his MA in biblical studies from the Graduate Theological Union and Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, California.

October 18: Archaeology in the Lands of the Bible: Concepts and Contexts

In archaeology, everything is about context. While "biblical" archaeology is prominent in the media, most exposure focuses on "the finds" without adequately describing the processes or contexts that give meaning to these artifacts. This first session will introduce basic concepts of fieldwork in the region and important contextual issues to consider when engaging with artifacts from a land steeped in religious traditions.

October 25: Archaeology in the Lands of the Bible: Traditions and Trajectories

In this session, we will explore the many ways archaeological materials can be used: how archaeology can inform our understanding of the ancient societies from which our faith traditions arose, and the ways these artifacts are being utilized to influence cultures, traditions, and even policies today.

Book Sale

Our book sale on Sept. 13 was a success! Hope members read and donate high quality books that are appreciated. We had several comments about that. Thank you to all who donated and/or worked at the sale! The money goes to Lutheran Campus Ministry this year. With a high percentage of low-income students attending our schools, we are looking at possible ways to donate money to elementary classrooms next year. Some donors sent books in nice reusable grocery bags. Thank you! We donated them to the food shelf, which needs bags for their clients' groceries.

We plan to do this again, and are formulating changes for next time. For one thing, it will be in early September, and we may stretch it over three Sundays. We also may have tables of books in the halls. Please contact Ruth Fingerson (Rfingerson@comcast.net) with suggestions. Thanks again to everyone!

Ruth Fingerson

You Can Still Join a Hope Connections Small Group!



Have you ever wanted to get to know people beyond a simple hello on Sunday mornings? Then a Small Group is for you! Each group will meet in homes for 4-6 meetings over the next 3-6 months. Here you can explore faith questions in a safe, confidential environment. To find a group in your geographic area, contact John Beane. The Hope Connections Task Force consists of John Beane, chair; Randy Brooks, Bernice Davenport, Sarah Gomez, Alden Tetlie, and Paige Whitney. There is a Celebration Event for all participants in small groups and those interested, on Monday, November 30, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, with free child care in the nursery.

Hope Senior Group Fall Gathering

Fall's colors tint the landscape
An artist's holy shrine.
Blessed are we, held within
The good Lord's grand design.



Lucyann Murray

All seniors, retirees, and friends of any age are cordially invited to the Senior Group Fall Gathering on **Wed. Oct. 21**, beginning with lunch at **noon** in Fellowship Hall. Please make reservations for the meal with your caller or by phoning Pastor Esther Dant at 651-636-7834 or 612-331-5988 *818 by **Thurs. Oct. 15**.

The program at **1:00 pm** will be a video and discussion on *A Late Frost*. This is a beautiful series of stories of aging with children and older adults, narrated by the late Rev. Dr. Gerhard Frost, our former visitation pastor. Come for this inspiring and enjoyable program. Bring a friend or family member. **Everyone is welcome!**

Stories of Hope: *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Generous comp tickets from my daughter-in-law Penelope Freeh sent my son Jack and me to see *To Kill a Mockingbird* at the Guthrie. It is still so fresh, but the comparisons with our community were there. What stunning bravery of a little girl and her father, to fight for a new way of thinking and acting. It works and then after a while it doesn't work, in which more brave actions are needed. The elderly, ill neighbor wants the young son to come over and read to her every afternoon. "But she hates (black people)!" "You go anyway." The history of this community is filled with that kind of courage, to cause us to keep standing for equality. Women as pastors, for example, when the world wasn't there yet and many still aren't. "You know you are going to hell," I have been told. The leadership moved into making possible what had seemed impossible: ordination of all, no one excluded.

Two new staff are being welcomed into our community: Pastor Jen first. The grace of her coming as Pastor Craig was leaving is something I have never experienced in nearly forty years of church work. Now Zach Busch has joined us. In conversation yesterday, it seemed as though it was an example of synchronicity – his immediate availability and our vacancy.

