

THE ANCHOR

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church Issue No. 184 December 2010

House of Hope 50-year-plus Members!



On Reformation Sunday, October 31, we recognized and celebrated those who have been members of The House of Hope congregation for 50 years or more. God bless them for their exemplary faithfulness and their enormous contributions to the church and community. Of the 128 people who have been members for 50 or more years, the 42 people pictured above were able to join us for this very special occasion. They are:

Row 1: Ginger Bailey, Jackie O'Keefe, Irene Novotny, Sally Fulton, Alice Morehouse, Val Morehouse, Romana Urueta, Irene Vogt (far right). Row 2: Carol Pine, Jack Overbye, Jane Keyes, Ann Geery, Debby Fulton, Susan Piper, Joan Frank, June Joy, Sam Joy, Betty Stewart, Donald Steinkraus. Row 3: Prudence Ahrens, Susan Fisher Koll, Ginger Overbye, Audrey Snyder, Jan Munson, Bill Flad, Bob Mairs, Warren Lueder, Row 4: Harold Baker, Janet Baker, Dee Gladish, Nancy Weyerhaeuser, Sue Cummings, John Brainard, Jean Helen Kinsey Row 5: Cliff Caine, Jack Sjolholm, Harry M. Drake, Ted Weyerhaeuser, Sally Nelson, Noelyn Porter, Suzanne PeKarna, Dave PeKarna

Christmas Eve

- 3:30 p.m. Carillon Recital, David Johnson, carillonneur.
- 4 p.m. Afternoon Christmas Service for all ages (Sanctuary).
- 5:30 p.m. Traditional Tableaux Service: the Christmas story with familiar carols and tableaux of famous Nativity scenes.
Child care for children under 6.
- 9:30 p.m. Carillon Recital.
- 10 p.m. Instrumental Prelude with the Bach Chamber Players.
- 10:30 p.m. Candlelight Service led by the Motet Choir with the Bach Chamber Players.

Lessons and Carols December 12

On December 12 at 4 p.m., the Music at Four Series will present its annual Service of Lessons and Carols. The service will feature the Motet Choir, Choir School and Handbell Choir along with readings and carols for the season. The service will be preceded by a 30-minute carillon prelude by David Johnson. Reception will follow in the Kirk Parlour. Child care will be provided.

Appreciating Advent



Speaking personally, I think that the Advent hymns are some of the most powerful hymns in the whole book. In a frenzied time of parties and commotion and sometimes trumped-up joy, I love those Advent hymns for their minor keys and their themes of waiting, watching for the unexpected, and of longing. They seem particularly poignant and downright counter-cultural during a holy season that is otherwise completely overrun by powerful commercial and secular

influences. To me, the Advent hymns annually reaffirm how relevant those themes continue to be for us, living in a world that seems very much like that ancient world being described—a world waiting and watching and hoping. Read and savor some stanzas from those familiar hymns.

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee.

Comfort, comfort you my people, tell of peace, thus says our God; Comfort those who sit in darkness bowed beneath oppression's load. Speak you to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them; tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.

O come, Desire of nations bind, all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

It is because we live in world that is not of one mind—a world full of envy, strife and discord, not to mention warfare, that we need ways of acknowledging our deepest longings and yearnings for a better day—for the day God promises is being ushered in by the Christmas claim. The season of Advent provides us that opportunity to be honest about the human condition, the shape of the world and our broken, fragile relationships, and the deep desire of all nations for something better. Like a gift, it gives us the opportunity to express our need for a savior. The temptation, of course, in a less-than-perfect world, is to gloss over everything and put a happy ribbon on top of our problems, pretending they don't exist. During this festive season, many would just as soon not spoil the season by singing about the need for this world's hills to be turned into valleys and its rough places into plains, which is another way of crying out in longing about broken hearts needing desperately to be made whole. Instead, they'd prefer to rush directly into singing the same Christmas carols piped over the public address system at the mall even before Thanksgiving—Joy to the World!

