



The Visitor



July/August 2018

Issue #14-7

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.*

Outdoor Worship and Potluck Picnic August 12

The Gratitude and Generosity Team (G&G, with a focus on stewardship) would like to invite everyone to an outdoor worship service and a potluck picnic August 12. Please drop off food in the upstairs kitchen before the service. We will gather in the lounge, patio, and courtyard for the picnic. Water and lemonade will be provided.

The completion of the bread oven is a bit up in the air for that day, but we will give thanks for the Revealing Hope Capital Campaign as it has supported both the Bread Oven and Children's Play Area projects.

And one last note...The G&G Team has been asked to take responsibility for supporting the Revealing Hope Capital Campaign effort. We have accepted the opportunity, and would love to have some additional team members. If interested, please contact Pastor Jen at jenn@ulch.org or Ann Beane at spirit.beane@gmail.com

See you on August 12!



The ULCHers after June 10 Outdoor Worship.
Left to right: Tim Gustafson, Paul Odenbach,
Mark Nelson, Ben Larson, and Jay Carlson

REVEALING HOPE

The Children's Play Area is Finished!

The Children's Play Area is completed and soon will be ready for full-on play, once the grass is rooted, which will take about two weeks. Please read the posted guidelines so we can have a safe play environment. Children should be supervised by a parent or familiar adult. Have fun exploring the play area before and after worship!



Many, many thanks to the **capital campaign** and **Noisy Offering** contributors for the full support of the project. What a wonderful way to give a finishing touch to the courtyard by creating a space for children and families. The capital campaign, along with the Noisy Offering money, fully covered the cost of the play area, which came in just over \$12,000. This also includes a nice selection of art tools and outdoor toys.

Children's Play Area Team

Kathy Knudson, Muffi and Tim Abrahamson, Sharla Aaseng, Ann Agrimson, and Ann Beane

The Bread Oven is Rising!



Bryan Kufus studies the bread oven plans.



Bread oven work continues.



John Pignatello, John Bablitch, and Tom Peluf are ready to work.

A Growing Season

As I am prone to do in the evening during these summer months, I write from the vantage of our humble and lovely back porch mudroom that overlooks one of our gardens. Flowers bloom, strawberries abound, tomato cages are ready to offer their support, basil thrives, the bunnies are a little too happy, and there is still more growth to come.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.

Two opportunities arose this spring, and I want to share how they'll affect our life beginning this summer.

First, we recently had a call from Luther Seminary. As I mentioned in the June *Visitor*, they asked if University Lutheran Church of Hope could host a pastoral intern this coming school year. Congregations typically apply to be an internship site far in advance, but they were seeking some additional spots. Our leaders and I discussed this invitation; I interviewed the potential candidate, and she was a good fit.

On August 14, Linqing Chu (pronounced Lin CHING Chu) will join us as our Intern Pastor. Intern Linqing is an international student from China. She has completed her M.Div. course work at Luther Seminary and is in the ELCA candidacy process (through the St. Paul Area Synod) for word and sacrament ministry. Intern Linqing will be with us full time for 11 months beginning in mid-August 2018 and concluding in July 2019. During this time, through practice and reflection, she'll hone her skills for pastoral ministry and continue her own discernment about her sense of pastoral identity. Intern Linqing will get involved in all areas of ministry: worship, leadership, preaching, faith formation, administration, pastoral care, outreach, campus ministry, and more. An Internship Committee is being formed to support her work and help her learn the most in this season. Please welcome Intern Linqing warmly and take time to share with her your story and hear some of her story.

Additionally, in May we learned that we received a Riverside Innovation Hub grant! This Innovation Hub situated at Augsburg University is funded by the Eli Lilly and Company Foundation. This project is designed to help congregations “innovate new connections with young adults at the intersections of their faith and their public lives.” We’re one of more than a dozen congregations in the metro area that will have a young adult coach join us half time for 10 months beginning in late August 2018. The grant covers the cost of this coach, substantial training, and support; we can apply for further grant funding (\$25,000-\$30,000) next spring to support young adult work over the following years.

This coach (we aren’t yet matched with a coach) will be a facilitator for our learning with and about young adults. Their work will invite us to listen well and in new ways to our neighbors and neighborhood, and to explore how God is calling us in our context. It’s risky, and rightly a little vulnerable, to embark on this, for with growth we’re never quite the same. Nick Tangen will be the staff lead for this project; an Innovation Team is being formed to work closely with the coach. Thanks to those who worked hard on the grant application (which included a cool video you can find now on our website): Abby Lucas, Will Heller, Molly James, Eric Ringham, Nick Tangen, and Zach Busch.



