

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church Issue No. 251 March 2017



Sunday Series
March 12 at 2 p.m.

**Community Hymn Sing
and Movie Screening:**

**Robert Shaw:
*Man of Many Voices***

**A documentary about the life and legend
of the world-renowned conductor.**

Without any formal music background, Shaw's career in both popular and classical music skyrocketed, first on radio with Fred Waring, and later at the side of celebrity maestros Arturo Toscanini and George Szell. He then went to Atlanta, Georgia, where he grew the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Chorus into a world-class ensemble, winning numerous prestigious awards.

The film utilizes a vast archive of photo, sound and motion picture images plus rich musical recordings from a tremendously successful 60-year career. The film also looks deep into the more difficult aspects of Shaw's story and the price he paid in his personal life.

Free and open to the public



March 1

Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

Lent at The House of Hope begins with 7 p.m. worship on Ash Wednesday, March 1, including Holy Communion, the imposition of ashes, and music by The House of Hope Motet Choir and Choir School.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. The season of Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord at Easter.

All who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Elements served are bread and grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available from the servers.

Elizabeth Chapel Recital Series | March 26

The Elizabeth Chapel Organ Recital Series continues with an organ recital by our Music Associate, Sarah Garner on Sunday, March 26 at 4 p.m.

The concert is inspired by the 500th anniversary of the death of Franco-Flemish Renaissance composer Heinrich Isaac. Isaac was one of the most prolific and influential composers of his time, his music guiding the acceptance of polyphony in Germany. Isaac's enduring hymn *O Welt, ich muss dich lassen* (*O world, I now must leave thee*) sparked beautiful settings of its melody for centuries throughout Germany. Sarah Garner will perform settings by Brahms, Bach, and Walther as well.

Provoked by the solemnity of the text of the hymn, the program explores end-of-life music such as Sweelinck's *Mein junges Leben hat ein End* (*My young life is nearing an end*), music written toward the end of J. S. Bach's life, including his indomitable *Prelude and Fugue in B Minor BWV 544*, and Brahms' *A-flat Minor Fugue*, which was dedicated to Clara Schumann during the final stages of her husband's life.

The concert is free and open to the public. A reception will follow in the Kirk Parlour.

Spring Cleaning



Spring cleaning. Does anybody do that anymore? It used to be a time to wash the windows, hang the rugs on the line, and clean out the fireplace. Growing up, I remember my mother being the queen of window washing, but the spring cleaning always took a back seat to things like dying eggs and planning the annual Easter egg hunt in my grandmother's backyard. We were not a family that had any kind of church connection, other than the occasional week of Vacation Bible School at the little non-denominational church on the corner. So, for us, Easter was about Easter bunnies and jelly beans, chocolate rabbits and new Easter dresses.

You can imagine then that the concept of Lent wasn't even on my radar until I was much older and making my own decisions about being part of a church community. But in those days Protestants weren't big on ashes on your forehead, or giving up candy for Lent, or eating fish on Fridays, so Lent remained a bit of a mystery to me. I had friends who were Catholic, and I have to admit that I was always a little curious, even envious, of their faith.

Thankfully, we have returned to many of those ancient rituals, including the imposition of ashes, as a way of declaring our own intention to do a little spring cleaning of our souls as we prepare for Easter and the Resurrection. It seems that more and more of us are embracing the idea of taking on a new discipline – spiritual or otherwise – for Lent instead of giving up something. So here are a few ideas:

Instead of giving up your favorite food, why not bring something for the food shelf every Sunday? The month of March is our annual food and fund raising drive for Neighborhood House and the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center. We all know that too many of our neighbors go to bed hungry, and we can make a difference by filling up those grocery carts every week.

Or find your way to the Centering Prayer group that meets every Monday at 11:00 am in the Kirk Parlour. As Julia has described it, it is a "prayer of rest, a prayer of resting in the arms of God," and who among us couldn't use a little rest for our weary souls right now. Or plan to attend the Wednesday evening Lenten series which will focus on Sabbath.

