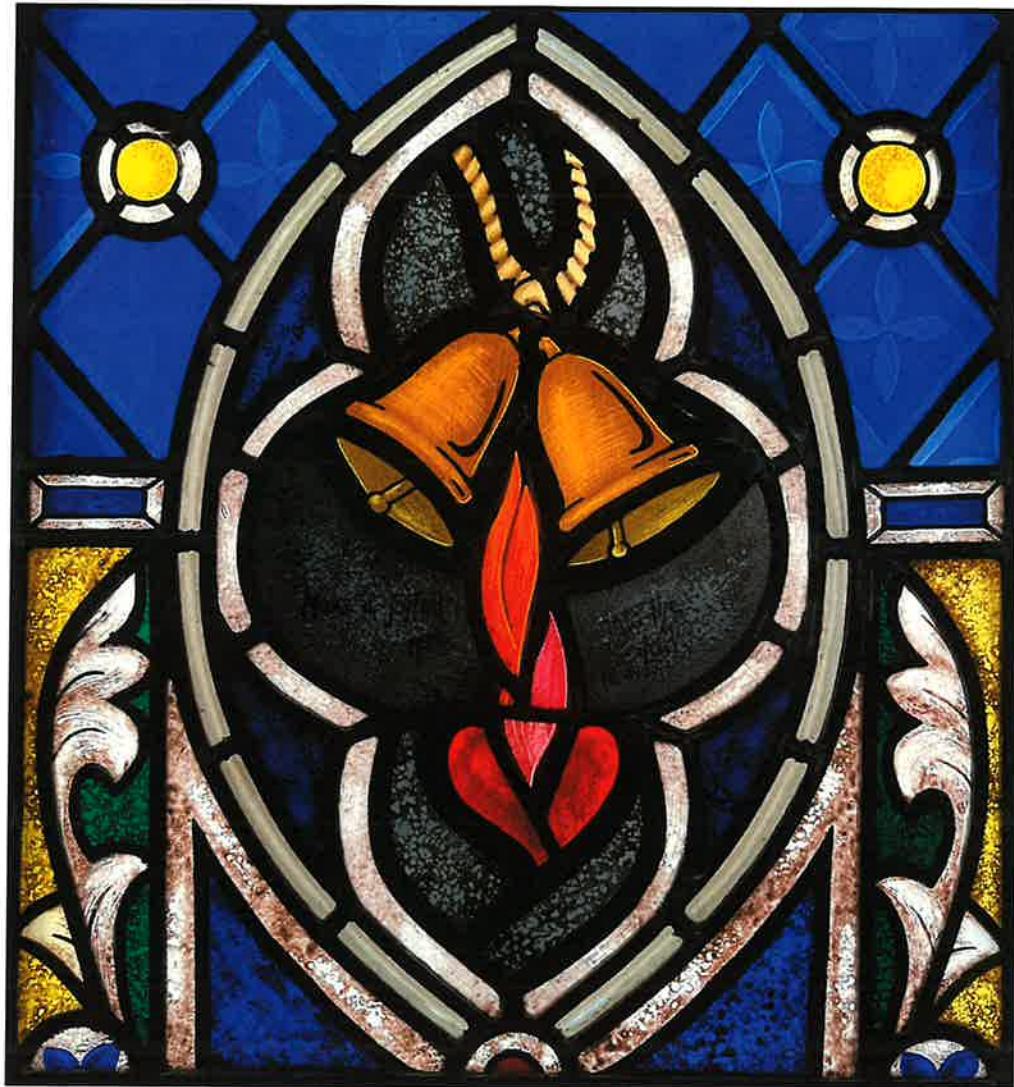


THE HOUSE OF HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"Your joy is your sorrow unmasked."

-Kahlil Gibran, *The Prophet*

Third Sunday of Advent | December 14, 2025 10 a.m.

Welcome!

We are delighted you have joined House of Hope for worship.

Our open and affirming, caring active community welcomes people of all ages & backgrounds.

