

## *Phil's Thoughts*

One of the goals the congregation set at our visioning session two years ago was to “draft and adopt a Statement of Responsible Investments.” The statement is intended to address not only the rate of the return, but also the question, “In what should the church invest?” Since the sale of the 12<sup>th</sup> street properties in 2011, the church has been in the enviable position of holding significant fiscal reserves. The goal is to use these funds to maintain our church building and to support the church’s ministry for years to come. The money will not be spent all at once; our Church Council is the elected entity that decides, under the guidance of the congregation, how much to spend and how much to hold for future needs. If and until all the funds are used, the Council is also responsible for decisions about how to invest the money we have. To this end, it has appointed an Investment Committee to oversee the investment process and advise the Council. Investment Committee members are Jim Alter, Don Gotschall, and Christian Veliz.

The issue addressed in the visioning work plan is what is known as “socially responsible investing.” This reflects a commitment that the rate of financial return should not be the only consideration in making investment decisions. We want our money to “do good” as well as to “do well.” In light of this,

both our denominations have developed guidelines for ethical investing. For instance, the United Methodist Church calls us to invest in companies that uphold the church’s social principles, and to “avoid investments that appear likely, directly or indirectly, to support racial discrimination, violation of human rights, sweatshop or forced labor, gambling, or the production of nuclear armaments, alcoholic beverages or tobacco, or companies dealing in pornography.” (learn more at <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/investment-ethics>.)

In similar vein, the Presbyterian Church (USA) advocates “screening” investments “based on criteria rooted in our faith. Positive screens may include environmental responsibility, fair hiring practices, and efforts to support human rights standards. Negative screens may include gambling and the production of alcohol, tobacco, or war materials.” (more at [https://www.pcusa.org/site\\_media/media/uploads/mrti/pdfs/socially-responsible-investing.pdf](https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/mrti/pdfs/socially-responsible-investing.pdf).)

Both denominations also call upon investors to engage in shareholder advocacy to promote ethical corporate behavior, and to consider investing in economic development in their local communities.

“Community investing provides money for economic develop-

ment in communities that are overlooked or excluded by traditional financial structures.”

A challenge in implementing a socially responsible investment goal is that that in an era of multinational mega corporations, some of a given corporation’s holdings might reflect positive screens and others negative ones, i.e. one division might manufacture solar panels and another assault weapons. (The United Methodist Church addresses

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### *Phil's Thoughts continued*

COUNCIL'S 5PM  
AUGUST 18  
MEETING—IF YOU ARE  
INTERESTED IN THE  
ISSUE OF SOCIALLY  
RESPONSIBLE  
INVESTING, YOU ARE  
INVITED TO ATTEND!

this by not investing in companies that derive a “substantial portion” of their earnings from objectionable endeavors, but “substantial” is not always easy to define.) In addition, most investment options available for the church’s consideration are mutual funds that package investments from a variety of companies, some of which might promote values consistent with our faith while others do not. There are “socially responsible” mutual funds, but each one uses different screens, some of which we might agree with while others we might not.

The question of financial

return is not automatically negated by socially responsible investment criteria. A “Statement of Responsible Investments” might also include questions such as, what is the Council’s fiduciary responsibility to the congregation? Are the investments secure? Do they provide satisfactory returns that generate sufficient funds to sustain our ministry and allow us to do more good? This combined approach is what the United Methodist Pension Board has dubbed “sustainable investment” - long-term financial value for investors paired with positive impact on the environ-

ment and human communities.

To help the Council better understand its options for responsible investing, it is reviewing our denominational educational resources. It has also **scheduled a session with Peter Jurasz, Senior Financial Advisor at Merrill Lynch** who works with our Investment Committee as it monitors our financial assets. Peter’s presentation will occur at the **Council’s 5 p.m. August 18 meeting.** Meetings of the Church Council are open. If you are interested in the issue of socially responsible investing, you are invited to attend!

### *Youth Group Seeking Adult Helpers*

The Cooperative Youth Group is seeking adult youth **sponsors** and **meal providers** for the coming school year. This group is comprised of youth from our church and five other congregations; it meets on **Sunday evenings**, usually in our building. **Sponsors** work with the Youth Director, Melissa Engel, to develop, plan, and lead the youth group in areas such as play, fellowship, spiritual formation, meaningful conversations, and spiritual care. Other volunteers to provide a simple meal for the group during their meetings. To express interest in helping and/or to find out more, contact Phil, [nlucpastor@ak.net](mailto:nlucpastor@ak.net), or Melissa, [pastor.engel.ak@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.engel.ak@gmail.com).