With Intern Linqing Chu (pictured here) and our Innovation Coach, we’re poised for a season of learning and growth. I pray: *Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.* God bless you this growing season and know my prayers for you and for our ministry together.

Pastor Jen

FAITH FORMATION NEWS



Faith Formation for All Ages

Centering Prayer Fridays at 1 p.m.

Centering Prayer is a silent method of prayer that prepares our faculties for the gift of contemplation. Put more simply, Centering Prayer is resting in God. A contemplative and reflective spirituality shatters the old stories that we tell about ourselves (I'm not good enough, I'm not wealthy enough, I'm not enough) and reaffirms our center as God's Beloved. Join us on Fridays at 1:00 p.m. for 20 min of silence and holy rest! Questions? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org



Holy Ground: Building a Just and Healthy Neighborhood

Monday-Friday, August 13-17, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Grades K-5



Come build an entire city in the basement of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, and then work together to make wise and faithful decisions to help your city thrive! We'll have visits from local experts and community leaders, and residents of the city will need to band together and work with a community organizer to keep outside interests from making life in their city less equitable. We'll learn strategy, negotiation, power analysis, and, of course, protest songs! An evening meal will be provided each night, and parents are welcome to visit the "city" and learn its story on the final day.



Camp Amnicon/Apostle Islands trip

June 17-22

A group of youth and adults from Hope is exploring the Apostle Islands in a voyageur canoe June 17-22.



Summer Worship and Music

Over the summer, we will have outdoor worship once a month. On July 15 and August 12, bring your lawn chairs or blankets if you can, and join us on the east lawn for worship at 10 a.m. We will also gather once a month on Wednesday evenings for Prayer Around the Cross. Join us for this service of contemplative music, silence, and candle lighting on July 11 and August 15.

Looking ahead to September, we will kick off the fall season with a Courtyard Concert on Sunday, September 9 at 6:30pm featuring the Meadowlark String Quartet and myself in a program of chamber music. We resume Hope Choir rehearsals on Wednesday, September 5 at 7:00 p.m. Any and all are welcome in Hope Choir – talk to me if you're interested in joining us. We would be very glad to have you.

There will also be a seasonal handbell opportunity this fall. Stay tuned for details or check in with me if you are interested.

Zach Busch
Minister of Worship and Music

Hope Reads *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota*

October 14 *A Good Time for the Truth* Event at Hope

David Lawrence Grant will be the featured speaker at an October 14th gathering centered around our congregational reading of the book *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota* (Sun Yung Shin, ed., Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2016). Mr. Grant is a contributor to “People Like Us,” one of the essays in the book, that weaves his experience living as a person of color in Minnesota with his analysis of how, more generally, people of color have been situated in the cultural climate of our state.



David Grant has written drama for the stage, film, and television, as well as fiction and memoir. He has written major reports on racial bias in the justice system for the Minnesota Supreme Court and on racial disparities in the health care system for the Minnesota legislature. He teaches screenwriting at Independent Filmmaker Project/Minnesota.

This and other of the book’s probing essays will form the basis for follow-up discussions on the 14th and beyond, as we as a congregation look at ways of living into our mission statement on racial justice.

Multiple copies of *A Good Time for the Truth* have been purchased from funds in our Trust Board grant, and will be available at no charge for this “Hope Reads” initiative. Watch the welcome center for their arrival, pick up a copy, read, and attend the event on October 14.

The Racial Justice Team
Hope in the World

Review of Bao Phi’s “Brutal” in *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota*

This autumn at University Lutheran Church of Hope we will read together *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota*. This article is the first in a series of reviews by members of the Racial Justice Task Force inviting your participation in reading and discussion.

My review focuses on a chapter called “Brutal,” by the poet Bao Phi who, along with illustrator Thi Bui, recently won two national awards for their children’s picture book *A Different Pond*.

Bao writes vividly of his experience as a Vietnamese immigrant growing up in Minneapolis. He describes Phillips in his youth as Minnesota’s largest, poorest and most racially diverse neighborhood. As a young boy, he experienced name-calling, stereotyping, and bullying from White, African-American, Native American, and Latino neighbors. He learned to run faster than the bullies, and immersed himself in drawing fantastic stories in which he could be “someone else, somewhere else” (p. 83).

