

ANNOUNCEMENT

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church Issue No. 196 January, 2012

Sunday Series

Eugene Robinson

January 15

Today's News: Who's Up, Who's Down, and What's Really Going On?

Get clued in on election politics!

Eugene Robinson uses his twice-weekly column in *The Washington Post* to pick American society apart and then put it back together again in unexpected and revelatory new ways. To do this job of demolition and reassembly, Robinson relies on a large and varied tool kit: energy, curiosity, elegant writing and the wide-ranging experience of a life that took him from childhood in the segregated South—on what they called the “colored” side of the tracks—to the heights of American Journalism. His remarkable story-telling ability has won him wide acclaim, most notably as the winner of the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for his commentary on the 2008 presidential race that resulted in the election of America's first African-American president.

In a 25-year career at *The Washington Post*, Robinson has been city hall reporter, city editor, foreign correspondent in Buenos Aires and London, foreign editor and assistant managing editor in charge of the paper's award winning Style section. He has written books about race in Brazil and music in Cuba, covered a heavyweight championship fight, witnessed riots in Philadelphia and a murder trial in the deepest Amazon, sat with Presidents and Dictators and the Queen of England, thrusted and parried with politicians from sea to shining sea, handicapped three editions of American Idol, acquired fluent Spanish and passable Portuguese and even reached an uneasy truce with the noxious hip-hop lyrics that fester in his teenage son's iPod. He sees how the great trends that are reshaping our society are also reshaping our neighborhoods, our families, ourselves. Using the old-fashioned instincts and habits of a reporter, Robinson goes out and finds these stories. He sees them as the foundation that supports his provocative opinions—and as building blocks that can be used to assemble the larger narrative of today's America.

In January 1999, Robinson became an assistant managing editor of *The Post* in charge of the Style section—where he learned that hip-hop and American Idol are as relevant to people's lives, in their way, as the “serious” news that gets reported on the front page. His appointment as associate editor and columnist took place January 1, 2005. Robinson is a member of the National Association of Black Journalists and has received numerous journalism awards.

Robinson is a regular contributor to MSNBC. He lives in Arlington, Virginia, with his wife, Avis, and their two sons.



Sunday Series events are at 2 p.m. in the Sanctuary
and are free and open to the public.

Holy Communion January 1

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, January 1, at the 10 a.m. service—the only worship service that day. In the Presbyterian Church (USA), all baptized persons, including children, are welcome to participate in the sacrament. The elements served are bread and grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available from the servers upon request.

Hopes for the Year to Come



I'm not big on New Year's resolutions, *per se*, but it seems appropriate as we move into 2012, to pause and reflect on the year ahead and all that is anticipated. As your pastor, I want to share with you some of my hopes for 2012. Some relate directly to the church, while others relate to the world in which we live. These are in no particular order.

I hope that in 2012 we will continue our remarkable tradition of opening our church's doors and inviting people inside. Through the weekly AA meetings, the Preschool program, the Sunday Series, special concerts, Project Home and the many other events we host, this church and its facilities are used by more people on a weekly basis who are not members of the church than it is by current church members. This is not alarming, but a cause for celebration! It is an amazing example of outreach and hospitality and I hope this trend continues.

I hope that the Community Garden in its second season will yield even more than the inaugural 1000+ pounds of fresh produce for the clients dependent on the food pantry at Neighborhood House to make it each month. And I hope that the spirit of goodwill and neighborliness that the garden has generated (as those who have volunteered will attest based on conversations with passersby) will increase, causing many to see The House of Hope in a new and different light. I also hope there will be fewer hungry people in the world in 2012.

I hope that our Housing Task Force, authorized by the Session and working in partnership with the Plymouth Church Neighborhood Foundation, will continue making great progress in developing housing for homeless youth in St. Paul. This promises to be a very exciting development for The House of Hope to undertake and the need is real. I hope the need will be less urgent in the future. I hope that the next group of House of Hope members to visit our mission partners in Colombia this June have as meaningful a time as did those of us in the first group, and that our relationship with the Iglesia Presbiteriana en Colombia continues to develop in ways that are mutually beneficial.