House of Hope Mission Statement:

Building a loving community for all, House of Hope shares God's grace and presence through music, the arts, reflection, and action. Come join us as we walk through life together.

Our regular Sunday Worship time is 10 a.m., followed by refreshments, social hour, and educational opportunities. If you have any questions, our ushers will be glad to help you.

We invite you to join us for refreshments, served in the **Kirk Parlour** following the service.

Sunday Morning Family Resources:

- **Sunday School:** Following the Time for Children, children are invited to stay in the service with their guardians, or walk out with their guardians to be led to the East Wing for Sunday School. Caregivers should come to the East Wing immediately after the service to pick up their children.
- **Worship:** Children may also engage their faith by remaining in the service.
- **Worship bags** are available in the Narthex with age-appropriate materials to help kids focus as they worship alongside their families. You can ask an usher to help you find the best bag for you!
- A **Wiggle Space** for children needing a little more scope to move is available in the sanctuary entrance way during the service. There are books and toys there for your use. Feel free to come in and out of the Sanctuary as needed.
- A variety of **children's Bibles** are located in the church pews.
- Our **Nursery** is open for infants – toddlers. A parent/guardian must sign children in and out of the nursery. Bring a photo ID with you.
- **Nursing:** At House of Hope, parents are welcome to nurse their children wherever they feel comfortable. Feel free to ask an usher if you would feel more comfortable in a more private area.
- **Need help?** Ask an usher or Children and Family Ministry staff any time!

Christmas Memorials. You may purchase a poinsettia (\$15) or make a donation in any amount in memory of or in honor of loved ones for publication in the December 21 bulletin. If you purchased a poinsettia, you may take it home on December 21. Your donation will support the ministries of House of Hope. Visit or call the church office, or sign up online at: <https://bit.ly/2025ChristmasMemorials>

The deadline for reserving Christmas Memorials is TODAY Sunday, December 14.

THE APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude

Advent Meditation

The Bells of Hope; Timothy Short, Conductor

Dan R. Edwards

Introit

I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes

The Motet Choir; Matthew Culloton, Choirmaster

Eric Thiman

⁺Processional Hymn 12

People, Look East

Aaron David Miller, Organist

BESANÇON

⁺Advent Antiphon

House of Hope Choir School

⁺Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

Rev. Dr. E. Scott Jones

Leader: Watch for the light of Christ this Advent.

All: **The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.**

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

All: **The light of Christ is always coming to us, entering our broken world and troubled hearts. So we light the third candle, the candle of joy, defying our despair, and in spite of injustice.**

For we know that God's dancing day is dawning.

⁺The Peace (*The Peace of the Lord is shared with those around you.*)

⁺Sung Response

Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set Thy peo - ple free;
From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.

Welcome and Announcements

Recognition of Malinda Johnson

THE WORD OF GOD

Sung Acclamation



May the word of the living God enlighten our path.

First Lesson

Ann Geery

Luke 1:46b-55 (NT, p. 57 in pew Bible)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Gaudete

Anon. (14th Century), arr. Matthew Culloton

Gaudete, gaudete!

Rejoice, rejoice!

Christus est natus
Ex Maria virgine,
gaudete!

*Christ is born
Of the Virgin Mary –
Rejoice!*

Tempus adest gratiæ
Hoc quod optabamus,
Carmina lætitiæ
Devote reddamus.

*The time of grace has come—
What we have wished for;
Songs of joy
Let us give back faithfully.*

Deus homo factus est
Natura mirante,
Mundus renovatus est
A Christo regnante.

*God has become man,
With nature marvelling,
The world has been renewed
By the reigning Christ.*

Ezechielis porta
Causa pertransitur,
Unde lux est orta
Salus invenitur.

*The closed gate of Ezekiel
Is passed through,
Whence the light is risen;
Salvation has been found.*

Time for Children

Following the Time for Children, children are invited to stay in the service with their guardians, or walk out with their guardians to be led to the East Wing for Sunday School. Caregivers should come to the East Wing immediately after the service to pick up their children.

