



Clockwise from Top Left: Brady Wilmer and Jennifer Erickson at the Welcome Back Students event; Madue Bhat shares the garden bounty; CJ and Sandy Robinson send their greetings and love; after church fellowship outdoors; pizza and conversation for Ann Agrimson and Kathy Kufus during Welcome Back Students; making pizza-thank you, John Bablitch and the crew; (center) Pastor Barbara and the Hope Diamonds in the Courtyard in September.

Psalm 85

Displayed beside Fellowship Hall's kitchen passthrough window, John August Swanson's *Psalm 85* envisions God's merciful act of restoring the land and blessing the people: *"Justice and Peace shall kiss, Truth shall spring out of the earth. Kindness and Truth shall meet, Justice shall look down from the heavens."* —Psalm 85:10-11

Rooted in the storytelling traditions of his Mexican mother and Swedish father, Swanson's folk style print is a vibrant portrait of all God's creation living in harmony. In this simple scene we can see the complex interrelationships between nature and humanity and their dependance on God's life-giving gifts.

As the Psalmist personifies *Justice, Peace, Truth* and *Kindness*, Swanson reflects this personification in a spectacular sky, aglow with warmth and light emanating from the wise face of a glorious sun. Through billowy blue clouds, orange sunbeams stream down to the earth. Emblazoned on one beam is the proclamation *"Justice shall look down from the heavens."* A brilliant rainbow of promise meets the horizon.



Variegated furrows of fertile ground roll in rippling rhythms. Planted in this vibrant growing ground are words of hope: *"Justice and Peace shall kiss"* and *"Kindness and Truth shall meet."* A magnificent tree, a symbol of flourishing life, stands close, songbirds perching in its lush canopy. Its roots tap deep and wide into nourishing soil, drinking the effusive water flowing from the gardener's bucket. Embedded within this foundation is the declaration *"Truth shall spring out of the earth."*

And all around we see people— families, friends, neighbors, new acquaintances— joyously meeting, playing, tending the animals, and cultivating the earth—all in harmonious relationship.

This is a vision of God's active healing presence in the midst of nature and humanity. God restores the earth: the people are good and faithful stewards of the land, and the land produces abundant, health-sustaining food for every being. God's bounteous grace redeems and blesses the people: the community lives and works together within God's divine order—in kindness and truth, justice and peace. In our present time of overwhelming crisis, when the earth's continued habitability is in question and societal strife and hostility seem insurmountable, we need to embody this message of hope.

Oh, Great Redeemer, Source of Love, implant in us a will to be good stewards and preservers of your life-sustaining creation, and empower us to work for justice and peace and to live in your loving-kindness and truth. Amen.

Muffi Abrahamson, Arts & Environment

Marking Time

*The heavens declare the glory of God,
the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.*

*One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.*

-Psalm 19:1-2

My mom recently texted me a picture of photographs arranged on their dining room table. Yes, a picture of pictures. In this case, a picture of school pictures, head shots. Of course somewhere she's probably got the ones from her childhood school days with their toothless smiles, and leaps and bounds of growth in a single year. This time, though, she'd unearthed pictures used in school yearbooks over her professional life as a special ed teacher, alternative school teacher, and finally a high school guidance counselor. It was intriguing to see how she'd changed, how she hadn't changed, and how uncanny our resemblance could be. I suspect it was hard at spots for her to even put these photos in chronological order, for she wasn't certain on a few, and mentioned depending on haircuts and glasses frames for clues. Such are the subtle but real changes of adulting and aging.

As I write this article, it is one of those stunningly beautiful fall days: There are still more green leaves than not, but here and there yellows and oranges and reds are filling in. The days are warm, even summer like, and the nights are cool. Clearly the seasons are changing. The outdoor living that we've so relished through the spring and summer now calls for an extra layer and a little more thought.

Dear ones, sometimes I'd like to put my Visitor articles next to one another, to see the progression of thoughts, the realities our congregation faces, and the durable tether of God's steady grace and love. There is a disorientation that I've been sensing and hearing these last months. While I can see the progressively changing seasons of the natural world and we can watch the changing COVID-19 numbers and hospitalization trends, the exhaustion, stress, even monotony that many are feeling makes it harder to see our movement, to mark time.

