

DIDIER SEMINAR

The Didier Seminar's 20th Anniversary Celebration | May 18

6:30–7:30 p.m. Social Hour - Beverages and Treats
7:30–7:45 p.m. Reflections, Tributes and Toasts
7:45 p.m. Lecture by Dr. Andrew Overman

"In every age the spirit speaks."

Celebrate the 20th anniversary of The Didier Seminar as inaugural speaker Dr. J. Andrew Overman returns to present *When Stones Speak: Digging Deeper Into Jesus Movements, Formative Judaism, and the Rise and Spread of Islam*.

Regarding Andy's work as an archeologist he has said, "By reaching back we learn about ourselves and how we might live together more effectively." For two decades, The Didier Seminar has pursued the mission of

digging deeper into the way the spirit has spoken in the past and continues to speak in the present. We have honored our tradition's commitment to ongoing learning by listening to and dialoging with renowned local, national, and international scholars and artists on a variety of subjects pertinent to our time: religion and science, contemporary biblical scholarship, Christianity's relationship to other religions, spirituality and the arts, and racism.

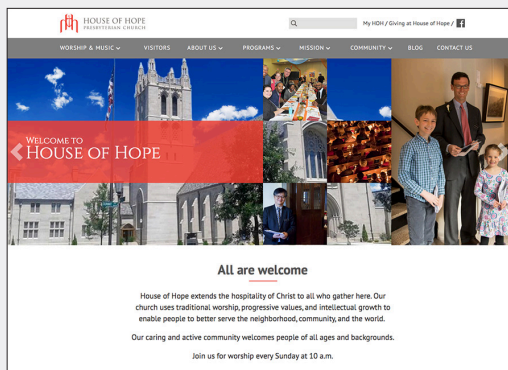
Register at hohchurch.org.

House of Hope Participates in March for Our Lives

Thousands of students and supporters marched in St. Paul on March 24 as part of the worldwide March for Our Lives demonstration to protest gun violence. The Minnesota State Patrol estimated a crowd of 20,000 at the state Capitol. The student-led movement emerged after a February 14 mass shooting left 17 students and educators dead at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL.



House of Hope proudly supported March for Our Lives by organizing free park-and-ride bus service for House of Hope youth, members, and friends. Approximately 130 people used this service, including about 30% who were from other churches or were friends of church members.



New HOH Website

Introducing House of Hope's new and improved website. The site now includes dynamic calendaring, updated program information, and easy access to My HOH. Please check it out at hohchurch.org.

The book of Action

Reverend Dr. Andrew McDonald



I have received such a wonderful welcome among the inspiring, faithful people of The House of Hope.

And I have been inspired by the energetic leaders you have chosen as elders, trustees and deacons. And gratified to be among such an impressive professional staff. This is a church that has much to celebrate as it moves forward. I feel blessed to be among you.

One of the questions I will be asking over the coming months is about the identity and the vision of the church. So now is a good time to take a look again at the early Christian church. This month I will be preaching a sermon series on The Book of Action. We will revisit what is called the book of Acts, or sometimes known as, the Acts of the Apostles. Of course the biblical books did not have titles. Their names come from some word or words used in the first sentences of each book.

The Greek word in this book of the Bible is praxis. It can mean, as it is usually

translated, Acts. It can also be translated, Action. I invite you to think anew about the book of Action, for that is what was happening in the early church.

*When they worshiped, they were all there – every last one of them;
*Their songs had the power to unlock prison doors;
*They prayed openly for one another;
*They inspired one another to give with astounding generosity;
*Their radical inclusivity broke down every barrier of language and culture;
*They attracted other people to join them by the tens and hundreds and thousands;
*They journeyed together to share the good news;
*They stood up in public places, making their beliefs known,
*And for this public witness, sometimes they were tossed in jail;
*With the life-transforming good news of Jesus Christ spreading throughout the world.

Faith for them was a matter of Action. It is a powerful, energizing and world-transforming story. Now is a good time to claim again: that story is Our Story.



Sunday Series

Eric Michael Dyson | May 20, 2 p.m.



Dr. Michael Eric Dyson, an American Book Award recipient and NAACP Image Award winner, is one of the nation's most influential public intellectuals.

Most recently, he published *Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America*, a *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *Washington Post* bestseller. The book has been hailed as a provocative analysis of modern-day race relations.

Dr. Dyson is Professor at Georgetown University where he received widespread attention for his course "Sociology of Hip-Hop: Jay-Z." Naomi Wolf termed him "the ideal public intellectual of our time."

WORSHIP

10 a.m.

