



The Visitor

May 2020
No:16-05

Complex world. Thoughtful church.



Clockwise from 9 o'clock: Sewer line work in early April near the big sign and chapel doors; blessing communion elements for distribution to those who cannot join us for worship via the computer; the palms of Palm Sunday; hundreds of masks have been created and distributed by Hope crafters (#HopeHappens).

Known and Unknown

The hyper-structured part of our family life (yes, we've got a kindergartener) is acclimated to time and place. Each morning we review the calendar and say amazingly definitive things like "Today is Sunday, April 19, 2020". In the very next thought, I'm all-too-aware that I (and I know I'm not alone in this) can't see well to the end of the week, let alone May, or the summer, or even the fall. This makes writing items for the newsletter a bit challenging. Will that event come to fruition? What needs adjusting on our calendar? How do we live faithfully? What about the frustration and disappointment? The real grief at postponed plans or missed milestones? The exhaustion of the emotional and physical sort?

For all that we *don't* know, I relish what we *do* know:

- I thank God daily for the strength and creativity and generous faithfulness of this community of Christ. Moving through Holy Week and Easter with you was powerful. Of course, there was much that we couldn't do in the usual ways, but God was praised and the beautiful arc of the salvation story was witnessed. You showed up in worship, and also in leadership and support of all sorts. You are praying and phoning and reaching out, literally practicing love for one another when it would be easy to curl inward.
- Back in the early days of the stay-at-home-order, the staff and leaders came to an important decision point about worship. Would we keep live streaming (or recording) from church? Or would we pivot to use Zoom and then live stream our Zoom services? We opted for the latter because it offered a way to do live worship in a much more participatory and engaging way that is still public and open to visitors and friends. This fits the worship values at Hope, and also creates energy that yields more energy. The Holy Spirit is clearly at work in and through you.
- Around that same time, we faced decisions about Holy Communion. At first the word we received from the bishops guided us to "fast" from Holy Communion, since Communion is to be shared when the community gathers. Well, what does it mean to gather? It seemed to many that we are gathering online and hungering for Christ's meal of grace and healing. Over the weeks our synod bishop made more space for congregations to make decisions about Holy Communion based on congregational context. With the staff's recommendation, Hope's Vision and Governance Board affirmed that we would share Holy Communion during this pandemic time and then afterward we'd participate in a larger ELCA conversation about Holy Communion.
- Masks...and more masks, and then still more masks. The Crafters and Quilters and friends at Hope are creating masks. These have been and will continue to be given to a whole variety of groups: care centers, medical folks, Families Moving Forward, Portland House, Hope members and neighbors, and more.

Yes, it's true, we're living in uncertain times. And, it's also true that God's faithfulness is palpable. I see God's faithfulness in and through you. Please don't hesitate to reach out at any time (612-227-9673, jenn@ulch.org) and know my prayers for you in these days. Christ's Peace!

—Pastor Jen

On the times



Martin Luther
1483-1546

(because sometimes you just need to hear a little Luther) – this is from 'Whether One Should Flee from the Plague' 1527.

What else is the epidemic but a fire which instead of consuming wood and straw devours life and body? You ought to think this way: "...the enemy has sent us poison and toxins. Therefore, I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine, and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance infect and pollute others, and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, God will surely find me. In the meantime, I have done what the Lord expects of me and so I am not culpable for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me, however, I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely, as stated above. See, this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God."

—re-translated by Rev. Bill Russell,
based on *Luther's Works*, vol. 43

President's Column

Dear friends in Christ, I am continually encouraged by this well-known prayer:

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrod-den, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The effects of Covid19 magnify the reality that we continue to find ourselves on an unpredictable journey. As individuals we may be experiencing this time differently. Yet, collectively we are experiencing unprecedented circumstances filled with fear and uncertainty, struggle and sacrifice, pain and sorrow, overwhelm and loneliness. It is also a time filled with hope and assurance, imagination and responsibility, care and healing, love and connection.

