



Clockwise from Top Left: As the summer goes on we're finding some new forms of shade in the parking lot, including of shade canopies and blessed trees; The new Garden of Eatin' is growing great next to the bread oven; Pizza! Yum! Join us for pizza after worship on Sunday, July 18 and before evening vespers on Wednesday, August 4; Members of our Vision and Governance Board meeting in the courtyard after a recent meeting: Sonja Peterson, Emma Carpenter, Matt Fry, Uli Koester, Bruce Eldevik (secretary), Dan Bielenberg, Ann Agrimson, Shelly Parry, Tim Abrahamson (and Brady Wilmer not pictured); A portion of the youth and leaders about to jump in cars and head north to Camp Amnicon; St. Croix River paddlers in June (Center Pictures)

Stewardship of the Earth

When you next walk into Hope’s lounge, you’ll see this compelling image called *Stewardship of the Earth*, a visual reimagining of our planet’s interconnectedness. It is a collaboration by two artists, both activists for the Wabanaki Confederation in the Northeast. Wabanaki is translated as “people of the first light” or “dawnland.”

Arla Patch is an Anglo-European artist, teacher, and the Community Engagement Coordinator for Maine-Wabanaki REACH, which upholds the work of the Maine Wabanaki-State Child Welfare Truth and Reconciliation Commission. She designed the piece’s structural framework: a template representing a traditional European American quilt square. James E. Francis, Sr. is a Penobscot artist, filmmaker, and a leader in the cultural and historic preservation of the Penobscot Nation. He created the visual story within the patchwork context.

Our eyes are first drawn to the central image, which merges the continents of the earth, or Turtle Island, with the ancient symbol of the Tree of Life, brilliantly articulating the interdependency between the Creator’s gift of this complex planet and all of humanity entrusted to sustain it. The bordering landscapes represent the four directions—the northern night sky, the eastern rising sun, the southern midday sun, and the western setting sun, which includes the home of the Great Spirit, “Agiocochook,” also called Mt. Washington. Francis also painted the white pictographs that represent the four remaining Wabanaki tribes: the Penobscot, the Passamaquoddy, the Maliseet, and the Micmac. The corner squares honor the sustaining role that the cultivation of maple syrup and blueberries continue to have for the Wabanaki people.



<https://www.friendsjournal.org/stewardship-of-the-earth-print/>
A metaphorical circle of life extends around the central living earth and into each of the surrounding landscapes, embracing the symbols of the “people of the first light” and highlighting the interdependent nature of each part. Rather than dividing, the quilt template’s lightly ribboned seams unify the integral parts of a universal whole. This encompassing image speaks to the inherent truth in the Wabanakis’ belief that the fertile land with its four directions, its plentiful forests and waterways, and the sun and rainclouds are all sacred, life sustaining gifts from the Great Spirit—and that in order to be in right relationship with the Creator, these gifts must be graciously received, reverently honored, and gently tended.

The Wabanaki people did not escape the cultural genocide, institutional racism, and intergenerational trauma thrust on Indigenous nations by European settlers, their government, and the church. The miracle of their resilience is celebrated in the collaborative work of Maine Wabanaki-State Child Welfare Truth and Reconciliation Commission, a collaborative model of tribes and states working together for change and healing through documentation of what has happened, healing through truth-telling, and recommendations of best child welfare practices. Maine-Wabanaki REACH also works to decolonize faith communities, creating relationships that welcome reconciliation, healing and change.

[https:// www.friendsjournal.org/peace-is-possible/](https://www.friendsjournal.org/peace-is-possible/)

O God, Creator, Great Spirit, help us to restore the earth and to be good stewards of your life-sustaining gifts. Help us to listen to the truth, to reconcile destructive behavior, and to restore right relationship with all of your people. Let it be so.

Muffi Abrahamson, Arts & Environment

Leaning into These Times

I have a vague memory of last March and April (that would be March and April, even May, 2020) as the reality of the pandemic began to sink in and we scurried to shift gears in nearly every part of our lives. Do you remember that time? New technology to learn. Plenty of fear and isolation. Daily briefings from the Governor. Kids at home. Some overwhelm. Good energy as neighbors and church folks reached out in support and care and song.

Now, some 16 months later, I'm feeling a corresponding sense of scurrying, of shifting gears. Now it's the process of opening our doors, seeing the sun, stretching, coming out, learning again how to interact. This month, let me offer a number of reflections and observations, in no special order, just musings, that they may be a benefit, even a blessing.

We're all moving at our own pace. Obvious, I know, but important to note. As one of your pastors, I'm mindful that while some are eager to get together, to take off the masks, to offer a good hug, others are much more comfortable still wearing N95s and using significant caution. Our congregation is across this spectrum.

