

# THE HOUSE OF HOPE

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church Issue No. 188 April 2011



## One Great Hour of Sharing

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people in need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities. Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected on Palm Sunday, April 17. Where do our gifts go? The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of undesignated One Great Hour of Sharing gifts, while the Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receive 32 percent.

## Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Earthquake. Tsunami. Nuclear meltdown. Any one of these disasters could be catastrophic.

Rescue efforts continue in Japan following the March 11 tsunami and earthquake and the growing nuclear crisis. Thousands have been confirmed dead, tens of thousands are missing, and hundreds of thousands have been evacuated.

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is responding through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and our ecumenical and mission partners. Already, \$100,000 from the One Great Hour of Sharing offering has been sent to provide immediate relief.

You can make a difference in bringing God's healing to this devastated nation, where Presbyterians have been engaged in active mission work since 1859.

Donations can be made online at:

<https://gamc.pcusa.org/give/make-a-gift/DR000117/> or by phone at 800-872-3283, or by mailing a check to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. Financial support for these disasters can be designated to DR000117. You can also give through the Church Office by sending a check made out to The House of Hope with "Japan DR000117" in the memo line.

## Youth Sunday April 10

Our House of Hope Youth will lead us in worship on April 10. As acolytes and deacons, prayer leaders, scripture readers, and preachers, our youth will fill up the whole of our service for the last Sunday of Lent. Come see how God is ever doing new things in our church community!

Support the Youth Mission Trip through the **UGLY JOBS AUCTION** on Sunday, April 10, 2011. Join us in the Assembly Room following worship on Youth Sunday, as our young people auction off their skills and strength to do the dirty, ugly jobs around your home and yard! Come prepared to bid and give to a great cause. And our youth will come ready to work!

## Music in April



**Sunday, April 3, 4 p.m.** The Elizabeth Chapel Organ Recital Series presents *An Afternoon of Welsh Organ Music*, with Sarah Carmack, Oboe; Seth Keeton, Bass; Aaron David Miller, Organ.

**Sunday, April 10,** Music at Four presents the *Ladyslipper Early Music Ensemble* performing Music of Handel and Vivaldi. Kirk Parlour.

**Good Friday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.,** The Good Friday service will feature the Fauré Requiem, Matthew Culloton, director, the Motet Choir and Bach Chamber Players. Sanctuary.

**Friday, April 29, 7:30 p.m.,** the *Macalester College Choir Spring Concert* conducted by Eugene Rogers, featuring the Duruflé Requiem with orchestra. Sanctuary.

These events are free and open to the public.

## Holy Week

For the complete schedule of Holy Week and Easter services, please see page 2.

## Tomato Dreams



He had a face I won't forget. It was brown and weathered but without a wrinkle. His name was Antonio, he is a farmer, and is one of some 6 million Colombians who have been displaced from their land. He didn't want to talk about it—the method of his displacement. Knowing how it works at the hands of the military, paramilitary and the bandits, however, you know it came with threats of

violence leaving them no choice but to flee or be killed. When people are forced off their land at gun point they don't have time to gather the titles to their property. When the land has been in your family for generations, proper titles and documentation of ownership often don't exist. And so he and his family were forced off their land and they made their way to the city in search of work. They came to the city of Barranquilla, and settled in one of the many large slums on the city's outskirts, made up of victims like themselves. Proud and resourceful, never shying away from hard work, they gathered with some of their neighbors, ten people in all, and managed to get a "business" going that would help them survive. The town's mayor owns a lot of land and here's what this group of displaced people worked out. The mayor secured a bank loan of \$20,000 for them to develop four acres of the mayor's land, turning it into a tomato farm, complete with green houses and an irrigation system. The "deal" is that they will work the mayor's land, raising lots of tomatoes which will be sold to a local grocery store chain, which also happens to be owned by the mayor. From the proceeds of the tomato sales and in exchange for their efforts, they will receive minimum wage (which results in about \$2000 per year) and the mayor's bank loan will be paid back in six years. In other words, they are guaranteed to make minimum wage for six years, after which they hope to then start their own business, having proven that they know what they're doing. That is their dream and they see working for the mayor as a shot at making that a reality. We visited them at the tomato farm and listened to their stories and heard them share their dream. In taking us out there for a visit, PC(USA) mission co-worker, Richard Williams, was not holding up this tomato farm as a model, but rather as an example of the complex and desperate situation in which many poor people in Colombia find themselves, through no fault of their own.