As an adult, Bao continues to experience similar threats such as life-threatening traffic stops by the police. The experience of persistent violence and ambiguity about belonging to a definite place and group stands in stark contrast to the dominant American mythology of racial hierarchy, with its claims that Asian-Americans live quiet, unemotional, technologically gifted, highly successful lives in collusion with white supremacy. He cites data that shows among other things that there is a vast opportunity gap between groups that are included in the racial construct of “Asian,” especially in educational, economic, and criminal justice disparities.

I found Bao’s descriptions of a familiar and nearby neighborhood to be disturbing, and the case he builds from data and experience to be eye-opening. He sheds light on the ambiguous social mythology that Asian-Americans navigate in our discussions about racial justice, often rendering their experience invisible to others. This essay offers opportunities for critical reflection on the assumptions we make about racial character as well as about the experience of immigrants.

Kirsten A.S. Mebust
Racial Justice Task Force

Treasurer's Report

May 2018 and Year-to-Date Income and Expense						
	May Actual	May Budget	May Variance	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance
General Giving	33,409	41,976	(8,567)	183,479	209,878	(26,399)
Rental Income	12,376	11,723	653	52,415	58,615	(6,200)
Total Income	45,784	53,699	(7,914)	235,894	268,493	(32,598)
Total Expense	61,837	53,698	8,138	270,060	268,492	1,567
Services	-	-	-	(150)	-	(150)
Net Operating Income	(16,052)	0	(16,052)	(34,315)	0	(34,165)
Reduction of Liability	(7,590)	-	(7,590)	(37,295)	-	(37,295)
Net Income	(8,462)	0	(8,462)	2,980	0	2,980



May giving totaled \$33,409 and rental income was \$12,376 for a total income of \$45,784. Rental income was greater than the budgeted amount as we continue to welcome contract parkers. General giving was significantly under budget for the month – please see below for information on how to enroll in online giving!

Expenses for the month of May were \$61,837, which is \$8,138 over budget, as June 1 payroll was processed in May. Net operating income (total income less total expenses) was -\$16,052. The reduction in liability is a monthly line item representing the amount of the principal payment contributing to the reduction of the liability on the balance sheet relating to the mortgage. This contributes positively to our net income calculation; thus, total net income for May is -\$8,462.

Contributions to our current capital campaign, Revealing Hope, totaled \$36,694 during the month of May. Pledges for the capital campaign have topped \$400k, and the fund had positive net activity of \$19,970. The net cash balance in the Building Fund is \$116,162. Thank you members for your dedication to paying the mortgage and other building-related expenses.

Thank you members for contributing to this congregation. We see the generosity of your gifts play out as we continue the construction of the bread oven and enjoy the Children's Play Area in the courtyard. As we begin to enjoy the summer months, please take advantage of online giving: visit ulch.org and click "give".

If you are already enrolled in online giving and do not need to receive monthly offering envelopes, please email our Administrator, Gayle Bidne, at gayleb@ulch.org and request to be taken off the offering envelope list. This will allow us to live green and lean as we will save on printing and postage fees.

Offering envelopes for both September and October will be mailed in August rather than sending only the September envelopes. That will be the first bi-monthly mailing and will reduce our mailing costs significantly.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Emma Carpenter
Treasurer

Gardens of Hope: Summer Gardening Continues



Here is the gardening schedule for July and August:

Wednesday evenings, July 4, July 18, August 1, August 15 -- 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday mornings, July 11, July 25, August 8, August 22 -- 10 a.m. to noon

No more Saturday work sessions are scheduled or expected, but watch the *Thursday Epistle* and bulletins just in case. I will continue to send email reminders each week to my list of gardeners. If you aren't on that list but want to be, let me know. Expect to see a new area develop around the new bread oven later this summer when the oven structure is done. Still waiting for garden sign and party ideas. . .