I hope that those factions in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) currently angry over recent decisions concerning the ordination of gays and lesbians, will take a deep breath and realize that the sky has not fallen and the Bible has not been rejected. God is not finished with us and the Spirit is alive and well in the Presbyterian Church doing new and exciting things. I also hope that gay children everywhere will experience less bullying and discrimination at school because of who they are as people.

I hope that the political rancor of a presidential election year won't make us all sick to our stomachs. I am perhaps least hopeful about this one compared with the other hopes.

See column 2--->

WORSHIP

Sundays

8:30 a.m. Assembly Room. Holy Communion.
10 a.m. Sanctuary.

Sunday, January 1, 2012

First Sunday after Christmas

One worship service: 10 a.m.

Holy Communion

Thomas W. Forster Smith, preaching.

January 8, 2012

Baptism of the Lord

David A. Van Dyke, preaching.

10 a.m.: *There Shall a Star from Jacob*, Mendelssohn

The Shepherd's Farewell, Berlioz

Choir School: *O Holy Child we welcome you*,
Bohemian Carol

January 15, 2012

Second Sunday after Epiphany

David A. Van Dyke, preaching.

10 a.m.: Motet Choir: *City Called Heaven*, arr. Poelnitz

Steal Away, arr. Tippett

St. Nicholas and St. Cecilia Choirs:

Gloria sei dir gesungen, J. S. Bach

January 22, 2012

Third Sunday after Epiphany

David A. Van Dyke, preaching.

10 a.m.: Motet Choir: *Almighty and Everlasting God*, Gibbons

Blessed be the Lord My Rock, Betinis

St. Nicholas Choir: *Give to Jehovah*, Heinrich Schütz

Adult Handbell Choir: *A Joyous Ring*, Douglas E. Wagner

January 29, 2012

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Joann H. Lee, preaching.

10 a.m.: Motet Choir: *To Thee I Have Lifted Up My Soul*, Near

Exultate Justi, Viadana

St. Nicholas and St. Andrew Choirs: *Teach me, O Lord*,

Peter Moger

continued from column 1...

I hope that the church will continue its steady march toward its \$7 million campaign goal so that in addition to a new roof and the other outside structural renovations currently being addressed, the crucial interior issues of accessibility and a new kitchen can be tackled, making the church even more hospitable than it is currently. I hope that both globally and here at home, the world will experience less uncertainty in 2012 than it seems to have endured in 2011.

These are a few of the things I'm hoping for in 2012. But I'm not content simply to hope for these things. I'm also going to pray that they come to pass and then work to make it so.

—David



Capital Campaign at a Glance

Funds raised. As of mid-December, we have secured 379 pledges totaling \$5,770,000 toward our \$7 million goal.

This is great progress. The campaign was kicked off in September, 2010, with \$2 million in pledges. Since then we've achieved 80% of our goal. To all who have made a pledge or contribution to the campaign—Thank You!

We have more than \$1.3 million yet to raise. If you haven't yet done so, please make your pledge or contribution.

Thanks to volunteers. More than seventy volunteers work on the campaign and repair/restoration efforts. They serve as fundraisers, serve on construction and planning committees, plan and work at special events, promote and publicize the campaign, etc. Thank you all who contribute your time and talents to the Campaign.

Watch for the Annual Report (available at the annual meeting on February 12) for a full list of contributors and the campaign and construction reports.

Campaign and Construction Update, February 19, Adult Enrichment. This is a great opportunity to hear about our progress including surprises and discoveries, plans in process—especially accessibility plans and challenges, and a preview of what we can do when we achieve our financial goal.

Thank you for your pledge. And, if you haven't yet done so, please join the campaign. To make a pledge or contribution to the campaign, you can pick up materials in the Church Office, visit the House of Hope website (hohchurch.org) or call the Church Office, 651-227-6311, to have campaign materials mailed to you.



Elizabeth Chapel Organ Recital Series

On January 8, at 4 p.m., the Elizabeth Chapel Organ Recital Series continues with a concert entitled "The 1720's." This ten-year period was a remarkable era for music. It produced Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, Bach's *Magnificat* and *Orchestral Suites*, the French Noëls, and Scarlatti's vocal music. This concert is a cross section of pieces written in different parts of Europe during this time. The concert includes Albinoni's famous Adagio in G minor, arias from Bach's *Magnificat*, French Noëls and well known trumpet works such as Jean-Joseph Mouret's *Rondeau*. The concert features soprano Robin Helgen, flutist Jane Straumann, trumpeter Benjamin Alle, and Aaron Miller on the Jaeckel organ.