There will be a time for us to sing Joy to the World, O Come, All Ye Faithful, and Hark! The Herald Angels Sing. It's just that the faithful will better understand and appreciate the joy that has been harkened unto them, if we take the opportunity to slow down, find moments of silence amid the noise and blare, and ponder what took place in a town called Bethlehem some 2000 years ago and what that means for us and for the world. May you have a blessed Advent so that your Christmas may be full of joy.

—David

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES 8:30 A.M. ASSEMBLY ROOM 10 A.M. SANCTUARY

Sunday, December 5, 2010

Second Sunday of Advent

David A. Van Dyke, preaching.

Motet Choir: Et in terra pax (from Gloria), Vivaldi
Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending, arr. Rutter

Sunday, December 12, 2010

Third Sunday of Advent

David A. Van Dyke, preaching.

Motet Choir: *A Hymn to the Virgin*, Britten
Laudate Dominum, Mozart

Sunday, December 12, 2010, 4 p.m.

A Service of Lessons and Carols, Sanctuary.

Festive anthems, carol singing led by Aaron David Miller at the Fisk organ. Service music by the House of Hope Choir School, the Motet Choir, the House of Hope Handbell Choir.

Handbell Choir: *Angels We Have Heard On High*, arr. Sandra Eithun

Child care provided.

Sunday, December 19, 2010

Fourth Sunday of Advent

David A. Van Dyke, preaching.

Motet Choir: *The Blessed Son of God*, Vaughan Williams
O magnum mysterium, Victoria

Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24, 2010

3:30 p.m. Carillon Recital, David Johnson, carillonneur.

4 p.m. Afternoon Christmas Service for all ages—child-friendly (Sanctuary).

5:30 p.m. Traditional Tableaux Service.

The Christmas story with familiar carols and tableaux adaptations of scenes of the Nativity.

Childcare for children under 6.

9:30 p.m. Carillon Recital.

10 p.m. Instrumental Prelude.

10:30 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship Service.

David A. Van Dyke, preaching.

Aaron David Miller, organist.

The Motet Choir and the Bach Chamber Players of Saint Paul, conducted by Matthew Culloton, choirmaster.

Sunday, December 26

First Sunday After Christmas

ONE SERVICE AT 10 A.M.

Hymn Sing.

Sunday, January 2, 2011

Second Sunday After Christmas

ONE SERVICE AT 10 A.M.

Holy Communion.

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a very brief **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** for Sunday, December 5, during the 10 a.m. worship service for the purpose of electing a deacon to fill a vacant slot on the Board of Deacons.

Adult Education

Enrichment Program, 11:15 a.m., Assembly Room (unless otherwise noted)

December 5:
Children's Christmas Pageant and Advent Festival.
No Adult Enrichment.

December 12:
Christmas literature presentation, Ms. Jeannine Bohlmeyer.

December 19:
Christmas Carol Sing-along, Phil and Lynda Jorgenson.

December 26:
No Adult Enrichment.

Bible Study

Weekly opportunities for study of the coming Sunday's lectionary scripture lessons:

- **The Men's Breakfast** each Tuesday, 7 to 8:15 a.m. at the Copper Dome Restaurant, 1333 Randolph Avenue, St. Paul

- **Wednesday mornings with Molly McMillan**, 10 a.m. in the Church Library

- **Thursday mornings with Tom Forster-Smith**, 9 a.m. in the Church Library

Adult Gatherings Christmas Party

Attention, All House of Hope Adults (Singles and Couples, New and Long-term Members and Friends): Plan to join us for the **Annual House of Hope Christmas Party** at the Midland Hills Country Club in Roseville at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, December 17. The party has been moved to a Friday evening, so it won't conflict with the many Sunday Advent events at church, and so babysitters won't have school the next morning. The evening begins with a social time followed by dinner, carol-singing and entertainment. We are delighted that we'll be hearing about Christmas from a number House of Hope friends again this year and Aaron David Miller will be providing music. The cost is \$45 per person. Make your reservations and pay in the church office by Tuesday, December 14. Make checks payable to The House of Hope.

