



Desert Hills Lutheran Church Foundation

Newsletter Fall/Winter 2018

Celebrate Grace

Make Disciples

Make A Difference

Board of Directors:

Neal Engbloom,
President;
Judy Gunson,
Vice President;
Ed Bonderson &
Dave Carver,
Treasurers;
Geri Beal,
Secretary;
Pastor Martin Overson
Judy Gunson
Council Representative;
Mike Lund,
Finance

Members:

Melissa Buscho
representing Pastor Overson,
Tom Fahey,
John Haugo,
Rosie Hussey,
Gary Mahnke,
Dale Mathwich,
Mary Lou Olson,
Ray Weisgarber

Ordination of Erin Cou tts



Pastor Erin Cou tts was ordained into the ELCA ministry in early August. She had received substantial scholarship support from the DHLC Foundation during her seminary education. Our Foundation is currently committed to assisting gifted individuals like Erin to reply to their call to ministry without fear of excessive education debt. We were pleased to have Erin visit Desert Hills twice. Our pastor invited her to preach at all five services on a weekend last April. People still comment on the fine job she

did. She now serves as Pastor at First Lutheran Church in International Falls, Minnesota. Members of DHLC have made generous financial gifts to enable our Foundation to pursue this mission. We encourage your continued support. The ELCA is facing a critical shortage of pastors so we need ways to encourage people like Erin Cou tts to follow a path into ordained ministry.

HAVEN OR HEAVEN GOLF OUTING

Benefitting the DHLC Foundation, In Loving Memory of Our Dear Friend Dean Libner. Monday, January 28, 2019, Registration Begins at 7:30 am, Shotgun Start at 8:30 am, Haven Golf Course 110 North Abrego, Green Valley, AZ.

Last year's outing was great fun! Consider joining us this year, always room for one more or many more.

Signup brochures are on Desert Hills Lutheran's website <http://www.dhlc.org/foundation/golf-outing/>.



Thinking about your Year End Gifting? Please be mindful of the immediate need for new pastors. Your Foundation currently supports two seminary students studying to fill the openings in Lutheran churches today.



Girl's soccer team Grant Overson coached

Thank you

This past summer, I was able to travel to Guatemala again, thanks to the generosity of the DHLC Foundation. My church, Redemption Church Flagstaff, partners with the organization, "Champions in Action." Champions in Action, through soccer, ministers to Guatemalan boys and girls through a year long mentorship program. The group I traveled with helped kick off their year with a week long soccer camp on the east coast of Guatemala. I was able to hear first hand accounts from my girls about the adversity and challenges they go through everyday back in their towns. They

experience abuse, neglect, death, poverty and more. The most amazing part of the week came toward the end. I was able to witness a complete transformation in some of these girls. In the span of just a week, the majority of the girls that came to camp wound up accepting Christ into their lives. It was an amazing week to witness and be a part of the works of God. I am so thankful to the DHLC Foundation for allowing me to be able to minister to these girls and make a difference. **Grant Overson**

Foundation Assistance on Mission Trip.

Thank you Desert Hills Lutheran Church for blessing me on my Grand Canyon University mission trip to Jarabacoa, Dominican Republic. It was a life-changing experience as I worked alongside dentist Dr. Nolasco and assisted her with teeth cleanings, fillings, and even root canals. We were able to show the love of God and serve others by providing the community with desperately needed dental care. God moved in amazing ways. -Andrew Ankrom



Our New Seminary Student



My name is Amanda Hutchinson, and I'm a second year MDiv student at Luther Seminary. I was born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii, where I'm still a member of my home congregation, Calvary By The Sea Lutheran Church. I was always very active in church, from Sunday School to Campus Ministry, and I have felt called to pastoral ministry since I was about 15. I am a graduate of California Lutheran University, where I double majored in Theology and Global Studies, and minored in music. I started seminary right after graduating from college, and have really loved the community and opportunities here at Luther. In the Twin Cities, I intern and worship at Central Lutheran Church in Downtown Minneapolis, a large and thriving urban congregation, very different from the small oceanside parish I grew up in. I'm also very happy to say that I'm engaged to my fiancé Cole, who is also a Cal Lutheran alumni and a current Luther MDiv student. Overall, I'm so incredibly thankful to be able to follow God's call for my life, and I know that it's only possible with the generosity of people like you, who believe in all the good that God still has in store for our church and our world. I'm looking forward to meeting and thanking many of you in person this Spring!