Kathy Knudson for Gardens of Hope

Congregational Life

Dates to Keep in Mind:

June 26-July 1: ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston
July 8: Celebration of milestone ordination anniversaries
July 11: Dinkytown Farmers Market 4-8 p.m. Prayer Around the Cross evening service at 7 p.m.
July 14: Paddling on White Bear Lake
July 15: Summer Outdoor Worship. Bread for the World Offering of Letters.
August 12: Summer Outdoor Worship and Congregational Picnic
August 12-16: Camp Amnicon for kids entering 4th-6th grade
August 13-17: Community Organizing Vacation Bible School (VBS) (evenings)
August 15: Prayer Around the Cross evening service at 7 p.m.
September 2: Welcome Back Students event and Book Sale
September 9: Return to two services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. and beginning of faith formation and Sunday Forums. God's Work, Our Hands Sunday.
September 15: Paddling on Bde maka ska
October 14: Special event focused on the book, *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota*

Life Events at Hope

We're a community of hope, called to hold one another in prayer in times of deepest need and grief, and in our experiences of new life. Here are a few of the life events affecting our community. We need your help to know for what we can pray. Please alert a pastor or contact the church office.

Welcoming children and baptism: We hold in our prayers Lance and Megan Radziej and big brother Reid as they await a baby coming very soon. We pray for those in our congregation who are awaiting children and holding hope in joyful and painful times.

Marriages: We pray for all those preparing for marriage, and for all relationships of commitment.

Deaths: We pray for all who grieve the loss of loved ones, including Andy and Leena Rapacz and family at the death of Andy's grandmother in June.

Significant Illness: We pray for those living with illness, cancer, recovery, uncertain diagnosis, chemical dependency and other addictions, and mental health struggles, including Robert Agrimson, Micah Anderson, Janet Carpenter, Hannah Kiresuk, Trish Gorbunow, Alexander Otey-Wold, Cyndi Ganzkow-Wold, and Chuck Lewis.

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

Curious about becoming a member at Hope? In the coming months we'll welcome new members into the community of faith here at University Lutheran Church of Hope. If you are curious or would like to learn more, talk with Pastor Jen.

6th Annual Welcome Back Students Festival September 2 after worship

Save the Date! Get ready for our 6th Annual Welcome Back Students festival on September 2! We'll have games, music, neighbors, and pizza baked in our very own community brick oven. Help us to be good neighbors by welcoming back all the students to the U of M. Would you like to help with set-up? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

Dinkytown Farmers Market Opens July 11th 4-8 p.m.

After many months of organizing, the Dinkytown Farmers Market is ready to launch. We will set up in the north parking lot in front of Thorpe Chapel. The Market is starting small with one vendor, but we need your support to ensure that this ministry is sustainable. Please join us on July 11 to support local farmers, provide fresh and affordable food to our neighbors, and of course, buy some produce! Would you like to help with this awesome ministry? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

Faith in Community News

#HopeHappens Email

Would you like to learn about ways to get involved in movements for justice in Minnesota? Or about opportunities to learn about sustainability, community organizing, and racial justice? Subscribe to the #HopeHappens email which provides a calendar of upcoming actions, opportunities, and events around the Twin Cities. To sign up for this email list, contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org or sign up on the University Lutheran Church of Hope website.

#HopeHappens: One on Ones

Relational power that transforms systems is always built in relationship with one another. That may seem obvious, but in practice this element is often missed. As a congregation committed to standing with immigrants and racial justice, it is vital that we build power with one another so that we can participate in movements as a strong and focused collective. This relational power is built through one-on-ones (or one-to-ones). Here is a short introduction to one-on-ones by Dennis Jacobsen from his book *Doing Justice*.

“A successful one-on-one interview, in the space of about a half-hour, initiates or deepens a relationship, uncovers the other person’s self-interest, allows the other person to gain clarity about what motivates him or her, and acquires essential knowledge about the person. The one-on-one interview is a simple, relational tool. A healthy and vital congregation-based community organization cannot be built without it. Organizing is essentially a relational process. At its best organizing is rooted in unconditional love for other persons, which seeks relationships that move toward empowerment, community, and justice. At its heart, organizing is about relationships, not issues. Organizing misses its calling when it becomes a swirl of frenetic activity, addicted to issues and actions, running past and over human beings. One-on-ones slow things down, restore needed focus, serve as a reminder of the human dimension of this work.”

How might we build a culture of one-on-ones at University Lutheran Church of Hope? Consider connecting with another congregant in the coming months to practice one-on-ones. Ask questions like: How long have you been at Hope? What are you personally concerned about as a person of faith? What would you like to see change? Over time these one-on-ones help to build a community aware of their power, and with a vision for where to apply it. Want to learn more? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

Peace be with you!

Nicholas Tangen OblSB, Minister of Faith in Community



Enjoy the Hope Book Club and Summer Fun!