Our newly revised (June 17, 2021) COVID Procedures reflect this spectrum. Now more than ever, there is the need to practice consent, asking one another before physically reaching out, honoring our differing comfort levels. I suspect our COVID procedures are too cautious for some and too open for others. That's probably a good sign that we've struck some middle ground! I ask you to honor the procedures, for this gives everyone (regulars and new folks, those across the spectrum) a sense of what they can expect with the Hope community. Thank you.

Hybrid is challenging! This summer we're doing worship in a variety of mediums, often at the same time: outside worship, Zoom, YouTube, in the sanctuary. On the one hand, this is a step toward re-opening, on the other hand, this is challenging! There's new technology to learn, sometimes it's successful, sometimes it's bumpy. Things may not look or feel the same as they did during those months only on Zoom/YouTube. Thanks to Matt Fry and all our tech facilitators. And thanks to everyone for your patience and grace. Yes, still needed.

This can be overwhelming. I've heard from a number of you that schedules are busy, really busy. Friends want to get together. Family is hankering to celebrate some milestones. Before we know it, life is busier than ever. Trust me, I get it! As much as it's a joy to be with others, it's okay to remember what we've learned over the last months about priorities, values, the blessings of a slower pace.

We're grateful when you to pitch in. While we ask for sign ups for some services like Evening Vespers in the sanctuary, for most things that happen outside, we'd welcome a whole bunch of people just showing up and jumping in. Of course some are signed up for set up or clean up, but trust me, we won't turn others away! The more the merrier, and the lighter the work.



Grief is real. Over these months, a lot has happened and the grief of loss and change lingers. We've lost beloved ones and too often we couldn't honor the passing well, or see one another face to face to extend our care. In some ways, time kept going; in other ways, it has stood still. Please err on the side of reaching out, remembering fondly and with words, extending love.

The Holy Spirit is busy! While I'm hearing from some congregations that they are feeling a bit stuck and anxious, that isn't my overarching sense at Hope. A lot is happening, and I give thanks to the Holy Spirit for her prompting. We've just welcomed a new pastoral intern, Emily Brown (see her note and find a time to meet Intern Emily). This month we'll up the pizza oven and breaking ground for the solar project. We'll also be publicizing some new part time staff positions with hopes of good candidates for community engagement, faith formation, and worship technology (these roles could be combined to make a larger position or two).

Give us faith to go out with good courage. Yes, I'd love to see the details of the fall—what will worship and community life look like? What feels safe and hospitable? How do we best follow God's call and live in these times? Truth is, I can't see the details very far ahead. I'm getting better and better at being okay with this, and I invite you to join me. I am committed to working the process with you, taking it one step at a time, listening closely for the Spirit, honoring Christ's community. In that sense, we don't need to have the details figured out. We need to know who we are as beloved community, and we need to trust that by grace and with good courage we'll have what we need for today, and for tomorrow. Giving thanks for you all, and for this community of Christ.

-Pastor Jen

Meet Our New Pastoral Intern

Hello. My name is Emily Brown. I am so excited to be serving as your Intern Pastor for the next two years. I am in an intensive program at Luther Seminary called MDivX, where I will be taking classes full-time while serving as your Intern. To tell you a little about myself, I grew up in Coon Rapids, MN. After high school, I received my Associates Degree from Anoka-Ramsey Community College. I then worked many different jobs. I began working at the bank in different parts of Minneapolis. I really enjoyed the North Minneapolis community and began working there full-time as a teller and a banker. I have lived in that area and also the Downtown Minneapolis area. I also managed the Cutco Kitchen store in Edina and enjoy cooking and baking. I enjoy watching NBA and NFL games and I am a big Dallas Cowboys fan. My mother is a Lutheran pastor, and I grew up doing various things in the church. In my most recent church, I was the Sound Tech, and I have been the Youth Director for the past 2 years. I have had the opportunity to serve in the church in many ways, but I am so excited to be able to do many new things with your congregation. I recently graduated from Concordia University, St. Paul. It was a program where you could combine two minors to create a major, so my major was in Religion and Biblical Languages. I have recently moved into a new home in St. Paul. I am so excited and grateful for this opportunity to serve as your Intern. I cannot wait to meet you and have fellowship with you all. I feel just so thankful that God has placed this special calling in my life and am honored to begin this journey with Hope.



Celebrating Birthdays in July and August

As we celebrate the July 4th birthday of our country, please remember some of our church friends who are also celebrating birthdays. Make a phone call, send an email or a text. YES, many of our folks who are 80+ do indeed read email and text messages. Some are also on Facebook! Even better, send a cute card with a brief handwritten message and put a stamp on it. Our Birthday list covers people who are 80 and older, as well as some who haven't yet reached that milestone. They may be homebound, residing in assisted living or in a care center. Check our latest ULCH directory for their addresses and phone numbers.

