

**THE DIDIER SEMINAR**

**with Caroline Oakes**  
**Saturday, May 3 - Sunday, May 4**  
*Practice the Pause: The Good News of Neuroscience and Ancient Scripture*

Register at: <https://bit.ly/Didier2025>



**Caroline Oakes**, author of the newly-released book *Practice the Pause*, is a writer and spiritual director whose essays have been published at The OnBeing Project, the HuffPost, and in her bimonthly "Mind & Spirit" column in the *Bucks County Herald*, an award-winning regional newspaper. She

received her master's degree from The General Theological Seminary and trained in teaching contemplative practice and meditation by Shalem Institute and Mindful Schools, Inc.

**Saturday, May 3 Schedule**

**8:30 a.m. Coffee and Treats**

**9 a.m. Session One**

*The Centering Pause: What New Brain Science Is Telling Us About the Power of Our Spiritual Practice*

Caroline Oakes will share the exciting dialog between neuroscientists and religious scholars about how the spiritual practices of mindfulness meditation, centering prayer, and other spiritual practices actually rewire the brain and reorient our heart toward greater compassion, empathy, and kindness.

**10:15 a.m. Break**

**10:45 a.m. Session Two**

*The Way Between Fight and Flight: The Revolutionary Way of Jesus of Nazareth*

Caroline Oakes will discuss how intentional and consistent meditation and silent prayer practices can equip us to see beyond our fight/flight reflexes and allow our innate inner wisdom to facilitate a creative and loving choice from fight and flight to a way of being that aligns our inner spiritual life with the life Jesus of Nazareth as our example.

**11:45 a.m. Wrap Up and Q&A**

Caroline Oakes will preach on **Sunday, May 4** and lead our **Enrichment Hour**.

**Motet Choir to Premiere Matthew Culloton's *This Place: A House of Hope* Music Sunday, May 18**



Commissioned for the Motet Choir by ensemble member Gail Tritle, Choirmaster Matthew Culloton has composed a four-movement work called *This Place: A House of Hope* that will be premiered on Sunday, May 18 as the anchor of the Music Sunday service. The work is scored for choir, vocal soloists, flute, oboe,

clarinet, bassoon, harp, piano, and percussion.

The texts of the work were selected to highlight the appreciation of the HOH sanctuary, values, and love of music. The first movement, *Behold the Tabernacle*, is drawn from a Sarum Antiphon, reminding that the temple of God is holy, and the joys of the temple should be celebrated with festivity. The second movement sets a favorite Latin text (often sung to Bruckner's anthem), *Locus Iste*, which states that "This place was made by God." Hildegard von Bingen's text on wisdom, *O virtus Sapientiae*, is the third movement, and features three soprano soloists taking flight above the choir (not literally!). The final movement, *Our Songs of Joy*, is excerpted from Psalms 126 and 118 - the choir waking from a dream and finding the Lord has done great things for us.



**The Choir School Spring Concert: *My Heart Soars* Sunday, May 18**

**11:15 a.m.**

All are invited to attend the final Choir School concert of the season in the sanctuary. Come experience the beauty of our choristers' voices in song.

# WORSHIP

10 a.m.

Sunday, May 4, 2025  
Third Sunday of Easter

**Motet Choir:**

*Exultate Deo*, Scarlatti  
*Let Their Celestial Concerts Unite*,  
Handel

**Choir School**

*St Nicholas Choir*  
*My Heart Soars*, Henderson

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Sunday, May 11, 2025  
Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Bells of Hope**

*The Awakening*, Buckwalter  
*Variations on a Tanzanian Easter Carol*,  
Moklebust  
*Bells Jubilee!*, Prins

**Motet Choir:**

*The Lord is my Shepherd*, Rutter  
*God's Gonna Set This World on Fire*,  
Hogan

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Sunday, May 18, 2025  
Fifth Sunday of Easter

**Music Sunday**

*This Place: A House of Hope*, Culloton  
*See page 1 for more information*

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Sunday, May 25, 2025  
Sixth Sunday of Easter

**Motet Choir:**

*Lord I Trust Thee*, Handel  
*Teach Me O Lord*, Attwood

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## A Note from Julia

### *The Gift of Transformation*

Last October I thought I was planning my vacation to hit well after our new pastor started. As it is, I will be gone from April 28- May 11 and return just as Scott Jones begins his ministry at House of Hope. Perfect timing in a way. After three pilgrimages to Scotland, I'm going there as a tourist. I'm going to Scotland in the time between the two Scotts. I am looking forward to time away just as I am looking forward to returning and beginning a new era at HOH.

