



SUNDAY SERIES

Don Lemon | Sunday, January 20, 2 p.m.



Don Lemon anchors *CNN Tonight with Don Lemon* and serves as a correspondent across CNN's U.S. programming.

A news veteran of Chicago, Lemon reported from that city in the days leading up to the 2008 presidential election, including an interview with then-Rep. Rahm Emanuel on the day he accepted the position of Chief of Staff for President-elect Barack Obama. He also interviewed Anne Cooper, the 106-year old voter President-elect Obama highlighted in his election night acceptance speech after he had seen Lemon's interview with Cooper on CNN.

Lemon also anchored the network's breaking news coverage of the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan, the Arab Spring, and the death of Osama bin Laden.

Lemon also is known for holding politicians and public officials accountable in his "No Talking Points" segment.

Sunday, January 20
Sanctuary | 2 p.m.

Faith and Ethics at House of Hope

If faith is to make a difference in our lives and in the world, it must be connected to ethics. This month is a month to grow in our understanding of core ideas in the moral life.

January 6 | *Ethics for Everybody*

Rev. Dr. McDonald

This is an introduction to ethics, presented in a way that allows people to see themselves as moral actors, and become more aware of what God is enabling and empowering us to be and to do.

January 13 | *Ethics: Whatever Happened to Truth?*

Rev. Dr. McDonald

Using the idea of constructed worldviews, we will see some possibilities to get beyond the chaos of current public debates, and into a shared sense of truth.

January 20

Justice Choir Songbook

Tesfa Wondemagegnehu and Matthew Culloton will lead a discussion.

January 27 | *Ethics: Stories, Roles, and Responsibility*

Rev. Dr. McDonald

Using ideas derived from H. Richard Niebuhr and the Yale School, we will look into how our particular roles can be shaped by the Christian story.

Stories on Faith and Politics

David H. Hopper, James Wallace Professor of Religion Emeritus at Macalester College

February 3 | **David Hopper: The Story of Barth and Bonhoeffer**

Two of the most important public theologians in the past century, Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Karl Barth, had an enthusiastic yet ambiguous relationship. They each found different ways to oppose the rise of National Socialism in Nazi Germany. These profound thinkers continue to be sources of profound insight on a faith that guides our public life.

February 10 | **David Hopper: The Story of Abraham Lincoln's Roots of Faith**

We will consider Lincoln's roots in the biblical tradition. The nature of his commitment to that tradition framed the shape of his political outlook and ethos. Lincoln's speeches will be the primary source for this interpretation of this great American President.

A Book to Grow the Church



Among other things, the Gallop organization studies churches. Gallop researcher Albert Winseman wrote the helpful book, *Growing*

an Engaged Church: How to Stop "Doing Church" and Start Being the Church Again. His thesis, simply put: church membership is not what many people are looking for anymore. Instead, they want to feel engaged with what it means to be the church.

Involvement is not the same as engagement. Engagement is about finding a sense of emotional connection to God, to other people, and to an important, meaningful mission. Growing engaged members has to do with developing relationships and talents that connect people with what matters most to them.

Some people talk about how evangelical churches are growing, and then assume that mainline churches need to change their beliefs. Winseman rejects that argument. His research shows that growing churches are those congregations where more people feel emotionally engaged. The more engaged your membership is, the healthier your church is likely to be.

What does engagement look like? People want to know that they have multiple good friends in the church who look forward to seeing them. They want to know that someone cares about them and asks about their spiritual growth. They want to be noticed and appreciated. They want to be part of a mission and vision that is important and exciting. They want opportunities to learn and grow. They need to know what is expected of them as a member, so they can meaningfully be part of the community.

Engagement has to do with how you feel about your church. Presbyterians are used to "thinking the faith." This study shows that emotions matter, so it may be a challenge to hear the wisdom it offers. The book also challenges churches to measure how members are feeling about their church—and to show that their impressions matter.

I have found so many House of Hope members are very proud of their church—they feel connected to its life and ministry. Assuming that a top way to grow a church is to build on a strength that is already present, then this book offers helpful ways of making a strong House of Hope grow even stronger.



WORSHIP

10 a.m.

