

EASTER 2026

Sunday, April 5

Sunrise Service
Elizabeth Chapel
7:30 a.m.

Festive Worship with
Organ, Choirs, and Brass
Sanctuary | 9 and 11 a.m.



One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Received during the season of Lent, Presbyterians worldwide join in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing disaster assistance, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing. Ways to give:

- Special envelopes in the pew racks on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, or mail your gift with memo: OGHS
- Online: bit.ly/HOHGiving > Fund: Other Gift > OGHS
- Text: HOH OGHS to 73256



Formation Series:

Anti-Racism & Spiritual Practice
Wednesdays, April 15, 22, 29
Kirk Parlour | 5:30 - 7 p.m.



Our Formations Series will continue with a four-week series led by Pastor Phillip Romine on the methods of Biblical interpretation. "I aspire to remember every day that I love you as I love myself, and we all know, or most of us do, what a struggle it can be to love ourselves well." So writes Tema Okun, echoing a core teaching of Jesus. This 3-part series will focus on building spiritual practices that encourage us to love ourselves and our neighbors, in a dominant culture that discourages it. Join us for a potluck meal at 5:30 p.m. and bring a dish to share, along with wisdom from your experiments in loving yourself.

HOPE IN ACTION

House of Hope in Our Community

House of Hope changes lives – inside our church and throughout our community. **Be a part of it.** Join the **Hope in Action Campaign** and help this work grow.

Support Those Doing the Work

We invest in nonprofit partners who address hunger, housing, racial equity, education, and healing. Your gifts strengthen organizations already making a difference, extending our impact far beyond our congregation.

A Building That Serves The Community

Our church is more than a place for Sunday worship. It is a shared space for community organizations, support groups, artists, and advocates – offering welcome, safety, and connection throughout the week.

Please support House of Hope, because **when you give, Mission Happens!**

Last year, your generosity provided \$1,267,918 for our general operating fund. To meet our 2026 budget and continue the work of our church, our goal is \$1,375,000. Follow our journey through the fundraising progress thermometer.



Watch for more information about the Hope in Action Campaign.



Ways to Give to Hope in Action:

- Use the QR Code
- Online: <https://bit.ly/HOHGiving>
- Check or Cash

WORSHIP

10 a.m.

Sunday, April 5
Easter Sunday

Motet Choir:
Christ the Lord is Ris'n Today, J. Rutter
This is the Day, Anon

Sunday, April 12
Second Sunday of Easter

Motet Choir:
Exsultate Justi, Lodovico Viadana
Just as I Am, Matthew Culloton

Sunday, April 19
Third Sunday of Easter

Motet Choir:
The Heavens are Telling, F.J. Haydn
When I survey the Wondrous Cross,
George Martin

Sunday, April 26
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Motet Choir:
Jauchzet dem Herrn,
Felix Mendelssohn
Brother Sun, Sister Moon,
Dominick Argento

Choir School:
Duet from Cantata No. 15, J.S. Bach



A Note from Scott

This winter we launched a new series of adult classes on Wednesday nights that we are calling “Formations,” and later this month I’m going to lead an adult enrichment on the principles, approaches, and goals of the Christian education of our children and teens. So, faith formation is on my mind.

I believe the key part of what we are doing when we form faith in our children is providing them a way of interpreting the world—a way of seeing and the tools for making sense of their lives. This goes by the fancy word “hermeneutics,” which was also the subject of my March Formations series.

At its most straightforward, we are helping people learn various ways of interpreting the Bible. But we are actually doing something much bigger—discovering ways of interpreting the world, ourselves, other people, culture, and our experiences of God.

There are two basic hermeneutical stances one can take—a hermeneutics of faith or a hermeneutics of suspicion. One accepts the straightforward statements of the text, while the other raises critical questions and doesn’t surrender disbelief. Good reading involves an on-going interplay between these two approaches. Interpretation is not a linear process from question to answer, but is on-going, endless inquiry.

The Anglican priest Ephraim Radner declares “There is a realm, rather than a single locus, that is the reader’s destination.”

Part of our task in faith formation is to open up that vision of the world and provide some tools for navigating the multiplicity of perspectives and interpretations. Lest we get anxious about the goal not being one final “answer,” the Reformed philosopher James K. A. Smith proclaims that the multiple interpretations is “an aspect of creation and human life that ought to be affirmed as ‘good.’” He points out that plurality is part of the original goodness of creation; that the Tower of Babel and its quest for unity and one language is the problem. Smith encourages us to develop a wild space to play.

