



A Strong Start to our Capital Campaign

Thank you to those who have made a pledge or gift to our **Bright Hope for Tomorrow Capital Campaign!**

As of April 23, commitments of \$3,678,320 have been received from 98 individuals or families.

The funds we raise will provide our congregation with a comfortable place to pray, celebrate, learn, and also expand our role as good neighbors. We're proud to be a significant source of outreach, spiritual life, art, and music to this community. A building that is sound and inviting will renew our focus on hospitality, welcoming congregants and guests to worship as well as gatherings and activities.

Our hope is that you will prayerfully consider how you will participate in this vitally important campaign. **All gifts are important to the success of the campaign.**

We invite you to join us in worship on **Sunday, May 19** for **Announcement Sunday**, where we will celebrate the current pledge total for our **Bright Hope for Tomorrow Capital Campaign.**

Confirmation Sunday | May 5



This year's confirmation class has discussed and reflected on a variety of topics including community, awe, justice and faith, and spirituality. They have written Statements of Belief that capture a snapshot of what they believe about these topics and more. We welcome everyone to support them as they confirm the

commitments made for them at their baptisms, as well as seeing the 3rd graders and rising-kindergartners receive their Bibles as well.

Members of the Confirmation Class of 2024 include:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------|
| Sam Hilton | Lucie Nelson |
| Leo Mayer | Leah Shipp |
| Felix Nelson | Christian Weispfenning |

PENTECOST MUSIC SUNDAY Mozart's Coronation Mass | May 19



The House of Hope Motet Choir will perform Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, K.317, a favorite of The Motet Choir and congregation. Mozart composed this mass, one of his 19 Mass settings, including the *Requiem*, in 1779 near the end of his tenure working for Archbishop Colloredo in Salzburg at the age of 23. A few fun facts to whet your interest:

- Mozart composed the solos with choir members in mind, and for the May 19 performance, all 10 of the HOH Section Leaders will make a solo appearance.
- Where are the violas? Although Mozart included oboes, trumpets, horns, and timpani, there are no violas in the string section. This is in keeping with a church sonata/trio orchestration of 2 violins and continuo (celli, bass, organ).
- Composing Mass settings was an activity based on liturgical norms. In two key instances, Mozart (to the Archbishop's chagrin) broke away from these standards: first, at the conclusion of the Credo movement after the first "Amen," Mozart has the choir reiterate the opening line of text (*Credo in unum Deum*) and throws in extra Amens to boot. This may have been the first time in history that a composer did that, and Beethoven repeated the choice in his *Missa Solemnis*. The second creative break from norms comes in the middle of the Benedictus (sung by solo quartet), when the choir interjects one of three utterances of the "Hosanna in excelsis" material. One may chuckle when the solo quartet then continues back in their rather pastorale character as if the choir's outburst never happened.
- We witness a little bit of foreshadowing (and future musical recycling) when introduced to the lovely soprano solo in the Agnus Dei movement. This material serves as a little more than inspiration for the aria "Dove Sono" from *Le nozze de Figaro*. — Matthew Culloton

The Choir School Spring Concert: Going Home Sunday, May 19

11:15 a.m.

All are invited to attend the final Choir School concert of the season. Come experience the beauty of our choristers' voices in songs of dreams, journeys, and joy. A reception will follow the concert in the Kirk Parlour.



WORSHIP

10 a.m.

Sunday, May 5, 2024
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Motet Choir:
Cantate Domino, Schütz

Choir School
One Voice, Powell
St Cecilia and St Nicholas Choirs

Sunday, May 12, 2024
Seventh Sunday of Easter

Bells of Hope:
Nocturne in E minor, Dobrinski
African Easter Carol, Mokelbust

Motet Choir:
How Goodly are Thy Tents, Ouseley
Laudate Jehovam omnes gentes, Telemann

Sunday, May 19, 2024
Pentecost | Music Sunday
Announcement Sunday

Motet Choir and Chamber Orchestra:
Coronation Mass, K. 317, Mozart

Sunday, May 26, 2024
Trinity Sunday

Motet Choir:
God Be with Us, McDowall

Congregational Meeting Sunday, May 5



The Session has called a meeting of the Congregation for Sunday, May 5 following worship for the purpose of electing Elders, Trustees, Deacons; and members of the 2025 Nominating Committee.



A Note from Scott

*Membership Development Committee
Becomes Community Engagement*

Everyone wants to know the secrets to church growth. Is it a charismatic pastoral leader? Is it programming designed to attract younger people? Is it a particular “brand” of theology? Is it gourmet coffee?