July Birthdays

July 1 Mike Fingerson

July 10 Marilyn Asp

July 30 Garvin Davenport

August Birthdays

Aug 1 Greg Peterson

Aug 7 Betty Quie

Aug 13 Phil Thompson

Aug 15 Roger Anderson

Aug 16 Wayne Westwood

Aug 20 LeRoy Erickson

Racial Justice Movie Discussion Group

The Racism Task Force Movie Discussion Group has decided to take the summer off and start up again Sunday, September 19th at 5:00p.m. to discuss the best anti-racism movie we've individually seen this summer. Everyone is invited to keep their eyes opened for movies worth sharing.

The Racial Justice Team

Outdoor Recreation Ministry Announcements

Bike Ride on Dakota Rail Regional Trail, July 17, 10am

The University Lutheran Church of Hope Outdoor Recreation team has scheduled a bike ride for Saturday, July 17 on the Dakota Rail Regional Trail. This paved trail offers a spectacular view of Lake Minnetonka and follows the route of the former Dakota Rail Corridor through Wayzata, Orono, Minnetonka Beach, Spring Park, Mound, Minnetrista, and St. Bonifacius for 14.8 miles one way. The group will meet in the Wayzata trailhead parking lot at 10 a.m. Look for the large trail map sign at the west end of the parking lot (see

map, <https://www.threeriversparks.org/location/dakota-rail-regional-trail>). The nearest address to the trailhead is 175 Grove Lane E, Wayzata, MN. Google Maps does not show the parking lot very well. The group will not go the whole distance, before returning to the Wayzata trailhead for lunch. Bring food and a chair (I do not believe there are any picnic tables). Please call, John Beane, 651.338.4492 or email pilgrim.beane@gmail.com so we can get an accurate headcount (and not leave anyone behind).

Hike at Whitetail Woods Regional Park, August 22, 12:30pm

The ULCH Outdoor Recreation team has scheduled a hike for Sunday, August 22 after church at the Whitetail Woods Regional Park. A peaceful and scenic valley gives way to a large hilltop picnic area that provides sprawling views of the countryside, including the 835-acre Vermillion River Wildlife and Aquatic Management Area to the south and east and Empire Lake to the west (see map, <https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/parksTrails/WhitetailWoods>). Meet at the main picnic area at 12:30 p.m. We will start with a picnic lunch (bring your own). There are picnic tables. After lunch we will do a hike around Empire Lake. Please RSVP by email, Ann Beane, spirit.beane@gmail.com so we can get an accurate headcount and phone numbers.

July 18th Outdoor Service and Congregational Pizza Bake – Lots of Reasons to be at Hope in Person!

The Gratitude and Generosity Team is announcing that the time is right for some summer congregational celebrating! In collaboration with the Outdoor Oven Team, we will gather together on Sunday, July 18th immediately after the 10 a.m. outdoor worship service. Stay tuned for more specifics in future Thursday Epistles.

Hope's wide array of passionate members and ministries will be on full display. Lots of reasons to come by to celebrate the service, meet and greet friends, and experience first-hand exciting news. And if you're hungry, stop by our Outdoor Oven for a slice or two of free wood-fired pizza!

Outdoor Oven Being Fired Up for the First Time in 18 Months

The Outdoor Oven Team is excited to announce a Pizza Bake on July 18th around 11 a.m., after the worship service. Be sure to come on over to the oven to get a slice or two of some yummy pizza. It should be extra delicious, since this is our first use of the oven in 18 months. Also mark your calendars for a 2nd pizza bake on August 4 at 6 p.m., prior to the Evening Vespers service. For this 2nd pizza bake, we'll be highlighting our Outreach Mission, inviting University students and neighbors to join us! If you'd like more information about our baking plans this summer or fall (the ever popular Artisan Bread Bakes are in the works), please contact oven leads John Bablitch (mplsifb@gmail.com), or Bryan Kufus (bkufus462@icloud.com)

Hope Book Club

On July 12 at 6:30 p.m. the Hope Book Club will meet outside in Nancy Miller's back yard, 2501 27th Ave. N.E. (or Zoom if bad weather is predicted) and discuss: *Little Fires Everywhere*, Celeste Ng

"Little Fires Everywhere explores the weight of secrets, the nature of art and identity, and the ferocious pull of motherhood – and the danger of believing that following the rules can avert disaster." \

<https://www.celesteng.com/little-fires-everywhere>

August 8: *It Can't Happen Here*, Sinclair Lewis.

"It Can't Happen Here is a cautionary tale about the fragility of democracy, an alarming, eerily timeless look at how fascism could take hold in America." <https://www.goodreads.com>

"The novel that foreshadowed Donald Trump's authoritarian appeal." —Salon

Please contact Sonja Peterson at 612-242-8711 or speterson@dunnwald.com with book suggestions, or if you'd like to join us.

