



Join us for **HOPE IN WINTER**, a series of outdoor events embracing the Bold North and a virtual pilgrimage. January and February give us some of the most beautiful and sunlit days of the year. Here are eight ideas for spending some time together outdoors and indoors as a church family.



Mississippi Mile Walk with Lynn and Mark Barger Elliott

Sunday, January 3 | 2 p.m.

Meet Mark and Lynn at the "lookout" at the end of Summit Avenue for a mile walk along the Mississippi River.



Youth Group Snowball Fight, Summit Lawn

Saturday, January 9 | 2 p.m.

Students, grades 6–12, are invited to meet on the House of Hope Summit Lawn for the first ever, annual Snowball Fight! Dress for a snowy battle. There will be hot chocolate catered to help us warm up and fellowship following the bout.



Snowshoeing with Ann and Bill Geery, Fort Snelling State Park

Sunday, January 10 | 1 p.m.

Enjoy the beauty of winter in the park's extensive snowshoe trails where generations of Dakota lived along the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers.



Dog Park Meet Up, High Bridge Dog Park with Linda Lane

Sunday, January 17 | 3 p.m.

59 Randolph Avenue, Saint Paul

The High Bridge Dog Park, the former location of a coal power plant, is located on seven acres of land just south of Shepard Road. Bring your dog, or come on your own.



Summit Avenue Walking Pilgrimages with Julia Carlson

Wednesdays, January 27, February 3, 10, and 17 | 11 a.m.

Join Julia on short pilgrimages along different sections of Summit Avenue. Enjoy the beauty of the historic homes along the longest stretch of Victorian-era homes in the United States.



Snow Sculpture Contest in the HOH Park, Portland Avenue

Sunday, February 14 | 2–2:30 p.m.

What better way to celebrate Valentine's Day than to create a snow sculpture? A prize will be awarded. All are welcome!



Family Sledding Event

Saturday, February 27 | 10–11 a.m.

Watch the Enews for more details.

We will also offer a VIRTUAL pilgrimage which you can enjoy from the comfort of your home.



**Walking the El Camino:
A Virtual Pilgrimage via Zoom
Sundays, January 24 and 31,
February 7 and 14 | 2–3 p.m.
Guide: Julia Carlson**

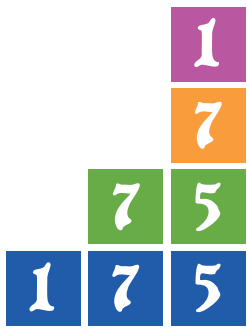
In this time when we cannot travel, let's go on a virtual journey. Through the pictures and memories of one Camino pilgrim along with poetry from David Whyte and well-known author Joyce Rupp's chronicle *Walk in a Relaxed Manner: Life Lessons from the Camino*, we will travel through both landscape and soulscape together.



SERMON SERIES

**From Here to There:
7 Biblical Insights on 7 Objectives**

Join us for a special sermon series from January 3– February 15 as we reflect on 7 Biblical insights that can inspire and guide us to fulfill our new 7 Objectives in the coming years.



In November, the Session approved a report by the Long Range Planning Committee which included our new Mission Statement and 7 Objectives we will tackle as we move towards our 175th anniversary in 2030. Below you will find “working documents” we will discuss in January with further input from the congregation.

House of Hope Mission Statement

Hope is more than a word in our name—it is why we were founded on Christmas Eve in 1855. Our inclusive and affirming community seeks to live out the word of God in our time. In the Presbyterian tradition we are Reformed, and yet always reforming. In this spirit we:

- Glorify God in our worship and seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ by proclaiming the Gospel through preaching, prayer, and exceptional music;
- Engage in a holy curiosity which seeks through ongoing learning to apply the teachings of the Bible and to follow the example of Jesus in our daily lives;
- Offer fellowship to people both inside and outside the church, listening to and respecting perspectives other than our own;
- Celebrate the dynamic and perpetual re-creation of God’s world by nurturing a faithful expression of the arts from children’s programs to hosting established artists and fostering musical gifts;
- Create a welcoming spiritual home for people in all stages of life, from young families to singles, empty nesters to senior adults; and
- Advocate for the just treatment of all people by offering tangible assistance and striving for structural change in racial equity, housing and healthcare access, and environmental stewardship.

7 Objectives

1. Establish and implement a HOH Master/Site Plan that reflects our desire to be a hospitable and welcoming community.
2. Create and implement a HOH Master Financial Plan.
3. Develop and expand programs for children, youth, family, and adults.
4. Create dynamic new partnerships and programs to further our spiritual life through music, arts and adult education.
5. Update our governance system to be relevant to our current and future needs.
6. Take bold and courageous action to advance diversity, religious pluralism, social justice and environmental stewardship.
7. Capitalize on new technologies to engage prospective and current members.



Stewardship Update

As of December 16, we have received **192 pledges** and 9 out of 10 of these pledges included an increase or sustained giving. The average pledge

increase has been **9.5%**. We invite you to embrace this spirit of faithful generosity and to consider increasing your pledge 5% so we might allocate 5% of all pledges received specifically for Mission Outreach. This will be the first time in 17 years we will align a percentage of pledged dollars with the work of assisting those in need in our community, country, and world.

If you haven’t already, please return your pledge card or pledge online through hohchurch.org.

Bash Update

Thank you to the over **150 donors** who contributed to our 2020 Bash! Presently, our gifts total **\$83,000**, 60% over our goal of \$50,000. Listed below are some of our Mission Outreach Partners who received grants from HOH to support hunger and homelessness efforts. Check our website for a complete list (hohchurch.org/mission/the-bash).