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WORSHIP

Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017, 7 p.m.

Holy Communion

Gale Robb, preaching.

Motet Choir: *Ave verum corpus*, Byrd

St. Andrew Choir: *Tristis est anima mea*, Martini

Cantamus Choir: *Tamquan Agnus*, Vittoria

Sunday, March 5, 2017, 10 a.m.

First Sunday in Lent

Gale Robb, preaching.

Motet Choir: *Prayer to Jesus*, George Oldroyd

Sing Unto God, Handel

St. Nicholas Choir: *Behold the Lamb of God*, Bouman

Sunday, March 12, 2017, 10 a.m.

Second Sunday in Lent

Gale Robb, preaching.

Motet Choir: *Behold How Good*, John Michael Trotta

Ave verum corpus, William Byrd

St. Cecilia and St. Nicholas Choirs:

Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep, arr. Lenel

Sunday, March 19, 2017, 10 a.m.

Third Sunday in Lent

Jeffrey T. Foels, preaching.

Motet Choir:

Jesu, the Very Thought of Thee, Matthew Culloton

Thee Will I Love, Kenneth Jennings

St. Nicholas Choir: *Kyrie Eleison*, Levitt

Sunday, March 26, 2017

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Gale Robb, preaching.

Motet Choir:

Though I Speak with Tongues of Men, Edward Bairstow

His Mercy Endureth Forver, Judith Weir

St. Nicholas Choir: *Ecce quomodo moritur*, Handl

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One last suggestion – take up a new hobby or craft. Have you ever knitted a prayer shawl? Or a baptismal blanket? There's a spiritual discipline that we don't often think about, but one that can be meditative and meaningful. You undoubtedly have other ideas, so please think about sharing them with me.

Once again this year, we will gather at the Lord's Table on Ash Wednesday, we will share the bread and the cup, we will be marked with ashes as a sign of penance and we will begin the long road to the Jerusalem. I hope you can join us.

—Gale Robb
Acting Pastor and Head of Staff

March Food Drive

It's time to restock our Minnesota food shelves. 100% of donations go toward feeding the hungry. One in ten Minnesotans, or more than 500,000 residents, are food insecure. More than half of the 3 million annual visits to state food shelves are made by children and seniors.



You can make a difference. Leave your non-perishable food items in the shopping carts by the Sanctuary doors, or use a white offering envelope from a pew rack and mark it "March Food Drive." Food and monetary donations go to Neighborhood House and the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center.

Wednesday Evening In-Depth Lenten Studies

**March 8, 15, 22, 29
at 7:00 p.m.**

This four-week Lenten study with Jeffrey Foels and Julia Carlson will focus on the practice of Sabbath rest in the Judeo-Christian tradition.



Sunday



Weekday

Connections

Gale Robb will speak at Sunday-Weekday Connections on Tuesday, March 28, at 6 p.m. in the Kirk Parlour.

Gale is a familiar face at The House of Hope, having served as stated supply associate pastor from 2001 to 2005 and an interim associate in 2010 before taking on her current role as acting pastor and head of staff while David Van Dyke is on sabbatical. A retired Presbyterian pastor, she has served as an interim pastor for seven different congregations. She and her husband, Derek, have lived in St. Paul for almost 40 years, and have two children and five grandchildren. Gale says "being grandma" is the best job she's ever had.

Sunday-Weekday Connections brings together women of The House of Hope for food, fellowship, and conversation:

- Social time with appetizers and wine or soft drinks at 6 p.m, light supper at 6:30 p.m.
- A House of Hope woman shares her story, reflects on her experience, and how it connects to her faith.
- Cost is \$25 per person.

For more information, or to reserve your seat, look for the registration table outside the Kirk Parlour after church beginning March 19, or call Linda Lane at 651-690-9661 or the Church office, 651-227-6311.



