



Sunday Series at House of Hope

Discussing key issues of our day through artistic engagement with life and faith.



January 19, 2020 | 2 p.m. | Sanctuary Pulitzer-Prize Winning Writer Leonard Pitts, Jr.

Martin Luther King weekend 2020, House of Hope presents Pulitzer-Prize winning writer Leonard Pitts, Jr. Pitts is the author of the bestseller *Becoming Dad: Black Men and the Journey to Fatherhood*, a poignant account of the meaning of black fatherhood in the contemporary United States. His *Miami Herald* newspaper column on current affairs, human rights, and human wrongs is syndicated in more than 250 newspapers.

Pitts was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 1992 and winner in 2004. He won the top prize for commentary at the Scripps Howard Foundation's National Journalism Awards in 2002. He has also won awards from the Society of Professional Journalists, the National Association of Black Journalists, the American Association of Sunday and Feature Editors, and the Simon Wiesenthal Center, among others.

Pitts will preach at Sunday worship and speak at 2 p.m. in our Sunday Series.



March 29, 2020 | 2 p.m. | Sanctuary David Brooks

House of Hope hosted an Adult Enrichment session on *The Second Mountain: The Quest for a Moral Life* in September. And we are thrilled to welcome David Brooks to our Sunday Series this spring. Brooks possesses a special gift for bringing audiences face to face with the spirit of our times with humor, insight, and passion.

The Second Mountain explores the four commitments that define a life of meaning and purpose: to a spouse and family, to a vocation, to a philosophy or faith, and to a community. He was part of a university-wide conversation at Yale on the subject of joy: What makes for a joyful life? Brooks believes that God is a crucial part of discovering joy. Joy is found in community, in commitments, in service. In a speech at St. Olaf College last year, Brooks said, "Once we were in a culture where we were all in this together." We can't recapture past history, but we can have something far more profound than the tribalism that afflicts us now. In that sense, this book is a starting place for a new American redemption story of cohesion and national purpose.

Brooks will preach at Sunday worship and speak at 2 p.m. in our Sunday Series.

WORSHIP

10 a.m.

Sunday, January 5
2nd Sunday of Christmas

9:45 a.m. Prelude
Carols for Handbells and Harp

Sunday, January 12
Baptism of the Lord

The Motet Choir:
Anthems

Choir School:
At the River, Copland

Sunday, January 19
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preaching: Leonard Pitts, Jr.

The Motet Choir:
Anthems

Choir School:
All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above,
arr. Lenel

2 p.m. Sunday Series with
Leonard Pitts, Jr.

Sunday, January 26
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Motet Choir:
Anthems

Choir School:
Gloria, Giardiniere

The Book of Revelation: Understanding the Most Misunderstood Book in the Bible



Many Christians find The Book of Revelation to be the most puzzling book in all Scripture. What can we make of swirling images of the four

horsemen of the apocalypse, the beast whose number is 666, and the great battle with the antichrist? And what about the final judgment: who goes into the lake of fire? Some Christians often cite this book as a warning against signs of the coming end times.

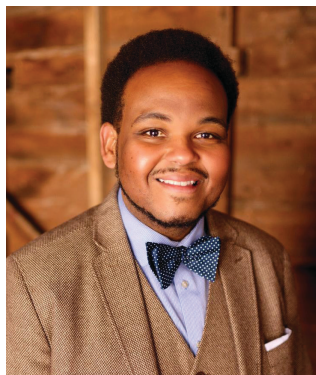
Using Biblical, historical, theological, sociological, and literary tools, we will work our way through this fascinating book to rediscover Revelation as a source of faith for reasonable people. It is a powerful book of liberation for peoples in oppressed situations seeking hope. And contrary to most interpretations, we will discover this artistic work as a source of profound grace. Taught by Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m., beginning January 15, 2020.

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) Update

The PNC continues to meet weekly to keep this process moving forward. We have completed the first round of interviews for the Head Pastor position and were pleased with the candidates.