Sunday, May 6
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Motet Choir
Lass, O Herr, mich Hilfe finden,
Mendelssohn
Exultate Deo, Scarlatti

St. Nicholas Choir
The Father's Love, Lole

Sunday, May 13
Seventh Sunday of Easter

Motet Choir
The Lord is the Everlasting God, Jennings
Exultate Justi, Viadana

St. Cecilia and St. Nicholas Choirs
The Lord Bless You and Keep You, Rutter

Sunday, May 20
Day of Pentecost

Motet Choir
Misericordias Domini, Mozart
Veni Sancte Spiritus, M. Haydn

Sunday, May 27
Trinity Sunday

Motet Choir
The Road Home, Paulus
Oh that Bleeding Lamb, Moore



Recommended Spiritual Read

Chosen by Reverend Julia A. Carlson



"Do you every wonder why Western atheism is on the rise? Why does the Christian West, by far, produce the highest number of atheists? What I believe, and have dedicated my life to reversing, is that we have not moved doctrine and dogma to the level of inner experience. As long as 'received teaching' doesn't become experiential knowledge, we're going to continue creating a high

quantity of disillusioned ex-believers. Or on the flip-side, we'll manufacture very rigid believers who simply hold on to doctrines in very dead ways with nothing going on inside."

— Richard Rohr, *The Divine Dance*

Rohr's is a unique and faithful voice of our time. Take your pick from one of his many titles, here are a few suggestions:

Start where he started with *Simplicity: The Freedom of Letting Go* (1991) or *Everything Belongs: The Gift of Contemplative Prayer* (1995)
Radical Grace – Daily Devotional (1995)
Things Hidden: Scripture as Spirituality (2008)
Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life (2011)
The Divine Dance: The Trinity and Your Transformation (2016)

The Summer Day

by Mary Oliver

Who made the world?
 Who made the swan, and the black bear?
 Who made the grasshopper?
 This grasshopper, I mean—
 the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
 the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
 who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down—
 who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
 Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
 Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.
 I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
 I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
 into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
 how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
 which is what I have been doing all day.
 Tell me, what else should I have done?
 Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
 Tell me, what is it you plan to do
 with your one wild and precious life?

Thank you for the positive response to the Recommended Spiritual Read and Poem of the Month features. Now it is your turn. Do you have a poem or book to share with other House of Hope members? We invite you to consider your favorites and send one or two for possible inclusion in future issues of The Anchor. Please send suggestions to Pastor Julia Carlson, JuliaC@hohchurch.org.

Suggested book on prayer

Praying with Body and Soul: A Way to Intimacy with God
 by Jane E. Vennard

Stewardship 2018: Give, Serve, Welcome, Grow

Ways to Serve in May

- It's spring! Consider an increase in your pledge in thankfulness for God's abundance in your life.
- Volunteer with the garden crew and know you are planting seeds of health for the families of Neighborhood House.
- Our endowment keeps us enjoying the beauty and inspiration of church life all year long. A gift to the House of Hope Endowment Fund is a gift to the present and future of our church.
- The Hard Hats work inside and out to do projects which mend and enhance our buildings and grounds. Consider volunteering with this "hands-on" group.
- Bring a friend to church and introduce them to our wonderful worship and our Interim Pastor.

GIVE 
 GROW
 SERVE
 WELCOME 
 Stewardship – a way to come together



Adult Education

May 8 at 4 p.m.

Great Decisions: Turkey: A Partner in Crisis with Ross Wilson

Of all the NATO allies, Turkey's autocratic trend represents a challenge for the U.S. Turkey symbolically represents the most institutionally Westernized Muslim country in the world. What can the U.S. and the European Union do to stop Turkey's downward spiral toward autocracy? Over a 30-year career, Ross Wilson served as an ambassador to Turkey and Azerbaijan and held assignments at U.S. embassies in Moscow, Prague, and Melbourne.

May 20 at 11:15 a.m.

Josh Heikkila on Ministry in Ghana

Former House of Hope Associate Josh Heikkila serves West Africa as a PCUSA Mission Co-worker. He will share stories and pictures from his work in West Africa.

May 27 at 11:15 a.m.

Sunday Exchange

Trying to find a spiritual base in these crazy, pressurized times can be hard. Join an informal conversation about life and faith the last Sunday of every month. This month we will discuss: *What Keeps You Awake at Night?* No preparation is required. Meet in Room 1, on the east end of the building. Childcare is available.

Housing Update

New Date: Beacon Congregational Convening | June 12

This second convening of 2018 invites members from 80+ Beacon congregations across the metro, including House of Hope, to its next important gathering.

