

Complex world. Thoughtful church.

November 2020
No. 16-11



Clockwise from Top Left: The Odenbachs were busy carvers when the Sunday School families gathered in the Courtyard for pumpkin carving and s'more eating; the fall sunlight on the bell tower; the Cooper-Evans girls take a break from carving; a fall bike trip on the Gateway State Trail; our 2021 Confirmands, with Pastor Barbara, former Intern Linqing Chu, co-teacher Kit Bielenberg, and Pastor Jen; celebrating Reformation Sunday and Confirmation Sunday on October 25; (center) Hope Endures is our theme for Gratitude and Generosity pledging for the 2021 annual fund gifts—thanks for prayerfully considering your pledges and thanks to Hope member Jack Dant for this painting of the cross in the sanctuary: Candles in the Sanctuary.

Counting and Counted

As I walked in the early morning on a recent day, a clanging gate caught my attention. I was near the corner entrance to a large cemetery. Squinting into the hazy autumn light I could make out the shape of a person who had just pushed open the wrought iron gate, slipped in, and nestled into the quiet grassy spot against the big stone pillar from which the gate hangs. Perhaps they were unsheltered and looking for a safer spot to rest.



Just days before that, Ann Rolle, from our congregation, who had worked for the census, had told me about how over one night small teams fanned out around the city and state enumerating people. They didn't just enumerate those who live in houses or dorms or apartments, but also those who stay in shelters and under bridges, those sleeping in camps, lingering at bus stops, or resting on the train. "Enumerating," Ann had said, explaining that enumerating is a better word for the action of the census. For counting has so many meanings: to count, like 1, 2, 3; and to count, like to matter, to have value, meaning, worth.

Seeing the fellow in the cemetery that early morning, I wondered if he'd been enumerated by one of these census teams. Did he feel like he counted, like people knew him and valued him and cared? Like he had gifts and talents that the community needed? With my mind full of All Saints, I'm musing about both the living and the dead, those who have gone before us and are at rest, those with whom we currently live and move and have our being, and those who feel far away, whose ideas we may disagree with, even vehemently, and who God still claims in a wide mercy unfathomable to us mortals. Did this fellow resting in the morning light count? Was he counted? To God, surely he does count, and, yes, with God he is counted. To us, to our broken society, with COVID deaths ticking up daily, that's a harder question that begs our attention, particularly in light of the Gospel's call and the current times.

This year as we celebrate All Saints on November 1, I'm praying that you and that fellow and so many others know you count, that you hear again your beloved-ness in God's eyes, in Christ's heart. Between the quarantining of the pandemic, the mask wearing of precaution, the early snow of this fall, the divisiveness of this election, and the general crankiness of these times, it would be easy to forget this truth. So quickly we put on our blinders. We erect our walls. We let anxiety win the day.

On All Saints, at our best, we can light candles for the loves lost and the loves not yet, and we can give thanks for those who share this challenging season. We can remember how much people count. At Hope during the Zoom and live streamed service on November 1st, we'll be tolling the bell and naming our saints. Over All Saints weekend, stop by the sanctuary to light candles and pray and linger. The main sanctuary doors and the blue welcome center doors will be open to access the sanctuary on Saturday, Oct. 31 (9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.), Sunday, Nov. 1 (noon-3:00 p.m.), and Monday, Nov. 2 (9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.).

These are the University Lutheran Church of Hope saints who have died since last All Saints Sunday:

+Astrid Swain+
+Bob Swanson+
+Marie Smith+
+LeRoy Halvorsen+
+Esther Shivers+
+Chad Brovold+
+Ken Lynes+
+Bob Hoisington+

May light perpetual shine upon them. And may *you*, beloved ones, shine with Christ's light in a dreary time: for you, and that fellow, count, you do. -Pastor Jen

Worship and Music

November is a liminal season in the church year. The month begins with All Saints, when we lift into the church's communal memory and find ourselves in the wide circle of God's great cloud of witnesses. We then move swiftly toward the end of the church's calendar year on Reign of Christ Sunday only three weeks later. Our scripture turns to end times and signs of Christ's return. Then the last Sunday of the month is the first Sunday in Advent, when we go from ending to beginning. Eternity, shut in the span of a simple month. The river—of mercy, of time flowing on—flows from the throne of God. Alleluia.

