



The Visitor



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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.*

Living with Gratitude and Generosity

After one of the church services this past summer, I participated in a Bread for the World letter writing campaign organized by Hope member Donna Neste. As she was motivating us to write to our senators and representatives, she shared a Haitian proverb: "God gives but doesn't share." The proverb was explained to mean that God gives humankind everything needed to live and thrive, but it is up to us humans to share this abundance for the benefit of all. When we share, we are truly co-workers in the Kingdom of God. It is an energizing proverb for our time.

As you have probably heard, the Hope Community Bread Oven, which was partially funded by your generous contributions to the Revealing Hope Campaign, is now complete. The process of building and using this impressively handsome oven has proven to be a unifying experience for so many in the congregation and the neighborhood. We look forward to baking and sharing bread and more pizza soon.



We also look forward to several stewardship activities coming up this Fall season:

Oct. 7: Sunday Forum at 9:30 a.m. in Heritage Hall. John Hensrud will introduce Gifts Discovery, a class that will be offered at Hope in January, 2019. Gifts Discovery will help us discover our own spiritual gifts and help us understand how God has uniquely wired each of us to serve.

Also on Oct. 7: Great Guest Preacher Adam Copeland at 8:30 and 10:30a.m. services. Rev. Copeland is Luther Seminary's Director of The Center for Stewardship Leaders. He also preached last October. Don't miss this.

Latter part of October: Pledge cards for the 2019 Annual Ministry Fund will be mailed to University Lutheran Church of Hope members and friends. The theme for this pledge drive is "Fuel for Hope."

Nov. 11: Gratitude and Generosity Sunday. Your completed pledge cards will be received during both services.

January, 2019: Gifts Discovery Class Sessions. Learn how to best share your talents.

With our thanks,

Kathy Kufus, Gratitude and Generosity Team Member,
along with Beth Ubbelohde, Anne Beane, John Hensrud, Ann Wagner,
Eric Ringham, Jay Carlson, Linda Herman, and Stewart Herman

Amanda Vetsch, our Riverside Innovation Hub Coach

Amanda comes from walks to Minnehaha Falls, Sleepytime tea, and VBS songs. Her roots have been thoroughly planted, nourished, and watered in South Minneapolis. Her memories of growing up are filled with riding bikes through the neighborhood, playing organized and unorganized sports, visiting the Nokomis and Roosevelt Public Libraries, and playing at many of the playgrounds throughout Minneapolis. Her home congregation is St. Peder's Lutheran Church. Her dad was confirmed there, her parents were married there, and she and her siblings have been baptized, loved, and confirmed there.



Amanda is the middle of three children. Her older brother Jeremiah lives in South Minneapolis, went to Dunwoody, and now works as an electrician. Her younger sister Karissa recently graduated from Waldorf College in Forest City, IA, and is currently in Alice Springs, Australia with Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) through the ELCA. Her parents are also still in South Minneapolis. Her father Dan just started working for the City of Minneapolis Solid Waste and Recycling department; before that he was a stay-at-home dad in addition to coaching, bus driving, and general handyman work. Her mother Karen has worked for Target Corp. for many years and is looking forward to early retirement. When her parents aren't busy with work, they are building their "aging-in-place" house in the Nokomis neighborhood.

Amanda attended Mt. Calvary Lutheran School (LCMS) for elementary and middle school, and Lion's Gate Christian Academy for her first year of high school. After that school closed, she attended Bethany Academy for grades 10-12. She graduated from Viterbo University in La Crosse, WI, with a major in Biology and a minor in Religious Studies and Mathematics. After graduation she spent a year in Rwamagana, Rwanda with YAGM, joining the community at Rwamagana Lutheran School, helping establish a girls' sports program, coaching the boys' basketball team to their first-ever victory, substitute teaching Religion classes, and supporting students in developing their leadership skills.

When that year was completed, she came back to Minneapolis to start her work in this project: The Riverside Innovation Hub. She also just started the MA program at Luther Seminary. She is excited to work with us at Hope. Even though the project emphasizes ministry with young adults, she is excited to meet and work alongside everyone from all generations. She loves good book recommendations, neighborhood walks, and coffee. If you are interested in learning more about the project or about Amanda, or have good book recommendations, contact her at vetsch@augsborg.edu

Nick Tangen on One-to-Ones

Hey friends, I want to say a bit about the magic that is one-to-ones! One-to-ones are intentional conversations between two people (one-to-one, go figure) in which we build relationships, discern a person's self-interest (i.e. What motivates them? What are they passionate about?) and invite them into meaningful action in community.



