



# The Visitor



November 2015

Issue #10-15

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.*

## Assisting the Communion of Saints

I first *served* communion as an adult. It changed my life. Until then, communion did not make a great deal of sense to me; it didn't seem like it was supposed to. In the mystery of the sacrament, the bread and wine were both bread and wine and the body and blood of Jesus, as long as I had faith that they were. That mystery seemed like it was something between Christ and me.



That first time I served communion, though, all these other people came into view: the Sunday School teacher for whom I didn't behave, the young adults group member who asked hard questions, my mother's circle members. All came forward with their hands out. Into those hands I placed a tiny wafer or bit of bread. There was some kind of binding spirit at work in the sharing of bread. I had missed a big part of the mystery. Someone had told me about the communion of saints, but serving communion meant I could glimpse it.

Participation in leading worship has become a tradition at Hope. Adults and children volunteer as assisting ministers, choir members, communion servers, lectors, and ushers. They remind us that worship is not a spectator sport but a gathering of God's active saints around the shared Word and Sacraments. Children can begin ushering beside their parents in their preschool years, become lectors and acolytes as they grow, and learn to be assisting ministers as youth. As we commit to re-invigorating our worship together, we want children and adults to be present and excited to participate in all of these important leadership roles. For example, although acolytes have traditionally been of middle school age, we're pretty sure that adults can serve competently and reverently as acolytes. I am an assisting minister who has added "acolyte" to the list of roles on the Ministry Scheduler Pro that I'm willing to take. I hope that other assisting ministers and former acolytes will do the same, and that all our worshippers will consider signing up for new leadership roles.

(Continued on page 2)

## Treasurer's Report for September 2015

September giving was \$36,440.16 and rental income was \$5,692.14 for a total income of \$42,132.30, up 3.25% from August. Rental income was \$1,435.86 under budget and giving was \$276.17 under budget. Total income was \$1,712.13 under budget. We are \$9,463.80 under budget for the year to date, down 2.4%. Our expenses in September were \$26,998.03. The budget for September expenses was \$43,319.86 which put us under budget by \$16,321.83. \$10,635.33 of this expense amount was for an AC unit for rooms #201/202. This amount was reimbursed by the capital fund and will be repaid monthly to ULCH by PEASE Academy. This transaction skews our numbers significantly for the month. Our net income for September was \$14,609.80. Our net income for the year to date is \$5,041.05. 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 of the volunteer hours that make this congregation a vibrant and thoughtful presence in the community.

September 2015 and Year-to-Date Income and Expenses						
Summary	Sept. Actual	Sept. Budget	Sept. Over / (Under)	Year to date Actual to 9/30	Year to Date Budget to 9/30	Year to Date O/(U) to 9/30
General Giving	36,440.16	36,716.33	(276.17)	321,541.76	327,496.97	(5,955.21)
Rental Income	5,692.14	7,128.00	(1,435.86)	69,948.41	73,457.00	3,508.59
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>42,132.30</b>	<b>43,844.33</b>	<b>(1,712.03)</b>	<b>391,490.17</b>	<b>400,953.97</b>	<b>(9,463.80)</b>
Total Expense	26,998.03	43,319.86	(16,321.83)	386,449.12	404,945.22	(18,496.10)
Net Income	15,134.27	524.47	14,609.80	5,041.05	(3,991.25)	9,032.30



Total income for Hope for the Future capital campaign in September was \$7,443.13. In September we paid out \$6,918.89 for the mortgage and 10,605.33 for building improvements for PEASE Academy. Net income was \$10,081.09. Our building fund balance is \$280,184.35.

If you have any questions or comments please contact me at [treasurer@ulch.org](mailto:treasurer@ulch.org)

Tim Abrahamson  
Treasurer

## Assisting the Communion of Saints

(continued from p. 1)

We also want our youth to be able to choose the worship leadership roles that matter most to them. Once people learn how to serve in a role, we hope they will continue to find the experience rewarding. Serving in any leadership role, ideally learning to do them all, can fulfill your Confirmation service requirement. But we no longer have an end date of Confirmation for service as acolytes or in other roles. We don't want to lose our experienced worship leaders. We need you.