No doubt, most people within the church are aware that overall church attendance and church affiliation has been declining in the United States for some time and these trends have accelerated as a result of the pandemic. In addition, many people within the church today are alarmed at the hastened pace of secularization in our society and the emergence of a large group of people who claim, “no particular religious affiliation.” Here are a few church growth/church decline facts that you may find to be surprising:

- Conservative churches have been losing membership at a much higher rate than moderate/liberal churches over the past decade or more.
- A majority of young people who have left their churches in recent years say the negative treatment of LGBTQ people in their church or denomination is their main reason for leaving.
- A majority of larger churches (1,000 members plus) in all denominations continue to grow while many small to medium size churches are declining.
- Many of the fastest growing churches in the country are the most racially diverse.

Some of this has to do with changing demographics. For example, churches located in parts of the country that have declining populations (such as rural, small town, and ex-urban areas) have seen a significant number of church closures. Moreover, small neighborhood churches located in older suburban areas in large cities have also struggled and seen significant decline. Frequently this results from changing racial/ethnic demographics in the neighborhoods

around these churches and the inability of majority white congregations to become more diverse.

There is, however, a common denominator that is seen in churches that are growing despite the overall downturn in religious affiliation and practice: it’s **relationship building**. Churches that are succeeding in our current religious climate are really good at building relationships with people outside of their congregations and in welcoming and assimilating new people into their communities. And they are very intentional about these things and work hard at them.

For instance, these churches have identified needs in the neighborhoods around them that the church is uniquely qualified to help with. One church I am familiar with has become the “environmental justice hub” of their community where dozens of volunteers work in a variety of ways to help their city become “greener” by hastening the transition to renewable forms of energy. Do all of these people become a part of this church? No, but many do through the relationship building process that takes place over time and the recognition by people in the community that the church has a deep commitment, rooted in its theology, for a more environmentally just world. This is a revelation for many people and enables them to engage with the Christian tradition in a way they previously thought was impossible. Of course, every congregation and community are unique, but this is an illustration of *how many growing churches do membership development in the 21st century*. Recognizing the need for a shift in emphasis, HOH’s Session at its February meeting made the decision to take membership development in a whole new direction though a new Community Engagement model.

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The new committee will:

- Engage with less active members and friends of HOH to encourage participation in worship, fellowship, education, music, and service opportunities.
- Periodically provide introductory classes on Christianity, the Bible, Spirituality, and Reformed Theology, as a regular and integrated part of the overall educational program.
- Provide new fellowship opportunities to deepen a sense of community and belonging within the congregation across generations.
- Engage with people who live in the neighborhoods around the church in a variety of ways: through organizing to meet community needs; providing meeting and fellowship space for community groups; and

developing and implementing “good neighbor” events and programs in partnership with those living in the neighborhoods.

A couple of organizational/ brainstorming meetings for the new committee will take place in the coming weeks with new, phased-in programming starting in the fall.

If you have any interest in participating in this new ministry, please contact the church office.

I believe that this new approach to outreach (both within and outside of the congregation) has the potential to revitalize and renew the congregation in a whole variety of positive ways. Please consider how you might participate in making this a reality.

Blessings,
Scott Kenefake
Transitional Pastor



Pastor Nominating Committee

The PNC, with the support of Kevin Chase Executive Search, is reviewing several dozen possible candidates for the Head of Staff role with the intent of beginning more in-depth interviews soon. We will continue to update the congregation as we make progress that we can share. The PNC thanks you for your continued prayers and support.

WAYS TO SERVE Sunday Morning Scripture Readers

Are you interested in being added to our rotation of people who read the first lesson scripture reading on Sunday mornings? We're always looking for more people to assist with this special task, and we invite you to sign up. Sign up by contacting Mark Schwister in the Church office at MarkS@hohchurch.org or 651-227-6311.

Community Garden Volunteers



New volunteers are always welcome for our Community Garden! Even if you can only help out a couple times, it all contributes to creating the 1000+ lbs. of delicious and nutritious food each year for our neighbors. Volunteers of all ages, abilities, experience levels, and schedules are welcome—there are jobs to fit everyone, including delivering the food to the food pantries. We'll begin in early May. To join the email list: houseofhopegarden@gmail.com or contact Elizabeth Karre.

Recent and Upcoming Capital Improvements

- Repairs were recently made in the **House of Hope Park** to park equipment and the playground.
- A **new railing** was installed at the Porte Cochere entrance.
- New **LED lighting** has been installed in the East Wing, and this work has also begun in the west end of the building.
- The **new electrical service** into the building is now complete.
- New **Landscaping** will be installed where work is completed.
- House of Hope **parking lots** will soon be repaired and resurfaced.