On Sunday July 8 at 7 p.m., please join us at Nancy Miller’s home, 2501 27th Avenue NE, Mpls, to enjoy her garden and discuss *We Crossed the Bridge and it Trembled*, by Wendy Pearlman. “A powerful must read book for anyone wanting to understand what’s happening in Syria and why it matters.” -- Chicago Review of Books

And on Sunday, August 12 at 6 p.m., join us at Silverwood Park, 2500 County Road E, St. Anthony, for a potluck and discussion of *The Warmth of Other Suns*, by Isabel Wilkerson. “In this epic, beautifully written masterwork, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Isabel Wilkerson chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life.” www.goodreads.com

We will then listen to a pre-show concert at Silverwood Park and watch *Casablanca* at sunset!

On Sept. 9, join us to discuss *Africa’s Child*, by Maria Nhambu, who will present the Sunday Forum on Sept. 30th to discuss her book!

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

President's Report

One of the Vision & Governance Board's most important responsibilities is overseeing the business of the church. In this role, the Board is charged with monitoring the congregation's income and expenses, working with members of our community to establish and adhere to an annual budget, and making certain we are good stewards of our financial resources. The Board is also asked to make decisions that enable our congregation to meet unexpected obligations and take advantage of unanticipated opportunities.

In order to fulfill these responsibilities, it is essential that the Board has good, up-to-date financial information. In an effort to achieve that goal, leaders recently initiated a new practice of conducting formal quarterly financial reviews, bringing Board officers together with members of the Financial Controls Committee to go over the books, talk about successes and surprises, and make adjustments as necessary. The group met for the first time in early June. Here are some of the things we learned at that meeting:

- Revenues from contributions are currently lagging behind budget projections. This is not all that unusual – contributions generally ebb and flow throughout the year, increasing during the Easter and Christmas seasons and dropping off somewhat during the summer months. But the Board will be watching closely to see if we need to take corrective actions. Meanwhile, as Hope members hit the road for their summer vacations, we urge everyone to keep their contributions up to date.
- We are blessed to have an extraordinarily robust cash reserve.
- Contributions to the Revealing Hope capital campaign have exceeded expectations.
- University Lutheran Church of Hope and PEASE Academy are in the process of renewing their lease agreement. Income from this arrangement provides an important subsidy for our mortgage.
- Luther Seminary has asked Hope to provide an internship opportunity for a student (see Pastor Jen's *Visitor* article). Our intern will receive a modest stipend for her work, which will be provided by our congregation with a subsidy from the seminary.
- Hope has been awarded a grant from the Riverside Innovation Hub (again, see Pastor Jen's *Visitor* article). Among other things, the grant will fund a half-time "coach" who will join our staff for nearly a year.
- In April, the Minneapolis Public Works Department informed us that part of our roof drainage system is pouring water into the city's sanitary sewers, in violation of regulations. Members of the Facilities Commission have been working with city staff and contractors to resolve the issue. Although we're still in the early stages, it seems likely that it may be costly to bring our drainage systems into compliance, requiring us to devote some of our capital funds to this project.

Another quarterly financial review is scheduled for early September. An update on the state of our finances will be presented at a congregational meeting following that review. Blessings. John Lauber
Congregational President

Bread for the World 2018 Offering of Letters

On Sunday, July 15, after our second summer outdoor worship, you are invited inside for a special treat and to write a letter to your lawmakers in Washington, through Bread for the World, the Christian-based anti-hunger/poverty organization's annual Offering of Letters. Congress is currently working on the 2019 Federal budget and spending bills. Our request to them is to protect and strengthen the programs that benefit the poor and hungry in this nation and the world. Hunger is right outside our church door, with an estimated 25-30 percent of college students suffering food insecurity at some time during their college years. Food shelves are becoming more and more available on college campuses throughout this nation. Twenty five out of twenty six bags of groceries given through food shelves are funded by the Federal Government. Imagine how devastating even a small cut to this program would be to single parents and children, the elderly, the un- and underemployed, the working poor, and college students in need.

We will have everything you need: information, paper, pens, envelopes, stamps, sample letters, and even letters you may sign.