The meeting is shifted to Tuesday, June 12. This allows for sharing timely information regarding our discernment of what homes to create next, sharing the feedback gathered from the many community research visits that have happened

since the last convening, and giving us a chance to hopefully celebrate a successful Minnesota legislative campaign around #BondsThatBuildHomes.

You are invited to participate. We would like to have at least 10 people from House of Hope attend this next convening. If you want to learn more about what it is like, contact Mike Nord, Lee Jamison, Elise Jamison, Jeanne Bailey, or Jack Sjöholm, who have participated in a previous meeting. It is a great way to get involved and learn what communities of faith can do together to end homelessness. To learn more, visit beaconinterfaith.org or register at <https://tinyurl.com/June-2018Convening>. Hope to see you there!

Hope for Inclusion

In January, I saw the incomparable Harry Belafonte, and more importantly, I *heard* him talk about his life. In fact, I heard him better than people sitting around me. How could a person with a severe hearing loss understand better than people with normal hearing? Because House of Hope provides assistive listening devices (ALDs) with neck loops. Although not mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act, House of Hope provides two ALDs with neck loops to be checked out during services and community events.

Thank you House of Hope for including people with hearing disabilities.— Kathleen Marin, Vice-President of Hearing Loss Association of America-Twin Cities

Celtic Pilgrimage to Scotland May 6-15, 2019



St. Columba, Colm Cille or "church dove" in the Irish and Columbkille in the Scots, set sail from Ireland in a small craft and landed on the island of Iona. He began a monastic community and eventually an abbey was built on the island. On the wild edge of Celtic spiritual life, some took to the seas to find their calling; "the peregrini, as they were called, would set sail in a boat without

a rudder to be blown wherever the elements might take them. The ideal of the peregrine in the old Celtic church was defined as 'seeking the place of one's resurrection.' It consisted of a willingness to let go of or die in one's home, or the place that was comfortable familiar, in order to find new life. The impression given is that the gospel of Christ leads us not into what we already know but into what we do not yet know." (*The Book of Creation*, J. Philip Newell).

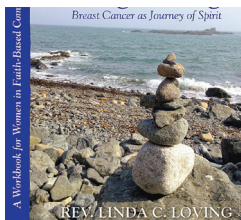


Our Celtic pilgrimage continues with a trip designed for us by The Reverend Jim Wallace, Church of Scotland, retired, and will include Edinburgh, St. Andrews, and Inverness before heading to the Hebrides and Iona. There is a shorter option May 6-13, 2019, that will visit Iona for the day and continue back to Edinburgh. For those interested in staying on Iona for three nights, the dates of travel are May 6-15, 2019. Iona is known as a 'thin place,' a place on earth where the veil between the seen and unseen worlds is thinner. The Iona Community, and international and ecumenical community was formed by George MacLeod in 1938; MacLeod and the Community undertook the restoration of the abbey through the years.

Scotland is a part of our Reformed heritage which we will see along the way; the trip will bring us full circle from prehistoric pagan beginnings to St. Giles in Edinburgh and the worldwide, ecumenical Iona Community. Even if you have been to Scotland before, we will approach this as the peregrini did, to seek to know what we do not yet know about Christian living.

Announcing Reverend Linda Loving's new book *A New Song to Sing: Breast Cancer as Journey of Spirit*

For years, as a parish pastor, I was accustomed to ministering to women who were dealing with a breast cancer diagnosis. Then it was my turn. In 2010, I learned what it was like to be in the bed rather than praying beside it. I became aware of how isolating the disease can be and how few spiritual resources there were for this particular journey. When I was back on my feet after six months of treatment, I immediately began to develop a workbook devoted to gathering women in small groups to nurture their spirits and explore questions of Spirit—whether newly diagnosed or long-term survivors. There were times when I wanted to give up on the task and stop thinking about cancer altogether, but it soon became a “divine assignment” as I began to sense a great hunger for this resource.



Easter 2018 at House of Hope



Presbyterian Ministry at the Summit on the Status of Women



ing gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls.

Betty Folliard of House of Hope says women from the United States shouldn't just think of themselves as leaders, but learners.

“The U.S. has the perception that we do women's issues well in the world, but the reality is different,” Folliard said. “In many measures the United States is behind. When you look at the numbers for women in government, maternal health statistics, violence against women, and child care support, we are not leading.”

Folliard spent six years working with rural women when she served on the Minnesota Commission on the Economic Status of Women. House of Hope is grateful to support Betty Folliard in advocating for women and grateful for her participation in New York to exhibit our faith.

Women of the PC(USA) joined thousands from around the world for the 62nd session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at the United Nations in March. Participants came from all over the country to set an agenda for empowering women and girls around the globe.

