



## July LuMinary

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### Tree of Life

*(photo from our blessing + sending of graduates)*

This past week, I was away with Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, and other Lutheran colleagues for the annual campus ministry conference. Every time I gather with colleagues, I am reminded of the work and care of those who have gone before me. Many of my colleagues this week remembered the beloved Pr. Jim Norlie and his ministry- not only at Oregon State but with the whole network of campus ministry practitioners around the country. Pr. Jim died this week in 2019. With thanksgiving and remembrance for his life, we share an excerpt from Pr. Jim's writing in *"Theological Framework for Campus Ministry"*:

*"An apt image of God's abundant life that also helps describe Lutheran Campus Ministry is the Tree of life where roots go deep in the soil of God, fruits result from the care and tending of that tree, and birds and animals find shelter in its shade. The tree of Life is rooted in God, formed in the earth, called to life and sustained by the Spirit, and gifted with fruits to share, and a canopy that protects. Lutheran Campus ministry both claims and proclaims life as a gift from God and works in every way to make it real on every campus we serve.*

*"Come and see" we say. Life is God's gift to us. It is good, celebrate it. Share it. Tend it with care.*

*Though death often lurks in our campus communities, the search for life is a common quest. We help students, faculty, and university staff look for and see life. We rejoice with them when life-signs emerge; we challenge them when the pursuits they make lead to dead ends by dead means.*

*The future matters to students. They wonder and worry about what they are inheriting from previous generations. Will it give life or not? Will they and the world they live in be healthy or not? Will they feel the freedom of life well-lived or will they be burdened by things that threaten life itself."*

*When asked what he would do if he knew the world was ending, the saying goes that Martin Luther said, "I'd plant an apple tree. Ours is the privilege of planting seedlings today that will grow and bear fruit tomorrow."*

As we bless and send our students out into the world this summer, graduated or not-quite-yet-graduated, we trust the Holy Spirit to continue to stir up in them the abundance of life around them. Keep these students close to your heart; pray for them; rejoice with them, and persist in rejoicing in God's life with us.



## Church in the Wild Pilgrimage

With a number of students in town over the summer, we plan to continue our church in the wild pilgrimage pilgrimages we explore the stories of our scriptural heritage and places we live. As we explore the land- and water-people make home on and with, we continue to learn more deeply about what it means to sojourn together as a people of faith here and now.

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## Summer Dinner Church

While we step away from the usual rhythms of our academic terms with meals, worship, and programming, students and staff will plan to gather together over the summer for connection and good food. Dates tbd (as determined by students).

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## Welcome Alexa!

Luther House is excited to welcome our new office and hospitality coordinator, Alexa!

Alexa graduated from LBCC in Human Development and spent most of her career teaching preschool, but is really excited to be working in a new role and to be part of the Luther House community. In her free time, she enjoys reading, going on adventures and playing Pokemon Go with her kids. She lives in Albany with her children, Asher and Ella, and dogs Sulley and Sam.

Welcome Alexa!

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## Gather: Rivers of Mercy

**Young Adult Pub Theology** is on pause through the summer. Stay tuned for more young adult gathering and updates in the fall.

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## Upcoming Events at a glance

July 4th Office closed

July 12 Church in the wild pilgrimage hike, time tbd

July 26 Church in the wild pilgrimage hike, time tbd

July 27, 6pm Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship: Mark Yoos guitar concert West M

July 31- August 1 [Bard in the Quad](#) feat. LH graduate Lydia Dapkus, 7:30 pm

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## Luther House JULY Hours

The office will be open **Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9 am - 1 pm**. Pr. Hallie is available intermittently this month, as she plans to enjoy time away with her family.

Luther House is always available to students from 8 am to 10 pm; please contact the Luther House office for a building access code.

As the weather heats up in Corvallis, students are welcome to come find respite from the heat at Luther House. While we are still in process with the Energy Trust of Oregon to create the first off-site cooling shelter, the basement is available for students and neighbors as a cool place to play pool, hang out, and if you really have to, study.

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**Our Contact Information**

\*{{Organization Name}}\*

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\*{{Organization Website}}\*

\*{{Unsubscribe}}\*