Together we have built capacity for worshipping online over the span of the pandemic. In November, we have the opportunity and freedom to gather yet more frequently. We will observe All Saints online as usual on Sunday and offer the opportunity for safe in-person candle-lighting in our beautiful and holy sanctuary. Only days later, Election Day dawns. At what will be a tense and trepidatious time, we will turn to God in prayer for our nation. Monday night and Wednesday night of that first week of the month, we will offer a prayer service on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. We will pray the same liturgy twice - once before Election Day, and once

after. Join us for these services, for prayer matters - it forms us and changes us. Later in the month, we will worship again on the eve before Thanksgiving at 7:00 p.m. and turn to God in deep thanks for all that God has given us. The last Sunday of the month, as I mentioned, is Advent 1. We will then hold weekly evening worship services on Wednesdays for the season - December 2, 9, 16, and 23.

As the holiday season settles in around us, we will no doubt deeply notice and grieve the differences this year. We will yearn for those traditions and expressions we hold dear that will be changed, adapted, or completely foregone. I will likely be unable to celebrate Christmas with my grandparents this year, as they live in a nursing facility that is locked down. Sharing a meal with them on Christmas is part of how I understand the incarnation of God in Christ. Still, I will look for God's incarnation in whatever presents itself, and know that somehow God's love will greet me with surprise and wonder. To be sure, there is much to grieve over the course of these months, and we carry this grief with us. It is a part of us now. Let us look with these eyes on what is all around us and before us this season. We will see God, for God is with us. We are not alone.

Zach Busch, Minister of Worship & Music

Alone at Thanksgiving? Wanting To Help Those Who Are Alone?

If you or someone you know from Hope will be alone this Thanksgiving and would like to receive a home cooked meal, Becky and Dan from the Fellowship Meal Team, will be cooking a Thanksgiving dinner to be delivered. We will also be looking for volunteers to help make pies and deliver meals. Please email halvorson.becky@gmail.com or call Becky at 612-382-5740 if you would like to receive a meal, bake a pie or help deliver. We are hoping to serve up to 50 meals and, of course, will take COVID precautions such as distancing, cleaning, and masking in our preparations and delivery.

Eastside Meals on Wheels

It's becoming increasingly clear that the pandemic isn't going away anytime soon. The CDC has advised that we limit our time spent in public, even our essential errands. If you, a friend, or a neighbor would benefit from having meals delivered, reach out to Eastside Meals on Wheels. It's the Meals on Wheels nonprofit that serves the neighborhood around our church. No one who can benefit from meals will be turned away, regardless of their ability to contribute toward the cost. Call (612) 277-2529 or email info@eastsidemeals.org to get started or learn more.

Sunday Forums on Zoom - 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Thank you to all who have joined us for the virtual Sunday Forum programs over the past few weeks. The committee will be meeting again soon to consider any thoughts and suggestions from the survey we have asked you to complete. Beginning in November we have four programs firmly scheduled. Others will be planned after reviewing the input from the survey and additional conversations with our members. We would welcome any of you who are interested to join the planning. Contact Diane Greve for more information.



November 1 **Remembering Our Saints**



The memories of saints live on in each of us. At the Nov. 1 Sunday Forum Tim Speidel and Vicki Speidel will share about their mom and longtime Hope member, Iona Speidel, who died last fall. Memories, good stories, and real faith are on the docket, as well as reflection about how grief and loss are with us, and the ways memories of the saints shape our days and our living.