Library Corner

The following ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS books are available for check out in the Adult Library. They are located on the bottom shelf under the Reference Books to the right as you enter the library.

- 242 B867 *Making Room for Christmas* by Herbert Brokering
 242 C695 *A Winter Name for God: Reflections for the Christmas Season* by R. Scott Colglazier
 242 P769 *Living With Hope* by John Polkinghorne
 242 W324 *Watch for the Light: Readings for Advent and Christmas* by authors such as Aquinas, Bonhoeffer, Dillard, Kierkegaard, L'Engle, Lewis...
 242 W38k *Kneeling in Bethlehem* by Ann Weems
 246 P52 *The Story of the Wise Men According to the Gospel of St. Matthew* by Regine Pernoud (oversize book)
 394.2 C555 *Christmas: An Annual Treasury, V.67* edited by Robert Klausmeier
 394.2 H35c *A Cup of Christmas Tea* by Tom Hegg
 394.2 M66m *A Minnesota Christmas Anthology* edited by Stephen E. Engels
 394.2 N76b *The Battle for Christmas* by Stephen Nissenbaum
 394.2 P779 *A Christmas Blessing* by Welleran Poltarnees
 394.2 R658 *Unplug the Christmas Machine* by Jo Robinson
 394.2663 W223 *Were They Wise Men or Kings?* by Joseph J. Walsh

Fiction

- F574 *A Redbird Christmas* by Fannie Flagg
 G72c *A Christmas Book* by Elizabeth Goudge
 G869 *Skippping Christmas* by John Grisham
 H35m *The Mark of the Maker* by Tom Hegg
 H73tw *Two From Galilee: A Love Story of Mary and Joseph* by Marjorie Holmes

NOTE: A current list of books in the Adult Library can be found in the grey 3-ring binder on top of the card catalog cabinet. Books are listed by Title, Author, and Subject.

Youth Babysitting Fundraiser

Our youth will babysit your children from 6 to 10 p.m. on the evening of Friday, December 17, so drop your kids off at the church and have a worry-free evening at the Adult Christmas Party, at a much-needed adult-only evening, or at the mall shopping for Christmas gifts. We've got the best rates in town!

Middle School Retreat

This past October, nine youth and four adults trekked up to Presbyterian Clearwater Forest for their annual Fall Middle School Retreat. We joined several Presbyterian youth from around Minnesota to fellowship, worship God and learn about the value of Encouragement in today's world. We had a wonderful time building relationships and enjoying nature, and we encourage all middle school students to attend next year!



Middle School Retreat

Project Home's 13th Year at The House of Hope

"Be not forgetful to welcome strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unaware."—Hebrews 13:2

The names below are the individuals who made Project Home possible at The House of Hope by serving our "strangers" in the Youth Room during the month of October. This program, coordinated by the St. Paul Area Council of Churches, offers overnight shelter to families in houses of worship when there is no room for them at the Ramsey County family shelter in Maplewood. Currently there are over 30 churches and synagogues participating in Project Home by opening their houses of worship for shelter, and another 24 that assist in providing additional volunteers. Our House of Hope volunteers provided fellowship, hospitality and caring to children, mothers and fathers.

The effect of homelessness on children is felt throughout their young lives—stigmatizing them among their peers and making their minds ill-prepared for the challenges of education. This trauma becomes more apparent as the children grow older and become more aware that homelessness is not the norm. These families are not allowed to have other family members or friends visit them when staying in the shelter for the purpose of shelter security. Parents must attempt literally to carry with them everything they will need for themselves and their children when they are homeless. Parents struggle with transportation and communication issues, dependent on buses for shopping, medical appointments and housing searches—unable to provide a phone number for messages when interviewing for jobs. Running errands in the evenings, which we take for granted, is not an option for these families because they must be in the shelter by 5:30 pm. These are only a few of the obstacles faced by homeless families.