This year's event focused on the urgent needs of rural women. Research by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has found that rural women across the world fare worse than rural men and urban women, and many lack access to health care, education, and technology. Participants explored the challenges and opportunities in achiev-



Elizabeth Chapel Concert May 6 at 4 p.m

The Elizabeth Chapel Organ Recital Series will present a concert of early organ works by Johann Sebastian Bach. Organist Aaron David Miller will feature compositions that were written by Bach in his teens and early twenties. It is a fascinating portrait of Bach as a developing musician. The concert is free and open to the public. Reception will follow in the Kirk Parlour.



Children, Youth, and Family Programming

Children's Art Exhibit

May 1–June 4

This spring, PreK–fifth graders explored a variety of media as they embraced their artistic talent in Creative Expressions. Stop by the Cloister Gallery to see what they, as well as other students, created. Oil pastels, watercolors, acrylics, and tiles are some of the many materials used to make these beautiful works of art. Enjoy the creative imagination of the children at House of Hope.

Storytime at Red Balloon

Wednesdays, 10:30–11 a.m.

Children, birth–PreK, and their parents are invited to attend storytime at Red Balloon Bookshop, located at 891 Grand Avenue, St. Paul. Free to the public.

Storytime Drop-In at SteppingStone Theatre

Wednesday mornings, 10–11 a.m.

These classes are for children, 18 months to five years old, and their parents. The cost is \$5 per family and includes creative play activities, storytime, hands-on sensory play, and art-making investigation. Theatre Explorers will read Herve Tulle books throughout the month of May. Space is limited, registration is encouraged. For more information, contact SteppingStone Theatre at (651) 225-9265 or steppingstonetheatre.org.

Rising-Kindergarten Bible Presentation

Children entering kindergarten in the 2018–2019 school year will be presented with a Spark Storybook Bible in worship on Sunday, May 6. If your child is entering kindergarten and would like to receive a Bible, please contact Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org.

Creative Expressions

We have enjoyed spending time with our young artists after worship on Sundays. Check out the Cloister Gallery to see

their work on display throughout May. Although Creative Expressions will meet for the last time on May 6, we will offer this program again in the fall with new art activities. Special thanks to Kelsea Gililand for making this program possible.

House of Hope Pajama Party Friday, May 11, 5–9 p.m.

Children, birth–fifth grade, are invited to a pajama party at House of Hope. We will enjoy dinner, art, games, movies, and more. Cost is \$20 for the first child and \$5 for each additional child. Reservations are required by Monday, May 7. Contact Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org to reserve your child's spot.

Summer Studio

PreK–fifth graders are invited on Sundays after the Time for children beginning May 27. Throughout the summer, we will talk about Bible stories and engage in Creative Expressions visual arts activities. This group meets in Room 4.

Clearwater Family Camp

June 8–10

Celebrate summer at Clearwater Forest Family Camp. This weekend offers a robust atmosphere for community-building within your family and the larger House of Hope family. Bond over activities, family time, and mixed-age fun! S'mores, art, waterfront activities, games, worship, and meals make this event fun for everyone. The cost is \$60 per person with scholarships available. Register at My HOH.

Camp in the City | June 18–21

Children entering grades 1–6 in September are invited to this camp run by skilled Clearwater Forest Camp staff who bring God's word to life through story, games, music, meals, art, and more. The cost is \$60 per child with scholarships available. Register at My HOH.

May Sunday School

- Children are always welcome in worship. Worship bags and books are available for children at all the Sanctuary entrances.
- Nursery is available for children, birth through three-years-old, from 9:45 a.m.–noon.
- Godly Play is available for children, PreK (four-years-old) through second grade. This month children will talk about Paul's Discovery, the Holy Trinity, and the Mystery of Pentecost.
- Sunday Studio is available for third through fourth graders in Room 4. This month children will talk about Peter's Vision, Tabitha, and Peter at Pentecost as presented by the Dwell Curriculum.
- Tween Transitions is available for fifth through sixth graders. During this time, tweens meet with our adult volunteers to reflect on worship and the sermon. This month, Tween Transitions will meet on May 13 and 20.

Save the Dates

May 6: Rising-Kindergarten Bible Presentation during 10 a.m. worship service

May 11: Kids' Pajama Party, 5–9 p.m.

May 20: Volunteer Recognition Ice Cream Social at 11:15 a.m.

May 27: Summer Studio Begins

June 8–10: Clearwater Forest Family Camp

June 18–21: Summer Camp in the City from 9 a.m.–3 p.m.



