



The Visitor



June/July 2017

Issue #13-6

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.*

Father's Day Concert in the Courtyard

The ULCHers (Paul Odenbach, Mark Nelson, and Tim Gustafson) will present a Father's Day courtyard benefit concert right after the 10:00 a.m. outdoor worship service on Sunday, June 18. They will play a mix of Gus' original songs plus some jazz and rock standards in the courtyard (in the lounge if the weather doesn't cooperate).



There may also be special guest musicians, and there will be food (likely walking-tacos, beverages and ice cream). The concert will finish by 12:30 so people can get to other Father's Day events – or bring Dad and make this your Father's Day event. Gus will also have CDs available for sale (with all proceeds going to the courtyard) so you can listen to his songs again and again.

Come and help make this an enjoyable and productive event. We're hoping this will be our final fundraiser for the courtyard, and if we raise enough the funds will support the children's play area too. Currently, with additional spring donations plus our quilt raffle and silent auction, we have both the new firewood rack and the courtyard plantings funded. We are currently raising funds for materials for the pergola, which will make a lovely setting for future concerts and other events.

Kathy Knudson
Courtyard Committee

Treasurer's Report

	Actuals April 2017	Budget April 2017	April 2017 Variance	YTD Actuals	YTD Budget	YTD Variance
General Giving	\$38,839	\$37,392	(\$3,563)	\$140,874	\$149,567	(\$8,692)
Rental Income	10,685	11,610	(925)	45,107	46,438	(1,332)
Total income	44,514	49,001	(4,488)	185,981	196,005	(10,024)
Total Expenses	45,514	50,501	(4,987)	193,545	202,005	(8,460)
Net Cash Activity	(1,000)	(1,500)	500	(7,564)	(6,000)	(1,564)



Let's look at the good news first – Our expenses both in April and YTD are less than our budget. Unfortunately our revenue is also less than our budget. YTD our net cash activity has caused us to dip into our reserves by \$7.5K.

Summertime always seems to show a decrease in our General Giving revenue. Please remember that Simply Giving and giving via text are great ways to continue to help our mission while relaxing on vacation. If you have questions on either, please contact me.

As I review the pledged amounts, giving, and other revenue in the past years, and the work our church has in front of us for 2017 and beyond, I have hope that our congregation will continue to realize that all our gifts – both monetary and time & talents – are needed in our work.

It was another month of negative Net Cash Activity in the Building Fund. We show Net Cash Activity of (\$932). The cash balance in our Building Fund is now just under \$50K. We are blessed to have a wonderful building to call home. My hope is that we can continue to build this fund so we will be able to continue to maintain our beautiful building.

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

Ruth Hedman
Treasurer

Camping and Paddling this Summer

Get outside and connect or reconnect with Hope friends by joining in some paddling opportunities. If you haven't joined these adventures before, this invitation is especially for you. Singles, couples, families with kids, youth, friends—all are welcome. Contact Bryan Kufus (612-685-0402 or bkufus462@icloud.com) for more information.

June 17: Paddling on the St. Croix River (with overnight camping option)

July 15: Paddling on the Cannon River

August 19: Paddling on the Mississippi

October 7: Paddling on Lake Calhoun

What is the plan for the June camping and paddling?

We'll paddle a section of the St. Croix at Wild River State Park, 58 miles from church, north on I-35. (This is considerably closer than last year's St. Croix camping and padding.) Paddling starts at 10 a.m. Saturday.

You may bring your own paddle craft, or rent one. We will send rental information for you to make needed reservations. Tent camping is available in a group site like last year. Sign up early to secure a campsite; RSVP to Bryan Kufus. Camping starts Friday afternoon June 16; sites are available both Friday and Saturday evening. You may camp one or both nights.



Summer Sabbath Keeping

As many of you know, my spouse Jane is Pastor at one of our neighboring congregations, First Congregational Church of Minnesota, United Church of Christ. They are a mere five blocks away, just across the 35W pedestrian bridge. All that said, this summer Jane is more often at University Lutheran Church of Hope than First Congregational. She and her congregation received a Lilly Clergy Renewal Grant that provides funding for the congregation to support a three-month sabbatical. Her



sabbatical runs from May through July. This is the same generous program that supported Hope as Pastor Craig Shirley and Pastor Kwanza Yu took sabbatical time in the past.