We extend a special thanks to those who served as Project Home team leaders this year, volunteers that served multiples times during the month of October and to one of our members who provided evening meals to our families. A double asterisk has been placed beside their names. We also extend our appreciation to Doug Wakefield, our Facilities Manager, for all of his efforts to keep mechanical systems running in the Youth Room. Our gratitude also goes out to the other staff members (denoted by a single asterisk) at The House of Hope who make Project Home possible. We apologize to those whose names may have inadvertently been left off this list.

Bonnie Alton
Brad Amundson
**Dennis Anderson
**Dorothea Anderson
Jan Anderson
Maria Anderson
Nick Anderson
Christina Ashford
George Atmore
Ginger Bailey
Walt Bailey
Jim Barge
Silvey Barge
Dave Berg
Roland Berg
Carolyn Bedingham
Ellie Bedingham
Jacquelyn Bedingham
John Bedingham
Cindy Bielke
Gus Bjorklund
Marilyn Bjorklund
Mary Bland
Ken Boehmer
Patti Boehmer
Elizabeth Bolsoni
Jennifer Bolsoni
Matthew Boscow
**J.C. Bosse
Ian Boylan
Emily Brenengen
Julia Brooks
Gwen Buckner
**Patti Buckner-Lacy
Cindi Caughron
Chris Cheney
Henry Cheney
Quinn Cheney
Terry Cheney
Ryan Christianson
David Cleveland
Angela Columb
Echo Columb
Espan Columb
Oskar Columb
Judie Cooper
& grandson Ryan
Dick Crone
Margie Crone
Robert Dean

Wendy Dean
William Dean
Margie Dennis
Linda Diekvoss
Chris Duliere
Eric Duliere
**Tan Do
Ian Egeberg
Emi Eliason
Emi Eliason
Ana Essig
Carie Essig
Jan Favorite
Antonio Favorito
Audrey Favorito
Craig Favorito
Dominic Favorito
Tonya Femal
Tom Forster-Smith
Allan Floyd
Sue Fox
Bill Frank
Debby Fulton
Morgan Gabse
Ann Geery
Bill Geery
Diane Gorder
**Amy Greening
Darrel Gubrud
Darlene Haecker
Lauren Haecker
Peyton Haecker
Sue Haigh
Bruce Harrington
Clare Harrington
Elizabeth Harrington
Marcy Hartford
Aimee Heffernan
Donna J Hill
Ben Horstman
Needham Hurst
Cater Inskeep
Max Inskeep
Zachary Inskeep
**Bruce Johnson
Gregg Johnson
Lois Johnson
Elizabeth Karre
Stephanie Kimble
*Kristin Klaustermeier

Louise Klas
Evelyn Klein
Russ Koebrick
Sue Koebrick
**Patricia Lacy
Anne LaDow
Laura Lamb
Donchi Lane
John Lane
**Linda Lane
Rob Lea
Seale Lea
Scott Leach
Joann Lee
Erv Lentz
Marilyn Lentz
Ann Lewis
Herb Lewis
Chris Lienert
**Kai Maakestad
Dave Mayer
Sherla Mayer
Cheryl McHugh
Chris McHugh
Margaret Miller
Cally Minner
Lucy Minner
Jody Minner
Nancy Moyers
Larry Nelson
Isabel Nord
**Mike Nord
Jackie O'Keefe
David Olsen
Marnie Olson
Gwen Ornikoro
Kathy Osteraas
Lauren Osteraas
Dave Pearson
Joan Pearson
Taylor Pearson
Cliff Peet
Dianne Peet
Brianna Peterson
Christina Peterson
Mary Peterson
Michael Peterson
Tom Peterson
Carol Pine
**Catherine Pomeroy

