Issue #265 | February 2019 The House of Hope Presbyterian Church

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SUNDAY SERIES The Photo Ark with Joel Sartore | March 3



As part of our environmental awareness focus this spring, House of Hope is proud to welcome National Geographic's Joel Sartore as our

Sunday Series speaker on March 3.

Photographer, speaker, author, teacher, conservationist, National Geographic fellow, *National Geographic* magazine contributor, Joel launched the Photo Ark project 11 years ago in his hometown of Lincoln, NE. Since then, his passion for preservation and conservation has taken him—and his camera—to 40 countries in a quest to create the Photo Ark archive of global biodiversity.

Inspiring hope, learning, and action

The Photo Ark's three-pronged approach harnesses the power of National Geographic photography and the bold ideas of explorers. Through Joel's camera, the project aims to document every species living in the world's zoos and wildlife sanctuaries, inspire action through education, and help save wildlife by supporting on-the-ground conservation efforts.

Thus far, Joel has harnessed his Midwestern work ethic and empathetic photographer's eye to complete portraits of more than 8,000 species. No matter its size, each animal is treated with affection and respect. The results are portraits that are not just stunningly beautiful, but intimate and moving. "It's the eye contact that moves people," Sartore explains. "It engages their feelings of compassion and a desire to help."

Once complete, the ambitious collection will feature portraits of roughly 12,000

species of birds, fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates, serving as an important record of each animal's existence and a powerful testament to the importance of saving them. The interaction between animals and their environments is the engine that keeps the planet healthy for all of us. But for many species, time is running out. When you remove one, it affects us all. The Photo Ark is a multiyear effort to raise awareness of and find solutions to some of the most pressing issues affecting wildlife and their habitats.

At the event, Joel will share many of his portraits, bringing his hallmark sense of humor and compassion.

#SaveTogether

The Photo Ark's interactive digital experience allows people to engage with Photo Ark content on its website, explore animals in the collection, and share information about endangered species. To engage online, please visit www.nationalgeographic.org/projects/photo-ark/.

About Joel Sartore

Joel has produced several books including RARE: Portraits of America's Endangered Species, Photographing Your Family, and two new National Geographic Photo Ark books: The Photo Ark and Animal Ark. Sartore has contributed to Audubon Magazine, Life, The New York Times, Sports Illustrated, and numerous book projects. Joel and his work have been the subjects of several national broadcasts, including National Geographic's Explorer, NBC Nightly News, NPR's Weekend Edition, Fresh Air with Terry Gross, and the PBS documentary series, Rare: Portraits of the Photo Ark. He is also a regular contributor on the CBS Sunday Morning Show.



Two Golden snub-nosed monkeys, Rhinopithecus roxellana, at Ocean Park Hong Kong © Photo by Joel Sartore/National Geographic Photo Ark

Sunday, March 3 Sanctuary | 2 p.m.

Forty Days of Focus: Life Groups Coming in Lent

By Rev. Zach Wilson

It's time to make some new friends. And to grow in our faith together. I'm starting a number of Life Groups—gatherings of six to 12 people who want to grow in faith and friendship. I'd like you to join us! Groups will meet six times during Lent, with our discussion starter, "Forty Days of Focus."

Groups will meet at a time and location of their choosing. There are already groups forming on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings at the church.

If you're interested in convening a Life Group or being part of one, please email me at ZachW@hohchurch.org. I'm looking forward to seeing how the Holy Spirit will bless this congregation with deeper connection to each other and to God.

Clergy Message



To look to the future, we have to look around us. Who are our neighbors? With the help of Percept Group ©, we have some intriguing statistics to mull over as House of Hope plans its future.

Our area has an above average level of education: 90% completed high school; 28% some college; 26% college grads; and 16% post-graduate degrees. In the next five years, the projection is for the population to increase by more than 25,000 people.

Provided below are interesting statistics from the population in the areas where the majority of House of Hope members live:

Top priority is fulfilling hopes and dreams: 33% Prefer contemporary church architecture: 18% Prefer traditional church architecture: 27% Desire Bible study discussion groups: 34% Desire adult theological discussion groups: 24% Desire family activities and outings 32% Desire active retirement programs: 30% Believe church role is to form moral values: 79% Hope to achieve financial security: 55% Dealing with stress: 30% Desire to find companionship: 19%

Each area raises some interesting possibilities for future HOH ministries. If you would like to see a full copy of the report, it will be available in the church office.

