



Discover Hope: Welcome Sunday

September 9

10 a.m. - Worship

11:15 a.m. - Food, games, and festivities

Join us on Rally Sunday as our church community comes together again after a busy summer. The choirs return, education programs resume, we gather for fellowship.

DISCOVER HOPE

Hope discovered in new friends.

Hope heard in powerful music.

*Hope lived in acts of
compassion and justice.*

*Hope experienced in
dynamic worship.*

*Hope inspired by the inclusive
love of Jesus Christ.*

*There is a spiritual home for you
at House of Hope.*



A Message from Reverend Andrew McDonald

As summer draws to a close, it's time to look forward to what comes next. I am excited about the next few months. My very positive experience at House of Hope confirms to me that your reputation as a leading church in the PC(USA) is well deserved. Let me share with you my plans for autumn.

To prepare for the successful ministry of your next Pastor, the church needs to reflect on who the House of Hope is now, and how God is calling you to move into the future. We need to discover the shared wisdom of HOH's members, so that we can seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit. To that end, I am planning a series of congregational gatherings. We will talk together and learn from one another about your hopes, hurts, and dreams for the future. Some of the questions will include:

- What were some events of the past that continue to shape the church today?
- What dreams do you have for the future of HOH?
- What losses are important to recognize?
- What challenges do we face as a congregation?
- What are the greatest strengths of this church? How can we build upon those strengths?
- Can we identify any areas of need that are crucial to address?
- What changes can we anticipate in the neighborhood, city, and region? What will those changes mean for the future of HOH?
- Are there changes HOH needs to make now to prepare for the next Head of Staff?

And of course, as good Presbyterians, there will be surveys and meetings. The Session and I are interested in what you



have to say, so we can set a strategic vision for the future. After that, the congregation will elect a Pastoral Nominating Committee, who will be well informed as to what gifts and strengths will be needed for successful leadership in the next Pastor.

I am looking forward to working with you to discern your vision. As the scripture says, "With God, all things are possible." God is preparing you for a wonderful future through the House of Hope.

*Sincerely,
Andrew McDonald
Transitional Pastor/Head of Staff*

- What elements of HOH's history are important to remember?

Update on the search for a Transitional Associate Pastor

Upon the departure of Reverend Jeff Foels, the Session authorized the Personnel Committee to act as the search committee for the Transitional Associate Pastor. The Personnel Committee began its work immediately after Jeff Foels' departure and has drafted a position description which has been submitted to the Presbytery for their approval. We anticipate their approval in late August. Once that

happens, we will advertise the position regionally and shortly thereafter begin to interview candidates. We want to add a Transitional Associate Pastor to our ministerial team as soon as possible. We expect the Transitional Associate Pastor will be with us until after a Pastor/ Head of Staff has been installed.

—On behalf of the Personnel Committee,
Kay Solon, Chair

A Few Thoughts on Centering Prayer

Stephen Brachlow

Centering Prayer 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. It is perhaps helpful to note that the Greek Orthodox Church uses the term hesychastic prayer—hesychia is a Greek word meaning “to be at rest.” Suggestions regarding this prayer:

Attitude: Let Go and Let God

Prayer is ultimately not our work, but the work of the Spirit in us. As the Apostle Paul put it: “The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.” A beautiful picture of the letting-go-and-letting-God attitude of this prayer is found in Denise Levertov's poem entitled “The Avowel:”

*As swimmers dare
to lie face to the sky
and water bears them,
as hawks rest upon air
and air sustains them,
so would I learn to attain
free-fall, and float
into Creator Spirit's deep embrace,
knowing no effort earns
that all-surrounding grace.*

Word of address

Gently and silently as you breath, use a simple word or phrase such as Holy Spirit, Lamb of God, peace, Kyrie eleison (Lord have mercy), or any other word or words that come to you. This is used not so much to think about God as it is an expression of our hearts, the still point at the center of being where we allow ourselves to both love and be loved by the One who first loved us.

Distractions

Wandering thoughts, sounds, and discomfort are always present, but they can be let go. Whenever you become aware of any, acknowledge it and then return to your prayer-word and let it bring you back to a loving awareness of God's presence.

Freedom of the Spirit

There is no single or right way to do Centering Prayer. Sometimes I do not even follow the guidelines I've suggested above—I simply sit quietly, let my mind drift, and let the 20 minutes of silence do the work of the Spirit in this prayer. Whatever your heart leads you to do, pray in that way.

**Practice Centering Prayer at
House of Hope with Rev. Julia Carlson,
Mondays, 11 a.m.**

WORSHIP

10 a.m.

