

NORTHERN LIGHT UNITED CHURCH NEWS

FEBRUARY 2017

Livestream and Audio Help Sought for Worship Services – call/email the church to sign up!

For the past seven years, Northern Light United Church has been broadcasting Sunday morning worship live on the internet every Sunday. Additionally, Northern Light makes the livestream service available for weddings, funerals and other events on request. While typical viewership on a Sunday is usually less than 10, it can increase to over 100 for special events, particularly funerals. Others regularly view the service after it has been posted - **all webcasts are archived on our Livestream page, <https://livestream.com/nluchurchjuneau>**, and can be viewed at any time!

All this is made possible by the efforts of a dedicated crew of church volunteers managed by Mike Barnhill and Greg Germain. Mike has let us know that he plans to take a break in order to free up time for study related to obtaining a professional certification. We thank Mike for his years of dedicated service! With his departure from the crew, **we are seeking others to help manage and staff the livestream** (and the soundboard.) **Sound interesting?** Mike has filed the following report that provides background info about this

opportunity:

The vision for livestreaming Northern Light's services as a ministry originated with Kim Poole, interim pastor, several years ago. At that time, the thinking was that Northern Light could help fill a need for congregations in southeast Alaska with pastoral vacancies. That need likely still exists—but a difficulty with livestreaming to remote areas is the need to have high-speed internet service in order to adequately receive the broadcast. (This problem has prevented the Yakutat church from accessing our webcast.) Over time, the vision for livestream evolved to what it is today: making the service available to home-bound members, members who are traveling (even outside of the United States!), or friends of Northern Light who do not live in Juneau – available either real time or by accessing the archive.

The vision for livestream as a ministry can continue to evolve. As the world increasingly becomes connected electronically, the opportunities for a “connected and connecting” church to communicate, worship and serve directly with new friends around the world increase. Maybe you have a desire to help guide the vision for and/or participate in this ministry!

The livestream team, in addition

to Mike and Greg, has included several youth and adults - Laura Barnhill, Richard Doogan, Madeline Germain, Dorrie Germain, Johnny Barnhill, Kristi Germain, and Jeremy Schlosser. They **operate the sound board, video camera and livestream encoding equipment. There are openings on the team waiting for you!** Managing technology for multiple audiences can be somewhat complicated; it is more or less like a small live TV station! It is a great challenge *and* opportunity.

Livestreaming is an important part of Northern Light United Church ministry and outreach. If you would like to help with this, and/or to learn more about what it entails, please contact the church office, nluc@ak.net, 586-3131. Thanks!

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

Annual Meeting Held Jan. 29

PARTICIPANTS ACTIVELY
ENGAGED IN SMALL
GROUP DISCUSSIONS
THAT EXPLORED NEW
POSSIBILITIES FOR WOR-
SHIP, EDUCATION, OUT-
REACH, PROGRAMMING,
FACILITY USE, AND
STAFFING...

On January 29, members and friends of NLUC gathered in worship and at the Annual Meeting after the service to envision the next era of ministry. Participants actively engaged in small group discussions that explored new possibilities for worship, education, outreach, programming, facility use, and staffing; the process gave testimony to widespread commitment to, and interest in Northern Light's ministry and mission. A full report that develops strategies and specific action steps will be given after all the notes are compiled and organized, but a some of the ideas offered include:

- enhancing the church's web presence;
- improving use of various means of communication;
- strengthening youth ministry;
- increasing building access;
- providing additional education and community outreach opportunities;
- widening the church's embrace and practice of diversity; and
- enriching the worship service.

Thanks to all who led and participated in the day!

Denominational Leaders Speak out in Support of Refugees and Immigrants

In light of Presidential Executive Orders to expand the U.S.-Mexico border wall, increase the powers of immigration law enforcement, and cut federal funding for sanctuary cities, United Methodist and Presbyterian denominational officials have added their voices to the growing number of interfaith leaders speaking against these initiatives.

"As followers of Jesus, we reject in the strongest terms efforts to expand the U.S.-Mexico border wall, penalize communities providing sanctuary, halt refugee resettlement or impose a religious test for those facing forced migration," said the Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe, General Secretary of the General Board of Church and Society. "United Methodists around the world are loving their neighbors by welcoming refugees and immigrants into their congregations and communities," Henry-Crowe continued. "We call on our political leaders and policy makers to follow their lead and compassionately welcome our sisters and brothers."