As I listened, I couldn't help but be suspicious of the mayor who owned the land and the grocery stores. At the end of six years, he's got a working tomato plantation thanks to the sweat of displaced people. What would his incentive be to sell the "business" to the ones who built it when there are six million more people just like them who would gladly work for minimum wage? And if the displaced farmers could somehow buy their own land and construct their own greenhouses and

*See Dreams, p. 3*

## HOLY WEEK AND SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

**Sunday, April 3, 2011, Fourth Sunday of Lent.**  
David Van Dyke, preaching.

**8:30 a.m. service, Assembly Room.**

**10 a.m. service, Sanctuary.**

Motet Choir: *The Lord is My Shepherd*, John Rutter;  
*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*, arr. Matt Culloton.  
The Scholars: Sanctus (from Mass for Three Voices),  
William Byrd. The Adult Handbell Choir:  
*Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown*, Jason W. Krug.

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**YOUTH SUNDAY**  
**April 10, 2011, Fifth Sunday of Lent.**

**8:30 a.m. service, Assembly Room.**

Music by the Girls Vocal Ensemble and St. Andrew Singers.

**10 a.m. service, Sanctuary.**

St. Cecilia Choir: *Prayer of St Francis*, Helen Litz.  
St. Nicholas Choir: *Missa Brevis in D*, Benjamin Britten.

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**PALM SUNDAY**  
**April 17, 2011, 9 and 11 a.m. services, Sanctuary.**

Procession of Palms.

David Van Dyke, preaching.

Motet Choir: *Hosanna to the Son of David*, Orlando Gibbons;  
*Surely He Hath Borne Our Grievs/ And With His Stripes*,  
G. F. Handel.

Choir School: *O Domine Jesu Christe*, Ludovico Viadana.

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**MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 21**

**12 noon Worship and Holy Communion,**  
Elizabeth Chapel. Joann H. Lee, preaching.

**7:30 p.m. Office of Tenebrae  
and Holy Communion, Sanctuary.**  
Tenebrae Responses by Healy Willan.  
Child Care.

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**GOOD FRIDAY, April 22, 2011**

**12 noon Worship, Elizabeth Chapel.**  
Thomas W. Forster-Smith, preaching.

**Good Friday Vespers, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary.**  
Requiem, Gabriel Fauré.  
The Motet Choir and the Bach Chamber Players.

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**EASTER SUNDAY, April 24, 2011**

**7:30 a.m. Sunrise Service, Elizabeth Chapel.**  
Joann H. Lee, preaching. Breakfast following.

**9 and 11 a.m. services, Sanctuary.**  
**Festive worship with organs and brass.**

David Van Dyke, preaching.  
Motet Choir: *Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem*, Charles Stanford;  
*Christ the Lord is Risen Again*, John Rutter.  
St. Nicholas Choir: *Alleluia*, W.A. Mozart.

raise their own tomatoes to sell, something tells me the mayor wouldn't exactly welcome the competition. And so those displaced farmers are forced to work seven days a week for nothing more than minimum wage and a dream. At one point in our meeting, standing in the hot afternoon sun, Antonio said to us, "I used to farm 160 acres of my own land and I made a good living. Do you know how hard it is for me to now farm four acres of someone else's land on which I have to pay rent and where I make practically nothing? Do you know how hard that is?" I look at him and I realized that I have no idea how that kind of hardship feels. Nor can I comprehend living in a country where there seems to be so little access to justice for those who have been wronged. In addition to their dream of one day owning their own land, those displaced farmers were greatly appreciative of our visit and for listening, and they hoped that we would go home and share their story with others so that more people become aware of what has and is happening there. I am at least fulfilling that part of their dream by sharing their story with you. We will go back to Colombia and take more people from the House of Hope there to visit Antonio and many more like him, as well as with Colombian Presbyterian leaders trying to share God's love in such a difficult environment. In this season of Passion and Holy Week, when we remember the One who came to suffer among us, we also remember all those in this world who suffer—we remember them even as we live in the constant hope of resurrection.