Second Lesson

Isaiah 35:1-10 (OT, p. 663 in pew Bible)

Holy wisdom, holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Way of Joy

Rev. Phillip J. Romine

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

⁺ Hymn 3

Comfort, Comfort You My People

PSALM 42

⁺ Affirmation of Faith — Adapted from the *Confession of Belhar*

**This unity of the people of God must be manifested
and be active in a variety of ways;
in that we love one another;
that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another;
that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully
to be of benefit and blessing to one another.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering — There are four ways to give an offering:

- In-Person.** Offering plates will be passed throughout the congregation at this time.
- Website.** On the homepage, click "Support House of Hope", then click on "Make a Gift"
- Mail.** Mail a check to 797 Summit Ave. Saint Paul, MN 55105
- QR Code.** Please see insert.

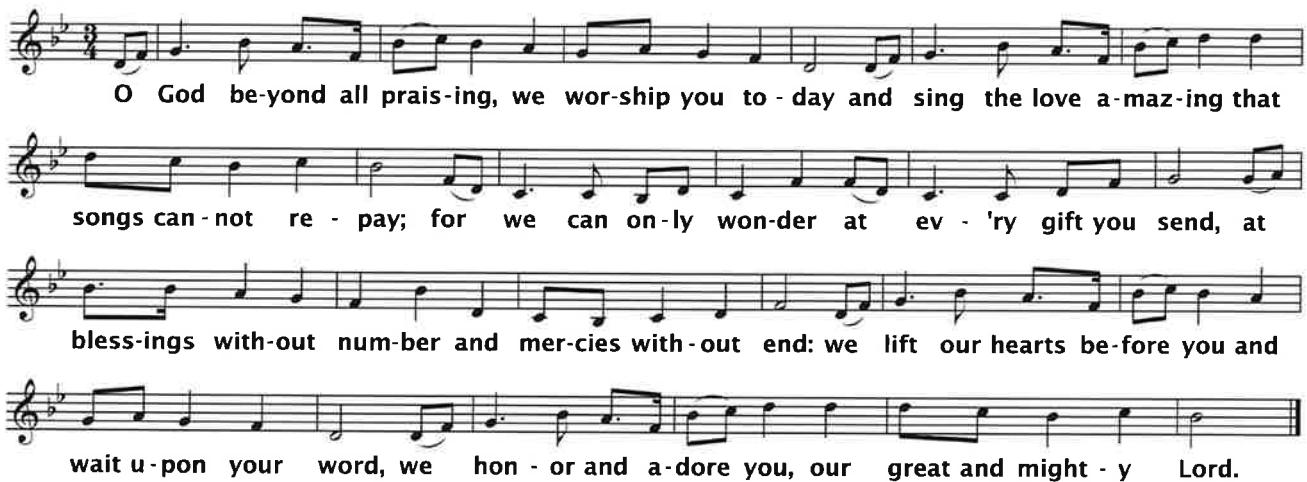
Offertory Anthem

Light Everlasting

Olaf C. Christiansen

O Light Everlasting, O Love never failing.
Illumine our darkness and draw us to thee.
May we from thy spirit receive inspiration
As children together thy wisdom may see.
Make known to all nation thy peace and salvation,
And help us O Father, thy temple to be.

⁺Offertory Response



O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to - day and sing the love a-maz-ing that
songs can - not re - pay; for we can on - ly won-der at ev - 'ry gift you send, at
bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end: we lift our hearts be-fore you and
wait u - pon your word, we hon - or and a-dore you, our great and might - y Lord.

