When we visited House of Hope for worship last February, we couldn’t help but notice the remarkable copper colored tiles on which worshippers stepped as they enter this sacred space.

While reading *A Journey of Hope: The House of Hope Presbyterian Church 1849–1999*, we learned the laying of these tiles was the first matter of business after the stone walls and the roof were completed in December 1913. While choices regarding shades of pigment and layout were left to the architect, it was up to Dr. Swearingen to decide which symbols and words might inspire, yet challenge, generations of worshippers who would use this walkway to enter into God’s presence.

Since the beginning of time, people have inscribed words on their buildings—words of warning, advice, or adoration. Some words simply informed travelers how far they were from a place of note, others announced the pivotal role the ground upon which they stood played in the course of history. Words and symbols were often selected to prepare the guest and to shape the experience within those four walls. The Temple of Apollo at Delphi, for example, cautions all those who approach to “Know Thyself.” Legend has it that an inscription above the door of Plato’s school read, “Let no one ignorant of geometry enter here.” The practice was also used on common homes—perhaps you have heard of the lovely Epiphany New Year blessing marking a doorway. With chalk, the initials of the three wise men—$C + M + B$—are embraced with the numbers of the new year (20 $C + M + B$ 20). These symbols communicate that God is watching over all who enter and leave that home.

At House of Hope, we learned as the center of the chancel floor was being laid, Dr. Swearingen chose these words from the prophet Micah to prepare and to shape the experience for guests at the House of Hope: “What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God.”

Unlike most written oracles which only prepare the guest to enter and to experience something within that space, this inscription also equips guests for their leaving. This inscription, in other words, blesses our coming, our staying, and our parting.

As we begin our work with House of Hope, we are excited and inspired by your faithful commitment to these words which for generations has ordered your entry into this sacred space, your worship while you stay, and your footsteps as you carry the hope of our Lord Jesus Christ into the world.

*Rev. Lynn Barger Elliott
Rev. Dr. Mark Barger Elliott*
We Are the Church

Ongoing Online Opportunities for Connection

Centering Prayer
Mondays, 11 a.m.
Contact Julia Carlson at JuliaC@hohchurch.org

Fridays, 9:30 a.m.
Contact Linda Lane at lane2311@gmail.com

Bible Study
Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.
Contact Julia Carlson at JuliaC@hohchurch.org

Thursdays, 9:15 a.m.
Contact Zach Wilson at ZachW@hohchurch.org

Feminist Theology
Sundays, 11:15 a.m. Monthly: 6/21, 7/19, 8/16
Contact Julia Carlson at JuliaC@hohchurch.org

The Monday/Sunday Exchange
Monday, June 1 and June 15 at 7 p.m.
Looking for a few shared touchpoints in these crazy separated days? The Sunday Exchange led by Phil Bolinder and Jeanne Bailey is now online via Zoom, on the first and third Mondays of each month. You can visit with a few other folks and talk a bit about how our inner and outer lives are working in this strange world. Things like: How are you making it? What's keeping you awake at night?
For instructions, please email Phil at usuallyforthemostpart@gmail.com.

WORSHIP

We are happy to be able to continue to worship together online Sundays at 10 a.m. Although scattered, we can still be together.

Each week, you can watch services online on our website or on our Facebook page. You can watch whenever it's convenient for you.

Sunday, June 7
Trinity Sunday

Sunday, June 14
11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, June 21
12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, June 28
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Does an issue of The Anchor arrive in your mailbox each month?

In an effort to stay connected while we cannot gather, we're including all House of Hope members and friends in this mailing of the June Anchor.

If not you not want to receive future editions of the newsletter, please email Deb at DebT@hohchurch.org or call the church office at (651) 227-6311. Thank you!
Behind the Scenes Volunteer Salute

Many, many members and friends do the work of the church as officers and mission volunteers. Below we recognize and honor all who help out the staff behind the scenes. They offer their time and talents quietly out of love for the church and serve in many roles including the Communion Guild, Hard Hats, livestreaming worship, photographers, helping in the church office, sending cards to members, helping in the library, stuffing bulletins, beautifying the church, and maintaining materials in the pews. Thank you to all of the volunteers who keep House of Hope running smoothly. We are so grateful for your hard work, and we love our volunteers! If we’ve missed your name for your volunteer efforts, please let us know at hoh@hohchurch.org or call the church office at (651) 227-6311.