- Rev. Dr. Andrew L. McDonald



Didier Seminar 2019 | April 6–7

"Progressive Christianity" with Rev. Robin Meyers, Ph.D.

Saturday: 6:30 p.m. - wine and cheese reception, 7:30 p.m. - Lecture Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Enrichment



"In every age the Spirit speaks." Every spring for 20 years, our Didier Seminar has brought fresh voices of the Spirit. This April, it brings Rev. Robin Meyers, PhD., pastor, professor, *The New York Times* best-selling author, and challenging voice of Progressive Christianity.

Senior Minister at Mayflower Congregational UCC Church in Oklahoma City for 34 years and for nearly as long Distinguished

Professor of Social Justice at Oklahoma City University, Meyers' seven books include the much discussed, national bestseller, *Saving Jesus from the Church*. Meyers writes, "Progressive Christians must not surrender the Bible to fundamentalists, but join head and heart in the search for a relevant and intellectually honest church for the 21st century."

WORSHIP

10 a.m.

Sunday, February 3 *Macalester Sunday*

Sunday, February 10 Youth Sunday

Choir School: Unto Him That Loved Us, Williams The Father's Love, Lole I'm Goin' Up A Yonder, arr. Hawkins

Sunday, February 17 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Motet Choir: *Ubi Caritas,* Durufle *Alleluia. I Heard a Voice,* Weelkes (Tudor)

> **Choir School:** A Canon of Praise, Sleeth

Handbell Choir:

Meditation for Bells and Organ, Miller Meditation for Clarinet and Organ, Callahan Ian Boylan, clarinet Midnight Stars Make Bright the Sky, Margaret Cowen Clarinet and bells

Sunday, February 24 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Motet Choir: Behold How Good, Trotta Brother Sun, Sister Moon, Argento

> **Choir School** *Kyrie Eleison,* Klouse

Visit hohchurch.org for livestreaming of Sunday worship services.



February 3 | 11:15 a.m. | Assembly Room Dr. Andrew McDonald: Ethics and the Quest for Civility

Civility is rooted in our nation's founding principles. In our polarized world, Christianity has the potential to enrich both the content and the civility of public debate. We will consider what it will take to reclaim a more civil nation.

February 10 | 11:15 a.m. | Assembly Room To be announced

* Please note: David Hopper's lectures are postponed to a future date.

February 17 | 11:15 a.m. | Sanctuary Annual Meeting

February 24 | 11:15 a.m. | Assembly Room Tom Willadsen: Laughter's Healing Art

Join the PC(USA) PW national event's favorite speaker, as he shares the sacred truth that laughter is a common language for people of all faiths. Theologian Martin Marty calls Tom's style "unmistakable, vivid, compelling, and valuable." His writing has appeared in *Presbyterians Today, Leadership,* and *Visual Parables*.

February 24 | 11:15 a.m. | Room 1 Sunday Exchange

Real Conversation About What Matters. We build community around discussions. Our kickoff question: "Are 'the poor' welcome in your circle?" If you have children, childcare is available.

March 13, 20, 27 Lenten Education Series: Life Groups

Update from The Session | January 15, 2019

Transitional Pastor Report. A conversation is beginning about a capital campaign to address the future of the Great Hall, Kitchen and other spaces, in concurrence with the HVAC system upgrade. The Ad Hoc Visioning Committee continues.

Clerk's Report. John Tulloch reported the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) may coincide with the Visioning Committee's work.

Worship, Sacraments and Music. The Sacrament of Communion was celebrated by Intinction on Sunday, January 6, to 297 people. Anne Yuska is compiling children's stories about the church's stained glass windows.

Mission Outreach. Session will financially assist Kiera Stegall, Director of Children and Family Ministry, with a doctorate program at United Theological Seminary.

Membership Development. They distributed a packet titled: "House of Hope Membership Development Committee Inviting and At-Event Work Groups Plan with some broad suggestions." They are also in communication with a marketing and advertising group. Session supports the "membership empowerment" project.

