



In the past six months, the Session and its committees have been involved in setting goals for the future, based on the input from the Congregational listening meetings.

The challenge put to each committee was not just to do business-as-usual, but to choose one big goal that will help move the church forward. This included an overarching goal for the Session itself.

These goals include:

The Session: Work to help the church grow numerically.

Membership Development: Increase the warmth of our welcome inside the church, and our marketing outside the church, so that we reach a goal of growing by 40 new members this year.

Life Groups: Grow this new committee to build connection and friendship among our members and friends, through new community building events.

Adult Ministry: Expand programing to include a Wednesday night supper and adult classes.

Stewardship: Increase the number of new pledgers by 40, and inspire members to increase giving by at least 3%, so we reach our goal of \$1,250,000. in 2020.

Peace and Justice: Educate and engage more people in our peace and justice focus areas.

Mission Outreach: Expand awareness about the vital work HOH accomplishes in its mission support.

Personnel: Update the employee handbook and identify ways to better care for the staff.

Worship, Sacraments and Music: Support the Sunday Series and inspire those who come through our doors to find a spiritual home at HOH.

Arts Committee: Attract visitors by promoting our art exhibits to the public.

Children, Youth and Families: Initiate three new events for children and families throughout the year.

House and Properties (Trustees): First, hire a consultant to help us focus direction on a new HVAC system, then engage an architect to render plans for the HVAC and kitchen projects. This will involve getting further input from the congregation regarding potential uses for the building.

These are exciting, practical goals that the Session has taken on. They show the church and Session are moving forward in substantive ways.

The goal of this issue of the *Anchor* is to give a broader picture of the goals and objectives the church is involved in. It is inspiring to see.

Thank you to the Session for their leadership, and thank you to every member for your support in your time, talent and tithes.

—Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald

WORSHIP

10 a.m.

Sunday, November 3
31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Motet Choir:
Requiem, Faure

Sunday, November 10
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Commitment Sunday

The Motet Choir:
Give Alms of thy Goods, Tye
I Will Praise Thee, O Lord, Nystedt

Choir School:
Brethren we have met to worship,
arr. Currie
With parents and alumni

Sunday, November 17
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Motet Choir:
Lobt Gott mit Schall, ihr Heiden all, Schutz
Domine, ad adjuvandum me, Martini

Choir School:
Holy, Holy, Holy, Smith

Sunday, November 24
34th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Motet Choir:
Gaude et Laetare, Sweelinck
Let All the World in Every Corner Sing,
Argento

Choir School:
Gaelic Blessing, Rutter

Wednesday, November 27, 7 p.m.
Thanksgiving Eve

The Motet Choir:
I Will Praise Thee, O Lord, Nystedt

Thanksgiving Eve worship will feature music by The Motet Choir. Reverend Zachary Wilson will preach. All members and friends are invited to join us in worship and giving thanks. Childcare available. Bring an offering of perishable food items or cash for the food shelf.

Taking Steps Toward the Future: HOH Session Goals for 2020

Session Goals

Our main goal is to lead House of Hope to numerical membership growth. Based on the Visioning Report, we have worked with each committee to set goals and objectives to accomplish by June 30, 2020. The intention is to help connect our leaders with information and challenge each committee to prioritize activities that will help our church grow by attracting new members.

Each committee chair will meet regularly with the Transitional Head Pastor to discuss goals and objectives. A final report on activities and accomplishments will be provided at the September Session meeting.

Adult Ministry

- 1) Explore faith by advancing our adult enrichment programming.
- 2) Increase the number of and participation in quality adult class offerings.

Membership Development

To work with church members and leadership to strengthen current processes and to receive at least 40 new members in the 2019–2020 program year (September 1, 2019–August 31, 2020).

Stewardship Committee

- 1) Increase 2020 pledge income—goal is \$1,250,000. That is an increase of \$56,421 over last year's pledge income.
- 2) Increase new pledges by 40 households.
- 3) Secure 100% participation from Trustees, Session, and Deacons.
- 4) Develop a list of five powerful stories and storytellers impacted by our mission and ministries.
- 5) Develop a theology of stewardship for HOH.

Personnel Committee

- 1) Update employee handbook.

Peace and Justice Committee

Activate congregational involvement and outreach to the community through peace and justice activities.

