



Clockwise from top left: Matt Fry trying out the pizza; fire builder Bryan Kufus looks pleased with the results; enjoying the conversations during the Gratitude and Generosity Picnic on August 14; Morgan and Pastor Maria teaming to put up the canopy for outdoor worship; four generations present for baby Mira's baptism including Karen Westwood, Wayne Westwood, and Linnea and Cesar Becerra with Mira; cellist Lindsay Schlemmer and Violist Kirsti Petraborg during the August Courtyard Concert; The Garden of Eatin' is thriving; and (center) Julaine Kobiske and Bruce Eldevik enjoy the Gratitude and Generosity Pizza Picnic.

The Procession

Displayed in Hope's lounge hallway, *The Procession* by John August Swanson (1938–2021) is an original silk screen print, intricately layered with 89 colors and jam-packed with a nearly overwhelming amount of information. Though it's much easier to decipher the contents in its actual 24" x 36" scale, we can begin here to appreciate the artist's construction of this inspired visual narrative chronicling God's active presence in the lives of people of faith.

Orienting ourselves in this profusion of detail, our eyes settle on the open shaft of intensely saturated orange light illuminating the interior of a cathedral. Carmel colored columns support soaring Roman arches that point to a ceiling vaulted beyond our sight. The central focal point of this sanctuary is a circular rose window, a medieval symbol of the wholeness and eternity given through Christ's passion and victory over death. Just above this a large, bronze-colored, supporting beam shows Mary and baby Jesus centered in a radiant circle motif between two archangels.

Surrounding this interior is a surprisingly surreal facade. Instead of impervious stone and mortar, the exterior is clad in faith stories from the Old and New Testaments along with portraits of saints, each with their own story of faith. Though placed under a starry mantle of night, this scaffold of sacred narratives is infused with golden sunlight and laced with the blue sky of day. Mosaic-like miniature snapshots invite us to recollect the spiritual significance of each story.

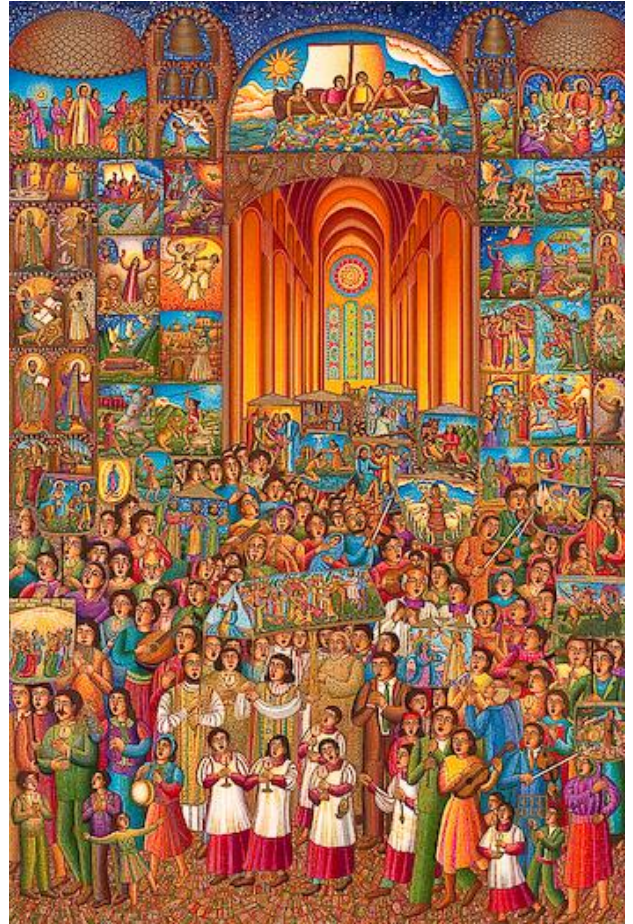
For example, directly above the sanctuary and under the widest dome, we see the beginning of Simon, James and John's discipleship to Jesus, as recorded in Luke 5. Fisherman Simon, having caught not even a minnow during a hard night's work, follows Jesus' instruction to sail out, yet again, and let down the nets on the other side of the boat. Incredibly, Simon and his partners James and John haul in a staggering abundance of fish that nearly sinks two boats. This is the moment the three walk away from life as they know it and follow this miracle worker, Jesus, to "fish for people."