I am deeply grateful to God to be here in this community for 'such a time as this.' Peace to all,

Pastor Esther Dant
Visitation Pastor

Families Moving Forward

Hope will host families for a week, beginning Oct. 25; this is our final hosting for the year. We welcome families on Sunday and provide a safe place to sleep, hot meals, activities, and friendship. Signup at the Welcome Desk begins Oct. 4. The *Beacon*, newsletter of the Interfaith Housing Collaborative, says, "The night shelter program relies on the commitment and compassion of congregational volunteers." Please consider what you can do to make this visit inviting, safe, and friendly for our guests. Halloween/All Saints Day is Saturday Oct. 31, the day before our guests move on. Consider if you would like to help host a Halloween party for them at Hope. Contact Julie Paschke at jrpaschke@gmail.com with questions.

Youth Ministry Update

A Different Direction for Sunday Morning Youth Group

Summer has flown by and now it's time for another year of Youth Group here at University Lutheran Church of Hope! We are taking things in a different direction this year, but we know you are going to like it. We welcome post-confirmation students to attend Youth Group every Sunday, and we invite confirmation students to join us the second Sunday of every month. Throughout the year we will enjoy "highs and lows," play some games, talk with different members of the church, and take some time to grow in our faith. We may even take the occasional walk down to the Purple Onion for warm beverages and thoughtful conversation. Join us every Sunday from 9:15 a.m. to 10:25 a.m. to relax with God and each other!

Questions? Contact Jim Vitale jvitale001@luthersem.edu

New Youth Event: Sabbath

We are excited to kick off a new Youth Group event this year called Sabbath. This is a chance for you to enjoy a relaxing environment and bring your questions about God, religion, relationships, and anything else you want! We will take a couple of hours to check in with each other, enjoy some pizza, talk about our God and our lives, and pray. We will meet at Hope the first and third Sundays of every month from 5p.m. to 7p.m. starting October 4th. We will also engage in some service opportunities. All confirmation and post-confirmation students are invited to attend!

Jim Vitale
Youth Director

A Visit from Pastor Amson Hamman and Family

The connection with our partner congregation in Nigeria grew stronger in July with the visit of Pastor Amson Hamman, son Nat, and daughter Annette. Pastor Hamman spoke informally after worship on July 12 about the challenges the Lutheran Churches of Christ in Nigeria (LCCN), and Nigerian Christians in general, face today due to the rise of Muslim extremism. His congregation, St. Peter's in Jos, is coping as best they can, but there have been times when it has not been safe to assemble in a public worship service. He expressed his thanks for the prayers of our church every Sunday, which has been a source of strength and encouragement for them.



During the week he spent in the Twin Cities, he met with Minneapolis Area Synod staff including Bishop Svennungsen, was the guest of honor at a picnic sponsored by the Synod's Global Companion Table, toured the Global Health Ministries facility in Fridley, and had time with family and friends in the area. Meanwhile, Nat and Annette traveled with the Hope youth to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit. After preaching on the 19th, a potluck fellowship meal rounded out his visit. As a material sign of our companion relationship, a Communion chalice and paten, made by Wayne Lee, was given to Pastor Hamman for St. Peter's which he presented to his congregation on August 9th. We are grateful for our time together and will continue praying for St. Peter's and Pastor Hamman's safety and their witness to the grace and love of God in central Nigeria.

Bruce Eldevik
Hope in the World

Prayer Shawl Ministry Update

The Women of Hope group who host the annual women's retreat have an opportunity for anyone interested in working on a prayer shawl. We received \$200 from the Hope Church Trust to purchase fleece fabric. If you would like to transform the fabric into a shawl and give it a personal touch, you can choose some fleece and either use your own ideas or use the instruction sheet that is available.



You can also buy your own fabric following the instructions.

Please contact Ann Beane at spirit.beane@gmail.com or Beata Rydeen at beatarydeen@comcast.net with questions. Completed shawls are given to Pastor Jen or the Friendly Visitors to distribute. Our goal is to have a shawl for every University Lutheran Church of Hope family. Thanks for your help in this ministry!

Facilities News

The exterior of our building and the grounds surrounding it are our public face, a very important thing. Facilities Committee member Kathy Knudson is often on my mind, as someone who has given so much to all of us. She leads the Garden Group, which includes regulars Madhu Bhat and Marty Lewis-Hunstiger. Our gardens essentially surround the entire building (plus courtyard). We have many gardens. I can't imagine what our building would look like if these were overgrown and neglected. It's no small thing she does for us.



