

# HOUSE OF PRAYER

*Is a gathering of God's people who value:*

***Welcoming, Relationships, Compassionate Community, and Openness***

## Loneliness



Pastor Eric Luedtke

“Loneliness is an evolutionary call to action,” according to UW-Green Bay professor and associate dean Ryan Martin. This quote came from a recent presentation that reflects on a 2020 Harvard Study which states that 36% of Americans report feeling lonely frequently” or “almost all the time.”

Martin suggests that historically loneliness was an adaptation that called us into community, which in a hunting or gathering society would have meant a greater opportunity to provide needs for everyone in the community. While we can provide for most of our needs on our own, we still have a need for community – and when we go without community it drives loneliness into depression and anxiety that can create physical effects (from “lonely? You’re Not the Only One” by Sam Watson, Peninsula Pulse, March 16, 2023).

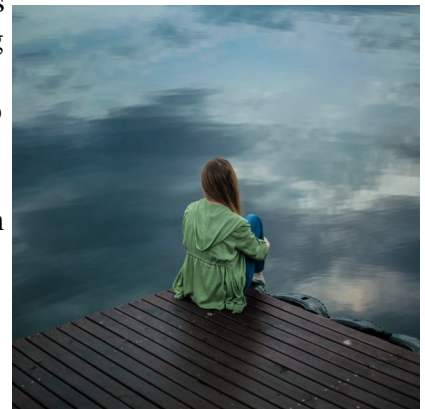
We might believe that this increased loneliness has increased during and since the COVID-19 pandemic, but like many realities, the pandemic has amplified a trend that was already existing. For generations the church has been the remedy to loneliness – it is the place where people have connected with one another on a regular basis for fellowship and social interaction. The church has been the place to offer care for those who are no longer able to physically attend events. But we are finding that many people, particularly younger generations, are meeting their needs in other places. We’re also finding that our youngest generations are feeling particularly isolated and anxious, partly because of the artificial sense of community that is created through social media (and that is a whole conversation

that spirals, since being engaged in social media has become such a norm for Gen Z that to *not* be engaged in it has its own detrimental impact). We’re finding that many in older generations don’t want to be a “burden” to others and therefore don’t ask for the help they could benefit from.

I invite you to consider in what ways you or someone you know are experiencing loneliness. In what ways do you feel disconnected from people around you? Do you feel left out of activities and events that are happening? Has your mobility changed in a way that you are now longer able to get to places you used to regularly visit? How might House of Prayer members step into those gaps and make a difference?

I know there are many here at HOP who connect by phone on a regular basis – checking in on people, offering prayer, celebrating milestones in life. If you’re part of such a network of connection, great. If you’re not, how might HOP help connect you with others? How might we learn from those who are connecting with one another – are there tips that you have for making connections happen?

During the Easter Season the scriptures we read in worship will point us to ways that relationships can bring us closer to one another and to God. I invite you to make a commitment to connecting with one another during this season and finding one new way in which we can help one another build our relationships with God and each other. In doing so, we may just find we lift the veil of loneliness.



## Leadership Ministry Team Update

### RBG and Antonin Scalia



*Brent King  
HOP President*

Did you know that Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Antonin Scalia were good friends? On the surface, especially in a 2023 context, it seems unfeasible that two people with such polarized political perspectives could have enough in common to form a bond. According to a February 2022 article in the Pacific Legal Foundation site, Scalia and Ginsburg had several things in common and reasons to connect as friends:

- They were both “devoted” to the U.S. Constitution. The article notes that, while their constitutional interpretations differed, they had mutual respect that “extended beyond the courtroom.”
- They shared several interests, including opera, good food and good wine, and a shared experience growing up in New York.
- Their spouses and families shared in the relationship, frequently spending New Year’s Eve together enjoying a gourmet meal prepared by Justice Ginsburg’s husband, Marty.

This friendship also influenced how they worked together (frequently on opposite sides of a Court opinion). Ginsburg, in well-known example (U.S. v. Virginia), wrote the majority opinion on the case, and Scalia wrote the dissenting opinion. As was his custom, Scalia shared a draft of his opinion with his “BFF” Ginsburg. Another way of describing their professional exchanges is that they were loyal to their convictions, but they respected their relationship enough to know to attack ideas and views, not individuals (each other).

There are times in society (and in the church community—even in THIS church) where we might struggle to find common ground with those who hold beliefs that are not consistent with our beliefs. We might see a “fight or flight” mentality where we lash out at or attack those with opposing views, rather than finding a platform for dialogue on whatever the topic is. [Pastor Eric referenced this concept—in the context of science vs. scripture—during his March 19 sermon (John 9)].

