

# Currents

Newsletter of University Lutheran Church | January 2016

## Weekly Schedule

### Sundays

10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

### Wednesdays

8:00 a.m. Bibles and Bagels

5:00 p.m. Education

5:15 p.m. Choir

5:45 p.m. Free Meal

6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

7:00 p.m. Student Gathering



## Join us! Inter-Faith Prayer Service for Peace and Unity

Wednesday, January 6, 2016,  
6:30 p.m. At The Ecumenical  
Religious Center, Eau Claire, WI

Sponsored by Various Interfaith  
Communities. All people and  
faiths are invited.

Light Refreshments after Service  
ULC Contact: Pastor Bob

## Working Out Our Free Salvation

*Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed — not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence — continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling. — Philippians 2:12 NIV*

This is part of the Apostle Paul's message to the church in Philippi, words which may confuse those of us who believe God's gift of salvation is free; you cannot work for or earn something that's free. But before I continue, here's another version this passage from The Amplified Bible (it's not louder...it's more detailed!)

*So then, my dear ones, just as you have always obeyed [my instructions with enthusiasm], not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence, continue to work out your salvation [that is, cultivate it, bring it to full effect, actively pursue spiritual maturity] with awe-inspired fear and trembling [using serious caution and critical self-evaluation to avoid anything that might offend God or discredit the name of Christ]. — Philippians 2:12 AMP*

The bracketed words are added by the editors in an effort to better explain each verse. Now I believe the message is much obvious: working out our salvation is to cultivate it; to actively pursue spiritual maturity; to grow in our Christlikeness. By "working it out" we are not earning it; it's still God's gift to us. And note that Paul's message is for the entire congregation. He's asking the congregation to work diligently and communally to help grow God's Kingdom.

During Advent, there was a bulletin insert each Sunday that listed four questions:



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- What is your NEW HOPE for University Lutheran Church as we enter the New Year?
- What gifts, talents, or skills you can offer to help us encounter this NEW HOPE?
- What is your NEW HOPE for the Lutheran Student Association as we enter the New Year?
- What gifts, talents, or skills you can offer to help us encounter this NEW HOPE?

**NEW HOPE**

We are at a critical point in the life of ULC. It'd be amazing if each member made a commitment to discern how they will help ULC cultivate its mission and grow in spiritual maturity, and actually wrote it down! We could then regularly assess and hone the work we are doing, to ensure that it is effective in growing disciples and nurturing God's kingdom.

If you have not yet submitted answers to these questions, please consider doing so very soon, and turn them in to me. Find opportunities to, discuss these questions with ULC members and students. If you're really serious, come to a Church Council meeting and share your thoughts! ULC is a terrific place, and I believe we are in the midst of a community rich with people desiring to know and serve Jesus and his church. And like the call to the Philippians, this call is to us as a church family. And how inspiring it would be to start 2016 with a clear, focused, and God-pleasing vision and mission!

Blessed New Year to You and Yours,  
Pastor Bob

### **Martin Luther King celebration**

We will gather again at St James the Greater Catholic Church to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Jan. 18. The time is yet to be determined, watch for more information in bulletins. It is a wonderful evening of music, song, readings, remembrance and images for the whole community - please come.

**students  
welcome  
back**

The Ministry of Parish Life would like to give a warm welcome to UW-Eau Claire students returning in January.

The welcome back will include a letter from ULC, a packet of cocoa, and six homemade cookies. If you can donate cocoa packets or cookies (six cookies per zip lock bag), please drop them off at church between Jan. 17- 24. If baking is not for you, please consider donating a box of cocoa packets. Members of the Ministry of Parish Life will deliver the welcome back goodies to residence halls after worship on Sunday, Jan. 24. We plan to give cookies to about 150 students.



Presiding Bishop  
Elizabeth Eaton



William B. Horne II

## **Confronting Racism: A Holy Yearning**

Join ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and William B. Horne II for a live webcast on racism Jan. 14 at 8 p.m. (CST).

Information about the webcast is available at [www.ELCA.org/webcast](http://www.ELCA.org/webcast), where a link to the live webcast will be embedded. A live stream also will be available at [www.Facebook.com/Lutherans](http://www.Facebook.com/Lutherans). Twitter handle is #ELCAConfrontRacism. ELCA members are invited to submit a question to be considered during the live webcast at [livinglutheran@elca.org](mailto:livinglutheran@elca.org).