Children and Family Ministry. Family Camp has been changed to the HOH Community Retreat with the goal of appealing to all generations. A Mardi Gras chili fundraiser is planned for March 3. T-shirts, hoodies, and aprons will be made for fundraising. Sunday School and Tween Transitions attendance is high.

Personnel Committee. Michelle Freyholtz has accepted the position as Acting Director of Administration. Anne Mitchell has resigned effective January 31.

Peace and Justice. March will focus on the environment, including Sunday Series speaker Joel Sartore and a presentation by Joel Light. A congregation-wide tree planting project is also being discussed. The committee is looking for 5-10 new members.

Nominating. The committee is meeting regularly to fill the slate of positions in anticipation of the February 17 Annual Meeting of the congregation.

Justice Choir Songbook Community Sing | February 1 | 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 1960's protest songs. 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.

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. The concert is free and open to the public.

House of Hope Women's Retreat Prayer: Our Daily Bread, An Untold Mystery

April 26–28, 2019 St. John's Abbey Guesthouse, Collegeville, MN Speaker: Rev. Julia Carlson

There is much to say about prayer and the practice of prayer, and we will do some of this. Volumes have been written about prayer and the practice of prayer, and we will share a bibliography. And all the while God is inviting us to "just do it," as Nike used to say, to pray. We will talk, share some readings, and experience a variety of ways to pray. –Rev. Julia Carlson, Facilitator

All women are invited for a weekend of reflection and renewal at Saint John's Abbey Guesthouse, approximately 90 miles west of St. Paul, on 2,600 acres of woodlands and lakes in Central Minnesota. Beside gatherings as a group, there will be time to reflect in silence, explore the beautiful campus and grounds, tour



the Saint John's Bible Gallery, and join the monastic community in worship and prayer.

Registration begins in March at our table near the Kirk Parlour. Cost of \$170 single occupancy or \$140 double occupancy, includes dinner Friday through breakfast Sunday and retreat materials, and is due at the time of registration. Space is limited, so register early.

Sunday-Weekday Connections February 26 | 6 p.m. | Kirk Parlour

Mary Sue Godfrey will speak about mothers and daughters supporting each other. Mary Sue joined House of Hope with her husband, Paul Godfrey, and has served as a deacon, on the Membership Development Committee, and helped organize special events like the annual ice cream social. She works in development and communications at the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities, and loves spending time outdoors, especially running, biking, and skiing.

Sunday-Weekday Connections brings together House of Hope women for fellowship and a light supper; all women and their guests are welcome. The cost is \$25. To reserve your spot, look for our table outside the Kirk Parlour after worship beginning February 17, or call the church office.

Save the date: March 26 | Shannon Law

HOH Community Retreat | June 7–9

House of Hope's Children and Family Ministry envisions a multigenerational ministry, connecting our youngest with our most experienced church family. In support of this evolving vision, we are reinventing the family camp experience, expanding activities to engage all ages.

Our multigenerational community retreat will be at Clearwater Forest. 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. Register to join us in one of the two beautiful lodges and help us celebrate summertime together. Cost is \$85 per participant, meals and lodging included. Children under 3 are free. Scholarships available. Show your support through our fundraisers:

Mardi Gras Chili Cook-off Fundraiser Sunday, March 3, 11:15 a.m.–12 p.m. Enjoy activities, fellowship, and a variety of delicious chili recipes for only \$5 each.

Mardi Gras Chili Cook-off Submissions Bring a homemade chili submission to enter. Crock pots encouraged. Please label your submission and note if vegetarian or not. One talented cook will win the prize. To sign-up, email Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org by Monday, February 25.

Show your support. We'll be selling House of Hope Logo T-Shirts, Hoodies, Aprons, and Tote Bags. You will be able to order them on Sunday mornings or online. More details to come.

All proceeds support scholarships for the HOH Community Retreat.

New Security System

To help keep members of the congregation, the staff, and the church's assets safe, the Session approved the installation of a security system that is now operational.