The second round of interviews will begin in January 2020.

PNC: Sue Haigh, Chair; Lisa Yost, Vice Chair; Sherwood Pomeroy; Charley Stewart; Elly Verhagen; Steve Yetter; Amber Winkelman; Jill Winter; John Zwier



The Justice Choir Songbook Saturday, February 8 | 3 p.m.

House of Hope will host its annual community sing in conjunction with The Singers and Choirmaster Matthew Culloton. Due to the popularity of last year's Community Sing, **Tesfa Wondemagegnehu** will return to introduce new additions and favorites from *The Justice Choir Songbook*, a collection of music about civic, social, and environmental rights.

Free and open to the public.



Hospitality and Engagement at House of Hope

with Rev. Julia Carlson



A year ago, I interviewed eight folks who do not regularly attend church using six simple questions. Some were strangers I walked up to at National Night Out, and others were

friends or family that I met through HOH members. It was a wonderful, enlightening experience.

Because I believe it will be enlightening for you and help us all gain greater understanding of our neighbors, I am inviting you to interview one or two of your neighbors who do not attend church using a few open and non-judgmental questions. There will be a training session on January 5 after worship at 11:15 a.m. in Room 1. Additional training sessions will be held on Wednesday, January 8 at 1 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. in Room 1. There will be several opportunities to gather in small groups afterwards to talk about your experience.

Mark your calendar:

February 23, 2020

11:15 a.m. in Rooms A & B

Doctor of Ministry Research

Information Session:

Changing World, Changing Church



2020 Pilgrimage to France

A wonderful trip is planned to the Normandy Coast, Mont Saint Michel, Rouen, and Lisieux before a three day retreat with the Rev. Dr. Jill Geoffrion at Chartres Cathedral. We will conclude our time in France with a panoramic tour of Paris. Space is limited, reserve your spot today. Call or email Julia Carlson at JuliaC@hohchurch.org for more information, or to see travel brochures visit kiosks in the church or our website.



Reverberations

You will want to be sure to be at House of Hope on **Sunday, January 5, 2020** for the prelude: Carols for Handbells and Harp. The prelude will begin at 9:45 a.m. The Adult Bell Choir will be assisted by Rhonda Grobe, harpist, for musical offerings that will continue the festive season of Christmastide. Invite your family and friends to join you for this special musical event which will bring our twelve days of Christmas to their conclusion.

BELONG

SAVE THE DATE

HOH Community Retreat

June 5–7, 2020

Join House of Hope for a multigenerational community retreat at Clearwater Forest. Enjoy a waterfront view, communal meals, art, devotional times, and worship. From ropes courses and water activities to prayer labyrinths and bonfires, 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 we rented, and help us celebrate summertime together. Cost is \$85 per participant, which includes meals and lodging. Children, 3 years old and younger, participate for free. Scholarships available. Registration opens soon.





Adult Education at HOH

Education, Enrichment, Friendship

It's a new year and a new decade and we're looking forward to a year of edifying and enriching opportunities for spiritual growth, learning, and deepening relationships.

January 5 at 11:15 a.m.

TBD

January 12

When the Minnesota Capital was going through its recent renovations the workers found some fascinating artifacts and discovered some mysterious features. Come learn about these findings with the project's manager Paul Mandela.

January 15

Rev. Dr. McDonald will launch his study on perhaps the most misinterpreted and mysterious book of the Christian Scriptures: Revelation. This study begins on this Wednesday and will continue on the subsequent Wednesday evenings in January at 7 p.m.

January 19

Columnist Leonard Pitts, Jr. is preaching at Sunday worship and speaking at 2 p.m. in our Sunday Series.

January 26

First Lady Gwen Walz has been invited to speak about her topic of choice including her work and advocacy for Minnesota's children and using the liberal arts as powerful and transformative tools in educating and reforming Minnesota's incarcerated citizens.

