

THE
ANCHOR

Issue #278 | March 2020

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church



WORSHIP

10 a.m.

Sunday, March 1
1st Sunday in Lent

The Motet Choir

Choir School:
Call To Remembrance, Farrant

Sunday, March 8
2nd Sunday in Lent

The Motet Choir

Choir School:
Kyrie, Klouse

Sunday, March 15
3rd Sunday in Lent

The Motet Choir

Choir School:
Ah, Holy Jesus, arr. Courtney

Sunday, March 22
4th Sunday in Lent

The Motet Choir

Choir School:
Behold the Lamb of God, Bouman

Sunday March 29
5th Sunday in Lent

Bell Choir:
Air, Susan Nelson
Pedalpoint and Passacaglia, Hopson
Jesus, Lover of My Soul, Osman

The Motet Choir

On the cover:
Paraments for Lent created by
Tim Harding. Read more on
page 3. Photo credit: Dick Crone

Lenten Reflection

In his Prayer of the Church, taken from *Prayers for a Privileged People*, Walter Brueggemann wrote:

*"In your presence and in the company of
your good saints,
we offer you our praise and thanksgiving,
for life and for calling,
for the joys of friendship,
and for the burden of faith."*

Brueggemann often startles me with new understandings of truth. Even in these first five lines I am immediately caught by the phrase *burden of faith*. Christianity asks a great deal of us. It is a rare day I feel I've got this. On most days I feel near-by and engaged, but rarely able to open to the full weight of glory this faith requires.

I need Lent. I need the whole church calendar with all its seasons and the sacred lessons they teach; now as Ash Wednesday approaches, the need becomes specific. Lent is the season of introspection and penitence. On Ash Wednesday, we are told to go into our rooms and pray; we are invited to fast from the things that distract us from God. In our present time as in all times, there are few directives more important than these.

Over a decade ago, Brueggemann startled me with something he called "The 19 Theses." It begins, "Everybody lives by a script. The script may be implicit or explicit. It may be recognized

or unrecognized, but everybody has a script... The dominant scripting in our society is a script of technological, therapeutic, consumer militarism that socializes us all, liberal and conservative." From the middle of the list comes the inbreaking of Lent: "The alternative script is rooted in the Bible and is enacted through the tradition of the Church." And from the end, "The work of ministry is crucial and pivotal and indispensable in our society precisely because there is no one except the church and the synagogue" to help all people, "liberal and conservative, to find generative faithful ways to relinquish the old script in favor of the alternative script" or God's *Kindom*.

At House of Hope this Lenten season, we offer many ways to "go into our rooms to pray:"

- Dwelling in the Word and Dwelling in the World (see page 3)
- Centering Prayer on Mondays at 11 a.m.
- Adult Enrichment offerings throughout the month (see page 4)
- Wednesday Evening Prayer (see page 5)

Whatever divides us are scripts of human origin, and it befits us to pray and ponder God's unity and wholeness. Our invitation is to come and be startled by God's preferred future and to carry the burden of our faith with grace as we live toward that kingdom/kingdom. —*Julia*

Easter Lilies

Easter lilies in memory or in honor of loved ones may be reserved in the church office, by visiting hohchurch.org, or by calling the church office (651) 227-6311. To reserve online, click "Giving at House of Hope" at the top of our homepage and then follow the prompts. The deadline is noon on Sunday, March 29. The cost is \$15 per plant. If you do not wish to purchase a plant, please consider making a donation to HOH's Mission Outreach fund. Memorials will be published in the Easter Sunday bulletin on April 12.



Dwell in the *Word* for Lent

Please participate in this modern take on the ancient practice of *Lectio Divina*, or sacred reading. It begins by hearing a text read aloud. There is a time of silence, and then the text is read again. Each person is invited to listen for words or phrases that catch your attention that day. Or you might hear a question or a wondering from within the text. After listening, participants share their words or phrases, their questions or wonderings with a discussion partner. Then the discussion broadens out to include everyone at the table but rather than share your own insights, you share your partner's thoughts, and they talk about yours. This way, both the listening and the sharing goes deeper. Those who developed this practice see it as an opportunity to "listen one another into free speech."

All are welcome as your schedule allows. Sundays: March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5, in Room 1 at 8:30 a.m.