Telecoil Hearing Loop Installed in Sanctuary



A hearing loop is a wire that circles a room and is connected to the sound system. The signal is then picked up by telecoil-equipped hearing aids and cochlear implants. ***On Sunday, May 5, Rick Korinek of Midwest Hearing Loops will make a presentation about the hearing loop at 11:15 a.m. in the sanctuary.***

If you have a telecoil (t-coil) hearing aid, you can ask your audiologist to assist you with how to use it. A limited number of listening devices are available, or you can purchase one.

A New HOH Church Directory!

Work on a new church directory is underway, and we want to have as many members and friends photographed for the directory as possible. Photography sessions will take place on:

- Tuesday, May 7 | 2 - 8:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 8 | 2 - 8:30 p.m.
- Thursday, May 9 | 2 - 8:30 p.m.
- Friday, May 10 | 2 - 8:30 p.m.
- Saturday, May 11 | 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Ways to sign up for a photo session:

- Call the church: 651-227-6311
- Online: www.ucdir.com
You'll need to enter **mn452** for the Church Code and **photos** for the Church Password.



Summer Singing for all ages!

Wednesdays, June 5 - 26

The Choir School will offer a summer mini session of 4 voice lessons starting June 5. All ages and levels welcome! Pay as you can/donation to The House of Hope Choir School appreciated. Email Choir School Director Sofia Ardalan at SofiaA@hohchurch.org for more information and to sign up!



Children, Youth and Family Ministry

Children and Family Ministry

Contact Dr. Jimmy Hoke:
JimmyH@hohchurch.org

Youth and Family Ministry

Contact Elsa Kendig:
ElsaK@hohchurch.org

Congregational Summer Events:

Summer Celebration

Sunday, June 9

Fun for all ages: games, activities, and book sales! Ice cream treats and more! Watch for more information in May!

St. Paul Pride Festival

Saturday, June 15 | Rice Park

HOH will have a booth, featuring our Children, Youth, and Family Ministry programs. We'd love to have families and HOH members volunteer to help!

Neighborhood Puppet Show:

Molly and the Magic Boot

Sunday, June 23 | Summit Lawn

Join us for a fun, free family event on the front lawn of the House of Hope. Bring a blanket or a lawn chair and be prepared to be entertained!

Summer Carillon Recital Series

July 4 and Sundays in July

Overnight to Sugarloaf Cove

Nature Center | Schroeder, MN

Friday and Saturday | July 19-20

Movie in the HOH Park

Saturday, August 17 | 7:45 p.m.

Sunday Morning Volunteers

Contact Jimmy if you are able to help with Sunday morning ministry with children.

Early Childhood Ministry for Nursery – Preschool

Sundays | Rooms 4 and 7

8:45 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Our nursery and preschool-age children are invited to join us to engage with stories, listen to music, and play with age-appropriate toys.

Elementary Sunday School

Rooms 4 and 7 | 10:10 a.m.

Elementary-age children are invited to join us for Bible storytelling, prayer, group games, and art-making as they build community through play.

Rising-Kindergarten and 3rd Grade Bible Presentations

Sunday, May 5 | 10 a.m.

Our rising-kindergartners and current third graders will receive a Bible in worship on Sunday, May 5.

Third Grade Pizza Party

Saturday, May 11 | Noon

We'll enjoy a pizza celebration at HOH for our third graders and their families for completing Bible Presentation Classes.

May Tween Event

Friday, May 17 | 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

We will celebrate fifth graders as they transition into the youth program in the fall, and we will welcome third graders to join us, in preparation for the fall. Third, fourth, and fifth graders are welcome to join us for fun!

Pre-Worship Gathering

Sundays | Youth Room | 9:45 a.m.

Confirmands Meeting with Session

Saturday, May 4

Kirk Parlour | 11:15 a.m.

Confirmands and their families will meet with representatives from the Session to present their Statements of Belief and be welcomed into membership. A light brunch will be served.

Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, May 5 | 10 a.m.

Confirmands will be welcomed into membership during worship. A reception in their honor will be held after the service in the Kirk Parlour.

