



Luther House

January Newsletter

Beginning again

photo from the St. Nick party before finals + break

Happy New Year!

In the ministry, and in my own life, there are so many things to look forward to in this new year. Off the top of my head, there's new ministry beginnings at Western Oregon University, and new and returning students coming back well-rested. I'm excited to continue the momentum fall term into the new year, with students returning from study abroad, first year students knowing the rhythms of campus life, and generally, the joy and kindness of the Lutheran-Episcopal campus ministry community.

In the campus ministry, we will welcome intern Julia into six months of learning and growth, en route to ordination as a Deacon in the ELCA. In the wild story of my own call to campus ministry, there was a promise that the campus ministry was both *feral* (not under the institutional thumb of the church) and *fallow* (a nice way of saying there was *one* student). It was Julia who was that *one* student for quite some time in the campus ministry.

It is amazing to see how the ministry with students continues to grow around full tables and good food, and the creativity and life of young adults on campus. Such is the blessing of beginnings, where so many things- really good things- happen all at once.

I am reminded of the scripture of Isaiah, "Behold I am doing a new thing- do you not perceive it?" that felt like more of a promise (and frankly trying exercise in trusting God in the very beginning of a fallow and feral campus ministry). Now, on the threshold of the new year, I give thanks for the way-making and the provision God-with-us continues to lead us onward.



from a "Liturgy of Lamentation and Jubilee for Creation" (created by students)

As we wrapped up our program year, students submitted works of art, poetry, and liturgy from the pilgrimage hikes, vocation retreats, and Sunday Dinner Church in the **Liturgy of Lamentation and Jubilee for Creation**.

Uniquely young adult, uniquely rooted in the Pacific Northwest, this book offers one ever-changing community of faith's reflection of learning stories. It marks the beginning of a renewed Christian practice to discern the next steps in our work to care for Creation and steward our unique gifts, energy, and resources towards healing and wholeness with the earth.

A digital copy is available below. If you would like a hard copy, please contact the office at lhouse@peak.org

[Click to read the Liturgy of Lamentation and Jubilee for Creation](#)



Sunday Dinner Church

Weekly Sunday Dinner and worship begins again on **Sunday, January 11th from 6–7:30 PM**. All students welcome to join for a free dinner. Afterwards, stay for an Epiphany celebration — open to all college students!

Come hungry (physically + spiritually)— vegetarian, vegan, dairy-free, and gluten-free options will be available. For other dietary accommodations, please contact Pr. Hallie.

Hosted at **Luther House** (211 NW 23rd), there's no need to sign up — just show up. See you Sunday night!

Maker's Space

photo from ornament making craft night

Looking for a cozy, creative way to unwind? Come join us as we start up Maker's Space again in winter term.

Beginning Tuesday January 6th from 6–8 PM, students are invited to chill with friends, make something awesome, and connect with community every Tuesday evening in winter term.

Hosted this month at **Luther House** (211 NW 23rd St), bring your creativity (and maybe a friend!) — we'll bring the cookies, craft supplies & dinner. Let's make something beautiful together!

Western Oregon University E-Lu

photo from December labyrinth walk at St. Hilda's Episcopal, Monmouth

Do you know a student at Western Oregon University? We do, too! We have a number of students this year at WOU, and we are looking to support our students in an affirming, inclusive community of faith (and seeking) on campus.

We'll gather this month in Monmouth at St. Hilda's Episcopal Church on **Thursdays, beginning January 8th from 6 - 7:30 pm**. Dinner provided!



Young Adult Faith and Climate Gathering!

Emmaus Campus Ministry in Montana is hosting a region Faith and Climate retreat this spring- and the Lutheran-Episcopal Campus Ministry at OSU is invited!

Dr. Claudio Carvalhaes (an expert in ritual and eco theology from Union Theological Seminary) and Gwen Lankford (an indigenous climate activist from Missoula) will be our presenters and guides for thoughtful discussion and meaningful ritual.

When? April 17th-19th, 2026

Where? Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp

Who? Open-minded and curious young adults (no religious affiliation required)

How much? \$150 per person (plus travel expenses; travel scholarships available)

For more information, talk to Pr. Hallie and check out Emmaus Campus Ministry's page <https://www.emmausmontana.org/faithandclimateretreat>



Welcoming intern Julia well

We look forward to celebrating and blessing Julia's internship beginnings in the campus ministry soon! There are a couple of dates to keep in mind where we could use your help!

On **Saturday, January 24th from 9 am - noon**, we will host a work party to help prepare Canterbury House as Julia's home. All abilities welcome to help pack, move furniture, and ministry supplies from the main level to the basement- and Luther House. We'll meet at Canterbury House at 9 am. Lunch will be provided, and we'll plan to eat at Luther House at noon to celebrate all the good work.

On **Sunday, February 8th**, Julia will officially begin their internship with the campus ministry. *If you would like to share a blessing, story, or memory of the impact of the campus ministry in your life with Julia, please email*

lhousepastor@peak.org by January 30th. Students, plan on a feast and celebration with Julia and internship leadership on Sunday February 8th!

January hours for Luther House

The office at **Luther House** (211 NW 23rd St) will be open **Tuesdays, and Thursdays 9:30 am - 1:30 pm** in January. Pr. Hallie will be away from the office from January 4th - 10th for a conference in Arizona. As school begins again this week, craft night and WOU E-Lu will continue with student leadership.

Luther House is always available to students for study space, pool, free laundry, and gatherings/meetings from 8 am to 10 pm; please contact the office for a building access code.

The office will be closed January 1st in celebration of New Year's Day and January 19th in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

In the beginning of a new term, pastoral staff may be in and out of Luther House, Canterbury House, and various places around campus. Please email or call ahead if you would like to stop by.



Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}
{{Organization Address}}
{{Organization Phone}}
{{Organization Website}}

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