Dwell in the *World*

Are you a walker? Have you ever taken a prayer walk? The practice of Dwelling in the World comes from folks at a church consulting firm who believe being out in the world among neighbors and, in this case, in prayer, will help us discern the future of the church. Taking a walk in the neighborhood of the church or among the houses, businesses, and schools near your home, opens the eyes of the heart to see even the most familiar places in new ways. It/prayer/God/Spirit leads us.

Do you want to try it? You can pick up instructions and get a short orientation to the practice from Rev. Julia Carlson outside the Kirk Parlour after worship on March 1, 8, and 29. We will get together in small groups afterwards to share our experiences.



House of Hope Women's Retreat

"The Gifts of Creation: Sustenance, Enjoyment, Renewal"

Friday, May 1–Sunday, May 3 | Saint John's Abbey Guesthouse, Collegeville

Rev. Julia Carlson, Facilitator

In the first chapter of Genesis, we are told that our image mirrors that of God. In the second chapter, human beings are made in the image of the Earth/earth. As a part of our identity comes from the earth, let's spend the weekend thinking about this groundedness, all the while being "lost in wonder, love, and praise," as the hymn says.

All women are invited for a weekend of reflection and renewal at Saint John's Abbey Guesthouse in central Minnesota. Our yearly retreat offers time away from daily routines to deepen our relationship with God and creation. 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, visit the Saint John's Pottery, and join the monastic community in worship and prayer.

Register at our table near the Kirk Parlour on March 8, 15, or 22. Cost of \$175 single occupancy or \$145 double occupancy includes lodging, all meals, and materials, and is due at the time of registration. *Space is limited*, so register early.

New Paraments: Lent

Created by Tim Harding

The Lent Paraments were revealed on Ash Wednesday, February 26 and are the sixth and final set created for House of Hope by fiber artist Tim Harding. All of the paraments are made of multiple layers and colors of stitched and cut silk.

This sixth set, the Lent Paraments, reveal a partially-hidden cross that becomes more apparent as you gaze at the image and contemplate this solemn time of reflection and preparation before Easter. The Lent Paraments will be displayed until Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday.

The Paraments Committee trusts that these beautiful works of art enrich your worship experience throughout the year. Thank you to committee members: Lynn Schindler (chair), Mary Patton, Patty Paulus, Evelyn Sunness, and Elly Verhagen for your work.

Reverberations

I appreciated the many worshippers who spoke to the members of the Bell Choir and its director following the January 5 service featuring *Carols for Handbells and Harp* with words of thanks, and even questions about the music. In 41 years, this was likely a first at House of Hope: the Bell Choir providing musical offerings throughout the service and then ending with several varied ringing techniques for the final hymn which carried into the benediction. Bells incorporated throughout the service add a new dimension to the words and sounds of worship and the ensemble had a great time preparing and offering this music.

We welcome new members to the Bell Choir. There's no audition—anyone with music reading skills and a sense of humor should consider joining us! Stop by any Wednesday evening from 7–8:30 p.m. to see what it's all about. —*Tim Short, Music Associate*



Adult Enrichment at HOH

Didier Seminar

The 2020 Didier Seminar features theologian John Haught, Ph.D. speaking about his book *The New Cosmic Story and the Meaning for Faith*.

February 29

6:30 p.m. - Welcome Reception

7:30 p.m. - Lecture: *The New Cosmic Story and the Meaning of Faith*

March 1

10 a.m. - Sermon: *Faith and Ecology for an Unfinished Universe*

11:15 a.m. - Lecture: *Evolution and Faith: What is at Stake?*

March 4

Noon - Table Talk: No lecture, no book, just the question, *What did you hear?*

Call the office (651) 227-6311 by March 1 to register and order lunch.

Peace and Justice Enrichment

March 8

11:15 a.m. | Assembly Room

Otis Zanders President/CEO of Ujamaa Place and Ramsey County Attorney John Choi will address the collateral consequences of the criminal justice system and efforts to proactively help rehabilitated residents.

March 15

11:15 a.m. | Assembly Room

Melvin Whitfield Carter Jr., founder of Save Our Sons, a retired St. Paul Police Sergeant, and father of St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter III will be here to discuss his autobiography, *Diesel Heart*. In this book, he openly shares his story of growing up in St. Paul's Rondo neighborhood. Books will be available for purchase.