Sunday, September 2, 2018
15th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 9, 2018
16th Sunday after Pentecost
Rally Sunday

Motet Choir:

I Will Praise Thee, O God; Nystedt
Sing Unto God, Handel

Choir School:

With a Voice of Singing, Shaw

Sunday, September 16, 2018
17th Sunday after Pentecost

Motet Choir:

Happy are They, Neswick
Peace, Siegfried

Choir School:

Teach Me, O Lord; Moger

Sunday, September 23, 2018
18th Sunday after Pentecost

Motet Choir:

Jesus is Calling, Miller

Choir School:

Cantate Domino, Pitoni

Sunday, September 30, 2018
19th Sunday after Pentecost

Motet Choir:

Let the People Praise Thee, O God; Mathias
How Lovely is thy Dwelling Place, Brahms

Choir School:

Hallelujah, Praise the Lord; Charpentier

Tending to our Spiritual Growth

Reverend Julia A. Carlson

As we begin to think about closing down our gardens and emptying flower pots, it's a good time to consider tending to our spiritual growth. Sticking with this metaphor, daily devotionals can be very good compost for the soul. As Jesus says, "I am the vine, you are the branches." Continued growth is God's desire for us.

You might try *Fragments of Your Ancient Name* (Joyce Rupp), *Gift and Task: A Year of Daily Readings and Reflections* (Walter Bruggemann), or *A Year with Aslan: Reflections from the Chronicles of Narnia* (C. S. Lewis). The church library has a number of titles available for exploration.

There are also a variety of electronic resources, including a daily email with the lectionary readings, from the PC(USA). You can sign up at: info.pcusa.org/h/i/763938037951FD94 or download the app from the App Store: pcusa.org/news/2012/10/31/daily-prayer-app-here/.

You could also try the Centering Prayer app from Contemplative Outreach: contemplativeoutreach.org/centering-prayer-mobile-app. You can sign up for Richard Rohr's daily meditation at this address: cac.org/sign-up/.



Commemorative Flower Arrangements Sign-up Calendar

Beginning September 2, there will now be a spreadsheet calendar in the church office where you will be able to sign up to donate flowers for the Communion Table, Pulpit, or Lectern. Those of you who have already called this year and confirmed your dates for 2018 or 2019 do not need to sign up again. This is an opportunity to see which Sundays are still available for flower arrangement gifts, and also an opportunity to check the dates and information you've previously given if you've already signed up.

You may still contact Executive Assistant David Goudzwaard-Vaught directly at DavidGV@hohchurch.org or (651) 223-7541 to order, or you may sign up in the front office using the calendar. All orders must be submitted at least a week in advance (i.e., the Sunday before), but you're encouraged to submit earlier.

Thank you for your gifts of fresh flowers.

THE SEEKER

*When the head seeks space and direction,
color and texture,*

draw –

let the eye feast.

Move from the foothill of conception.

Climb the mountain of vision.

Do it in the play between light and dark.

When the heart fills to the rim,

inhale deeply,

sing –

let melody carry you.

Traverse the landscape of living.

Wander the canyons of rhythms.

Do it in the daily refrain.

When the soul draws you in,

linger a while,

write –

release the captive spirit.

Row the river of legend.

Walk through the valley of innovation.

Do it in the nightly crossing.

When the mind spurns the body,

tap the floor,

dance –

unwind the language of body and soul.

Emerge out of the woods of chaos

onto the meadow of new design.

*Do this for the sake of the unexplained –
and the Divine.*

by Evelyn D. Klein

SAVE THE DATE

**Women's Annual
Advent Breakfast
Rev. Gale Robb,
Guest Speaker**

**Friday, December 7, 7–9 a.m.
Town and Country Club
Saint Paul**

Women's Retreat

**April 26–28, 2019
St. John's Abbey Guesthouse**



House of Hope

Adult Education • Fall 2018

September 16 State of the Church

Rev. Andrew McDonald

September 23 Gothic Architecture and House of Hope

Jeanne Kilde

Jeanne Kilde is a professor of Religious Studies and Classical and Near Eastern Studies at the University of Minnesota. She specializes in religious architecture and sacred space. Kilde argues that church architecture is not shaped by religion but that in fact architecture can shape religion.

September 30 Sunday Exchange

Trying to find a spiritual base in these crazy, pressurized days? Feeling a bit alone with that? That's where Sunday Exchange comes in. It's a rare opportunity to sit down with a cup of coffee and a few other folks and talk honestly about how our inner and outer lives are working in the real world.

We talk about things like:

- What keeps me awake at night?
- "Do good to those who persecute you?" In theory, yes. But in practice?
- A guy on the corner has a sign asking for help. What's right? What's enough?
- When you're on shaky ground, how and where do you look for some help?

Come see how Sunday Exchange works. The question that hour will be: Has your faith life changed in any way in the past year? How are you feeling about that? No preparation needed. Just come to the Assembly Room, pick up a cookie, and enjoy. If you have children, they can stay in childcare.