To the right of this, beneath a bell tower, we see the beginning of another extensive story of faith (Exodus 3 and 4). Walking along the desert, shepherd Moses sees a mysterious burning bush that does not burn up, and he approaches in wonder. God speaks to him from the flaming bush, instructing him to go tell the mighty Pharaoh to release the Israelites who've been captive for centuries. Moses repeatedly expresses to God his reluctance and unsuitability for the job. He finally acquiesces when, in addition to multiple sources of help, some involving miracles, God promises, "I will be with you."

On and on, the transformational stories of our faith ancestors continue, inviting us to see ourselves in their humanity and revealing God's divine presence in the lives of ordinary people like us.

In the foreground, a multitude of present-day Jesus' followers steps from the sanctuary into the world. Choristers hold candles and burn incense as symbols of prayers rising to heaven. Priests carry the Eucharist under a canopy picturing Christ's glorious entrance into Jerusalem amid the people's resounding hosannas. Believers of all ages play instruments and sing praises. The emerging congregation carries yet more stories on banners held high. Even the floor of the church extends into the world, its tiles in a scalloped shell pattern, an ancient symbol of baptism and pilgrimage.

Here is a timeless picture of the living church—the ever-generating procession of all kinds of people, following the Way of Jesus Christ, carrying the sacred faith stories and proclaiming the gospel, doing God's work in this both beautiful and broken world, and celebrating the promise of God's boundless, redeeming, loving presence in our lives.



Muffi Abrahamson, for Arts and Environment

So, how was sabbatical?

"I hope you find we've missed you, and also done well in your absence."

-A Hope member's reflection on one of the colored *Welcome Back, Pastor Jen* cards

On July 25th I returned from a 3 month time of sabbatical leave. I thoroughly love serving as one of your pastors AND it was such a gift to have this time of rest and renewal. I needed it more than I had even realized. Thanks to our highly capable congregational leaders for making this space, to the Sabbatical Pastors Tom Carlson and Erik Strand, to the staff, and to you all for trusting the grace of this time. I have felt missed and it is clear you did well over these months. I give thanks for this!



Though I'm thoroughly back, the time away still feels fresh and also impactful. Many have wondered about the time, my adventures, my reflections. How was sabbatical? It was lovely, soul and body renewing, healing, fun, grounding, mundane in the best ways, a great adventure, and a time to breathe deeply.

Overall my focus was sustainability. I reflected on questions like: What rhythms are life-sustaining, for my ministry, and for our family? How do we care for ourselves, tend important relationships, contribute to community, and act for justice in the world, without becoming exhausted and overwhelmed? What adjustments do we want and need to make to our family's routines and my work week to make for more sustainability? Questions of how to create a sustainable life are key for many of us, particularly right now. My family isn't unique in asking these types of questions, though our two pastor, two congregation household has our own set of dynamics at play. Here are some highlights of the sabbatical time:

I traveled. I sought time to adventure one to one with each member of my family. The rhythms change when it's just two of us. My spouse Jane and I explored the Abiquiu area (think Georgia O'Keeffe) in northern New Mexico. I went with our eldest (a fun 13 year old) to San Francisco Bay Area and Marin County with its red wood trees. Our youngest (a cool 8 year old) and I took the train to Chicago for a long weekend. My dad and I explored the backroads of the Kickapoo River Valley in southwest Wisconsin (a winding river we'd paddled when I was 6). My mom and I took some days enjoying the lakes and architecture around Madison, Wisconsin. With both of my folks it was a treat to hear more stories and memories, for life gets so busy. Jane, the kids and I took a BWCA trip and I also spent a week in Denver for the Festival of Homiletics (great sermons, great colleagues).

I took care of family stuff. Mundane and important things that just needed doing: Buying a new used car, getting our house insulated, arranging and doing some work in our bathroom (vanity of vanities!), yard projects, sorting and cleaning (we moved to a different home in May 2021 and nesting continues), lots of appointments, and then some more appointments.