One-to-ones are the building blocks of strong organizations and healthy communities. This is how we come together, learn about each other, and build power to be effective leaders in social transformation. As a congregation committed to stand with immigrants, work towards racial justice, and build porous walls in the Dinkytown/UMN community, grounded in the Gospel, it is vital that we build this kind of thoughtful and relational power. So...I have a challenge for each of you.

Outside my office there are some resources for how to conduct a quality one-to-one, and some feedback sheets where you can record your learnings. I would like everyone, in the next two months, as you are able, to schedule a one-to-one with someone in the congregation you don't know well. If you aren't clear on who you'd like to meet with, let me know and I can pair you up! If you return your learnings to me, I will offer payment in the form of chocolate, gummi, or other sweet treats as requested. This is a great opportunity for us to grow closer to each other, and to build the relational power needed to be leaders in our community. Peace!

Nicholas Tangen

Minister of Faith in Community

Fueling our Life Together

As a kid at scout camp, one of our daily chores included collecting firewood and dividing it into piles: the tiniest tinder, the kindling sticks, the larger fuel. Three years ago this month our Vision & Governance Board took a half-day retreat. By early afternoon that October day, we had the basics of what became our 2015 Vision Goals entitled *Igniting Our Life Together*.



Throughout the call process in the months before, a shared narrative had formed about igniting a fire in the congregation. I was clear that this ignition wasn't my task alone, but rather the congregation's and mine together, with the mighty leading of the Holy Spirit. Those 2015 Vision Goals proved to be just the right tinder and kindling to ignite and support the Spirit's fire in our congregation. You were ready, very ready. Remember those goals? We'd reconnect with the neighborhood and campus and make our walls porous. We'd ignite worship and deepen spirituality. We'd revitalize our ministry with children and youth.

Now, fast-forward through these last three years...tremendous energy for reaching out in the neighborhood, significant changes in the configuration of our staff, a play area and bread oven already completed (and a lot of pizza already consumed!), work in areas like sanctuary and racial justice, lots of energy in worship, a growing choir and congregation, a fruitful discernment process related to Sunday School and youth group, traction in the area of young adult ministry, birth and death, the seasons continue.

On the heels of the Revealing Hope Capital Campaign on that super-snowy weekend in April, our Vision & Governance Board, the staff, and the Capital Campaign Team gathered for another half-day retreat. We prayed and planned, brainstormed and reflected, and came away with what became our new Vision Goals, this time entitled *Fueling Our Life Together*, adopted at the September 2018 Board meeting.

As a community of faith we aspire to these goals:

- **Cultivate** deep roots in our neighborhood and the University community, by actively making our walls porous.
- **Embrace** all persons throughout their life journeys in a community of love, respect, and acceptance.
- **Fuel** authentic worship and deepen spirituality

As we talked about on that snowy retreat and in the months that followed, we didn't feel called to go in a whole new direction, but we did want to go deeper and to make some important expansions to our vision.

In the coming months I hope you'll take time to read through these new goals. They are available at church and on our website. What I've listed above are the goals, but what follows in each section are strategies for how this can happen. Read closely and you'll notice how much it says about what our congregational community values, what we believe, and how we want to be the church. I commend these goals to you and I offer a few reflections gleaned from the conversations of our leaders:

These are dense, there's a lot there! Our Board plans to discuss a section each month for the next eight months. They offer fodder for your personal devotions, or for small groups, committees, or teams.

They intentionally avoid silos. Themes (like spiritual practices, justice, the journey of faith, and plenty more) show up in each goal, not just the ones you expect. We love what happens at these intersections and as members, leaders, and staff, we need the encouragement to cross the lines and follow God's call.

In 2015 we needed to dedicate some significant time and energy to our ministry with children and youth. Now, in 2018, we're clearer on the structure and staffing in these areas, and recognize the importance of faith formation throughout the life span: as children and youth, but also as adults at every stage and age.

The fire in this congregation is burning strongly. The challenge before us now is to stoke and fuel the flames of the Spirit. God bless all that comes next. Thank you for your commitment to this faithful community.

Pastor Jen

FAITH FORMATION NEWS



Faith Formation for All Ages Children's Ministry

In October the kids of University Lutheran Church of Hope will learn about our Lutheran tradition and the story of the Reformation, while exploring some of the focus texts that inspired Martin Luther's understanding of the Gospel.