I'm grateful when one of our family's therapists reflects on how much progress they see. Rather than day after day of blessing and challenge, they point out the insight or healthier patterns that I may have missed. Similarly, in our congregation it's helpful to notice that things are happening. Even in these strange times, growth is real and deep. Let me offer a few things I'm noticing.

- It's such a gift to be able to gather more regularly for worship.
- Hope Diamonds Senior Group shared time together in September and will again in October. With Hope Diamonds there was laughter and friendly banter, and there were tears. The losses of beloved ones like Jack Perry, Ruth Lundquist, Ken Lyons, Leroy Halvorsen, Bob Hoisington and others is still fresh and so much happened during the span when we couldn't meet regularly. Many lived with isolation and loss, and we wonder what this winter will bring.
- More than a year ago we reached out to nearly everyone in the ULCH community. This fall we're checking in with a smaller subset, particularly those with whom we've had less contact. If you'd like a check in call, let me know and I'll make sure our Gathering the Flock crew reaches out.
- We've now welcomed four new staff and it's a joy to watch them jump into new roles, meet people, and begin to fall in love with this congregation. Additionally, the search for a new Minister of Worship and Music is going well. Thanks to the search committee and the great co-chairs, Becky Halvorson and Rebecca Tetlie, for their exceptional leadership and organization.
- Solar panels are on the roof and we await the canopy's construction and panels on the canopy. This is a progress! We're told this will happen this fall. Watch for it!



There's plenty more I could name, but I offer this little list as a way of marking time: noticing that change is happening, growth is real, and God marks time even when it's hard for us to see it. As the seasons rise and fall, you are in my prayers, and I covet your prayers. Grateful to walk together.

Pastor Jen

Worship and Music in October

We're in an in-between time as we await a new Minister of Worship and Music. AND music is being made and worship of God is happening. Thanks to all who are teaming up to offer worship and music leadership this fall, particularly Scott Rohr, Ben Larson, Tim Gustafson, the ULCHers, and the Hope Choir. Below are our week by week worship plans for October (and a bonus into the first weeks of November). Remember that it's not too late to add your voice to the choir. The choir is practicing for an hour roughly every other Wednesday. Speak with Scott Rohr to learn more. Also, see the update below about the search process for the new Minister of Worship and Music. In the first part of October we'll continue to offer some Sundays

outdoors and some in the Sanctuary. By the end of the month we'll be in the Sanctuary each week. We will always have a Zoom and YouTube option. While some in our community are feeling comfortable in the Sanctuary, for others outdoors proves a better option, and still others prefer online. Our Worship Tech Support staff are now on board. Each week Nick Peterson or Seth Strudthoff will be at the tech table along with a volunteer from the congregation. Additionally, each week someone takes a turn as the Zoom Facilitator, offering hospitality for those who worship on Zoom. If you'd like to learn the Tech role or the Zoom Facilitator role, speak with Matt Fry, Ann Agrimson, or Pastor Jen.

- October 3—10:30 a.m. Outdoor/Zoom/YouTube, with a Blessing of Animals (in the spirit of St. Francis Day). The ULCHers lead us.
- October 10—10:30 a.m. Sanctuary/Zoom/YouTube. Scott Rohr and the Hope Choir lead us.
- October 17—10:30 a.m. Outdoor/Zoom/YouTube. The ULCHers lead us.
- October 24—10:30 a.m. Sanctuary/Zoom/YouTube. Ben Larson leads us.
- October 31—10:30 a.m. Sanctuary/Zoom/YouTube, for Reformation Sunday (wear red!). Scott Rohr and the Hope Choir lead us.
- November 7—10:30 a.m. Sanctuary/Zoom/YouTube, for All Saints Sunday. Scott Rohr and the Hope Choir lead us.

Minister of Worship and Music Search Update

The search for the Minister of Worship and Music is in full swing! Our committee has met a few times and held the first round of interviews the week of September 19th. The search committee has had rich conversations about the high value placed on music and worship at Hope and what that means to our unique community of faith. Finalists will be selected for an in-person interview to hopefully be

held on October 9th in the sanctuary. Once we know the details, we will share information for any who might be interested in hearing the finalists. Feel free to contact Rebecca or Becky at: rebecca.tetlie@gmail.com or halvorson.becky@gmail.com with any comments or questions.