As a community, it is certainly encouraging to know that our social distancing efforts are helping to flatten the curve of the coronavirus infection rate, ultimately saving lives. As a congregation, though, it is still challenging not to be able to worship together and connect personally in physical form. We are missing each other and the meaningful ways we interact.

Thankfully, technology is allowing us to adjust our patterns in this time of great transition and to find a new way to connect and worship with each other via the internet. Our amazing staff, with great concern for our faith community's well-being, quickly embraced this new way.

We give our heartfelt thank you to Jen, Zach, Nick, Barbara, Nathan, Kari, and our member technicians (Matt, Dan and others) for so thoughtfully and creatively leading our faith community through a time of reflection during Lent, services of contemplation during Holy Week, and a full out joyful celebration on Easter Sunday!

Together, we are rooted in this church season of resurrection and transformation. The future will be filled with challenges and difficulties that we cannot imagine, yet we are assured of God's Easter promise. Good news! Christ is risen! God is with us! Thank you for continuing to support this congregation.

– Tim Abrahamson, President

In Appreciation and Remembrance

In appreciation and remembrance...I do not know when the Easter Flower Project originated but I do know that over time it has become the heart of the Friendly Visitor ministry. Saints, past and present, are remembered or honored, and the homebound, grieving, and ill are served with beautiful plants to brighten their day. A ministry that has bloomed every Easter Sunday, well except for this year, but some kind of blooms will be delivered in Spring or Fall. It was very important to our founders that this tradition be continued. So when Pat Lindquist, Kathy Knudson, and I were asked to fill this position, we were also asked to apprentice a year with Bertha Hanson and Winnie Frolen.

Now after many years, it has become almost a devotional for me as I prepare the lists of memorials of people who have died. Many I remember when they were alive and also how they contributed to the work of our church. Some, I feel like I knew, as I type their names annually, knowing these people have influenced, or remain spiritually a special person to individual members in our congregation. Finally, we honor those, like you, who continue to contribute to the church and keep our church ministry vital. All these people have made the church what it is today and what it is to be. "We are one body in Christ."

Included in the newsletter (pages 9 and 10) are the people who contributed this year to the Easter Flower Project. Thank you. Please do not hesitate to contact me, if a name was missed. Though we were very careful, our tradition of collecting contributions had to be altered this year. If you would like to add your name to this list, which will be published again when we celebrate our worship together in one space, I will reopen time to contribute a few weeks prior. Thank you for your patience.

– Rosalie Eldevik

(A Big word of thanks: Thanks to Rosalie Eldevik for organizing the Easter flower dedications and to Kathy Knudson and Pat Lindquist for sending Easter cards on behalf of the congregation. Thanks to these faithful volunteers, and thanks to you!)

Pandemic

What if you thought of it
as the Jews consider the Sabbath—
the most sacred of times?
Cease from travel.
Cease from buying and selling.
Give up, just for now,
on trying to make the world
different than it is.
Sing. Pray. Touch only those
to whom you commit your life.
Center down.

And when your body has become still,
reach out with your heart.
Know that we are connected
in ways that are terrifying and beautiful.
(You could hardly deny it now.)
Know that our lives
are in one another's hands.
(Surely, that has come clear.)
Do not reach out your hands.
Reach out your heart.
Reach out your words.
Reach out all the tendrils
of compassion that move, invisibly,
where we cannot touch.

Promise this world your love—
for better or for worse,
in sickness and in health,
so long as we all shall live.

— Lynn Ungar, March 11, 2020

Beacon Post Card Campaign

Hope in the World collected and sent 85 signed Beacon-sponsored post cards to Minnesota Senators and Representatives requesting \$500 million in housing bonds in the bonding bill to fund more operating dollars for family supportive housing, and statewide rent subsidies for low-income Minnesotans. Twenty-one post cards were also taken to be filled out and mailed from home. That is a possible 106 post cards sent from the congregation. Thank you!