Women's Breakfast Book Group

7 a.m. | Kirk Parlour

January 3: New Year's Day Break – no meeting

January 10, 17: *A Year of Biblical Womanhood: How a Liberated Woman Found Herself Sitting on Her Roof, Covering Her Head, and Calling Her Husband Master*, Rachel Held Evans

January 24, 31: *Brooklyn*, Colm Toibin

HOH Adult Song Group

Thursday, January 9 | 1 p.m. | Kirk Parlour

If you like to sing, you've met all the pre-requisites for this fellowship opportunity. Join us as we begin the new year with song.

Mission Sewing Group

Thursday, January 9 | 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Dining Rooms A & B

Joy Davis' Second Thursday Literature Series

Thursday, January 9 | 10 a.m. | Library

Sunday Exchange

Is anything happening in your life? Let's talk. Sunday Exchange is a twice-a-month (second and last Sundays) opportunity to talk—to talk on purpose about living questions. We begin at 11:15 a.m. in Room 1. Pick up coffee or tea and join us. If you have children, they can remain in childcare until noon.

January 12: We'll ask what do you do with "truths" you no longer believe?

January 26: To what or to whom will you willingly release control?

Sunday-Weekday Connections

January 28 at 6 p.m. | Kirk Parlour

Mary Cardinal Peterson will speak on how her faith led and sustained her through a long career in corrections. Mary and her husband, Tom, have been members of House of Hope for more than 20 years, where she has served as a Sunday school shepherd, deacon, elder, and as coordinator of our National Night Out event. She recently retired from the Minnesota Correctional Facility in Lino Lakes, where she worked with people convicted of sexual offenses.

Sunday-Weekday Connections brings together women of the congregation for fellowship and a light supper. The cost is \$25. Reserve your spot at our table outside the Kirk Parlour after worship or call the church office.

Upcoming: February 28 and March 31





Children, Youth, and Family Programming

Tweens Blanket-Tying and Movie Party

Friday, January 10, 6–8 p.m.

Fourth–eighth graders are invited to join us for a night of fun and service at House of Hope. Kids will enjoy dinner and a movie, while making tied-blankets for people in underserved communities. Cost for this event is \$10. Additional donations to offset the cost of blanket supplies is greatly appreciated. RSVP to Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org by Wednesday, January 8.

Parents Night Out

Friday, January 24, 5–8 p.m.

Children, birth–fifth grade, are invited to join us for games, art, snacks, a movie, and more. Bring your dinner and your friends. Cost is \$20 for the first child and \$5 for each additional child. Adult volunteers are needed. Reservations are required to ensure appropriate staffing. RSVP to Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org by Monday, January 20.

Clearwater Forest Camp-in-the-City (VBS 2020)

June 22–26, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Join us for Camp-in-the-City at House of Hope this summer! Clearwater Forest staff facilitate this fun-filled week, which includes Bible stories, art, outdoor activities, and more! Cost is \$60 per child and is open to children, 4 years old by September 1, 2019, through Grade 5, completed by June 2020. Registration opens soon. Volunteers are needed to provide housing and meals for Clearwater Forest staff or to supervise children during lunch and rest time.

Dinner and Discussion for Senior High Youth

Sunday, January 26, 6 p.m.

Please email Rev. Zach Wilson at ZachW@hohchurch.org if you have questions or would like to suggest a discussion topic.

Youth Director Search

The Personnel Committee with the concurrence of the Children and Family Committee and Youth Committee are pursuing an Interim Director of Youth Ministries with the youth interim ministry and consulting firm InterServe Ministries. We hope to interview candidates after Christmas and will let the congregation know as soon as possible when the Interim Director of Youth Ministries is brought on board. They will serve from 6–12 months and, in addition to supporting the current and new program, will help House of Hope discern our next steps in youth ministry.

If you want to learn a little more about InterServe, visit www.interserveministries.com.