Sunday-Weekday Connections January 31, 2012



This intergenerational House of Hope women's program continues with its seventh season. House of Hope women of all ages and backgrounds enjoy stimulating discussion, friendship and fellowship.

Join us on Tuesday, January 31, 2012:

- The evening begins with a social time at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the speaker's presentation. The evening ends about 8:30 p.m.
- Our meals are catered by Jan Favorite and are always great!
- Listen to another House of Hope woman reflect on her Monday-Saturday experience.
- Talk together about how our faith works throughout daily life.
- Our meetings are at the Meeting House (former manse), 761 Summit Avenue.
- Cost is \$25 per person for a meal and related expenses.

FUTURE PROGRAMS:

February 28, 2012. Speaker: Jeanne Bailey

March 27, 2012. Speaker: Carie Essig

Watch the bulletin and the weekly e-mail from The House of Hope for more information.

Myths About Planned Giving

Myth: *I give a lot now so I don't need to make a planned gift.*

Giving gifts to The House of Hope during your lifetime is a wonderful way to be philanthropic. Financial support is always needed and you enjoy the pleasure of seeing how your gift makes a difference. "Pay as you go" is a great philosophy. But if you have the resources, adding a planned gift to the other ways you support The House of Hope—along with volunteering, attending events and giving to financial stewardship—provides a truly forward-thinking dimension to your giving. Join the Anchor Society. For more information contact dianes@hohchurch.org or call her at 651-223-7554.

Snowbirds

If you are leaving Minnesota for a warmer setting, please contact Michelle Freyholtz, 651-223-7556, with your winter address and the dates of your stay. We can then keep you informed of events here at The House of Hope.

Stewardship 2012

"Now concerning the collection for the saints..."

—1 Corinthians 16:1a

Now concerning... The church at Corinth had questioned Paul regarding a number of issues related to relationships, food, freedom and responsibility, and the collection for the saints.

...the collection... In conversation with Jerusalem church leaders, Paul had readily agreed to remember the poor of the congregation in Jerusalem. Taking the message of a risen Christ to the Gentiles, he would also receive a collection for the poor, the saints in Jerusalem.

...for the saints... While "saints" is a term that can simply mean "members of the church," in Greek, the original language of the New Testament, it was understood to mean "those separated from the world," a people set apart. Paul's collection had a clear purpose.

O God, our guide in generous and faithful lives, teach us again what it means to be set apart in the world for your way of loving and giving. Amen.



Stewardship 2012
Living Generously
—1 Corinthians 16:1-4 (NRSV)



Kirk Club

The Kirk Club will meet at 12 noon on Sunday, January 22, at the Lexington, we have a special guest in the person of Donald Schoessler, retired Eastman Kodak executive, who will give a visual presentation of a top secret Global Mapping Program that he managed during the height of the Cold War. Please make reservations with the church office, 651-227-6311, by Friday, January 20.

2011-2012 Havel Symposium Speaker to Address Adult Enrichment on January 15.

Dr. Harry Boyte, Co-Director of the Center for Democracy and Citizenship at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, will address the Adult Enrichment forum on Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday, Sunday, January 15, at 11:15 in the Assembly Room. He will address the topic of communities of faith engaging in public work for the common good of the wider community. Dr. Boyte, who spoke to the House of Hope Wednesday Evening Adult Education program on Sept. 28th, was inspired by the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and he will offer a helpful way for members and friends of the House of Hope congregation to consider the issues of building a civil society that both Dr. King and the late Czech President Vaclav Havel (for whom the Symposium is named) have left as a lasting legacy. For further information, please contact Rev. Tom Forster-Smith at tomf@hohchurch.org or tel. 651 223-7553.