Family Summer Fun at Bryant Lake Regional Park

Calling all Sunday School children, youth, friends and ULCH families on Sunday, July 18, at 1:30 p.m. to meet at Bryant Lake Regional Park for swimming and beach fun. This is a shallow water beach, with a playground nearby. There are also opportunities to fish, play Disc golf or volleyball, bike, hike, and paddle (boat rentals available for a fee) if you do not like to swim. Bryant Lake Regional Park is located at 6800 Rowland Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55344. More information about this park can be found at:

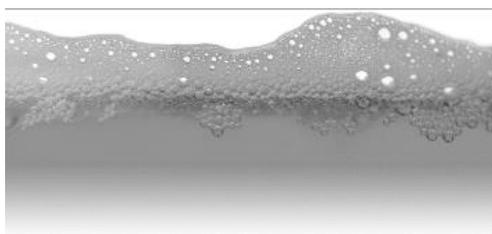
<https://www.threeriversparks.org/location/bryant-lake-regional-park>

Water craft equipment rental and reservations can be made from the Home page by clicking "things to do" and then follow the links.

There will be pizza from our bread oven at the church picnic after the outdoor worship on July 18. Then, at 1:30 p.m. join us at the lake. Bring sunscreen, lawn chairs and/or blankets, snacks, towels, any sand or beach toys, etc., that you may have. Watch for meet up details in the Thursday Epistle. Please RSVP or direct questions to Rosalie Eldevik at raldevik@gmail.com

The Children's Ministry Committee: Shelly Parry, Ann Beane, Paige Whitney and Rosalie Eldevik

Bible and Brew



Exactly what it sounds like ... bring your Bible, your favorite brewed beverage, and a penchant for laid-back but totally engaging conversations about faith, scripture, and current events. We will meet on Monday, July 26, 6-8 p.m. The group will determine if they will meet outside in person or on Zoom. Watch for information in the Thursday Epistle and save the date.

Youth Group

Youth Group meets on days when we have outdoor worship. In July, that will be July 11 and July 18. This offers a time for those 6th grade and up to connect with one another and their faith. We share lunch, conversations, and often hangout together. On July 18th, plan to help out serving pizza at the congregational picnic after worship.

Racial Justice: Rolling Waters Fund Update

In recent months, the Racial Justice Team has selected the following BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color)-led organizations to receive grants from Hope's Rolling Waters Fund, established a year ago in the wake of the murder of George Floyd. Each of these organizations are committed to justice and healing work. This is the fourth round of grants made possible by the generosity and good will of Hope members and friends.

Capi USA - Capi USA is an immigrant led organization, founded as The Centre for Asian and Pacific Islanders, and now embraces all refugees and immigrants and other BIPOC people in Hennepin County, connecting them with resources to build established and hopeful lives.

Center for Economic Inclusion - The Center is "committed to strengthening the Minneapolis-St. Paul region's civic infrastructure and collective capacity to disrupt systems and influence market forces to catalyze shared prosperity and advance an inclusive economy."

Center for Leadership and Neighborhood Engagement (CLNE) - The Center partners with North Minneapolis faith, community and neighborhood organizations in order to provide transformational experiences for the leaders who share the desire to increase their intercultural competence.

Justice Frontline Aid - "Justice Frontline Aid is an organization committed to providing aid, resources, and education to those who put their bodies on the frontlines in the fight for justice."

Minneapolis National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) - "Ensuring political, educational, social and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination in Minneapolis. Currently cultivating young leadership."

Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder - An African-American, English-language newspaper serving readers in the Twin Cities. It is the oldest continuously operated black newspaper and longest-lived black-owned business in Minnesota.

Native American Community Clinic - Promotes health equity for Indigenous families in the inner city of Minneapolis regardless of the ability to pay.

Raiofjustice - Racial Agency Initiative LLC is a resource for racial justice leadership coaching. As a new start-up founded by Jeanelle Austin, this company seeks to provide people who seek to practice racial justice with a coach to maximize their effectiveness.

Ujamaa Place - A St. Paul organization helping African American men escape poverty and the effects of racism and live fulfilling lives.

We Push for Peace - We Push for Peace is a nonprofit organization that is a resource and advocate for at risk young, black men in the inner city. They provide free mental health assessments and resources; employment assistance (resume development, mock interviews, job placement); pre-employment training (workshops, skills training); victims of violence support groups (facilitated by a licensed psychologist); financial education and home buying classes.

Thank you to all who contributed to the Fund to make these grants possible. To enable these grants to continue into the future, contributions to the fund can be made through the ULCH on-Line giving or by a check to the church noting "Rolling Waters Fund" in the memo line. Bruce Eldevik, Racial Justice Team

Bread for the World Offering of Letters

“You give them something to eat.” (Mark 6:37)

On Sunday, August 1, following the outdoor service we will be holding our annual Bread for the World Offering of Letters, sponsored by Hope in the World. As followers of Jesus, this event is a great opportunity to live in his call. And it is powerful. It makes a huge impact on our world, by helping millions of poor and hungry people move into sustainability.