Mission Outreach Committee

- 1) Educate all Mission Outreach Committee members about which nonprofits HOH has supported.
- 2) Communicate to HOH's congregation and the community about the "time and talents" that are shared and exchanged to "mutually deepen our wells in life."
- 3) Review the Mission Outreach Committee's purpose annually, to revise it as needed, based on diverse input and to communicate it in celebration of God's grace and blessings.

Worship, Sacraments, and Music Committee

- 1) Provide for worship, the administration of the sacraments, and music programs.
- 2) Work with leadership to plan the Sunday Series, offering two events in 2020. We seek to inspire those who come through our doors to find a spiritual home in our community of faith.

Arts Committee

The Arts Committee plans and arranges exhibits in the Cloister Gallery to enrich, educate, and inspire House of Hope members, friends, and visitors. The committee also helps monitor and preserve the Church's art and provides guidance for maintaining its architectural and aesthetic unity.

- 1) Inform the congregation and community about the Cloister Gallery and its exhibits.
- 2) Attract visitors to exhibits by promoting to public.
- 3) Nurture return visits by non-members to House of Hope; provide a sign-up opportunity for visitors who want to be informed of upcoming exhibits and events.
- 4) Invite non-members to House of Hope,

plan an annual show that showcases a group of professional artists from a gallery or studio building who interact with our congregation during the designated Artist Reception time.

Children, Youth and Family Ministry

The committee is committed to building relationships and increasing the engagement of children and families through programming and multi-generational events.

- 1) Initiate three new events for children and families throughout the year.
- 2) Increase and update our communication tools to ensure families, the congregation, and prospective families are aware of activities and programming.
- 3) Enhance a culture of multi-generational support and engagement, inviting congregants to attend children's community activities, volunteer in various aspects of children's programming, and participate in multi-generational events and retreats.

Life Groups Committee

This new committee will plan small and large group activities to build community and connection among members, nurture deeper friendships and faith, and provide offerings of interest to both members and visitors.

- 1) Recruit 3–5 additional committee members to brainstorm ideas and help implement activities.
- 2) Offer small-group book/faith-

enrichment discussions on Wednesday evenings.

- 3) Identify strong meeting facilitators to lead small-group discussions.
- 4) Research and initiate new interest groups, including outdoor activities, theater outings, etc.
- 5) Research a tour to the Minneapolis Institute of Art during the Christmas or the Lenten season. Theme to be determined, i.e. incarnation, other.
- 6) Work with clergy to implement the Lenten discussion program.

NEW!

Adult Song Group

Thursday, November 7 at 1 p.m.

Kirk Parlour

Come join members of our church to raise our voices together in song. David Aaron Miller and Linda Smith will kick-off this first gathering. We'll sing hymns, show tunes, patriotic and folk songs. Call/text Linda Tuohy, (651) 246-3027, for more information.

Our Bicycling Group will continue to ride this spring.



Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) Update

The Head Pastor position has been advertised nationally. We are receiving inquiries from candidates and contacting referrals. We continue to meet weekly to keep this process moving forward and are looking forward to finding the best candidate to be our leader.

Your help is still needed. If you have visited a church and feel the Pastor would be a good fit for us, please submit his/her name to our committee. We will research

and reach out to gauge interest. You may contact any member of the PNC, leave a note in the PNC mailbox in the office, or email Susan Haigh (suehaig51@gmail.com).

Candidate confidentiality is vital in our search. If you suggest a candidate, we cannot share with you whether we have contacted that candidate or whether the candidate has contacted the PNC. Thank you for honoring the confidentiality of the recruitment process.

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



Earth Care

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

—Psalm 24:1

Your Carbon Footprint

How big of an impact are you making on the environment? Your carbon footprint measures the greenhouse gases released in the production, use, and disposal of everything you consume—including emissions from transportation, household energy, waste, water, food, goods, and services.

To calculate your carbon footprint go to an online calculator such as <https://coolclimate.org/calculator> or <https://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx> where you can find out how you compare to similar households in your zip code, city, or state, and then prioritize what you can do to reduce your climate impact.

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 **E**



Adult Education at HOH

November 2019

Living a good life requires community. People are discovering a deep need for friendship. This autumn, House of Hope is offering multiple opportunities to explore the meaning of community. We have opportunities to connect people in new friendships and to engage in service in the Twin Cities. Everyone is invited to these important discussions and experiences. Adult Education takes place at 11:15 a.m.

Sunday, November 10

11:15 a.m. | Library

Peace and Justice Committee presents: Forum on Peace and Justice Advocacy

Join us for a presentation and discussion of the role of peace and justice advocacy in the PC(USA) and the mission of the Peace and Justice Committee at House of Hope.