In similar vein, Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, director of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Office of Public Witness, spoke at a recent interfaith news conference held on the steps of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC. called to oppose the immigration ban. "Nearly 60 million people are displaced by war and persecution; 30 million of those are children. Eleven million displaced Syrians cannot go to school, tend to their land or raise their children in the place they know as home," Hawkins said. "They are spending months journeying, sleeping outside and praying for a future for their families in a place that is safe from conflict. Our nation has historically stood for hope and welcome for those fleeing war and persecution. We cannot turn our backs on them now...We cannot let the noise of a fearful few drown out compassion and our firmly held collective values...we must send a message of hope and healing, of peace and justice to those fleeing desperate situations."

To learn more about our denominations' efforts and how you can get involved, visit the websites of the PCUSA Office of Public Witness, <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/washington>, and the UMC Board of Church and Society, <https://umc-gbcs.org>.

Presbyterian to Gather in Barrow for Renewal and Healing

The Utqiagvik Presbyterian Church and the Native Ministries Committee of the Yukon Presbytery are sponsoring a healing and reconciliation event Feb. 6-9 in Utqiagvik (Barrow). It is “inspired by two actions taken by the [Presbyterian Church USA] (PCUSA) General Assembly in June. The first was the renunciation (or rejection) of the Doctrine of Discovery; the second was the approval of an apology to Native Americans in the USA on behalf of the denomina-

tion.” The so-called Doctrine of Discovery was wrongly used by Europeans as justification for seizing Native land on this continent – land the explorers claimed they “discovered.” The apology is for the historical trauma and cultural decimation caused by church supported boarding schools and other missionary excesses. PCUSA Stated Clerk Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II, and retired stated clerk Gradye Parsons will be present to offer the apol-

ogy. The rest of the gathering will focus on what steps can be taken to foster healing and to counter the debilitating effects of historical trauma.

With the support of the NLUC Native Ministries Committee, our pastor, Phil, will go to Barrow to represent our church and to participate in the learning and the act of repentance. He will report to the Native Ministries Committee and the congregation after his return.

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Mark Your Calendars – Lenten Study to begin March 5

What does it mean to be a Christian? Does it require adherence to specific beliefs? Does it mean there are certain things one should do or not do? Do actions speak louder than words, or are beliefs what really matter? Is Christianity mainly about life in the here and now, or about what happens after we die? Is it about trust, relationship, community? Does being a Christian shape understanding of

social issues? If so, how so?

If these questions are among those you wrestle with or that you would like to think more about, plan to join us for the Lenten Study on Sunday evenings, 5:30 – 7 p.m. beginning March 5.

Drawing on a variety of materials, our pastor, Phil, will lead the study. Resources used will include New York Times writer

Nicholas Kristof’s interview of evangelical pastor Tim Keller, excerpts from Marcus Borg’s book, *Convictions: How I Learned What Matters Most*, Brian McLaren’s *The Great Spiritual Migration: How the World’s Largest Religion is seeking a better way to be Christian*, and the lives and perspectives of NLUC members and friends. Watch for more info in next month’s newsletter, church emails, and the FB page.

The mission of our church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ, through God-centered worship and people-centered ministry.

Reading Groups

Are you a reader? What do you read? A reading group brings people together to help us understand what's going on in the world and each other. Many of you might be in a reading group. I haven't always been a voracious reader but in a time when things change so fast it's helpful to learn what is before us. United Methodist Women has encouraged me to read to learn and maybe change my thinking. It is also helpful to hear what others think. This reading list is put out every year to help women learn about current issues, faith-building books, leadership skills and personal relationships with other cultures. Recent choices have been about immigration, sex trafficking, food and sharing, Latin America, happiness and climate justice. They're always undergirded by the Bible and tied to your faith journey.

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A Reading Group will bring together those interested in reading books from this source followed up with discussions. There may be other books we could read that encourage efforts to make the world a better place. Many of the books on the current and past United Methodist Women reading lists are available on Kindle, or in large print or regular books in paperback. Some examples included this year are:

- FAITH ED. - Teaching About Religion in an Age of Intolerance (Looking into the debate and how to best teach children religious literacy and tolerance)
- NOT SAFE FOR CHURCH - Ten commandments for Reaching New Generations
- WHAT WE'RE FIGHTING FOR NOW IS EACH OTHER - Dispatches from the Front Lines of Climate Change
- AMERICA AND IT'S GUNS - a Theological Expose
- CLASS LIVES - Stories From Across Our Economic Divide
- BUILDING A MOVEMENT TO END THE NEW JIM CROW - An Organizing Guide

These generally are aimed for women readers but men are also welcome to participate. Get a book online at www.umwmissionresources.org or by calling 1-800-305-9857. Also available from Amazon, maybe cheaper. Or we could order copies and pass them around. To express interest in a reading group, Contact: Marion Gotschall 586-3132 or gotschall@gci.net.