March 29

11:15 a.m. | Assembly Room

Rev. Dr. Alika P. Galloway is co-pastor at Liberty Community Church, PCUSA, Minneapolis, CEO/Director of the Northside Healing Space, and founder of the 21st Century Academy. Topic: *Healing on the Northside of Minneapolis*.

Feminist Theology

March 15 | 11:15 a.m. | Room 1

Led by Rev. Julia Carlson. All are welcome to a time of learning and discussion around women's experience of God and the many gifts women bring to the church.

The Missional Church

March 22 | 11:15 a.m. | Rooms A & B

What Is God Up to in the Neighborhood? Join Rev. Julia Carlson for a presentation on the Missional Church as a part of her Doctor of Ministry Research Project: HOH and Hospitality.

Women's Breakfast Book Club

Fridays | 7 a.m. | Kirk Parlour

March 6: Lenten Meditation with Rev. Julia Carlson

March 13, 20: *The Library Book*, Susan Orlean

March 27: *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith*, Barbara Brown Taylor

Adult Song Group

Thursday, March 12 | 1 p.m. | Kirk Parlour

All are invited to sing a variety of music at our Thursday gatherings: March 12, April 16, and May 7. We are fortunate to have Aaron David Miller or Shana Wagner as our accompanists. If you like to sing, join us to raise our voices together in song.

Mission Sewing Group

Thursday, March 5 | 9:30 a.m. | Dining Rooms A & B

Join Mission Sewing in making blankets and enjoy the fellowship. No sewing skills are needed.

Sunday Exchange

Sundays, March 8 and March 22 |

11:15 a.m. | Room 1

We're all searching, in some way. It feels good to do it together. Sunday mornings, we get the opportunity to worship. To catch up with each other and learn something new. Sunday Exchange is a twice-a-month conversation—a cup of coffee around a table with a question to discuss. Pick up some coffee and join us. If you have children, they can remain in childcare until noon.

March 8: *Are those being left behind part of your life?*

March 22: *Where do you find yourself getting "stuck" in your faith?*



Sunday-Weekday Connections

March 31 | 6 p.m. | Kirk Parlour

Lisa Yost will speak on her personal and spiritual journey. Lisa joined House of Hope in 2014 with her partner, Tom Skovholt. She currently serves as an elder and on the Pastor Nominating Committee. A toxicologist, Lisa has worked on environmental health issues since 1980. She lives in St. Paul and in her off hours enjoys spending time with her adult daughter, Rachel.

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



Children, Youth, and Family Programming

Tweens Minute-to-Win-It **Friday, March 13, 6–8 p.m.**

Fourth through eighth graders and their friends are invited to enjoy a variety of fast-paced, silly games and activities. Cost is \$10 per person for dinner and activities. Adult volunteers are needed. RSVP to Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org by Wednesday, March 11.

March Parents Night Out **Friday, March 20, 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, March 16.

Camp in the City (VBS) **June 22–26, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.**

Run by the staff of Clearwater Forest, this is a fun-filled week of stories, games, art, snacks, outdoor activities, music, and more. This camp is open to children 4-years-old by September 1, 2019

Summer Opportunities for High Schoolers

Mission Trip to Pine Ridge, SD **June 14–19 (plus travel days)**

HOH youth will have the opportunity to serve the people of the Rosebud Reservation through home improvement projects and work with local children. During the evenings, groups will hike and learn about the culture of Rosebud. Reserve your spot at MyHoH or email Rev. Wilson at ZachW@hohchurch.org for more information. Amy Greening and Rev. Wilson are the group leaders.

through students entering sixth grade in the fall 2020. Cost is \$60 per participant. Scholarships are available. Registration is open on the House of Hope website. Volunteers are needed to provide housing and meals for Clearwater Forest staff or to supervise children. Contact Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org to learn more.

Middle School Mission Days **Mondays: June 29, July 20, August 17**

The day will include a service project, lunch out, and a social event for the second half of the day.



Choir School **Spring Fundraiser**

The Choir School will be selling Easter lilies and spring plants as a fundraiser for future tours and special events. Look for their table outside the Kirk Parlour after worship on March 1 and March 8.



Come to the Table | Lent 2020

We live in a time when communication options abound, but some report feeling lonelier than ever. House of Hope offers an opportunity to ***Come to the Table*** this Lenten season. Taking the time to eat together, pray together, and share deeply who we are is what we need to reflect and grow.