—David



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

**April 3:**  
**Tom Forster-Smith**  
*Israel: Through the Camera's Lens Today.*

**April 10:**  
**Youth Sunday**  
*Ugly Jobs Auction*

**April 17:**  
**Palm Sunday**

**April 24:**  
**Easter Sunday**  
*No program.*

### 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 Rev. Molly McMillan, 10 to 11:15 a.m.** in the Church Library

• **Thursday mornings with Rev. Tom Forster-Smith, 9:15 to 10:30 a.m.** in the Church Library

• **The Men's Breakfast,** Thursday mornings, topical discussions at the St. Clair Broiler, Snelling Avenue at St. Clair in St. Paul. Call Rev. Tom Forster-Smith for further information, 651-223-7553.

### Yoga Classes

**M**ondays at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays and Fridays at 5:30 p.m. in the Meeting House. Registration is \$95 for a ten-session pass or \$11 per session. Come enjoy the first class for free. For more information about the classes, please contact Laura Merriam at 651-699-1978 or at lmerriam@msn.com. You can register and pay in the church office during business hours. Payment is due at registration.

### Great Decisions

**O**n Tuesday, April 19, at 7 p.m. in the Church Library, the topic "U.S. National Security" will be discussed by John Radsan, professor of Law at William Mitchell College of Law. Mr. Radsan served as Assistant General Counsel, C.I.A., in Langley, Virginia; Assistant U.S. Attorney in San Diego; and consultant to corporations and law firms. He is an expert on legal issues related to national security. His combination of law enforcement experience, intelligence community experience and Middle Eastern origins make him unique within the legal academy. He holds an A.B., *summa cum laude*, 1983, from Duke University, and a J.D., *cum laude*, 1987, from Harvard Law School. He is fluent in Farsi, French and Spanish.

Great Decisions is a program of discussions focusing on U.S. Foreign Policy issues. It is sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association and administered here in Minnesota by the Minnesota International Center.

Briefing books are available in the church office. The enrollment fee is \$45, unchanged from last year. The fee supports speaker honoraria and the cost of the briefing book. Payment of a fee is NOT required, but we highly recommend it to make the program self-supporting. One fee covers a single person or a couple.

For more information, contact Bob Mairs, 651-222-3423, or the church office, 651-227-6311.

### April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

**I**n 2009, 4,742 Minnesota children were abused and neglected; 44 children suffered life-threatening injuries, and 21 children died from maltreatment.

Strong families and strong communities are important factors in the prevention of child abuse.

As a means to raise awareness and call attention to the need for prevention in our community, the Children and Family Ministries Committee is sponsoring a "Blue Ribbon" display outside on Summit Ave during the month of April.

Individuals, parents, children and youth will be creating "garlands" of blue ribbons, that will be draped on a tree or trees to call attention to the issue. A sign will be placed (weather permitting) that will explain what the significance of the blue ribbons is.

Watch for more information on how you can be a part of the prevention of child abuse in our community.



## Our Hope for Years to Come Capital Campaign

### It Takes a Village—

House of Hope's effort to raise \$7 million for the restoration of the church is, to say the least, a team effort. The campaign, led by co-chairs Ted Weyerhaeuser and Mary Westra and supported by more than eighty volunteers, is reaching out to fellow members of the congregation to encourage pledges and contributions to reach the goal. The volunteers are divided into teams—each focused on a particular group within the congregation.

The first phase of the campaign focused on securing lead gifts to both kick start the campaign and get it on solid footing. That effort, conducted primarily by Ted, Mary, and David Van Dyke, has been underway for nearly a year and a half and has resulted in many generous pledges and gifts.

