

HOUSE OF HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2016–17 Annual Report



Who Are We?

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church was founded to be a beacon of hope in the world, we are grounded in a tradition that tells us we are a church reformed and always reforming. This tradition makes us uniquely positioned to serve the world, welcome the stranger, and meet the needs of our changing community.

We feed people's spiritual hunger through worship services that blend a traditional style, with progressive messages, and excellent music set in a beautiful, sacred space.

We quench people's thirst for knowledge and invite spiritual growth through programs that bring the issues and concerns for the world into our space, informing and inspiring discipleship.

We send people back out into the neighborhood, community, and world—equipped in both heart and mind—to feed the hungry, house the homeless, clothe the naked, and comfort the afflicted.

Worship

The House of Hope and the surrounding community are blessed by the gifts of thoughtful worship and beautiful music.

Two Elizabeth Chapel organ recitals were given by **Aaron David Miller**, one in October with trumpet players **David Baldwin** and **Pam Humphrey** and the other in April with harpist **Rachel Brandwein**. A third featured **Sarah Garner**, House of Hope's Music Associate.

David Johnson, carillonneur, held the 23rd Annual Summer Recital Series featuring carillonneurs from around the country and abroad. HOH families and community members gathered to enjoy the music of the bells on the lawn.

An average of **45 people** across the globe live-streamed Worship service each Sunday.



House of Hope Choir School

Since 1982, the House of Hope Choir School has offered music education to children.

This season, in addition to participating in weekly worship, the Choir School presented a Christmas Concert in December, Spring Concert in May, and recorded a new CD this spring.

HOH Awarded Ultimate Friend Award

HOH received the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra's 2016 Ultimate Friend Award.

An orchestra representative commented, "House of Hope has provided a wonderful and welcoming space for our educational programs and we want to recognize your generosity." Long-time House of Hope member and SPCO supporter Sheldon Damberg accepted the award on behalf of the church.

Centering Prayer

Introduced in January 2017, Centering Prayer is an opportunity to rest in God's presence and to invite God in—as one invites a contractor to do some remodeling in one's home—God is the inner remodeler. What carpenters do with walls and wiring, God does with hearts and minds. We brought Centering Prayer to House of Hope because we are all invited to nurture contemplative practices to enhance life's journey.



When we reach out to our neighbors, we call it mission outreach. At the roots, it is an answer to the call to love one another as The Christ loved us.

At House of Hope, we feel it is important to create and nurture an intentional Culture of Care that is broad: across the whole spectrum of ages and needs within the church—and deep: from “keeping in touch” to one-to-one care. Jesus constantly demonstrated that showing up for others is what feeds the self.

60 Deacons
13 Caring Visitors
12 Stephen Ministers
3 Pastors

Together we provide care to hundreds of congregants through ushering, hospitality, social events, and neighborhood contacts; monthly home-based visits; weekly care visits; crisis counseling; new baby and hospital visits, which equals hundreds and hundreds of hours of congregational and pastoral care.



Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry is grounded in Jesus’ command to love one another. Our volunteer group of Stephen Ministers works with members and in the community to provide Christ-centered emotional and spiritual care to those who are suffering.

HOH Stephen Ministry continued to grow from the initial **three leaders to 12 Stephen ministers and five leaders.** An additional training is being planned.

Care Creates Community

Our recent new members are now attending Bible Study and Centering Prayer, ordained as Elders and Deacons, singing in the Motet Choir and Choir School, working with the Prior Crossing team, attending National Night Out, bringing children and youth to events, and participating in worship.

All are welcome as members and friends of this community.



The 2016–2017 Board of Deacons included 50 individuals and four Youth Deacons. Chris Langer served as Moderator.

Congregational Care

Our Intercessor's Guild has been praying for nearly **100 years**. Volunteers pray every day for members of our church and its mission, as well as the larger community and the world.



**Number of
Intercessors**



**Number of
days per year
they pray**



**Number
of years in
prayer**



Mission Sewing

The oldest group at HOH, the Mission Sewing group began 150 years ago. Women met to sew, then enjoyed lunch and a program. Over the years, this group has rolled bandages and knit warm woolens for the troops in both world wars.

Today members tie, knit or crochet prayer shawls for those who are grieving, healing, or going through a difficult time. Hand crocheted or knitted blankets are given to every infant baptized at the church.

The opening of Prior Crossing brought an opportunity for Mission Sewing to undertake a large-scale project. They invited the entire church to "General Tie Days" committed to tying blankets and even received a donated "trunkful of fleece" from a community member.