I wish to acknowledge Julie and Bob Paschke for adopting our most prominent garden on our southeast corner to the left of the front steps of the church. I'm guessing they take special pride in what they have done. Take a look. We will be cheering them on (plants and gardeners both). Thank you. If you enjoy gardening please consider adopting a garden yourself.

A new rubber roof is now installed on our chapel. I know you can't see it, but it's up there! Finishing touches will include blue metal flashing lapping over the masonry parapet wall (the highest part of the wall). The flashing will cover new wood framing installed on top of the wall to secure the roof. The final step will be rerouting the roof runoff from the sanitary sewer to an adjacent roof, as required by the city.

The first portion of PEASE's remodeling has been completed in time for the start of school. A partition wall was removed from rooms 201/202, creating more space. We also added air conditioning and updated the carpet. In room 101 we added fresh paint and carpeting (paid for by Hope). We thank them for this gift. The youth room is also scheduled for work as part of this project.

Facilities has scheduled a work day for Saturday Sept. 26th, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Please come and lend a hand for whatever part of this time works for you.

Craig Nelson
Facilities Co-chair

Life Events at Hope

We hold one another in prayer during the times of deep grief, joy, gratitude, and all the experiences in between. Here at Hope, we include these life events in the *Visitor* monthly, and we invite you to add them to your regular prayers. Here is a compilation of events from August and September. We will try our best to include everyone (members and others close to our community), but we need your help and communication.

Thank you! Pastor Jen and the ULCH Staff

Births and Baptisms

We welcome with gratitude...

Nathan Lawrence Sayre, child of Andrew and Cara Sayre, born August 19, 2015

Marriages

We celebrate these relationships and the God in whose name we make our covenants...

Molly Kline and Derek Broin

Anya Abrahamson and Simon Helgeson

Molly Sorensen and Daniel Kabinski

Check out our Website, and Contribute Photos!

The University Lutheran Church of Hope website is new, easy to navigate, and constantly improving! Visiting www.ulch.org regularly is a great way to stay up to date on what is happening in the congregation. You can find out more about worship times, upcoming events, youth and adult education, our staff, our beliefs, our history, and our community. You can also donate online. Be sure to "like" us on Facebook! We are always looking for good, current, high quality photos to add to our website. If you have any photos you would like to contribute, or have a good quality camera and are interested in taking photos during services and events, contact Jim Vitale at jvitale001@luthersem.edu.

Vision & Governance Board

The Vision & Governance Board of University Lutheran Church of Hope held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2015. The meeting began with a report from the personnel committee. This included a review of planning for Diane Shallue's retirement celebration and a brief overview of a presentation the committee heard from "Inter Serve," a local organization which assists in interim placements and long term staff planning. The committee also brought forward a motion to extend a job offer to Zach Busch for our open Minister of Music and Worship position which was unanimously approved. Pastor Nagel presented an update and overview of all the various activities and work she has been engaged in during her first month of ministry here at Hope. The Board also discussed and approved a proposal to re-key the building. A big portion of the meeting involved conversation and reflection to prepare for the upcoming board retreat in October. This included an extensive review of our Congregational bylaws, and a discussion of the roles and responsibilities of each board position and its associated staff positions, task forces and work teams. At the conclusion of the meeting, a date was set for this year's annual meeting: February 7, 2016.

Doug Hartmann, Congregation Past-President
Doug Hartmann
Congregation Past-President

Financial Update Congregational Meeting October 18

There will be a congregational meeting of University Lutheran Church of Hope at 11:45 a.m. on Sunday, October 18, 2015, to provide members with an update on the financial status of the congregation. Please plan to stay after the 10:30 a.m. service that day for this short meeting.

Hope Book Club

MORE GREAT BOOKS FOR 2015 WITH THE HOPE BOOK CLUB:

Windigo Island

by William Kent Kruger

On October 11, at 7 p.m. we will meet to discuss *Windigo Island*, by William Kent Kruger, author of *Ordinary Grace*.

