

House of Hope: We are *Here*. We are *Open*.



Music

The Music Department is excited about plans for the coming year. We have increased the number of Music Sundays and have started planning community events as the pandemic has waned. The fall will restart the Chapel Organ Recital Series shortly after the Noyes Memorial Carillon Recital Series in the summer. This spring has spurred a **renewed sense of energy** for the coming year.

The Motet Choir

The Motet Choir remains **hard at work** preparing for Lent and Holy Week, as well as some very special Music Sunday opportunities in March and May. We are welcoming new members at any time, and interested singers should reach out to Choirmaster Matthew Culloton. All choir members are, and must be, fully vaccinated.

Choir School

What a joy it is to walk in the East Wing and hear the enthusiastic voices of our choristers! After a season of hybrid rehearsals and recorded worship, we are thankful to be back to our regular rhythm of singing together. Choristers PreK to Grade 12 **gather weekly to sing, learn, play, and explore our faith through music**. Together we enjoy fellowship at quarterly gatherings with parents and families, celebrating as a community. Worship is at the heart of the Choir School, and we use our gifts and talents to praise, serve, and inspire. New choristers are welcome through March 23.

Children and Family Ministry

We are excited about our spring programming. **Serving eighty children and their families**, we offer monthly intergenerational events, tween events, service and mission opportunities, in-person and virtual Sunday school, Creative Expressions, monthly parenting and family resource sessions, family kits, and so much more. We cannot wait for warmer weather, as we look forward to reconnecting in the park!

Youth and Family Ministry

We are working in fun, exciting, and creative ways! Middle school students are exploring the Old Testament. This spring, we will be rock climbing at Vertical Endeavors, volunteering at Feed My Starving Children, cleaning up a park for Earth Day, as well as meeting weekly on Sundays. Youth Sunday is May 8. Our youth will **serve together this summer during a mission trip to Rapid City, SD**.



Bells of Hope Handbell Choir

The Bells of Hope continue **Music in Mission projects**. On March 27, the ringers will present musical offerings

for Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church. The second project supports Keystone Community Services and includes collecting needed items for Keystone clients including calendars, note cards/pads, and cloth bags. Bring your donations to the church office.



Facilities Staff



Admin Staff

WORSHIP

10 a.m.

Sunday, March 6, 2022

First Sunday in Lent

Julia A. Carlson

Motet Choir:

Cantique de Jean Racine, Fauré
O Come Let Us Sing Unto the Lord,
Piccolo

Choir School:

Pie Jesu, Fauré

Sunday, March 13, 2022

Second Sunday in Lent

Dix Brachlow

Motet Choir:

Give almes of thy goods, Tye
Sing Unto God, Handel

Choir School:

Lonesome Valley/We Shall Walk
arr. Mabry

Sunday, March 20, 2022

Third Sunday in Lent

Music Sunday

Motet Choir and Choir School:

Lenten Service: *Light in Deepest Night*
Music by Aaron David Miller
See page 3 for more information.

Sunday, March 27, 2022

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Julia A. Carlson

Motet Choir:

How Lovely is thy Dwelling Place, Ferko
Laudate, Nystedt

Choir School:

Agnus Dei, Webbe

A Note from Julia

I have received notes from some of you with the hope that we can proceed at warp speed into the search process again. I have received notes from others of you hoping that we will slow down and take time to be very discerning about who we are and where we are going. What I know of the spiritual life as well as Presbyterian process is that it will be both. Our Personnel Committee pulled out all the stops to get the Transitional Pastor job description written and approved. And now we wait. This will be a rhythm of transition.

In this time, we are invited more deeply into our Christian faith. We are not suddenly behind in a race nor lost in a storm. We are invited to trust God—the long, slow work of God and the sudden, out-of-the-blue whirlwind of Presence, power, gift, and joy.

In his blessing for an interim time John O'Donohue wrote in *To Bless the Space Between Us*:

As far as you can, hold your confidence.
Do not allow confusion to squander
This call which is loosening
Your roots in false ground,
That you might come free
From all you have outgrown.

This is a time of hope and possibility, of patience and faith. Just keep reading and you will see that your amazing staff loves this church and our life is full!

So, here's the challenge: The bulletin board across from the Assembly Room usually contains events and happenings in the city and wider church. Because of COVID-19, there are not many happenings. I would like to fill it with pictures of House of Hoppers, pictures of you and your family, pictures of your gardens and dogs. Did you get married here? Send a photo. Baptisms, confirmations, dinners, or The Bash, send a photo. Send them electronically and we will print them. Send them in the mail,



we'll put them up. There will be post-it notes handy so you can jot a greeting, a blessing, or a prayer. As the Body of Christ in this place, we are here, we are open, we are strong; let's make it visible!