With the help of many volunteers, 44 fleece blankets were blessed and delivered to youth at the Grand Opening with a note that read: "Wrap yourself in the warmth of this blanket made for Prior Crossing by the women of the House of Hope Presbyterian Church."

Mission Outreach

Our church is more than a beautiful building on Summit Avenue. At the core of this church is a deeply embedded commitment to the greater community. We are dedicated to social justice and human rights, and are intentional citizens and good neighbors within the community.

HOH partnered with Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative to build **Prior Crossing: Housing Development for Homeless Youth**.

The building was dedicated in November 2016 and by the end of December it was full. "Five years ago, we had a goal to make a difference in the lives of St. Paul youth," said Jack Sjöholm, HOH congregant and Beacon board member. "Today we celebrate the opening of Prior Crossing."

Project Home is one way that we can love our neighbors as ourselves. Each October HOH opens our doors to shelter homeless families from Saint Paul. In 2016, our Youth Room housed 20 family members, providing shelter, food, security and hospitality.



\$500,000
in support of safe
housing for youth
at Prior Crossing

44 apartments
for homeless youth
in Saint Paul



20 homeless family members
given emergency shelter
at House of Hope
through Project Home



Peace and Justice Committee focused on:

- Preventing gun violence
- Funding for Minnesota Family Investment Program
- Eliminating the marriage disincentive
- Overhauling the solitary confinement provision

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity brings people together to create and preserve homeownership in our neighborhoods. In 2016, HOH volunteers provided support for a local house build in Saint Paul and summer work camp.



Community Garden

With a mission to respond to the hunger so prevalent around us, we kicked off another year of the **House of Hope Community Garden** on our front lawn. Volunteers from our congregation and the community planted, maintained, and harvested vegetables to help feed hungry families in Saint Paul.

In 2016, we donated **almost 1,600 pounds of fresh produce** to Neighborhood House food shelf.

The Houses of Hope Fund

Established in 1999 to honor our 150th anniversary, the Houses of Hope Fund has granted more than \$2.5 million to support affordable housing.

In 2016, the Houses of Hope Fund distributed \$50,000 to Beacon Interfaith Housing for Prior Crossing, \$4,000 for the House of Hope Habitat work crews, and \$56,000 for the groups that the Fund supported in the past.

In conjunction with the Mission Outreach committee, grants were made to housing-related requests and ongoing support of our housing partners.

In 2016, the Houses of Hope Fund provided:

\$110,352 total

Beacon Interfaith Housing
Collaborative

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity
Family Place

People Incorporated

Project for Pride in Living

Twin Cities Housing and Dayton
Avenue Presbyterian Church

YWCA

Special Events

Ezra Klein | October 16, 2016

With his characteristic razor-sharp wit, Ezra Klein presented a timely look at the 2016 presidential election campaign.

Wesley Lowery | January 15, 2017

Author of *They Can't Kill Us All: Ferguson, Baltimore, and a New Era in America's Racial Justice Movement*, Lowery provided a timely discussion about race in America.

Man of Many Voices | March 12, 2017 Community Hymn Sing

HOH presented a documentary about the life and legend of the world-renowned conductor Robert Shaw.

Michael Beschloss | May 21, 2017

Award-winning presidential historian, Beschloss provided gripping tales and brilliant inside analysis, revealing leadership secrets of great presidents and other towering figures in history.

Didier Seminar

Professor Eddie Glaude | April 7-8, 2017 Democracy in Black: How Race Still Enslaves the Amerian Soul

Renowned author and professor of African American Studies, Dr. Eddie Glaude Jr. spoke, with J. Herbert Nelson, the first African American clerk of the PC(USA) following as our Sunday preacher. The two spoke to the legacy of segregation and the church's function in American society to assert moral leadership in the changing patterns of racial and cultural revolution.

Cloister Gallery Art Exhibits

August 2016

HOH Mission Outreach Display

September-October 2016

Maxine Bergh

November 2016

HOH Member's Art Show

December 2016

Holiday Show with HOH Children and Youth Artists



January 2017

Art Committee Sale

February 2017

Minnesota Ming Chiao Chapter of the Sumi-e Society Art Show

March 2017

Lauren Werner

April 2017

Marjorie Moody

May 2017

Barbara Riegel Bend

... **\$1,500** netted at the
2017 Art Committee Sale

Children & Youth Ministry

The **Children & Youth Ministry** program fosters deep connections with God and one another, as well as providing a solid base for the faith formation within the House of Hope culture of social justice and artistic expression.