These past years have been challenging and they have been transformative. We expected one interim and got two; we planned for one transition and were gifted with two. We kept on keeping on through a world-wide pandemic and a major construction project. Our leadership boards guided us carefully and daringly through it all. The amazing thing about God is that there are always gifts from the journey even when the route includes detours that take us the long way around. What have you learned in these past five plus years about perseverance and faith, about church and change, about God's purposes and ability to redeem?

Yes, it's been challenging! But we've also had opportunities for growth that we didn't expect. The wonderful work we have begun through our interim time will be carried forward into fruition. And as we have just learned, there will be the things that we plan

and then there's what really happens. God is in the midst of both.

We have imagined a future and now we are invited to let our hopes lean into ongoing discernment with God and one another to find our way beyond our human visions. As I have shared a number of times since finishing my classes, our mantra from the Missional DMin group was this: "The church doesn't have a mission. God's mission has a church."

We are not the same congregation that we were in 2018. We have changed as individuals and a community since 2020. We are church in order to be changed by relationship, by working together on projects; by listening, agreeing, and disagreeing; by sharing a donut wall and voting in chili contests! This is transformation, *metamorphosis* in the biblical Greek. *Meta* meaning 'more or beyond' and *morph* meaning 'form or shape.' As individuals and as a congregation, we are invited to allow God to give us shape and form and take us beyond our understanding and practice of being church from the past to be fully present to the now. Spiritual life is a journey and, along the way, God schools us in the Way of Jesus Christ which invites personal and corporate transformation. Thanks be to God.

See you in church,  
Julia

## A Note from Rev. Dr. E. Scott Jones

After many months of preparation, our move to St. Paul is fast approaching, and I've got so many to-do lists! If all goes according to plan, we'll close on a house early May, I'll start working in the church office on May 12, and we will complete our move by the end of the month. Which means I'll be back and forth between Omaha and St. Paul a handful of times until school is out in Omaha. My first Sunday with you will be May 18. Fortunately for making the move a little easier, my first three Sundays at HOH had already been scheduled with music and guest preachers. June 8 will be my first Sunday preaching. Sebastian and I look forward to the exciting new chapter about to begin with you at House of Hope.



## Congregational Meeting: Sunday, May 4



The Session has called a Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, May 4, following worship for the purpose of electing Elders, Trustees, Deacons, and members of the 2026 Nominating Committee.

### Slate of names for elections by office:

**Deacons:** Katie Anderson, Jeanne Bailey, Allan Floyd, Anne Gold, Sam Hilton {youth – 1 year term}, Bruce Johnson, David Johnston, Stephanie Kim, Leo Mayer {youth – 1 year term}, David Olson, Susan Price, Michael Stein, Lisa Swan, Gabriel Walsh, John Zwier

**Elders:** Patrick Boylan (1 year term), Deb James, David Jones, Kathi Koehn, Lois Knutson, Dick Langer, Shannon Law, Kristina Mackenzie, William Moyers, Sarah Walbert (1 year term), Seungjoo Yoon

**Trustees:** Gregg Cummings, Sue Haigh, Jeff Knutson

### 2026 Nominating Committee:

Emily Brenengen, Dick Crone  
Further names for the Nominating Committee to be nominated after Rev. Dr. E. Scott Jones joins us.

## Michelle Freyholtz Celebrates 40 Years at House of Hope



House of Hope's Director of Administration Michelle Freyholtz will be recognized in worship on Sunday, May 11

for her 40 years of work. Following worship, there will be a cupcake reception in the Kirk Parlour. Please join us in thanking Michelle for her service and dedication.

## A Thank You from the Kenefakes

We want to thank both the congregation and staff for the lovely reception in our honor on Sunday, April 13. It was wonderful having the opportunity to talk to so many of you, and we greatly appreciate the many cards and gifts we received. We leave HOH with deep gratitude for our (almost) three years with you and look forward to staying in touch with many of you in the future.



*Scott and Gail Kenefake*

## Thanks offered to Scott and Gail Kenefake

On Sunday, April 13 Clerk of Session Lynn Stein offered thanks to Scott and Gail Kenefake in worship.

*I have been asked to say a few words of thanks on behalf of the congregation.*

*I asked around, and here's what folks had to say. Scott is:*

- Cool and level headed
- Able to grasp the essence of an issue and see the big picture
- A gift to the church and leaving us in a better place
- Righted the ship
- Able to see and hear people
- Got us moving again
- Turned our collective stress and depression from the pandemic and multiple leadership changes into an energetic 'good morning!'
- Adept at teaching us with his brilliant sermons
- Just a great job
- Provided stability and calmness on a variety of issues
- Helped us prepare for a bright future
- Deserves our thanks

*And Gail, thank you to you for your presence, volunteering in our Sunday School, sharing your story at Sunday-Weekday Connections, attending events and programs, and just generally becoming one of us. We have so appreciated getting to know you.*

## Books, Books, Books! The Libraries of House of Hope



If you haven't been to the library on the west side of the building near the Church Office lately, please drop in. The books are back and the room has now been refurnished. The new configuration offers comfortable seating at each end for conversation, reading, and discussion groups. It can even be a meditation space with our new Sisyphus Sand Art Table. As with the rest of the building, the art has been refreshed.