Since early fall, a team of volunteers led by Bonnie and Brian Alton has focused on securing major gifts, which are critical to making our campaign goal. Kay Owens, Andrew Karre, Blanton Bessinger, Sherwood Pomeroy, Walt Bailey, and Rosemary and Don Gruber are leading efforts to make personal contact with members. Plans also include soliciting support from other groups outside our membership, such as those that meet in or use our facilities, or organizations that may have an interest in preserving and restoring The House of Hope as a historic landmark. Church officers, as well as staff and choir members have also pledged support to the campaign. And soon our youth groups will join in our fundraising efforts.

Thus far, thanks to volunteers' hard work, we have secured 316 gifts and more than \$5 million in pledges. We can be proud of our success to date. But, raising the next \$2 million will take even more effort, involve more people, and pose the greatest challenge.

Please continue to support the efforts of our campaign volunteers with your encouragement. (And, of course, help achieve the campaign goal with your financial support.) It can be daunting to ask for money. Let our volunteers know how much you appreciate their work toward making the campaign a success.

### And It Takes You—

Two million dollars is a substantial sum, but a goal we can achieve, if each of us contributes what we can to make a gift. Your pledge to the campaign will be a great help. You can contribute your gift over time. And, you can be assured that your gift will be put to good use.

Want more information? Behind-the-Scenes Tours are held on the third Sunday of each month to give you a chance to see some of the areas identified for renovation. It is your opportunity to ask questions and provide your feedback. You can also pick up campaign materials in the Church Office, visit our House of Hope website or call the Church Office and ask to have materials mailed to you.

—Chris Langer  
2014 Capital Campaign Committee



## Women's Breakfast Group



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.

**April 1:** *The Cunning Man*, Robertson Davies

**April 8, 15:** *Good Poems*, selected and introduced by Garrison Keillor

**April 22:** (Good Friday; discussion to be determined)

**April 29, May 6:** *The Lacuna*, Barbara Kingsolver

### April in the Cloister Art Gallery

Melanie Ebertz, founder of ArtAndes, first traveled to Peru in the mid-eighties with both an interest in textiles and hiking the villages of the Andes. She was fortunate to be able to combine the two. The very skilled weavers of Peru lived in the highlands. This region of Peru, Ayacucho, the weaving capital, was devastated by a Maoist-communist terrorist group—the Shining Path—that controlled the area from the mid-seventies through the early nineties, claiming approximately 70,000 lives. To connect with the weavers directly was very difficult. Most of the weavers were either living in fear or had moved to shanty towns outside of Lima as political refugees. The tragic interruption in their lives caused them to lose their skill level, turn to synthetic materials, or lose their market altogether. They went from living in an agrarian community where they could produce all their weaving materials themselves, to a harsh desert environment. Melanie spent the beginning years researching historic weaving cultures and their intricate designs, once the finest weaving in the Americas. During the slow process of creating a market for the weavers, focus was put on improving the design and weaving quality near the level it had once been. This took a combined effort and it ultimately created a select market for high-end, durable rugs that can not be found elsewhere. The goal of preserving a craft and creating jobs has given a small group of weavers great pride in their skill. Five percent of the profits of rug sales are donated to Comunidad, a non-profit foundation that provides education and nutrition in Ayacucho, Peru. Visit [artandes.com](http://artandes.com) for more information.



# Youth Education

## 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 kindergarten gather in Room 5 from 11:30 to noon
- Grades 1-5 gather in Room 1 from 11:20 a.m. to noon.

## 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.

### PALM SUNDAY, April 17.

Children in grades 1-5 will participate in the palm procession at the 9 a.m. service. Parents are reminded to have their children return the One Great Hour of Sharing FISH BOXES on Palm Sunday.

### EASTER MORNING for children and families.

Sunday School classes DO NOT meet on Easter. Childcare will be provided for children age 3 and under from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

All children age 4 and up are welcome to participate in worship with their families.

There will be special Easter activities following the Time for Children at the 9 a.m. service only. These activities are for children age 4-grade 3. Those in grade 4 and up are welcome to stay for the entire service on Easter.

**MARDI GRAS:** The Good Times Rolled! (See photos at right)

### LET'S THINK SUMMER!

Summer Program Planning is in the works! Mark your calendars for these programs!