Homeless Day on the Hill

On March 11, before the citizens of Minnesota were asked to stay at home and avoid crowds, Sonja Peterson and Donna Neste gathered with 850 others at Central Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, representing Beacon Interfaith, Avivo, Aeon, MICAH, ISAIAH and many other organizations under the collaborative umbrella of Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless. We were welcomed with opening speeches by those who spearhead the fight to make affordable housing available to every person in this state. From there we went to the Capital to attend a press release in the Capital Press Room, and we packed a committee room for a hearing of the Health and Human Services Committee. Most importantly we visited our State Senators and Representatives with our ask of \$500 in bonding to build more affordable housing, \$15 million for rent subsidies and \$10 million for family supportive housing. Please keep those who are homeless in your prayers. They are a very vulnerable population in this pandemic.

Sunday Forums

While in-person Sunday Forums are suspended, the Sunday Forum committee is envisioning how a virtual Forum series might meet the Forum goals of promoting mindful inquiry and expanding our understanding of how God is at work in our lives. Might virtual Forums be of interest to you? Might you be willing to share an expression of your faith, knowledge, or skills? Please contact a member of the committee to share your thoughts, so that we might consider the possibilities together: Diane Greve, chair, dkgreve@gmail.com; Karen Jorstad karenjorstad@gmail.com; Brian McCaffrey, brianmccaffr@gmail.com; John Setterlund, john.setterlund@gmail.com; and Linda Herman, ljohnson@cord.edu. Thank you! — Linda Herman

Holy Week and Easter on Youtube

Thanks to all our musicians, video creators (check out Easter Vigil), tech people, and leaders who made our Holy Week and Easter worship happen. Here are viewing links:

- **Maundy Thursday:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c_5D6rWO2xw
- **Good Friday:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9wHCU1ZkugI>
- **Easter Vigil:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CS6DBqNoBpA>
- **Easter Sunday:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MI4M-b3vTds>

Staffing Transitions

Gayle Bidne has now retired from 10+ years of as our Business Manager at University Lutheran Church of Hope. To read Gayle's letter to the congregation and a little about the new staff members, see the April *Visitor*. Kari Olson is our new Financial Administrator working 16 hours a week, and Nathan Obrestad is our Church Administrator at 30 hours per week. Welcome, Kari (kario@ulch.org) and Nathan (nathano@ulch.org)! Even given the pandemic and lots of remote work, the transition has gone relatively smoothly and we're excited for Kari and Nathan to get to know the congregation. A retirement luncheon for Gayle *had been* planned for early May; it's postponed until a safe time, yet to be determined.

Life Events at Hope

We're a community called to hold one another in prayer in every season—in our 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. We especially pray for those who are postponing marriage festivities or making hard decisions.

† Deaths—We pray for all who grieve the loss of loved ones, Bob Peterson and Karen Jorstad, Ted and Marie, at the death of Bob's father Lloyd; Mark, Deb, and John and their families at the death of their mother, long time Hope member Esther Shivers, on April 5 (a service will be held in the future); and the family and friends of Chad Brovold who died on April 6.

† Significant illness—We pray for those living with illness, cancer, recovery, uncertain diagnosis, hospice, chemical dependency and other addictions, and mental health struggles, including Ken Lynes, Jack Parry, Steve Schreuder, Jim Hougen, Miriam Hougen, Edward Nyhus, Peter Ostroushko, Janet Carpenter, Hannah Kiresuk, and Chuck Lewis.

† Separation, divorce, retirement, moves, graduations, new beginnings, and, yes, pandemics—God is with us through it all.

Coming Up

(tentative as things are these day)

May 31—Pentecost
June 15-19—Shared Day Camp
June 18-20—Camping and Paddling
July 26-31—Youth to Camp Amnicon

Gardening Hope While Social Distancing

The world has changed for people, but the plants don't know that. They will come up, bud out, bloom, and grow as usual. So will our pervasive weeds. And our gardens will need care, pruning, weeding, watering, mulching, and all the other things we do to make the Gardens of Hope attractive, inviting, and healthy. How to do that, that is the question.