Be Fed—Lenten Dinners

Wednesdays, March 5–April 1, 5:45 p.m. Join in directed conversation with those you know (and don't know)—draw closer to each other and to God.

Lift Our Voices

After dinner, we will adjourn for a time of sung evening prayer and devotion concluding no later than 7 p.m. Aaron David Miller will provide accompaniment.

Far from the Shallows

For those who would like to go deeper, we will gather for small group discussion emanating from the evening's devotion. Or consider forming a group at the time and place of your own choosing.

If you've already signed up for Community Dinners you don't need to sign up again—the only difference will be that supper will begin at 5:45 p.m.

Don't forget about summer opportunities at Presbyterian Clearwater Forest for families, children, and youth.

Montreat Youth Conference, NC **July 24–August 3**

This can be a life-transforming experience for high schoolers. Every summer, more than 5,000 Presbyterian students gather for a week of study, worship, and recreation. Reserve a spot through MyHoH or email Rev. Zach Wilson at ZachW@hohchurch.org for more information. Andrew Nelson and Rev. Wilson are the group leaders.



Earth Care

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

—Psalm 24:1

Tread Lightly for Lent

During Lent we reflect and examine the way we live out our Christian faith in the world around us. The Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) strives to walk with people in moving toward sustainable choices that restore and protect all of God's children and creation. To that end they created an Earth Care focused Lenten daily calendar "Tread Lightly for Lent."

Each day from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday the calendar offers a reflection-action for treading lightly on this Earth, such as, a Scripture passage to read and reflect on, a prayer to offer, an online link with helpful information, an action you might begin or change.

PHP developed this Lenten calendar with hope that it prompts us to begin actions for living more mindfully throughout the whole year. To download the calendar visit www.pcusa.org/environment or check the church kiosks for printed copies.

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



March Food Drive



Help us fight hunger in St. Paul

House of Hope supports two food pantries throughout the year and especially during the March Food Drive: Neighborhood House and Hallie Q. Brown Community Center.

It's estimated that 1 in 10 families in Minnesota—that's over 500,000 Minnesotans—are currently experiencing food insecurity, meaning they can't always afford the food they need for their families. More will soon be experiencing food shortage in Minnesota because supplemental food aid (SNAP) will discontinue for some 2,000 adults; 150,000 will see reductions in assistance.

March is the month to focus on the food needs of our neighbors through the March Food Drive. This campaign is organized by churches to challenge all to give generously to local food pantries—to create a supply of healthy food and a pool of money to buy for days ahead. In March, drop checks marked "Food Drive" in the plate, give electronically through hohchurch.org/giving-house-hope/, and bring food to the grocery carts. You can also text **HOH Food** to 73256 to contribute. These gifts are lifting the load from neighbors nearby.

If you want to do even more by volunteering at a food market, contact Kathy Schubert, HOH's liaison to Neighborhood House, at (651) 698-1351 or keschubert@q.com.

Stewardship Update | Thank You for Inspiring Us!

This fall, House of Hope members shared thoughts about what inspired them and how they spread that outward. I hope their words have inspired you.

We invite you to inspire one another with your generosity in 2020. Together, our contributions inspire a worship experience that fills with us hope and energy, transformation in the lives of our confirmands, a commitment to serving our community, and spiritual growth as we strive to explore our faith tradition.

We want to thank the 339 individuals and families who have made a 2020 pledge to House of Hope. To date, we have received pledges of approximately \$1,151,000 — **92% of our budgeted goal of \$1,250,000.** An inspiration to be sure. We are ahead of last year at this time, but this still leaves us \$100,000 short of the goal. If congregants contributed only 50 new or increased pledges of \$38.50/week or \$2,000 annually, we could reach our goal! **Your generous gift will ensure our mission is being fulfilled every single day.**

"House of Hope's commitment to our neighborhood and community drew me in. The opportunities to worship, grow, and serve with this caring community inspire me to be involved and support our mission. I hope through my involvement I can inspire others to do the same." —Mary Sue Godfrey





Changes to Livestream Worship

Our livestream broadcast of Sunday worship is on a new platform called BoxCast. Most will continue viewing the broadcast and archived recordings on hohchurch.org. The Sunday Streams app is no longer available, please view broadcasts directly from the Livestreaming page on our website.

Direct any questions to Mark Schwister at MarkS@hohchurch.org or stop by the streaming desk in the West Transept after worship and chat with the congregants who make this possible.