Two issues will be addressed, one national and one international. We will be writing to urge Congress to expand the Child Tax Credit to include all children in this nation regardless of their immigration status and to make this bill permanent. We will also be urging Congress to

increase leadership and funding for global nutrition programs. Now, more than ever, smart legislation is needed to reduce poverty, for more people are at risk of hunger and even starvation, than since the Great Depression, as the pandemic continues to inflict populations world-wide.

Letters will be available that you may sign or use as a sample. There will be space on the letter form for you to add your own personal message, if you wish. Everything you need for this event will be available, pens, paper, envelopes, addresses to your legislators and stamps. Take a little time to be a part of this important effort.

Donna Neste, Hope in the World

University Lutheran Church of Hope Statement Against Violence Toward Asian American/Pacific Islanders

On May 18, 2021, the Vision and Governance Board approved the following Statement Against Violence Toward Asian American/Pacific Islanders. The statement will also be sent to the ELCA Minneapolis Area Synod:

Since the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic more than one year ago, acts of vandalism, harassment, shunning, refusal of service, verbal abuse and physical attack against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in our state and country have increased substantially. This collective trauma erodes Asian American and Pacific Islanders’ rightful sense of belonging in the U.S.

People of Asian and Pacific Island descent are our family members, congregation members, neighbors, and co-workers – who, like every ethnic and cultural group in our country, contribute greatly to our common welfare. We recognize, celebrate and honor Asian, Asian American and Pacific Islanders, their cultures, and their many contributions to our world.

The Racial Equity Statement adopted by our Congregation begins: “As people of faith, we acknowledge that ALL people are beloved of God. . . .” In our baptism we are called to work towards a world that reflects God’s love and justice. Our faith in a God of love calls us to unequivocally condemn hate and discrimination. We stand in solidarity with and express our unwavering commitment to combat this hate and violence and to support our Asian American and Pacific Island family members, neighbors, co-workers and congregation members.

Please carry this statement on in your hearts, prayers, conversations and practices.

Sonja Peterson, Hope in the World Liaison

COVID-19 Preparedness Plan

In mid-June we revised our COVID-19 preparedness plan and it is now available. See the church website for the full details. The plan includes information about worship and all things community life as we move further into the summer, and lessening restrictions, while still maintaining care and concern for one another. Talk with Pastor Jen if you have questions. A few highlights:

- When outdoors for gatherings AND for worship, wear a mask when unable to keep 6 feet of distance or when you desire. This means that for Sunday outdoor worship, when distance can be kept, masks don't need to be worn!
- Wear masks and keep distance for worship in the sanctuary.
- When meeting with small groups indoors where all are vaccinated, there is some flexibility about masking--please see the policy (page 3). If you have concerns, please talk with Pastor Jen, Pastor Barbara, or Zach Bush.

A number of changes were made at this time. Please check them out.

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. We give thanks for the births of Iris and Linnea, twin daughters of Kjerstin and Shane Yager, grandchildren of Jan and Bill Sanden; and for the birth of Clark, son of John and Amy Lindquist, grandchildren of Pat and Larry Lindquist.

Marriages—We pray for all those preparing for marriage, and for all relationships of commitment, including Abby Lucas and Michael Hoskin, marrying on June 28 in Oregon.

Deaths—We pray for all who grieve the loss of loved ones, including many in our congregation grieving recent deaths such as the Parrys, the Nyhuses, the Dants, the Teskes, the Hendricksons, and the Fingersons; and some finally now able to hold memorial services after many months: the Lundquists, the Berges, the Schlemmers.

Significant Illness—We pray for those living with illness, cancer, recovery, uncertain diagnosis, hospice, chemical dependency and other addictions, and mental health struggles, including Jerry Hanson, Roger and Nita Anderson, Stewart Herman, Steve Ganzkow-Wold, Steve Schreuder, Miriam Hougen, Janet Carpenter, Hannah Kiresuk, and Chuck Lewis.

Separation, divorce, retirement, moves, graduations, new beginnings, the COVID pandemic, and the civil rights movement of this time.

Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer at Hope is taking a break until September. However, there is an opportunity for us to join another Zoom group through Contemplative Outreach, the umbrella organization for Centering Prayer.

Join Ann Rolle and others at Healing Together: A Gathering of Consciousness. They meet weekly at 11 a.m. Thursday (same time our group has met). Mary Lapham from St. Paul is the leader. The time commitment will be about 55 minutes and will include prayers and time for meditation. The link is <http://meditationchapel.org/thomas-keating-chapel/>

When you get there click on Enter the Chapel, and follow the Zoom prompts. You may enjoy looking at the other offerings. There are many topics at all hours of the day. Call Ann Rolle with any questions.