For now, there will be no specific gardening sessions. Not that we were getting massive crowds at past gardening events, but I'm not going to invite trouble. I invite you to garden at Hope when you can. I will update the members of my Gardens of Hope email group often as to what needs to be done, and I'll probably let you know when I'll be there for advice or directions.

I invite you to adopt a garden or part of one for the duration of this summer (not a lifetime commitment). If you want a tour of the gardens so you know what is there and what kind of care it needs, let me know. And if you are not in the email group yet but want to be, contact me: kaknudson@comcast.net.

— Kathy Knudson for Gardens of Hope

Contemplative Prayer on Facebook

Each Friday at noon we will post a video, or go Live, with a conversation about contemplative prayer practices that you can do at home. These are practices that ground us in the present moment and the presence of God. So far, we have explored Centering Prayer, Lectio Divina, the prayer of lament, and the Welcoming Prayer. Keep an eye on the ULCH Facebook page on Friday afternoons for these helpful and simple resources.

Worship with University Lutheran Church of Hope Online

Though we can't currently meet in person for worship, we continue to worship each Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. online. Here are two ways to participate:

☞ Join us on Zoom and have the ability to interact with one another and the worship leaders. The service begins at 10:30 a.m. and we'll open the Zoom line 15 minutes before the service so you can enter, get settled, greet folks, and light a candle. Also, we'll continue to share Holy Communion most Sundays. Have bread and wine/grape juice available. Remember that Zoom allows for up to 100 folks to access at a time, so if you aren't able to join, you'll need to opt for the live stream. Watch the weekly Thursday Epistle and other notices for the Zoom login codes and link. If you would like to be added to the Thursday Epistle (weekly e-newsletter) list, please contact ulch@ulch.org.

☞ Join us on the live stream. We are finding it best to live stream to either our University Lutheran Church of Hope Facebook page at Facebook Live (<https://www.facebook.com/ulchhope/live/>) or our YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/>). We regularly run into trouble with both of these, so if one doesn't work, try the other! Thanks for flexing.

☞ Also, Sunday bulletins can be downloaded from the website www.ulch.org. These are helpful as you follow along with the service.

Families Moving Forward

Please keep Families Moving Forward, in your prayers during this time of Sheltering in Place to mitigate the spread of Covid19.

University Lutheran Church of Hope had a successful hosting experience in February while it was still an option to have families staying on site at churches. Thank you to the many volunteers who made this possible. Families from both loops are currently being housed in the same hotel. Congregations that have committed to hosting during these times are providing meals. This has caused additional expenses to the organization. In response, a donation from our dedicated FMF fund has been sent to support this mission. The following are further requests for donations posted by Laura Vitelli.

- Health and hygiene supplies for families: We're running low on things like diapers and personal care items.
- Masks: If you have sewers in your congregations able to make cloth masks, our shelter guests, staff and residents need them.

Blessing to all as we Shelter in Faith. Peace!

— Gretchen Peik

Care and Nurture Ministries

Pastor Barbara Johnson

ONE DAY AT A TIME. It's not just for those engaged in 12-step programs. It's wise advice for all of us. Getting through some of the toughest days might require one to focus on ONE HOUR AT A TIME. Dwelling on what we fear, or just don't know, can heighten anxiety, so it's important to find ways to feel useful and hopeful.

If you've already sent in your income tax forms and cleaned out your closets, and if you're tired of watching reruns, you might take a look at some of these ideas:

- DAILY - Stay in regular contact with the people you are concerned about. Use the phone, email, or send a card or a hand written note. Remember those who are not likely to have or use a computer or a cell phone. They love to receive paper mail and talk on the phone!
- DAILY - Go outside and breathe in the fresh air! Take a walk or a bike ride. Be sure to smile and wave when you pass by the windows of your neighbors' homes. They can see you even if you can't see them – and they will smile too.
- PRAY DAILY at Noon and at 7:00 p.m. - Stop to pray from wherever you are. Others from Hope are praying too. Invite a friend to be your prayer partner during those times. Look at the church calendar for updates on what ULCH folks are doing during the week.
- SUNDAY - Worship at 10:30 if you can connect to Zoom or watch a live stream or a recording of ULCH worship on YouTube or Facebook.