I read (some great novels) and walked (a lot) and prayed. I journaled. I reconnected with a number of friends and people who have been pivotal in my life, who shaped me in ways I'm still realizing. I took walks with good folks and shared dinners with others. When I could, I went to church with our kids (or solo) and checked out the Sunday morning breakfast scene. It was a gift to spend a season focused more closely on home and family.

I'm enjoying being back with you all. The questions of sustainability are still key for me, and will be for some time. New routines such as late evening walks are shaping this new season. It's a treat to meet new folks finding a space in this community of faith, and I'm aware of others who are experiencing significant change. If we haven't yet connected and you'd like to, please don't hesitate to reach out. You are in my prayers and I covet yours. I give thanks for God's faithfulness in this journey, for each of you, and for the grace that holds us.

Pastor Jen Nagel

Worship and Music

Choir Rehearsals begin Sept. 7 at 7 p.m. Come and join the choir! We sing a wide variety of music from around the world and across the centuries, and rehearse in a way that allows for everyone to feel comfortable and ready to sing on choir Sundays. Come as you are! Can't come every week? No problem, come rehearse with us when you can! Bring a friend! Highlights for the fall semester include works by Joan Szymko, Johann Gottfried Walther, Elaine Hagenberg, Camille Saint-Saëns, Herbert Howells, and André J. Thomas.



Drop-in Choir Fall Dates: Want to sing with a choir, but don't have time for a weekly evening commitment? Please join us for drop-in choir, where we will rehearse 1 or more straightforward pieces at 9:30 a.m. on a Sunday morning, directly before the service. Drop-in choir dates for the fall are: Sept. 11, Oct. 23, Nov. 13, and Nov. 27.

Fall Worship Time Change: Please note that beginning on September 11th, worship will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Music Series Event Oct. 15, 7:30 p.m.: Minister of Worship and Music Robert Ragoonanan presents a varied and virtuosic program of *Music for Organ and Piano*, performing solo pieces by Herbert Howells, Sarah Kirkland Snider, and Nadia Boulanger. Later in the evening, Robert will be joined by hornist Dr. Garrett Krohn and violinist Abbey Roemer for Johannes Brahms' Trio for Horn, Violin and Piano, Op. 40. Please join us, and bring a friend!

Volunteers: It's a new program year, and that means we are looking for new volunteers to help us conduct meaningful and beautiful worship! Service opportunities can range from ushering to helping with tech and streaming to serving communion. Serve as often or as little as your schedule allows. Please contact robertr@ulch.org for information on any of these opportunities and more.

Soloists and ensembles for worship are welcome! If you play an instrument or sing and would like to offer a piece of music in worship, please let me know! Our congregation has many musicians of all ages, and all are welcome to share their gifts.

Robert S. Ragoonanan, Minister of Worship and Music

Coming Up

These are busy weeks as we get back into the flow of the program year. Throughout this issue, you'll notice coming events and focus for each Sunday. Here's an overview as we look ahead.

Sunday, September 4. Labor Day Weekend and our last 10 a.m. service of the season.

Sunday, September 11. This kicks off our program year. We'll shift to the 10:30 a.m. worship time with Faith Formation programming for all ages at 9:30 a.m. each week. Along with many other ELCA congregation's, we focus this day on God's Work, Our Hands. See the notice for a special program at 9:30 a.m. with this focus. We invite children, families, and adults of all ages to participate. Pastor Kate Reuer Welton (Lutheran Campus Ministry) is our preacher this morning and we'll take time to thank Sabbatical Pastors Tom Carlson and Erik Strand for their faithful leadership over the late spring and summer.

Sunday, September 18. Weather permitting, we'll worship outdoors on the west parking lot at 10:30 a.m. We'll also enjoy a Welcome Back Students events with a pizza bake following worship. See the notice for more about this special day. Faith Formation for children is at 9:30 a.m. in-person. Sunday Forum is at 9:30 a.m. in-person in Heritage Hall and on Zoom.

Sunday, September 25. Worship at 10:30 a.m., a baptism, and we're into the swing of the program year. There are opportunities in-person inside and outdoors, as well as on Zoom and YouTube. See you in September!

Notice of a Generous Gift

(This letter was sent to our members on August 17, 2022.)