Mental Health Connect

University Lutheran Church of Hope is part of Mental Health Connect. Living with mental health concerns? Love someone who is? Need help navigating mental health resources and support? Contact Mental Health Connect at <https://www.mhconnect.org/> or 612-312-3377 or reach out to a navigator at navigator@mhconnect.org

New Staff and Seminary Students

This fall University Lutheran Church of Hope is welcoming new staff to our congregational ministry. New staff include:

- Nick Peterson, in Worship Tech Support
- Seth Strudthoff, as the Sunday Opener and Closer, and also in Worship Tech Support
- Elise Carlson, as the new Minister of Community Engagement
- Morgan Strudthoff, as the new Minister of Faith Formation

You can read more from Elise and Morgan below. Additionally, we welcome new Luther Seminary students who are doing their contextual learning at Hope. The contextual program is called CPL, Christian Public Leadership. Along with her staff role, for Morgan, Hope is also a contextual site. Chantel Branker is also a new first year student at Luther Seminary in the traditional M.Div. program and Chantel will do CPL with us at Hope. Please welcome them!

Minister of Community Engagement

Hi, I'm Elise! I am eager to join this community as the Minister of Community Engagement. My position is to build and sustain connections within the congregation, and in the surrounding community. Visit me in The Goat Room in the afternoons, or contact me via email elisec@ulch.org I look forward to getting to know each of you. Thank you!

Elise



Elise Carlson

Minister of Faith Formation



Morgan Strudthoff

Hello, my name is Morgan Strudthoff! I am the Minister of Faith Formation where I will be working most with Sunday school, youth and other areas of growth. I am originally

from Maryland. I went to college in Nebraska where I studied Youth and Family Ministry. I have background in food insecurity, campus ministry, social work, and in outdoor ministry. I am so eager to be a part of the mission of University Lutheran Church of Hope. I am thankful for the warm welcome! I look forward to learning and working with you all!

Morgan

Sunday School and Faith formation

Every Sunday we offer a hybrid option for Sunday School. At 9:30 a.m. there is Sunday School. Your child (and a parent if helpful) can attend either on the Patio at church in-person, or on Zoom. See the Thursday Epistle or contact a Sunday School teacher for the Zoom link. Questions? Speak with Minister of Faith Formation Morgan at morgans@ulch.org

All ULCH Sunday School Children and Families

We are planning a picnic, games, and free carousel ride (weather permitting) on Saturday, October 16 at 12:00 pm at Como Park. Bring your own lunches, picnic blankets, chairs and masks. More details to follow via email. Hope to see many of you there! We will meet at the picnic tables near the playground and will end our time with a free carousel ride (weather permitting). Enter Como Park off Midway and turn right in the parking lot at the light by the Mini golf course and across from Como Town. Please RSVP Shelley (mmparry@comcast.net) or Rosalie (raldevik@gmail.com) by Friday the fifteenth so we know to watch for you.

Successful Welcome Back Student Event

In fun Hope fashion, on September 19th, we welcomed students and the congregational community for a time of pizza from the wood fired community oven, shared resources, a produce give away, a bike give away, and plenty of good conversation. Lutheran Campus Ministry teamed up with us for this event and Pastor Kate Reuer-Welton preached during our 10:30am outdoor service. It was a great time of sharing with our community and members! Thanks to all who made it happen.

Sunday Forums

We'll soon head into a new month of Sunday Forum opportunities! We'll begin with having the forums in the Courtyard with Fellowship Hall as a back-up if the weather doesn't cooperate. All forums meet from 9:30 to 10:15. Forums are now available on Zoom. For Zoom, use the same link provided for Sunday worship.

Oct. 3: 'I wonder?' I noticed . . .' - Members of the racial justice group will lead a discussion about our feelings and thoughts regarding racial equity and the criminal justice system, using the poem "At the Arraignment" by Debra Spencer which starts: "The courtroom walls are bare and the prisoner wears a plastic bracelet, like in a hospital. Jesus stands beside him."