November 8 **Women's Advocates**

Domestic violence affects one in four Minnesota women. Domestic abuse victims account for one quarter of violent crime victims in Minnesota. An estimated 80% of domestic assaults go unreported. Domestic violence is not just physical violence; it also includes psychological, financial, and verbal abuse. And it often starts with very young women. Please join us for Sunday Forum on November 8, when volunteer (and Hope member) Lynette Lamb and education/outreach coordinator Brenisen Wheeler introduce the congregation to the work of St. Paul-based Women's Advocates—the oldest domestic violence shelter in the U.S.—and the serious scope of the problems they address.

November 15 **Building Bridges toward Racial Justice**

Kelly Chatman, former Senior Pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in North Minneapolis, and University Lutheran Church of Hope member Dan Bielenberg will be sharing the work of the *Center for Leadership and Neighborhood Engagement (CLNE)*. CLNE is aiming to be a bridge between black, brown, and marginalized communities and churches working on racial justice and equality. The session will explore God's vision of "welcome" and what it might mean for us.

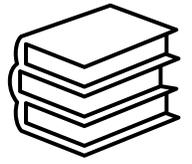
November 22 **To be determined**

Please see the Thursday Epistle for current information.

November 29 **Advent: Seeking Refuge**

Come hear Jason Lukis talk about the creation of the *Seeking Refuge* liturgy of evening prayer which we will be using for midweek worship this season of Advent. They will share about their inspiration, how this liturgy came to be, and begin to teach us the music.

Hope Book Club



On November 8th, 7:00-8:30 p.m., the Hope Book Club will discuss, *Native: Identity, Belonging, and Rediscovering God*, by Kaitlin Curtice, which was recommended by Hope's former Administrator, Gayle Bidne.

"Native is about identity, soul-searching, and being on the never-ending journey of finding ourselves and finding God. As both a member of the Potawatomi Nation and a Christian, Kaitlin Curtice offers a unique perspective on these topics." -<https://kaitlincurtice.com/book/>

The Book Club will meet in the ULCH Lounge and follow social distancing guidelines. Please wear your mask.

Dec. 13: *The Book of Delights*, Ross Gay. "A genre-defying book of essays"

Contact Sonja Peterson with book suggestions or questions at 612-242-8711 or speterson@dunnwald.com

Riverside Innovation Hub

University Lutheran Church of Hope's Riverside Innovation Team is continuing to develop a podcast that will focus on stories and reflections from neighbors and stakeholders in Dinkytown. The Podcast is tentatively titled "Voices of Dinkytown" and will debut in early 2021. If you are someone who is passionate about gathering or listening to the stories of others, or if you have some tech skills you'd be willing to share towards this effort, please reach out to Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

The RIH Team also will continue to direct grant dollars towards direct needs in our community including resources targeting food insecurity, access to facilities, and spiritual wellness. If you would like to be involved in learning more about our neighborhood, and strategizing a meaningful way of engaging amid COVID-19, please reach out to Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

Sanctuary & Immigration Team Meeting Nov. 25th at 6:00 p.m.

University Lutheran Church of Hope's Sanctuary & Immigration Team will continue to plan and strategize a path forward in 2021, amid COVID-19 and following a very consequential election for immigrant and immigration policy. We will discuss our congregation's role in direct service, ELCA Churchwide sanctuary conversations, and the public square. If you would like more information, or would like to be a part of this important work, please contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org. A Zoom link for the November meeting will be sent to each team member and those requesting it.

Donations for our Neighbors Without Shelter

Your generosity over the last months has been so appreciated. Leaders at University Lutheran Church of Hope have been able to distribute much needed food and hygiene items to our neighbors without shelter. As COVID19 continues and winter moves in, the need for support will persist and grow. Continue to drop off food and hygiene items as you are able, as well as adding items to the Little Free Library at the intersection of 6th and 13th. Thank you for creating porous walls and standing with our neighbors! Questions? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

Garden of the Righteous Article and Videos

In early 2018, our church hosted a well-attended presentation of Garden of the Righteous, a program of music by klezmer group *Naye Strunes* and stories about the Righteous among the Nations, people who risked their lives to rescue Jews and others from the Nazis. Since then, the presentation has been given more than 50 times, in churches, libraries, and community centers. Marty Lewis-Hunstiger and Gretta Hunstiger co-authored a scholarly article about the presentations.