**Sherwood Pomeroy
Caroline Porter
Noelyn Porter
Truman Porter
Sonja Quimby
Naomi Quimby
Nancy Raeburn
Derek Robb
Sarah Romans
**Nancy Sabin
Leo Schluter
Amelie Schmitz
Bella Schmitz
Drew Schmitz
Kari Schmitz
Jonah Schmitz
Kathy Schubert
Mickey Scott
Janna Severance
Mercedes Sheldon
Dianne Smith
Graham Smith
*Jan Snell
**Jenny Stevens
Samuel Taylor
Marco Tougnon
*Seng Vang
David Van Dyke
Don Vandenberg
Elly Verhagen
Ingrid Verhagen
Laura Viksnins
*Doug Wakefield
Kevin Walli
Helen Wang
**Carol Weber
Byron Wertz
Jean Westerman & sons
Mary Westra
Cheryl Winget
Gary Winget
Anna Wojcicki
**Bob Wojcicki
Isaac Wojcicki
Julia Wolter
Steve Wolter
Annie Yetter
George Yetter
Steve Yetter
**Anne Yuska



SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR CHILDREN

Nursery/Toddler Care

- Nursery / toddler care is provided each Sunday morning from 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- Infants (birth - 18 months) go to the Noah's Ark nursery in Room 8
- Toddlers (19 months - 35 months) go to the Garden of Eden in Room 2.

Both of these rooms are staffed by trained paid staff and volunteers.

If you are coming to worship at 8:30:

- Childcare will be provided for age 4 and younger. Toddlers, 3 and 4 year olds go to Room 2 during 8:30 worship)
- Children in kindergarten and up participate in worship with their families.

If you are coming to the 10 a.m. worship service:

- Infants and toddlers go to room 8 or 2 (see above)
- Three-year-olds go to Room 6 beginning at 9:45 for supervised play. Children must be 3 by August 31.
- Children ages 4 through grade 5 attend the beginning of the worship service
- Following the Time for Children, age 4 - K go to their classrooms. Grades 1-5 go to Sunday School. The weekly schedule for grades 1-5 is always printed in the Sunday bulletin.

Sunday School classes for age 3-grade 5 conclude at 11:20 a.m.

An enrichment program will be provided each Sunday for all children:

- Age 3-Kindergarten will gather in Room 5.
- Grades 1-5 will gather in Room 1.

SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL

11:15 a.m.

6th and 7th grades meet in the Middle School Room; **8th grade** meets in the Skylight Room; **9th through 12th grades** meet in the Youth Room.

DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, the focus of the Sunday School turns to Jesus' birth.

SUNDAY MORNINGS for Children in December:

- December 5:** Children's Christmas Pageant! 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary
- December 12:** Sunday School classes focus on the Christmas story.
- December 19:** Grades 1-5 participate in worship and then attend the Carol Sing in the Assembly Room with families. Ages 3-K attend the Birthday party for Jesus.
- December 26:** NO Sunday School. Child care will be provided for age 4 and younger.

BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS

On Sunday, December 19, children in the 3, pre-k and Kindergarten classes will participate in a Birthday Party for Jesus from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Room 1. We will make crafts, sing, listen to the Christmas story, and other fun activities. Of course, there will be treats! Children are asked to bring a new pair of socks or mittens for those less fortunate, in honor of the Baby Jesus.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT, Sunday December 5

Everyone is invited to attend the pageant, which will be held at approximately 11:15 a.m. in the sanctuary on December 5. This is a wonderful opportunity to begin the season with a reminder of what we are anticipating. Experience the familiar story from the Gospel of Luke through the songs and voices of the children.

COME TO THE ADVENT CELEBRATION!