Julia Adams  Jan Anderson  Walter Bailey  Silvey Barge  Mary Ellen Bland  Philip Bolinder  Gus Bjorklund  Matt Brenengen  Emily Brenengen  Ted Brownell  Janet Brownell  Elly Clark  Dick Crone

Margie Crone  Janice Dickinson  Bonnie Eidman  Vernon Eidman  Sue Fox  Ann Geery  Bill Geery  Tim Godfrey  Diane Gorder  Rosemary Gruber  Sandy Haven  Donna Hill  John Hill


Connie Phillips  David Phillips  Cathy Pomeroy  Finn Pope  Derek Robb  Liz Sanson  Jeff Shaw  Gretchen Sjoholm  Jack Sjoholm  Bill Smith  Bonnie Sommerville  Craig Sommerville  Holly Stoerker

Mary Rae Sunderland  Evelynn Sunness  Linda Trouten  Rica Van  Elly Verhagen  Shana Wagner  Ruth Warland  Evelyn Weihemuller  Joyce Wells  Lisa Yost

Making Masks: Finding Purpose During Stay Home MN

House of Hope members have been busy making masks for healthcare workers, essential workers, mission partners and those they serve, neighbors, and friends. Members of Mission Sewing met by Zoom recently and shared patterns and tips.

We’d like to thank: Chris Anderson, Joyce Nelson, Jan Parkman, Kathy Schubert, Diane Smith, Dianne Smith, and Lisa Yost for sharing their sewing skills with others. Masks are proving to be an effective way to slow the spread of COVID-19. Please remember to wear a mask when in public.

If you need a mask, please contact the church office at (651) 227-6311 or hoh@hohchurch.org.
Reverberations
As you read in May, the hand bells are at a “spa” for a complete makeover after 41 years of use. The bells have been dismantled from handles through clappers (which involves about a dozen parts). Each part will be tested to assess continuing durability; some may be recycled, but most will be replaced with all new parts made by the same foundry in Great Britain which made the hand bells initially. The handles themselves, entirely leather, will be replaced to give the ringers the needed support for the bells. The ringers will look forward to connecting with the worshipping community with bells in hand when we can do so safely. —Tim Short, Music Associate

Carillon News
House of Hope Carillonneur Dave Johnson will play the traditional festive holiday recital at 4 p.m. on Saturday, July 4. We will not be able to have guest recitals this year. Check the July–August issue for updated Carillon news.

Great Decisions
Artificial Intelligence and Data
Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology is being used today all around the world. However, world policymakers need to develop internationally accepted, interoperable principles, rules, and strategies to govern AI. Learn how AI is working today by viewing the 30-minute YouTube video at http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions that is provided by the Foreign Policy Association.

House of Hope Community Garden
With the weather warming up, there is more to do in the Community Garden. All experience levels and ages are welcome, and there are jobs for everyone. Please contact Elizabeth Karre if you can help this summer at houseofhopegarden@gmail.com.

Faith Builders Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Update
Out of concern for the safety of their volunteers, Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity has canceled summer 2020 building projects. We look forward to future Faith Builders when we can gather and volunteer when it is safe to do so.
Emotional Support during Stay Home MN

HOH members have shared photos of the furry companions who have brightened their days while staying at home.

- Mayer Family furry friends
- Cocoa Brachlow and her kids
- Ralph and Addie Stevens
- Emmy Kiemele
- Rosie Boylan working from home
- Annabel Lane
- Lucy and Bella Freyholtz
- Stuey Stevens
- Oscar and Agatha Burleigh
- Additional attendee at an HOH Zoom meeting
- Higgins Kiemele
- Duffie, Kenzie, and Paul Yuska
- Guthrie Lane
- Livingston Harris
- Mayer Family furry friends
- Rosie Brzezinski
- Emmy Kiemele
- Rosie Boylan working from home
- Stella and Bill Smith
- Luna Winter
- Yogi and Kathi Koehn
- Louis and Marie Goudzwaard-Vaught
- Aksel Costin

How does your garden grow? The July/August Anchor will feature pictures of your gardens. Please send pictures from your back yard to Malinda at MalindaJ@hochurch.org.
Children, Youth and Family Programming

High School Graduates 2020
We offer congratulations to the Class of 2020!
Frances Atmore
Henry Cheney
Alessandra Costalonga
Peter Findell
Marshall Gay
Kate Hennings
Isabella Johnson
Gabrielle Nadeau
Julia Nichols
Hope Nielsen
Phineas Pope
Ellie Sathre
Sophie Stein
Kate Thomas
Jacqueline Weyerhaeuser
Sebastian Williamson

Summer Sunday Family Worship on Zoom
While programming needs must change during the summer, the Children and Family Ministry remains committed to our community of children and families. We will offer monthly Zoom gatherings for kids in various age groups. Our Sunday morning Family Worship on Zoom will continue throughout the summer, as we encourage the spiritual growth and connection of our kids while we are apart. Join Sofia and Kiera on Zoom on Sunday mornings at 11:15 a.m. Contact Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org for the Zoom information or check the House of Hope Parents Facebook page.

Read-a-Thon Winners
Congratulations to our April Read-a-Thon winners: Rosie, Leif, Willa, Quint, Otto, and Leah. During the month of April, they read a combined total of more than 6,500 minutes. Each winner received a gift card to Red Balloon Bookshop.

Volunteer Appreciation
We want to thank the many volunteers who partnered with the Children and Family Ministry this year. Nursery assistants, Sunday school teachers, and Time for Children leaders are crucial to the faith formation of our children. We are thankful for the care and talents each of these individuals brought to our ministry during the 2019–2020 school year. Please take a moment to thank them for their service when we are together again.