- ❖ **Story Time: Oct. 7.** PreK-2nd grade students meet for Godly Play as we introduce this month's story. The 3rd -5th grade students will meet for storytelling, discussion, and exploration of the Reformation story.
- ❖ **Let's Play a Song: Oct. 14.** All the kids gather in the Sanctuary to sing songs, play musical games, and practice fun instruments. We'll think about the connection between the Reformation and music (Luther was quite the hymn-writer) and focus on music as spiritual practice. PreK/K students will spend half the time playing their own musical games and learning new songs.
- ❖ **Art Expression: Oct. 21.** NO CLASS for MEA weekend.
- ❖ **Community Day: Oct. 28.** It's Reformation Sunday! We'll gather in Fellowship Hall to make a pancake breakfast, explore faith practices in the home, and hear a dramatic retelling of the Reformation Story. Parents, guardians, and grandparents are all encouraged to join us at Community Day. Let us know if you can make it so we can plan accordingly for pancakes!

Keep an eye on the Children's Ministry Bulletin board for updates and resources. We'll also update the webpage as schedules shift or events come up! Questions? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org



Youth Group

This year the Youth Group will meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month for a time of check-ins, study, practice, and prayer. Oct. 7 we'll meet in the Youth Room, and Oct. 21 we'll meet at the Purple Onion. We are finalizing dates for monthly evening gatherings. Keep an eye on the calendar for more details.

We will travel to the Benedictine Center in late Oct. or early Nov. to visit with some of the Benedictine Sisters, learn about contemplative spirituality, and join in a beautiful Taize worship. More details coming soon! Questions? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org



Centering Prayer Fridays at 1 p.m.

Contemplative practice deepens our awareness of God's activity in our lives and in the world around us and helps us to develop a capacity for holding multiple opposing things together in healthy tension. This is a perceptive capacity in low supply in our public square these days, but luckily University Lutheran Church of Hope holds space for just this kind of practice every week. Join us every Friday afternoon for some check-ins, a short reading, and Centering Prayer. In Centering Prayer, we spend 20 minutes in silence, gently letting go of our attachment to our thoughts. We *rest in God*. Questions? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

Hope Book Club

Sunday, Oct. 14, 4:00 p.m., join Hope members and friends including Hope Book Club and the Racial Justice Team for a great conversation about *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota*, including a thought-provoking talk by contributing author David Lawrence Grant, and a delish southern dinner from Breaking Bread in north Minneapolis!



Nov. 11: *The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir*. Lacking a written language of their own, the Hmong experience has been primarily recorded by others. Driven to tell her family's story after her grandmother's death, this book is Kao Kalia Yang's tribute to the remarkable woman whose spirit held them all together.

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

Sunday Forums

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

Oct. 7: Giving of Yourself. John Hensrud will encourage attendees to consider how God has gifted each of us with a unique personality and set of strengths. As a member of the Gratitude and Generosity committee, he invites us to consider faithfully exercising our giftedness. He also asks us to consider attending one or all of the discussion sessions he will offer in January and February (probably on Saturday mornings and/or Monday nights) assessing God's personal gifts and strengths in you. Each of us is a gift!



Oct.14: Worship Life at Hope. Pastor Jen and Minister of Worship and Music Zach Busch will lead us in thoughtful conversation about our worship life at Hope, touching on the complexities they explore behind the scenes related to language, styles of worship, and other issues. They will ask for our participation, take our questions and listen to our comments. What ideas might they have for the future, grounded in our traditions and reforming for the current times? Because worship is the heart and soul of our life together as a congregation, we hope for a strong attendance to participate in the discussion.

Oct. 21: The Gifts of Aging. Joan Chittister has said that aging is "facing that time of life for which there is no career plan." Beata Rydeen will facilitate a spirit-filled discussion about faith and aging. She will review the stages of aging, concerns about aging, the wisdom of aging and the call to spiritual growth in our later years. Beata will share wisdom from her collection of books and resources on aging. This forum is for those approaching or entering this time of life; also, for those with aging parents. All are welcome!

Oct. 28: The Bread of Life. John Bablitch and Bryan Kufus, along with a team of many others, envisioned the Community Bread Oven, and now it is real. Come and hear what has worked and not worked, and their hopes for the next year and beyond. This has been an exciting way to engage our community and to create porous walls. Imagine how you might join the growing team of people making this possible. And let them whet your appetite for more possibilities!