In these pandemic times, public presentations aren't possible, so the group has created a one-hour video documentary about Garden of the Righteous. Among other stories, Marty tells of a Dutch family who hid many people at their farm, ferried many others to safety, and even faked a pregnancy so that a baby born in hiding could be passed off as theirs. Gretta tells about Irina Sendler, who smuggled more than 2500 babies out of the Warsaw Ghetto. The video includes information about Doctors without Borders, whom *Naye Strunes* members regard as modern-day Righteous among the Nations.



We then recorded a discussion of the documentary by a panel of scholars, addressing the social and political status of Jewish people in Europe, in the past and today; considering Ashkenazic culture, the source of klezmer, that was almost eradicated; diagnosing Nazism and similar “domination cultures”; and advocating for the idea of allyship, how it helped during the Holocaust and its need today.

For anyone who is interested, here are links to the article and the two videos:

Article: Righteous among the Nations: Music without Borders

<https://pubs.lib.umn.edu/index.php/ijps/article/view/1988>

MSF Documentary: tinyurl.com/gotrvideo

Panel Discussion: <https://youtu.be/56l9nUS9Ufo>

Bible & Brews – Nov. 23

Join us for

Your People Will Be My People – An Advent Study on the Book of Ruth

Exactly what it sounds like...Bring your favorite brewed beverage and a thirst for good discussion to Bible & Brews on Nov 23rd at 7pm. This will be the first session in an Advent Study on the Book of Ruth (see announcement on page 7). A Zoom link will be posted in the Thursday Epistle, and you can also request the link by emailing Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org.

Centering Prayer

Thursdays at 11:00 a.m.

But [Jesus] would withdraw to deserted places to pray. – Luke 5:16

Following the lead of Jesus, we gather on Zoom on Thursday mornings at 11:00 a.m. for a time of silence and holy rest. Centering Prayer is a silent method of meditation that prepares our faculties for the gifts of contemplation. We will read a short reflection together and spend 20 minutes in silent meditation. You are most welcome! Zoom link can be found in the Thursday Epistle each week. Questions? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org

Children's Ministry on Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Each Sunday morning, we have set aside a short time for kids in PreK-Grade 5 to meet for conversation, study, and a lot of fun. Amid COVID-19 and the challenges of juggling online school and isolation, we know what a challenging time this is for families with young kids. Our goal is to ensure that each young person at University Lutheran Church of Hope has the opportunity to connect with other kids and adults from the congregation. Zoom links can be found in the Thursday Epistle and the Sunday Morning worship email.

Our Sunday School teachers have such a dedication to the kids of this congregation, and are grateful for the opportunity to hang out with these amazing kids and learn about the love of God in Jesus. So...Thank You!

What support can our team of leaders and educators provide for you and your family at this time? Are there questions, practices, or resources that could be useful? Let us know via emailing Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org.

"Your People Will Be My People" An Advent Study on the Book of Ruth

*"Where you go, I will go;
where you lodge, I will lodge;
your people shall be my people,
and your God my God." – Ruth 1:16*

In Advent, our theme is Finding Home. In that spirit, we will journey through the Book of Ruth focusing on questions of ethnicity, immigration, and what it means to call a place home. Each week we will read through the biblical text and reflect on other writers, articles, and reflections on the theme Finding Home. Join us if you are able! We will make the readings available even if you are unable to discuss with the group on Zoom. There are two opportunities to participate in this study:

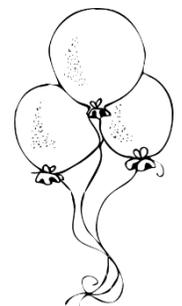
Monday evenings, 7-8 p.m. Nov. 23-Dec. 14