Continued "One Day" on p. 7 *

← “One Day”, continued from p. 6

- MONDAY - Read one of the Psalms or write your own lament psalm. Check out “Bible & Brews” Bible study via Zoom with Nick Tangen on the 4th Monday.
- TUESDAY - Go through your personal address book, call someone on your Christmas card list, and sing one of your favorite carols together.
- WEDNESDAY - Write a poem, a song, a prayer, a lim- erick or Haiku to express your thoughts. Share it with someone you’ve missed talking to. Join the church choir online at 7:00 p.m. Contact Zach for info.
- THURSDAY - Join the ULCH Community Check-In at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom. Watch your email for the Thursday Epistle for updates on what’s happening in our faith community.
- FRIDAY - Participate in the Centering Prayer on ULCH’s Facebook live at Noon. Join the ULCH Crafters on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Friday, and do your own favorite craft.
- SATURDAY –Find your art supplies, colored pens, pencils and markers and put some color in your life!

For the Good of All

If you sew, MAKE A FACE MASK for yourself or others. People everywhere need them, including: people who are homeless, those working at grocery stores, restaurants, those who live and work at care centers, assisted living, medical clinics, hospitals. Contact Ann Agrimson re: distribution of the masks.

When you BUY GROCERIES, pick up a few extras for the local food shelf. Some grocery stores will have a cart you can leave them in. Or drive them over to the food shelf yourself.

Pastor Jen, Pastor Barbara, Zach, Nick, Nathan and Kari continue to work our regular hours, mostly from home. Please contact one of us if you or someone you know from our ULCH community may benefit from a pastoral contact.

Children’s Ministry at ULCH

Nick Tangen

We will continue to gather on Zoom each Sunday afternoon at 2pm until we are able to gather in person again. This is a time for us to check-in, read together, and pray with one another. We are also encouraging families to engage with *SparkHouse*’s new Sunday School at Home curriculum, which parents/guardians will receive in an email each week.

A reminder, that we will continue to gather resources for connection, entertainment, and faith formation on the ULCH website (ulch.org). If you’re looking for things to do while kids are home from school, check out the Resource Sharing Page. You can also share resources and ideas on the Children’s Ministry Facebook Group. If you would like to be included in this FB Group, please contact me at nickt@ulch.org

If there are particular resources or support that you and/or your family could use in this topsy-turvy time, please reach out and let us know. We are all learning to adjust to a very new and uncomfortable normal. We’re here for one another!

Bible & Brews on Zoom

May 18 – 6:30 p.m.

Join us on Zoom for a time of Bible Study and beer! Nick will send an email with a Zoom link and invitation as we near the date. If you would like to receive a Zoom link, please contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

Sanctuary and Immigration

Please continue to shine a light on the ways in which COVID19 is having a disproportionate impact on immigrants and undocumented people in the US. Immigrants are significantly more likely to be essential workers, and many are working diligently as medical professionals on the front lines. You can highlight these realities on social media and in conversations with your neighbors. You can also donate to funds that support immigrants like the MN Freedom Fund (minnesotafreedomfund.org) and the MN Immigrant Families COVID19 Fund (<https://www.gofundme.com/f/mn-immigrant-families-covid19-fund>).

Contact your elected officials to express your concern for the lack of assistance being offered by the state and federal government to undocumented workers and mixed status families. More must be done to protect the most vulnerable in our communities!