During regular office hours, building entry remains unchanged. On Sundays, doors will be unlocked for entry. Monday through Friday, a member of the staff will open the Portland and Summit Circle Drive doors by buzzer.

A plan for building hours that extend beyond office hours is under development. Please call the office at (651) 227-6311 to schedule all meetings. It is recommended that meetings and events be placed on the House of Hope calendar at least two weeks in advance.

Thank you all for your patience as we implement the new security system.

House of Hope Spiritual Read

Caring for Words in a Culture of Lies



Marilyn Chandler McEntyre

Caring for Words in a Culture of Lies by Marilyn Chandler McIntyre

This book started as the 2004 Stone Lectures for Princeton Theological Seminary. McIntyre is a professor, poet, and spiritual writer and here in these written orations, she considers our calling to the stewardship of language. She helps the reader strategize loving, creative, truthful, and playful communication. This is important work for all our relationships whether family and friends, or work and church. Communication, as the word's etymology suggests, is tied

to our ability to create community both of which translate into communion. The bibliography of this highly recommended read includes the *Oxford Book of Prayer*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Herman Hesse, Annie Dillard, Elie Weisel and others, and shares wisdom from writers ranging from Shakespeare to Mary Oliver. Community and communion depend on trustworthy communication.



March All-Church Book Read Spiritual Defiance

by Robin Meyers

Plan to get a copy of Robin Meyers' *Spiritual Defiance: Building a Beloved Community of Resistance.* It's his newest book, based on his Lyman Beecher Lectures at Yale Divinity School, one of the most distinguished lecture series in the world. While addressed to pastors, this paperback version is a fascinating read for anyone wondering, "What will it take to create a powerfully authentic future for church and faith?"

Michelle Freyholtz New Acting Director of Administration

My journey at House of Hope began in 1985 as I was finishing a degree in accounting at Saint Paul College. I was offered a job as a membership secretary and bookkeeper. As a single parent on food stamps, I made the decision to work at a church versus a law firm in downtown Saint Paul. I felt that the church would offer a secure environment to raise my three-year old son.

I was married in the sanctuary in 1990 by Rev. Calvin W. Didier. I envisioned a small ceremony, but it was packed with many family and friends.

One of my first tasks was to work with the trustees to upgrade the two large IBM computer processors for our first PC. A few years later, we hired our first Director of Administration and a woman as Head of Staff. Over my time at HOH, there have been many changes changes in leadership, staff and clergy have come and gone, including the death of a beloved colleague.

During my 33 years at HOH, I have acquired a vast knowledge of the church, its people, the building, and the financial systems and procedures. I will now bring that historical knowledge to this position. With our current leadership and administrative team, we will support the visioning process that we are undertaking. I feel a spiritual connection to the church and have a passion for the finance and administration of the organization.

CLOISTER GALLERY



Linda Snouffer

February 8–March 3 Artist reception on Sunday, March 3

Winter Nights/Summer Light

"Though the days are slowly getting longer, who doesn't crave the bright skies of summer? Stroll the gallery and fill your eyes and soul with images of brilliant days ahead."

Artist's Statement

My botanical printmaking process is very tactile. Using simple brayers and brushes, ink is applied to grasses and leaves; the inked plants are hand pressed onto pigment-infused surfaces such as Sumi paper, tissue, muslin, or organza. Through these low-tech means, I create multifaceted landscape compositions of common plants.

Prairies have a rich history; they beckon me to share their stories in my printmaking. I admire the structure of prairie plants, which, when healthy, have root systems three times the length of the stalk height to draw flood waters into aquifers and to draw water to the plant, persevering through drought periods.

Linda Snouffer.com



House of Hope Choir School Tour: Latvia, June 2019

The House of Hope Choir School has a long history of touring, both nationally and internationally. Previous trips include Norway and Denmark, Puerto Rico, England, and Germany. This June, choristers from the HOH Choir School will be traveling to Latvia, to share their love of Christ through music, visit the ancient places and modern cities that make this Baltic country unique, and experience the beauty of Latvia, where singing is a vital part of their cultural expression. The tour will include stays in the cities of Riga, Kuldiga, and Aispute, and incorporate opportunities to visit both urban and rural areas. Choristers will sing worship services and concerts at Aizpute Lutheran Church, the Church of St. Saviour, and St. Magdalena's Church in Riga. This wonderful opportunity will be led by Choir School Director Sofia Ardalan and HOH member Cindy Beilke, owner of Baltics and Beyond Travel. For more information, or to help support this amazing opportunity for our young singers, contact Sofia Ardalan at SofiaA@hohchurch.org.