Loaves and Fishes

The Apostles team will rally to the cause of the Loaves & Fishes Program again this month when the team serves guests on Monday, January 16, 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

Caring Through Giving

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY for the 2012 Stewardship Drive will be January 22. Stewardship is everyone's opportunity to contribute toward the operating budget that covers all church activities in a calendar year. The exciting capital campaign is raising funds for the much-needed repair and updating of the church facilities; it does not cover operating costs. Please make your annual stewardship pledge in January to support the worship, education and mission programs of the church, and all of the wonderful programs that are regularly highlighted in the newsletter and church bulletins. We can be proud of the good work this church accomplishes within these walls and out in the world, all supported by our Stewardship pledges.



SUNDAY MORNING FOR CHILDREN

Nursery/Toddler Care

- Nursery/toddler care is provided each Sunday morning from 8:15 a.m. to 12:15.
- 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 and 3- and 4-year-olds go to Room 2 during 8:30 worship.
- Children age 5 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 11:30 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.

PLANNING FOR SUMMER? Mark your calendars!

Things are always busy during the summer at The House of Hope, with lots of children having a great time and growing their faith!

Here are the dates; details to follow!

For Preschoolers: (age 3-K)

- Singin' with the Animals* June 25-28, 9 a.m. to noon
- Mini-Day Camp*: August 20-23, 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

For Elementary Age: (Completed K-5)

- Overnight Camp at Clearwater Forest*: www.clearwaterforest.org The House of Hope will be going to camp the week of July 15-21, but there are other weeks to choose from!
- Summer Camp in the City*: July 23-26, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- HOH Awesome Summer Day Camp**: August 20-24, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- For Families: **Family Camp Weekend at Clearwater**, June 15-18

Fourth Annual Chili Contest and Talent Showcase!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 29.

Find your favorite chili recipe and plan to participate in the annual House of Hope Chili Cook-Off and Talent Show!

Beginning at noon in the Great Hall, we will have lunch together, which will be the chili that has been donated for the cook-off, plus bread and beverages. There will be hot dogs for the children.

There will be several categories of "chili winners" including hottest, vegetarian, most unusual, etc. The CHILI JUDGES will deliberate and determine the awards. There will even be prizes!

Following lunch, our entertainment will be children and adults from The House of Hope who will sing, dance, and play instruments. And there will be some surprises!

Immediately following the talent portion of the afternoon, the Chili Winners will be announced and prizes awarded.

EVERYONE is invited to participate by doing one or both of the following:

- Bring a pot of chili (enough to serve at least 10) for the contest and to provide the main course for lunch
- Plan to attend the event! Cost is \$3 per person. Sign up at the table outside of the Kirk Parlour on Sunday mornings or contact the church office, 651-227-6311.

If you would like to participate in the TALENT SHOW, contact Jan Snell at jans@hohchurch.org or 651-223-7547.

Preschool Patter

News from The House of Hope Weekday Preschool

In the bleak midwinter, The House of Hope Preschool keeps things bright and warm with smiles, laughter and good spirits! The children are having fun with polar bears, penguins and snowmen. They are matching mittens and going "ice fishing." Registration for next year is taking place starting January 6. House of Hope members may register at any time. Please call if you are interested, as some classes fill quickly: Paige Hagstrom, Preschool Director, 651-223-7546 or phagstrom@hohchurch.org.

Thank You From Mission Sewing

Mission Sewing would like to thank everyone who has donated time or materials over the past year. We would especially like to thank the women who participated in our "Tie for the Y" day in November. That morning you helped us tie 2 baby quilts, 2 adult quilts and 2 fleece blankets. At our meeting in December we packed up the fleeces and quilts, as well as some hats and mittens, for the YWCA's "Women in Transition" program. We also have some mittens and hats that will go to the Community of Peace Academy this winter.

Our next regular meeting will be Thursday, February 2, 2012. We have several quilts started already. Anyone interested in joining us or sewing or knitting at home, please call Janet Brownell at 651-765-4990.



Adult Education

Enrichment Programs

Sundays, 11:15 a.m. to 12 noon in the Assembly Room (unless otherwise noted)

January 1: No program.