Our Ministry of Music

As we are all experiencing, music is just not the same over Zoom. While yes, the musical offerings and leadership have been lovely (especially from the many talented and generous people who have volunteered to lead or offer things), the truth remains that making or experiencing music together in a shared space - the energetic connection between musician and listener, the vibration of skin and bone, the resonance of live acoustic, the pregnant silence of a breath, the hair-parting blast of an organ postlude - these things have no online substitute. There is no adequate stand-in for the peak of a phrase of congregational singing in real time and space that at once praises God and reinvents a person's joy.

It is for this reason that a specific kind of grief has entered into my life and my heart that I am still getting to know and trying to accept. Having the whole breadth and magnitude of shared voice and resonance be shut into the span of bandwidth and computer speakers is unfathomable, unhuman, and sterile. Yet it is our reality.

But...the song goes on. We know it does. We catch glimpses of it in all myriad of things. We feel it inside and know there will come a day when we can let it fly once more. And we can carry with us into that future a new understanding of the true value of our voices together.

Thank you to all of you who have participated avidly in this new normal in our worship life. It is a joy to see your faces on Zoom, to talk to you, to share some semblance of connection. Over Holy Week and Easter, the most solemn and important time in the church year, we welcomed holiness into our homes. We felt it, close and familiar, in water, wine, bread, candlelight, and the steady beat of our own hearts. Seeing your preparation for these services (crosses, altar spaces, candles, flowers, A L L E L U I A banners, etc., etc!) was completely inspirational and

delightful. Remember, when we're back together, that you, too, can beautify a space and ready if for the sacredness of God. Bring your gifts of creativity back with you to church in a new way, whenever this is all over, and however that may manifest for you.

Thank you to the array of gifted leaders - willing musicians, flexible and adaptable tech helpers, readers, greeters, preachers - who helped us worship God in this holy time. You bless us.

And speaking of leaders who bless us, our Choral Scholar, Haruka Yukioka, will be ending their tenure at what would have been the end of our program year this month. They have written this note to the congregation –



It's really hard to believe that my year serving this congregation as Choral Scholar is ending, but it seems that many of us are feeling that disbelief about a number of different things these days. I feel very grateful to have been able to sing and play for everyone, whether it was during the hushed reverence of a Holden Evening Prayer service or the joyous cacophony of Zoom worship. My favorite experience this year was 'Night Songs' in February - I've been lucky enough to perform in many concerts throughout high school and college, but 'Night Songs' is one concert that will always have a special place in my heart. I'm so thankful to Zach and Hope Choir for their patience and support as I learn to be a church musician, and I leave feeling more confident both as a musician, and a person. This community is so tight-knit and special, and I have felt really welcomed in my time here. I look forward to singing with you all again in the future!

Thank you, Haruka, for your many gifts that you have generously shared with us over these months. We will miss you being with us regularly and wish you blessing and wellness as you go. "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well." Peace to you all! – Zach Busch

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS - 2020

Thank you to all who have supported the Friendly Visitor Easter Flowers so far this season.

*As the pandemic eases and we are able to worship together,
we plan to have another opportunity to make additional flower dedications.*

MEMORIAL GIVEN BY

Ann Agrimson and Tim Gustafson

Roger and Nita Anderson

Dan and Kit Bielenberg

Jeanne Berkeland

Esther Dant

Rosalie and Bruce Eldevik

Tami, Josh, and Kelsey Felling; Nick and Anjee Erding

Mike and Ruth Fingerson

Jeanette Halti

Marge, Lucia, Mark and Vicky Halvorsen

Terrell R. Hanson

Ruth Hedman

Stewart and Linda Herman

Julaine Kobiske

Lynette Lamb and Robert Gerloff

Marty Lewis-Hunstiger

Robert and Karen Lindesmith, Jayne Lindesmith, and Jim and Julie O'Brien

Carmen Macoskey and family

Lisa and Merrill Morse

Jack and Donna Parry

Shelly Parry and Paul Demeules

Peterson/Jorstad Family

Ken and Elaine Sarkela

Jo Schroeder

Nancy Swanson

Mary Ann Teske

Carol Steinberg

Wayne Westwood

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Bill and Jo Gustafson; Robert and Joy Agrimson; Ann's aunt, Helen Ann Powell