One of the tasks of the church is to help undo diseased imaginations. The theologian Willie James Jennings, for example, has written extensively about how white supremacy has diseased the Christian imagination. Thus, our commitments to be anti-racist and welcoming and affirming contribute vitally to our task in faith formation. These commitments help to clarify, not only what to teach, but ways in which we repair the bad ideas that people have absorbed from the wider culture or previous religious experiences.

In the late eighties, theologians Stanley Hauerwas and Will Willimon wrote that “Christians are intentionally made by an adventuresome church.” We succeed in passing our faith along when that faith demands something of us. When it is worthy of our time, energy, and passion.

That’s among our goals for our kids, teens, and all of us at House of Hope.

Peace,
Scott



A Memorial Concert for Sofia Ardalan

**Saturday, April 18
Sanctuary | 2 p.m.**

House of Hope will host a memorial concert in honor of former Choir School Director Sofia Ardalan. This event is one that Sofia designed with music chosen because it was special to her. The program will include the Motet Choir, Aaron David Miller on the organ, Choir School alumni, and additional instrumentalists. Please join us in honoring Sofia's memory with this special event.

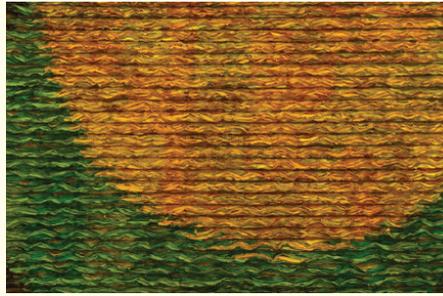
Bells of Hope: April Music in Mission

Music in Mission

is the outreach program of the Bells of Hope to the larger community. The handbell program partners with local congregations to provide service music to their worship twice a year. In addition, the ringers promote their partnership with **Keystone Community Services** by collecting clean cloth bags, note pads, calendars, unused greetings cards, and white socks for weekly delivery. Donations are welcome at anytime in the church office or outside the Bell Room in the East Wing. Please note Bells of Hope with your donations.



CLOISTER GALLERY



Textile Art - Tim Harding Through May 3

Internationally renowned fiber artist, Tim Harding uses silk and a complex layering technique to create unique wall hangings. Tim was commissioned by House of Hope to create new paraments for the six seasons of the liturgical year. They were first unveiled with the set for Easter in 2019. A corresponding exhibit of his work was on display in the Cloister Gallery that spring. He was again commissioned to create the wall piece that hangs in the sanctuary behind the lectern and was unveiled in 2023 again on Easter Sunday.

We are pleased to welcome Tim back to the Cloister Gallery for an exhibit of selections from his decades of work as he continues to challenge himself with imagery and technique. He is particularly inspired by the "lack of barriers between art and life in primitive and other non-Western cultures" that inspires his "commitment to pursue aesthetic investigation in a medium (fiber) traditionally outside of our own culture's fine art hierarchy."

THE DIDIER SEMINAR 2026



with Rev. John L. Bell
April 18 – 19



John Bell is a Scottish hymn writer, composer, broadcaster, and lecturer, who spends much of the year traveling, mostly in the

Americas and Europe. He is an ordained minister of the Church of Scotland and a member of the Iona Community.

The Shaping of What We Believe:

Singing is neither a harmless nor a neutral activity. For many people what they sing shapes what they believe about God as much, if not more, than preaching.

Register at:

<https://bit.ly/Didier2026>

Saturday, April 18

8:30 a.m. Coffee and Treats

9 a.m. Session I: *The Subversive Potentials of Sung Text*

10:30 a.m. Session 2: *Correcting the Balance*

The song of the church is not a closed canon enshrined in a denominational hymnbook. It has to be constantly renewed as our awareness and understanding of God's will and God's world increases.

11:30 a.m. Discussion and Closing Remarks

Sunday, April 19

Rev. John Bell will join us in worship to preach and lead our Sunday Enrichment.

Sunday Enrichment | 11:15 a.m.

The Importance of the Imagination in Unlocking Holy Scripture. To take the Bible seriously, for many people, means to study it. That is often a cerebral pursuit. Perhaps there are other means by which the depths of divine truth may be discovered through music, hymns, and song.

It's Time to Pay Per Capita



Per capita is a funding mechanism to support the work of the PC(USA) at the local, regional and national levels. HOH annually pays per capita for each of its members (not each household).