Wednesday mornings, 9-10 a.m. Nov. 25-Dec. 16

Both are on Zoom and Zoom links for the study will be posted in the Thursday Epistle and sent to the assembled groups each week, along with a shared Google Folder for additional resources. Questions? Contact Nick Tangen at nickt@ulch.org



SAVE THE DATE: November 15th Gayle's Virtual Send Off



On Sunday November 15th, we will have a blessing for Gayle Bidne during the service followed by a program and time of sharing after the service via Zoom. While we would have loved to do this in person we felt it was important to acknowledge Gayle's retirement as a congregation and not wait until we could do so in person. We will be presenting Gayle with a couple gifts. If you would like to contribute to an additional financial gift, please send a check to church or contribute online (<https://www.ulch.org>) indicating "Gayle's retirement". Checks can be written to ULCH (memo Gayle's retirement).

Anyone interested in being a part of the program, whether it is speaking or writing something to be shared, can contact Becky Halvorson halvorson.becky@gmail.com. Please join us as we celebrate Gayle and express our appreciation for her many years of faithful service!

Join ULCH Friends for Hiking at Fort Snelling

Please consider joining your Hope friends on Saturday, November 7th for a leisurely walk on the Fort Snelling State Park trails including Pike Island.

Pike Island is formed by the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers. It has great wildlife viewing, has towering trees, and is a floodplain forest. Map:

https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/maps/state_parks/spk00154_summer.pdf

On the 7th at 10:30 a.m. we will meet at the last swimming beach parking lot (most northerly) and hike from there. 12:30-1:30 p.m. enjoy a picnic. Bring your own lunch. If allowed we'll have a fire/grill going.

As always we'll practice safe social distancing. This event is entirely outside. Mask use is recommended when possible and required if not able to keep 6 feet of distance.

Please send RSVPs by text or call to Deb Bordsen at 651-270-2128. Questions? Contact Bryan Kufus or Shelly Parry (651-788-3323).

Life Events

Welcoming Children and Baptism—We pray for those in our congregation who are awaiting children and holding hope in joyful and painful times. We give thanks for the birth of two little beloved ones: Frankie, grandchild of Bruce and Rosalie Eldevik, daughter of Jonathan and Darcie; and Santos, grandchild of Jose and Yesenia, son of Maria and Israel.

Confirmation—We give thanks for the confirmations of three of our young people on October 25: M'taleni Nashandi, Poonam Morgan, and Seneca Brooks.



Marriages—We pray for all those preparing for marriage, including Nan Knutsen and Mark Nelson, and for all relationships of commitment.

Deaths—We pray for all who grieve the loss of loved ones, including Esther Dant, Jack Dant, and their whole family at the death on October 3rd of Esther's sister Marilyn; Judy and David Ranheim at the death of Judy's aunt Eleanor Michaelson; and the family and friends of Tra Thi Tran who died on October 15th. Ms. Tran and her family were sponsored by the University Lutheran Church of Hope as refugees from Viet Nam.

Significant Illness—We pray for those living with illness, cancer, recovery, uncertain diagnosis, hospice, chemical dependency and other addictions, and mental health struggles, including Oswald "Mutt" Doure and infant granddaughter Danai, Steve Ganzkow-Wold, Jack Parry, Steve Schreuder, Miriam Hougen, Edward Nyhus, Peter Ostroushko, Janet Carpenter, Hannah Kiresuk, and Chuck Lewis.

Separation, Divorce, Retirement, Moves, Graduations, New Beginnings, the Pandemic, and this ongoing civil rights movement—We pray for many making moves including Karen Johnson after her recent move back to Southeast Minneapolis. God is with us through it all.

Community Photo Directory

Work on the Community Photo Directory continues. All the bright and beautiful smiles you've shared and submitted are being added and we're working to make sure the details are correct. We had hoped to get it completed earlier in the fall (October). Our most honest timeline has the directory complete in November with distribution before Thanksgiving. [insert cheering] Thanks for your patience--we're excited to have it in hand, connecting names and faces, growing deeper in Christ's community.