CCW to Meet February 25

Following a successful Annual Bazaar last November, the Community of Christian Women has scheduled a meeting on **Saturday, February 25 from 10:00 am to noon in the Fellowship Hall**. Please join us to discuss and vote on programs for the use of the bazaar proceeds. Many

programs supporting women and children here in Juneau, around Alaska and in other parts of the world have received funding in the past including Camp Champ, Haven House, AWARE, Family Promise, Days for Girls, programs endorsed by United Methodist Women and Presbyterian

Women, No More Malaria, and Alaska Child and Family, just to name a few. All women who attend Northern Light Church are encouraged to attend, we need your thoughts. Please feel free to call Carol Barril at 586-1002 if you have any questions.

PLEASE JOIN US TO DISCUSS AND VOTE ON PROGRAMS FOR THE USE OF THE BAZAAR PROCEEDS.

Operational Revenue Continued to be Strong in 2016

Northern Light's revenue for church operations continued, during 2016, to be strong and growing. Since 75-80% of Northern Light's operational revenue is given by congregation members, "THANKS" are extended to all of you for such growth and strength.

Most of Northern Light's operational revenue is not designated for a specific purpose. Rather the income's use is left to the discretion (consistent with the church's annual, adopted budget) of the church's leaders and staff. Some income which Northern Light receives, however, is designated for a specific purpose by its donor – often times (but not always) a program for which some

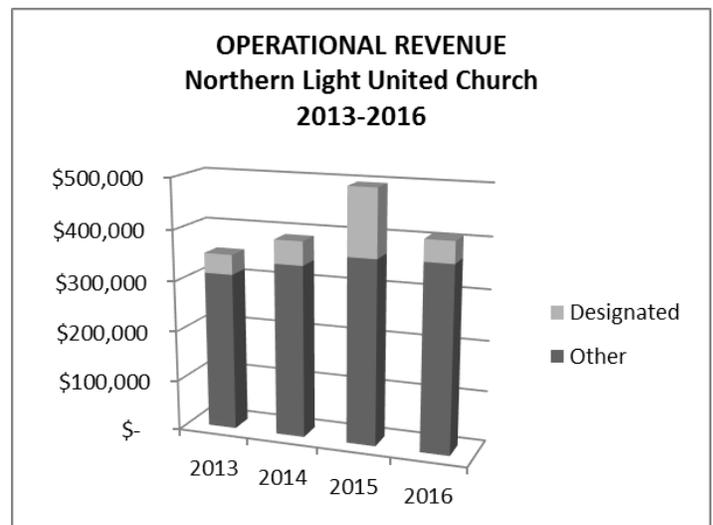
organization other than Northern Light is responsible. Regardless of who is responsible for the designated program, this article considers contributions designated for specific programs "designated" revenue.

In 2016 Northern Light's non-designated, operational revenue was greater than it was in 2015, continuing (albeit at a slower rate) a pattern of growth over the last 4 years. Designated giving in 2016 was about the same amount as in 2013 and 2014, but roughly a third of the total designated giving in 2015.

Several programs have consistently, in recent years, benefitted from des-

ignated giving. The youth program, peacemaking, and the Glory Hole are always among the leading recipients of designated gifts. Others have received greater amounts of money in years when their needs were especially highlighted to the congregation. For instance, 4 years ago it was the Deacons Fund; two

years ago: the Front Street Clinic, refugee assistance, and the weekend food program for students; last year: Family Promise, programs aimed at reducing hunger; and Housing First.



Birthdays



1	Bobi Trani	7	Susie Pothier	22	Chloe Vonda
	Chad Mores	12	Nancy Norman	23	Jeremy Schlosser
2	Reuben Yost	14	Stephen Petershoare	25	Leon Shaul
3	Catherine Fritz	15	Sue Deems	26	Su Alexander
	Jason Hope		Chloe Likins		Tisa Becker
4	Jennifer Sheakley		Hailey Vonda		Mark Brown
5	Rob Becker	16	Edith McHenry		Beth Nordlund
7	Jean Ann Alter	18	Dori Germain	28	Frank Coenraad
	Debbie McBride	22	Shelley Travis		

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: Jim Alter, Tom Perkins, Kelly Henriksen, Mary Becker, Peggy Sue Wright

*those who served as Greeters/ushers: Lori Posey, Judy Knight, Katherine Hope, Judith Maier, Lillian Austin, Katherine Hope

*Tom Perkins, Don & Jan Kussart, Carol Barril, Susan Bus, Peggy Metcalf and Madeleine LeFebvre who assembled the January newsletter

*Refreshment Hosts: Margaret MacKinnon, Gail O'Dell, John Doogan, Marion Gotschall

*Those who provided flowers: Gail O'Dell, Kate Burkhart, Esther Millea, Janet & Don Kussart

*Table Hosts at our Annual Meeting Visioning Session: Kate Burkhart, John Pugh, Joy Lyon, Eric Scott, Freda Westman, Natalie Norberg, and KJ Metcalf.