### **Never Again - One Hour of Remembrance of Hiroshima August 6, 1945 and Nagasaki August 9, 1945**

Saturday August 6, 12 noon - 1pm at Marine Park

Sponsored by Veterans for Peace, Juneau People for Peace and Justice, and Northern Light United Church

## *Sandy Beach Cookout after Worship August 28*

**AFTER 10 AM WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 28,** join the throng headed over the bridge to Saviko Park for a cookout at Sandy Beach. We will gather in Shelter 2 (the Log Cabin with the fireplace) for our almost end of summer

cookout! Hot dogs, burgers, buns, drinks and condiments will be provided. You are invited to bring a side dish, chips, dessert or other item to share. You can sign up on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall or contact the church office at 586-3131

or [nluc@ak.net](mailto:nluc@ak.net) regarding what you can bring and to indicate if you can help cook or provide transportation for those needing a ride to the cookout. Please spread the word and get ready to join the fun. Rain or shine!

## *Mark Your Calendars – School Year Schedule Returns, Sunday, Sept. 11. Worship at 11 a.m.*

### *Christian Education Fall Update*

Our Sunday morning **Christian Education program will resume September 11** but will include some new features this year. Details are still being finalized, but as of now this is how the lineup looks:

**10 AM - The Adult Bible Class** taught by John Pugh will continue a

study of Luke's gospel it began in the spring. Teresa Campbell will again serve as the **Middle School Class** teacher.

**During Worship -** This year we will offer **pre-K and elementary classes during the worship hour that will begin after children's time.** We will use a worship based curriculum that will follow lectionary and church year themes as do our

worship services. **Teachers are needed!** Curriculum and training will be provided. The classes will have rotating teachers and options for teaching include **once a month, a few times during year,** or some other combination. If you would be **interested in helping with the children's classes** please, or have questions, ideas, or need more information, contact Phil, 586-3131, [nlucpas-tor@ak.net](mailto:nlucpas-tor@ak.net). Thanks!

## *JAM TIME*

With this year's abundance of berries, the Community of Christian Women (CCW) is hopeful that we will get lots of jars of jams and jellies this year for the mission bazaar. We usually get about a dozen jars that sell out immediately. We would love to have 40 or 50 jars -- think of making a few for the Bazaar.

**MARK YOUR CALENDERS! The bazaar is Saturday, November 5, 2016.**

## *Dinner at the Glory Hole*

ONE OF THE ONGOING  
WAYS NORTHERN  
LIGHT SHARES AT THE  
GLORY HOLE,  
JUNEAU'S EMERGENCY  
SHELTER AND SOUP  
KITCHEN, IS PROVIDING  
THE EVENING MEAL ON  
THE THIRD AND  
FOURTH TUESDAYS OF  
EACH MONTH.

One of the ongoing ways Northern Light shares at the Glory Hole, Juneau's emergency shelter and soup kitchen, is **providing the evening meal** on the **third and fourth Tuesdays** of each month. The third Tuesday menu is chili and spaghetti is served on the fourth Tuesday. Many members and friends participate in this effort by shopping for food, donating funds, cooking, serving the meals, and sharing fellowship with Glory Hole patrons.

**Here's how it works:**  
The Sunday before each

meal, a signup sheet for food, cooks and servers is posted on the church information bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Food marked "Glory Hole" can be left in the church kitchen/ refrigerator or taken to the Glory Hole kitchen by 3:30 p.m. the day of the meal (food costs can be a donation or reimbursed by the church office).

The **cooking crew** (usually three to five folks) **begins preparation at the Glory Hole at 4:00 p.m.** and **Dinner is served at 6:00.** The servers can then share the

meal with others eating at the Glory Hole. Many in our congregation provide faithful help and are always eager to share this experience with new volunteers. There is always someone there who has done it before and knows the ropes.

Thanks to the many who participate in this important ministry of food and fellowship! **If you would like to be part of this ministry you are encouraged to sign up on the bulletin board or contact the church office, [nluc@ak.net](mailto:nluc@ak.net), 586-3131.**

## *Alaska UM Conference Office Email Address Change*

The Alaska United Methodist Conference office email from [umc@gci.net](mailto:umc@gci.net) to [alaskaumc@gmail.com](mailto:alaskaumc@gmail.com). Please update your address books/contacts lists and start using [alaskaumc@gmail.com](mailto:alaskaumc@gmail.com) for your emails to the Conference. Conference Superintendent Carlo Rapanut's email, [carlorapanut@gmail.com](mailto:carlorapanut@gmail.com), will remain the same.