Our beloved library table takes the center space where it is more protected from the glare from the windows at certain times during the day. The table is also easily moved to the back wall of the library so the center of the room can be set up for small lectures or recitals with additional seating on the sides. This **west side library** primarily holds resources for adults. However, the addition of new collection of **Teen and Young Adult books** will soon be underway. We hope this will invite the youth into the adult library as they mature. There will also be a small collection of children's books that are used in Sunday School available for adults to read who might be interested in seeing what we use as part of our curriculum. Parents who come with kids will also be able to read these books.

The **Children's Library** in the East Wing is also restored to its pre-construction glory. There is also a bookcase with a variety of spiritual, theological, biblical, and Christian Life resources for families and adults outside the Kirk Parlour kitchen.



**Saturday, May 17**

**1-4 p.m.**

**HOH Portland**



**Parking Lot and Park**

A unique partnership of congregations on and near Summit Avenue—St. Clement’s Episcopal, St. John the Evangelist Episcopal, St. Paul’s United Church of Christ, Saint Thomas More Catholic Community, Unity Church-Unitarian, and House of Hope, with support from Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light (MNIPL)—have united to host the first-ever **Eco Fair on Summit | Fueled by Faith • Driven by Climate**. HOH is pleased to host Fair in our Portland Avenue parking lot and park.

The Fair will be filled with all things green for multiple ways to help you live more sustainably. It will feature owners displaying their electric vehicles and e-bikes and sharing their experiences and endorsements for going electric; an electric vehicle “show-street” offering test drives by multiple dealers in a variety of vehicle models; green technology for home and garden; opportunities to explore energy savings; environmental advocacy groups, and much more.

This family-friendly fair will include many small local independent businesses, as well as the opportunity to check out an electric fire truck, school bus, and Metro Transit bus. From a kid’s bike rodeo and delicious earth-friendly food vendors to free energy home audits and Patagonia’s mobile recycle shop – there’s sure to be something for you.

**Learn more at [bit.ly/EcoFair2025](https://bit.ly/EcoFair2025)**  
**Volunteer at [bit.ly/EcoFair2025SignUp](https://bit.ly/EcoFair2025SignUp)**

## Congregation Retreat Clearwater Forest

**May 30 – June 1**

Join us to connect with one another, God, and nature for the weekend. There will be time for rest, exploration, and play! The Leaning Tree Lodge has about 28 beds and 13 bedrooms—lots of space! Arrive any time after 5 p.m. on Friday. Leave no later than 11 a.m. on Sunday. Clearwater is a little over two hours from the Twin Cities. Families are welcome to come late or leave early.

Meals provided by the camp; please indicate any food allergies or restrictions. Questions? Email [JimmyH@hohchurch.org](mailto:JimmyH@hohchurch.org) or [ElsaK@hohchurch.org](mailto:ElsaK@hohchurch.org)

**Sign-up here by May 16:** <https://bit.ly/RetreatMay2025>



## Volunteer in the Community Garden

New volunteers are always welcome for our beautiful HOH food pantry garden! Even if you can only help out a couple times, it all contributes to creating the 1000+ pounds of delicious and nutritious food each year for our neighbors. All ages, abilities, experience levels, and schedules of volunteers are welcome—there are jobs to fit everyone, including delivering the veggies to the food shelf. Most of our work is on weekday mornings, but we do occasional evenings and weekends, or there are opportunities to weed on your own schedule. Volunteer once or all season long. We’ll be starting by early May and gardening goes on through late fall. Questions or to join the email list to see when we’re working and what we’re doing: see Elizabeth Karre or [houseofhopegarden@gmail.com](mailto:houseofhopegarden@gmail.com)

## **Children, Youth, and Family Ministry**

### **Children and Family Ministry**

Contact Jimmy Hoke:  
[JimmyH@hohchurch.org](mailto:JimmyH@hohchurch.org)

### **Sundays at House of Hope:**

Nursery: Room 8  
8:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.  
PreK - 2nd Graders: Room 4

### **Kindergarten Bible Presentations**

Sunday, May 11 | 10 a.m. Worship

### **Youth and Family Ministry**

Contact Elsa Kendig:  
[ElsaK@hohchurch.org](mailto:ElsaK@hohchurch.org)

### **Youth Group Overnight at the Church Saturday, May 3 - Sunday, May 4 7 p.m. - 9 a.m.**

Dinner, games, and more!

### **Baccalaureate Sunday Sunday, May 4 | 10 a.m.**

Join us to celebrate our graduates!