October 7 Celtic Spiritual Pilgrimage to Ireland

Participants from the trip will be on hand to share their experiences as pilgrims in Ireland.

October 14 Women, Gender, and Early Church *Susanna Drake*

Susanna is a professor of religious studies at Macalester College with a focus in early Christianity, biblical studies, and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

October 23 *Betty Folliard*

Betty is the founder of the ERA, an organization that strives to pass Equal Rights Amendments into our state and national constitutions. This past year, along with 18 other Presbyterians, she attended the 62nd session of NATO's Commission on the Status of Women. Folliard has future aspirations of increasing women's access and proximity to leaders.

October 30 Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Stephen Brachlow

Stephen is a retired professor of spirituality at Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond Virginia, and the author of *The Communion of Saints: Radical Puritan and Separatist Ecclesiology 1570-1625* (Oxford Theology and Religion Monographs).

November 4 Dementia, Caregiving, and the Church *Julie Nygren*

Julie is a member of the Presbytery Disabilities Task Force with focuses in dementia and caregiving and how that plays into the role of the church.

Sunday–Weekday Connections September 25 | 6 p.m.

Jan Parkman worked in special education for 34 years in the St. Paul Public Schools, a time of changing expectations for kids with disabilities. Since her retirement, she has been a consultant on learning disabilities to the Minnesota Department of Education. Jan joined House of Hope in 1981 and currently serves as a deacon. She and her husband, Jeff, have two grown daughters.

Save the dates:

- October 30, 2018
- January 29, 2019
- February 26, 2019
- March 26, 2019

HOH women and their guests are welcome. Look for our table outside the Kirk Parlour after worship beginning September 23 to register or reserve your spot through the church office. \$25 per person.

Great Decisions September 11 | 4 p.m.

South Africa's Fragile Democracy

Gary Prevost

The African National Congress party has governed South Africa since the end of apartheid in 1994. The question that will determine the future of South Africa is whether its democratic institutions and norms can withstand the pressures of personalities, individuals, and political parties. South Africa remains the most important regional power in southern Africa. What are the prospects for a closer relationship between South Africa and the U.S. under the current administration?

Gary Prevost is a professor of political science and international relations at the College of St. Benedict and St. John's University.



Jeff Foels Celebration

God of our days, in your love, the community in Christ holds, even at the crossroads of change. Thank you Holy One, for Jeff's sojourn among us as youth director and pastor. We send him on, now ordained, now a husband, now an expectant father. We send him with gratitude for his ministry and the unique and good natured way he shared his life and his heart and his faith. We ask you to bless and keep Kelly, Jeff, and Baby Foels as we part—and that you would remind them occasionally of our continued love.

—Rev. Julia Carlson



Community Garden Update

The harvest season is upon us. In July, volunteers delivered 56 pounds of fresh produce to the Neighborhood House food shelf. Two Middle School Mission Days focused on the Community Garden. They collected 63 pounds of food and brought it to Neighborhood House.

Fresh vegetable deliveries have included lots of cucumbers and carrots, and green beans. Also included this month were dill, jalapeño peppers, a few small tomatoes, onions, and beets. Lots of tomatoes are ripening, along with more bush beans, and more cucumbers. The tomatillos look great.

We are entering peak production season. Weeding needs will be self-evident. *If you have time and energy, please contact Elizabeth Karre, houseofhopegarden@gmail.com.*



Prior Crossing House of Hope Committee Forming for 2018–2019

If you are interested in helping with meeting needs at Prior Crossing, please email Caroline Stone at chws@mac.com.

We continue to collect and deliver food for the pantry at Prior Crossing. Our committee creates social events to host at Prior Crossing and helps deliver closet collections from the white bin in the Assembly Room. It's, come one come all, and there's always room for more people on our committee. Thank you.



Gardening at Prior Crossing

This spring, we funded replanting the garden beds at Prior Crossing. Our goal was to have residents tend them, but at this point it seems the residents either don't have the knowledge or motivation to do it. So, we are searching for someone to weed, water, and harvest once a week until the end of September. You might be that person.

Thank you for your contributions to Mission Outreach that help make these projects and activities possible.



Children, Youth & Family Programming

Children in Worship

Children are always welcome in the Sanctuary. Children's bulletins and crayons are available at all Sanctuary entrances.

Sunday Morning Story Time

Beginning September 16, infants through five years old and their parents are invited to join us for an interactive story time on Sunday mornings from 9:15–9:45 a.m. in Room 8. Meet the Children's Ministry staff and get to know other families during this time of fellowship and fun.

Birth–2 years

We provide a space where our littlest ones can be cared for while engaging in early childhood faith formation, using the Frolic Nursery curriculum. Nursery care is available from 9:45 a.m.–12 p.m. in an adjoined space in Room 8. To help us best care for your child send in a labeled bag with a change of clothes, diapers, bottle or sippy cup, pacifier, and snack (if applicable).