Oct. 10: Where is Jesus in Dinkytown? - Following up on last month's dialogue sermon, Dan Bielenberg and Doug Hartmann will provide more information about the recently concluded Riverside Innovation Hub project here at Hope. They will review the work their team did over the past few years, and outline how it can help inform, guide, and inspire our congregation's ministry here in Dinkytown.

Oct.17: What's up with Minneapolis Charter Amendments? - The racial justice group will sponsor an information session on the background and implications of the public safety amendment on the ballot this fall in Minneapolis. Ben Whalen, an organizer with ISAI AH, and Iric Nathanson, a writer and lecturer, who has written extensively about Minneapolis city charter history, will speak and answer our questions. There will also be a handout on links to various articles on policing and public safety.

Oct. 24: Meet Emily Brown! - Our new pastoral intern, Emily Brown, will be learning and working with us for the next 2 years while also attending Luther Seminary. Come hear more about her story and how she came to serve at Hope.

Oct 31: Learning About Our Neighbors: Portland House - Just two blocks from ULCH, Portland House is a Lutheran Social Services community-based residential program whose primary goal is to serve as a therapeutic alternative to incarceration. Program Director, Laurie Woodard, will share the story of this innovative and successful program in our church's neighborhood. The Sunday Forum Team

Hope Diamonds are Making Music!

1:00 – 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 13th

ALL ARE WELCOME! Hope Diamonds is a ministry of senior members and friends at ULCH.

Program: Rosalie Eldevik will show us how we can have fun making music with Orff instruments, sitting down and safely distanced!

RSVP by Friday, October 8th Call Nathan (office) 612-331-5988 or email barbaraj@ulch.org

Need a ride? or Can you provide a ride? Let us know when you RSVP.

No tricks please! Coffee and special October treats will be provided.

We will meet outdoors in the Courtyard at Hope. We may move into a larger space indoors based on weather.

We continue to wear masks and do our best to stay safely distanced.

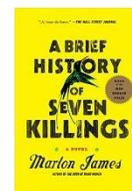
Hope Book Club

Sunday, October 10th, at 5 p.m. [Note Time Change], in the ULCH Lounge.

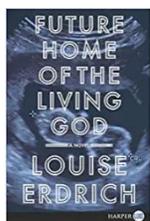
"A Brief History of 7 Killings," by Marlon James

"James's impressive third novel sets the attempted assassination of Bob Marley against the cacophony and violence of Jamaica as the CIA moved in." www.theguardian.com. 2015 Man Booker Prize winner.

This book is available through a Book Club Kit. Copies of the book for you to borrow are available on the bench outside of Church Administrator Nathan's office.



Sunday, November 14th: "Future Home of the Living God," Louise Erdrich.



"Twenty-six-year-old Cedar Hawk Songmaker, adopted daughter of a pair of Minneapolis liberals, is as disturbed and uncertain as the rest of America around her." www.goodreads.com

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

New Raingardens at University Baptist!

University Baptist Church (UBC), at the corner of University SE and 13th Avenue SE, announces the installation of four raingardens to help improve water quality.

Residents of the Marcy Holmes Neighborhood and the University Lutheran Church of Hope congregation are invited to celebrate with partners and members of UBC by participating in a Garden Tour on Sunday, October 17 at noon.



Raingardens have a variety of benefits including slowing storm water runoff and increasing infiltration, improving habitat for pollinators, and decreasing sediment and phosphorus, which are pollutants to streams, lakes, and rivers. An estimated 133,000 gallons will be filtered annually.

Funded by an Action Grant from the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization and a Good Steward Grant from Hennepin County, the rain garden installation brings together six local partner organizations, which have agreed to receive storm water education. Partners include the following: University Lutheran Church of Hope, First Congregational UCC, St. Lawrence Catholic Church and Newman Center, Marcy-Holmes Neighborhood Association, Twin Cities Shape Note Singers, and Gaia Democratic School. This project was designed and installed by Metro Blooms, with planting by Helping Hand Companies. Additional information and photos of the project can be found here:

<https://www.mwmo.org/projects/university-baptist-church-raingardens/>

Bible and Brews

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, October 25th, 6-8 p.m. The group will determine if they will meet outside in person or on Zoom. Stay tuned to the Thursday Epistle for the plans.