If you are a child or adult who wants to learn the acolyte role of carrying fire, receiving the gifts of the congregation, handling holy vessels, and catching a glimpse of the communion of saints, please email me at [education@ulch.org](mailto:education@ulch.org) and let me know. I'll schedule a practice time with you. We also hope to schedule practice sessions for other roles soon.

Kirsten Mebust  
Education Commissioner

# Igniting Our Life Together

Last winter and spring as the call committee and I entered into conversations, more than once I asked what they were looking for in their new pastor. The response that arose most often was something like: we want someone to light us on fire. They weren't sure exactly what that would look like (the person, I presumed, and also the igniting) but they searched for language to articulate a wise sense that had settled deeply into them as individuals and as a group of leaders. Now, talk of fire makes the insurance company nervous. And, talk of asking a person to ignite such a metaphorical fire makes said pastor nervous. The truth that the call committee and I both knew was that some sort of spirited energy was needed, but that such fire and energy best arises within a congregation, among leaders, pastors, and the whole community, and it is Holy Spirit initiated.



As early conversations became votes, and good, hard decisions, the call committee and I continued this conversation about fire and, indeed, transformation. Is this congregation really ready for change?

As I've joined you all in ministry, the answer has been confirmed time and again. You are ready. Of course, some struggle and grief will be part of the process—that's normal—and even some anxiety, for change is hard and we hold fast to what we know best. But still, overwhelmingly, I sense your readiness. Last year during the capital campaign process you worked diligently in preparation. This fall already the Vision and Governance Board has met in retreat to deepen our leadership and then to clarify vision goals for the coming years. On page 10 our congregational president, Beth Kautz, writes about this process and shares the vision goals that have arisen. Please take time to read Beth's article. These goals include connecting with the university and the community, igniting worship and spirituality, and revitalizing our ministry with youth and children. In many ways they are quite natural:

- We are named *University* Lutheran Church of Hope. We want to thoroughly re-engage with our neighborhood and the university setting, including working on our relationship with Lutheran Campus Ministry and our role in this vital ministry. This image of having “porous” walls helps me.
- We already value worship highly, but last year's CAT survey indicated lower energy and lower spirituality. Entering into transformation and working together on these goals while also opening ways to deepen our engagement with worship and spirituality will address this.
- With Diane Shallue's retirement, we're at a good time to reassess how we do ministry with both children and youth. Clearly this is a value for the congregation but in changing times and demographics *how* it is lived out can take many forms. We're already in conversation with a group called *Interserve* that will likely be able to help us work through this wisely and make decisions for staffing and programs. Diane blessed us with good organization; our thanks to the dedicated volunteers who carry out the children's faith formation during these in-between times.

In this season of All Saints, as we light candles remembering those whose faith inspires and ignites our faith, I'm so grateful for this community here at University Lutheran Church of Hope. God is up to something and the Holy Spirit is at work in and through you already; the fires of our life together are growing. I invite you into daily prayer (that the Holy Spirit will ignite our life together) and into deep and honest conversation about each of these goals.

Pastor Jen

# FAITH FORMATION NEWS



## Faith Formation for All Ages on Sunday Mornings

**Music Focus:** The Children's Ministry Team has added more music to the children's program on Sunday mornings this year. Singing connects to our spiritual selves in new ways. Godly Play students will have music time once a month. Creation Stations students will have music every Sunday beginning at 9:15 a.m. Once a month the Creation Stations music time will be extended to the full period with time to play Orff and other rhythm instruments, led by Rosalie Eldevik.

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

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### 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 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. Teachers are Madhu Bhat and Sara Tufvesson Doure. Helpers are Stephanie Struthers, Melissa Odenbach, and Ann Beane.



See detailed schedule of lessons on the church web site.

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## 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.

Teachers for grades 1-2 (Room 101) are Kristine Robinson and Mary Greenwaldt, with helper Suzi Robinson.

Teachers for grades 3-6 (Room 102) are Arthur French and Sonja Peterson.

See detailed schedule of lessons on the church web site.

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### Confirmation

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



### Youth Group

Youth Group meets on Sunday mornings from 9:15 to 10:25 a.m. in the Youth Room. The discussion will focus on topics of interest to the group. All students in grades 9-12 are welcome.