Dear members of University Lutheran Church of Hope,

We write today to share some exciting news. Our congregation has received an amazing gift. An anonymous donor has given University Lutheran Church of Hope \$416,000 from their IRA, with no designation for its use. We are so thankful for this generous gift and honored to be entrusted with this great responsibility. The gift is bold and faithful, and we want to be bold and faithful in response. This one-time gift presents an opportunity to do something very special.

You may wonder about our congregation's process going forward. As a faith community, we need to discern how best to use this gift. We need to listen to each other. We need to listen to the needs around us. We need to listen to the Spirit. The Vision & Governance Board will be thoughtfully creating a process with the congregation's input.

This gift will not be used to supplement the church's yearly budget. This gift allows us to go above and beyond. For our annual budget, University Lutheran Church of Hope continues to need and appreciate each and every financial contribution, whatever the amount. Thank you for continuing to support this ministry!

We ask for your prayers and support as the community proceeds. May the Spirit guide how we steward this gift.

Sincerely,

Ann Agrimson, Congregational President
The Vision & Governance Board of University Lutheran Church of Hope
Jen Nagel, Lead Pastor

Little Free Library

The Little Free Library has been filled time and time again this summer with food, clothing, and other resources, thanks to generous donations from people like you and funds sustaining the project. As the seasons change, so do the needs! If you are continually interested in donating, here is a list of items:

- Sunscreen/Aloe
- Spray Deodorant
- Soft Granola Bars
- Cans with Pop Top Lids
- Instant Coffee
- Underwear (all genders)

If you are unable to donate, but still want to be a part of the Little Free Library project, you can help by filling the library! Contact elisec@ulch.org to confirm your interest and availability.



Racial Justice Movie Night

The Racial Justice team continues to explore topics of racial justice and injustice through films in September. We will meet on September 18 at 7 p.m. via zoom to watch *Thunderheart*, available free online through a number of streaming platforms. If you have any questions about how or where to watch, contact elisec@ulch.org.

Elise Carlson (she/her), Minister of Community Engagement

September 11th! God's Work Our Hands Sunday!

Hello All! The Program year starts on September 11th at 9:30! We welcome all of those in Sunday Forum and Sunday School to gather together to do some work for others in need. We will be gathering in the courtyard to sort food for the Joyce Uptown Food Shelf. We will be learning about Every Meal, who we collect Noisy Offering for every month. And we will be writing notes of welcome to college students starting school this fall. There will be coffee and treats and singing and a lot of fun! We look forward to seeing you there.

The following are items that we will need for our Joy Food Shelf project.

- Diapers/Wipes
- Tampons/Pads
- Toothbrushes/Toothpaste
- Ramen
- Paper Grocery Bags
- Vegetable Oil



Amnicon!

We have had a busy month with two groups going to Amnicon! We had six youth and one adult from our church go from July 31- August 6. They had a blast on the Namekagon River. Thanks to Danae Lukis for serving as the chaperone. Another group went from August 26-28th. Pictures to share in the joy will come soon!

Apple Picking!

After Church on September 11th, we will be going to Aamodt's Orchard for apple picking and some fun and games! There is no admission to go and all are welcome! If you would like to get some food or pick apples, there will be fees for that. Please contact Morgan (morgans@ulch.org) if you have any questions!

Peace! Morgan Strudtoff, Minister of Faith Formation

Blessing of Animals – October 3

In the spirit of what we know of St. Francis of Assisi, lover of creatures great and small, on Sunday, October 3, we will have a Blessing of Animals. You are welcome to bring the creatures in your life of all sizes and types, or a picture, for a blessing. We'll

gather on the patio after the 10:30 a.m. worship service, around 11:45 a.m. If your creature would be comfortable being in worship that day, they are welcome to join you. Also note the special focus on St. Francis at the Sunday Forum that morning.

Welcome Back Students 2022!

University Lutheran Church of Hope will host the annual Welcome Back Students event on Sunday, September 18; beginning at 11:30 a.m. Welcome Back Students is a day to celebrate all of the students in our neighborhood and congregation as they embark on a new school year. You are encouraged to think of a student in your life who you wish to celebrate, and bring them along to enjoy the fun. The event will include pizza, music, resources, and more! If you are interested in learning more about the behind the scenes and making this event happen, contact Elise at elisec@ulch.org.

