



The Visitor



September 2017

Issue #13-8

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.*

Summer Fellowship Outdoors – at Amnicon and at Hope



In August, a group of eight high schoolers and Pastor Jen spent a week paddling the Brule River, through white water, and along the shores of Lake Superior. They honed their skills thanks to Camp Amnicon. Ask them about their trip to hear the highlights!



Our beautifully renewed courtyard is the venue for a Father's Day concert by the ULCHers.

Treasurer's Report

	Actuals July 2017	Budget July 2017	July 2017 Variance	YTD Actuals	YTD Budget	YTD Variance
General Giving	\$34,020	\$37,392	(\$3,372)	\$239,751	\$261,742	(\$21,991)
Rental Income	18,819	11,610	7,209	78,785	81,267	(2,482)
Total income	\$52,829	\$49,001	\$ 3,838	\$318,536	\$343,009	(\$24,475)
Total Expenses	\$43,331	\$50,501	(\$ 7,170)	\$355,443	\$353,509	\$1,934
Net Cash Activity	\$ 9,507	(\$ 1,500)	\$11,007	(\$36,906)	(\$10,500)	(\$26,406)



I'm starting this month's report with good news – we have made up some ground in having expenses more than income for 2017. PEASE paid two month's rent in July thereby giving our bottom line a needed boost. For your comparison:

General Giving as of:
 7/31/2016 - \$252K
 7/31/2017 - \$240K

Please remember, Simply Giving and giving via text are great ways to continue to help our mission without having to think about where your checkbook is or to remember to send or bring your check to church. If you have questions on either, please contact me. In regard to expenses, there have been some additional expenses for the year for building repairs that obviously are necessary to keep our building in good order, both for us and for our neighbors.

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 – monetary as well as time and talents – are needed in our work.

July showed a positive net cash activity in the Building Fund of \$1K. Besides the regular mortgage subsidy of \$6.9K, we made a down payment on the consulting work that will be part of our next capital campaign. Thank you for your contributions to our Building Fund, which helps give us this wonderful building we call home. My hope is that we can continue to build this fund so that we can maintain our beautiful building.

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

Ruth Hedman
Treasurer

Hope Book Club

On Sept. 10 at 7p.m. in the library, the Hope Book club will discuss *The Summer Before the War*, by Helen Simonson. The bestselling author of *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* returns with a breathtaking novel of love on the eve of World War I that reaches far beyond the small English town in which it is set.

“A *New York Times* bestseller, this is a novel to cure your *Downton Abbey* withdrawal . . . A delightful story about non-traditional romantic relationships, class snobbery and the everybody-knows-everybody complications of living in a small community.” - *The Washington Post*

On Oct. 8, in commemoration of our Lutheran 500th year, we'll discuss *Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther*, by Roland Bainton.

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

“Books are the quietest and most constant of friends. They are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers.” - *Charles Elliot*



A Blooming Season

I spent a week in early August on a whitewater canoe trip with some of our youth and their friends on the Brule River in northern Wisconsin through Camp Amnicon. It was a great week and a healthy mix of near constant friendly banter and deep and thoughtful reflection.



In the past few years, Jim Vitale was often one of those who accompanied our youth on these trips. Until we bid Jim and Isabel Godspeed in late July, Jim served as our youth minister, and many of the youth on this trip had spent Sunday mornings and varied youth trips and events with Jim. Jim begins his ELCA internship this fall in the final leg of preparation for ordination and becoming a pastor. Jim and Isabel will be in Berlin, Germany for this internship year, but first, in August, they welcomed a baby.

Throughout the trip Jim and Isabel and their then impending birth came up in conversation. One of my favorite lines of the week was from a young person who said of Jim something like, “He’s all grown up. He’s bloomed. He’s having his own kid.” I’ve chuckled about this line and passed it along to Jim, and it’s kept me thinking.