This format is growing in popularity.

Worship is accessed from an average of 70 computers (often with multiple viewers at each site) each Sunday. In the last month, people in 31 states and eight countries watched our worship through livestreaming. We notice an increase in viewers when the weather is inclement and while many of our congregants are spending their winters in warmer temperatures. We thank those who volunteer in this important ministry: Dick Crone, Bill Geery, Tim Godfrey, Dick Langer, Finn Pope, and Derek Robb.

Volunteers Needed for Spring Habitat Project

Saturday, March 14

In conjunction with Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity, House of Hope volunteers will do indoor work on a new home in St. Paul. Volunteers with any or no experience are needed. This project is a great opportunity to learn what Habitat is all about and a good warm-up for our summer Faith Builders build. Contact Dave Olsen at dwo823@yahoo.com to volunteer.

HOH Community Retreat

June 5–7, 2020

Join us to celebrate the start of summer at Clearwater Forest! This weekend is full of waterfront fun, community meals, Bible studies, art, music, group activities, bonfires, socializing, quiet time, and more! There is fun for all ages from birth through senior adults. Children, 3-years-old and younger participate free of charge. Cost for 4-years-old through senior adults is \$85 per participant. Scholarships are available. Registration is open on the House of Hope website.

Why do you attend the HOH Community Retreat?

"Over the past few years, Clearwater Forest has provided the perfect environment to build friendships and family memories with our HOH community. It has been the perfect mix of community building, family time, vacation, and church."

—Pete Mayer

"We have gone to family camp for three seasons, and we have truly enjoyed the community of fellowship in nature. Having time to get to know other families makes church feel that much more like home. We highly recommend going."

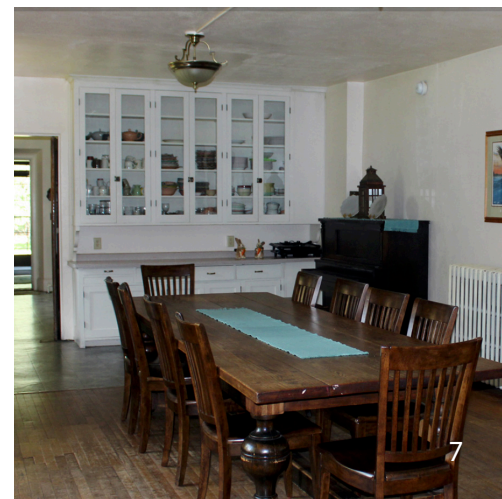
—The Stone Family

"Bruce and I were encouraged by my daughter and son-in-law (Becky and Pete Mayer) to attend last year's retreat. We had a great time! The food was good and the accommodations very comfortable. Meeting and getting to know people with young kids and grandkids was especially fun! We particularly enjoyed the Saturday scavenger hunting—teams were made up of people of all different ages. The weekend was well-planned with activities *and* opportunities to relax."

—Linda Trouten

We may be up north, but we're hardly "roughing it."

Built in 1924 by John Savage, Eagle Lodge is a stately English stone manor home on the edge of Clearwater Lake. Comfortable and welcoming, the beautiful lodges offer privacy, comfort, and communal spaces. Clearwater is the perfect spot to *make yourself at home!*



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SUNDAY SERIES AT HOUSE OF HOPE

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

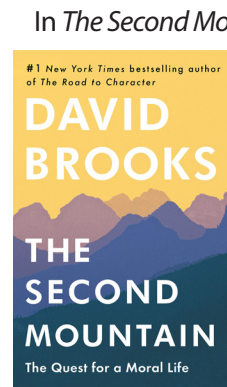


David Brooks | March 29, 2020

Brooks will preach in worship and speak at 2 p.m. Lecture: "What happens when a society loses the concept of the soul? And what happens when it reminds it?"

Note that seating is limited for these events.

Whether in the pages of *The New York Times*, on the airwaves of NPR's "All Things Considered," or on the shelves of bookstores with his bestselling titles like *The Road to Character*, David Brooks is always a compelling observer and analyst of politics and foreign affairs. Both of these topics are top of mind for many of us as we enter this election year, and Brooks will bring his unique insights and perspectives on current affairs to House of Hope.



In *The Second Mountain*, Brooks shares 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. "Once we were in a culture where we were all in this together," Brooks said at St. Olaf College last year.