October and November Birthdays

Freshly picked apples, breezy days and fall colors signal the changing seasons. Birthdays often make us pause to consider where we have been, and what the future may hold. Your birthday messages to our beloved members are sure to lift their spirits and shine a positive light on the days ahead. This Birthday list includes those who are 80 years and older, in addition to some who may be homebound, residing in assisted living or a care center. You can find their contact info in our latest ULCH directory.

Oct 11 Karen Lindesmith * Oct 20 Terry Hanson * Oct 25 Arloene Stevens * Oct 27 Janet Booe
Oct 31 Jerry Johnson * Nov 16 Ron Sorenson * Nov 25 Carmen Macoskey * Nov 28 Granger Whitney

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 who or what we can pray. Please alert a pastor or contact the church office. We include in prayer...

Welcoming children and Baptisms—We pray for those in our congregation who are awaiting children and holding hope in joyful and painful times. We also pray for all those coming for baptism. Dorothea Biesel's baptism and her family's welcome as new members was postponed from September to October 3 (parents Owen and Clara); Logan and Griffin Nygaard were baptized in a small service on September 19; Ryan Matthew Sachs' baptism was postponed-watch for a date this fall (Ryan is the child of Madeline and Mike Sach, and his grandparents are Kathy and Bryan Kufus); and on October 24th Iris and Linnea Yager will be baptized (their parents are Kjerstin and Shane Yager and grandparents are Bill and Jan Sanden).



Logan and Griffin

Marriages—We pray for all those preparing for marriage, and for all relationships of commitment. On September 18, Nan Knutsen and Mark Nelson were married at Hope.

Deaths—We pray for all who grieve the loss of loved ones, including Lynette Lamb and Rob Gerloff, Grace and Julia, at the death of Lynette's father Luke Lamb; and Elizabeth Lincoln and John Lauber, Sarah, Hannah, and Mary Lincoln and Mark Schneider, Emma, Noah, and the whole Lincoln family, at the death of mom and grandma Jane Lincoln.

Significant Illness—We pray for those living with illness, cancer, recovery, uncertain diagnosis, hospice, chemical dependency and other addictions, and mental health struggles, including Anne Bidne (in hospice), 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.

Blessing of Animals

In the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, lover of creatures and critters, on Sunday, October 3 we will offer a blessing of animals following worship at 11:45 a.m. on the patio. Bring your animals, or, if that wouldn't be a blessing for your furry or feathered kin, bring their picture. Worship that day is outdoors. They are welcome in worship, too.

Holden Evening Prayer

On Wednesday, October 20 at 7pm we will gather in the Courtyard to sing Holden Evening Prayer. Bring yourself and a mask (for walking thru the building). Tim Gustafson and Elise Carlson have agreed to take a lead AND we could use other instruments and vocalists to grace our worship. Talk with Gus Gustafson if you can join in!

Updated COVID-19 Preparedness Plan

At the beginning of September we released a new COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. This plan guides our congregational response to COVID over the coming month. Please find the new plan on our website at <http://www.ulch.org/ulch-response-to-covid-19> Talk with Pastor Jen if you have questions. A few items to note:

- Outdoors, masks continue to be optional when distance can be kept.
- Indoors, (for worship, meetings, gatherings) masks are required.
- Please honor distance and avoid congregating.
- The new policy is much clearer in presentation.
- It includes sections about food and fellowship.
- Vaccinations are strongly encouraged for all who are able, and they are required for staff.

Note from the President

My chickens, like many of you, are not big fans of committees. They'll hang out together pecking and scratching, or spend time alone in the nesting box. Only on rare occasions do the three of them gather for something official in the coop. What happens there, Beth and I have no idea.