# Adult Forums

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

**November 1: Stories of Hope.** Hear Beth Ubbelohde and Arunkumar Anandharaj, two of our newer members, share their faith journeys.

Both are employed at the University of Minnesota. Beth is a nurse in behavioral health at the University of Minnesota Medical Center. She is married to Joe Erickson, who teaches at Augsburg College. Arun is a postdoctoral associate at the Masonic Cancer Center at the University of Minnesota. He has two children in Sunday School.



**November 8: Lutheran Campus Ministry.** Join Pastor Kate Reuer Welton and other LCM leaders for a conversation about young adult spirituality on campus and our growing community. Think together about ways we can continue to deepen our partnership. Pastor Reuer Welton grew up in South Dakota and settled in Minneapolis after many adventures, including completing a Master of Divinity degree at Harvard Divinity School. She was called to serve as Campus Pastor at the University of Minnesota in 2010, and remains excited about the student energy and vision that has made this ministry what it is today!

**November 15: Welcome Back University Students Event:** Hear a report on our 2015 festival, and look ahead to our 2016 event. John Bablitch will lead a panel discussion. John recruited and led the volunteer team which conceived and ran the first Welcome Back Students Festival in 2013. He has served on the University Lutheran Church of Hope board as Hope in the World Liaison, and currently is on the board of Lutheran Campus Ministries - Twin Cities. He has a passion for organizing events that open Hope's doors to students, neighbors, and the larger community.



**November 22: Giving Voice Chorus:** Enjoy a presentation by Marge and Anna Ostroushko. Launched in the fall of 2014, Giving Voice Chorus creates an opportunity for people in our community living with Alzheimer's Disease to join with their care partners as a choral ensemble to connect through the power of music. Co-founders Mary Lenard and Marge Ostroushko were struck by recent discoveries about the powerful effects of music on the lives of people with dementia, especially the finding that individuals with Alzheimer's are able to sing and enjoy music even as their disease progresses, especially if they sing familiar music. Giving Voice performs old and new favorites, from traditional folk music to show tunes, rock-and-roll oldies and pop songs.

One goal of the chorus is to enrich the relationships between the person with dementia and family caregivers, friends, and children. Marge Ostroushko, a member of University Lutheran Church of Hope and co-founder of the Giving Voice Chorus, was inspired by her mother, Jean, who lives with Alzheimer's disease and who loves to sing. In her 25 years as a radio and events producer, Marge has lent her talents to some of public radio's most loved shows, including *A Prairie Home Companion*, *This American Life*, and *Speaking of Faith*. Currently, Marge works as the station relations manager for *This American Life*, and the marketing director and strategist for numerous other national public radio programs.

**November 29: no program scheduled.**

# Congregational Life

## New Members

On November 22 during worship we will welcome the following new members to University Lutheran Church of Hope: John and Sharlene Hensrud, Kaiya Hoyer- Leitzel, Susan Williford, Lynette Lamb and Rob Gerloff and Julia, Jen Nagel and Jane McBride and Eliza and Alice. Watch for more about each of these beloved souls, and welcome them warmly!

## Winter Wear Drive

ULCH is collecting new and gently used hats, scarves, gloves, and mittens for the organization Project for Pride in Living. PPL works to build hope, assets, and self-reliance of low-income families and individuals by providing transformative affordable housing and employment readiness services. They are asking local congregations to support PPL by hosting a winter wear drive. Drop off your donations any time before Nov 29<sup>th</sup> in the box by the Welcome Center. Contact Shelly Parry at [mmparry@comcast.net](mailto:mmparry@comcast.net) or 651-674-6340 with any questions. Thank you for your support!

## Funeral Lunch Helpers

Here at University Lutheran Church of Hope we have a long tradition of serving funeral lunches. Thank you to all who have served these lunches over the years, and thanks to those who are current servers! Those who help with the funeral lunches do an assortment of tasks: provide cakes, help set tables, serve the meal, and clean up afterward. We are in need of more help. Would you be willing to be part of this team? Watch for more announcements in church and an opportunity to indicate how you can help. If you are interested or want to learn more, contact Leona Reyelts at 612-378-2444.