## *Financial/Volunteer Update*

July's (as of July 25) congregational giving in support of Northern Light's operational budget continued the second quarter's pattern of "on-budget" giving. Thank you for your sustaining support of Northern

Light and its programs.

During the first quarter of 2016, each month's congregational giving was above-budget, especially in March. Consequently, the cumulative receipts for 2016 were almost

\$12,000 greater than the amount anticipated for that point in time by the 2016 budget. In the months since March congregational giving for church operations has been roughly "on-budget" (sometimes a bit above,

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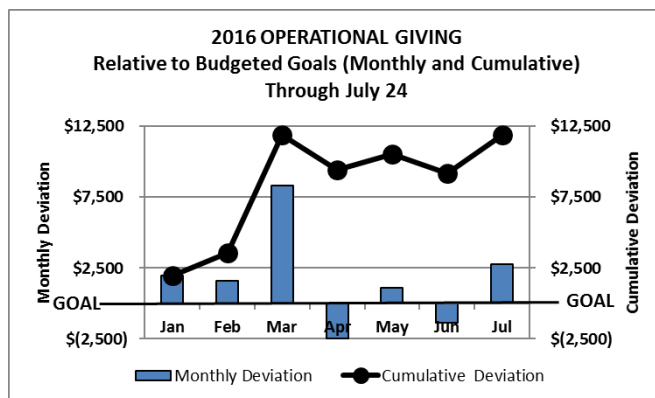
## *Financial/Volunteer Update continued*

other times a bit below). The net result is that, year-to-date, cumulative giving for operations is still about \$12,000 above-budget.

One of the reasons individuals financially support Northern Light is to help support its various programmatic endeavors. As important as that economic support is, our programs would not even exist without the time, energy, and creativity of the individuals who actually implement various programs. The fact that this column doesn't mention those individuals every month should not be interpreted as meaning they aren't appreciated. **The opposite is the case!** Please give thanks for the individuals helping in all our programmatic efforts and volunteer to help them.

Some (for illustrative purposes, not an exhaustive list) instances of this intersection of programmatic dollars and incredible individuals are:

- Sunday School
  - Formative ideas about our core beliefs and principles presented during school-year, Sunday mornings in a fun, age-appropriate environment.
- Glory Hole
  - Food and fellowship for some of our homeless residents – twice a month
- Camp Champ
  - Day camping at the Eagle River United Methodist Camp for children whose everyday lives otherwise would never include such an opportunity
- Cooperative Youth Program
  - Weekly programs throughout the year attended by on average 15 youth from 6 cooperating congregations; summer mission trips (Costa Rica this year)
- Summer Lunch Program;
  - 50 hot meals for economically disadvantaged children and youth; prepared and provided every weekday during the summer along with organized group activities
- Weekly Worship
  - No place in Juneau equals Northern Light for sustained, weekly inspiration with which to re-ground our core beliefs and lead lives that manifest peace, love, and justice for all.





## *Birthdays*



1	Dan Beason		Pat Gorman	20	Peggy Metcalf
	Mike Story		Jane Ginter	21	Peggy Barnhill
3	Dale Wygant		Kitty Eddy		John Evans
4	Karen Larson	13	Sarah Ginter	22	Daniel Brown, Jr.
	Daniel Lyon	14	John Norman	25	Sue Lium
5	Anne Haydon		Giada Veliz	27	Ferguson Wheeler
	Lorraine Holland	17	Daniel Stoops	28	Shirley Carlson
7	Janet Kussart	18	Lindy Ferguson	29	Gene Randall
10	Marnita Coenraad	19	Eric Scott		
12	Mary Borthwick		Dominique Morley		

## *Did you know.....*

- There is a **lockbox** near the A Street entrance that contains a church entrance key. Those who need to **access the building after hours** may **contact the church office** to ask about the lockbox code
- **On Sundays**, in addition to our main parking lot west of the church, **parking is available in the playground lot** at 12th and A. Enter off the alley between 11th & 12th.
- **During the worship service**, anyone who has to leave the sanctuary to tend to a young one, etc. is welcome to go to **Room 9**, just off the Fellowship Hall, **where the service is live streamed**.