Canoe and Cookout

Saturday, May 11

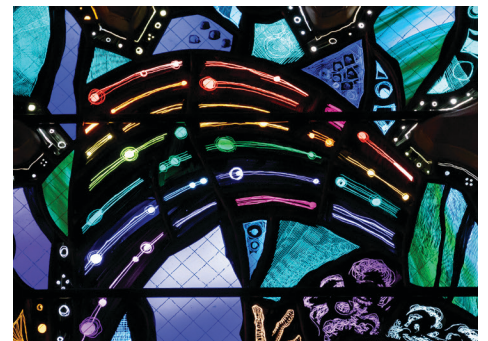
HOH Parking Lot | 10:30 a.m.

Youth are invited to join for a lovely paddle and then some tasty burgers! Please R.S.V.P. to Elsa by May 5 so that we can be sure to reserve enough canoes and drivers!

Sunday Night Youth Group

Sunday, May 26 | Room 7 | 6-8 p.m.

We'll enjoy a pot-luck dinner together followed by games in the church!



MAY

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Interfaith Mission Fair

Sunday, May 5

Kirk Parlour Hallway | 11:15 a.m.

Join several of House of Hope's mission partners to learn more about how to get involved with their important work! Representatives from the following organizations will be participating:

Interfaith Action of Greater St. Paul
Wilder Foundation
Minnesota Multifaith Network
Neighborhood House
Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative
Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light
The Jeremiah Program

Introduction to HOH's New Sanctuary Hearing Loop

Sunday, May 5

Sanctuary | 11:15 a.m.

Rick Korinek of Midwest Hearing Loop will make a presentation about the hearing loop. If you have a telecoil-equipped hearing aid, or interested in learning more, join us to learn more about this new assistive technology.

New Member Class

Sunday, May 12

Room 1 | 11:15 a.m.

If you are interested in joining or learning more about House of Hope, please join us.

Announcement Sunday

Sunday, May 19

Join us for worship where we will celebrate the current pledge total that has been received for our **Bright Hope for Tomorrow** Capital Campaign.

Choir School Spring Concert: Going Home

Sunday, May 19

Sanctuary | 11:15 a.m.

See page 1 for more information about The Choir School's final concert of the season.

OTHER EVENTS

Church Directory Photos Sessions:

Tuesday May 7 - Saturday, May 11

Contact the church for an appointment.

The Singers in Concert

Sunday, May 5 | 3 p.m.

The Singers and Matthew Culloton present **Windows & Mirrors: An Anniversary Finale** at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi. The featured work is the world premiere of Aaron David Miller's *Nova Gaudia: Four Goliard Songs* for strings, piano, and percussion, commissioned for The Singers by the Stephen Paulus Family Fund and David and Nancy Van Dyke. Tickets and information at www.singersmca.org.

St Paul Farmers'

Market Returns

Fridays | 1:15 - 5 p.m.

Beginning Friday, May 10, the market will return to the Holly Lot on Fridays through October.



Great Decisions: High Seas Biodiversity Treaty with Christi Siver:

Tuesday, May 14

Kirk Parlour | 3 p.m.

The world's oceans are a source of great beauty and biodiversity that we are still just at the beginning of understanding and appreciating. The recent High Seas Biodiversity Treaty offers a unique opportunity to protect these environments and better understand them. It also breathes new life into the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea which provides important safety and security benefits to all nations.

Christi Siver is a professor of Political Science at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University. Her research and teaching interests focus on international relations, human rights, and security. She received her PhD in Political Science from the University of Washington and her MA in International Relations and International Economics from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Relations.

Save the Dates: Habitat for Humanity Faith Builders

June 3-7 | 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

The project is a house rehab in Roseville, and it is a good project for volunteers who prefer to avoid ladders and scaffolding. No experience required. Volunteers must be 18 or older, or 16 and accompanied by a parent. Contact Dave Olsen: dwo823@yahoo.com

Sign up to volunteer:

<https://bit.ly/FaithBuilders2024>



Earth Care

Plant a Bee Lawn

Would you like your lawn to help our native pollinators? You can by making it do double duty. A bee lawn can provide not only recreational space for you, your family and pets, but also much-needed food resources for bees and other beneficial pollinators.

One way to provide resources for pollinators while keeping the function of a lawn is to incorporate other plants such as Dutch white clover, self-heal thyme, and creeping thyme. These plants have the right type of flowers for bees, adapt to being mowed, and tolerate foot traffic. And, once established, a bee lawn may take less work to maintain than a traditional lawn. For more information, visit:

<https://bit.ly/BeeLawn>

– Adapted from the University of Minnesota Extension website

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COVENANT NETWORK OF PRESBYTERIANS

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church is a Covenant Network Congregation.

CELEBRATION SUNDAY: Bright Hope for Tomorrow



HOUSE OF HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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