## Quilters

The Hope Quilters are reviving the group's traditional schedule for getting together to create warm covers for people who need them, enjoy fabric arts, and share fellowship. We will meet every Monday morning except for holidays, from 9 a.m. to noon, with whoever can come that day.

In September we donated 14 quilts to the Central Lutheran Church Free Closet in downtown Minneapolis. Two of these were already-made quilts in distress, that we made usable again. The other 12 we had made since January. We also recently made two quilts as farewell gifts for Craig and Carol Shirley, and Diane and Bob Shallue. We are continuing to make quilts of all sizes to donate, and may make one or two to sell or raffle at the holidays, with proceeds going to purchase the batting we use for the centers of the quilts.

We have a lot of lovely fabric and yarn but are always glad to receive more. To learn more about the Hope Quilters, contact Marty Lewis-Hunstiger at [mlewishunstiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mlewishunstiger@hotmail.com)

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## Young Adults at the U

Young Adults at the U is a group of people age 21 and up, from the University and beyond, who participate in challenging conversation, meaningful relationships, and uplifting song. This group is connected to University Lutheran Church of Hope, Grace University Lutheran Church, and Lutheran Campus Ministry, and includes young adults connected to each of these communities and others. Feel free to pass the invitation along to others.

Questions? Talk with Pastor Jen. Here is what is coming up:

Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m.: **Big Questions**. You bring them. We discuss. Location: Stub & Herb's basement.

Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m.: **Beer 'n Hymns**. Location: Blarney's Basement

# Youth Ministry Update

## 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 at [jvitale001@luthersem.edu](mailto:jvitale001@luthersem.edu)

## Sabbath

Youth are invited to participate in Sabbath, a relaxing environment to 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 meet at church the first and third Sundays of every month from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. We will also try to engage in some service opportunities from time to time. All confirmation and post-confirmation students are invited to attend!

## Moonlight Madness, November 13-14

Attention 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders! You are cordially invited to join us at Moonlight Madness on Friday, November 13 at 8:30 p.m. This is an all-night event that takes place all over Minneapolis with hundreds of other youth your age. Traveling together in a van, we start out playing games and enjoying pizza at Augsburg College. We then head north to a fun-plex to play more games, to a movie theater for a movie of your choosing, and finally to a bowling alley where we will wrap up the evening bowling a few frames. We return to Hope by 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 14. University Lutheran Church of Hope Youth are certainly invited to bring friends. The cost is \$30 per person, and scholarships are available. Moonlight Madness is a unique and exciting experience that has been held twice yearly for decades. Our youth have attended many times and always enjoyed it. If you are interested in attending, contact James Vitale at [jvitale001@luthersem.edu](mailto:jvitale001@luthersem.edu)

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## Senior Group Thanksgiving Gathering: Come Ye Thankful People, Come!

On Thursday November 12 at noon we will enjoy a delicious turkey-with-all-the-trimmings dinner in Fellowship Hall. Reservations should be made with your caller or by phoning Pastor Dant.



At 1 p.m., "The Loaves and Fishes Story," will be presented by Cathy Maes, Executive Director. We will hear its long history and mission to feed the hungry in our community (420,000 annually) and new opportunities today: Farm to Table, Mobile Meals, and Summer Lunches for Children. Loaves and Fishes gives hope and nourishment for body and spirit to thousands through daily meals prepared and served with the help of many volunteers (6,500 in 2014).

Our congregation has been a part of the Loaves and Fishes meal ministry since it began in 1982. We want to recognize all volunteers. So, we cordially invite everyone who has participated in Loaves and Fishes to come to our Thanksgiving gathering. Please identify yourself prior to the gathering by signing up at the Welcome Center or by calling Leona Reyelts at (612)378-2444.

## Stewardship



It's all a gift, really, everything we've got: our time, our talents, our money, our possessions, life itself, creation, relationships, sexuality, our vocations, even our congregation—all a gift. What we do with these gifts—how we steward them—that's stewardship. How do we care for and share the gifts God has given us? Start your day by asking that question, and end your day reflecting on how it has gone.