## *Thank yous*

Many people and groups are involved in making sure things happen at NLUC. Each month we would like to recognize some of those individuals and groups for their special services. Special thanks to:

\*those who served as Liturgists: Gail O'Dell, Kelly Henriksen, Tom Perkins, Peggy Sue Wright, Margaret MacKinnon

\*those who served as Greeters/ushers: June Degnan, Marianne Mills, Judy Knight, Margaret MacKinnon, Eric and Brandy Scott

\*Tom Perkins, Deb Reifenstein and her granddaughter Taylor, Don and Jan Kussart who assembled the July newsletter

\*Those who provided breakfast: Gail O'Dell, KJ and Peggy Metcalf, Linda Miller, Kathleen Jensen, Carol Barril

\*Those who provided flowers: June Degnan, Jean Overstreet, Judy Knight, Esther Millea, Eve Reckley

\*THANKS to Tom Perkins, Jim Alter, John Pugh, Pat Gorman, Marianne Mills, Jan and Don Kussart, and Margaret MacKinnon for their help in counting and recording financial gifts received by Northern Light.

\*George Reifenstein and grandson for tackling the huge job of weed-eating the parking lot/playground facing 12th Street. WOW! THAT WAS A BIG JOB.

*If you have a suggestion for a thank you, call Christina at the church office, 586-3131 or e-mail her at [nluc@ak.net](mailto:nluc@ak.net).*

# AUGUST 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 11 Lifering 6:30 ANS Camp 70	2 3 Violin Lessons 5:30 ANB/ANS Planning Meeting	3 12 ACOA 3:15 Ukulele Les- sons <b>5:30 Chancel Choir</b>	4 8:30 Interfaith Climate Change 9:30 Lectionary Study	5 7 <b>Men's Break- fast</b> 12 ACOA 3 Violin Lessons	6 9 Bartlett Dads
7 10 <b>Worship</b> <b>11 Breakfast/ Brunch</b>	8 11 Lifering <b>5:15 Juneau Peo- ple for Peace &amp; Justice</b>	9 3 Violin Lessons	10 12 ACOA 3:15 Ukulele Les- sons <b>5:30 Chancel Choir</b>	11 8:30 Interfaith Climate Change 9:30 Lectionary Study	12 7 <b>Men's Breakfast</b> 12 ACOA 3 Violin Lessons	13
14 10 <b>Worship</b> <b>11 Breakfast/ Brunch</b>	15 11 Lifering <b>5 Staff Parish Re- lations Commit- tee</b> <b>5:15 Juneau Peo- ple for Peace &amp; Justice</b>	16 ALL DAY ELECTIONS 3 Violin Lessons	17 12 ACOA <b>5:30 Chancel Choir</b>	18 8:30 Interfaith Climate Change 9:30 Lectionary Study <b>5 Council</b>	19 7 <b>Men's Breakfast</b> 12 ACOA 3 Violin Lessons	20
21 10 <b>Worship</b> <b>11 Breakfast/ Brunch</b> <b>5:15 Youth Group</b>	22 11 Lifering <b>5:15 Juneau Peo- ple for Peace &amp; Justice</b>	23 3 Violin Les- sons 6:30 Cooperative Nursery Registra- tion	24 12 ACOA <b>5:30 Chancel Choir</b>	25 8:30 Interfaith Climate Change 9:30 Lectionary Study <b>5:30 Property Management Committee</b>	26 7 <b>Men's Breakfast</b> 12 ACOA 3 Violin Lessons	27
28 10 <b>Worship</b> <b>11 Sandy Beach Cookout</b> <b>5:15 Youth Group</b>	29 11 Lifering <b>5:15 Juneau Peo- ple for Peace &amp; Justice</b>	30 3 Violin Les- sons	31 12 ACOA <b>5:30 Chancel Choir</b>			

**Northern Light United Church  
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Youth Director: Rev. Melissa Engel

E-mail: [pastor.engel.ak@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.engel.ak@gmail.com)

Sunday Services streamed at

<http://livestream.com/nluchurchjuneau>

Newsletters and Juneau Empire articles also can  
be found on our website:

[northernlightchurch.org](http://northernlightchurch.org) or you can find us on face book.



**Summer Schedule**

*Worship at 10 am*

*Breakfast following Worship*

*No matter who you are,  
no matter where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.*