Great Decisions

Tuesday, April 11 at 4 p.m.
**"The Future of Europe" with
Professor Thomas Wolfe**

Amid a refugee crisis, the lingering financial recession, and the constant specter of terrorism, unity seems more imperative than ever. What will post-Brexit Europe look like, and how can U.S. foreign policy adapt?

Foreign policy in uncertain times | 2017 Great Decisions:

May 9: Trade and Politics, Todd Lefko

June 13: Afghanistan and Pakistan, Bill Davnie

July 11: Rise of Nationalism and Populism: Causes and Effects, special program by Tom Hanson, renowned former Foreign Service Officer

August 8: Conflict in the South China Sea

Fee \$60 per family | More available in late March

Great Decisions is a non-partisan U.S. foreign policy discussion group established by the U.S. Foreign Policy Association and Global Minnesota. Call the church for information at 651-227-6311 or Bob Mairs at 651-222-3423.



Eddie Glaude

Mark your calendars for:

Didier Seminar:

*Democracy in Black:
How Race Still Enslaves the American Soul*
April 7 and 8, 2017

Speaker: Dr. Eddie S. Glaude, Jr.

The Presbyterian school of thought believed it was the church's responsibility to save the individual, over and above social and political engagement. It was stated that segregation was not inherently anti-Biblical or morally wrong, and it was not "the business" of the church to get involved.

When the Supreme Court ruled on racial integration of public education in 1954 however, concerned Presbyterian clergy at the next General Assembly gathered and determined that if segregation is not merely the separation of two peoples, but the subordination of one people to another, then the church's function in American Society is "to assert moral leadership in the changing patterns of racial and cultural revolution." This group called "The Fellowship," played a vital role in passing the 1962 Civil Rights Act.

This year's Didier Seminar will speak to this legacy.

Renowned author and professor of African American Studies at Princeton University, Dr. Eddie Glaude Jr. will be the seminar speaker, and J. Herbert Nelson, the first African American clerk of the PC(USA) will follow as our Sunday preacher. This combination will offer an unprecedented chance to play our part in the continuing history of the Presbyterian Church and our nation.

Adult Enrichment leading up to the Didier Seminar
Sundays, 11:15 a.m. in the Assembly Room



March 12.

Bethel Professor Dr. Tim Essenburg:
"White Privilege/White Fragility – What Does this Mean?"

March 19.

Dr. Bruce Nordstrom-Loeb, St. Olaf College Emeritus Professor of Sociology:
"Brief History of Black America Since the Reconstruction"



March 26.

Melvin Carter Jr., Retired St. Paul police officer and founder of Save Our Sons:
"The Rondo Neighborhood – Past, Present and Future"

April 2.

Book Discussion: *Democracy in Black: How Race Still Enslaves the American Soul*,
by Dr. Eddie Glaude, Jr.

Palm Sunday, April 9, 10 a.m. worship

Dr. J. Herbert Nelson Preaching, first African American Stated Clerk of the PC(USA)

Register now: www.hohchurch.org (click on "Events" and scroll down to Didier Seminar).
The cost for the seminar is \$30 per person. Other events are free. Call the church office with questions, 651-227-6311.

The House of Hope Women's Retreat

Friday evening, April 28 through Sunday morning, April 30
Assisi Heights, Rochester



The Greening Power of Faith: Caring for Body, Mind, and Soul

Rev. Julia Carlson, Speaker and Facilitator

When a forest does not green vigorously, then it is no longer a forest. When a tree does not blossom, it cannot bear fruit. Likewise, a person cannot be fruitful without the greening power of faith. The soul that is full of wisdom is saturated with the spray of a bubbling fountain: God.