Music and Worship

For the season of Advent, we will form a seasonal handbell choir! Rehearsals will be Tuesday 7:00-8:15 p.m., Nov. 6 through Dec.18. We will play for worship Dec. 2, 9, 16, and 23, and perhaps Christmas Eve. If you are interested in playing, please let me know as soon as possible at zachb@ulch.org. No experience necessary! I hope to get the roster finalized this month.



The Rose Ensemble will perform a concert in our sanctuary on Friday, Nov. 16 at 8:00 p.m. The Rose Ensemble is a Twin Cities-based group with an international reputation as a premiere American early music ensemble.

Uniting virtuosic vocal artistry with scholarly research, The Rose Ensemble creates musical performances and educational programs that connect audiences to compelling stories of human history, culture, and spirituality from around the world. This performance is entitled "Empire, Religion, War, Peace: Music from Europe's 30-Year Conflict, 1618-1648." Please come, and invite friends! Tickets must be purchased through the Rose Ensemble's website, roseensemble.org

Zach Busch
Minister of Worship & Music

Book Sale a Success Again

Thanks to all who worked at, donated to, and bought books at the sale. Hope has the best books! Special thanks to Jo Schroeder who took over the boxing up of leftover books at the last minute. Thanks also to Donna Neste who volunteered to organize the sale next year. Save up lots of books for her! Proceeds this year go to Nutritious U, the University's food shelf. A homeless young man was introduced to us the second Sunday morning. He calls himself a bibliophile, and certainly knows his books and authors. He was recently robbed of his backpack which contained his books. He was thrilled to check out the "literature" section and selected several books for himself. We did not charge him. God's work, our hands, I think.

Ruth Fingerson 5

Treasurer's Report



Thank you to everyone who attended the congregational meeting financial update on September 16. As a Board, we are striving to be transparent about our financial position and to answer any questions. I am outlining key points from the financial update as the Treasurer's Report for this month

Year to date, we have a net operating loss of \$52K (8% of the total 2018 budget). This time last year, we had a net operating loss of \$41K (7% of the total 2017 budget). The net operating loss can be explained by taking a closer look at our budget and total income. Total income year to date (January–August 2018) is 12% below budget, while this time last year we were 7% below budget. The past two years we have budgeted over an even 12 month spread; this does not take into consideration natural church timing. Church giving tends to ebb and flow – historically summer months are slower, while giving increases during the last quarter of the fiscal year.

While general giving is by far the largest component of our income, it is also the largest variable. Historically, general giving has averaged 75-80% of total income for the year. The budgeted number for general giving is derived by leveraging the total pledge amount. 2018 pledges were 14% higher than the previous year, thus we budgeted general giving to be \$55K, or 12%, higher. In 2018, we budgeted \$644K for total income and total expense, a 10% increase from 2017.

Although we currently have a \$52K net operating loss, we are experiencing positive trends year over year. General giving is up \$21K, almost 8% compared to this time last year. Additionally, total income is up \$20K (a 5.5% increase), largely due to increased parking lot rental and our continued partnership with PEASE Academy.

Expenses are more predictable than income – year to date expenses are on budget. We are closely managing our expenses while making strategic decisions on how our resources should be used for important things in the future. As a congregation we have been presented with opportunities to expand our ministry, including supporting a pastoral intern, providing benefits to our staff, and conducting a church-wide IT audit. The Board was fully aware of the risk in accepting additional expenses, and felt confident in our financial position discussed below. We are confident that these incremental expenses are bettering our congregation and overall mission.

Over the past ten years we have worked to establish a comfortable balance sheet position. We diligently built a healthy checking and savings account, allowing us to take on new ministry opportunities. Total assets have increased from prior year. We continue to fulfil our obligation to pay the mortgage by using the funds from the Capital Campaign. Since this time last year we have decreased our mortgage liability by 9%. All dedicated accounts are held as equity on the balance sheet.

The Capital Campaign continues to grow year over year! The building fund increased just shy of 150% since this time last year! As of August 31, we have received \$413K in pledges and continue to receive gifts each month. We have officially completed the Children's Play Area and Bread Oven. We look forward to starting the organ repairs and stained glass window improvements in 2019.