Sunday, November 17

11:15 a.m. | Library

Get to Know the Peace and Justice Committee

Learn about the Peace and Justice Committee's activities and how you can get involved. Contact: Mike Nord, (612) 384-7675 if you have questions or need further information.

SUNDAY EXCHANGE

11:15 a.m. | Room 1

A Comfortable Chance for Real Exchange

Sunday Exchange is a twice-a-month opportunity to talk (the second and last Sundays) and have an honest, open conversation about life and faith. We begin at 11:15 a.m. in Room 1. Pick up coffee, tea or whatever and join us. If you have children, they can remain in childcare until noon.

November 10

**Are Your Beliefs Changing?
Why? How? Why Not?**

November 24

How Are You Dealing with Differences—People, Ideas?

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST BOOK GROUP

November 1 & 8

**Truman's Excellent Adventure:
The True Story of a Great American Road Trip**

by Matthew Algeo

November 15 & 22

Varina by Charles Frazier

November 29

Thanksgiving Break – no meeting

WEDNESDAY STUDY

6:30 p.m. | Assembly Room

The Intersections of Judaism and Christianity

These topics and speakers are still in development but this what we're working on at the moment.

November 6

The Christian Roots of Anti-Judaism

November 13

The Jewish Jesus: Reading the New Testament with Jewish Eyes

November 20

Contemporary Judaism and the Rise in Anti-Judaism

Women's Annual Advent Breakfast

Friday, December 13, 7–9 a.m. *Note date change*

**Town and Country Club, 300 Mississippi River Boulevard North, St. Paul
Rev. Ashley Bair, Guest Speaker**

All women are invited for a relaxed breakfast, with conversation and camaraderie, and an inspiring meditation for the Advent season by Rev. Ashley Bair, Associate Pastor at Central Presbyterian in downtown Saint Paul. Ashley was called to ministry at Central earlier this year after receiving her Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Seminary in 2018. She is passionate about the vital connection of church to community, is an environmental and peace activist, and received this year's Emerging Earth Care Leader Award from Presbyterians for Earth Care.

Cost for the event is \$25 per person. Please make your reservation with payment at the table outside the Kirk Parlour after worship.

SUNDAY WELLNESS

11:15 a.m. | Assembly Room

November 3

Julia Owens on Body Wellness

November 10

Dr. Greg Eichenfield on Veteran's Health and Wellness

November 17

National Alliance on Mental Illness of Minnesota Speaker on Mental Health and Wellness

November 24

Rev. Julia Carlson on Spiritual Wellness

Brief Thank you to Linda and Pat Smith for some windows they restored. TO COME

Commitment Sunday is November 10

"INSPIRE ONE ANOTHER TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS"

Hebrews 10:24

At House of Hope we inspire one another every day through worship, children and family programming, mission outreach, adult education, and congregational care. We continue to live out our faith we need your support. **How does HOH inspire you?**

Adult Education

We provide a supportive environment to pursue spiritual growth, striving to explore the meaning of our faith tradition in the context of today's world.

"The faith I feel at HOH is large and progressive enough to include my passions."
—Betty Folliard

Mission Outreach

We put faith into action by sending people into the neighborhood, community, and world equipped to feed the hungry, house the homeless, clothe the naked, and comfort the afflicted.

"I am inspired by the ways that HOH serves our community. Anything I do is multiplied by so many other good and wise members and mission partners." —Lisa Yost

Children, Youth, and Family Programming

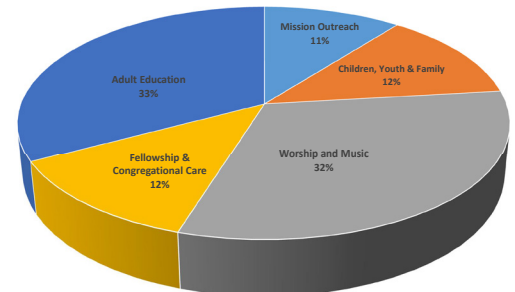
Our programming fosters deep connections with God and one another, encouraging an attitude of excitement and curiosity, and equipping our youth with the skills need to lead a meaningful life.

"The transformation of life and learning in our confirmands inspires me."
—Kay Solon

Fellowship and Congregational Care

Together we provide care to hundreds of congregants through ushering, hospitality, social events, and neighborhood contacts. We also provide monthly home-based visits, weekly care visits, crisis counseling, and new baby and hospital visits.