Women's Retreat for 2021

The Women's Retreat has been cancelled as you may have predicted. We are working on a possible alternative that would be offered through Zoom. Stay tuned for more news! -Beáta Rydeen and Ann Beane

The Sheridan Story Has a New Name: Every Meal

To best support the children and families in our community, including those from Indigenous backgrounds, and to no longer associate ourselves with Philip Sheridan, we've decided to change the name of the organization to:

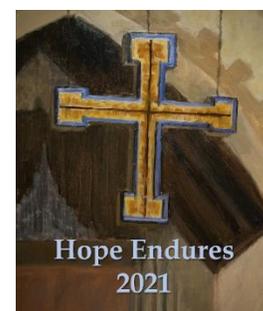


While the catalyst for the name change is not positive, the name and path forward is very exciting. **Every Meal** better reflects our mission to ensure children living with food insecurity get **every meal** they need, not just those provided by their school's free or reduced lunch programs. It also reflects the tremendous growth of our organization since its inception in 2010. As we celebrate our 10th anniversary this month, we look forward to deepening our impact in the community. Every Meal is our new name, but our mission to fight child hunger remains as strong as ever.

Hope Endures-An Invitation to Give

Our Gratitude and Generosity theme this fall is Hope Endures. Even in challenging times, even in the complexities of our lives and our world, Hope Endures. God's hope endures, and this faithful community called Hope endures. This fall we are invited to consider how we are able to support God's ministry through University Lutheran Church of Hope in 2021.

- Many have received letters and pledge cards by post, some also received by email. If you did not receive materials, contact Nathan in the office (ulch@ulch.org)
- We will bless pledges during worship on both November 8 and November 15.
- You may fill out a pledge card and return it by mail to church (ideally by November 10), or use this secure link: [Pledge Card link](#)
- Many in our congregation choose to use electronic giving. This [EGiving Link](#) will provide you with a pdf of the electronic giving form. If you are initiating e-giving for the first time, please print the form, fill it out, and return it to the church office. If you already have e-giving set up and simply want to adjust the amount, this can be done on the pledge card.



Thank you in advance for prayerfully considering this opportunity.

November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9:30 AM Zoom: Sunday Forum 9:45 AM Zoom: Sunday School Check-In 10:30 AM Worship - Zoom and Livestream 12:00 PM All Saints Candle Lighting	9:00 AM All Saints Candle Lighting 9:00 AM Zoom - Quilters 3:30 PM Election Set-Up 7:00 PM Zoom: Evening Prayer-For the Healing of the Nation	Election Day 7:00 AM Election 11:00 AM Zoom - Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Zoom - Personnel Committee 7:15 PM Zoom - Executive Committee	10:00 AM Multi-faith Moment for Hope (post election vigil) 1:00 PM Election Equipment being picked up 7:00 PM Zoom: Evening Prayer-For the Healing of the Nation	11:00 AM Zoom - Centering Prayer 6:30 PM AA Group 6:30 PM Zoom: MHNA Land Use Committee		10:30 AM Hiking at Pike Island, Fort Snelling State Park
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9:30 AM Zoom: Sunday Forum 9:45 AM Zoom: Sunday School Check-In 10:30 AM Worship - Zoom and Livestream 6:00 PM Book Club	9:00 AM Zoom - Quilters 5:30 PM Zoom - PEASE Community Foundation 8:00 PM Zoom: Worship Planning Team	11:00 AM Zoom - Staff Meeting	5:30 PM Zoom - Compassion Care Team 6:00 PM Zoom - Facilities Team 7:00 PM Zoom - Choir	9:30 AM Zoom - Dorcas Circle 11:00 AM Zoom - Centering Prayer 6:30 PM AA Group	7:00 PM ZOOM-Crafters' Group	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9:30 AM Zoom: Sunday Forum 9:45 AM Zoom: Sunday School Check-In 10:30 AM Worship - Zoom and Livestream 11:30 AM Zoom: Thank you and Farewell Event for Gayle Bidne	*"The Visitor" Articles Due 9:00 AM Zoom - Quilters	11:00 AM Zoom - Staff Meeting 4:00 PM Sanctuary Coalition Meeting 6:30 PM Zoom - Vision & Governance Board	6:00 PM Children's Ministry Team Meeting 7:00 PM Zoom - Choir	11:00 AM Zoom - Centering Prayer 6:00 PM Zoom - SE Como Hope Connections Group 6:30 PM AA Group		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:30 AM Zoom: Sunday Forum 9:45 AM Zoom: Sunday School Check-In 10:30 AM Worship - Zoom and Livestream	9:00 AM Zoom - Quilters 7:00 PM Bible Study (Ruth) - Your People Will Be My People	11:00 AM Zoom - Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Zoom - Racial Justice Team	9:00 AM Bible Study (Ruth) - Your People Will Be My People 6:00 PM Zoom - Sanctuary & Immigration Team Meeting 7:00 PM Zoom: Thanksgiving Eve Service	Thanksgiving Day 11:00 AM Zoom - Centering Prayer 6:30 PM AA Group	7:00 PM ZOOM-Crafters' Group	10:00 AM Oblates Centering Prayer
29	30					
1st Sunday of Advent 9:30 AM Zoom: Sunday Forum 9:45 AM Zoom: Sunday School Check-In 10:30 AM Worship - Zoom and Livestream	9:00 AM Zoom - Quilters 7:00 PM Bible Study (Ruth) - Your People Will Be My People					