However, with all the activity at University Lutheran Church of Hope these days, the chickens may reconsider. Just to name a few of the many committees and teams active right now:

- **Clean Energy Team**—Officially established by the board this summer, this team is shepherding our solar installation. Tim Abrahamson and Stewart Herman are the leads.
- **Sanctuary & Immigration Team**—Led for years by Nick Tangen, this team is now under lay leadership. Sheila Hougen is its chair. The group follows and lobbies on immigration policy and lawmaking, and supports the local sanctuary movement.
- **Neighborhood & Campus Team**—Perhaps you've heard members of this group give a fascinating sermon on our first Sunday back in the sanctuary. Based on several projects of Nick Tangen's, this team recently regrouped. The Vision & Governance Board recently gave it official approval.
- **Children's Ministry Team**—With creativity and perseverance, this team met throughout the pandemic to keep the children of Hope connected. In a recent retreat the members planned a new hybrid Sunday School which launched in September. Shelly Parry provides leadership.

The word "team," in ULCH lingo, is actually a "committee" whose members are not officially elected by the congregation. (In contrast, we elect the members of the Financial Controls Committee and the Personnel Committee, for example.) As a result, you can join these teams when the spirit moves you. Simply reach out to the leaders and ask how you can help.

Knowing all this, the chickens are now making some decisions:

- **Copper**—Definitely Neighborhood & Campus. She is really into porous walls, and doesn't understand what the chicken wire is all about.
- **Maggie**—As an Indian Brahma chicken, she knows intuitively about the immigrants that preceded her. She'll learn about sanctuary as she goes along.
- **Molly**—Still deciding. Where can she join and not say much? Maybe she'll come and hang out with the Hope Quilters.

Think about it! The four I list here are only a sampling. As Beth Ubbelohde so poignantly explained during a recent Gratitude and Generosity talk during worship, she felt welcome and liked it at Hope, but it wasn't until she joined that committee that she truly felt a part.

Uli Koester, Congregational President

Artisan Bread Aficionados: Mark your calendars!

We will be firing up our outdoor oven for two bread bakes this fall: October 22-23 and November 5-6. We will be baking specialty artisan recipes, as we did pre-pandemic. Watch the Thursday Epistle for details on how to obtain a tasty loaf or to volunteer to participate in the baking process as we get closer to the baking dates. Thank you so much for your support!

Hope Outdoor Oven fills the Dinkytown air with tempting wood-fired Pizza aromas!

The Outdoor Oven Ministry Team completed 3 pizza bakes this summer: in support of the church picnic, Wednesday Evening Vespers, and a Welcome Back get together with Lutheran Campus Ministry and other U students. Thanks to all volunteers who made it happen! Our volunteers got to practice our wood-fired baking skills, while spreading goodwill and God's grace to our neighbors. By the way, we're always looking for interested folks who would like to get involved in this fascinating centuries old baking process. Interested in the "slow-food" movement? Getting involved will give you an opportunity to learn or enhance baking skills, build camaraderie with a fun group of like-minded Hopesters, all the while doing good for our church, its outreach ministry, and our community. Contact John Bablitch (mplsifb@gmail.com) or Bryan Kufus (bkufus462@icloud.com) for more information. John Bablitch, Outdoor Oven Ministry Team

Treasurer's Report

August 2021 and Year-to-Date Income and Expense						
	Aug. Actual	Aug. Budget	Aug. Variance	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance
General Giving	38,922	38,037	885	347,329	327,316	20,013
Rental Income	9,667	10,166	(499)	83,412	81,328	2,084
Total Income	48,589	48,203	386	430,740	408,644	22,096
Salaries & Benefits	21,967	25,995	(4,028)	200,947	221,380	(20,433)
Total Expense	47,148	47,731	(583)	377,917	415,791	(37,874)
Net Operating Income	1,441	472	969	52,823	(7,147)	59,970

August Financials

- General giving totaled \$38,922 for the month of August, \$885 more than budgeted. Year-to-date general giving totaled \$347,329, \$20,013 or approximately 6% more than the budgeted amount. In August, rental income totaled \$9,667 which includes PEASE Academy rent, parking lot income and use of facilities. Income for the month totaled \$48,589 contributing to a total year-to-date income of \$430,740, or approximately 5.4% more than budgeted.
- Expenses totaled \$47,148 for the month of August. Although expenses have been underbudget due to staffing changes this past spring, during the month we paid for three months of janitorial services (June, July and August). As we begin to hire new staff, I expect us to return to "regular" salaries and benefits amounts for the remainder of the year. Year-to-date, expenses totaled \$377,917, \$37,874 underbudget. We had a net operating income of \$1,441 for the month contributing to a net operating income of \$52,823 year-to-date. The Executive Committee alongside the Vision and Governance Board continue to monitor our current financial position.
- As of August 31st, we have \$443K in current assets – primarily composed of our checking and savings account. Additionally, we have a remaining mortgage liability of \$659K and \$139K note payable to the trust for the Solar Project.