During these months, Jane is claiming some time at home and some time afield. In particular she is exploring (through conversations, reading, and prayer) issues of race under the theme of Solitude and Solidarity. Jane's "people" came from Ireland and Scotland, but as they arrived in this country, they became "white". As it was for many, much of the distinct history and identity was lost. Instead, their lighter skin tones set them apart, offering a relative wealth of privilege. In the current conversations about race and equity, it's important to know who we are—our own identities—while we learn about others and the systems of privilege and oppression at work.

From June 19 through July 12 our family will be in Ireland and Scotland. We'll travel and explore, savoring the land and people, and glimpsing more of this part of Jane's (and Eliza's) history and identity. We'll also spend a week with the Iona Community on the island of Iona off the west coast of Scotland. Iona is a Christian ecumenical community committed to social justice, peace-making, the rebuilding of community, and the renewal of worship (music by John Bell and Wild Goose Press in our book of worship have roots in Iona).

These plans for travel and Jane's sabbatical have me thinking about summer and Sabbath keeping. I'm looking forward to these family weeks of vacation, continuing education, and the rhythm of worship at Iona. There is an expansiveness in these summer days. This time and space, to look deeply into oneself and outward at the world, open us to reflection so often beyond our capacity in the usual busy seasons.

Sabbatical or not, I savor this wideness—this change of pace—that summer brings: longer days, greater light, time to garden or play or rest. For some, vacation time or weekends at the lake are in the plans. For others, ball games or a good book are calling. When you are around, let us come together for worship, for Sabbath, for renewal. When you are away, savor Sabbath and God's abiding care for you and for our world. This practice of Sabbath keeping roots our life and our community.

May the Spirit's breath move in you and across the land. And, may Grace hold you through these summer days—our days together and our days apart. With deep gratitude,

Pastor Jen

Staff Update

'Tis the season for hello and goodbye.

Welcome, Pastor Barbara. In May we welcomed our new part-time Pastor for Care and Nurture, Barbara Johnson. Pastor Barbara will be installed on June 4, with a reception following the 10 a.m. service. Rev. John Hulden from the Minneapolis Area Synod will preach that day and lead the installation.

Faith Formation Godspeeds. On May 21, we prayed Godspeed for Interim Minister for Faith Formation Ashlei Buhrow, and on June 4 we will pray Godspeed for Congregational Faith Formation Coach Monty Lysne.

Godspeed for Jim and Isabel Vitale. We are in a time of transition. Our Youth Minister Jim Vitale has concluded this element of his service, but will continue doing communication work for the congregation through the end of July. We'll pray Godspeed for Jim and Isabel on July 30. Community Engagement Coordinator Nick Tangen will lead our communication work after Jim concludes.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS



Faith Formation for All Ages

Summer for the Kids

As many of you know, May 21 marked the last day of my contract as Hope's Interim Faith Formation Minister. Although I am sad to be leaving, I am continuing my pastoral education as a summer chaplaincy intern at Fairview Ridges. It's a change from spending time in a church with families, but it is an extremely formative experience to help guide my future role as a pastor.

Although I may be gone, and school may be over for kids, that doesn't mean that Faith Formation has to stop! There are lots of different ways families and kids can get involved this summer. One way is by having the craft table continue. It doesn't take much to plan something for the table. Just take a quick look at the Gospel reading for the week, get the creative juices flowing, and prepare enough supplies for approximately 10-15 kids. There will be a sheet on the craft table where you can sign up for a particular Sunday. This isn't just for adults who have young ones in the program—it is for everyone in the congregation to participate in. I encourage you to do so.

Also, you can register the kids in your life for Day Camp, which is June 19-23. Sign up at <http://www.ulch.org/children-and-families>, or contact Pastor Jen at jenn@ulch.org. It will be a great time, so check your calendars and see if that time works for your family!

Thank you once again, and best wishes,

Ashlei Buhrow

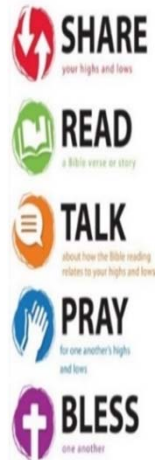
The FAITH5 On the Go

One piece of feedback I often hear about the FAITH5 is that it is difficult for busy couples and families to find a few minutes to be in the same room together, let alone to dive in to personal discussions. Fair enough. With two preteen and two teenage daughters, I understand the challenge. However, a beautiful part of the FAITH5 is its flexibility.