Gratitude and Generosity Team Update

The Gratitude and Generosity Team (G & G Team) is already exploring themes for the 2021 Fall G & G stewardship effort and will be ready to share them in early fall. As happens throughout the year, there will be a Gratitude and Generosity moment or two shared during summer services. If you are ever interested in offering up a two to three minute reflection yourself, please let Pastor Jen or one of us know. And lastly, University Lutheran Church of Hope is forever thankful for the gratitude and generosity that continues to flow from all of you! Many, many thanks!

Team Members - Beth Ubbelodhe, Stewart Herman, Linda Johnson and Ann Beane

Solar System Update

After a year of planning with our contractor, construction on the solar system will start in the next few weeks. Come help us break ground on July 18! You might wonder: how do you break ground for a construction that will mainly be up on a rooftop and a tall canopy? Come and find out!

Here's a quick update. The final contracts were signed a month ago, and half of the parts of the system have been ordered. Construction will begin in July for the rooftop array, and August for the

canopy in the parking lot. The cables will run from all 280 solar collectors to meter boxes mounted on the education building by the west doors to the church. The contractor has assured us that the whole system will be ready to operate by early September. If you'd like more information about what this will look like, contact Stewart Herman (herman@cord.edu) or Tim Abrahamson (tac2180@msn.com). And plan to join us for the groundbreaking on July 18!

Drop-in event for unhoused neighbors

A third drop-in event for our unhoused neighbors in Southeast Minneapolis will take place on **Thursday, July 15 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at University Baptist Church (1219 University Ave SE).**

These events, the first of which was held in March at Hope, are being organized by a consortium of religious and civic organizations in the Marcy-Holmes neighborhood. At this gathering, like at previous ones, we will offer hot food, water, clothes (especially socks!), toiletries, haircuts, and hot showers, as well as information on finding jobs and housing.

Since Nick Tangen's departure, Pastor Jen and I have been the only regular Hope members of this coordinating group. We could use a few more people from Hope to help out at bimonthly events and attend occasional Zoom meetings.

Interested? Available? Please contact Lynette at lynettelamb2@gmail.com.

—Lynette Lamb

Register at www.redcrossblood.org



Blood Drive **University Lutheran Church of Hope**

American Red Cross Bus
601 13th Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN, 55414

**Monday, July 19, 2021
11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

Opening Our Life Together

A Vision for the Coming Years University Lutheran Church of Hope Spring 2021 - May 18, 2021

In the fall of 2015, we created vision goals entitled Igniting Our Life Together. Over the years this vision evolved and in the fall of 2018 a new version of our vision goals confirmed our intention to stoke the flames. As we emerge from COVID-19 in the spring and summer 2021 and continue to discern the significance of this long season on so many levels, we're committing to this vision in renewed ways.

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.

- Build authentic long-term relationships that center our neighbors' interests, while understanding and addressing our individual and collective privilege. We will listen to each other's stories, mutually support the physical and spiritual needs in our neighborhood, and build relational power to make Gospel-grounded justice and equity a way of life.
- Commit to sharing our space, time, and resources with our neighboring communities as an expression of Christ's radical hospitality. We will continue our involvement in the Sanctuary Movement, and renew our commitment to opening our doors to individuals and groups in the community.
- Renew and expand our commitment to ministry with young adults and students, including Lutheran Campus Ministry. We will seek to meet the needs for wholeness and healing, especially focusing on issues around food insecurity, mental health, and spirituality.

Embrace all persons throughout their life journey in a community of love, respect, and acceptance.

- Through faith formation experiences for people at every age (children, youth, younger adults, adults, elders), accompany one another through the complexities and joys of life, fully integrating our physical, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual selves.
- Help one another explore scripture, discern the gifts and burdens of our traditions and history, practice spirituality, center the voices of marginalized people, respond to the needs of our world, and follow the call to be "bearers of God's justice-making love"^[1]. Be true to the journey of faith where there is safe space for doubt, questioning, curiosity, and genuine grace.

Fuel authentic worship and deepen spirituality.

- Led by the Holy Spirit, we encounter God in varied and participatory worship experiences, blending in person and online opportunities. We will build on a strong Lutheran liturgical tradition, celebrate a thoughtfully eclectic style, explore progressive Christ-centered theology, and seek expansive images of God that engage the arts and our whole selves.
- Deepen spirituality. We will actively engage one another and the world in small group encounters, in the work of social justice, in study of the Bible, and in integration of faith and life.

Note from the President

Here are some official actions your Vision & Governance has taken in recent months:

- Approved revised **Vision Goals**—printed in this newsletter.
- Voted for ULCH to join the **Minnesota Sanctuary State Coalition**, with our Sanctuary & Immigration team leading the effort.
- Passed a **Statement Against Violence Toward Asian American/Pacific Islanders**, brought forward by the Racial Justice Task Force.
- Joined in discussion on **our Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) assessments**. We each took the IDI and are making individual plans to further our cultural understanding.
- With the help of our new vision goals (see page 11), we passed on **recommendations for new hires** to the Personnel Committee. The committee is now creating job descriptions and plans to interview candidates late in July.