"Home for Christmas" Sunday, December 5, 12 noon to 2:30 p.m., immediately following the pageant. All are welcome to enjoy a lunch of sloppy joes and other good things, and then dive in for the crafts! Create your very own crèche and Holy Family that will be a treasured keepsake in years to come, and a family keepsake "hand print" banner. Make an advent wreath or a fresh swag for your front door, guided by Mickey Scott. Enjoy yummy cookies that you decorate yourself. There is something for all ages at the Advent Celebration!

Cost is \$5 per person, or a maximum of \$20 per household. Children under 3 attend at no charge.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDCARE will be provided for children age 6 and younger from 5 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. for the Tableaux Service. (Childcare is not available at the 10:30 p.m. service.)

4 P.M. AFTERNOON WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS EVE

This service is held in the Sanctuary, and includes the story of Jesus' birth, singing of the traditional carols, candles, and beautiful music. This service is especially friendly for the very young but all ages are welcome.

SAVE THE DATE:

The third annual CHILI CONTEST will be held on Sunday, January 30, in the Great Hall. Start looking for your own special recipe and watch for details!



The Children's Christmas Pageant



A scene from the Great Chili Cook-off

Annual Advent Breakfast For Women

Friday, December 10
7 a.m. to 9 a.m.
Town and Country Club
2279 Marshall Avenue, Saint Paul

“God’s Favorite Preposition: With”
Joann Lee, Guest Speaker

Emmanuel in Hebrew means, “God with us.” In this season of Advent, leading to Christmas, what might it mean for God to actually be with us? Joann Lee reflects on the Advent and Christmas Season through the lens of her childhood and her subsequent call to ministry.

Sponsored by the Women’s Breakfast Book Group which welcomes all women to enjoy breakfast and conversation in this lovely setting, and hear an inspiring talk for the Advent Season. Reservations are required.

Please call the church office at 651-227-6311 by Monday, December 6. The cost of \$20 per person is due before or on the morning of the breakfast.



Tuesday Men’s Breakfast Group meets weekly at 7 a.m. at the Copper Dome at 1333 Randolph to study the lectionary lessons from the coming Sunday’s Scripture lessons. **Thursday Men’s Breakfast Group** meets weekly at 7 a.m. on Thursdays at the St. Clair Broiler on Snelling and St. Clair. All House of Hope men are welcome to attend. For further information, contact the church office, 651-227-6311. Contact for Men’s Breakfast Groups: Rev. Tom Forster-Smith, 651-223-7553. Newcomers welcome!



The Women’s Breakfast Group meets Friday mornings at 7 a.m. in the Kirk Parlour for breakfast and discussion of good books. Newcomers are always welcome. First-time visitors, please call Jan Dickinson, 651-647-1786, or Esther Kellogg, 651-699-6006, for important information. **December 3:** *Olive Kitteridge*, Elizabeth Strout **December 10:** Advent Breakfast, guest speaker at the Town and Country Club **December 17:** *Olive Kitteridge*, Elizabeth Strout **December 24, 31:** Holiday break, no meetings

First Thursday Literature Series

Joy Davis’ First Thursday Literature Seminars will convene in the Church Library on Thursday, December 2, at 10:15 a.m. to discuss the F. Scott Fitzgerald short story “Bernice Bobs Her Hair.” We can celebrate the holiday season at the same time.

Our Hope for Years to Come Capital Campaign

Q: How will the Task Force choose which projects to undertake

A: The Task Force used previously prepared reports and studies including the congregation visioning process, feasibility studies and the campaign case statement as their starting point in choosing projects for consideration. Priority was given to those projects that preserve the safety and integrity of the building such as the bell tower, tuck-pointing or the roof over the Sanctuary. At their November 11 meeting, the Task Force divided the projects into the following categories:


- Control Water Infiltration/Gutter and Downspout Project – to be completed Fall 2010
- Bell Tower Renovation and Exterior Tuck Pointing – potentially slated for Spring-Fall 2011
- Accessibility Improvements (Physical and Electronic)
- Roof Replacement on Sanctuary / Administrative Office Area – potentially slated for Fall 2011-Spring 2012
- Mechanical/Safety/Security Improvements
- Upgrades to the Facility: Education Wing, Kitchen, Basement Areas

As we go forward, various sub-groups will be formed with Task Force members being chairs of these sub-groups. These smaller groups (joined by subject matter experts) will be assigned the projects within the above categories to do preliminary feasibility and project scope work, explore restoration and renovation options, and look at cost and timing. The Task Force will then review each project under consideration with this added knowledge and, based on expected fundraising, propose a plan of work to the Session.