I've mentioned before that there's no need to "swallow the entire elephant" about the FAITH5. Do what you can, when you can. For busy families, bedtimes are primetime for deeper discussions, but other, shorter time periods work as well. Mealtimes make for a great opportunity for sharing. Five minutes of Highs and Lows and a meal prayer will make an impact. Not eating together much because you're shuttling kids to and from practice? Talk about Highs and Lows in the car. Do long distances separate you from your loved ones? Try texting Highs and Lows to each other. Facetime and Skype also work well to keep families connected, with an added benefit of a face to go with the sharing.

Hockey great Wayne Gretzky is credited with this quote: "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." The key to benefitting from the FAITH5 is *intentionality*—taking the shot. Yes, life is busy and complicated, but carving out time (regular or not) will strengthen your connections with each other.

On a related note, my time at ULCH is coming to an end. It has been a thrill to be involved in various aspects of the congregation for the past nine months, and hopefully we've birthed (see what I did there?) the beginnings of a FAITH5 culture within the Hope congregation. Thank you to all who have made me feel so welcome. I've learned much, and am very grateful that you allowed me to be with you. There's no doubt that God is at work in and around the ULCH community!



Monty Lysne

Faith Formation Coach

MORE FAITH FORMATION NEWS



Day Camp June 19-23—Wanted: Kids and Volunteers

We participate in a shared south Minneapolis day camp. The theme this year is Blessed 2 Be. Children entering K through 8th grade are invited to participate during the week of June 19-23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. If you haven't registered, please do NOW! Registration forms are at the welcome center and on our website, www.ulch.org. Adult and youth volunteers are also needed. Volunteers can help for a day or two, or for the mornings, the afternoons, etc. Talk with Pastor Jen if you are interested in volunteering (jenn@ulch.org) or directly contact Pastor Martha at Our Saviour's Lutheran (martha@oursavioursmpls.org, 612-871-2967)

Swords or Plowshares: A Mid-Summer Bible Study of Isaiah 1-39

Isaiah ministered to the people of Jerusalem and Judah in the 8th century B.C.E. Those were stressful times, as the land was dominated by the Assyrian Empire. At the same time, there was civil strife with the northern kingdom of Israel. Isaiah spoke out in defense of the Jerusalem monarchy, believing it to be divinely chosen and trusting in the power of God for protection. He counseled King Ahaz and, later, King Hezekiah to avoid any anti-Assyria coalitions, but to rely on God alone.



The first 39 chapters of the Book of Isaiah were written during the difficult years 742-601. They contain some of the most familiar and often-read passages of the Hebrew Scriptures, and are quoted in at least 45 places in the New Testament. Warnings and promises address both the historical situation and the apocalyptic future. **For six weeks, beginning Sunday, June 11, at 11:15 a.m., John Setterlund will lead a study of Isaiah 1-39. He welcomes all members and friends, and will provide a study guide. Plan now to attend any or all of these sessions.**

Faith Formation Position Update

The search team continues to work on filling the part-time Minister of Faith Formation position, and interviews have gone well. This new position includes faith formation for all ages including children, youth, adults (the Sunday Forum, for instance), and seniors (supporting the Hope Diamonds Senior Group). Watch for more updates in the weeks to come, and please pray for this process.

What Does a Friendly Visitor Do?

- Bring the gift of your presence to the person you visit once or twice a month.
- Take time to build a trusting relationship.
- Pray for the person you visit.
- Send a card for birthdays and other special occasions.
- Bring a plant at Easter from the altar to the member with whom you are visiting.
- Let the Friendly Visitor Committee know when you will not be able to visit for a period of time.
- Communicate with the Friendly Visitor Committee periodically.



If you think this sounds like a rewarding ministry and would like to participate, please contact Rosalie Eldevik. Also, if you know of someone who would appreciate having a visitor, let Pastor Barbara or me know.

Rosalie Eldevik
Friendly Visitors

Sanctuary Coalition Update

The **University Area Sanctuary Coalition** will continue to host Prayer Vigils on the last Sunday evening of the month at 7 p.m. In June, University Baptist Church will host. This is an opportunity for us to pray together

The **Rapid Response** app and network organized by ISAIAH launched on May 1. If you attended a Rapid Response training at the beginning of the year, you will receive an email shortly with details about opportunities to participate. There will also be another Rapid Response training on June 4, at University Baptist Church at 6 p.m. If you were unable to participate in the last training, please consider attending the next one, in June. This is a powerful way for us to advocate for the immigrant community, and to hold law enforcement and public officials accountable.