In intergenerational communities like Hope, we are organically doing faith formation one relationship at a time. Without ever trying, Jim modeled a way of growing up, of faithful living to this young person—and this young person watched and noticed, indeed, took some ownership for Jim’s growth and maturing.

In community there is a humble sweetness that is at once incredibly mundane and deeply profound: together we learn from each other. Sometimes it’s graceful, other times painful. We move in and out of the seasons of relationship. Our bodies change. Our faith life ebbs and flows with new practices and new-old questions. We welcome and grieve. Our interests and passions evolve and life flows on. The opportunity to be authentically in community with people in literally every decade of life is precious and rare, especially today, and it’s one of the gifts of congregations like ours. Where else do 7-year-olds befriend those in their 90s? Or 17-year-olds glimpse the growth and changes of those in their mid-20s?

As fall schedules claim our time, I pray for the heart to witness these changing seasons, ever sensitive to the miracles before us, and the powerful ways that faith is forming.

With gratitude for you and God’s work in your life,
Pastor Jen

God’s Work. Our Hands. Sept. 10

“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. This year University Lutheran Church of Hope is gathering food items to donate to Sheridan Story as part of God’s Work, Our Hands. Before Sept. 10 please bring canned items including tuna, vegetables, fruit, stew, chili, or soup.



You can also donate white rice, pasta, or oatmeal. Some of our younger members will make a trip to the grocery store to gather even more food for the effort! If you would like to contribute money to help this group with their grocery run, or if you’d like to join the team, please contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org for further details. There also will be opportunities for congregants to participate in some advocacy efforts in the lounge following worship, and more possibilities TBD. Keep an eye on the *Thursday Epistle* and Sunday announcements for more.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS



Faith Formation for All Ages

Children's Faith Formation

University Lutheran Church of Hope's Sunday School year begins on Sept. 10 at 9:15 a.m. If you are a parent, grandparent, or guardian of a child between the ages of 3 and 12, our teachers and volunteers would love to have them join in the fun! A typical Sunday morning begins with First 15, a time for singing and moving, followed by classroom time to explore Bible stories through storytelling, art, and games. Registration forms are available in the church office, or contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org.



Youth Group

Sunday morning Youth Group begins again on Sept. 10. Each Sunday morning we'll meet in the Youth Room or at the Purple Onion to have some time for conversation, to think about where and how God is active, and to pray for one another. The youth group plans to meet in August to discuss the upcoming year and to imagine some creative ways to gather together. If you are a high school student (or the parent of one) who would like to join us, then come on down to the Youth Room on Sunday Sept. 10 at 9:15 a.m. Any questions? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

Faith Formation Volunteers Needed

There are some incredible opportunities for congregants to participate in our Faith Formation programming. Would you like to work with children, exploring Bible stories and creating art and music on Sunday mornings? Or maybe you would like to hang out with a great group of teenagers, thinking and talking about where and how God is active in our lives. If this sounds like you, please contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org Any adult working with children and youth will need to fill out a background check and undergo some training beforehand. Thank you for making ministry happen!

Centering Prayer Fridays at 1 p.m.

"A stronger operating system is needed: something that perceives and apprehends in a different way. And for this different kind of perceptivity, the word 'love' still comes closest to hitting the mark."

Cynthia Bourgeault.

Centering Prayer is a silent method of prayer that prepares our faculties for the gifts of contemplation. When the world feels chaotic and disconnected, a practice of holy rest and perceptivity helps to ease our minds and guide our action. Join us on Friday afternoons at 1 p.m. in Thorpe Chapel for a brief reading and 20 minutes of Centering Prayer practice. See you there!

Welcome Julia, New Child Care Staff!

Julia Gerloff has been volunteering in our nursery for more than a year, and now joins our staff as our child care person. Julia and her parents, Rob Gerloff and Lynette Lamb, are members of the congregation. Julia lives in Marcy Holmes and is a senior at DeLaSalle High School.