See you in church,
Julia



Choir School Spring Flower Sale

The Choir School annual Easter flower sale is HERE! We have vibrant spring flowers, stunning Easter lilies, and more! Order online through March 10 and pick up at HOH on April 13.

- Go to www.gertensfundraising.com
- The Choir School store ID code is 95. Enter and click 'Enter ID to Continue.'
- Place orders and pay online.

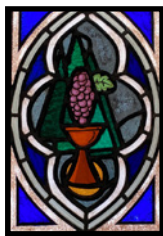
This fundraiser helps support Choir School special events, guest musicians, special music, and future tours. Thank you for your support!



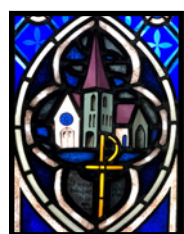
Adult Education & Events | MARCH

Ash Wednesday Service with Holy Communion

Wednesday, March 2 | 7 p.m.



The Lenten journey at House of Hope begins with the Ash Wednesday worship which signifies a time to turn around, to change directions, to repent. As we begin our Lenten trek through the wilderness toward Easter, join us for a service of music, meditation, imposition of ashes, and communion.



House of Hope Annual Meeting Sunday, March 6

Great Hall and Zoom | 11:15 a.m.

The Session has called an Annual Meeting of the congregation for the purpose of approving clergy terms of call and receiving the 2022 Annual Budget. Please plan to attend in-person or virtually for this important meeting in the life of our congregation. To join virtually, go to: <https://bit.ly/HOHCongMtg2022>

Adult Enrichment with J. Drake Hamilton

Sunday, March 13 | Assembly Room | 11:15 a.m.

Next Steps on Clean Energy and Climate Action: What Does the World (and Minnesota) Need?

J. Drake Hamilton, Senior Director of Science Policy at Fresh Energy, will provide an update on progress toward a zero-carbon future. Fresh Energy's mission is to shape and drive bold policy solutions to achieve equitable carbon-neutral economies.

Feminist Theology with Julia Carlson

Sunday, March 13 | Library 11:15 a.m.

Join us as we continue reading *Creation and the Cross: The Mercy of God for a Planet in Peril*, by Elizabeth A. Johnson, one of the foremost theologians of our time.

Pre-Ireland Pilgrimage Meeting

Sunday, March 27 | Room 1 11:15 a.m.

HOH's Beacon Work Group's Warm Clothing Drive

The Beacon Work Group wishes to thank the congregation for the overwhelming support of the clothing drive held during January. As a result of your generosity we were able to donate a substantial amount of new and gently used warm winter clothing to many of our Mission Partners including Ain Dah Yung, Ujamaa Place, Prior Crossing, and the YMCA.



MUSIC SUNDAY: MARCH 20



Light in Deepest Night: Lenten Meditations on Julian of Norwich

10 a.m.

The House of Hope Motet Choir & Choir School

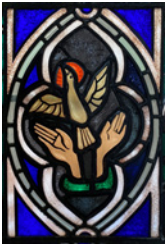
Music by Aaron David Miller

Don't miss a very special Lenten worship service composed by Director of Music Aaron David Miller, based on the writings of Julian of Norwich. Aaron collaborated with his father, David L. Miller in creating the service that weaves congregational hymns, choral anthems, and spoken meditations. David Miller will read these meditations during the service and is the guest speaker at Adult Enrichment that follows at 11:15. The Motet Choir will be joined by the House of Hope Choir School with both Matthew Culloton and Sofia Ardanan conducting.

Love Enfolded with David L. Miller and Aaron David Miller | 11:15 a.m.

The voice of Christian mystic Julian of Norwich continues to echo through the centuries, inviting us to find joy and freedom in the endless goodness of God, who holds all we are in the boundless love from which we are never separated. Living in this love, we experience the bliss God intends for us and come to know 'all is well and all shall be well.' We will read and reflect on brief excerpts from Julian's *Showings of Divine Love* to deepen our awareness of the Love who never lets us go. Excerpts sung and read in the morning service, *Light in Deepest Night*, will be included in the presentation.

David L. Miller is an author, spiritual director, and retreat leader who has written hundreds of articles and devotions for a variety of publications. His books include, *Friendship with Jesus: A Way to Pray the Gospel of Mark* and *God Frees and Redeems*. He blogs at prayingthemystery.blogspot.com.



Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, March 6
10 a.m. Worship

Join us as we welcome five new members to the church, all of whom have been learning about God's love for their lives. We will celebrate with them and their families with the Rite of Confirmation. The Confirmands are:

- Ava Victoria Mayer
- Malin Margaret Staloch
- Addison Asnakech Stevens
- Lucy Elizabeth Thomas
- Clara May Thompson



THE DIDIER SEMINAR



with
Jeannine Hill Fletcher

April 30–May 1

Christianity and Religious Diversity: Challenges and Opportunities

Join us for this year's Didier Seminar as we welcome Professor Jeannine Hill Fletcher back to The Didier Seminar. Sessions will take place on the evening of Friday, April 30 and Saturday morning, April 31. On Sunday, May 1, Jeannine Hill Fletcher will speak in worship and in Adult Enrichment.

This year's Didier Seminar will place the reality of religious diversity centrally in focus in order to ask how we maintain our deep roots in the Christian faith while positively opening to the many religious traditions of our world. What elements of the tradition will be challenging in the task of appreciating religious diversity? What elements of the tradition can be mobilized to embrace religious diversity as a gift?



HOH Women's Retreat

The Gifts of Creation: Sustenance, Connection, Renewal

Friday, April 29 – Sunday, May 1

Saint John's Abbey Guesthouse, Collegeville, MN

Facilitator: Rev. Mary Koon, Associate Pastor, Oak Grove PC, Bloomington

Genesis tells us that we are created in God's image; that human beings are created from the earth, and given life and breath by God. Reveling in this goodness, we will turn to nature for restoration and renewal, with space and time to be "lost in wonder, love and praise." All women are invited for a weekend of reflection and renewal.

Over the last two years, we have all experienced disruption, grief, and loss, and grown more aware of our world's disparities. Yet, we have also known times of joy, connection, and luminous moments, recognizing God's presence in myriad ways. Beside gatherings as a group, there will be time to reflect on ones own, explore the beautiful campus and grounds, tour *Saint John's Bible* Gallery, visit Saint John's Pottery, and join the monastic community in worship and prayer.

Register outside the Kirk Parlour on March 20, 27 or April 3. Cost of \$180 single occupancy or \$150 double occupancy includes lodging, all meals (dinner Friday through breakfast Sunday), and retreat materials, and is due at the time of registration. Space is limited so register early.



March Food Drive: Let's Tackle Hunger

Hunger and food insecurity impacts many people in our communities. According to Hunger Solutions Minnesota, the state's 350 food shelves received 3.7 million visits in 2021. The pandemic has increased the need, making our March Food Drive vitally important by supporting Neighborhood House and Hallie Q. Brown Community Center.

We can help the 1 in 8 hungry children, or 1 in 11 people overall. Food insecurity makes children uneasy, stressed, and unable to concentrate. Teachers notice their student's relief receiving groceries at school on Friday, knowing they will have food for the weekend. Parents worry they can't fulfill basic food needs for their family.

How can you help?

- **Financial donations** help our food partners buy much more. Dollars go twice as far with our nonprofit partners' buying power to purchase what they need. Thank you HOH members who are giving monthly!
- **Bring food donations** to the shopping cart outside the Elizabeth Chapel at the Portland entrance and in the narthex.
- **Volunteer.** Opportunities are available at Neighborhood House for adults and youth. Contact Kathy Schubert at keschubert@q.com for more information.



Children, Youth and Family Ministry

Children and Family Ministry

Contact Kiera Stegall:

KieraS@hohchurch.org

In-Person Sunday Morning Children's Ministry

- Nursery: Infants – PreK | 9:45 a.m. Room 8
- Kindergarten–Grade 5 | 10:15 a.m. Rooms 4 & 5

Virtual Sunday School

Sundays, March 6, 20 and 27

11:30 a.m. | Zoom

Children, grades 5 and younger, are invited to join us for a time of faith formation via stories, artwork, and prayer.

Intergenerational Event:

Feed My Starving Children

Saturday, March 12 | 9 –10:45 a.m.

Feed My Starving Children

Join us for an intergenerational morning of service at Feed My Starving Children in Eagan, where we will pack food to battle hunger around the globe. This event is free. Individuals are responsible for their own transportation or coordinating carpools. We will meet at FMSC (990 Lone Oak Rd #136, Eagan, MN 55121). R.S.V.P. to Kiera Stegall by Wednesday, March 9.

Hybrid Family Session:

Intergenerational Story-Sharing

Sunday, March 13 | 11:15 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Room 1 and Zoom

Join us for a monthly Children & Family Ministry education session, as Kiera Stegall guides multigenerational groups through the process of sharing stories and reflecting via art. Resources and kits are available for further exploration. R.S.V.P. to Kiera Stegall by Friday, March 11 to ensure we have enough supplies prepared.