I share the Ginsburg/Scalia story as a simple reminder that, when people choose to behave thoughtfully and respectfully, we can find a way to engage in such a way that we’ll either reach agreement or (as is often the case) agree to disagree but respect the other view.

Closing item on the Ruth Bader Ginsburg/Antonin Scalia story in the article cited above: Scalia had an annual tradition of sending two dozen roses to Ruth for her birthday. Scalia’s law clerk once asked him, “What good have all those roses ever done for you?” Scalia’s response: “Some things are more important than votes.”

### Your Leadership Ministry Team

All these great people are here to answer questions and hear your feedback about HOP.

Brent King - Congregational President: [brentgking8157@gmail.com](mailto:brentgking8157@gmail.com)  
Paul Danielson - Congregational Vice President: [pdanielson1@comcast.net](mailto:pdanielson1@comcast.net)  
Charley Simonson - Treasurer: [charleysimonson@hotmail.com](mailto:charleysimonson@hotmail.com)  
Shirley Moen - Recording Secretary: [smoen@riverway.com](mailto:smoen@riverway.com)  
Kim Houle - Community Development: [wifeofadrumnerguy@gmail.com](mailto:wifeofadrumnerguy@gmail.com)  
Andry Jurcich - Congregational Development: [andryj@invisik.com](mailto:andryj@invisik.com)  
Steve Pierson - Support Ministry: [stevepierson56@hotmail.com](mailto:stevepierson56@hotmail.com)  
Betsy Paradise - Human Resources: [betsyparadise1@gmail.com](mailto:betsyparadise1@gmail.com)



## Leadership Ministry Team Update

### Monthly Finance Report

Through February, net revenue for House of Prayer is positive and ahead of budget. Thank you to all who continue to faithfully give! Thank you also to those that have returned pledge cards and you still have time to send those in if you have not done so. Stewardship Sunday will take place on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. We take all of the information for the upcoming year and work to create a meaningful and accurate budget. Please prayerfully consider a pledge to House of Prayer this year to help sustain our congregation and grow with the community. We appreciate all you bring whether the contribution be time, talent, or money. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [charleysimonson@hotmail.com](mailto:charleysimonson@hotmail.com).  
Charley Simonson, HOP Treasurer

<b>February Financials</b>				
	<u>Feb. 2023</u>		<u>YTD</u>	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<b>Revenue</b>				
Offerings	26,837	34,000	289,021	287,000
Rental Income	11,775	8,950	77,275	66,100
Other Income	143	130	1,970	1,680
Preschool Income	10,328	10,000	60,962	63,325
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>49,083</b>	<b>53,080</b>	<b>429,228</b>	<b>418,105</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>				
	60,376	59,600	418,314	448,164
<b>Net Operating Revenue</b>	<b>-11,293</b>	<b>-6,520</b>	<b>10,894</b>	<b>-30,059</b>

<b>Dedicated Fund Activity</b>		
	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>YTD</u>
<b>Dedicated Funds Received</b>		
Evangelism	0	0
Discipleship	50	50
Worship	2,200	11,220
Facilities	1,290	13,734
Fall Festival	0	2,745
Foundation	800	1,775
Youth and Family	0	3,108
Preschool	863	5,001
	<u>5,203</u>	<u>37,633</u>
<b>Dedicated Funds Spent</b>		
Evangelism	188	63
Facilities	22,763	27,698
Fall Festival	0	439
Foundation	700	1,675
Worship	75	75
Youth and Family	0	3,871
Preschool	927	7,634
	<u>1,702</u>	<u>41,643</u>
<b>Net Dedicated Activity</b>	<b>3,501</b>	<b>-4,010</b>

## Around House of Prayer

Fellow House of Prayer Members,

As you know, House of Prayer has several churches and groups who rent space in the building throughout the week. The rental partner with the largest presence at HOP is Southview Seventh-Day Adventist church (SVSDA). This congregation has been a valuable partner with HOP since 2018. HOP and SVSDA have worked collaboratively on joint mission projects [park cleanup, adult education (Paul Douglas visit)]. We have made the most of shared space and equipment (including joint use of live-stream equipment owned by SVSDA) as their weekly Sabbath service is on Saturday. We have been blessed by this relationship and are grateful to SVSDA for their partnership and support.