Nicholas Tangen
Community Engagement Coordinator

Worship and Music

I'd like to begin by thanking all of our volunteers for worship and music in this community. You have worked very hard this program year. Our worship life is richer because of your service to the community, and I am thankful for the time and energy that go into your doing what you do.



Please mark your calendars with the following (many!) special events and happenings:

The **Courtyard Concerts** music series will return this summer! The series of three concerts will occur once a month starting in June. The first concert, Sunday June 18, will feature Hannah R. A. Stanke. Ms. Stanke recently completed her master's degree in Voice at the University of Minnesota and is an active performer and teacher in the Twin Cities. July's concert will feature a University brass group, and August's concert will feature the Meadowlark String Quartet. Dates for the July and August concerts will be finalized soon—watch for dates. Concerts are free and open to the public, with a free-will offering collected.

We will continue our monthly practice of gathering for **Prayer Around the Cross** on Wednesday evenings this summer. This worship service is about half an hour in length, with emphasis on silence, contemplation, prayer, and singing. Join us on June 28, July 19, and August 23 at 7 p.m.

Our **summer worship schedule** commences on Memorial Day weekend, Sunday May 28. Through Labor Day weekend, we will hold one service on Sunday morning at 10 a.m. typically in the sanctuary.

And, to take advantage of the beautiful summer months and emphasize our presence in the neighborhood, we will **worship outdoors** twice this summer. On June 18 and August 13 at 10 a.m. we will gather outdoors on the east side of the building. You are encouraged to bring your own seating to these services—lawn chairs and blankets can be set up all around. Anyone interested can come early and decorate the sidewalks with chalk as well. Fellowship time and a courtyard benefit concert follow the June 18 service.

Finally, we will have two **music workshops** this summer. The first, on Wednesday July 19 at 5:30 p.m., will be on basic hand drumming and rhythm techniques. We will use djembes, bongos, congas, and other rhythm instruments. The second, on Wednesday August 23 at 5:30 p.m., will be on the basics of handbell ringing. These super fun workshops are open to all ages and ability levels. We will learn basic techniques, practice them together, and apply them to hymns. If you are interested, please sign up at the welcome center or e-mail Zach at zachb@ulch.org so I know how many to plan for. All are welcome!

Have a fabulous summer. Cantate Domino!

Zach Busch
Minister of Worship and Music

Congregational Life

Dates to Keep in Mind:

- June 4: Pentecost; Bach Cantata; Installation of Pastor Barbara Johnson; Farewell for Monty Lysne; Sanctuary Rapid Response training at University Baptist Church.
- June 7: P.E.A.S.E. Academy graduation.
- June 11: Bread for the World Sunday; Graduates recognition.
- June 14: Weekday Wonders gardeners
- June 15: Welcome back Ann Kreider.
- June 17: Paddling on the St. Croix River.
- June 18: Worship outside; Fathers' Day concert after worship; Courtyard Concert in evening.
- June 19-23: Day Camp!
- June 25: Sanctuary Prayer Vigil at University Baptist Church
- June 28: Weekday Wonders gardeners; Prayer Around the Cross
- July 12: Weekday Wonders gardeners.
- July 15: Paddling on the Cannon River.
- July 19: Music Workshop: Drumming and Rhythm. Prayer Around the Cross.
- July 23: Pastor Hammon preaches; Pot luck lunch.
- July 26: Weekday Wonders gardeners.
- July 30: Godspeed for Jim and Isabel Vitale; Sanctuary Prayer Vigil.

Life Events at Hope

We are a community of faith, called to hold one another in prayer. Here are a few of the life events affecting our community. We need your help to know for what and whom we can pray. Please alert a pastor or contact the church office. We include in prayer...

Welcoming children: We pray for many in our congregation who are awaiting children, pregnant, discerning, and holding hope in joyful and painful times. We welcome Tyrsa Christine Jaede, child of Chris and Katya Jaede and grandchild of Rick and Wendy Jaede; Reid Flynn Radziej, child of Lance and Megan Radziej.