⁺Prayer of Dedication

⁺Recessional Hymn 49

Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

⁺Benediction

Postlude

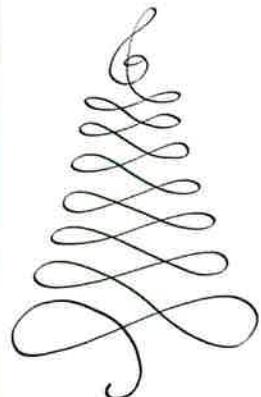
Fugghetta on *For Unto Us A Child Is Born*

G. F. Handel

Peace Candle. The single candle near the pulpit is our Peace Candle, lighted as a reminder of the ongoing need for our prayer for peace in the world.

Cover Art: This depiction is from the Jackson window outside the Kirk Parlour. If you view the window up close, the words inscribed on this panel are: "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

TODAY'S ACTIVITY:



**Choir School Concert:
*O Come All Ye Faithful***

Sunday, December 14, Sanctuary | 11:15 a.m.

Join us for the annual Choir School Christmas Concert in featuring our choristers with Jessica Bandelin, conductor, and Timothy Short, piano.



**Traditional Christmas Tableaux Service
Saturday, December 20 | Sanctuary | 5 p.m.**

A House of Hope tradition for over 100 years, this is the Christmas story as told through Scriptures, lovely carols and anthems, and in the adaptation in tableaux, or "living pictures," of well-known paintings and familiar scenes of the nativity.

People, Look East

12

Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)
As in *Oxford Book of Carols*, 1964

BESANÇON 8.7.9.8.8.7

French folk melody
Harm. Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

1. Peo - ple, look east. The time is near Of the crown-ing of the
 2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, One more seed is plant-ed
 3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, Guard the nest that must be
 4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim One more light the bowl shall



year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, Trim the
 there: Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, That in
 filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for
 brim, Shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, Bright as



Peo-ple, look east and sing to - day:



hearth and set the ta - ble.
 course the flower may flour - ish.
 fledg - ing time has cho - sen.
 sun and moon to - geth - er.

Peo-ple, look east:

Peo-ple, look east:



Love the guest is on the way.
 Love the rose is on the way.
 Love the bird is on the way.
 Love the star is on the way.
 Love is on the way.



5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
 Christ who brings new life to earth.
 Set every peak and valley humming

With the word, the Lord is coming.
 People, look east and sing today:
 Love the Lord is on the way.

Comfort, Comfort You My People

3

PSALM 42 8.7.8.7.7.8.8

Johannes Olearius, 1671

Trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863; alt.

Genevan Psalter, 1551



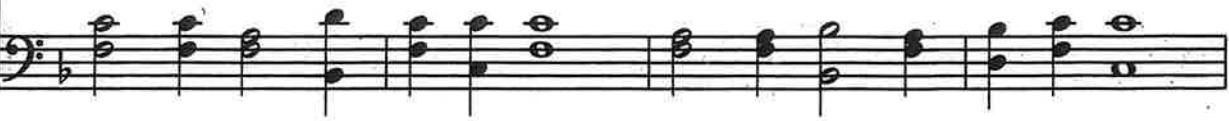
1. Com-fort, com-fort you my peo-ple, Tell of peace, thus says our God;
2. For the her-ald's voice is call-ing In the des-ert far and near,
3. Make you straight what long was crook-ed, Make the rough-er plac-es plain;



Com-fort those who sit in dark-ness Bowed be-neath op-pres-sion's load.
 Bid-ding us to make re-pen-tance Since the king-dom now is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum-ble, As be-bfits God's ho-ly reign.



Speak you to Je-ru-sa-lem Of the peace that waits for them;
 O that warn-ing cry o-bey! Now pre-pare for God a way;
 For the glo-ry of the Lord Now o'er earth is shed a-broad;



Tell them that their sins I cov-er, And their war-fare now is o-ver.
 Let the val-leys rise in meet-ing, And the hills bow down in greet-ing.
 And all flesh shall see the to-ken That God's word is nev-er bro-ken.



Once in Royal David's City

49

IRBY 8.7.8.7.7.7

Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848; alt.

