

# LUTHER HOUSE NEWS

Lutheran Campus Ministry @ UNM & CNM

A LuMin campus ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

1805 Las Lomas Road NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106

505-633-5564 (mobile) | LCMUNMCNM@gmail.com

www.LutherHouseNM.org | @LutherHouseNM



**EXPANDING MINDS, DEEPENING FAITH, INSPIRING SERVICE, BUILDING COMMUNITY**

## August 2020

### Meet The Residents Of Luther House

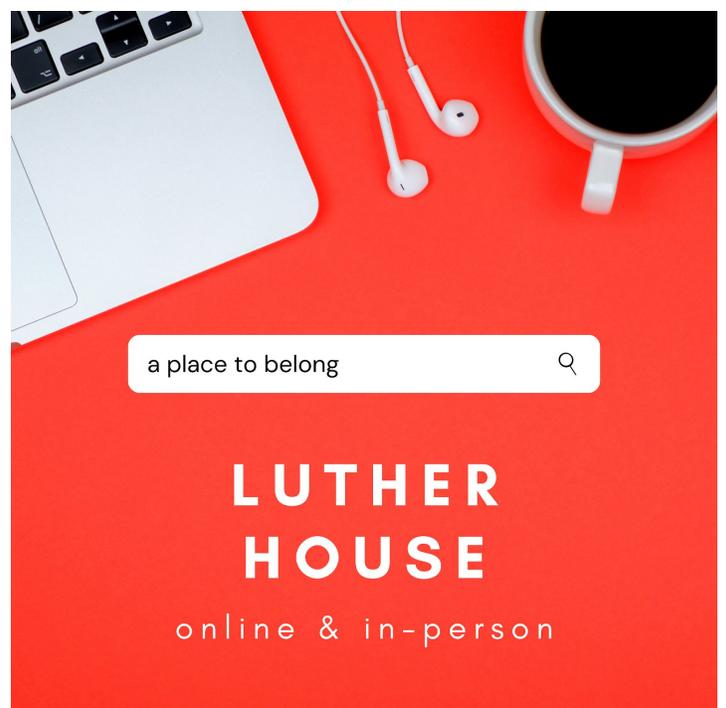
A new academic year means a new host of changes, especially in the time of a pandemic. We have some new housemates at Luther House and we are happy to welcome back familiar ones as well!

- **Xavier Barraza** is a CNM student who also works for Together For Brothers, a non-profit that builds the capacity of young men of color in Albuquerque. Xavier is also one of our Luther House interns who makes this ministry possible. Xavier likes exploring the topic of “de-growth,” riding his bike, and cooking tasty vegan food.
- **Rado Josoa** is from Madagascar and grew up here in Albuquerque. He is a junior who is studying Computer Science. Rado likes playing video games, watching and playing soccer, and hanging out with his friends. He is also our student group’s president!
- **Rindra Josoa** is also a Burqueño via Madagascar and brother to Rado. He is a sophomore who is majoring in International Studies. Rindra likes playing video games, relaxing with friends, and is an excellent cook, especially of samosas which he sometimes cooks for our community!
- **Vinny Brown** is a sophomore from Orange County, California. He found his way to Luther House thanks to word of mouth from his friends Rado and Rindra. He is currently undecided on a major and we are excited to have him join our community.
- **Luis De Vargas** is a senior studying Music Education and String Pedagogy with a concentration in Viola. He grew up in Albuquerque, and has a passion for the environment and conservation. He started coming to Luther House two years ago. Luis also hones his skills teaching music lessons for kids in Albuquerque Public Schools.

- **Jorge Canales Verdial** is a graduate student in Electrical Engineering working towards his Ph.D. with a focus in microelectronics. His hometown is San Pedro Sula, Honduras. He holds both Honduran and Spanish citizenships thanks to his family’s Iberoamerican heritage. Jorge grew up in an Anglican tradition and loves learning about Lutheran theology.