—Hildegard of Bingen, translation by Gabriele Uhlein

Guided by the Reverend Julia Carlson, we will connect this 12th century German mystic and remarkable woman—who was also an “abbess, artist, author, composer, pharmacist, poet, preacher, and theologian”—to modern writers, poets, theologians, doctors, and scientists. We will look at her concepts of Virtue, Verdancy, and Wisdom; her interesting images of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit; and her ways of talking about evil in the world and in the self.

Beginning when she was three years old, Hildegard received visions throughout her life. She took ten years to write them down in her book *Scivias* (*Know the Ways*) and, after Pope Eugene III read it, he encouraged her to continue her writing. She also wrote over 300 letters to people who sought her advice, and composed short works on medicine and physiology. “Hildegard’s visions caused her to see humans as ‘living sparks’ of God’s love, coming from God as daylight comes from the sun.” In 2012, Hildegard was canonized and named a Doctor of the Church by Pope Benedict XVI.



All women are invited for a weekend of renewal and reflection at Assisi Heights with its beautiful chapel, building, grounds, and outdoor labyrinth. Besides the presentations, discussions, and community with others, there will also be time for relaxation, rest, and solitude.

Mark your calendar and register beginning Sunday, March 26.

What is the Anchor Society?



A gift to the Endowment Fund expresses your faith and values while helping to fulfill the mission of The House of Hope. The Endowment Fund plays a significant role in ensuring the church is equipped to meet the needs of the congregation now and in the future.

“Ginger and I have been members of The House of Hope since 1975 after returning to Minnesota in 1972. This church just seemed right. We love the music and the philosophy. Each of us has served on multiple boards and has been involved in many church activities. We met many of our closest friends at The House of Hope. Our daughter, Sarah worked in the youth program. Many of our family weddings, funerals, and baptisms have been at The House of Hope. The live-streaming has been appreciated at times when we have been out of town.

We are grateful that our predecessors contributed to the endowment fund in the past. We have included The House of Hope in our will and in our investment documents. It was easy and it makes us feel good that we are helping future children, teens, and adults in our community.

Consider joining us in the Anchor Society.” —Walt Bailey

Upcoming Youth Events

Tweens Gathering

Friday, March 3, from 6- 7:30 p.m. in the Youth Room.

High School Lock-In

Senior High youth are invited to a Lock-In on Friday, March 10, in the Youth Room. All 9-12th graders are invited to come spend the night at the church with fellowship, games, snacks, and sleep(?). Please meet at 7 p.m. and bring a snack to share. We will eat breakfast at 8 a.m. and youth will be ready to be picked up at 9 a.m.

Mission Trip

Senior High youth are headed to Detroit July 16-22 for a mission trip. If you are interested in participating, the cost is \$500 and the sign-up deadline is March 1. Contact Jeff Foels (jfoels@hohchurch.org or 651-223-7545) or Doug Snaza (dougs@hohchurch.org or 651-223-7549). If there are still spots available after March 1, 8th graders (youth who will have finished 8th grade by July) will be invited to join us.

Middle School Lock-In

Middle Schoolers are invited to a Lock-In on Friday, March 24. All 6-8th graders are invited to come spend the night at the church with fellowship, games, snacks, and sleep(!). Please meet at 8 p.m. and bring a snack to share. We will eat breakfast at 8 a.m. and the youth will be ready to be picked up at 9 a.m.



Youth enjoying an afternoon of Whirly Ball and Laser Tag.

Thank you to all who participated in Youth Sunday



Adult Education/Events

Men's Breakfast Groups

Tuesday Men's Breakfast Group meets weekly at 7 a.m. at the St. Clair Broiler on Snelling and St. Clair to study the lectionary for the coming Sunday's Scripture lessons. Contact: Leo Sawicki, 651-481-9589 or lbsawicki@comcast.net.

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: Bill Liike, 651-224-0631. Newcomers welcome!

Bible Studies

The Wednesday Bible Study meets at 10 a.m. in the Church Library. For information, call the church office, 651-227-6311.