Henry John Gauntlett, 1849
Harm. Arthur Henry Mann, 1919

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a low - ly
 2. He came down to earth from heav - en Who is God and
 3. Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by day like
 4. And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His own re -

cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her ba - by
 Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a sta - ble,
 us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak and help - less,
 deem - ing love, For that Child so dear and gen - tle.

In a man - ger for His bed. Ma - ry was that moth - er
 And His cra - dle was a stall. With the poor, op-pressed, and
 Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He feels for all our
 Is our Lord in heaven a - bove; And He leads His chil - dren

mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
 low - ly, Lived on earth Sav - ior ho - ly.
 sad - ness, And He shares in all our glad - ness.
 on To the place where He is gone.



News & Opportunities

December 14 – 21, 2025

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Jimmy Hoke: JimmyH@hohchurch.org

Nursery available at 8:45 a.m. in Room 8

Sunday School at 10:10 a.m. | Rooms 2&4

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Elsa Kendig: ElsaK@hohchurch.org

Confirmation | 8:30 a.m. | Youth Room

Youth White Elephant Christmas Party! | 6 - 8 p.m.

Youth Room

Today - Welcoming Class

Sunday, December 14 | Library | 11:15 a.m.

Whether you're new to House of Hope, or want to know more about how our community works, join us.

Christmas Tableaux set up and take down

The Christmas Tableaux will be set up as in the past in two steps: on **Tuesday, December 16 at 4 p.m.** we'll bring all the parts of the Tableau out of storage and up to the Sanctuary, then on **Thursday, December 18 at 4 p.m.** we'll set up the Tableaux. The Tableaux take down will be done right after the Tableaux service. Many hands make light work for all. No need to sign up – just show up.

Christmas Sponsor-a-Family

Our faith reminds us the Christmas season is about sharing with those most in need. We plan to spread Christmas joy by providing gifts for 60 families in partnership with Mission Partners. We have sponsored all 60 families, however, we still welcome donations to help purchase grocery store gift cards for each family. Mail or drop off donations with a notation of **Sponsor-A-Family**.

THE SINGERS: *WHAT SWEETER MUSIC*

FINAL CONCERT THIS AFTERNOON!

A meaningful mix of carols, original works, and tradition – don't miss The Singers' most popular concert of the season. This year, joined by cellist Ruth Marshall and pianist Bryon Wilson, they present *Ralph Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on Christmas Carols* and Sarah Quartel's *Snow Angel*. As tuneful a Christmas program you'll find in the Twin Cities, enjoy familiar music of Morten Lauridsen and carols by Matthew Culloton, Jeffrey Van, Stephen Paulus, and Dale Warland.

Tickets available at the door - arrive early to buy (capacity crowd expected).

December 14, 2 p.m.:

Nativity of Our Lord, St. Paul

You're Invited!

Second Annual Carols and Christmas Cheer

Open House

Carols and
Christmas Cheer
Open House



Wednesday, December 17

Assembly Room

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Community Connection invites you to our Second Annual Carols and Christmas Cheer.

- Visit with friends and neighbors
- Great food and beverages for all ages
- Kid friendly and activities available
- Join the chorus and sing carols with Aaron David Miller
- Visit with Santa Claus

Week Beginning December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent, December 14, 2025

8:30 a.m.	Confirmation Meeting, Youth Room
8:45 a.m.	Nursery, Room 8
10 a.m.	Worship Service, Sanctuary
10:10 a.m.	Sunday School, Rooms 2&4
11 a.m.	Social Hour, Kirk Parlour
11:15 a.m.	Choir School Concert, Sanctuary
11:15 a.m.	Welcoming Class, Library
6 p.m.	Youth White Elephant Party, Youth Room

Monday, December 15, 2025

11 a.m.	Centering Prayer, Chancel/Zoom
1 p.m.	Matthew 25 Meeting, Room 1/Zoom
1:30 p.m.	Finance Committee Meeting, Zoom
2:45 p.m.	Loaves & Fishes, St. Matthew's Parish
3 p.m.	Choir School Lessons, Choir School Room
6 p.m.	AA, Assembly Room
6 p.m.	Al-Anon, Room 1