We need folks who can lend Julia a hand on Sunday mornings if things get busy in the nursery. Could you? Also, we'd like to create a list of nursery subs to cover Sundays when Julia needs to be away. Again, are you interested? For both of these roles a background check is needed and our Child Protection Policy guides us. If you are interested, please talk with Pastor Jen.

Sunday Forums

(9:30-10:20 a.m. in Heritage Hall, below the Sanctuary)

Sunday Forums are held in Heritage Hall beginning promptly at 9:30 a.m. Through the year, programs will be a blend of outside speakers and Hope members. Plan ahead and join the conversation. Sunday Forum planning committee members are Marilyn Asp, Diane Greve, Karen Jorstad, Brian McCaffrey, John Setterlund, and Andrea Zibble. If you have an idea for a forum or if you would like to join the committee, talk with one of them soon.



September 10: God's Work through Ann's Feet. We will "kick off" our new season of Sunday Forum programming as Ann Kreider, member of University Lutheran Church of Hope, tells of her sacred journey. In April Ann began a 500 mile solo pilgrimage across Spain on the Camino de Santiago. Hear about life on The Way and insights since her return to Minneapolis in June. Come early and get a seat!

September 17: Racial Justice at Hope. How can/do we respond to the overt and covert racism in our nation, in our city, and within ourselves? A panel of "meet up" members who have been working on initiatives for promoting racial justice both at Hope and beyond our walls will present their ideas as well as solicit comments and questions. The latest draft of a congregational racial justice mission statement will also be presented and discussed.

September 24: Care and Nurture at Hope. Since mid-May, Pastor Barbara Johnson, our new Pastor for Care and Nurture, has spent the summer visiting and getting acquainted with many of the "dearest and wisest" University Lutheran Church of Hope members. She and other leaders will offer information about our Friendly Visitors and Compassion Care programs, and share their vision for stronger intergenerational connections and opportunities to weave art, music, movement, and prayer to deepen faith and enrich the spirit.

Worship Update

Our worship schedule returns to two services on Sunday morning, Sept. 10. Worship at 8:30 a.m. will take place in the chapel, and worship at 10:30 a.m. will take place in the sanctuary.

Hope Choir resumes again after Labor Day, rehearsing weekly on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30 p.m. and Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. Hope Choir works on anthems and service music to contribute to the community's worship on a weekly basis. We will continue our monthly Drop-In Choir this fall, to which all ages and ability levels are invited. On Drop-In Choir Sundays, participants attend a one-time rehearsal at 9:30 a.m. before the 10:30 a.m. service. Music for Drop-In Choir is usually simpler and learnable by ear. Keep your eyes peeled for a list of Drop-In Choir opportunities soon.

Gearing up for fall is a great time to check your volunteer profile on Ministry Scheduler Pro. Make sure you enter your availability and update your ministry preferences, subtracting or adding as needed.

Zach Busch
Minister of Worship and Music

Hope Diamonds Senior Group Wednesday Sept. 20



Hope Diamonds Senior Group meets Wednesday, Sept. 20. Hope Diamonds is part of the Senior Ministry at University Lutheran Church of Hope. ALL ages are welcome and invited to attend.

Lunch will be served in Fellowship Hall at noon, followed by a presentation by Kairos Alive! The mission of Kairos Alive! is to transform lives through dance and story. In supporting the artistic work of Maria Genné, they share her vision of intergenerational, intercultural, participatory arts programs, and promote their power to nurture, heal, and create community among all ages and abilities.

Call 612-331-5988 ext. *818 or email barbaraj@ulch.org to RSVP for the lunch catered by Luther Seminary. Suggested donation is \$6.

Sanctuary Update

Sanctuary/Immigration Service Opportunities

If you would like to help advocate for and support our immigrant brothers and sisters, consider signing up for the Immigration Court Observer Program. This program gives you a chance to see what immigration court actually looks like, and to keep the government accountable for respecting non-citizens' rights. More info at <https://www.law.umn.edu/james-h-binger-center-new-americans/volunteer-opportunities>.