Deaths: We pray for Tom Peluf and family at the death of Tom's father John Peluf; Andy and Leena Rapacz at the death of Andy's grandmother Mary Stodola.

Significant Illness: We pray for those living with illness, cancer, recovery, uncertain diagnosis, chemical dependency, and mental health struggles, especially Janet Carpenter, Hannah Kiresuk, Grace Wagner, Madeline Teske, Barry Brooks, Janice (Rising) Minnich, and Chuck Lewis.

Separation, Divorce, Retirement, Moves, Graduations—We hold one another in prayer. God is with us through it all.

Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer continues during the summer, every Friday in the Thorpe Chapel at 1 p.m. Join us for community, silence, prayer, and holy rest. Centering Prayer is a silent method of prayer that "prepares us for the gift of contemplation." Hope to see you there! Any questions, contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

Graduate Recognition Sunday

We will recognize graduates on Sunday June 11 during our 10 a.m. service. There will be a reception after worship. We honor graduates from a whole array of programs: high school, undergraduate, graduate, and also P.E.A.S.E. Academy students and Lutheran Campus Ministry grads. Graduates are invited to submit a picture and/or some words about yourself and your plans to Jim Vitale (jvitale001@luthersem.edu).

Report from the President

The other day I came home from the office to find Ann practically jumping out of her skin with excitement. She had a few hours off from work, and she decided to surprise me with a loaf of freshly baked bread.

We'd been experimenting with bread recipes for a month or two, and we were big fans of Mark Bittman's No-Knead Bread recipe from *The New York Times* (which you can find at nyti.ms/2l5nUwt). But that recipe requires a day of waiting around, and Ann was eager to find a quick-turn bread that she could make on her own. Her first attempt was delicious, but she thought it was a bit dense and salty. Her second loaf was perfect, which was why she was hopping from foot to foot as I came through the door.

There is an undeniable sense of accomplishment when a perfect loaf of bread comes out of the oven. As one of our speakers observed at the May 7 Sunday Forum, bread requires just four ingredients: flour, yeast, water and salt. That those simple ingredients can yield a loaf of bread seems like a minor miracle, tangible evidence of God's goodness. And a kitchen with bread in the oven smells like a warm and comfortable corner of heaven.

But that's when the bread is baking one loaf at a time. What must it be like when a group of volunteers is turning out scores of loaves from a community oven?

Count me among those who are eager to find out. The proposal for a community bread and pizza oven at Hope is still in its early stage, but a group of dedicated advocates is kneading and shaping it. I'll admit that the idea at first struck me as outlandish, but the longer I live with it, the easier it is to see the appeal. I imagine a warm night in the fall, with pizzas circulating among a crowd of students and parishioners, with music and laughter and a palpable sense that Hope is a part of the community it serves.

In many ways, we strive to make God's house feel like home to God's people. The Hope members leading the oven project are advancing that hospitality ministry in an exciting new way. Like flour, yeast, water and salt, they show us God's goodness. God's peace to you and yours,

Eric Ringham
Congregational President

Hope in the World

Women's Triennial Brings Guests from Nigeria



Our preacher on Sunday July 23 will be Pastor Amson Hamman from Jos, Nigeria. Pastor Amson was last with us in 2015. On this occasion, he will be accompanied by his wife, Dorthea, who will be attending the ELCA Women's Triennial Gathering at the Convention Center.



Following the worship service that day there will be a covered dish lunch in Fellowship Hall and an occasion to hear more from Amson and Dorthea. We are grateful for this latest visit from our partners in Nigeria with the opportunity to learn more about their ministry and extend our hospitality.

Bruce Eldevik
Hope in the World



Bread for the World Sunday

We have made great progress reducing hunger and poverty in this nation and the world, but much remains to be done. On Sunday June 11 following the worship service, you will be invited to write to urge Congress to make room in the federal budget for the poor.

Help to make this signing and/or letter writing event as successful as last year's Offering of Letters in which we sent 100 letters to Washington D.C.! The letters really do make a difference. While the world is bracing for the largest famine in years in East Africa, Bread for the World members and friends called, emailed, and pressured Congress for more emergency food aid. Along with the relationships cultivated on both sides of the aisle by Bread staff, we were able to win an extra \$1 billion dollars for this crisis.