Donna Neste
Hope in the World
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Celebrating Ordination Anniversary Milestones-60 yrs, 50 yrs, 25 yrs

On Sunday July 8 we'll celebrate ordination anniversaries of three ELCA pastors here at Hope (Edward Nyhus, John Setterlund, and Barbara Johnson), with a special blessing in worship and a reception following the service. Barbara Johnson's history of service to the church will be detailed in the September *Visitor*.

Edward Nyhus' interest in mission work began in high school. In seminary he grew interested in teaching abroad. Ed graduated from Augsburg College (BA), Augsburg Seminary (BTh), and Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey (MTh). He was ordained in 1958 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, called through the Lutheran World Federation as a missionary in Indonesia.



In the next 30 years, Ed and wife Winnie and their children would be immersed in the Indonesian culture of the Christian academic communities in Northern Sumatra and Java. He took a genuine interest in his students and was known for his curiosity and engagement with them outside of class.

Dr. Nyhus taught in the Departments of Theology at Nommensen University of the Batak Protestant Christian Church in North Sumatra, Satya Wacana Christian University in Salatiga, Java, and Duta Wacana Christian University in Yogyakarta, Java. Teaching courses on Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Traditional Religions, and the History of Christianity in southeast Asia, he needed a reading knowledge of German and Dutch and a speaking knowledge of Indonesian and Toba Batak.

He earned an MA from Ohio University in 1972 and a PhD from the University of Wisconsin, Madison in 1987. His doctoral research focused on the history of the Batak Protestant Christian Church in Indonesia, 1942-1957, during a period of great social change. In 1989-1990 he was a visiting professor of Church History and Mission at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. In 1991 he returned to Indonesia to teach in the Graduate Program in Religion and Society at Satya Wacana Christian University. Returning to Minnesota in 1995, he taught at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, 1995-'96.

Ed and Winnie were honored to entertain an Ephorus (similar to a Presiding Bishop in the ELCA), visiting the US from the Toba-Batak Christian Church. The visit was significant and gratifying for Ed and Winnie because the Ephorus was a cherished friend and had been one of Ed's own students.



Pentecost 1968 was ordination day for **John Setterlund**. A graduate of the University of Minnesota (1964) and Luther Theological Seminary (1968), he was ordained as an ALC pastor in his hometown church, First Lutheran, Pipestone MN. He served as pastor of Lutheran, Methodist, and United Church of Christ congregations in Timber Lake and Isabel, and then St. John Lutheran Church in Warner, all in South Dakota.

In 1977 he earned a Master's degree at Wartburg Theological Seminary Dubuque, Iowa. Calls to several parishes in Illinois were supplemented by work on the preparation, review, and introduction of the *Lutheran Book of Worship* and accompanying *Occasional Services* volume. Other projects included an annual Bible camp summer program; committee work at the conference, district, and church-wide expressions; and music published by Augsburg for the Bach tercentenary.

John was Lutheran campus pastor at the University of Illinois, Champaign for 15 years, until his retirement in 2006. On a sabbatical in 1998, he joined the Jerusalem Summer Studies with St. John's University in Collegeville MN, for six weeks in Israel, Palestine, Jordan, and Egypt. This was the beginning of a lifelong connection to the Middle East, and several personal visits followed. The invitation of a Lutheran pastor in Palestine, "Come over and help us," prompted early retirement and a move to the West Bank. John preached many times (aided by an Arabic translator), taught music and English, worked with children at the Lutheran boarding home, and met visitors from Europe and America. At the end of this term John brought five schoolboys to a Lutheran camp in New Hampshire. The following years held many more trips to the Holy Land. John returned to his home state in 2014 and settled in Little Canada. He was warmly welcomed at Hope and made it his home congregation, as it was during his student days in the 1960s. Besides singing in the Hope Choir and assisting with the Library and the Sunday Forum, he served on the board for Lutheran Campus Ministry, ushers for the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, meets with Middle East Peace Now, and is currently chaplain for the local chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

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Rev. Barbara Johnson

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Zach Busch

Minister of Faith in Community:

Nicholas Tangen

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The Visitor

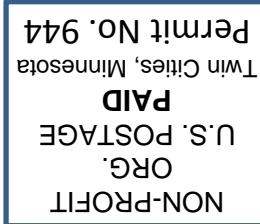
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Articles for *The Visitor* may be submitted via e-mail or directly to the church office. They must be signed. Electronic submissions in either Microsoft® Word or plain text format are strongly preferred. Articles may be edited for length. Contributors 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.

Deadline for submitting articles is the 15th of every month, for the following month's issue.

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

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