Wild Hope Center for Vocation

***Student Essay/Video Contest***

***Really Generous Prizes!!***

**Calling All Lutes to Serve**

The Wild Hope Center invites currently registered students to write an essay or create a video on the ***calling*** to “serve,” a core element of PLU’s mission. The current global pandemic presents a unique context with which to live this mission. How does one serve the neighbor or the greater good during an unprecedented time like this? Especially when normal routines have been so disrupted? How does one do so when experiencing their own grief and loss?

The first-place submission will be awarded a prize of **$500**.

The second-place submission will be awarded a prize of **$250**.

Faculty and staff who are members of the Center for Vocation Steering Committee will judge the submissions.

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| We recognize that everyone comes from a different mindset concerning service during this unique time. The **essay** or **video** project should be a reflective piece framed in the context of the PLU mission and discuss the calling to serve other people, their communities and the earth, especially during times of uncertainty. You may choose to engage this project by uplifting a big question, such as: How does one’s capacity to serve expand or contract during a time of massive community shutdown? We welcome your thoughts and perspectives.  Essays and videos must demonstrate that students have read and interacted with:  1. The university’s mission statement at <https://www.plu.edu/about/>  2. The Wild Hope statement on vocation at the Center’s website: [www.plu.edu/vocation](http://www.plu.edu/vocation)  3. “Core Elements in Lutheran Higher Education,” and the core element entitled, “Service to the Advancement of Life, Health, and Wholeness,” at <https://www.plu.edu/lutheran-studies/core-elements/serving-wholeness-and-health/> |

Please submit your project, including cover sheet, via email to Laree Winer, Associate Director for the Center for Vocation, at [winerll@plu.edu](mailto:winerll@plu.edu) no later than **May 1, 2020, 5:00 p.m.**

**Formatting:** The cover sheet is to include your name, your PLU I.D. #, a current mailing address, PLU email address and telephone number.

Essay format must follow these guidelines: A minimum word count of 1,000, and a maximum word count of 1,250 (the word count must be noted at the end of the essay); the pages should be numbered; double-spaced with 1” margins, 12 pt. Calibri or Times New Roman font, and submitted in .docx or .pdf format. The essay should include citations, and those citations should be in MLA, APA, or Chicago style.

Video format must follow these guidelines: Write a 200 word script (1-minute video) that is carefully crafted and well-organized where you clearly introduce your listeners to the topic, discuss the relevance/meaning/or complexities of the topic, and leave the audience with a take-away. videos should maintain a respectful tone. Keep in mind that you are presenting to the PLU community and potentially also the outside world. You will want to (re)present yourself well. Use technology and resources creatively and rigorously to produce a high-quality video that is the result of careful reading and research as well as editing and execution. Clarity is key. You must craft your script with an audience in mind, making sure that your sentences are meant to be heard, not read. The degree and quality of editing of the script will make an impact on your audience! Additionally, the script should mark citations from included reading, though not it is not necessary to mention these directly in the video. Visuals are encouraged but not required.

Suggested Resources

Audacity: free audio editing software(<http://www.audacityteam.org>)

iMovie: video editing software available for use in the Design Lab computers

All winners will be notified by their PLU email. The winning submissions will also be announced via the Center’s social media accounts and featured on the Center for Vocation’s web page. Once we

For additional information or questions, contact Laree Winer at [winerll@plu.edu](mailto:winerll@plu.edu) or 253-535-7192

Good luck, we’re excited to see what you come up with!