Thank you again for all the ways you contribute to Hope. I encourage all members to live green and lean by taking advantage of online giving. This will help us combat the "summertime slump" in giving and allow us to better track our giving numbers. 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 gayleb@ulch.org and request to be taken off the offering envelope list. We will save on both printing and postage fees.

Copies of the handouts from the congregational meeting will be available at the welcome desk. I understand this financial information can be a lot to process and comprehend. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you!

Emma Carpenter
Treasurer

Congregational Life

Dates to Keep in Mind:

Oct. 7: Blessing of Animals

Oct. 10: Prayer Around the Cross Evening Service

Oct. 14: Racial Justice Book Read event.

Oct. 21: ULCHers Play, Drop In Choir

Oct. 27: ISAIAH Benefit Concert with John Hermanson and the ULCHers

Oct. 2: Reformation Sunday, Confirmation, Fellowship Meal

Nov. 4: All Saints Sunday

Nov. 11: Gratitude and Generosity Sunday (receiving pledges)

Nov. 16: Rose Ensemble concert at Hope – Empire, Religion, War, Peace.

Nov. 18: Fellowship Meal

Nov. 20: Thanksgiving Eve (eve of eve) Service at Grace University Lutheran Church

Life Events at Hope

We're a community of hope, called to hold one another in prayer in our 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. We include in prayer...

Welcoming children and baptism: 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: Stewart and Carolyn Rudi on the death of Stewart's father Arnold in August and then Stewart's mother Joyce in September; Kristin and Nick Tangen on the death of Kristin's aunt Judy Snobeck; and Lamont and Becky Koerner, and Emily (Koerner) Logterman on the death of Emily's husband Steve Logterman.

Significant Illness: Those living with illness, cancer, recovery, uncertain diagnosis, chemical dependency and other addictions, and mental health struggles, including Bob Swanson, Janet Carpenter, Hannah Kiresuk, Trish Gorbunow, Alexander Otey-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.

Blessing of Animals on Oct. 7

In the spirit of what we know of St. Francis of Assisi, lover of creatures great and small, feathered, furry and scaly, on Sunday, Oct. 7, we will have a Blessing of Animals. You are welcome to bring the creatures in your life of all sizes and types (dogs, hamsters, and the rest), for a blessing. We'll gather on the patio around 11:45 a.m. after the 10:30 service. If your animal kin are comfortable in worship, they are welcome in the service. If your beloved animal is happier at home, consider bringing a picture. We'll include a dedication for those animals that have died but are still held in love. Feel free to invite friends and their pets to join in this blessing and/or the Sunday service.

Fellowship Meal

Our next Fellowship Meal will be Oct. 28 at 11:45 a.m. after the 10:30 service. This is an opportunity to get to know one another better. Grad and undergraduate students are our guests and eat free. Help with set up and clean-up is always appreciated.

Save the Date: Women's Retreat Jan. 18-20, 2019

At Dunrovin Retreat Center, north of Stillwater. Theme: Will Be Decided Soon. It's generally women from their 20s to as young as 90. Scholarship money available. Contact Beata Rydeen, beatarydeen@comcast.net, or Ann Beane, spirit.beane@gmail.com with questions.

Hope in the World News

Hope Reads: Author Talk and Dinner Conversation

Please join us for an evening of learning, eating, and talking. David Lawrence Grant, author of “People Like Us,” one of the essays in *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota*, will join us for a discussion at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 14 in the Sanctuary. We’ll follow the talk with a dinner catered by Breaking Bread, a North Minneapolis restaurant, and continue discussing the essay over dinner, finishing by 6:00 p.m. Please contact Karen Westwood at westwoodkaren@yahoo.com if you’ll need child care. This event is the first event after adoption of our congregation’s Racial Justice Statement, located on our website at <http://www.ulch.org/what-we-believe/> We look forward to our conversation together – don’t miss it!

Sheridan Story News

Beginning this month, Lynette Lamb is taking over coordinating Hope’s participation in The Sheridan Story. The fourth Friday of the month remains our day to distribute non-perishable food to the backpacks of children who are in need of this assistance at Marcy Open School. If you have some flexible time on Friday afternoons and would like to help, Lynette would love to hear from you at [lynettelamb2@gmail.com/](mailto:lynettelamb2@gmail.com)

Also new this year will be diversified food sacks. Rather than the same food going to everyone regardless of cultural background or family circumstance, four different sacks will be available: Latino, East African, Highly Mobile, and Basic. As always, Hope members, thank you for your support toward this effort to address food insecurity among kids and families in our neighborhood.