Q: What will be the first project and when will it begin?

A: At the time of this writing, the Construction Task Force has moved forward with the first restoration project to our building. The project is to repair and replace the gutters and downspouts to control water infiltration. In early fall it became evident that the gutter and downspout system had total failure in many places – some gutters broke completely off the building and many downspouts with split seams poured water onto the stone walls continuing the damage that water can do when not properly diverted.

After consultation with three contractors, the decision was made to replace the system with new copper gutters and downspouts rather than repair the existing ones. The new gutters have the same historic profile as the old ones but are of heavier copper and a bit larger to carry more water through the system and away from the building. The contractors provided bids for the work and after careful consideration the Task Force selected a contractor to do this work because of their expertise in the area of historic building restoration and because they were the most cost-effective choice.

Do you have a question? Just ask! E-mail the campaign office (capitalcampaign@hohchurch.org) or use the campaign cards in the pew racks. We hope to continue to answer as many questions  as we can.



Grief Groups
Grief Support Groups sponsored by the Capital City Grief Coalition meet each Thursday afternoon (through March 2011), from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at The House of Hope. These groups are designed to meet the needs of those who have suffered the loss of a loved one through death. New-comers are welcome at any time. For more information, contact Coalition Coordinator Lois Knutson at 651-227-4430.

Hard Hats
This group of hard-working volunteers helps keep The House of Hope facilities in great condition. The group works on a task list provided by their crew leader, Erv Lentz. Facilities Manager Doug Wakefield is on hand to guide their efforts. For more information, call

Erv Lentz at 651-484-7976. Otherwise, just come to the next gathering at 9 a.m. in the Assembly Room on Thursday, December 2.

Loaves and Fishes
The Saints team will cheer for its volunteers celebrating 22 years of service in the Loaves & Fishes program when the team serves guests on Monday, December 20, at Faith Lutheran Church, Charles and Mackubin Streets in St. Paul. The food prep team starts at 2 p.m.; servers and expeditors begin at 5 p.m. Questions? Please call Ray Clark, 651-484-7270.

Kirk Club
Bring your Christmas memories and join the Kirk Club for brunch at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 19. Prices start at \$13.78. Following brunch, we will adjourn to the Manse (749 Summit) for dessert and coffee with Dr. and Mrs. David Van Dyke. Please make your reservation by calling the church office, 651-227-6311, by noon on Friday, December 17.

Ordination and Installation of New Officers

Newly elected deacons, elders and trustees will be ordained or installed at the 10 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 5.

"Preschool Patter" monthly news from The House of Hope Weekday Preschool

The month of December is very special at The House of Hope Preschool. The rooms are a delight with songs, projects and decorations of Christmas trees, stockings, elves and of course Santa. While the children are excited and full of Christmas spirit and wishes, we try to put Santa stories aside the week before vacation and focus on the birth of Jesus. The children all meet together in the Sanctuary and we light the advent candle, sing songs and hear the story of the First Christmas. Hopefully in the midst of all the hustle and bustle of the season, the children take home with them the joy and wonder of the true meaning of Christmas.

Wishing you all a wonderful and blessed Christmas Season.