Our grandson, Micah Anderson

Ed and Helen Kirby; Russ Bielenberg

Husband, Bob; son, Mark

All those who have lost the battle with COVID- 19

Leroy Halvorsen; Paige Lowman; Loved Ones

Bob Felling

Brother, Allan Johnson; sister, Lila Eickhoff; brother-in-law, Donald Eickhoff

Bob Halti

Husband and father, Leroy Halvorsen

Bob, Bertha, and Blair Hanson

Joyce Hedman

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard A. Johnson; Stewart and Lyn Herman

My parents, Ellen and Irvin Kobiske; my grandparents, Alma and Oscar Boeltel; Nora and John Kobiske

Marjorie Lamb; Gerald and Mary Ellen Gerloff

Tim Hunstiger; Charles and Shirley Lewis; Eugene and Betty Kogl

My mother, Ruth Irene Jorgenson, church organist for 30 years at Salem Lutheran Church in Albert Lea, MN; Robb's mother, Jean Juni Johnson

John Macoskey

Loved Ones

Son, Christopher; parents, brothers, and sisters

Chris Parry; David and Lorraine Demeules; and many loved ones.

Our dear father and grandfather, Lloyd Peterson

Loved ones

Parents and brother

Husband, Bob Swanson; Harold and Dagmar Swanson; Stanley and Alice Lauve

Reuben and Terry Teske

Loved ones

Anna J. Westwood

continued "Flowers" on p. 10 **7**

← “Flowers” continued from p. 9

GIVEN BY

Dan and Kit Bielenberg

Esther Dant

Rosalie and Bruce Eldevik

Ruth Hedman

Cyndi and Steve Ganzkow-Wold

Pastor Barbara and Swan Johnson

Alice, Eliza, Jane McBride and Jen Nagel

IN HONOR OF

Hayden Bielenberg, the little warrior

All those who tried hard to save people’s lives, and continue to try and save others while risking their own lives from COVID-19

Our vibrant, caring, and creative church staff

Gordon Hedman

Our grandchildren, Augie, Theo, Xander, Julia, and Cash

Gayle Bidne

Grammy and Grampy; Grandma and Grandpa; Grandma Donna and Papa Eric; Grandma Kim; Grandpa Dan

Treasurer’s Report

| March 2020 and Year-to-Date Income and Expense | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|---------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| | Mar. Actual | Mar. Budget | Mar. Variance | YTD Actual | YTD Budget | YTD Variance |
| General Giving | 45,235 | 40,583 | 4,651 | 124,838 | 121,750 | 3,088 |
| Rental Income | 12,183 | 12,516 | (333) | 36,481 | 37,547 | (1,066) |
| Special Income | - | - | - | 54 | - | 54 |
| Total Income | 57,417 | 53,099 | 4,319 | 161,372 | 159,296 | 2,076 |
| Salaries & Benefits | 26,929 | 29,947 | (3,018) | 83,424 | 89,840 | (6,415) |
| Total Expense | 47,665 | 54,752 | (7,087) | 158,876 | 161,816 | (2,940) |
| Net Operating Income | 9,752 | (1,653) | 11,405 | 2,497 | (2,519) | 5,016 |

General giving totaled \$45,235 for the month of March. YTD we’ve received \$124,838, \$3,088 overbudget. Rental income totaled \$12,183, slightly underbudget due to fewer daily parking tenants. Total income for the month totaled \$57,417, for a total year-to-date income of \$161,372, \$2,076 overbudget.

Expenses totaled \$47,665 for the month of March. During the month, several “contra-expenses” were applied, decreasing the total monthly expenses and neutralizing the year-to-date total. Year-to-date, expenses totaled \$161,816, \$2,940 underbudget. We had a net operating income of \$9,752 for the month and \$2,497 year-to-date. As of March 31, we have \$255K in current assets – primarily composed of our checking and savings account.