The House of Hope Choir School

Inspiring voices since 1982

Want to start the new year off with something new? Try music lessons! Music can be a lifelong journey and joy; it's rarely too early and never too late to start! The House of Hope Choir School offers outstanding music education to all with five choral ensembles for PreK–grade 12 as well as individual instruction in piano and voice for all ages and levels, children and adult! Schedule a visit or a lesson today! Contact Choir School Director Sofia Ardan at SofiaA@hohchurch.org.



Wednesday Evening Community Meal

Community Meals will begin again on **Wednesday, January 15 at 6 p.m.** Everyone is invited to sign up on MyHoH: bit.ly/HoH_Meal2020, on Sunday mornings, or by calling the church office. While we suggest a donation of \$5/individual and \$12/family, there is no charge for the meals. Please come

whether or not you can give. Volunteers are needed to prepare the meal and clean up. Contact Rev. Zach Wilson if you'd like to help once—or weekly.

The menus and meals are family-friendly—we have high chairs and food children will eat. There is always vegetarian fare, and we work hard to have nutritional, tasty meals. These meals are especially great if you're part of the choir or attending Rev. Dr. McDonald's Revelation Study. You can show up, eat, and then go to choir or class. You don't need to show up right at 6 p.m. We can serve up to 50 people so please sign up today so that we can plan. If you don't sign up, please show up anyway; we usually have a little extra for you!



Mission Outreach at HOH

Prior Crossing Winter Party

Volunteers from House of Hope, along with volunteers from Temple of Aaron, provided a "Winter Party" for the residents of Prior Crossing on December 12. Dinner was served and every resident was given a \$25 Target gift card. In order to encourage interaction among the residents, there was also a cookie decorating table, a craft table, and a BINGO game where residents could win prizes. This is the fourth year that this party was hosted by House of Hope, and the residents were very appreciative of the nice meal, gifts, and activities. Thank you to the House of Hope congregation and the Mission Outreach Committee for the funding to provide this party.

We received a nice note from the director there after the party:

"It was a wonderful event and I think the residents had a great time. The food was delicious, activities and bingo were a big hit, and your prizes were amazing! Even if the youth didn't express it directly, we know by their participation, reactions, and enjoyment that they were very appreciative and grateful for everything. Thank you for all the effort and thought you put into making the party so special! We all appreciate you more than you know!"



Box Tops for Education Go To a Phone App

As many of you may know, Mission Sewing has been collecting Box Tops for Education and sending them to the Navajo Lutheran Mission School in Rock Point, AZ. Traditional box top coupons are being phased out, and the program will become digital only. Donations can be made using a new Box Tops app. Please see **BTFE.com** for information.



We thank you for the thousands of box tops you have provided over the years and hope you will continue to support this mission. The school name to look for in the app is Navajo Christian Preparatory Academy.

Direct your old-format box top donations as soon as possible to:
Navajo Lutheran Mission School
P.O. Box 354
Rock Point, AZ 86545

Food — It's Basic!

Food fuels bodies and minds, and it is an exceptional gift in this season of giving. Families with children and seniors are two groups where the demand for food is growing. Drop a check (notation Food Pantry) in the plate, or bring your groceries to the carts this month. We will make sure the help gets promptly to Neighborhood House and Hallie Q. Brown food pantries.