### **Youth Group Sundays, May 11, 18, and 25**

**Youth Room | 6 - 8 p.m.**  
Dinner, chat, and games!

# MAY

## SUNDAY ENRICHMENT

### **Didier Seminar Speaker Caroline Oakes**

**Sunday, May 4**

**Assembly Room | 11:15 a.m.**

Caroline Oakes, author of the newly-released book *Practice the Pause*, is a writer and spiritual director who will lead our Didier Seminar on Saturday, May 3.

### **Sue Zumberge of SubText Books: Best Summer Reads**

**Sunday, May 11**

**Assembly Room | 11:15 a.m.**

Whether you'll spend your summer in Saint Paul or at the lake, join us to learn about the best summer reads with Sue Zumberge of SubText Books.

### **Updates from Liberty Community Church**

**Sunday, May 25**

**Assembly Room | 11:15 a.m.**

Come hear about the incredible community work of our partner PCUSA and Matthew 25 congregation in North Minneapolis, and their K-12, cultural, and maternal health initiatives.

### **Restorative Actions with Rev. Jermaine Ross-Allam**

**Sunday, June 1**

**Assembly Room | 11:15 a.m.**

We hear the words "repair" and "reparations" a lot; what do they mean? Hear from this group of leaders (including former co-moderators of the PCUSA's General Assembly and Rev. Jermaine Ross-Allam) about their initiative to be a credible witness in the movement for reparations through wealth, surrender, and outreach. Participants in the discussion will include Rev. Gregory Bentley, Milissa Carter, Rev. Molly Casteel, Jim Koon, Rev. Sarah Moore-Nokes, and Elder Elona Street-Stewart.

## OTHER EVENTS

### **HOH Welcoming Class**

**Sunday, May 11**

**Library | 11:15 a.m.**

Whether you're new to House of Hope, or just want to know more about how our community works, join our Welcoming Class. This class provides information about church membership, as well as other ways to connect to community life at HOH. We'll get to know each other, learn about shared congregational values, and connect to opportunities to live out those values through our church life.

### **Great Decisions with Mehr "Jay" Shahidi: International Cooperation on Climate Change**

**Tuesday, May 13**

**Kirk Parlour | 3 p.m.**

The 2015 Paris Agreement established a UN-sponsored framework for negotiations on climate change and global warming. In subsequent meetings, experts and political leaders have come together seeking common cause for this growing global crisis. What is the future of these efforts, and what have they yielded? What is the U.S. role in fostering cooperation on climate change? In a divided country, what are the possible futures for American policy leadership? Jay Shahidi is an international affairs researcher, speaker, activist, and lobbyist as well as a human rights advocate and business owner living in Minnesota.

### **Habitat for Humanity Faith Builders | June 2 - 6**

The Summer Faith Builders project is a house rehab in Roseville, so it is a good project for volunteers who prefer to avoid ladders and scaffolding. No experience required. Contact Dave Olsen to volunteer: dwo823@yahoo.com



### **First Friday Jazz**

**June 6 | Kirk Parlour | 6-8 p.m.**

The House of Hope Community Connection Committee is excited to announce the debut of *First Friday Jazz* – a new way to bring our congregation and community together!

Join us for an evening of great music and good company! HOH member Terry Bailey and his piano-based trio Jazz Savvy, will set the mood, with live jazz from the Great American Songbook. This isn't a concert; it's a relaxed opportunity to meet, mingle, and enjoy time with fellow HOH congregants and our neighbors. You can also bring your children for activities coordinated by Elsa Kendig and Jimmy Hoke.

Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be available. Donations are appreciated to help us offset expenses.

We hope you'll be a part of what the Community Connection Committee envisions as the first of many First Friday Jazz nights that will help us build a stronger, more connected community. Watch for sign up details in the Enews and bulletins.



**The Saint Paul  
Farmers' Market  
returns to  
House of Hope!  
Fridays, May 9 -  
October 24  
Summit Avenue Parking Lot  
1:15 - 5 p.m.**

# THE ANCHOR

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*The House of Hope Presbyterian Church is a Stephen Ministry Church.*



**COVENANT NETWORK OF PRESBYTERIANS**

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



The House of Hope Motet Choir was invited to perform at the Cathedral of St. Paul with six other church choirs as part of VocalEssence's weekend celebrating composer Sir James MacMillan on Friday, April 4. The Motet Choir teamed with choirs from Plymouth Congregational, Central Lutheran, the Cathedral of St. Paul, the Basilica of St. Mary, Westminster Presbyterian, and St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral. Philip Brunelle, organizer and conductor, deemed the event "historic."

From left: Aaron David Miller, Sir James MacMillan, and Matthew Culloton

## HAPPY EASTER!



HOUSE OF HOPE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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