Sanctuary Prayer Vigil and Potluck Sept. 24, 5:30 p.m.

The University Area Sanctuary Coalition is a collection of churches in the UMN/Dinkytown area working together to advocate for immigrants and refugees, and to offer Sanctuary for those facing deportation. On Sept. 24 University Lutheran Church of Hope will host a Sanctuary Prayer Vigil at 7 p.m., preceded by a potluck at 5:30. This is an opportunity for members of Sanctuary Coalition churches to get to know each other better. Bring a dish to share and stay to pray for our immigrant and refugee brothers and sisters. Any questions? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

Conversations with Friends

This is an ecumenical accompaniment program that visits immigration detainees and sends letters to support them during their detention. Basic Spanish is preferred but not necessary. Info at

www.conversationswithfriendsmn.org or talk to Nick Tangen. Peace be with you!

Nicholas Tangen

Minister of Faith in Community

Welcome Back Students Festival - September 3

Join us Sunday Sept. 3 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the 5th Annual Welcome Back Students Festival. This year features the return of the Kabomelette Food Truck, a drawing for a bicycle and other bike swag, live music, neighborhood organizations, games, and much, much more! If you would like to help with setup or cleanup please contact Nick Tangen or John Bablitch. See you there!

Used Book Sale. As we did last year, we will display books on tables along the hall outside the lounge. Please set aside some time to help us sort and arrange books before the event, and also to sell during the event. You will be the first to see the wonderful donations! Thank you! -- Ruth Fingerson

Overrun by Cucumbers? Hydrangeas Closing in on You? Once again we will have a produce sharing stand. If you would like to contribute garden vegetables, fruits, or flowers, please bring them to me before the church service that day. I will be at a table on the 13th Ave. side of the church. I'll set them up for display and give away. If you have questions, call me at 651-890-9117. Thank you for your generosity! Kathy Kufus

A Gratitude and Generosity Moment

In preparing for fall pledging, I want to share some thoughts about generosity. Generosity can be in the form of money, which contributes to maintenance and upkeep of the church and paying for programs and various ministries, but it can also be about pledging your time and talents to assist with these ministries. This is the perfect way to get involved if your finances are tight or you want to contribute in another way.

What are your special interests? What talents do you possess? Here at Hope we have a long tradition of involvement from the congregation, and are blessed to have so many who do serve, but there is always room for more. This can be helping with a congregational meal or a program on a Sunday, serving on a committee, involvement in worship music, or assisting with our many social programs. The rewards for serving in this manner are many. Not only are you assisting the congregation, filling a need, but you will get to know fellow congregants and start to build bonds of community. I discovered this firsthand after agreeing to serve on the Gratitude and Generosity committee. Getting to know my fellow committee members and others in the congregation has really helped me feel comfortable in this place that has become my church home.

Whether you are new to this church or have been attending for years volunteering your time and talent will benefit you and our congregation. The Holy Spirit is at work here! Join us and experience it first hand!

Beth Ubbelohde

Congregational Life

Dates to Keep in Mind:

Sept. 3: Welcome Back Students Festival, book sale, produce sharing.

Sept. 6: Weekday Wonders Gardening.

Sept. 10: Return to two services, 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School, Youth Group, and Sunday Forums begin. Hope Connections registration. God's Work, Our Hands. Hope Book Club.

Sept. 17: Hope Connections registration. Fellowship Meal. One Watch/One Read.

Sept. 20: Hope Diamonds Senior Group. Weekday Wonders Gardening.

Sept. 24: Hope Connections registration. Sanctuary Prayer Vigil and Potluck.

Sept. 27: Friendly Visitor Information meeting.

Oct. 1: Blessing of Animals.

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 and holding hope in joyful and painful times. On August 17, Isabel and Jim Vitale welcome Ezra John. Tyrsa Jaede, child of Chris and Katya Jaede and grandchild of Wendy and Rick Jaede, was baptized Aug. 6. Layla Rapacz, child of Andy Rapacz and Leena Haugland Rapacz, will be baptized Sept. 10.