The Voting Rights Advancement Act

The unencumbered right to vote is the centerpiece of a free and just society. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 banned many restrictive practices that limited voter registration and the ability to vote, that disproportionately affected minority and poor citizens. However, in 2013 the Supreme Court struck down as outmoded VRA oversight regulations and review requirements intended to ensure that voting was not being suppressed. The Court recommended that Congress update the Voting Rights Act with “another formula based on current conditions.” To date Congress has not acted on this recommendation and, not surprisingly, voter purges, burdensome ID laws, and other restrictive measures are reemerging in various places around the country.

In 2017 the Voting Rights Advancement Act (S 1419/ HR 2978) was introduced to modernize federal voter protections. The VRAA would update the 1965 Voting Rights Act by providing new tools to address voting discrimination before it occurs. The ELCA has put together a fact sheet on voting rights and the VRAA, and a sample letter to Congress calling for the passage of the Advancement Act. Hope members are encouraged to exercise your advocacy rights by adding your voice to safeguarding this fundamental tenet of our democracy.

Benefit Concert for ISAIAH with John Hermanson and the UCLHers

On Saturday Oct. 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hope Sanctuary, John Hermanson of the band Storyhill, along with our own UCLHers, will share a rich evening of music in a special concert benefiting ISAIAH’s work with immigration and sanctuary. John will perform his powerful album ISAIAH, which reflects passages of Isaiah relating to immigration and the call to welcome the foreigner. A free will offering will be taken. Refreshments served afterwards. Please come and support the important work of ISAIAH and be part of a wonderful evening of music! Hosted by John and Ann Beane.

#HopeHappens Email

Do you want to stay up to date on actions and educational opportunities related to justice and equity in our community? Subscribe to the #HopeHappens Email which goes out every Monday. You can sign up on the website or at the welcome center.

President's Report

“Live Generously.” I first saw these words emblazoned across the front of a bright blue T-shirt in the dining hall at Holden Village. I looked again to make certain I was reading it correctly—expecting to see that it actually said “Give Generously.” But I had it right the first time. Since then I have seen similar T-shirts at the lumber yard, at the grocery store, at the Midtown YWCA—they’re all over the place. I have also learned that this is the title of a philanthropic program sponsored by Thrivent. But “Live Generously” is not just a corporate charity or a slogan on a T-shirt. For people of faith, it’s a call to action. And members of the Hope community have a strong history of heeding the call.

Some of that response has been financial. This year the congregation’s annual giving is up significantly over last year. Pledges to the “Revealing Hope” capital campaign exceeded expectations. And when the bread oven project hit an unanticipated budget shortfall this past summer, contributions from Hope members made up the difference in a matter of days.

As we enter the last quarter of the year at University Lutheran Church of Hope, we are taking a close look at our financial situation. We had a congregational meeting in mid-September to bring everyone up to date on the state of our balance sheet. In October and November, the Gratitude and Generosity Team will be asking members of our community to prayerfully consider supporting the ministries of Hope with their dollars. Members of the board and staff will look both backward and forward as they develop a realistic and responsible budget for 2019.

But generosity is not just about money. University Lutheran Church of Hope members are also generous with their time, energy, skills, creativity, and sometimes pure muscle. This devotion to “hands-on” work has enabled us to host families that lack permanent homes and to actively address issues of social justice. Hope members have built a community oven, prepared fellowship meals, and provided lunches at funerals. They have served on a multitude of committees, sung in the choir, and served communion. They have maintained the building and surrounded it with lush gardens. As you consider your pledge for the coming year, take some time to think about ways that you might participate more fully in the very active life of University Lutheran Church of Hope.

Live Generously. Blessings,

John Lauber
Congregational President

Welcome Students Festival Sept. 2: A Grand Time Was Had by All



Care and Nurture Ministry

Elder Voices Transforming the World: Our Stories in Action The Sage-ing® International Global Conference features **Matthew Fox**, theologian, author and founder of the Fox Institute along with six other noted keynote speakers, educators, authors and experts on aging with purpose. Thursday through Sunday, Oct 25-28, 2018 at Oak Ridge Hotel & Conference Center, Chaska MN. See the brochure at the ULCH Welcome Table. Pastor Barbara Johnson, Brian McCaffrey will attend. All others are welcome! To register go online at www.sage-ing.org

Care and Nurture Ministry, continued

North Suburban Chorus sings for Hope Diamonds Senior Group

On **Wednesday, October 17** lunch and fellowship begins at 12 noon in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome! Bring a friend! Sign up at the welcome center so we can plan for the meal. A \$6 donation helps offset the cost of each meal. *The North Suburban Chorus* is a group of friendly seniors who perform all over the Twin Cities. Their repertoire includes pop, Broadway, swing and patriotic music, in four part harmony. And they don't usually mind if you sing along!