Preschool–PreK

Children in preschool through pre-kindergarten are invited to explore their faith through play, art, music, and stories, as they engage in the Frolic Preschool curriculum. This class is open from 9:45 a.m.–12 p.m. in Room 2. To help us best serve your child send in a labeled bag with a full change of clothes.

Sunday Studio

Kindergarten through grade 3 are invited to Sunday Studio from 10:15–11:15 a.m. Inspired by stories and materials from the Godly Play curriculum, young elementary-age children will learn about the church calendar, worship sacraments, stories in the Hebrew Bible and New Testament, and other people of faith. During this time, children will build community through conversations, group activities, games, and art. Sunday Studio is offered in the following locations:

Room 4: Kindergarten and Grade 1

Room 5: Grades 2 and 3

Tween Transitions

Grades 4 through 6 are invited to further their faith development in Tween Transitions from 10:15–11:15 a.m. This group is mostly conversation-based and will explore Scripture and church seasons more in depth, learning to put their faith into practice. The group meets in the Tween Lounge in Room 7.

Creative Expressions

Kindergarten through grade 5 are invited to join us in Room 4 for a visual arts-based program from 11:15 a.m.–12 p.m. We will explore a variety of media. Note that not all materials are washable, but we will do our best to keep children clean by staying organized and wearing art smocks.

September Tweens Event

Grades 4 through 6 are invited to join us at House of Hope on Friday, September 14, from 6–8 p.m. for an evening of fun, fellowship, and service. We will assist in the House of Hope Community Garden, create “explosive” art for the Tween Lounge, and enjoy walking tacos. Bring \$5 for dinner and as many friends as you like. RSVP to Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org by Wednesday, September 12, at 8 p.m.



Youth Mission Trip

Twenty-five House of Hope members, including 12 adults and 13 youth traveled to Zacapa, Guatemala (not a typo) from July 8 through July 14. Ready to meet new people and help wherever God calls us!

We visited the mountain village Lampacoy, where we painted their church and installed four Onil stoves in homes. Our experience in the mountains

Rally Sunday invitation

After the Time for Children, we invite children to meet their teachers, reconnect with their peers, and enjoy a morning of fun in their new Sunday school rooms. Following worship, everyone is invited to the Rally Sunday party on the front lawn, including face painting, rock wall climbing, inflatable bounce house and slide, 9-square, lunch, ice cream, and more.

Staff and Volunteers

With so many new ministry offerings for children and families we are excited to welcome a loving and knowledgeable team of staff and volunteers.

Infants–toddlers: Miller Shor, Lelia Ellison, Ray Dean, Isi Soltermann

Preschool–PreK: Julie Jacobsen, Quinn Nelson, Caroline Stone
(Two more volunteers are needed.)

Kindergarten–Grade 1: Kelsea Gilliland, Riley Vanderhaar

Grades 2–3: Dixie Brachlow, Leslie Erickson, Marilyn Knudsen, Kiera Stegall, Ellie Vanderhaar

Grades 4–6: Kiera Stegall, Chris Tabisz, Finn Pope

of Guatemala was breathtaking for all.

We also visited the village of Tablonés, where we installed four more stoves. The families were extremely thankful and the prayers together after completing each installation were incredibly powerful.

We will display photos from our trip in the Cloister Gallery this fall. Thank you for supporting the mission outreach efforts of House of Hope youth.

Choir School



Do you know a child who loves to sing? Come make a joyful noise with the House of Hope Choir School. New choristers are welcome to join now through September. We welcome all children PreK-Grade 12 and previous musical training is not required.

Visit hohchurch.org/choir-school for more information. Contact Choir School Director Sofia Ardalan at SofiaA@hohchurch.org for more information.



Save the Date



CLOISTER GALLERY

**Darlene Thorud,
Crop-Art Artist**

**July 31–September 24
(extended dates)**

In anticipation of this year's Minnesota State Fair (August 23–September 3) the Cloister Art Gallery is pleased to feature award-winning crop-art artist Darlene Thorud. Plan to visit the Agriculture Building at this year's State Fair to see the crop art entries.



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National Night Out 2018 a Success!

National Night Out 2018 was an amazing success. Wonderful weather and excellent HOH staff and volunteer teamwork made it an enjoyable evening. It was the largest crowd we've had—more than 300 people stopped by over the evening. We enjoyed a carillon concert by Dave Johnson, a demonstration by the Fire Department, and a wonderful drum and dance performance by Heart and Soul Academy, complete with audience participation. It was a wonderful gathering of the neighborhood including Ujamaa Place, YWCA Transitional Housing Program, Women's Advocates, Jeremiah Project, Prior Crossing, law enforcement, and elected officials.

Thank you to all of the many volunteers and House of Hope members who donated and supported the event. We couldn't do it without you.