HOH middle school activities included lock-ins, a fall retreat at Presbyterian Clearwater forest, and a middle school mission trip in Minnesota.

On Grand Old Day, HOH youth raised money for the mission trip through our annual parking fundraiser.

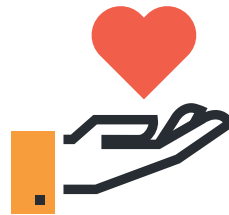
Fourteen youth, two staff, and three adult volunteers drove to New Orleans in July to participate in urban mission work. The group painted, worked in food kitchens, shelters, and summer education centers.

Our high school group participated in **"Souper Bowl of Caring,"** which raises money for food shelves in our community on Super Bowl Sunday. Our youth raised 20% more than the prior year.



33 faith and scripture stories told and engaged with Godly Play

Picked **500** pounds of zucchini and planted **1,500** cabbages on mission trip



\$1,410 raised at the Souper Bowl of Caring



Sophie Stein, Katherine Thomas, Sebastian Williamson, Henry Cheney, Oliver Paleen, Frances Atmore, Peter Findell were confirmed and welcomed as new members on May 6, 2017.

Generosity

The Bash

Thank you to all who attended **The Bash** and generously supported HOH's Mission Outreach efforts through purchases and contributions.

The Bash is a church-wide social event fondly dubbed, "a party with a purpose." Since its inception in 2003, the Bash has raised \$800,000 in support of Mission Outreach. Through silent and live auctions, games, music and dinner we came together as a church community united to positively impact the world around us through our faith and generosity.

This year's Bash surpassed last year's totals by a significant margin. The Bash net revenue was over \$64,000, which is a 30% increase over last year.

Thanks to everyone who helped in so many ways to improve the lives of individuals we, as a community of faith, strive to serve.



The Bash has raised
\$800,000 in support of
Mission Outreach since 2003



The Gift of Tom Mairs

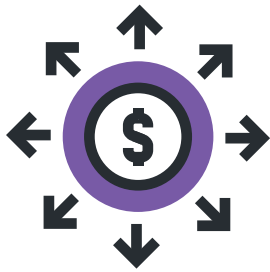
Tom Mairs loved the church. He wanted to make sure that his love for House of Hope would be remembered long after his passing in August 2016. Tom became a member of the Anchor Society by naming the church as a beneficiary of his estate plan.

"Over lunch one day, Tom informed me of his decision," said Pastor Van Dyke. Living in Highland Park, Tom and his family were a part of a group of House of Hope members who helped the Presbytery start the Edgumbe Presbyterian Church in the mid-1950s.

After being at Edgumbe for several years, the Mairs family transferred their membership back to House of Hope. Tom's generous gift has been incorporated into the church's endowment fund and will provide annual support for the church.

"I am deeply grateful for Tom's love and commitment to House of Hope," commented Pastor Van Dyke.

Financial Highlights



\$1,019,497 from the Endowment fund was distributed to support the mission and ministry of the House of Hope. The entire congregation was impacted.

61% of our revenue comes from pledges and contributions.



21% of budget supports Mission Outreach and Programming.

18% of budget supports Worship and Music Programs.

13% of budget supports Congregational Life.



56 people attended the **Anchor Society Lunch** in May to honor those who remember House of Hope through their wills or estate planning.



The House of Hope Presbyterian Church

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The following changes took place in the church record in 2016:

Total membership at the conclusion of 2016: 1,606

Total membership at the conclusion of 2015: 1,604

Persons received into membership: 57

Members transferred to other churches: 11

2016 Baptisms:

Perrin Amelia Bailey	Anderson Thomas Kromroy
Lillian Elizabeth Douglass	Peter Alexander Sales
Anderson Wallace Fox	Noah James Webster
Dylan Alexandra Hoogland	

We regret to record the deaths of the following persons and wish to extend our sympathy to their families and friends:

Mary Kay Briggs	Libby Luman
Myrtle (Mickey) Dengler	Arthur Madsen
Marcia Edwards	Thomas Mairs
Sara (Sally) Fulton	D. Eugene Nugent
David Godfrey	Esther Piper
Harriet Goodding	Benjamin Pomeroy
Lyle Gunsell	Kathleen Rogers
Michael Jordan	Edward Rutledge