Donna Neste
Hope in the World

A Thank You and Farewell

God has blessed me to spend these past three years participating with you in God's ministry in the world. It started with a phone call from Luther Seminary's Director of Contextual Education, Tim Coltvet, telling me about a job opening at a church in Dinkytown. "Dinkytown!?" said this naïve New York transplant, "There's no such place as Dinkytown!"



Within a couple weeks, I was moving into my office here at University Lutheran Church of Hope. I remember my first experience with the youth group after my interview. Rebecca Tetlie was hosting a meeting during Sunday morning youth group about the Youth Gathering. I remember feeling in over my head, but thanks to the parents and youth of this congregation, you quickly taught me to swim.

Since then, we've grown a whole lot together. Over the past three years we paddled a 700-lb. Montreal canoe around the Apostle Islands; we hiked miles and miles through the Sawtooth Mountains; we caravanned to Detroit to praise Jesus, serve our neighbors, and grow closer together; we jumped into an icy Whitefish Lake and sprinted up the hill to the hot tub; we stayed up late watching movies and playing games; we learned about neighbors in Minneapolis and served our local community; we ate more than a little pizza; we hosted a few Easter breakfasts and sold some plants; and we enjoyed all-nighters full of moonlight madness in a rolling party across Minneapolis. Most of all, we dove deeply into the stories of God's love in Scripture and shared with each other the ways God is active in the highs and lows of our lives.

It has been my pleasure to serve here at University Lutheran Church of Hope as the Minister of Youth and Communications these past three years. What began as a required part of my seminary education turned into one of the most formative and rewarding experiences of my time here in Minnesota. Quickly you all welcomed Isabel and me into your community like your own. I have deeply enjoyed getting to know you all, and it has been a privilege and a delight to spend my Sunday mornings reading Scripture and learning about the lives of our youth. While it has been my job to minister to these youth, over the past three years I have found that we really ministered to each other.

In his second letter to the Corinthians, Saint Paul writes that God is in the ministry of reconciling the world to God's self and that God has invited us into this ministry as well. This, I believe, is the work in which we engage together. That word "reconciliation" can also mean "create new relationships." Watching this congregation for the past three years, I've come to see this as God's ministry in you. Through the three-fold lens of reaching out to our neighborhood, deepening our spirituality, and revitalizing our ministry to youth, I have come to see "reconciliation" or, better yet, "the creation of new friendships" between our God, our neighbors, and ourselves as the mission of University Lutheran Church of Hope. I invite you to continue discerning, continue praying, continue watching. God is alive and at work inside and out of this community. In Christ, God has given us a perfect and beautiful gift. May you never stop sharing that gift with the world.

As Isabel and I prepare to pack up ourselves and our newborn and head off to exciting new adventures in Berlin, we want to say, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you for the hospitality and love you have shown us. May the Lord bless you richly, may the Spirit dwell with you deeply, and may Jesus walk with you closely as you continue to participate in God's ministry here at University Lutheran Church of Hope!

James Vitale
Minister of Youth and Communications



Farewell LCM Grads

A number of the Lutheran Campus Ministry grads gather after the sending service in early May.

Ann's Camino Adventure: Welcome Home!



Beginning in late April, University Lutheran Church of Hope member Ann Kreider has been walking the Camino de Santiago, following the ancient Way of St. James from France across northern Spain. It's the journey of a lifetime, and our congregation has ventured with Ann in Spirit.

Later there'll be times to hear more about the Camino, but let's welcome Ann home and hear some stories on Thursday, June 15 at 7 p.m. in the lounge/patio/courtyard at church. Ice cream and dessert are on the agenda.

Weekday Wonders Now in Action

The Weekday Wonders, a Wednesday daytime gardening group, is now working to get our gardens in shape and maintained throughout the growing season. Our organizational meeting was May 3. We are now meeting every other week to maintain the Gardens of Hope and to have fun, relax, and learn about plants and the environment.



Our modus operandi includes starting with snacks and directions for the day, and then working together to get some gardening done. Tools and gloves are provided, but the Wonders can also bring their own.

Anyone who is available Wednesday mornings is invited to join us in the lounge at 10 a.m. for snacks; you don't need to be an experienced gardener, just a willing one. We will always have someone there to give directions and help as necessary. And we won't ask anyone to do something they are not comfortable doing, or to work alone. Then again, if you want to help in the gardens but this schedule doesn't mesh with yours, you have the options of adopting a single garden or part of one, doing occasional dead-heading or weeding on your own schedule, or coming to one of the Weekend Warriors work events. The Weekday Wonders' schedule for the next couple months is Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to noon on May 31, June 14 and 28, and July 12 and 26.