Compassion Care Ministry: Instruction for New Caring Ministers

5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays, October 10 – December 5. (no classes on Oct. 31 and Nov. 21)

Compassion Care ministers are lay persons in our congregation who complete a series of six sessions designed to help them hone skills for deeper listening, confidentiality, good boundaries and respectful care for others. The seventh session (Dec. 5) will include a potluck supper and examples of on-going supervision and support for Compassion Care ministers.

After completing the sessions, Compassion Care ministers may be available to care, one to one, for a person who may be going through a life crisis such as the death of a loved one, the pain of a broken relationship, a serious illness, or any difficult time when extra support is needed and welcomed. Some who complete the training simply decide to use their learning to enhance their relational skills in daily life. Anyone is welcome to attend the training sessions, with no obligation to serve as a Compassion Care minister at University Lutheran Church of Hope.

Confidentiality is the key to this ministry of trust and deeper listening. Those receiving care will be known only to a pastor and the Compassion Care minister who will be matched with them. Those interested in attending the trainings sessions may contact one of the CC Ministry Leaders: Muffi Abrahamson, Ann Agrimson, Joan Campbell or Pastor Barbara Johnson at barbaraj@ulch.org or 612-331-5988.

Pastor Barbara Johnson

Faith in Community News

Bible & Brews Oct. 23 at 6:00 p.m. at the Tangen Residence. Exactly what it sounds like. Join us to learn together about scripture and beer! Bring your favorite brew to share, and come prepared for fun and engaging conversation. RSVP to Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org or on the FB Event.

“Whoever drinks beer, he is quick to sleep; whoever sleeps long, does not sin; whoever does not sin, enters Heaven! Thus, let us drink beer!” - Martin Luther

Neighborhood & Campus Team meets Oct. 7 after Worship

Join the Neighborhood & Campus Team to talk about our congregation's ministry in the Dinkytown/UMN community. We'll discuss the Dinkytown Farmers Market, Riverside Innovation Hub, and plan our 2018/2019 engagement strategy. See you there! Questions? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

Sanctuary/Immigration Strategy Meeting Oct. 21

Want to know more about University Lutheran Church of Hope Sanctuary work, and help strategize for the coming year? Join us in the library after worship for conversation and planning. We'll discuss suppers, ESL classes, accompaniment, and other aspects of this ministry. We have committed to standing with our immigrant neighbors; to do that effectively, we must continue to build powerful relationships with one another and with our neighbors. Join us to do just that! Questions? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

Dinkytown Farmers Market

The Dinkytown Farmers Market ends in October. Our planned end date is Oct. 10; the official end date depends on weather and our vendors' ability to provide produce. Thank you all for your strong support of this fun and engaging experiment. We have heard from many neighbors that the Market is much appreciated and has an impact in the community. Over the winter we'll reflect and plan to launch again in the spring.

Staff

Pastors:

Rev. Jen Nagel

Rev. Barbara Johnson

Minister of Worship & Music:

Zach Busch

Minister of Faith in Community:

Nicholas Tangen

Pastoral Intern: Linqing Chu

Business Manager: Gayle Bidne

Custodian:

Geremew Beshah – weekdays

Gus Gustafson – Sunday

opening/closing

Child Care: Gus Gustafson

Working in partnership with

Lutheran Campus Ministry:

Rev. Kate Reuer Welton

Vision & Governance Board

Officers:

President: John Lauber

Vice President: Carol Flaten

Past President: Eric Ringham

Treasurer: Emma Carpenter

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Worship & Music: Lisa Morse

Youth & Young Adults:

Abby Lucas

Education/Faith Formation:

Hope in the World: Bruce Eldevik

Relational Ministries: John Beane

Operations:

Emma Carpenter

Eric Ringham

Leadership Development

& Communications:

John Lauber

Carol Flaten

Board Secretary: Ann Agrimson

The Visitor

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