Sunday, January 6
Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 13
Baptism of the Lord

Motet Choir:
There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob,
Mendelssohn

Choir School:
Psalm 98, Marshall

Sunday, January 20
Second Sunday after Epiphany

Motet Choir:
God's Gonna Set This World on Fire,
Hogan

St. Nicholas Choir:
My Jesus is My Lasting Joy, Buxtehude

Sunday, January 27
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Motet Choir:
If You Love Me, Clausen

Choir School:
A Gaelic Blessing, Rutter

Visit hohchurch.org for livestreaming of Sunday worship services.



Adult Education

January brings a full schedule of Adult Education at House of Hope. Please attend one or all of the following to start your new year off right.

January 4, 11

Women's Breakfast Book Group

7 a.m. | Kirk Parlour

The Elephant Company: The Inspiring Story of an Unlikely Hero and the Animals Who Helped Save Lives in World War II, Vicki Constantine Croke

January 6, 13, 27

Faith and Ethics with Dr. McDonald

11:15 a.m. | Assembly Room

See page 1 for more detail.

January 10

Joy Davis' Second Thursday Literature

Seminar | 10 a.m. | Library

January 18, 25

Women's Breakfast Book Group

7 a.m. | Kirk Parlour

The Other Einstein, Marie Benedict

January 20

Justice Choir Songbook Seminar

11:15 a.m. | Sanctuary

Tesfa Wondemagegnehu and Matthew Culloton will lead a discussion. Community Sing event will be February 1. See back page for more detail.

Sunday Series with Don Lemon

2 p.m. | Sanctuary | See page 1 for detail.

HOH HVAC System Information Session

11:15 a.m. | Assembly Room

Led by Facility Manager Jim Brzezinski and Trustee David Phillips.

Sunday Exchange

11:15 a.m. | Room 1

The Uncomfortable Difference
"They" are different than you. You know what Jesus taught, but how are you dealing with it? If you have children, they can stay with childcare. Let's talk.

February 3, 10

David Hopper

11:15 a.m. | Assembly Room

February 17

Annual Meeting

11:15 a.m. | Sanctuary

February 24

Tom Willadsen: Laughter's Healing Art

11:15 a.m. | Assembly Room

A Presbyterian minister, Tom Willadsen's writing has appeared widely.

Sunday Exchange

11:15 a.m. | Room 1

March 13, 20, 27

Lenten Education Series: Life Groups

Sunday-Weekday Connections

January 29 | 6 p.m. | Kirk Parlour

Anne Yuska joined House of Hope 16 years ago, but has been active in the congregation for more than two decades. You may recognize her name from the book she wrote about the biblical and historical figures depicted in our sanctuary's stained-glass windows. She will speak about that and her current book project, *Moonlit Fertility*, a memoir of her great aunt's time in China in the 1920s.

All House of Hope women and their guests are welcome. The cost is \$25, which includes a light supper. To reserve your spot, look for our table outside the Kirk Parlour after worship beginning January 20, or call the church office.

Save the date:

February 26: Mary Sue Godfrey

March 26: TBD



SAVE THE DATE

Didier Seminar 2019

"Progressive Christianity"

Rev. Robin Meyers, Ph.D., *New York Times* bestselling author

Saturday, April 6: Enrichment

Sunday, April 7: Worship and Enrichment

Rev. Dr. Robin R. Meyers is a nationally known UCC pastor, professor, peace activist, and the author of six books about progressive Christianity and American society. His teaching and preaching offer a non-literal, non-dogmatic approach to Christianity, and his politics are neither left nor right, but rather subversive for the cause of love. He seeks to build not a collection of "believers," but a Beloved Community devoted to embodying peace and justice in a broken world.

His most recent book, *The Underground Church: Reclaiming the Subversive Way of Jesus* is endorsed by Desmond Tutu, Bill Moyers, Marcus Borg, Harvey Cox, Parker Palmer, Brian McLaren, Diana Butler Bass, and Fred Craddock.

Update from The Session

Last meeting — November 20, 2018

Transitional Pastor Report

Preparations for a new Head Pastor continue, including visioning with 100 congregants.

Clerk's Report

Requested participation in visioning committee. Clergy candidate Phil Romaine will be ordained January 19.

Worship, Sacraments and Music

Developing music events proposal with Membership Development. Choir School will tour Eastern Europe in spring.

Mission Outreach

Grantmaking work is complete.

Membership Development

Working to find ways to enhance the website and Enews with additional funding for promotion and marketing. Linda Lane began a photo display project in the church.

Children and Family Ministry

Attendance is rising for Sunday School and Tweens. Planning multigenerational

retreat at Clearwater Forest.