Deaths: Bill and Jan Sanden and family on the death of Bill's mother Ruth Sanden; Beth Ubbelohde and Joe Erickson on the death of Beth's brother Mike Ubbelohde; Esther and Jack Dant on the death of Robert Faas, Esther's brother and Jack's uncle; and Ann Wagner and Eric Ringham on the death of Ann's mother Grace Wagner.

Significant Illness: Those living with illness, cancer, recovery, uncertain diagnosis, chemical dependency, and mental health struggles, especially Janet Carpenter, Hannah Kiresuk, Madeline Teske, Jan (Rising) Minnich, and Chuck Lewis.

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

Fellowship Meal

Our first fellowship meal of the school year will follow the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, September 17. This is our opportunity to gather as community and to grow and renew friendships. Grad and undergrad students are our guests and eat free. Setup and cleanup help are always appreciated.

Wednesday morning yoga is back!

Join Nicole Navratil of Wairaka Yoga (www.wairakayoga.com) for gentle hatha, with a mixture of standing, seated, and reclining poses, on Wednesdays through Oct. 4, 8:45-9:30 a.m. We'll meet in Heritage Hall, or in the courtyard if weather is nice. Cost is \$5 and can be paid with cash or check. Beginners are very welcome! Hope to see you there. Namaste.

Welcome Ibrahim Bitrus

Dr. Ibrahim Bitrus will be with our community through the month of September serving as our Nigerian Theologian in Residence. Some may remember our time with Ibrahim last fall. Ibrahim, his spouse Julecy, and their children remain in Minnesota as Julecy finishes her degree. Ibrahim has completed his PhD at Luther Seminary, and next summer he and his family will return to Nigeria, where he will teach at the seminary level. While at Hope, Ibrahim will preach and participate in many elements of our congregation's life. If you'd like to invite Ibrahim to participate in a group or to offer leadership or present to a group, talk with Pastor Jen; she'll help coordinate Ibrahim's time.

President's Report

Our Spiritual Home

If you were with us for worship Aug. 13, you might have met Eric and Debbie, a charming couple who were celebrating their wedding anniversary. I don't think they were ever members of Hope, but they were married here, decades ago. Ann and I chatted with them in the courtyard after the service, and they showed us photos from their wedding. They marveled at how beautiful Hope's sanctuary was then, and still is. They remarked particularly about the windows.

In the days since then I've reflected on the gift and the responsibility that our sanctuary represents. What a privilege it is to be able to welcome Eric and Debbie home—for Hope certainly was a spiritual home to them, if only on their wedding day (and for the premarital counseling sessions that Pastor Erdahl no doubt insisted on).

It is our home, too, yours and mine. We have wept and laughed together here. We have kept vigil here and baptized our children here. And every Sunday we come here to worship and hear the word of God. You and I may miss a Sunday every once in a while, but Hope never does. Our spiritual home is always open to us.

In response, we do our best to make use of our resource in ways that we think would be pleasing to God. Right now, our church participates in the sanctuary movement, helps provide temporary housing for people in need, and serves as a venue for sober education, to name a few examples. We are getting closer to breaking ground on a community oven, and we are exploring the prospect of hosting a mini-market to help ease Dinkytown's status as a food desert.

Soon, Hope's leaders will begin talking about our next capital campaign. Our church has a tradition of using capital campaigns to maintain and improve our building and to help pay our mortgage. Details are being worked out, but we are hoping to use the funds we raise to beautify and protect those windows that Eric and Debbie loved.

I love the windows too, and I long to see them lit up at night, shining the message of Hope into the neighborhood we serve. As we get ready to begin the campaign, I hope you'll think about what our sanctuary has meant in your life, and what it can mean in the lives of others.