Celebration of Committed Partnerships that Make Homeownership Possible

Dedications are one of the special pieces of Habitat for Humanity's program. They help show the impact stable, affordable housing has on families that partner with us. They also provide an opportunity to bring a community together to celebrate and "send the family off to success beyond their dreams," as Board Member Dan Shapiro wished one of the celebrated families in January. House of Hope is proud to partner with Habitat for Humanity on projects like these. We share the belief that "everyone deserves a safe, stable, affordable place to live." Thank you to our dedicated volunteer work group who makes home dedications like this possible.

If you'd like to learn more about opportunities to get involved with Habitat for Humanity, contact Dave Olsen at dwo823@yahoo.com or Jenny Stevens at jnn.stevens@gmail.com.



Dr. McDonald offering a dedication prayer for the Habitat house supported by House of Hope.



A new house for a family to call home.

Children, Youth, and Family Programming

Tweens Ice Skating Event Friday, February 8, 6–7:30 p.m.

Fourth through sixth graders are invited to a night of ice-skating fun at Groveland Recreation Center Ice Rinks (2021 St. Clair Ave, St. Paul). Tweens are welcome to bring their own skates or rent skates at no charge. Please eat dinner before arrival. There is no cost for this event. Chaperones are needed. RSVP to Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org by Wednesday, February 6.

Parents Night Out Fundraiser Friday, February 22, 5–9 p.m.

Children, birth through sixth grade, are invited for a night of fun while their parents enjoy an evening out. Young children will play in the nursery. Older children will enjoy games, movie time, art, and more. Snacks will be provided, but children need to bring their own dinner. Pajamas are encouraged. Cost is \$20 for the first child and \$10 for each additional child. RSVP to Kiera Stegall at KieraS@ hohchurch.org by Monday, February 18. Proceeds support scholarships for the Community Retreat.



The Tweens and their teen helpers made blankets for Women's Advocates in January. Thanks to Kiera Stegal, Director of Children and Family Ministry, for making it happen, the Mission Sewing Ministry for preparing the fabric, and to Alice Morehouse and Leigh Stewart for teaching and working with the kids!



Sunday Series don Lemon





Christmas Sponsor a Family Thank You

A special thank you to all members who contributed to our program this year. In December, we delivered a truckload of wrapped gifts to five different organizations in St. Paul including the YWCA, the Wilder Foundation, Community of Peace Academy, Neighborhood House, and Liberty Plaza. We sponsored 76 families—touching the lives of 288 individuals. And, we were able to give a \$50 Cub Foods gift card to each family. A special thank you to House of Hope middle schoolers who helped load the truck the morning after their lock-in! The spirit of giving is alive and well in our congregation. —Stacy Paleen



Thank you so much. I have been really depressed these last few months. When I got those presents, My spirit was lifted. I can never express in words what your generosity has done for me. It has definately got me doing a little extra everyday. I pray that someday I can pay your kindness forward. Thank Yo Thank you once Again,



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Macalester Sunday | February 3

On Sunday, Feburary 3, House of Hope will host Reverend Kelly Stone, College Chaplain and Associate Dean at Macalester College. College President Brian Rosenberg will speak on behalf of the college. The Macalester College Concert Choir will provide music for the service, with bagpipes and drum leading the procession and recession. Traditional shortbread will be served in the Kirk Parlour following the service.

On Macalester Sunday, we celebrate our historic ties to Macalester College, including our mutual founder the Rev. Dr. Edward Duffield Neill. Neill was Superintendent of Public Instruction for the Minnesota Territory from 1851–53 and chancellor of the state university from 1858–61. During the Civil War, he served in the army as a hospital chaplain. Neill worked for Presidents Lincoln and Johnson, who nominated him United States Commissioner of Education. He served as the president of Macalester College and afterwards as professor of history and literature.