Internship Update

I am a little past half-way through my internship, and I am so enjoying my time at Hope. It has been such a blessing to be a part of all of the ministries going on at Hope and to have met all of the wonderful people that I have encountered so far. I have just loved being a part of this community.

I have been having a busy summer semester with four classes: Greek, two history classes, and an Evangelism, Witness and Mission class. My semester is coming to an end, and I will be starting my fall semester soon with four more classes: Pauline Epistles, Triune God, Ways of Knowing and Experiencing God, and Money and Mission of the Church.

I look forward to getting to know and meeting more of the people of Hope. If you would like to meet, I welcome you to reach out at ebrown001@luthersem.edu. I would love to go for a walk, coffee, lunch outside, or even to meet over the phone.

Churchwide Assembly

I had the opportunity to go to the ELCA Churchwide Assembly as a voting member for the Minneapolis Area Synod in Columbus, Ohio, August 8-12. My entire week felt so Spirit-led in all of the encounters that I had. It was such a busy week of connecting with new friends, fellowship, worship, prayer, discussing important issues for the church, and just being together. One day I had lunch with the vice president, Carlos Peña (I would like to add that he is also a Dallas Cowboys fan) and another day I worshipped next to the new vice president, Imran Siddiqui (see the selfie of us to the right). It was so cool to be able to befriend anyone I encountered. I really enjoyed the voting and seeing how any voting member was able to go up to the microphone and contribute their voice. I loved the ways that we centered in prayer before voting. Throughout the week I was able to feel and see the many ways that we are one church.



Emily Brown, Pastoral Intern

New Members

We will welcome new members into the University Lutheran Church of Hope community on a yet-to-be-determined Sunday in September. Please watch for this time of welcome. If you are curious about becoming a member and what this can mean, contact Pastor Jen (jenn@ulch.org).

The Hope Book Club Annual Potluck

Silverwood Park – 2500 County Rd. E., St. Anthony
Sunday, September 11, 2022, at 6 pm

Silent Spring, by Rachel Carson:

“Carson’s passionate concern in *Silent Spring* is with the future of the planet and all life on Earth. She calls for humans to act responsibly, carefully, and as stewards of the living earth.”

rachelcarson.org/SilentSpring.aspx

Sonja will bring the hamburgers, condiments, plates and utensils. Please bring an appetizer, salad or dessert to share. Please contact Sonja Peterson at speterson@dunnwald.com or 612-242-8711 with book suggestions.

“Drink deeply from good books.” -John Wooden

Sunday Forums— Back and Better Than Ever!

We're pleased to announce that we'll be back together in-person this year! Forums will be held in Heritage Hall Sundays from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. and will follow the congregation's masking protocols. Presentations will continue to be available via Zoom as well and can be accessed via the link in the Sunday morning email. Upgraded technology will make this a much better experience. You can also catch up on missed opportunities via links in the Thursday Epistle. There are so many ways to participate. Please join us!

The following are the forums for the next month:

September 11: God's Work. Our Hands - Gather in the courtyard to join Sunday School kids as we do some projects and hear about how we can help others in need. We need your participation for this joint activity! (Note: This forum will not be available on Zoom.)

September 18: Sabbatical Reflections - Curious about what Pastor Jen was up to during her 3 month sabbatical? At this week's forum, she'll share some stories, pictures, and reflections on this time of rest and renewal.

September 23: Generosity, Stewardship and Abundance - Join us for a look at the three components of ULCH's financial foundation as well as a discussion of why we give.

October 2: Ode to St. Francis - On this Blessing of the Animals Sunday come learn about the saint who inspired it. We'll also hear from Hope members who do volunteer work with creatures great and small! Pets are welcome at this forum if you'd like to bring them along before worship.

A Conversation on Housing With Minnesota Gubernatorial Candidates

Beacon Interfaith on Affordable Housing will be attending, along with other affordable housing advocate organizations.

A Conversation on Housing with Minnesota Gubernatorial Candidates!