These young adults are a community made up of more than roommates, not quite all in the same place spiritually or educationally, but striving to make a common identity within the walls of Luther House. Please pray for these young men, everyone in our extended community, and all those involved in campus ministry, as we start likely the strangest semester ever.

*Pastor Bre Roberts*



*If you know of a college student looking for community, please send them to [www.LutherHouseNM.org](http://www.LutherHouseNM.org)*



L to R Kehinde Ogunade, Fernanda Banda, Jaén Ugalde

### FAREWELL AND GODSPEED

In late July, we were able to gather for an outdoor, in-person, carefully distanced meal on the front lawn of Luther House. With masks on while we weren't eating and packaged food prepared by Panera, we were able to send off three of our group into their next adventures:

- Kehinde Ogunade, who earned his Master of Accounting at UNM, is off to the University of Memphis to start his Ph.D. in Accounting as well.
- Fernanda Banda, CNM/UNM student and Advocacy Lead for NM Dream Team, just got her own car and moved into a new place on the West Side.
- Jaén Ugalde, longtime veteran of Luther House, was entranced into candidacy for rostered ministry by the Rocky Mountain Synod and begins his seminary career at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (where Pastor Bre went!) this fall.

We offer our prayers for these three and all those embarking on new journeys with untold endings:

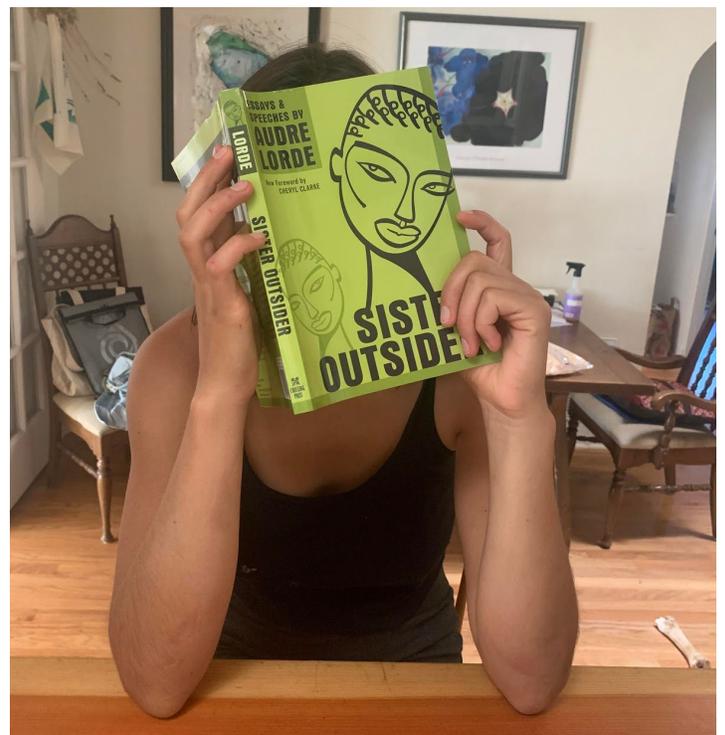
*O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### ANTI-RACISM EMBODIED

In a project launched this summer, Pastor Bre and the Luther House community started an anti-racism education (dis-education?) project to get books written about various aspects of race, discrimination, womanist theology, and other topics into the hands of young adults for free. (Thanks to Pastor Sarah Hooker, a friend of Pastor Bre and campus minister at UKirk Atlanta, a campus ministry of the PC(USA), who first envisioned this in her context!)

Through an online form linked on our website, young adults can select a book from the provided list or choose one on their own. Then Luther House buys it from a Black-owned bookstore and has it shipped directly to the young adult. At the date of this writing, over 20 books have been requested by young adults, some who are part of Luther House, some who are peripherally involved, and some who don't know us at all. It is a small but vital effort to redistribute knowledge and wealth to both the readers of these books and the book sellers.

Thank you to our donors who have stepped up to give financial gifts above and beyond their regular contributions as we hope to make this an ongoing project as new members join our community and new books are written. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Bre!



An anonymous young adult reads her free copy of "Sister Outsider" by Audre Lorde.