What about the chickens, you ask? They have settled into new leadership with Magnolia at the top of the pecking order. Thankfully, as of now, they have not passed any resolutions.

Uli Koester, Congregational President
bethuli@iphouse.com -(651) 330-4791

Treasurer’s Report - May Financials

May 2021 and Year-to-Date Income and Expense						
	May Actual	May Budget	May Variance	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance
General Giving	36,306	47,547	(11,242)	189,051	213,205	(24,154)
Rental Income	10,559	10,166	393	51,617	50,830	787
Total Income	46,864	57,713	(10,849)	240,667	264,035	(23,368)
Salaries & Benefits	22,655	25,995	(3,340)	134,889	143,395	(8,506)
Total Expense	43,896	47,541	(3,645)	250,897	265,689	(14,793)
Net Operating Income	2,968	10,173	(7,204)	(10,229)	(1,654)	(8,575)

May Financials

General giving totaled \$36,306 for the month of May, significantly less than budgeted as the May 30th offering was deposited in June (rather than May where it was budgeted). We can expect general giving to be more than budgeted in June. Year-to-date general giving totaled \$189,051, \$24,154 or approximately 11% under the budgeted amount. A portion of this variance will be made up in the coming months as we recently established an E-Trade account as another method to give – *see below for additional information*. In May, rental income totaled \$10,559 which includes PEASE Academy rent, parking lot income and use of facilities. Income for the month totaled \$46,864 contributing to a total year-to-date income of \$240,667, or 8% underbudget.

Expenses totaled \$43,896 for the month of May. During the month, expenses were underbudget due to the staffing change this past spring. Year-to-date, expenses total \$250,897, \$14,793 underbudget. We had a net operating income of \$2,968 for the month contributing to a net operating loss of \$10,229 year-to-date. The Executive Committee alongside the Vision and Governance Board continue to monitor our current financial position.

As of May 31st, we have \$387K in current assets – primarily composed of our checking and savings account (including a small portion of Solar Project funds and other dedicated funds).

E-Trade Account

Over the past few months, we have been working to establish an E-Trade account. We are now able to receive financial gifts in the form of stocks and mutual funds. If you’d like more information on how to give via E-Trade, please reach out to me or Nathan Obrestad (nathano@ulch.org) and we’d be happy to provide additional details.

Capital Campaign – Opening Doors

In April we received \$19,437 in contributions for the Opening Doors Capital Campaign. We are in the process of funding special projects including virtual worship enhancements – in addition to paying a portion of the mortgage. Please reach out to me 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 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.

Emma Carpenter, Treasurer

Donate Gift Cards to Support Immigrant Neighbors

Asylum seekers, immigrants, refugees, and people in sanctuary continue to experience concerns about deportation and also losses of jobs and income related to ICE activity. Gift cards can help provide food and household supplies. Currently, we are seeking donations of VISA gift cards, which will allow the shopper to purchase items at any store. Aldi and Cub cards are also very useful. You can get gift card donations to Pastor Jen who will see that they go to a friend in need.

July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30 PM AA Group patio 7:00 PM Men's Group in courtyard	2	3
4 10:00 AM Worship on Zoom/YouTube	5 9:00 AM Quilters	6 11:00 AM Zoom - Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Zoom - MHNA Land Use Committee	7 7:00 PM Evening Vespers in the Sanctuary (with Zoom/YouTube)- please sign up	8 9:30 AM Dorcas Circle - Courtyard/Lounge 3:00 PM Gratitude and Generosity Team 6:30 PM AA Group Courtyard and Lounge	9	10
11 10:00 AM Outdoor Worship, with Zoom/YouTube 11:30 AM Youth Group in the Courtyard 7:00 PM Zoom - Book Club	12 9:00 AM Quilters 5:30 PM Zoom - PEASE Community Foundation	13 11:00 AM Zoom - Staff Meeting 7:15 PM Zoom - Executive Committee	14 6:00 PM Zoom - Facilities Team 7:00 PM Vespers Rehearsal	15 **"The Visitor" Articles Due 5:00 PM Drop In Day at University Baptist Church 6:00 PM Zoom - SE Como Hope Connections Group 6:30 PM AA Group Patio 7:00 PM Men's Group in courtyard	16	17 10:00 AM ULCH Rec Ministry - Bike on Dakota Rail Trail
18 10:00 AM Outdoor Worship, with Zoom/YouTube 11:00 AM Gratitude and Generosity Pizza Picnic 11:30 AM Youth Group in the Courtyard 1:30 PM Swimming at Bryant Lake Regional Park	19 9:00 AM Quilters 11:30 AM Red Cross Bloodmobile Drive 7:00 PM Riverside Innovation Hub Team Meeting	20 11:00 AM Zoom - Staff Meeting 4:00 PM Sanctuary Coalition Meeting 6:30 PM Vision & Governance Board- Courtyard	21 7:00 PM Evening Vespers in the Sanctuary (with Zoom/YouTube)- please sign up 8:30 PM Children's Ministry Team Meeting	22 6:30 PM AA Group Courtyard and Lounge	23	24
25 10:00 AM Worship on Zoom/YouTube	26 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Bible & Brews-Zoom or In Person, TBD 7:30 PM Worship Planning Team	27 11:00 AM Zoom - Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Zoom - Racial Justice Team	28 7:00 PM Prayer Around the Cross (Zoom/YouTube) 7:00 PM Zoom - Sanctuary & Immigration Team Meeting 7:30 PM Vespers Rehearsal	29 6:30 PM AA Group Patio 7:00 PM Men's Group in courtyard	30	31