—Paige Hagstrom, Preschool Director, 651-223-7546 or phagstrom@hohchurch.org

Women's Advocates Shelter

Women's Advocates was founded in 1974, the first battered women's shelter in the nation. In 2009, shelter and support services were provided to 282 women and 403 children. The crisis line is answered 24 hours a day and receives over 16,000 calls a year. An average stay is two weeks, but can be as long as three months. Women's Advocates can shelter up to 50 women and children in 15 bedrooms with 6 bathrooms. The kitchen area, along with two resident rooms and the children's program area, have been renovated.

In 2009, a grant from The Rapids Fund of the St. Paul Foundation in partnership with the MacPhail Music Center provided dinner and a concert twice a month for the residents of Women's Advocates.

Also in 2009, Women's Advocates, in conjunction with the Wilder ROOF Transitional Housing Program, was able to expand housing opportunities to women and children exiting the shelter. In addition, a domestic violence specialist servicing the community was incorporated through a unique and expanded partnership with Wilder Foundation. Women's Advocates also increased permanent housing opportunities for women and children by partnering with the YWCA of St. Paul rapid re-housing program, which offered rental subsidies for families moving into market-rate housing in the community.

A group of women under the leadership of Liz Boyd volunteers every Third Thursday from 6 to 7:30 pm. They do a craft project or play Bingo with the women and children and then provide a treat for them. Projects have included: Making pencil boxes for starting school; beading; and making Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas crafts and decorations. If you would be interested in joining this group (men included), leave your name in the church office, 651-227-6311. The next gathering is Thursday, December 16.

Women's Advocates is always at full capacity. They average over 500 requests for shelter space per year that they are not able to meet. Some women and children are able to go to another shelter, but many requests are not met due to the lack of safe space and beds available in the metro area.

The women's program begins with the premise that the woman has come to the shelter to escape domestic violence but may not have the tools to change, or access to the services that are available. Advocates provide individualized help with employment, transportation, housing, social services, health care, education and legal needs, totaling nearly 40,000 service contacts.

In general, Women's Advocates fills an essential need in the St. Paul community. During its 35-year history, over 33,000 women and children have received shelter, safety and advocacy.

Our Hope for Years to Come



Have you made your campaign pledge yet? If not, please contact the campaign office at 651-223-7555 or capitalcampaign@hohchurch.org. They will arrange to send you the campaign materials, schedule a visit with one of the campaign volunteers, or answer any questions you have. As of November 19, 2010, 188 pledges and gifts totaling \$4,574,416 have been committed.

THE ANCHOR (Pub. No. 011-331) is published
monthly except in August by
The House of Hope Presbyterian Church,
797 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul MN 55105-3392.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
THE ANCHOR, 797 Summit Avenue,
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55105-3392

Periodicals Postage Paid At
Saint Paul, Minnesota



Change of Heart Offering



The Change of Heart offering provides an opportunity for us to be intentionally more generous with our monetary gifts to the work of the Church in God's world. Each week the loose coins, currency, and checks with a memo note "Change of Heart" will be set aside and given to a special ministry. During the month of December, these gifts go to Bill's Pantry, an all-volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to meeting the nutritional needs of persons living with HIV/ AIDS in the Twin Cities.

Congregation



In Memoriam

Mary Ellen Berg
November 1, 2010

Baptism

November 21, 2010

William Johnstone Ellis,
son of Catherine and
Robert Ellis.

December in the Cloister Gallery Joan G. Cox

Though Joan Cox has worked most of her artistic life in oils, her passion for painting has led her to incorporate a number of other materials in her work. More recently she has worked extensively in acrylics. She has also designed and assisted in fabricating eight stained glass windows.

Her work has been deeply informed by landscape, though she is not a plein air painter. Her renditions of a favorite countryside are more about a sense of the place than about any particular scene.

Layering and building up surfaces has become a rather consistent feature of her pieces. Her almost decade-long adventure into abstraction and recent return to partial representation has resulted in some particularly evocative images.

Among the works on view during the December exhibition at The House of Hope are pieces from a series on the migration of birds.

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