#### June:

**Family Camp** at Clearwater Forest (led by Jan Snell), June 17-19: [www.clearwaterforest.org](http://www.clearwaterforest.org)

**Vacation Church School** for Preschool -K, June 20-23, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. *Celebrating God's World of Color and Sound* led by Kirsten Falc Uhlenberg. \$50 per child.

#### July:

**Summer Camp in the City** (at The House of Hope) July 25-28, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. Grades K-5. Registrations are being accepted now; pick up a

form at church or contact Jan Snell and a form will be sent to you.

**Overnight Camp at Clearwater Forest** (this is the week that Jan Snell will be at camp) July 31-August 6: [www.clearwaterforest.org](http://www.clearwaterforest.org)  
**August:**

**HOH Awesome Summer Day Camp** August 22-26, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., for those who are currently in K-grade 5. The theme for this year is *Psalm 150*. We will praise God with music, dance, word and deed with all creation! Activities will include:

- Narnia! The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, a hands-on experience with Aslan, Mr. Tumnus, the White Witch, and the Beavers!
- Hip Hop Dance!* (led by staff from Dancers Studio).
- Kung Fu!* (certified instructor Andy Bernstrom).
- Holidays and Holy Days, a different celebration every day.* Activities include art, cooking, games and more.
- S.M.A.R.T. is summer music and art!* Children will write their own songs with the help of our artist-in-residence, Ron Johnson; children will also work on art projects.
- A Friday field trip* to go swimming.

Registration informa-



Mardi Gras



tion is available by contacting Jan Snell, 651-223-7547 or [jans@hohchurch.org](mailto:jans@hohchurch.org).

•**Vacation Church School** 2 for age 3-K, August 22-25, 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. *OOPS! Your Manners are Showing* will be offered this week, back by popular demand!



Members of The House of Hope have an opportunity to serve others by packing food for Feed My Starving Children. FMSC is a Christian organization committed to "Feeding God's Starving Children Hungry in Body and Spirit." FMSC's goal is to pack 127 million meals during 2011. Children (of all ages) and adults hand pack meals formulated specially for starving children. The meals are shipped to nearly 70 countries around the world. The House of Hope is also a financial supporter of FMSC, through our Community Service Committee budget. Our financial support is efficiently used. A single meal costs FMSC only 24 cents to produce, and 94 percent of total donations go directly toward the food program.

The next session reserved for House of Hope members at the FMSC Eagan location is **Friday, April 29**, from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

If you would like to reserve spots on this packing session, please contact Michael Nord at [mnord@amerion.com](mailto:mnord@amerion.com) or 612-722-0770.



## Events

### Loaves and Fishes

The SAINTS team will rally to the cause of the Loaves and Fishes Program again this month when the team serves guests on Monday, April 18, 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 Kay or Paul Solon at 651-690-3024.

### Kirk Club

The Kirk Club will have brunch on Sunday, April 17, at 12:30 p.m. at the Lexington Restaurant in St. Paul (on Grand at Lexington). "My most memorable Church experience was...." Tell us about it when we gather for brunch. The cost, we hope, will start at \$13.78. Make your reservation with the church office, 651-227-6311, by noon on Friday, April 15.

### Young Adults

**Thursdays on Tap:** April 28. Young adults gather on the last Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at a local restaurant. Watch for the April 28 location.

**Young Adults Lenten Book Study:** During the season of Lent, all young adults are invited to join a book study and discussion on Kathleen Norris' book, *Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith*. The study continues on Mondays in the Church Library, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. through April 18, 2011.

Contact Joann Lee: joannl@hohchurch.org or 651-223-7549 to sign up or with any questions.

### Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is meeting to prepare a slate of officers: elders, deacons, trustees, and the 2012 Nominating Committee. These officers and committee members will begin to serve in January, 2012. The slate will come before the congregation in November.

Nominations can come from any member, and we are encouraging self-nominations. House of Hope members are blessed with diverse talents. Please consider sharing your talents by serving on one of the boards or on the 2012 Nominating Committee. Nomination forms are available in the church office or at our website: [www.hohchurch.org](http://www.hohchurch.org)

Please leave completed forms in the offering plate, the Nominating Committee mailbox in the office, or mail them in care of the Nominating Committee, The House of Hope Church, 797 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55105. You may also fax them to 651-227-9969.