Worship and Music in July

We continue in hybrid mode for worship this summer. Here (on the next page) is an updated schedule that you can cut out and post, and a re-run of the checklist helping you engage with each service. This is the season of the Spirit, shaking things up! Grateful for this community of faith.

Zach Busch, Minister of Worship and Music



I'm attending Outdoor worship, I'll bring...

1. Chairs (extras available if needed)
2. Masks (as needed, and if entering the building)
3. Communion elements (if you'd like, though now we will also provide)
4. Coffee, water, and snacks for my household (if desired) for safe fellowship after the service
5. Check the website or e-mail the morning of! In case of rain, the location is Zoom/YouTube.

I'm attending Evening Prayer in the sanctuary, I'll remember...

1. Masks
2. Did I sign up? See Thursday Epistle or website for sign up links, or call Nathan in the office (612-331-5988).

I'm attending on Zoom or YouTube for either Sunday or Wednesday service...

1. Check e-mail for a Zoom link, or the ULCH website for a link to YouTube
2. Have communion elements like bread, wine/juice available for Holy Communion
3. Pray for our tech facilitators :)



(On June 6 during our outdoor worship service we welcomed Bishop Ann Svennungsen and celebrated Dan Bielenberg's ordination to Word and Service Ministry in the ELCA. Dan serves as a deacon at the Center for Leadership and Neighborhood Engagement (CLNE). During the service Dan and his spouse Kit Bielenberg led a hymn, with Zach accompanying.)

Sunday 7/4	Online only, 10am
Wednesday 7/7	Vespers - sanctuary, 7pm
Sunday 7/11	Outdoors, 10am
Sunday 7/18	Outdoors, 10am
Wednesday 7/21	Vespers - sanctuary, 7pm
Sunday 7/25	Online only, 10am
Wednesday 7/28	Evening Prayer Online, 7pm
Sunday 8/1	Outdoors, 10am
Wednesday 8/4	Vespers - sanctuary, 7pm
Sunday 8/8	Outdoors, 10am
Sunday 8/15	Online only, 10am
Wednesday 8/18	Vespers - sanctuary, 7pm
Sunday 8/22	Outdoors, 10am
Wednesday 8/25	Evening Prayer Online, 7pm
Sunday 8/29	Outdoors, 10am
Sunday 9/5	Outdoors, 10am

*All services will have simultaneous Zoom and YT options.

*Rain location for outdoors is online.

*Rain cancellations will be called by 8am the morning of and communicated over email and on the website.

*Remember to reserve a seat at the Vespers services in the sanctuary – there is **plenty** of room.

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.
601 – 13th Avenue SE, Minneapolis, Minnesota ☒ Tel. 612-331-5988 ☒ Fax 612-623-0693 ☒ www.ulch.org

Staff

Pastors:

Rev. Jen Nagel
Rev. Barbara Johnson

Minister of Worship &

Music:

Zach Busch

Pastoral Intern:

Emily Brown

Church Administrator:

Nathan Obrestad

Financial Administrator:

Kari Olson

Custodians:

Geremew Beshah

Childcare:

Gus Gustafson

Working in partnership with

Lutheran Campus Ministry

Rev. Kate Reuer Welton

Vision and Governance Board

President:

Uli Koester

Vice President:

Ann Agrimson

Past President:

Tim Abrahamson

Treasurer:

Emma Carpenter

Leadership Development &

Communications:

Uli Koester

Ann Agrimson

Operations:

Emma Carpenter

Tim Abrahamson

Worship & Music:

Matt Fry

Youth & Young Adults:

Brady Wilmer

Education:

Shelly Parry

Hope in the World:

Sonja Peterson

Relational Ministries:

Dan Bielenberg

Board Secretary:

Bruce Eldevik

30% post-consumer waste.

Printed on 100% recycled paper.



Return Service Requested

Minneapolis, MN 55414-1437

601 13th Avenue SE

CHURCH OF HOPE

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN

Permit No. 944

Minnesota
Twin Cities,

PAID

U.S. POSTAGE

ORG.

NON-PROFIT