2026 per capita is \$43.75 per member, and we ask every member to contribute now.

House of Hope's per capita for 2026 totals \$50,750 based on membership of 1,160 members in 2024. You can **pay by check** or **pay online: bit.ly/HOHGiving** > **Fund: Per Capita Gifts.** Please note **Per Capita** when paying.



HOPE ARTS CENTER



First Friday Jazz returns on Friday, May 1
Featuring Jazz Savvy and guest accordionist Ryan Charles Cihlar: *Café Music from Around the World*
Assembly Room | 6 p.m.

Ryan Charles Cihlar takes his audiences all over the world: a romantic café in Paris, a spirited wurst hall in Germany, a breezy Italian beach. Playing everything from classic European music to Midwestern folk, Ryan will transport you to a different country - or decade - as he breathes new life into beloved classics on his 1950's Excelsior accordion.

First Friday Jazz is a relaxed, social evening inspired by classic jazz clubs—where live music accompanies conversation and community. Friends, neighbors, families, music-lovers, and newcomers of all ages are welcome at this candlelit, nightlife-inspired jazz party.

Accessible cover charge: Suggested admission for adults \$25

- All offerings welcome
- Kids are free
- Light fare and beverages included.

Advance registration available at www.hohchurch.org, or register at the door.



Hope Arts Center presents Osip Nikiforov | May 15 | 6 p.m.

Pianist Osip Nikiforov presents a program exploring the connections between Franz Liszt and Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, highlighting their intersecting musical worlds of the Romantic era. A Siberian-born pianist, Nikiforov has performed widely in the U.S. and abroad, and currently serves on the piano faculty at Macalester College. Osip Nikiforov is a fiscal year 2026 recipient of a Creative Individuals grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board.

Hope Arts Center presents Summer in the Park 2026!



Hope Arts Center is delighted to launch **Summer in the Park**, a new outdoor series bringing the arts, wellness, and community together in the green space of the House of Hope on Portland Avenue. Enjoy live music in collaboration with Tiny Porch Concerts, family-friendly movie nights, outdoor yoga, and opportunities to be involved in planning for the future renovation

of the park. Highlights will include live music from Twin Cities favorites Choro Borealis, Dan Chouinard, Phil Heywood & Tim Sparks, and The High 48s bluegrass band. Bring a blanket, invite a friend! The full schedule is coming soon on the Hope Arts page on the HOH website.



Children, Youth and Family Ministry

Children and Family Ministry

Contact Dr. Jimmy Hoke:

JimmyH@hohchurch.org

Early Childhood Ministry:

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

Sunday School:

Rooms 2 and 4 | 10:10 a.m.

Sunday School and Easter Egg Hunt: Easter Sunday, April 5

Room 2 | 10:10 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Youth and Family Ministry

Contact Elsa Kendig:

ElsaK@hohchurch.org

Youth Easter Morning Breakfast Sunday, April 5

Caribou Coffee on Grand | 8:15-9:50 a.m.

Youth Group

Sundays, April 12 and 26

Room 1/Youth Room | 6 - 8 p.m.

Youth House Group

Sunday, April 19

Offsite | 6 - 8 p.m.

2026 Youth Summer Mission Trip

Dates: June 20-26

We will be working at Clearwater Forest (painting, trail work, etc.), and possibly doing other community service. Cost is \$350 per youth and scholarships are available. Contact Elsa Kendig for information.



APRIL

Sunday Enrichment with Rev. Dr. Molly Marshall Sunday, April 12

Assembly Room | 11:15 a.m.

Join Rev. Dr. Molly Marshall, President of the United Theological Seminary, in a discussion of religion and building community. What is Progressive Theology? How does it apply to us as Christians and what can we do in our worship practices?

Great Decisions

Tuesday, April 14

Kirk Parlour | 3:30 p.m.

Join us as we begin another season, and celebrate **25 years of Great Decisions at HOH**. Great Decisions brings timely world affairs topics and engaging speakers to help inform and engage the community.

Robert Mairs started this program in people's homes and then brought it to HOH in the fall of 2001, shortly after 9/11. He continued as coordinator for many years. Joyce Nelson then served as coordinator for several years. Hats off to both Robert and Joyce for their efforts to keep this important offering going over the years- thank you!

Circle of Grace

Thursday, April 16

Library | 5:30 p.m.