January 8: Preview of 2012 Trip to Israel and Palestine, with Rev. Tom Forster-Smith

January 15: 2011-2012 Havel Symposium Speaker Harry Boyte: *Faith Communities and the Concept of Public Work*

January 22: *Poets' Views of Death Across the Centuries*, with Joy Davis

January 29: *Faith Partners: Food Addictions*, with Bert Nordstrand

Joy Davis' Adult Enrichment Program

January 22, 2012

As we gradually approach Lent, it is appropriate to consider poets' views of death, ranging from the 16th to the 21st Century. Joy will offer a "Poetic Death Tour" of the past 500 years—from Shakespeare, Donne, Gray, Wordsworth, Dickinson and e.e. cummings to Billy Collins, who is the subject of her recently published book. Collins' startling views of death will be the final emphasis of her presentation.

Lectionary Studies

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 Morning Bible Study with Rev. Tom Forster-Smith** meets in the Church Library at 10 a.m.

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

Young Adults Thursdays on T.A.P.

Join us for Thursdays on T.A.P. (Theology and Practice) once a month at 5:30 p.m. for drinks, fellowship and good conversation. Next gathering will be on January 26 at the Muddy Pig on Dale Street in St. Paul.

Joy Davis' First Thursday Literature Seminar

The seminar will meet on January 5 at 10:30 a.m. in the Library to discuss Edith Wharton's "The Angel at the Grave." Here she dredges up the New England literary past when a family's descendants try to restore the reputation of an ancestor who has fallen into disrepute.



Men's Ministries

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. Contact for Men's Breakfast Groups: Rev. Tom Forster-Smith, 651-223-7553. Newcomers welcome!

Wednesday Night Adult Education Series

The Middle East Today—Perspectives and Prospects
7 p.m. in the Assembly Room

Wednesday, January 18. Professor Andy Overman: *Springtime from Cairo to Amman—Faultlines in the "New" Middle East Today*

Wednesday, January 25. Macalester students, one Israeli and one Palestinian: Come and listen and ask questions of these two leaders of a semester-long series on Israel and Palestine as they present a young person's perspective on the conflict and hopes for peace.

Wednesday February 2. Professor Antoine Mefleh and Professor Andy Overman: *Syria, Lebanon, Israel and Iran: Concluding remarks on the changes in the region*

Mark Your Calendars: Didier Seminar March 9-11, 2012 John Philip Newell

A New Harmony: The Spirit, the Earth and the Human Soul

Friday, March 9, 2012

7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

An introduction to Celtic spirituality:
Listening for the Heartbeat of God

Saturday, March 10, 2012

9 a.m. to Noon

A New Harmony: The Spirit, the Earth and the Human Soul

Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Interfaith Panel: *A New Harmony in Practice*

Sunday, March 11, 2012

10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

A Celtic Service

11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., Assembly Room
Adult Enrichment
Salva Terra: A Vision Towards the Earth's Healing



Women's Breakfast Group

The Women's Breakfast Book Group meets Friday mornings from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. in the Kirk Parlour to enjoy breakfast, conversation and camaraderie, and engage in lively discussions of scheduled books. Guests and newcomers are always welcome. If you plan to attend for the first time, please call Jan Dickinson at 651-647-1786 or Esther Kellogg at 651-699-6006 for important information.

January 6, 13: *Roman Fever and Other Stories*, Edith Wharton
January 20, 27: *Pearl Buck in China, Journey to The Good Earth*, Hilary Spurling

2012 Snow Camp! Middle and High Schoolers

All **Middle and High Schoolers** are invited to join us for Snow Camp, January 27 to 29 at Clearwater Forest. Last year, we played broomball, went sledding, built snow caves, and had lots of fun warming up inside. Get your registrations in by January 10, and contact Jeff Foels at jfoels@hohchurch.org with any questions.



Hallie Q. Brown Community Center

Sees Rise in Demand for Food Shelf Items

There's a very, very steep rise in the need for emergency food programs. All food shelves are reporting higher numbers, higher usage of food stamps and enrollment in the free and reduced school meal programs. It really is an issue that's hitting hard in Minnesota. —Elizabeth Saevig of Emergency Foodshelf Network

At HQB, there has been a dramatic increase in numbers. In 2010, between 400-500 clients were served per month. Today, that number has nearly doubled to 700-800. Although the food bank has received a number of generous donations from local businesses in recent weeks, it is struggling to keep food on its shelves. Please bring your non-perishable food items with you to church, and place them on the table in the hallway on the Portland Avenue side of the church, from where they are taken to the Hallie Q. Brown food bank weekly.