Choir School

Director Sofia Ardalan

One of the joys of being Choir School Director is seeing young choristers enter in 2nd grade, processing wide eyed down the aisle for Sunday worship for the first time, and then growing year by year in musical skills, leadership, friendships, and faith. Often our graduating choristers have been part of the Choir School for 10 years or longer, and this year is no exception. Four wonderful senior choristers, Roland Berg, Juan Burleigh, Ana Essig, and Sonja Quimby, have been singing with us for at least a decade.

"I've been in Choir School for as long as I can remember," says Juan. Sonja, a chorister for an incredible 15 years, concurs, "I've been in Choir School for the majority of my life!" Roland notes what a surreal experience it is to be in his final season after ten years in the program. "I remember looking up to the older kids and thinking about how smart and mature they seemed," he says. "And now I have become one of those older kids!"

Favorite things from all four seniors include singing anthems that are repeated yearly and are memorized, to learning challenging pieces that can take several months to prepare, and of course laughing and joking with friends at dinner. "One of my favorite parts of rehearsal is when we talk about the joy that singing can bring to our community," says Roland. All four stated that they always looked forward to rehearsals and worship, and that no matter what sort of day they've had, singing in Choir School made it better.

"I have participated in other choirs in high school, and I plan to continue singing in college as well, but the Choir School holds a special place in my heart, and will remain one of my favorite choirs," says Sonja. Juan notes, "It introduced me to music, singing in different styles and languages, and it will forever be a part of my mind and heart." I am so proud of these four exceptional young singers and am thankful for their dedication to Choir School. They are inspiring in their joy of music and singing, and in their generosity of sharing their gifts with the entire House of Hope community.



Spring Concert | May 13, 2 p.m. **We Are The Music Makers**

All are invited to this exciting program of music spanning from 16th century sacred anthems to 19th century opera to Broadway. Come hear the beautiful voices of our choristers celebrating music and singing.

Choir School Registration **Sunday, May 20, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.**

Choir School offers outstanding music education and choral training to all children PreK-grade 12. No prior experience necessary and the Choir School is open to both members and non-members of the HOH. For more information, visit hohchurch.org/choir-school or contact Choir School Director Sofia Ardalan at SofiaA@hohchurch.org.

Voices of Stewardship: What Stewardship Means to Me

"Looking at my list of great places and causes to support financially, I have the same problem as most: prioritizing. House of Hope, however, is always on the list although others may change from year to year. To me, being a member of a church surpasses other affiliations and stands out as unique from the rest. Church is where we meet our creator, thank and praise, sing in joy and sorrow, pray, and are humbled before God and all creation. It is where we are called to care for each other. Here our experience is both intensely personal and powerfully universal. So, it is here that I give first of all because God is here, teaching us, loving us still." —Kathy Schubert

"To me, the essence of stewardship is to share the gifts I have been given with others—seeing myself as only a

temporary holder of those gifts with the responsibility to pass them on to others in ways that support the values of the church and enrich the lives of others." —Carol Stack

"We pledge to the church because, without reliable annual gifts to the church from our members, we would have no church." —Jim Adams, Trustee

"I see stewardship as an opportunity instead of an obligation. With so many older congregations combining, their church doors closing and their buildings wearing down, we have the opportunity to have such a place as House of Hope to come to every Sunday morning. We get to be present in the sublime sanctuary with its salient stained glass and hear the Lord's Word and the inspirational music.

We truly are very blessed. When I make a pledge, I feel I am being given the chance to contribute to the health of our church and, in doing so, enrich my own Christian life." —Sue Browne

"In *Institutes on the Christian Religion*, John Calvin said: 'The only right stewardship is that which is tested by the rule of love.' To me, this means that we should give of ourselves and our possessions out of love for others, not just duty. This sense of community takes visible shape in Loaves & Fishes. Volunteers from our church serve meals to those in need. Made possible by the volunteers, as well as the generous members whose contributions pay for the food we serve. Our reward is to see a smile and hear someone say 'good meal' as they leave." —Kay Solon

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Volunteers Needed for Community Garden



Garden volunteers are needed to supply local food shelves with fresh, organic vegetables. All ages, abilities, experience levels, and schedules are welcome—there are jobs to fit everyone. Sit in the sun and pick a few tomatoes or cancel your gym membership and get your workout in the garden. Work with others or work on your own. Drive the veggies to the food shelf. Volunteer once or throughout the season. All efforts contribute to grow 1,500–2,000 pounds of food each year for our neighbors.

The Garden Kickoff will be Saturday, May 5, 1–4 p.m. when we will mulch and compost. If you'd like to get involved, please email houseofhopegarden@gmail.com or see Elizabeth Karre.