This November we're placing a special emphasis on stewardship. While we'll each have an opportunity to make stewardship commitments for giving to our congregation, we'll also widen our conversation and reflect on how we as individuals, households, and a community, steward our varied gifts. "Igniting our Life Together" is our stewardship theme this year (see the other articles in this issue of the *Visitor* for more about this theme). God is at work and on fire here at University Lutheran Church of Hope, and it's an exciting time to be part of God's ministry here and far beyond. This month, watch for:

- Stewardship letters, pledge cards, and information about Simply Giving (convenient automatic payments).
- Testimonies and personal reflections from those in our community on November 8, 15, and 22.
- Blessing of these stewardship commitments during worship on November 22. Please bring your pledge card that Sunday, or send ahead to the church.

Thank you for your years of faithful giving and service, and for your prayerful discernment about giving to the church for the coming year. If you have questions, please contact congregational leaders on the Vision and Governance Board, or Pastor Jen.

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## Sundays and Seasons

### For All the Saints

On Sunday November 1, we celebrate All Saints Day. In our tradition, saints are people of God who have died and are at rest, as well as those who are still living with whom we share our days. We are all saints, at once saints and sinners. During both worship services we'll toll the bell naming aloud those from our community who have died over the last year, and many others who are beloved saints to each of us. We'll also have opportunity to light candles, remembering the light of God which shines still through these saints. Please plan to participate in this powerful and moving time of worship on November 1.

### Installation of Zach Busch

On Sunday November 15 our congregation will officially welcome and install Zach Busch as our Minister of Worship and Music. The service will include a choir anthem arranged by Zach based on the hymns *My Life Flows On in Endless Song* and *Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song*.

### Thanksgiving Worship Service

On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving we gather with our ecumenical partners in the neighborhood for a shared Thanksgiving Worship Service. This year we will worship on Tuesday, November 24 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Lawrence Catholic Church (1203 5<sup>th</sup> Street SE) and share worship with the St. Lawrence community as well as University Baptist Church, Grace University Lutheran Church, and perhaps others. There is a possibility of a "pickup" choir with rehearsal that evening prior to worship; watch for details.

### Advent at Hope

Advent is the season of waiting and preparation for Jesus' birth. This year Advent begins on Sunday, November 29. Plan for Advent Evening Services using Holden Evening Prayer each Wednesday of Advent (December 2, 9, 16, 23) at 7 p.m. in the Chapel. Worship on Sunday December 13 includes Lessons and Carols and is followed by a smorgasbord potluck. Worship on Sunday December 20 includes the Sunday School Christmas Program.

## Homecoming Sunday

Homecoming Sunday was a great Sunday. We are back to the lively two Sunday services with lots going on in between and after. Our beloved homebound were invited, but none were able to come. This was sadness for them and for us. But then, we look closely at what that meant: that it is often very difficult for them to leave their residences. The mums we purchased for the day were delivered to them. This great photo was taken that day when Friendly Visitors Uli Koester and Beth Kautz delivered a mum to Chiyeko Teragawa.



We came up with a new plan for Homecoming day that reflects the long tradition of Easter plants. All homebound members will receive a mum, either here if they are able to attend or brought to them after church. A wonderful bonus came later in the week after Homecoming Sunday. One of our loving members wanted to send notes of encouragement to all nineteen of our homebound members. What a thoughtful and kind thing to do! But then that is the hope we are to be to each other.

Peace,  
Pastor Esther

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## 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 intend to include these life events in the *Visitor* monthly, and we invite you to add them to your regular prayers. Here is a compilation from the summer months, June to August. 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

### Marriages

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

Jan (Rising) Weaver and Jonathan Minnich

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## Hope Book Club

### MORE GREAT BOOKS FOR 2015 WITH THE HOPE BOOK CLUB:

*The Gifts of the Jews: How a Tribe of Desert Nomads Changed the Way*

*Everyone Thinks and Feels*

by Thomas Cahill

On November 8, 2015, at 7 p.m. in the Hope library, the University Lutheran Church of Hope Book Club will meet to discuss *The Gifts of the Jews: How a Tribe of Desert Nomads Changed the Way Everyone Thinks and Feels*, by Thomas Cahill.