For further information contact Rev. Tom Forster-Smith or tomf@hohchurch.org or 651-223-7553.

2012 Men's Retreat

Save the dates for the 2012 Annual Men's Retreat:

Friday, February 24, 7 to 9:30 p.m.,
and Saturday, February 25, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Topic: *Enduring Friendships Among Men*, considered through DVD, discussion and small group conversations.

Location: The Meeting House, 761 Summit Ave., adjacent to the House of Hope church building

Cost: \$35 (includes snacks, breakfast and lunch)
Registration: By check made out to The House of Hope, in the church office by February 19.

For More Information contact: Rev. Tom Forster-Smith at tomf@hohchurch.org or 651-223-7553.

Retreat Leadership:

The Rev. Doug Federhart



An ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, Doug is also a spiritual director associated with Sacred Ground Center for Spirituality in St. Paul. He sees people individually, leads retreats, and teaches. As Director of Congregational Life at White Bear Unitarian Universalist Church in Mahtomedi, Minnesota, he coordinates the membership process and the small group ministries. Over the years, Doug has worked with many different men as they have explored various issues and challenges, and has himself been part of a monthly men's spirituality group for many years.

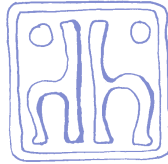
The Rev. Tom Forster-Smith

Tom has been an ordained Presbyterian Church (USA) minister for over 30 years, and has served these past 10 years as Associate Pastor at The House of Hope. He has convened men's support groups beginning as a campus minister at the University of Washington in Seattle, attended a two-year seminar on "Men's Quest for Spiritual Wholeness" at the Presbyterian Church's Ghost Ranch camp and conference center in New Mexico, and led a support group for new fathers when his own son, Christopher, was an infant. Tom enjoys working with the two weekly Men's Breakfast groups at The House of Hope, and has been a resource person to the annual House of Hope Men's Retreat for more than 10 years.



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Cloister Gallery
Beginning January 15
Reese Gaertner, woodworker

"Through woodworking, I explore the beauty of nature, the meaning of objects, and the potential of brokenness. Wood itself has a visible history—the grain of wood reflects years of growth as a tree. Then, as a wooden object ages, it takes on a record of nicks and stains and develops a patina. I especially enjoy working with wooden artifacts such as used industrial bobbins, old barrels, and salvaged architectural elements. Using natural and reclaimed materials along with traditional woodworking techniques, I create pieces that honor the past, evoke emotion, and will last for generations." Reese Gaertner is a woodworker, artist, and writer who currently lives and works in Northfield, Minnesota. She has completed extensive training through the National Institute of Wood Finishing and the Smithsonian Center for Materials, Research, and Education. She has also received the M.Div. and S.T.M. degrees from Yale University, and has previously led congregations in the United Church of Christ, served as a college chaplain, and taught college and graduate courses in Christian theology and science and religion.



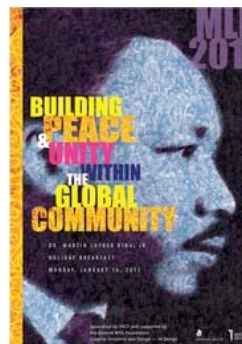
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Congregation

In Memoriam

Fred W. Fisher
December 6, 2011

Annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Breakfast



The St. Paul Area Council of Churches is holding this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Community Breakfast on Monday, January 16, from 7 to 9 a.m. at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, at 451 Central Avenue, St. Paul. The event includes breakfast and a satellite broadcast of the General Mills MLK Breakfast program from the Minneapolis Conventions Center. This year's keynote speaker is Naomi Tutu, human rights advocate and daughter of South African Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu. Additional musical guests on the program include The Steeles and musicians from St. Paul's own Walker West Music Academy. This year a suggested donation of \$5 is being requested of adults. Children under the age of 12 are free. To make your reservation for the breakfast please go to the St. Paul Area Council of Churches website at www.spacc.org/mlk or call 651-789-3852.