Phil Bolinder
Isi Soltermann
Quinn Nelson
Dixie Brachlow
Anna Weispfenning
Jenny Stevens
Tyler Winkelman
Riley Vanderhaar
Ann Mack
Becky Mayer
Caroline Stone
Katie Wollan
Ellie Vanderhaar
Chris Tabisz

Spring was a busy season for us.
Our children and families explored their creativity through play, stories, and faith formation. In April, we hosted our first Read-a-Thon to encourage children and families to read together. On Sunday mornings, Sofia and Kiera lead Family Worship on Zoom. On Wednesdays and Fridays, kids play and read together on Zoom. Although we have been absent from the building, our commitment to our families remains strong.

Children and Family Ministry Staff Appreciation
We want to thank our Children and Family Ministry staff who keep our nursery, preschool, Tweens, and Creative Expressions ministries running. Haleigh Patterson, Leia Ellison, Ray Dean, Julie Jacobsen, Kate Borgheiinck, and Merete Nelson are vital members of our ministry team. Offering loving care to our youngest children, facilitating faith formation activities, and supporting the children’s creativity, these individuals are excited to welcome the children back into House of Hope when the time is right. Please take a moment to thank them for their service when we are together again.
What more can be said, it is a strange time. This is a time for inspiration.

Thank you for your pledges and gifts; we are now at 94% of our goal. What inspiring joy it is to see us share our time, talent, and treasure.

It is a time to be inspired by our volunteer involvement in Mission Outreach as our partners struggle to meet the food insecurity and housing needs in our community. These are challenging times for the organizations we support. With the economic consequences of COVID-19, more people are in harm’s way with job loss, insufficient technology for distance learning, and other challenges. Nonprofit organizations are redesigning their delivery systems at the time people need them the most. You can donate to HOH’s Mission Outreach knowing it will be wisely distributed to our community. This inspires us.

Every day our lay leaders and staff are hard at work. Staff have incorporated work spaces in their homes. Multiple Zoom meetings are taking place every day. All of them care about health, doing the right thing, their job, and the church’s wellbeing in an atmosphere of uncertainty. This is just a sample of the courageous work that inspires us.

The Facilities Staff is cleaning, distancing, constructing, clearing, and taking advantage of this time to improve the church and grounds for us. Everything is more complicated, but each staff member has risen to the challenge. Michelle Freyholtz and Jim Brzezinski not only coordinate the daily work, but collaborate with Session, Trustees, and contractors making plans for the HVAC project, the new garage facility, sorting out the guidance for COVID-19, and planning for pastoral transition with the Pastor Nominating Committee.

A group of Budget Committee officers have formed a Steering Team to handle urgent decisions. Careful preparations are being made for staff return to work. Session officers continue a schedule of meetings made more pressing in this time. For example, Clerk of Session Judy Gensmer is participating in all Session Committee and Steering Team meetings. Pastor Julia Carlson is leaning in to everything to create a successful pastoral transition. The amazing level of focus and commitment of our leaders is worthy and heroic. This inspires us.

Cheers for Church Leaders and Staff who Inspire Us

A series by the Stewardship Committee to recognize our heroes.

“I am inspired by the people I have met here and through them how we reach out to the needs of others. Our Mission Outreach programs are so inspiring. For those reasons, and so many more, I’m proud to support House of Hope with an annual pledge.”

—Sherwood Pomeroy
Construction Starting Soon!

Construction will begin soon on a new facility garage and trash enclosure at the northeast corner of the Portland Avenue parking lot. Hagstrom Builder from Lake Elmo has been selected as the contractor. Work is expected to start sometime in June and be completed by mid-summer.

With the recent sales of the Manse and the Meeting House on Summit Avenue, a new garage is needed for the church’s lawn and snow equipment as well as Community Garden supplies. A portion of the Meeting House sale proceeds will fund this project.

A work group was formed by the House and Property Committee late last year and charged to develop the design for a new garage. Members of the work group were Jim Brzezinski, Dick Crone, Michelle Freyholtz, Bill Geery, David Phillips, and Jack Sjoholm. Working with Station 19 Architects of Minneapolis, the work group sought a design that will:

- Meet the long term needs of the facility staff and the church.
- Aesthetically complement both the church and the adjacent community.
- Provide segregated, secure storage space for the community garden.
- Include a secure trash enclosure.
- Support church and community events such as National Night Out.
- Have sufficient electrical service for the possible future addition of EV (electric vehicle) charging stations.

Did you experience the polio scare of the late 40s and early 50s? What are your recollections and memories of this time? We’d like to know. Please share your thoughts by mail to 797 Summit Ave., Saint Paul, MN 55105 or by email at hoh@hohchurch.org. We hope to create an article for upcoming publications.

Station 19 Architects rendering of the new facility garage.