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

As of August 31st we have \$213K in current assets. 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

October Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 8:00 AM PEASE Pancake Breakfast - North Parking Lot
3 9:30 AM Sunday Forum 9:30 AM Sunday School (hybrid) - Patio & Zoom 10:30 AM Outdoor Worship, w/ Zoom/YouTube	4 9:00 AM Quilters 6:15 PM Zoom - Personnel Committee 7:15 PM Zoom - Executive Committee	5 12:00 PM Staff Meeting 4:30 PM PEASE After School Program	6 7:00 PM Choir	7 4:30 PM PEASE After School Program 6:30 PM AA Group 6:30 PM Sanctuary- Reserved 7:00 PM Men's Group in courtyard	8 7:00 PM Crafter Group - Courtyard/Lounge	9 8:30 AM St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church Retreat 1:00 PM Sanctuary- Reserved
10 9:30 AM Sunday Forum 9:30 AM Sunday School (hybrid) - Patio & Zoom 10:30 AM Worship in Sanctuary, w/ Zoom/YouTube 5:00 PM Book Club	11 9:00 AM Quilters 1:30 PM Sunday Forum Team 7:30 PM Children's Ministry Team- Zoom	12 4:00 PM Staff Meeting 4:30 PM PEASE After School Program	13 1:00 PM Hope Diamonds Senior Group 5:30 PM Zoom - Compassion Care Team 6:00 PM Zoom - Facilities Team	14 9:30 AM Dorcas Circle - Courtyard/Lounge 4:30 PM PEASE After School Program 6:30 PM AA Group	15 **"The Visitor" Articles Due	16 Gopher Football Game 12:00 PM Family Event at Como Park
17 9:30 AM Sunday Forum 9:30 AM Sunday School (hybrid) - Patio & Zoom 10:30 AM Outdoor Worship, w/ Zoom/YouTube 12:00 PM Raingarden Tour at University Baptist Church 5:00 PM Zoom: Movie Discussion Group with Racial Equity Focus	18 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM Financial Controls Committee and Exec Committee	19 12:00 PM Staff Meeting 4:00 PM Sanctuary Coalition Meeting 4:30 PM PEASE After School Program 6:30 PM Vision & Governance Board- Courtyard	20 7:00 PM Holden Evening Prayer- Courtyard	21 4:30 PM PEASE After School Program 6:00 PM Zoom - SE Como Hope Connections Group 6:30 PM AA Group 7:00 PM Men's Group in courtyard	22 3:00 PM Bread Bake prep	23 Bread Bake - Parking lot Gopher Football Game 10:00 AM Oblates group - Sanctuary and Lounge
24 9:30 AM Sunday Forum 9:30 AM Sunday School (hybrid) - Patio & Zoom 10:30 AM Worship in Sanctuary, w/ Zoom/YouTube 12:00 PM Baptism Service for Iris and Linnea Yager in the Courtyard	25 9:00 AM Quilters 6:00 PM ZOOM- Bible & Brews	26 4:00 PM Staff Meeting 4:30 PM PEASE After School Program 7:00 PM Zoom - Racial Justice Team	27 7:00 PM Choir	28 4:30 PM PEASE After School Program 6:30 PM AA Group 7:00 PM Sanctuary and Immigration Team on Zoom	29	30
31 Reformation Sunday 9:30 AM Sunday Forum 9:30 AM Sunday School (hybrid) - Patio & Zoom 10:30 AM Worship in Sanctuary, w/ Zoom/YouTube						

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.

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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Rev. Barbara Johnson

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Emily Brown

Minister of Community Engagement:

Elise Carlson

Minister of Faith Formation

Morgan Strudthoff

Church Administrator:

Nathan Obrestad

Financial Administrator:

Kari Olson

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Seth Strudthoff

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