Members of the Nominating Committee are: Dick Langer, Chair; Brian Alton, Mary Ellen Bland, Kathe Bolinder, Ann Geery, Linda Lane, Mercedes Sheldon, Don Vandenberg, Kevin Walli. Staff members (*ex officio*) are David Van Dyke and Michelle Freyholtz.

### Gifts That Keep on Giving

The Endowment Fund of The House of Hope was established many years ago by individuals who were committed to the church and wished to give a part of their resources to The House of Hope to be used for the long-term mission and goals of The House of Hope. Over the years, the fund has provided millions of dollars to the church which have been used for specific programs of the church and also for the general operating expenses and outreach programs of the church.

In 2010 over \$1,121,000.00 was distributed from the Endowment Fund to the church; in 2011 the amount to be distributed will be nearly \$1,024,000.00. Without these funds, many of the music programs, outside speakers, and events which make this church so special would not exist. In addition, the education programs and outreach programs of the church would be greatly diminished.

The generosity of the individuals who gave this blessing to The House of Hope is truly amazing, and continues today. Each year gifts of all sizes are made to the Endowment Fund. Some come as a part of a person's estate plan after a death; others are gifts received by the church during a person's life in recognition of their dedication to and appreciation for The House of Hope.

If you would like more information about the ways in which you can make a gift to the Endowment Fund, please contact Diane Smith, House of Hope Director of Administration, at 651-223-7554. She can give you guidance and explain the various ways in which you can join others in this giving opportunity.

— Sarah Jensen  
Endowment Gift Committee

### 2011 Men's Retreat

Thirty-two men gathered at the Meeting House on February 25 and 26 to experience an inspirational journey on "Managing Change and Transition in Men's Lives" conducted by Lt. Colonel John Morris, Chaplain of the Minnesota National Guard. Colonel Morris' program centered on the Book of Daniel, drawing parallels between Daniel's many transitions in Babylon and the experiences of modern men. Small discussion groups gave the attendees a chance to share changes and transitions current and past, and how these experiences affected their lives. We all thank John King for arranging this wonderful retreat.

### Men's Breakfast Groups



**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!



### In Memory of Craig

On March 2, 2011 the Reverend David Lillejord of Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in Eagan, Minnesota, was flawlessly uplifting. He conveyed a beautiful message of how fortunate we all were to have known Craig.

After 3 weeks of not showing up for his regular AA meeting, we found out that our friend had recently passed away. Craig was 47, brilliant (he held a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins), good-looking and kind. His boss said "He was brighter than all of the others in the class, so they asked him to stay on. He said he was graced with a unique balance of scientific problem-solving, mechanical dexterity, and infinite helpfulness. He was a creative thinker who inspired major advances in the scientific understanding of important animal diseases. He was a technical wizard who could fix any device, be it mechanical, electronic or otherwise."

All I know is that I was "wowed" by the words that came out of his mouth. Most of us were lost in the dust when he interjected with some of his scientific language. Who were we sitting with, Einstein? However, he was our AA brother who had traveled a rough road and that is what made him special and just like us.

He joined the AA group via the repeat DWI offender's court ordered "suggestion." The guy sitting next to him would jokingly say, "I'm not that smart but I figured out when I don't drink, I don't get DWI's." He was released early after serving 18 months in a boot camp type program. When he went to prison, his employer held his job for him.

Craig was fascinating for me to watch because he had a beginner's mind. He was learning a new way to be in the world. I was hopeful for Craig, and I also wondered if he would make it. He said he saw the hand of God in things that he had never noticed before. He recognized that for all the alcohol-related consequences he had survived, there has to be a God.

When I think of addictions, I think of an easy, quick way-a misguided reaction. It's our frightened ego's attempt to look for comfort—more, better, faster—and control. It's a self-manipulated way to feel. In contrast, the Spirit offers grace, peace, presence, stillness and needs nothing or no thing.