*Marianne Mills, Tom Perkins, April Rezendes, John Pugh, Pat Gorman, Jan and Don Kussart, Margaret MacKinnon, Carol Barril, Karen Dillon Jim Alter, and Mary Borthwick for their help in counting and recording financial gifts received by Northern Light.

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.

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**.
- **Donations of socks, warm mittens and hats** for Glory Hole and Front Street Health Center patrons may be placed in the **Sox Box** in the **Fellowship Hall**

FEBRUARY 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>WFB - Weekend Food Bags</p> <p>CPM - Committee on Property Management</p> <p>ERUMC - Eagle River United Methodist Camp Board</p>			<p>1 12 ACOA</p> <p>5:15 JPPJ</p> <p>5:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>2 10 WFB</p> <p>10 Text Study</p> <p>11:30 Food Resources</p> <p>5 ERUMC Bd</p> <p>5:30 CPM</p>	<p>3 7 Men's Breakfast</p> <p>12 ACOA</p> <p>3 Violin Lessons</p> <p>3:30 Cub Scouts</p>	<p>4 9 Bartlett Dads</p> <p>9 - 5 Boys on the Run Coaches' Training</p>
<p>5 10 Youth & Adult Ed.</p> <p>11 Worship & Child Ed.</p> <p>3 Piano Concert</p> <p>5:15 Youth</p>	<p>6 11 LifeRing</p> <p>5:00 Church Finance Committee</p> <p>6 ANS Cp. 70</p>	<p>7 3 Violin Lessons</p>	<p>8 12 ACOA</p> <p>5:15 JPPJ</p> <p>5:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>9 10 WFB</p> <p>10 Text Study</p> <p>5:00 Church Council</p>	<p>10 7 Men's Breakfast</p> <p>12 ACOA</p> <p>3 Violin Lessons</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 10 Youth & Adult Ed.</p> <p>11 Worship & Child Ed.</p> <p>5:15 Youth Group</p>	<p>13 11 LifeRing</p>	<p>14 12 Inter-faith Council</p> <p>3 Violin Lessons</p> <p>7 Mudrooms</p>	<p>15 12 ACOA</p> <p>5:15 JPPJ</p> <p>5:30 Chancel Choir</p> <p>6 Jnu Reentry Coalition</p>	<p>16 10 WFB</p> <p>10 Text Study</p>	<p>17 7 Men's Breakfast</p> <p>12 ACOA</p> <p>3 Violin Lessons</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 10 Youth & Adult Ed.</p> <p>11 Worship & Child Ed.</p> <p>5:15 Youth Group</p>	<p>20 11 LifeRing</p>	<p>21 3 Violin Lessons</p> <p>Glory Hole Chili</p>	<p>22 12 ACOA</p> <p>5:15 JPPJ</p> <p>5:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>23 10 WFB</p> <p>10 Text Study</p>	<p>24 7 Men's Breakfast</p> <p>12 ACOA</p> <p>3 Violin Lessons</p>	<p>25 10 CCW Meeting - p. 5</p>
<p>26 10 Youth & Adult Ed.</p> <p>11 Worship & Child Ed.</p> <p>12:30 Deacons Orientation</p> <p>5:15 Youth Group</p>	<p>27 11 LifeRing</p> <p>5:00 Staff Parish Relations Committee</p>	<p>28 3 Violin Lessons</p> <p>Glory Hole Spaghetti</p>	<p>ANS - Alaska Native Sisterhood - Camp 70</p> <p>JPPJ - Juneau People for Peace & Justice</p> <p>CCW - Community of Christian Women</p> <p>ACOA - Adult Children of Alcoholics</p>			

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400 West Eleventh Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1512

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U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

JUNEAU, AK

PERMIT NO. 13



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Email: nluc@ak.net

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E-mail: nlucpastor@ak.net

Youth Director: Rev. Melissa Engel

E-mail: 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 or you can find us on face book.



Sunday Worship Schedule

Adult, Middle, & High School classes at 10

Worship and Pre-K - Elementary Ed. at 11

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