Former sheriff turned private investigator Cork O'Connor battles vicious villains, both mythical and modern, to rescue a young girl, in the latest nail-biting mystery from New York Times bestselling author William Kent Krueger. When the body of a teenage Ojibwa girl washes

up on the shore of an island in Lake Superior, the residents of the nearby Bad Bluff reservation whisper that it was the work of a mythical beast, the Windigo, or a vengeful spirit called Michi Peshu.

www.goodreads.com

Nov. 8: *Why the Jews Matter*, by Thomas Cahill.

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

"Some books leave us free and some books make us free." Ralph Waldo Emerson



President's Perspective

About a year ago, with the help of consultants from Kairos, we were in deep discussions about the mission and vision of University Lutheran Church of Hope, preparing to elect a call committee to find a new lead pastor, and beginning to organize a capital campaign. As we developed our plans, we were mindful of wanting to have a good sense of who we are and where we think God is calling us, as well as remaining open to the Holy Spirit and the ideas and passions of a new pastor.

Now we have Pastor Jen among us, a new minister of music and worship, and will soon have an open staff position after we bid farewell to Diane Shallue later this month. It is time to form a vision for University Lutheran Church of Hope for the coming years. On Oct. 3, Pastor Jen and the Vision & Governance Board will spend the day together to discern and plan our next steps.

Kairos has offered us a model – the intersection of three key areas of focus – to help us think about our vision. Please take time to think and pray about this, and share your ideas with a Board member or Pastor Jen.

First Key Area: Your Unique Local Circumstances

Questions to ask: What are the unique needs in your immediate surroundings? In the larger community? Where are there opportunities for engaging the community? What is God already up to in your local setting? Where are the gaps?

Second Key Area: Your Unique Capacities and Gifts

Questions to ask: What is your unique voice and perspective? What are your foundational commitments? What is your crucial core? How has/is God gifting you? What are your resources and capabilities? What might threaten or minimize your potential for impact? What do you need to let go of?

Third Key Area: Your Collective Passion

Questions to ask: What is God up to? What ignites passion? Where is there longing? Where can you make a difference? What partnerships emerge? Where is there alignment with the other two key areas?

Beth Kautz

Congregation President

A Thank You from Lutheran Campus Ministry

Our baby Gophers are coming to campus for the first time, and they'll be joining the ranks of a 55,000-strong community of undergrads, grad students and international students. Many of them are struggling to figure out who they are and how they'll be in this world. They're faced with financial pressures unknown to previous generations of students, and the incumbent pressure to perform. The community of Hope is a real sanctuary in the midst of the storm.

You offer warm meals, welcoming worship, and an invitation into a story that's bigger than all of the pressure and expectation these years can bring. And you bring yourselves. Your interest in the students' lives and your willingness to share your lives with them go further than any program or event. Relationships are the heartbeat of a community grounded in Christ; our young adults are hungry to be invited into them.

So thank you. We at Lutheran Campus Ministry are grateful for your partnership. If you're interested in learning more about what we've got going on this fall, keep an eye on the announcements, and/or check out our website: www.umnlutheran.org

Pastor Kate Reuer Welton
Lutheran Campus Ministry

Office Helpers Needed

Hope's annual congregational meeting is Feb. 7, 2016. A lot goes into preparing the congregation's annual report, and our business manager Gayle Bidne could use some extra hands and time, especially in January and early February, with tasks including organizing congregational report writers with some direction, deadlines, and nudging; editing and compiling; printing and collating; and other office duties. Do any of these tasks sound like something you could do? Please talk with Gayle (gayleb@ulch.org) to learn more. Thank you in advance.

Staff

Pastors:

Rev. Jen Nagel
Rev. Esther Dant

Minister of Worship and Music:

Zach Busch

Director of Education and

Small-Group Ministries:

Diane Shallue

Youth Director:

James Vitale, Jr.

Business Manager:

Gayle Bidne

Custodian:

Geremew Beshah – weekdays
Isabel Vitale - weekend

Working in partnership with Lutheran Campus Ministry

Tim Schroeder
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