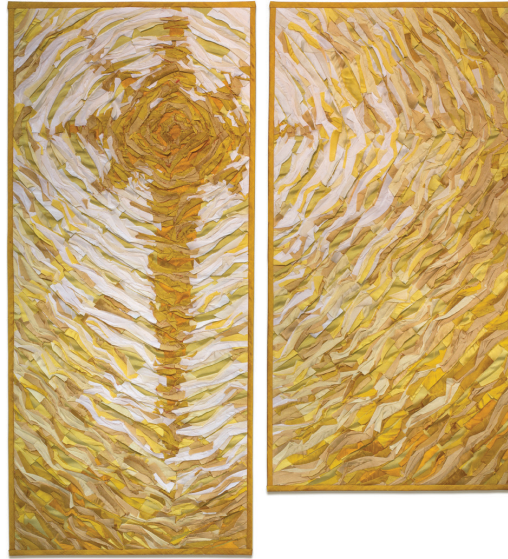


New Paraments: Christmas

Created by Tim Harding

We hope that during the month of December, you were amazed at the stunning beauty of the new Advent Paraments designed and created by the internationally-known fiber artist Tim Harding. Several layers of various colors of silk are arranged, stitched together, cut, and pressed to create the design and reveal what is partially hidden underneath. So far, five of the six sets of new paraments, which hang in the sanctuary from the pulpit and the lectern, have been revealed to the congregation. Beginning in 2019 with Easter (yellow golds), Pentecost (reds), Ordinary Time (greens), and Advent (blues), these paraments coordinate with the liturgical calendar of the church year. The fifth set, the Christmas Paraments, were revealed on Christmas Eve to all who attended the various services that day. These beautiful white and gold paraments with light radiating from a shimmering star reflect the wonder and awe of the Christmas season as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. These paraments will continue to hang in the sanctuary until January 17. Please take the time before and after the services to observe up close these lovely works of art that adorn our beautiful place of worship.

The sixth and final set of new Lent Paraments will be revealed on Ash Wednesday, February 26. We wait in anticipation for the final reveal of these original works of art.



INSPIRE



CLOISTER GALLERY

Photos from the recent **Choir School tour to Latvia** will be on display in the Cloister Gallery in January. Each chorister has selected images, memories, and stories to share during this exhibit. The Choir School traveled and performed in Latvia in June 2019.



Earth Care

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein.

—Psalm 24:1

Earth Care Congregations

Earth Care Congregations commit to an Earth Care Pledge developed by the Social Justice and Peacemaking Unit of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and complete an audit showing they accomplished a specific number of actions toward caring for God's creation in worship, education, facilities, and outreach. House of Hope's Session affirmed the Earth Care Pledge at its November meeting and this month the Earth Care Team of the Peace and Justice Committee will submit an application for House of Hope certification as an Earth Care Congregation. Some actions which House of Hope accomplished to qualify include:

Worship

- Presented a Minute for Mission
- Use glass communion cups

Education

- Guest speakers on earth care
- Monthly "Earth Care" column

Facilities

- Pre-season HVAC checkups
- Most light bulbs are LED

Outreach

- Grows a community garden
- Rents space to a non-profit group

Let us know! If you are taking steps to live in mindful stewardship of God's creation, when you sign the Friendship pad during Sunday worship, next to your name put an



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Didier Seminar 2020 February 29 and March 1



The New Cosmic Story: Inside our Awakening Universe with Internationally Renowned Theologian John Haught

Scientific advances are making it clear that the universe is a story still unfolding. How does science inform faith and vice versa? How has our idea of the universe changed over the past 2,000 years? What is the new cosmic story and how does it invite a new understanding of the religious quest? Do the stories we've been telling about the universe and religion still work? Do they compete or interact? Does human experience—what we now know, how we feel, what we do—have an impact on the evolving universe?

Saturday, February 29

6:30 p.m. - Wine and cheese reception
7:30 p.m. - Lecture: "The New Cosmic
Story and the Meaning of Faith"

Sunday, March 1

10 a.m. - Sermon: "Faith and Ecology
for an Unfinished Universe"
11 a.m. - Lecture: "Evolution and Faith:
What is at Stake?"

2020 Didier Book Available

Pick up your copy of John Haught's book
The New Cosmic Story on sale January
5 and 12 outside the Kirk Parlour after
worship.

Didier 2020 Prep Book Study February 5, 12, and 19 at 7 p.m.

Phil Bolinder presents an overview and
leads discussion of *The New Cosmic Story*.

February 5: Motive and Essential Ele-
ments (Intro. and Chapter 1—Dawning)

February 12: Three Ways of Reading the
Universe (Chapter 2—Awakening)

February 19: Implications for Religious
Traditions (Chapters 3–12)