September 13, 2022 from 7 -8:30 p.m

Wayzata Community Church at 125 Wayzata Blvd E, Wayzata, MN 55391

You can also join us via Zoom at: <https://beaconinterfaith-org.zoom.us/j/87830821713?pwd=RWh4RkI4b2xicjJMdnpxN2lLSGNRZz09&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 878 3082 1713 : Passcode: 573631

Or by calling (312) 626 6799 with Meeting ID and Passcode

At the event, groups, including Beacon, from across the entire housing continuum will talk with candidates for Governor about their vision for home. We will discuss multiple issues around housing like homelessness, housing instability and home ownership. The questions will be crafted by a diverse group of housing stakeholders from the sponsoring organizations. We will provide the questions to candidates in advance. We have invited all candidates for Governor polling over 10% in a major statewide poll conducted after July 1, 2022. If you are interested in going as a delegation from University Lutheran Church of Hope, contact Donna Neste: 612-244-6285 or email d_nestea@yahoo.com

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, September 26, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Watch for location information in the Thursday Epistle and save the date.

Hope Diamonds

Hope Diamonds will gather on Tuesday, September 20th from 1-2:30 in the lounge. Notice that we're changing our day to the third Tuesday of the month to see how that goes moving forward.

You can look forward to having some time in fellowship with one another. Check the Thursday Epistle for further details about how we will spend our time together. Pastor Maria Anderson-Lippert gathers the Hope Diamonds. If you've got ideas or want to join in, contact Pastor Maria (mariaa@ulch.org). Please RSVP to Nathan (nathano@ulch.org) or Pastor Maria by September 12th and let them know if you'll need a ride. We look forward to being together!

Hope Birthdays

This birthday list of Hope's members and friends includes those who are 80 years and older, in addition to some who may be home-bound, residing in assisted living, or a care center. You can find their contact info in the ULCH directory. Cards, notes and phone calls are always appreciated!

September Birthdays

September 04 – Donna Parry
September 06 – Anita Smith (Celebrating 100!)
September 10 – Miriam Hougen
September 11 – Winnie Nyhus
September 22 – Jim Hougen
September 28 – Rob Lindesmith

October Birthdays

October 11 – Karen Lindesmith
October 25 – Arloene Stevens
October 27 – Janet Booe
October 31 – Jerry Johnson (Celebrating 90!)

Rev. Maria Anderson-Lippert, Pastor for Care and Nurture

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 Baptisms—We give thanks for all children and their parents. We pray that they all may have enough to be fed, to be safe in their schools, to have shelter over their heads. May parents have the support they need to be the best parents they can be and may all children have adults in their lives who love and care for them. We pray for Mira Becerra, child of Linnea and Cesar Becerra, baptized August 21, and for Hudson Eberle, child of Amanda Parsons and Ryan Eberle, to be baptized on September 25, and for all who await children through joyful and challenging times.

Marriages—We pray for all those preparing for marriage, and for all relationships of commitment.

Deaths—We pray for God's strong embrace for all who grieve recent losses and those who died long ago. We include in this issue's listing some who experienced losses in the late spring as well as over the summer. We pray for Larry and Pat Lindquist at the death of Larry's sister Molly; for Elaine and Ken Sarkela and family at the death of Elaine's mother Lula; for Steve Holm and family at the death of Steve's mother Jan; for Shane and Kjerstin Yager and family at the death of Shane's father Jerry; for Lyle Lutz and family at the death of Lyle's brother Chuck Lutz; and for CJ and Sandy Robinson and family at the death of CJ's brother Noel in August.

Significant Illness—We pray for those living with illness, cancer, recovery, uncertain diagnosis, hospice, chemical dependency and other addictions, and mental health struggles, including Marcheta Scribner (in comfort care), Anne Bidne (in hospice), Donna Parry, Patrick Colombe, Mario, Roger Anderson, Stewart Herman, Steve Ganzkow-Wold (in hospice care), Ken Lundquist, Steve Schreuder, Betty Quie, Brian McCaffrey, Miriam Hougen, Janet Carpenter, and Chuck Lewis. We also pray for caregivers.

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

President's message: Hilarity at Church?

I think that God has a sense of humor that they giggle at good jokes or laugh at wonderful surprises.

I believe I was a teenager when I began to notice people who could laugh at themselves and not take themselves too seriously. I liked that they didn't make jokes about other people. Instead they could giggle at things that most people would get upset about, like a time in college when I made cabbage rolls for dinner for my roommate, only to drop them on the floor, upside down as I took them out of the oven. I wanted to cry. But my roommate just smiled and said, "It will be fine" and proceeded to scoop them back into the pan and eat. We still laugh about that today.