Personnel Committee

Welcomed Transitional Associate Pastor, Rev. Zach Wilson. Continuing work to fill role of Administrative Director.

Peace and Justice

Reported successful programming. Betty Folliard presented a policy statement on ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Presbytery

Announced meeting regarding changes to law regarding church properties that will require HOH to update policies.

Trustees Report

Reviewing a proposal for building use. There have been multiple showings of the properties for sale. A church security system will be installed by end of 2018. David Phillips is addressing the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system.

Transitional Update

In the next month, the Personnel Committee will use information from the congregational conversations to develop a position description for the next head of Staff/Head Pastor. Once this is complete, we will form a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). Each member will have the opportunity to self-nominate or suggest another member for this work.

There will be information sessions where the process and the work of the search committee will be described. Watch for more information to come. —Kay Solon, on behalf of the Personnel Committee

Heating and Cooling Needs

The House and Property Committee apprised the Trustees of their ongoing work to address the increasingly urgent issue of the church's decaying heating and cooling systems (HVAC)—parts of which date back to the church's original construction. After extensive study and consultation, both engineers and tradespeople recommended imminent replacement of our current system. Trustees authorized the expenditure of the church's capital reserves be used to replace the system. The Trustees understood that this might not be a sufficient amount to fund replacement of current HVAC systems.

If you're curious about the state of the current system, our facilities manager Jim Brzezinski and Elder/Trustee Dave Phillips—who is an engineer with experience in such systems—will offer a presentation following Worship on January 27. It might sound dry, but I've found it remarkably fascinating—and you'll get to learn more about the inner workings of our church. —Rev. Zach Wilson



SUNDAY SERIES | MARCH 3 JOEL SARTORE

National Geographic Photographer and Fellow, 2018 Rolex National Geographic Explorer of the Year, and National Geographic Photo Ark Founder

House of Hope welcomes Joel Sartore as part of our environmental emphasis this spring.

Joel Sartore is a photographer, speaker, author, teacher, conservationist, National Geographic fellow, and regular contributor to *National Geographic* magazine. His hallmarks are a sense of humor and a midwestern work ethic.



Two Golden snub-nosed monkeys, *Rhinopithecus roxellana*, at Ocean Park Hong Kong

© Photo by Joel Sartore/
National Geographic Photo Ark

House of Hope Stewardship 2019

This year's campaign is off to a strong start. As of December 14, 2018, we have raised \$1,040,378 from 300 households—that's more than 80% of our budgeted goal of \$1,270,000.

If you haven't already made your pledge or would like to donate, please do so today. You can donate online on the church website or send it into the church office. Thank you for your participation. Your generous support is vital to this ministry.

Revisiting the Passing of the Plate

When the offering plate reaches you during our next service, I invite you—and us all—to take an extra moment to consider its significance.

Over the course of many services, the passing of the plate can come to feel like something to do quickly and without our full attention. But, like all parts of our service, it is an act of worship. When the



plate is passed to you, I welcome you to pause before you pass it along. Whether or not you offer a financial gift, hold the plate for an extra beat, place your hand on the plate, and offer a reflective silent prayer.

In this way, we remember that the passing is a symbolic act, and a communal one—with God as well as our fellow congregants. The brief moment allows us the opportunity to give thanks to God, to our family and friends, and to the worshiper next to you who will touch the plate next.



Women's Advent Breakfast

More than 70 House of Hope members and friends attended last month's Women's Annual Advent Breakfast. They were nourished in body, mind, and spirit by a delicious breakfast, the lovely setting, conversation and camaraderie, and an inspiring Advent meditation, *The Gospel According to Uncertainty*, by guest speaker Rev. Gale Robb.

HOH Community Retreat Clearwater Forest | June 7–9

Enjoy a waterfront view, communal meals, art, devotional times, and worship. From ropes courses and water activities to prayer labyrinths and relaxing by the bonfire, this retreat has something for all ages. We even have an infant and toddler play space.

Celebrate summert together in one of the two beautiful lodges. Cost is \$85 per participant, meals and lodging included. Scholarships available. For more information, contact Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org

CLOISTER GALLERY



"Everlasting Arms" (2016)

CAROLYN BRUNELLE PAINTINGS: 2004-2016

Carolyn Brunelle is a Minneapolis native. She studied art at the University of Minnesota with Malcolm Myers and at Hamline University with James Conaway and Steve Hartman. She has exhibited her paintings regularly over the past 30 years, winning a number of awards along the way.