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

7 a.m.	Men's Breakfast, Day by Day Cafe/Zoom
2 p.m.	Choir School Lessons, Choir School Room
4 p.m.	Tableaux Setup, Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

9:30 a.m.	Bible Study, Room 1
1 p.m.	Drop-in Knitting and Crafting, Library
1:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministry Supervision, Zoom
4 p.m.	Choir School Rehearsal, Choir School Rm
5 p.m.	Childcare, Room 8
5:30 p.m.	Carols and Christmas Cheer Open House, Assembly Room
6 p.m.	Stephen Ministry Supervision, Zoom
7 p.m.	Bells of Hope Rehearsal, Room 5
7 p.m.	Motet Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thursday, December 18, 2025

7 a.m.	Men's Breakfast, Day by Day Cafe/Zoom
10 a.m.	Library Committee, Library
2 p.m.	Choir School Lessons, Choir School Rm
4 p.m.	Tableaux Setup
5:30 p.m.	Capital City Grief Coalition, Lumen Christi Catholic Community

Friday, December 19, 2025

8 a.m.	Women's Book Group, Zoom
9 a.m.	Centering Prayer, Zoom

Saturday, December 20, 2025

5 p.m.	Tableaux Service, Sanctuary
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Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 21, 2025

8:30 a.m.	Confirmation Meeting, Youth Room
8:45 a.m.	Nursery, Room 8
10 a.m.	Worship Service, Sanctuary
10:10 a.m.	Sunday School, Rooms 2&4
11 a.m.	Social Hour, Kirk Parlour
11 a.m.	Alleluia Choir, Choir School Room
11:15 a.m.	Carol Sing Along, Kirk Parlour

To support
House of Hope,
please use this
QR code.





THE HOUSE OF HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

797 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105 | (651) 227-6311 | hohchurch.org

Clergy

Rev. Dr. E. Scott Jones, Senior Pastor and Head of Staff

Rev. Phillip J. Romine, Transitional Associate Pastor
for Faith Formation and Lifelong Learning

Parish Associates:

Rev. Dix W. Brachlow brachlow@gmail.com

Rev. Dr. J. Michael Anderson MikeA@pobox.com



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

Program, Administrative, and Facility Staff

Jessica Bandelin, Acting Choir School Director	JessicaB@hohchurch.org
Shelley Baumgart, Facility Staff	ShelleyB@hohchurch.org
Madeline Cieslak, Hope Arts Center Executive Director	MadelineC@hohchurch.org
Preston Conley, Facility Staff	PrestonC@hohchurch.org
Matthew Culloton, Choirmaster	MatthewC@hohchurch.org
Janice Dickinson, Wedding Coordinator	hoh@hohchurch.org
Christopher Freeze, Director of Development	ChristopherF@hohchurch.org
Michelle Freyholtz, Director of Administration	MichelleF@hohchurch.org
Mike Gibson, Finance Manager	MikeG@hohchurch.org
David Goudzwaard-Vaught, Executive Assistant	DavidGV@hohchurch.org
Jimmy Hoke, Director of Children and Family Ministry	JimmyH@hohchurch.org
Malinda Johnson, Communications Coordinator	MalindaJ@hohchurch.org
Elsa Kendig, Director of Youth and Family Ministry	ElsaK@hohchurch.org
Aaron David Miller, Director of Music/Organist	AaronM@hohchurch.org
Mark Schwister, Administrative Assistant	MarkS@hohchurch.org
Timothy Short, Music Associate, Carillonneur	TimS@hohchurch.org
Julie Stanley, Facility Staff	JulieS@hohchurch.org
Michelle Theisen, Facility and Event Manager	MichelleT@hohchurch.org
Ellie VanderHaar, Nursery Coordinator	JimmyH@hohchurch.org