Traditionally, when people think of church, they think of solemn and pious events. And I love those times that are quiet and beautiful such as during the Christmas Eve service with the lighting of the candles while singing Silent Night.

But there are other times at University Lutheran Church of Hope that are so joyful that we laugh out loud. Back in the 70's, I remember the very last Sunday that the Associate Pastor Jack Drier presided in church; he rode his motorcycle up the center aisle. What a way to make an exit! Or more recently, during a celebration after church, our organist at the time, Tim Strand, sang the *Lime Jell-O Marshmallow Cottage Cheese Surprise* song. Some of us are still giggling about that. Or this year when the ULCHers ended the church service with ABBA's *Dancing Queen* in honor of Pastor Jen's birthday. Who knows, maybe there's a disco version of the church service in our future? Those times of laughter delight me and remind me of how happy I am to be alive. I imagine a God who can be joyful and playful, who can appreciate silliness and fun.

When I went to Holden Village for the first time in 1983, I wasn't sure what to expect. I knew it was a Lutheran Retreat Center and that I would be working in the kitchen doing lots of chopping and mixing. What surprised me was that not only did I find hilarity; it was encouraged! They name it Holy Hilarity. So, we sang an opera song about lasagna, and we greeted the bus by spelling out "Hello" on the lawn with our bodies, and we wrote greetings to the pastor on the communion bread.

Life can be serious, depressing, and scary at times. It's important that we look at those times and give them the attention and respect they deserve. A current, important example of this is diving into the Minnesota Council of Churches Action Project looking at the history of racial injustice. But we need balance in our lives. So many times after a good laugh, I hear someone say, "Oh, I needed that." We need joy. We need laughter. And I would say, yes, even in church.

Ann Argrimson, Congregational President

Treasurer's Report

Monthly Financials - General giving totaled \$47,489.33 for the month of July which is 122% of our budget. Our YTD percent remains around the 100% mark. Rental income for July is also higher than expected with an amount of \$14,957.28, giving us a total income of \$62,306.61. At

July 2022 and Year-to-date Income and Expense

	July Actual	July Budget	July Variance	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance
General Giving	47,489.33	38,891.46	8,597.87	286,571.54	284,478.76	2,092.78
Rental Income	14,957.28	13,312.58	1,644.70	101,687.78	93,188.06	8,499.72
Total Income	62,306.61	52,204.04	10,102.57	388,259.32	377,666.82	10,592.50
Salary & Benefits	32,391.61	35,469.25	(3,077.64)	227,003.69	251,885.75	(24,882.06)
Total Expenses	53,291.67	55,659.62	(2,367.95)	369,617.39	399,072.66	(29,455.27)
Net Oper Income	9,014.94	(3,455.58)	12,470.52	18,641.93	(21,405.84)	40,047.77

the time I write this, we just celebrated the generosity of the congregation with pizza and I can attest to your generosity. Thank you for your gifts of money that make this ministry possible.

Salary and Benefits remain consistent with a total of \$32,391.61 for the month of July. The total expenses for July were \$53,291.67. We are finally seeing smaller gas bills now that we are not heating the building. One of our big expenses was the payment of \$3500 to be a part of the ACTION program. As of July 31st, we have \$795k in current assets – primarily composed of our checking and savings account of which \$499K is in the dedicated accounts. This leaves the church with \$296K available as reserves for our everyday needs.

Capital Campaign – Opening Doors - The Opening Doors Capital campaign received just enough in July to make our mortgage payment but we have a strong balance of \$212k. We have had no recent distributions but the facilities team is continuing to work on lighting replacements to help reduce our energy needs. The blinds in the PEASE classrooms have been replaced and we are just waiting to receive the invoice. Please reach out to Nathan Obrestad (nathano@ulch.org) or myself if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for continuing to support the Capital Campaign.

Thank You - The Executive Committee alongside the Vision and Governance Board are grateful for all the ways you contribute to University Lutheran Church of Hope. We know financial contributions are just one way of doing that. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns!