Tweens Bowling Event

Friday, March 18 | 6–8 p.m.

St. Francis Bowling

Grades 4–5 and their friends are invited to join us for a night of bowling and pizza at St. Francis Bowling Center (426 S. Osceola Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55102). Cost is \$10 per person, which includes 2-hours of bowling, shoe rental, and dinner. Adult chaperones are needed. Families are responsible for their own transportation or coordinating carpools. R.S.V.P. to Kiera Stegall by Wednesday, March 16.

Youth and Family Ministry

Contact Dan Miglets-Nelson:

DanMN@hohchurch.org

Climbing at Vertical Endeavors

Friday, March 11 | 7 p.m.

Grades 6-12 will meet at the St. Paul Vertical Endeavors location to take our faith to new heights and enjoy climbing safely. Please wear appropriate athletic clothes. This event is \$20, and funds are available so all can participate.

Middle School Sunday School

Sundays | 10:15 a.m.

Our middle school students are invited to continue their journey through the Bible together. We will meet for fellowship, prayer, and to creatively explore how God has shown love and grace throughout Scripture.

The SUMMIT Youth Group

Sundays | 7 p.m.

We are starting a new series of lessons, games, and activities that help our youth become storytellers by identifying qualities of a good story, by looking at our own stories and finding where we have encountered God. We will continue to offer a variety of fun games and plan for our summer mission trip. There is so much going on this year, and all students grades 6-12 are invited to be a part of it.

CLOISTER GALLERY



O Cornerstone, an interpretation of Arvo Pärt's *Magnificat & Sieben Antiphonen*. © Robyn Sand Anderson

Abstract Expressionist Paintings by Robyn Sand Anderson

Begins March 15

Robyn Sand Anderson, a native of Decorah, Iowa, has a Bachelor of Arts in Fine Art and Art Education from Luther College in Decorah. She has been a professional artist specializing in transparent watercolor and acrylic for over thirty years. After a diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis in 2008, Sand Anderson's paintings changed from representational watercolors to acrylic abstract expressionism. She has found non-objective painting expresses those things that are hard to understand or explain. Her use of bright, vibrant color always moves toward hope. Since her own diagnosis she is especially attuned to those who suffer and hopes to be a visual voice for hope and healing.

Most recently, Robyn has been interpreting choral, orchestral, and eclectic folk music with color, movement, and texture. She is drawn to the power of combining visual art and music. The power of lyric adds another dimension. She finds that she "sees" color when listening to music, which seems to especially inspire her creativity.

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The House of Hope Presbyterian Church is a Stephen Ministry Church.



**COVENANT NETWORK
OF PRESBYTERIANS**

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church is a Covenant Network Congregation.

Update from the Personnel Committee: Transitional Pastor

The Personnel Committee has completed a Transitional Pastor job description and sent it to the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area.

The Pastor Position Team of the Commission on Ministry of the Presbytery approved the job description at their monthly meeting on February 17. Following this approval, the Pastor Position Team sent out the job description to the approved list of transitional pastors and posted it on the PCUSA Mid-Council website. House of Hope is in the process of posting the job description on church employment sites and in clergy focused publications.

Once a Transitional Pastor is in place we will have a clergy team of Senior Associate Rev. Dr. Julia Carlson and a Transitional Pastor.

Next Steps:

The Transitional Pastor, along with the Session, will lead the congregation in assessing previous work and design additional congregational visioning. The resulting Mission Study will be sent to the Pastor Position Team of the Commission on Ministry of the Presbytery for approval. The process will include consideration of reopening the Transitional Associate Pastor position.

After the approval of the Mission Study, the HOH Session and Nominating Committee will ask the Pastor Position Team to form a Pastor Nominating Committee.

A PNC is then nominated by the Nominating Committee of HOH and elected by the congregation. After the election, they will begin the process to identify the next installed Pastor.

Earth Care



Tread Lightly for Lent

During Lent we reflect and examine the way we live out our Christian faith in the world around us. To help us make more sustainable choices that restore and protect all God's creation, the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) created an Earth Care focused Lenten daily calendar "Tread Lightly for Lent."

Each day from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday the calendar offers a prompt for reflection or action. May this Lenten calendar serve as a beginning to help you adopt more mindful behaviors throughout the whole year.

To download the calendar visit:
<https://bit.ly/TreadLightlyLent> or
check the church kiosks for printed copies.