"My work is a combination of plan, chance and imagination. I layer paint, then sand or scrape the surface to see what is revealed. It is a subconscious connection between experimentation and artistic judgement. It is an act of faith. Creating art is not static. I relate to the unexpected, the surprise that keeps me on my toes."

Carolyn lives in Golden Valley, MN with her husband of 53 years and has maintained a studio in the Midway neighborhood of St. Paul for 31 years. Carolyn is represented by Groveland Gallery, Minneapolis, MN.

grovelandgallery.com



Children, Youth, and Family Programming

Tweens Blanket-Tying Party

Fourth–sixth graders are invited to a night of food, fun, and service at House of Hope on Friday, January 11, 6–8:00 p.m. Tweens will enjoy dinner and games before learning to make tied-blankets for people being served by Women's Advocates. Cost for this event is \$7. Additional donations to offset the cost of blanket supplies is greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Leigh Stewart for leading the blanket-tying event. R.S.V.P. to Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org by Wednesday, January 9.

Reschedule Family Service Project

Due to lack of donation participation, we need to reschedule our January 13 Family Service Project. Stay tuned for other family events.



Sunday School Themes

Infants: Books about God's Love

Toddlers: New Testament stories of Jesus

Preschool – PreK: Stories of Jesus (Frolic)

Sunday Studio: Epiphany, Baptism, and Parables

Tweens: Gospel Stories



The Women of Mission

Sewing donated 17 quilts, five fleece blankets plus assorted other blankets, caps, scarves, and mittens to the YWCA's "Women in Transition" housing program in 2018. The group also donated fleece pet bedding and dog toys to the Animal Humane Center. Thank you for your hours of service.



Choir School

For more than 30 years, the House of Hope Choir School has offered outstanding choral music training to children PreK–Grade 12. As a Choir School chorister, children learn to express themselves through music, sing high quality and challenging repertoire, participate actively in worship, and grow in friendships and faith.

In addition to choral training, the Choir School offers five different ensembles and classes in voice and musicianship. Choristers enter with varying degrees of musical experience and prior musical training is not required.

The House of Hope Choir School has toured regionally and internationally to Canada, Norway, Denmark, Puerto Rico, England, and Germany, and has an upcoming tour to Latvia in 2019. We

have produced several recordings, most recently "Sing For Joy!"

The Choir School is open to both members and non-members of the House of Hope. New choristers of all ages are encouraged to try a Wednesday rehearsal in January. Contact Choir School Director Sofia Ardan at SofiaA@hohchurch.org to schedule a visit.



Come Sing with Us





ADVENT 2018



Women's Retreat

Prayer: Our Daily Bread, An Untold Mystery

April 26-28, 2019

St. John's Abbey Guesthouse

Speaker: Rev. Julia Carlson

"God is that reality whose center is everywhere and whose circumference is nowhere." This ancient wisdom reflects the reality that prayer is grounding and also a means to soar.

Please save the date and join together for a retreat on prayer.

The Power of Prayer

You are welcome to request prayers for yourself or a loved one through our Intercessors. To do so, call the church office at (651) 227-6311. Requests for prayers can be for any reason, including illness, job stress, or family discord. Please identify the timeline for your request. All requests are kept confidential.



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Justice Choir Songbook Community Sing

On February 1 at 7 p.m., House of Hope will host its annual community sing in conjunction with The Singers and Choirmaster Matthew Culloton.

This year we'll be joined by Tesfa Wondemagegnehu of St. Olaf to lead us in the Justice Choir Songbook. This new publication is a collaboration of local composers and musicians on the theme of social justice in the style of the protest



songs of the 1960s. This yearly community event draws singers from all over the Twin Cities, professional and amateur alike. The event is free and open to all ability levels. Music scores are provided. Come and join the fun!

Elizabeth Chapel Organ Recital Series

February 3 | 4 p.m.

The Elizabeth Chapel Organ Recital Series will present a program featuring trumpeters David Baldwin and Pamela Humphrey with organist Aaron David Miller. David and Pamela are founding members of the Summit Hill Brass Quintet and are well known to Twin Cities audiences. The program will feature works of Bach, Vivaldi, Telemann, and other works for two trumpets and organ. Following the concert will be a reception in the Kirk Parlour.

Free and open to the public.