Thank you! Betty Schreuder, Treasurer

September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Gopher Football Game 8pm 4:30pm - 8:30pm PEASE After School Program 6:00pm - 8:00pm Parents of PEASE 6:30pm - 7:30pm AA Group	2 Office and main Hallways being waxed no office access.	3 Office and main Hallways being waxed no office access.
4 10:00am - 11:00am Worship in Sanctuary, w/ Zoom/YouTube	5 Labor Day Holiday - Office Closed 9:00am - 1:00pm Quilters	6 Pease Students return 12:00pm - 1:00pm Staff Meeting on Zoom 4:30pm - 8:30pm PEASE After School Program 6:30pm - 7:15pm Personnel Committee (hybrid) 7:15pm - 8:30pm Zoom - Executive Committee (hybrid)	7 5:29pm - 7:29pm Internship Meeting 7:00pm - 8:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8 9:30am - 11:30am Dorcas Circle - Courtyard/Lounge 4:30pm - 8:30pm PEASE After School Program 6:30pm - 7:30pm AA Group 7:00pm - 8:00pm Men's Group	9 7:00pm - 10:00pm Craft Group	10 Gopher Football game 11 am
11 God's Work Our Hands 9:30am - 10:00am Drop-In Choir 9:30am - 10:15am Faith Formation/Sunday Forum-God's Work Our Hands 10:30am - 11:30am Worship in Sanctuary, w/ Zoom/YouTube 6:00pm Book Club Picnic at Silverwood Park	12 9:00am - 1:00pm Quilters 12:00pm - 1:00pm Staff Meeting on Zoom 5:30pm - 7:00pm PEASE Community Foundation Board Meeting	13 4:30pm - 8:30pm PEASE After School Program 6:30pm - 9:00pm Parents of PEASE open house	14 5:30pm - 7:00pm Zoom - Compassion Care Team 6:00pm - 8:00pm Facilities Team 6:30pm - 7:00pm Evening Service 7:00pm - 8:30pm Choir Rehearsal	15 *"The Visitor" Articles Due 4:30pm - 8:30pm PEASE After School Program 6:00pm - 8:00pm Zoom - SE Como Hope Connections Group 6:30pm - 7:30pm AA Group	16	17 Cannon Valley Trail Bile Ride Gopher Football game 2:30 pm
18 Welcome Back Students 9:30am - 10:15am Faith Formation 9:30am - 10:15am Sunday Forum 10:30am - 11:30am Worship Outdoors, w/ Zoom/YouTube 11:30 - 1pm Welcome Back Students and Pizza Bake! 7:00pm - 9:00pm Zoom: Movie Discussion, Racial Equity Focus	19 9:00am - 1:00pm Quilters 12:00pm - 1:00pm Staff Meeting on Zoom	20 1:00pm - 2:30pm Hope Diamonds 4:00pm - 5:30pm Sanctuary Coalition Meeting 4:30pm - 8:30pm PEASE After School Program 6:30pm - 8:00pm Vision & Governance Board-Zoom	21 7:00pm - 8:30pm Choir Rehearsal	22 7:00pm - 8:00pm Men's Group	23 Evening V & G / Staff Retreat	24 7:00am - 1:00pm PEASE Pancake Breakfast 9am V & G / Staff Retreat 10:00am - 12:00pm Oblates group - Sanctuary and Lounge
25 9:30am - 12:00pm Choir (9:30 call) 9:30am - 10:15am Faith Formation 9:30am - 10:15am Sunday Forum 10:30am - 11:30am Worship in Sanctuary, w/ Zoom/YouTube	26 9:00am - 1:00pm Quilters 12:00pm - 1:00pm Staff Meeting on Zoom 6:30pm - 8:00pm Bible & Brews (location TBD)	27 4:30pm - 8:30pm PEASE After School Program 7:00pm - 8:30pm Zoom - Racial Justice Team	28 7:00pm - 8:30pm Choir Rehearsal	29 4:30pm - 8:30pm PEASE After School Program 6:30pm - 7:30pm AA Group	30	

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Rev. Maria Anderson-Lippert

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Robert Ragoonanan

Pastoral Intern:

Emily Brown

Minister of Community Engagement:

Elise Carlson

Minister of Faith Formation

Morgan Strudthoff

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