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities Area
Feed My Starving Children
Hallie Q. Brown Community Center
Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul/Project Home
Jeremiah Program
Neighborhood House
Ujamaa Place
Women’s Advocates





We are excited to launch "The HUB," a ministry where children, youth, and families build community and faith through education, service, and the arts!

Our logo draws upon a familiar symbol in the House of Hope Sanctuary. It is the spirit moving through our worship, ministries, and programs. Just as stained glass is illuminated when light shines through it, our ministries to children, youth, and families will shine brightly as the light of Christ brings to life our work together.

Kick off 2021 by joining the best children and youth ministry in the Twin Cities for programs like SUMMIT, in-person and virtual Choir School, and intergenerational winter gatherings!

Children and Family Ministries **Birth through Fifth Grade**

Faith formation utilizing storytelling, STEM activities, theatre, music, games, and community events build our faith community through play and creativity. We include opportunities for families to put faith into action through service projects and mission outreach.

Youth and Family Ministries **Grades 6–12**

We strive to equip youth with the skills needed to lead full and meaningful lives through service and learning. Our goal is to provide them with a place to explore issues of faith, morality, justice, and service. Our youth and families grow in faith and friendship through discipleship activities like SUMMIT and the Mess Hall, service projects, retreats, and mission trips.

Choir School

Under the direction of Choir School Director Sofia Ardalan, choristers learn to express themselves through music, sing high-quality repertoire, and grow in friendship and faith.

All-Church Focus on Housing and Homelessness

We hope to foster understanding and deepen engagement by providing several ways to learn more and pray together about this important issue. Watch for details on the HOH Blog page (hohchurch.org/house-of-hope-blog/).

- Warm Clothing Drive (see right)
- Book Study: *The Color of Law*, by Richard Rothstein
- Resource list including spiritual resources
- Activities for children and youth

Contact Shana Wagner at sharon.k.wagner@gmail.com with questions.

JANUARY AT HOH

Check the Events Calendar on our website for details.

Monday Exchange

Mondays, January 4 and 18 | 7 p.m. via Zoom

Children and Family Ministries

January Weekly Zoom Programming:

- Silly Songs and Storytime, Fridays at 9:30 a.m. (Infants–K)
- Elementary Game Time on Fridays at 4 p.m. (Grades 1–5)
- Family Worship on Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Adult Enrichment: Barb Horlbeck on "The Sacred in Art"

Sunday, January 10 | 11:15 a.m. via Zoom

An art historian, Barb Horlbeck will discuss Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, and Muslim art.

January Storytime Event

Saturday, January 16 | 10 a.m. via Zoom

Talking about homelessness and poverty can be a daunting. How do you empower your child to help? Children (infants–Grade 5, and their adults are invited to a special storytime event as we pursue this conversation together. Contact Kiera Stegall at KieraS@hohchurch.org for Zoom details.

Feminist Theology with Julia Carlson

Sunday, January 17 | 11:15 a.m. via Zoom

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.

Summit on Summit! – All Officer: Elders, Deacons, and Trustees – Retreat to Work on 7 Objectives **Saturday, January 23 | 9–10:30 a.m.**

Sunday-Weekday Connections

Tuesday, January 26 | 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

HOH Director of Children and Family Ministry Kiera Stegall will speak about her spiritual and personal journey. Kiera is pursuing a Doctorate of Ministry in Theology and the Arts at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities.

January Winter Clothing Collection for Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative

We invite all members and friends to care for those experiencing homelessness in our community this winter. Please bring winter clothing items (socks, hats, coats, waterproof mittens, snow pants, etc.) for Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative. Watch for more details in the Enews.

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*The House of Hope
Presbyterian Church is a
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*House of Hope is now on
Instagram. Please follow and
share your photos with us!
@houseofhopepresbyterian*

Introducing SUMMIT: A new name for our Youth and Family Ministries!

The SUMMIT (Wednesdays, 7 p.m.)

In the Gospels, Jesus took his disciples up the mountain, where they encountered God and were transformed by God's love. At the SUMMIT, we gather together around the teachings of Jesus to grow our faith and are sent out to share the story of what God is up to with our communities and classmates. The SUMMIT will begin meeting weekly on January 20.

Welcome to The Mess Hall!

We are excited to announce a new ministry opportunity for students to connect with one another during lunches over Zoom. This digital encounter will be a place for students to build connections and share fellowship in a relaxed, low-stakes environment.

Middle School Mess Hall dates: January 5, 12, 19, 26 at 12 p.m.

Senior High Mess Hall dates: January 7, 14, 21, 28 at 12 p.m.

Contact Dan Miglets-Nelson at DanMN@hohchurch.org for more information and the Zoom links for youth events.

Connect with us on Social Media!

Facebook: HOHYouthStP and Instagram: @hohyouthstp

HOH Choir School

This spring, the Choir School will offer expanded programming for PreK-adult, with both in-person and online opportunities. Contact Director Sofia Ardalan at SofiaA@hohchurch.org for details and to register. We have limited spots open! New choristers are welcome!

In-Person (PreK–Grades 12)

- Weekly rehearsals for Grades 1–12.
- Alleluia Choir (PreK–K) 5 sessions starting April 14. Limit 5 choristers. Registration begins April 5.

Online or In-Person (children, youth, and adult)

Weekly online or in-person singing classes for 1-3 individuals tailored to your goals and interests! 25 minute sessions are between 2–4 p.m. on Wednesdays.