We received \$7,401 in Capital Campaign contributions in March. We made our monthly mortgage payment and plan to distribute benevolences later in the year.

In late March 2020, the President signed into law the CARES Act. The legislation is aimed at providing relief

for individuals and small businesses negatively impacted by the coronavirus outbreak. The CARES Act created the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), a loan program designed to help small businesses and non-profit organizations pay employee wages and other critical expenses over the next couple months. The loan is forgiven under two conditions: (1) monies secured are used to cover payroll expenses, mortgage interest and utilities and (2) employee levels are maintained. University Lutheran Church of Hope applied and officially secured a Small Business Association (SBA) loan under the PPP to cover qualified expenses (salaries and benefits, mortgage interest and utilities) over the next couple months. I am grateful for the stability and consistency this loan provides during uncertain times. God is good.

Thank you for all the ways you contribute to University Lutheran Church of Hope. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns! Thank you, stay well.

– Emma Carpenter, Treasurer

IN MEMORIAM

ESTHER SHIVERS was described by her son Mark as a tough, sweet Norwegian Iowa/Minnesota farm girl. Laughter was her best medicine, and it could usually get her through any rough patches in her day. Esther married George Shivers and they raised their three children, Mark, John and Deborah, in SE Minneapolis where George was administrator at University Hospital. They were long time members of University Lutheran



Esther Shivers

Church of Hope. Esther worked as an RN for nearly 40 years, serving for many years as a psych nurse at Fairview hospital on West Bank and then as head nurse at the US Post Office. George died in the late 1980s. Esther was an avid tennis player, especially in her senior years, when she met Patrick Grames. They married and enjoyed traveling extensively in the US, Norway, Europe and Russia. After Patrick passed away, Esther lived her last 5 years at Eagle Crest in Roseville. Her family said their goodbyes to Esther as they watched her through a glass window to her room. She was 92 when she died peacefully on Palm Sunday. Esther had 17 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. The family will plan a memorial service for Esther at a later date.

CHAD BROVOLD was the eldest son of Jean and Roger Brovold. His mother Jean was a long-time member of University Lutheran Church of Hope. Chad was 4 years old when his father Roger died in 1950. His mother Jean passed away Dec. 24, 2018.

Following his graduation from college Chad moved to Los Angeles, California, to become a stock broker, in charge of international investments for Teledyne Inc. He returned to Minneapolis to work for Northwest Bank in the 1980s. Later, he was self-employed as a day trader. Chad is



Chad Brovold

described as a highly intelligent, sensitive and generous man. He was an accomplished musician and composer, playing piano, clarinet and oboe. He wrote scripts for TV – including an episode of the Mary Tyler Moore show.

Chad died from complications of COPD on Monday April 6, 2020. He will be missed by his brother Tom (Ann) Brovold, Hayward, Wisconsin, his sister Sharol Tamburro (Tom Knutson), Owatonna, Minnesota, eight nieces and nephews, and several dear friends.

– Pastor Barbara

Around the Neighborhood

While we have been gathering for worship online, our neighborhood has also adjusted to life amid COVID-19.

- Our unsheltered neighbors have lost much of their access to cheap or free food and face more harassment on the street with so few people in the neighborhood.
- Some of our favorite restaurants and businesses have closed down indefinitely while the state practices social-distancing. The business district is always vulnerable, but the low customer volume puts many of our neighbors at even greater risk. If you are looking for small and local businesses to support, consider buying some take-out or curb-side meals from one of our Dinkytown restaurants!
- Housing security continues to be a concern, and as more and more of our neighbors are unable to work, their ability to pay rent becomes significantly more challenging.

Keep our neighborhood in your prayers, and when you are able, drive through to support one of our local businesses. We have also transitioned the Little Free Library to a Little Free Food Pantry, so you can drop off canned goods and easy-to-eat food at any time.

– Nick Tangen (nickt@ulch.org)