Music and Simple Movement as a Contemplative Practice

Join us for Circle of Grace that began last fall. You are invited to gather starting at 5 p.m., and we'll have refreshments. There will be a short presentation and facilitated discussion at 5:30 p.m. about how music and movement can be used as a practice.

Upcoming Date: Thursday, May 21



Sunday Enrichment with Rev. John Bell Sunday, April 19

Assembly Room | 11:15 a.m.

The Importance of the Imagination in Unlocking Holy Scripture

See page 3 for more information.



Solar Panel Blessing

Thursday, April 22

House of Hope | 1 p.m.

Join us as we commission and bless our new solar panels, which are now fully connected and operational.

Join us in person, or watch via livestream on House of Hope's Facebook live.

Sunday Enrichment with Senior Pastor Scott Jones

Sunday, April 26

Assembly Room | 11:15 a.m.

The whole life of the church is educating people in the faith and helping them make sense of themselves and the world. Senior Pastor Scott Jones will talk about the principles of faith formation, especially of our children and youth. He'll explore the underlying principles, general approach, and overall goals of Christian education.

The Singers Present: *World on Our Shoulders*

Sunday, April 26

House of Hope | 3 p.m.

"In the dusk of the river, the wind gone, the leaves grow still —..." Thus begins Alex Berko's *Sacred Place*, an ecologically-minded score on texts of Wendell Berry, John Muir, and others — one of the most-performed works in recent years! We also sing world premieres by Scott Senko (one of our own tenors!) and Jocelyn Hagen's *A Thank You Note to the Universe*, on a poem of Noor Unnahr — a reminder of our connection to the earth and each other. We'll also present our *American Tune* set at Chorus America's National Conference in Minneapolis, featuring music by William Byrd, Benjamin Britten, Caroline Shaw, Marques Garrett, and Paul Simon.

Tickets are available at:

www.thesingersmca.org

Women's Retreat

Fri., April 24 - Sat., April 26

Saint John's Abbey Guesthouse, Like a Tree ... rooted, growing, nourishing self and others

All women are invited to the HOH Women's Retreat. Like a tree, each of us is equipped to flourish and live in harmony with others. With the tree as our theme, we will nourish our souls through story, poetry, scripture, music, nature, and community — with time to connect, create art, and enjoy quiet moments for prayer, meditation, or rest. We are delighted to welcome back Mary Koon, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care at Oak Grove Presbyterian Church in Bloomington. Register at

<https://bit.ly/HOHWomensRetreat2026>

Drop-In Knitting, Crafts, and Conversation

Thursdays

Library | 1 - 3 p.m.

Join us to work on projects or fellowship in the church library.



Earth Care

Earth Day 2026

The first Earth Day in 1970 launched the birth of the modern environmental movement. Each year billions of people worldwide commemorate the day by taking action to show their commitment to halt climate disruption. Earth Day 2026—OUR POWER, OUR PLANET, invites everyone to join a local event and show the power of collective action. Community cleanups, peaceful demonstrations, tree planting, voter registration, town hall meetings, community organizing — every action strengthens the movement. And, if you're not able to join an Earth Day event, you can still make an impact through small, consistent actions. For resources and tips to help you take action this Earth Day, April 22 (and every day), visit www.earthday.org/earth-day-2026

THE ANCHOR (Pub. No. 011-331)
is published monthly except in August by the
House of Hope Presbyterian Church,
797 Summit Avenue, St Paul MN 55105-3392

Periodicals postage paid at St Paul, MN

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
THE ANCHOR, 797 Summit Avenue
St Paul, MN 55105-3392



The Anchor is printed on recycled paper as a part of House of Hope's commitment as an Earth Care Congregation.



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.

RONDO COMMUNITY LAND TRUST OPENS RONDO EXCHANGE



Thanks to all who came to the Rondo Exchange Grand Opening! Rondo Exchange is a creative business incubator rooted in the historic Rondo neighborhood. Led by Rondo Community Land Trust, the program supports artists, makers, and entrepreneurs through affordable retail space, business coaching, and creative visibility. It was such a beautiful day, and so nice to be in that neighborhood with so many people out enjoying it — including Mayor Kaohly Her and St. Paul Councilwoman Anika Bowie. It is exciting to see all that the Rondo Community Land Trust is accomplishing: funding has been provided for property acquisition and renovation to sell homes to low-income families, and RCLT has received a total of \$295,000 from The Houses of Hope Fund for its work.