## 5 Ministries

Did you know there are five ministries at University Lutheran Church? Would you like to be more involved? Contact the below individuals for more information.

### Parish Life:

Kim Stien, 715-835-8218, [lstien@presenter.com](mailto:lstien@presenter.com)

### Education: E

lecia Oleson, 715-323-1689, [olesones98@gmail.com](mailto:olesones98@gmail.com)

### Worship:

Laurie Gapko, 715-834-3897, [gapkolf@uwec.edu](mailto:gapkolf@uwec.edu)

### Outreach:

Grace Johnson, 715-835-8641, [totagrem@charter.net](mailto:totagrem@charter.net)

### Stewardship:

Greg Granlund, 715-577-0718, [gregoryg@2dlp.com](mailto:gregoryg@2dlp.com)

## Call Committee Information

University Lutheran Church & Campus Ministry is currently in the interim period of calling a new pastor. Feel free to contact any of the following Call Committee members if you would like more information or have any questions regarding this process.

Bill Eisenbarth 715-828-1748 [eisenbarth@charter.net](mailto:eisenbarth@charter.net)  
Chuck Gavin 715-834-1050 [cgavin1050@charter.net](mailto:cgavin1050@charter.net)  
Allen Keniston 715-834-8063 [kenistah@uwec.edu](mailto:kenistah@uwec.edu)  
Elecia Oleson 715-323-1689 [olesones98@gmail.com](mailto:olesones98@gmail.com)  
Kay Scharn 715-877-1577 [klscharn@aol.com](mailto:klscharn@aol.com)  
Suzie Slota 715-559-3800 [sbslota@yahoo.com](mailto:sbslota@yahoo.com)



## University Lutheran Church

110 Garfield Ave.

Eau Claire, WI 54701

Phone: 715-834-8026

## ULC Staff

Bob Friese, Pastor

Zenon Wojcik, ULC President

Trudy Kennedy, ULC Assistant

## Contact:

Pastor Bob Friese

Phone: 715-834-8026 or 715-308-1681

E-mail: [pastor@universitylutheran.org](mailto:pastor@universitylutheran.org)

Web: [www.universitylutheran.org](http://www.universitylutheran.org)

## ULC Offering

Offering received - 12/06/15	\$1,849
Offering received - 12/13/15	\$1,886
Offering received - 12/20/15	\$1,647
Offering received - Christmas Eve	\$990
Offering received - 12/27/15	\$1,315
Simply Giving Offering - December	\$1,675
<b>Total offerings - December 2015</b>	<b>\$9,362</b>
Average weekly offering received, year-to-date	\$1,732

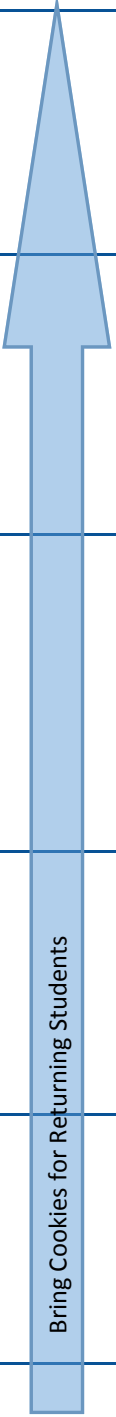
**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
2016!**

Check the online ULC calendar for upcoming events:

<http://universitylutheran.org/wordpress1/events/>

# January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Bibles & Bagels 8 a.m. Choir 5:15 p.m.		1	2
3 Worship 10 a.m.	4	5	6 Bibles & Bagels 8 a.m. Choir 5:15 p.m. Inter-Faith Prayer Service for Peace and Unity 6:30 p.m.	7	8	9
10 Worship 10 a.m.	11	12	13 Bibles & Bagels 8 a.m. Choir 5:15 p.m.	14	15	16
17 Worship 10 a.m.	18	19	20 Bibles & Bagels 8 a.m. Choir 5:15 p.m.	21	22	23
24/31 Worship 10 a.m.	25	26	27 Bibles & Bagels 8 a.m. Education 5 p.m. Choir 5:15 p.m. Evening meal 5:45 p.m. Worship 6:30 p.m.	28	29	30



Bring Cookies for Returning Students