



Called with others  
to promote human and ecological flourishing  
**FALL 2024**



There's excitement in the air as we prepare to welcome first-year Lutes and transfer students this coming weekend. Opening Convocation follows on Tuesday, September 3, the same day that Fall Term classes begin. [Left: PLU athletes help new students move in to the residence halls]

With the beginning of this new academic year, we are excited to announce that the Wild Hope Center has a **new home!** We have moved from the Nesvig Center into the Anderson University Center, located on the lower level, Suite 190, sharing office space with our good friends in Campus Ministry. We have a great space to meet with students, staff, faculty, alumni, and friends as well as our Wild Hope library focused on vocation and the office for our Director of Operations, Ms. Laree Winer. Our telephone number – (253) 535-7192 – and our email address – [wildhope@plu.edu](mailto:wildhope@plu.edu) – remain the same.



We are pleased as punch to announce that the **Edgar and Betty Larson Endowed Fund** is supporting the Wild Hope sponsored presentation on the Swedish UN Secretary General, **Dag Hammarskjöld**, and his vocation to pursue peace. Professor Donovan Johnson will explore the spiritual roots of Hammarskjöld's secular work. Join us in the Scandinavian Cultural Center, lower level of the Anderson University Center on **Wednesday, September 18, at 7:00 PM**. If you can't join us in person, register here to receive the link for the livestream: <https://www.plu.edu/alumni-student-connections/vocationalvistas/> [Left: +Betty and Ed Larson]

On **Wednesday, October 9, 2024, at 4:00 PM on Zoom**, Wild Hope is sponsoring another discussion of vocation, this time on **Luther's View of Political Engagement**. Join PLU professor of political science, Dr. Michael Artime, and University Chair in Lutheran Studies emeritus, Dr. Samuel Torvend, for a rousing discussion of political engagement – you know, right before the November 5 election! Register to receive the Zoom link at: <https://www.plu.edu/alumni-student-connections/vocationalvistas/>.



It is here again: **Bjug Day of Giving on October 15-16, 2024**. Listen to this! In the past two years, giving to Wild Hope has *outpaced* giving to all other academic and club organizations (the one exception? athletics). Believe us when we say we really want to keep that record of outstanding giving going!

Look for our special email on **how to give** to the Wild Hope Center on Bjug Day in October. And keep this in mind: *Center programming is not supported by the PLU operating budget*. We rely on the generosity of our friends who support our good work among students, staff, faculty, alumni, and congregations. [Left above: PLU students with their Bjug Harstad beards, an ever-popular dimension of the Bjug Day!]

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## New Ventures

you need to find  
a purpose in life



i've tried, but  
it's not coming  
up on my phone  
at all

were at PLU.” Lucky those students who make their way into this enlightening and challenging course during the Spring Term 2025.

University Pastor, Jen Rude, joins Laree Winer in leading a course for first-year students that uplifts the relationship between the discernment of vocation and the university values of diversity, justice, and sustainability. The course title: **Is Purposeful Living a Catalyst for Shaping a (more) Just and Sustainable World?** Well, we think the answer is a resounding YES! And, as a number of alums have said: “We wish we had a center for vocation and courses like this when we

During the coming academic year, our intrepid Director of Operations, Laree Winer, will be leading a **Faculty Learning Community** on “Cultivating Purposeful Practice in a Community of Contemplative Educators.” This year-long conversation – which many of us would find beneficial – will focus on discovering meaning and purpose in work, rather than living by the tired clichés of “doing more with less” or “being more efficient.”

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The Wild Hope Center for Vocation office is located in the Anderson University Center, Suite 190, on the lower level.

### The Wild Hope Center for Vocation

<https://www.plu.edu/vocation/>

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