Treasurer's Report

September 2020 and Year-to-Date Income and Expense

	Sept. Actual	Sept. Budget	Sept. Variance	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance
General Giving	33,521	40,583	(7,062)	367,913	367,750	163
Rental Income	18,717	12,516	6,202	94,391	112,640	(18,248)
Special Income	1,184	-	1,184	1,318	-	1,318
Total Income	53,423	53,099	324	463,622	480,389	(16,768)
Salaries & Benefits	37,596	29,947	7,650	275,380	276,519	(1,139)
Total Expense	49,512	52,038	(2,526)	467,158	483,976	(16,818)
Net Operating Income	3,911	1,061	2,850	(3,536)	(3,586)	50

General giving totaled \$33,521 for the month of September. General giving is \$7,062 less than budgeted. Year-to-date general giving totaled \$367,913, \$163 more than budgeted. Rental income totaled \$18,717, over-budget as the August PEASE Academy rent was deposited in September. Overall, rental income is lower due to fewer daily parking tenants and decreased income from use of facilities. Income for the month totaled \$53,423 contributing to a total year-to-date income of \$463,662, \$16,768 under-budget.

Expenses totaled \$49,512 for the month of September. Salaries & Benefits totaled \$37,596, over-budget as the October 2nd payroll was processed in September. Year-to-date, expenses total \$467,158, \$16,818 under-budget. We had a net operating income of \$3,911 for the month and a net operating loss of \$3,536 year-to-date. As of September 30, we have \$340K in current assets – primarily composed of our checking and savings account (including the Payroll Protection Program funds).

In September, we received \$10,889 in Capital Campaign contributions. The current Capital Campaign is winding down – ending in January 2021. In February 2018, we began this campaign with several projects in mind: restoring the stain glass windows, building a community bread oven, creating a children's play area, performing organ repairs and giving a portion to good ministries we choose together. As we enter the final months of the Capital Campaign, we ask you kindly to fulfill your pledge. We look forward to distributing benevolences to several organizations later in the year. Please reach out to myself or Nathan Obrestad (nathano@ulch.org) if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for continuing to support the Capital Campaign.

The Executive Committee alongside the Vision and Governance Board continue to monitor and evaluate our financial position. We remain diligent and attuned to our situation during this unique time. We are grateful 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

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 all the world.
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Gus Gustafson

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