"What inspires me are the people I have met here and through them how we reach out to meet the needs of others."
—Sherwood Pomeroy



Worship and Music

We gather weekly to praise God and life our voices in song.

"The worship experience here fills me up and gives me hope and energy to fuel the rest of my days."
—Laurel Gamm

SAVE THE DATE

Women's Retreat

May 1-3, 2020

Saint John's Abbey Guesthouse
Collegeville, MN

Please show your support of the programs that inspire us all at House of Hope. Every dollar you give sustains our ministry and makes House of Hope such a special place.

You should have received information about this year's campaign in the mail. Please prayerfully consider what the church means to you, where the church ranks in the order of your giving, as well as examine the percentage of your income that is designated for giving. These are not just financial questions, but spiritual questions, as Jesus made it clear that where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.



Children, Youth, and Family Programming

This year the Children and Family Committee is committed to building relationships and increasing the engagement of children and families through the children's programming and multi-generational events. We will seek to enhance a culture of multi-generational support and engagement, inviting congregants to attend children's community activities, volunteer in various aspects of children's programming, and participate in multi-generational events and retreats. Below are some of the upcoming events to add to your calendar.

Parents Night Out

Friday, November 22, 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.

Advent Celebration

Sunday, December 1

11:15 a.m. | Assembly Room

Enjoy fellowship, make advent wreaths, create art, decorate cookies, and more. Fun for all ages!

Christmas Pageant and Cookie Event

Sunday, December 15

11:15 a.m.

Join us for a unique retelling of the Christmas story in the Sanctuary as our Creative Expressions group is writing the pageant this year. Witness the story of Jesus's birth through the eyes of our children, who worked creatively with the biblical text. Following the pageant, join us for a multi-generational cookie event hosted by our Adult Education Committee.



Bash Update

Thank you to all who supported the Harvest of Hope Bash this year. We raised \$43,300, which leaves less than \$10,000 remaining to reach our Mission Outreach goal. *If you haven't already, please donate before the end of the year.*

Our partners put our faith into action in the community every day—feeding the hungry, sheltering those in need, and empowering others to improve their lives. HOH's Mission Partners include Ujamaa Place, Project Home, Habitat for Humanity, and Prior Crossing, and others.

Our faith and generosity make the world a better place.

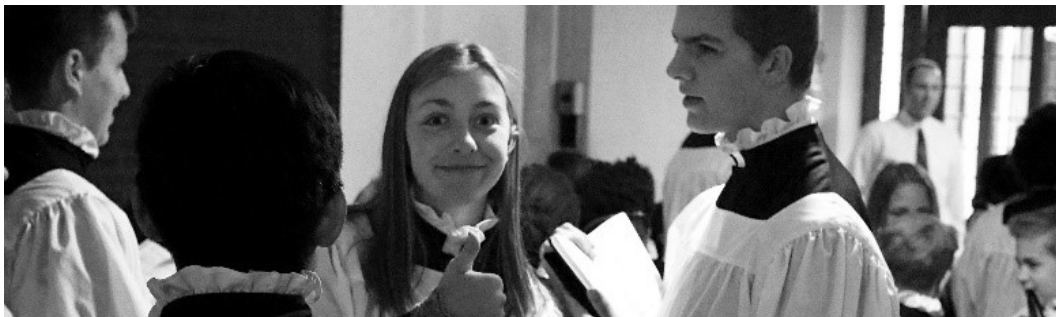


House of Hope Choir School

Choir School Alumni and Parent Sing-A-Long Sunday November 10

All Choir School alumni, parents, and grandparents are invited to sing with the Choir School. You are welcome to attend rehearsal on the previous Wednesday or come to Sunday rehearsal at 9:15 a.m. RSVP to Sofia Ardan at SofiaA@hoh-church.org if you would like to sing.

***Our next alumni sing-a-long will be
Sunday, December 22.***



Inspiring young singers since 1982

Our five choirs offer children PreK–Grade 12 an opportunity to learn musical skills in an affirming and welcoming environment and develop teamwork and community. Singing provides a means of expression and enriches our worship and our lives. New choristers welcome! **Register at: www.hohchurch.org/choir-school.**

The hallways are filled with music on Saturdays here at HOH! This fall we expanded the music education program to include individual instruction in piano and voice. Lessons are for all ages, PreK-adult, and all levels, from the very beginner to the adult returning to lessons, to the aspiring music major. New students are welcome, and you do not need to be part of the choir to take lessons. Visit www.hohchurch.org/choir-school to register or contact Director Sofia Ardan at sofiaa@hohchurch.org.