Thursday Bible Study meets at 9:15 a.m. in the Church Library (except on the first Thursday, when we meet in Kirby Lounge). For information, call the church office, 651-227-6311.

Hard Hats

The Hard Hats are volunteers who work to keep the church building and grounds in good condition. They meet on the first Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. in the maintenance shop. Their efforts are directed by Facilities Manager Jim Brzezinski, 651-223-7559, jimb@hohchurch.org. Next meeting: March 2.

Mission Sewing

Mission Sewing will meet on Thursday, March 2, at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and conversation. Bring a sandwich if you would like to stay for lunch. For questions call or email Janet Brownell, 651-765-4990, jjbewb488@comcast.net.

Joy Davis' First Thursday Literature Seminars

The Literature Seminar will meet on Thursday, March 2, at 10 a.m. in the Church Library to discuss our second Morris West novel, *Backlash*. During the 1945 Allied Occupation, a small Austrian town is gripped by fear. The world of war meets the world of the Church in this insightful novel. All are welcome and registration is not required.

Women's Breakfast Book Group

Women's Breakfast Book Group meets Friday mornings from 7 to 8 a.m. in the Kirk Parlour to enjoy breakfast, camaraderie, and lively discussion 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 Elly Verhagen at 651-293-1924 for important information.

March 3, 10: *Death Comes for the Archbishop*, Willa Cather
March 17, 24: *Excellent Women*, Barbara Pym
March 31: *Washington Square*, Henry James

Faith and Fibers

This group meets monthly to work on needlecrafts of all kinds. Join us for good conversation, refreshments, and a time for devotions on the second Monday of the month at 6 p.m. The next meeting is on March 13 in the Church Library. For more information, contact Jan Dickinson, 651-647-1786.

Women's Advocates

Women's Advocates shelter for battered women serves nearly 1,000 women and children a year. A group of volunteers under the leadership of Liz Boyd gathers every third Thursday from 6-7:30 p.m. at the shelter. They do a craft project or play bingo with the women and children, and then provide a treat for them. Next gathering: March 16. If you would be interested in joining, leave your name in the church office, 651-227-6311.

Kirk Club

A fellowship group for people age 55 and better. We will meet for brunch on Sunday, March 19 at 12:15 p.m. at The House of Hope. Our guest will be member Patrick Boylan, planning analyst for the Metropolitan Council. He will give an overview of the regional government work on land use, transportation, water, resources, regional parks and trails, etc. Box lunches will be ordered. All are welcome! Fee: \$10. Please make reservations by March 15 by calling the church office, 651-227-6311.

Centering Prayer

We gather on Mondays at 11 a.m. in the Kirk Parlour. Centering Prayer, in the words of one long-time practitioner, is a prayer of rest, a prayer of our resting in the arms of God much like a trusting child who is content in the arms of a loving parent. Beginners as well as long-time practitioners are welcome; there will be an introduction to the practice at the beginning of each gathering.

Grief Support Groups

Sponsored by the Capital City Grief Coalition, these groups are for those who have suffered the loss of a loved one through death. The groups will meet on Thursdays, from 5:30-7 p.m., March 2 through May 25, 2017, at St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church, 60 N. Kent Street in St. Paul. For further information, contact coordinator Lois Knutson, 651-227-4430.



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
Twin Cities, MN**




The House of Hope is a
Stephen Ministry
Church

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Strive to Tithe III
It Takes a Community:
Our House of Hope

**Please Remember
to Hand in
Your Stewardship
Pledge for
2017.**

**We Are A Generous
Congregation.**

To date, 401 individuals and families have made a 2017 financial pledge to the church for a total of \$1,130,418. We are still almost \$115,000 short of our budgeted goal for 2017. If you haven't already made your commitment, please prayerfully consider making a pledge today. Pledge cards can be found in the pew racks or you can go to www.hohchurch.org/donate-online to make your commitment online. Thank you!