Cahill illuminates how Jews essentially invented Western civilization and shaped Western consciousness today, as they were the first in human history to claim individual freedom, and to presume they could make the future better than the past. Thomas Cahill explores how the Israelites gave the world a sense of history and destiny, concepts of individuality and justice, and the idea of monotheism.

[www.thomascahill.com](http://www.thomascahill.com)

December 13: *What Jesus Meant*, by Garry Wills

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

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



# President's Perspective

The Vision and Governance Board devoted its October 3 retreat to forming our vision for the coming years. We began by affirming the core values of the congregation, values we first articulated at our June 2014 retreat. We then reviewed the top 3 priorities based on the CAT survey and thought about each one in terms of our strengths and weaknesses, and the opportunities and threats each poses. We shared with each other why we are part of this congregation and what our hearts long for. We looked at city maps to discussed the concept of neighborhood or parish and how we might engage more with university students. Finally, we each named several ideas or projects for the coming year. Together, we sorted them into three major areas to form our vision for ministry.

What you read below is a vision for ministry that will ignite our life together. We are a thoughtful church in a complex world. Our three areas of focus cannot be delegated to a particular committee or remain compartmentalized within one ministry area. As a congregation, we need to embrace these challenges from multiple perspectives and look for connections among them. May the fire within us burn bright!

## Igniting Our Life Together

### 1. Connecting with the University and the Community

**Goal:** *Engage the surrounding neighborhoods. Make our walls "porous".*

This includes building relationships with community organizations such as neighborhood associations, PEASE, and the Dinkytown Business Alliance; advocating for justice and exploring service needs in the neighborhood such as a food shelf and recovery groups; and improving signage, outdoor lighting, and our communication strategy and forms.

**Goal:** *Make University Lutheran Church of Hope a place where Lutheran Campus Ministry happens.*

This includes increasing our visibility specifically with students, re-visioning our partnership with Lutheran Campus Ministry, and working on collaborative programming with other religious communities.

### 2. Igniting Worship, Deepening Spirituality

**Goal:** *Work to create more varied and participatory worship experiences, while honoring our liturgical Lutheran tradition.*

This could include alternate worship times, places and formats, as well as greater creativity through drama and various other forms of artistic expression.

**Goal:** *Encourage greater participation in and offer more opportunities to learn, discuss, connect, share, explore, study the Bible, and express our faith together.*

This might include expanding some small group encounters to ensure a deep and rich experience for all participants.

### 3. Revitalizing our Ministry with Youth and Children

**Goal:** *Explore where we can go with this ministry and how it can be staffed.*

This would likely involve the assistance of an organization such as *Interserve*. We need to explore questions such as: How can we be a church that makes room for children and youth in worship and in the life of the community? What do we do about youth who are just not interested? How does outreach extend to youth? How do we staff for ministry with youth and children?

Beth Kautz  
Congregation President

## Staff

### **Pastors:**

Rev. Jen Nagel  
Rev. Esther Dant

### **Minister of Worship and Music:**

Zach Busch

### **Director of Education and**

#### **Small-Group Ministries:**

Vacant

### **Youth Director:**

James Vitale, Jr.

### **Business Manager:**

Gayle Bidne

### **Custodian:**

Geremew Beshah – weekdays  
Isabel Vitale - weekends

### **Working in partnership with Lutheran Campus Ministry**

Tim Schroeder  
Rev. Kate Reuer Welton

## Vision & Governance Board

### **Officers:**

**President:** Beth Kautz  
**Vice President:** John Rydeen  
**Past President:** Doug Hartmann  
**Treasurer:** Tim Abrahamson

### **Ministry Areas:**

**Worship & Music:** Paul Odenbach  
**Youth & Young Adults:**  
Leena Haugland Rapacz  
**Education:** Kirsten Mebust  
**Hope in the World:** Bruce Eldevik  
**Relational Ministries:**  
Nancy Swanson  
**Operations:**  
Tim Abrahamson  
Doug Hartmann  
**Leadership Development  
& Communications:**  
Beth Kautz  
John Rydeen

## The Visitor

*The Visitor* is published monthly by University Lutheran Church of Hope, 601 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-1437.

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](mailto: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](http://www.ulch.org/VisitorArchive.asp) or by contacting the church office.

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