Sunday Series

January 19, 2020

Pulitzer-Prize Winning Writer Leonard Pitts, Jr.



Martin Luther King weekend 2020, House of Hope will present 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 US. His *Miami Herald* column on current affairs and human rights is syndicated in more than 250 newspapers.

Sunday Series invites well-known speakers to discuss key issues of our day and artists to share their artistic engagement with life and faith.

Christmas Sponsor-A-Family 2019

Every year the House of Hope community reminds us what the Christmas season is all about, by sharing with those most in need.

In 2018, Christmas was a little brighter for 76 families because of the generosity of House of Hope. This year we're hoping to increase Christmas joy by providing gifts for 80 families. A list of families and preferred gift ideas will be available for "adoption" the first three Sundays in November after the 10 a.m. worship service. The suggested amount per family member on a list is \$50/person (a family of four would receive roughly \$200 in gifts). Please stop by the Kirk Parlour on Sunday, November 3, 10, or 17 to check out family wish lists and sign up.

You may also share sponsorship of a family with another church member. If you don't like to shop but would like to spread the Christmas spirit with families in need, donations are also welcome and will be used to provide a grocery gift card for each family. Donations (including checks) can be dropped off at the sign-up table in the Kirk Parlour or at the church office with a note indicating they are for "Christmas Sponsor-A-Family."

Please help ease a local family's holiday stress by adopting a gift wish list this year. Your generosity will help make this Christmas season warm and memorable for so many in our community.

Call for "Christmas Memories" Items from the Congregation

The Arts Committee is asking for nostalgic Christmas items to display in the Cloister Gallery for the month of December. Ornaments, creches, old sheet music, Christmas books, a favorite recipe, family photos from long ago, old fashioned Christmas cards, nutcrackers, etc. The Arts Committee will have donation boxes (with identification labels) at a table outside the Kirk Parlor starting in November. Start searching for that special item to share with our members!

CLOISTER GALLERY



Closed Area: Whitefish Dunes State Park
Acrylic, 40" x 40"

Charlotte Schuld: In Search of Beauty and Incredible Place

October 15–December 1

Artist Reception:
Sunday, November 10 at 11 a.m.

Charlotte Schuld is a professional artist who specializes in landscapes rich in color, texture, and detail. Painting with acrylics on canvas is her primary medium although a recent development has been to do pastel paintings on canvas using fixative mediums throughout the process. Building up multiple layers of textures and details, she creates works that lead the eye through lush landscapes found in both her local Minnesota terrain and from frequent travels around the U.S. and abroad.

Charlotte lives and works in Stillwater with her husband. Her works can be found on her website: www.charlotteschuld.com and at the Waters of Superior Gallery in Duluth, MN.

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*This edition of The Anchor was printed on recycled paper as House of Hope takes actions
to become an Earth Care Congregation of the PC(USA).*

Providing the Comforts of Home

Mino Oski Ain Dah Yung Grand Opening | November 20

House of Hope supported the development of this new supportive housing program for American Indian youth between the ages 18-24 experiencing homelessness. The first group of residents will begin moving into their new home soon.



We continue our involvement by collecting bedding for new residents. Any material donations (pillows, full size sheet sets, mattress pads, and comforters) or financial donations are welcome. The approximate cost of supplying a set of bedding for a resident is about \$75. Please leave donations in the Coat Room, and mark your check for "MOADY."

Friends of Prior Crossing

This group supports residents of Prior Crossing. In December we will provide a holiday dinner and party. When Prior Crossing staff mentions needs, we do what we can to meet them.

For example, when we were told that some residents are sometimes without enough food to eat, donations of non-perishable food items were initiated to stock a "Pantry" for residents. When staff mentioned that many residents get no recognition on their birthdays other than the card given to them by the staff, we organized a group to provide "birthday bags" for each of the residents on their birthdays.

If you are interested in supporting Prior Crossing, please contact Jan Parkman at janparkman@gmail.com

Take advantage of "Black Friday" and their pre- and post-holiday sales to pick up items to donate to residents of Prior Crossing. Warm winter hats, gloves, and scarves are always needed this time of year. Thank you all for your continued generosity.