Kathy Knudson
Gardens of Hope

Hope Book Club

Enjoy a good summer read with the Hope Book Club. Join us on Sunday June 11 at 7 p.m. in the Hope library to discuss *Big Magic: Creative Living Beyond Fear*, by Elizabeth Gilbert, author of *Eat Pray Love*.



Readers of all ages and walks of life have drawn inspiration and empowerment from Elizabeth Gilbert's books for years. Now this beloved author digs deep into her own generative process to share her unique perspective about creativity. With profound empathy and radiant generosity, she offers potent insights into the mysterious nature of inspiration. www.goodreads.com

July 9: *Our Divided Political Heart: The Battle for the American Idea in an Age of Discontent*, by E.J. Dionne

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*



P.E.A.S.E. Graduation

For 28 years P.E.A.S.E. Academy has offered high school students in recovery a sober educational experience based in our facility at Hope. P.E.A.S.E. graduation is scheduled for Wednesday June 7 at 6:30p.m. in the sanctuary. You are welcome to attend this graduation ceremony, hear more of the journey for these students and their faculty, celebrate their accomplishments, and share hope in their future.

P.E.A.S.E. Environmental Science Students Take Recycling to a New Level

The spring term Environmental Science students of P.E.A.S.E. Academy are taking our total recycling program here at University Lutheran Church of Hope to a new level. With leadership and support from teacher Katie Kestner and P.E.A.S.E. Director Mike Durchslag, Marty Lewis-Hunstiger led focus groups with the morning and afternoon classes, discussing the following questions:

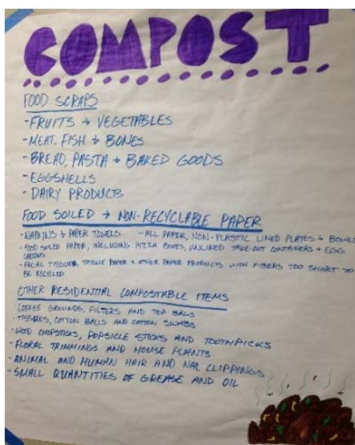
- Do you think that here at Hope we could get to zero trash (i.e. 100% of waste either recycled or composted)? If not, what percentage would be a realistic goal?
- What things could we do right now to move closer to that goal?
- What are the major barriers to getting to that goal?
- How much does peer pressure play a part as a barrier?
- If you as a class took this on as a project, being ambassadors for recycling, how would that be for you?

In our discussion about peer pressure and being ambassadors, one important aspect was that a major part of recovery is being very clear about what one can and can't control. We can't control how other people behave about waste, but we can control our own decisions about minimizing the waste we generate, and disposing of it properly. As preparation for the focus groups, the students wrote down their thoughts about recycling, and generated several quotes, including:

Everything that was once living goes in the green.

Spread the word to end the waste.

When they had all had enough to eat, He said to His disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." John 6:12



The students created several posters clarifying details of our three-bin recycling system and the rationale behind it, and posted them in hallways and in Fellowship Hall by the bins. Our custodian Geremew Beshah reports that he can already see a noticeable decrease in the amount of waste put in the wrong bins. We will have measurable data in the months to come because Aspen, our waste disposal vendor, sends monthly reports of the amount of organics recycled, other recycled material, and trash.



The students are also working on plans for a butterfly garden along the fence line we share with St. Lawrence parking lot – we're calling it the P.E.A.S.E Academy Agricultural Extension Campus. They have planted seeds of pollinator-friendly native plants, and we hope to be able to prepare the ground for planting soon.

Marty Lewis-Hunstiger
Green Team

Staff

Pastors:

Rev. Jen Nagel

Rev. Barbara Johnson

Minister of Worship & Music:

Zach Busch

Minister of Communications:

James Vitale

Minister of Faith Formation:

In search process

Community Engagement

Coordinator: Nicholas Tangen

Business Manager: Gayle Bidne

Custodian:

Geremew Beshah – weekdays

Ben Hartmann – Sunday
opening/closing

Child Care: Clair Gustafson

Working in partnership with

Lutheran Campus Ministry:

Rev. Kate Reuer Welton

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The Visitor

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