God's peace to you and yours,

Eric Ringham
Congregational President

Connections: Small Group Ministry

Hope Connections small group ministry is gearing up for another good year. Our task force of Randy Brooks, Sara Tufvesson Doure, Bruce Eldevik, Brian McCaffrey, and John Beane selected the theme of "Letters to Christian Communities: The Spirit Transforms Us To Be The Body of Christ in the World." This series will focus on Paul's letters to the churches in Rome, Corinth, Ephesus, and Philippi. Topics include Justified by Grace, Children of God, The Spirit Builds the Community for the Common Good, Transformed into God's Image, Having One Mind in Christ, and A Gospel of Reconciliation.

Look for the Hope Connections registration table on Sunday mornings Sept. 10, 17, and 24 to sign up. If you are new to Hope and want to meet some folks, sign up. If you have been around awhile and want to make a deeper connection, sign up. If you are itching to lead a Bible study, sign up. If you have questions, just call John Beane at 651.338.4492 or email pilgrim.beane@gmail.com

Thank You from Jim and Isabel Vitale

Dear University Lutheran Church of Hope family,

From the bottom of our hearts we wish to say thank you! First, thank you for the gift card; it will provide us a much-needed date night before baby comes. But even more, thank you for the past 3 years. Thank you for your hospitality, your love and support; for providing Jim a supportive, encouraging, and uplifting place to learn; and for giving Isabel lots of opportunities to share her gifts of music. As we move across the Atlantic, know that we will think of you often and miss you dearly. You are a wonderful embodiment of the Lord Jesus, and God has so many exciting things in store for you. Thank you again—for everything.

Racial Justice Update

A group of Hope members have been meeting monthly for more than a year to develop ways that our congregation can confront racism and work for racial justice, both internally and externally. Along with many other congregations of the Minneapolis Area Synod, we are working on a mission statement articulating Hope's commitments with respect to racial justice and healing. We have gone through several drafts and plan to have it ready to be voted on at the annual meeting. Here is the latest draft of our congregational racial justice mission statement and a summary of ideas currently under active consideration.

“We profess that all people are beloved of God and are called to be a blessing to one another. We reject as contrary to God's will anything that erodes our shared humanity - including unjust laws, unfair practices, hostile acts, unconscious bias, white supremacy, and fear of people of other ethnicities or cultures. We actively seek to stand together with people of all ethnicities and cultures to promote the joy of fellowship and the dignity of equal opportunity.”

Sunday Forum: Racial justice at Hope will be the topic of a Sunday Forum on Sept. 17, in which a panel of “meet up” members will discuss these ideas in detail and seek comments and questions.

MARCH (Multi-faith, Anti-Racism, Change and Healing Sacred Solidarity Movement): We are contemplating congregational involvement with this local alliance of faith communities supporting and holding each other accountable for our work in addressing racism and white supremacy. We've just begun this discussion, and need more details before we decide how to move forward. One upside of joining MARCH is that it provides a framework in which we can work on some of our ideas – projects that promote our own self-awareness as well as ones that involve reaching out into the world (see the following).

Disenfranchisement of felons: This topic is one discrete piece on the racial justice spectrum. We'll need to research who is already working in this area (RestoretheVoteMinnesota, ISAIAH, etc.); educate ourselves on the history of disenfranchisement; and use our Christian faith as a lens through which we view forgiveness, redemption, and hope.

Congregational "One Watch/One Read": We will begin on Sept. 17 at 6:30 p.m. in Heritage Hall with a showing of the documentary *13th*, followed by a discussion. Snacks will be available for folks to munch on. We'll have time following the movie for discussion. We may follow with a book that everyone reads together, and alternate between books and movies throughout the year. Any questions? Please contact Nick Tangen or Karen Westwood.

Ad hoc outings to movies and other events typically attended by a diverse mix of ethnicities and cultures: We will continue to announce these events in the *Thursday Epistle*. Sonja Peterson is coordinating those announcements; notify her with your invitations.