In every addiction there comes a time of no hope. If there was any hope the ego would grab on to this and keep attempting to get fulfilled from scraps of pleasure from the outside. When we are spiritually stopped in our tracks, this is the entry point to freedom. God stops your life in order to change it.

I believe God stopped our friend's life in order to change it. He was our group's most recent 12-week trusted servant and now he will lead us in a different way. "In my father's house there are many mansions and I will go and prepare the way." (John 14.2) Craig, thank you for the great memories and for continuing to lead the way...Peace!

—Jean McCahey  
The House of Hope Faith Partners Ministry Team

**Faith Partners mission statement:** *The House of Hope Faith Partners Ministry will serve the needs of our congregation, and the broader community, by addressing addiction in our midst. We will provide educational programs, resource information, outreach and support to people affected by addiction. As team members, we will be informed and active, always advocating for compassion, understanding and a safe, open setting in which to serve.*

### Lenten Study Series Continues Through April 20

Join Revs. Tom and Lucy Forster-Smith for a Lenten Study of spiritual practices that help believers to experience God in the world. The study will focus on Barbara Brown Taylor's book *An Altar In the World: A Geography of Faith*, in combination with some episodes of the "Living the Questions 2" DVD discussion series. The group meets in the Kirk Parlour on Wednesday evenings, through April 20, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Books may be purchased individually on-line or in area bookstores. For further information about this Lenten study, contact Rev. Tom Forster-Smith at tomf@hohchurch.org or 651-223-7553.

### "Preschool Patter" monthly news from

The House of Hope Weekday Preschool



### Shhh...It's a Silent Auction

Plan to join family and friends of the Preschool at our 2nd Annual Silent Auction on Friday, April 8, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Meeting House (761 Summit). Come for a fun evening and bid on a variety of unique items for children and adults of all ages. Don't miss the original art work, events, photograph sessions and a variety of gifts from local businesses. All proceeds will benefit the preschool scholarship fund and programming needs. For more information or to make a reservation please contact Paige Hagstrom at 651-223-7546 or phagstrom@hohchurch.org.

—Paige Hagstrom  
Preschool Director



### 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 April, these gifts go to the One Great Hour of Sharing of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

### First Thursday Literature Series

Everyone in Joy Davis' First Thursday Seminars wants to continue discussing Edith Wharton's novel *Summer*. We will meet on Thursday, April 7, at 10:30 a.m. in the Church Library. Please come with suggestions for works to be discussed in the future. Everyone is welcome. Registration is not required.

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



## Congregation

### Baptism

March 20, 2010

**Sydney Didra Hamilton,**  
daughter of  
Jacqueline and Micheal  
Hamilton

**Mesfin Andrew Jensen,**  
son of Elizabeth Ann Jensen

### Reconciling Communities: Presbyterians and Catholics in Northern Ireland

Theology is not the central issue in the long-standing conflict between the Presbyterian and Catholic communities in Northern Ireland. Religion there is shorthand for a more complex identity. For twenty-six years, the Presbyterian Committee on Northern Ireland, in conjunction with the American Conference of Catholic Bishops has been promoting peace between these two communities in this troubled part of the world. Americans involved in this program are at first perplexed when examining this conflict. But on closer examination the issues bear a striking resemblance to issues in St. Paul.

This two-night series will look at Northern Ireland and lessons we can learn for resolving conflicts among ourselves. The first session, Wednesday, April 27, at 7 p.m., will examine the history that led to civil conflict, the Dutch peace model being used, and why American Presbyterians became involved. The second session, on Wednesday May 4, at 7 p.m., will take three Irish problems (inter-church conflict, "self-righteous collective superiority" and education) and pair them with similar American issues—evangelical and mainstream churches, liberal and conservative politics, and Minnesota education—to see if there are lessons to be learned.

The session will be led by House of Hope member Chris McHugh who studied at Ireland's Trinity College, Dublin, during the time of the uprising and recently returned with the Presbyterian Committee on Northern Ireland's Irish Summer Institute. For further information contact Rev. Tom Forster-Smith at [tomf@hohchurch.org](mailto:tomf@hohchurch.org) or 651-223-7553.

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