Bruce Eldevik, Hope in the World
Karen Westwood, Racial Justice Group

Friendly Visitor Informational Meeting Sept. 27

Friendly Visitors are important ambassadors who can bring a smile and caring word to members and friends of our congregation who need and enjoy a friendly connection with a person or a family from their home congregation. Friendly Visitors visit once a month (or more often if you like) a Hope member who is homebound, is in an assisted living or care facility, or who feels the need of a church companion. Friendly Visitors can visit solo or with another person, or with your whole family!

To learn more about our hopes and expectations for Friendly Visitors, we invite you to attend the next gathering of former and current Friendly Visitors on Wednesday, Sept. 27, 5:30–7 p.m. There will be a brief overview of the ministry, time for Q & A, and a chance to hear some great stories! Light supper is provided.

RSVP to Rosalie Eldevik at 651-644-0287 or raldevik@gmail.com If you're unable to attend the meeting but would like information, you can talk with Rosalie, or Pastor of Care and Nurture Barbara Johnson at 612-331-5988, or barbaraj@ulch.org

Let's Get Acquainted

As Pastor of Care and Nurture, I have the privilege of visiting and getting to know some of the most interesting people who are long-time members of University Lutheran Church of Hope. They have wonderful stories to tell and memories to share. Some of them are not able to attend worship often, but they are steeped in knowledge and experience of this congregation, and they truly enjoy meeting and getting better acquainted with others who call our church their home. With their permission, in future editions of *The Visitor*, I will share pictures and information about some of the people I visit, with the hope that we will all find some new ways to connect and become better acquainted with someone we may not have met.



In this month's edition of *The Visitor* I'd like to introduce you to **Jean Brovold**. Jean has been an active member of University Lutheran Church of Hope for most of her adult life. Jean's great-grandparents were Swedish immigrants who settled in Wisconsin in the late 19th century. Strong in her Swedish heritage, she still loves to bake Swedish kringle and, with a twinkle in her eye, she quips that she met at least ONE smart Norwegian named Roger. His claim to intelligence, according to Jean, is that he chose her as his wife. Sadly, she was widowed at a young age and raised her children as a single mom. In a time when few moms were employed outside the home, Jean worked as an administrative assistant at Honeywell. Jean has fond memories of raising her children in the church, participating in Gloria Circle, and working at the rummage sales and many other events each year. Jean misses being able to attend worship these days. She is very proud of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. It was Jean's idea to name this article "Let's Get Acquainted!"

Let's Get Acquainted is intended to highlight Hope members and friends of all ages in order to help us feel more strongly connected with one another. If you or someone you know would like to be highlighted in this column in the future, let me know!

Pastor Barbara Johnson

Gardening Continues in the Gardens of Hope

Our Weekday Wonders and our garden adopters continue to make progress this summer despite occasional rainouts. The weeds are under better control but we could still use more help.



The scheduled Weekday Wonders meetings for September are Wednesdays Sept. 6 and 20, starting at 10 a.m. You are welcome to join us. Expect a fall cleanup to be called for the Weekend Warriors sometime later in September or early October depending on what the gardens and the weather do. Watch the *Thursday Epistle* and the Sunday bulletins for information on that.

Kathy Knudson for Gardens of Hope

Library News: Learn about the Reformation

Reformation: Europe's House Divided 1490-1700

By Diarmaid MacCulloch



From the cover flap: "The Reformation and the Counter-Reformation it provoked are among the great discontinuities in European and world history. The dramatic changes that began when Martin Luther proclaimed his ninety-five theses in Wittenberg in 1517 were of a different order to anything that had preceded them. In the following two hundred years, the Western Christian world broke apart and the nature not just of European religion but of politics, thought, society and culture all changed utterly. The course of history down to our own time has been decisively shaped by this revolution."

This book adds depth to our understanding of Luther and Lutherans, as well as our current religious conversations. I highly recommend it.

Ruth Fingerson

September 2017

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Rev. Barbara Johnson

Minister of Worship & Music:

Zach Busch

Minister of Faith in Community:

Nicholas Tangen

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The Visitor

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

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