During its affiliation with HOP, Southview has consistently stated their intent to own a church property, whether House of Prayer or another option. You may recall that some preliminary and exploratory discussions were held between HOP and SVSDA in 2019, with that dialogue paused in May of that year.

Recently, SVSDA revived their efforts towards church property ownership, and acknowledging HOP as a valued rental partner and a property that best suits their needs, SVSDA views HOP as their first choice as a purchase candidate.

To that end, SVSDA has declared their interest to purchase the HOP property via a Letter of Intent (LOI) which includes an offer amount for the property, with SVSDA seeking a response to that offer from HOP. Two important points regarding this LOI:

- **No decisions to accept the LOI or to make specific negotiations around the HOP property have been made, nor will such decisions be made without seeking the input of the congregation.**
- **The LOI includes a lease-back provision (with terms yet to be determined) for HOP to continue our ministry in the building if we so desire.**

As the congregation has explored our value statements throughout the Epiphany and Lent season, House of Prayer is asking questions and discussing:

- What is our ministry?
- What is our mission?
- How are we using our building and resources? (About half of our annual expenses are related to building operations and staff support of the building.)
- Could we be using our resources in a way that more closely aligns with our ministry and mission?



As we look to House of Prayer's future, it is an appropriate time to focus on these questions to determine if HOP's mission can best be served by owning our building, or potentially better served without the obligations of building ownership—potentially freeing resources for missional in-reach, outreach, youth /adult /aging ministry support, and community engagement opportunities.

The Leadership Ministry Team expects that the LOI from SVSDA will require some time for a thorough, prayerful, and meaningful response.

- In terms of providing a response, it's likely this will require several months' effort.
- Longer-term, the questions on HOP's future raised in the previous bullets will also require discernment, on a longer timeline.

With these tasks in mind, we are organizing a team of HOP members to evaluate the short- and long-term plans for HOP, including the terms of the LOI provided by SVSDA, as well as our mission-connected future view. **Please plan to attend a listening session with the LMT on Sunday, April 2, from 10:30-11am in the sanctuary.**

Thank you for your consideration and your ongoing support of House of Prayer's mission.

Brent King, HOP President

## Around House of Prayer

### Holy Week



The season of Lent comes to a conclusion with Holy Week. As Christ journeys into Jerusalem and toward the cross, we gather in worship to take our place in the events.

**Palm/Passion Sunday – April 2**  
**9:30 & 11am – House of Prayer**

From the euphoria of the Messiah’s entrance to chants of “Hosanna!” we take a turn into the Passion story guided by music and readings from scripture.

**Maundy Thursday – April 6**  
**6:30 Foot Washing/7pm – Woodlake Lutheran**

Just as Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, for those who wish, there will be an opportunity to wash one another’s feet as an act of service. In worship, we gather with our Richfield Area Lutheran Ministry partners, to celebrate First Communion with those students who have completed instruction during Lent. We worship together knowing this meal was Jesus’ Last Supper with his disciples before his crucifixion, which comes with his charge for those who will follow him – Love one another as I have loved you.

**Good Friday – April 7**  
**7pm – House of Prayer**

From Jesus’ arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane to his speedy trial to the cross. We stand in the shadows and witness Christ’s love on display in its rawest form. As difficult as it is to face this day, we know this is not the end of the story, but for this day we suspend that knowledge and let the events wash over us as we worship together at the foot of the cross.

**Easter Sunday – April 9**  
**9:30 & 11am – House of Prayer**

With the women who went to the tomb we proclaim the story of Jesus’ conquering death. We join in festive worship and celebration, but we cannot keep the story to ourselves.

### First Communion



Our First Communion students will be participating in Communion for the first time on Maundy Thursday, at the 7:00 pm collaboration worship service at Woodlake Lutheran Church. Come join us as we welcome the new communion recipients and prepare for Good Friday and Easter Sunday Services by remembering Jesus’ Last Supper with his disciples before he was crucified. Please contact Pastor Eric with any questions at 612-866-8471 x2 or [eluedtke@hoplc.org](mailto:eluedtke@hoplc.org).

### Easter Choir Invitation

The Adult Choir extends a special EASTER CHOIR Invitation to anyone who would like to sing for our 9:30 Liturgical Easter Service. All are encouraged to join the Easter Choir rehearsal on Wednesday 4/5, 7-8:30 p.m. Come and add your voice to the festive tones of the choir, organ and brass as we celebrate Christ’s resurrection on Easter Sunday, 4/9/23! For questions, contact Roselyn Hanson Weber at [rhansonweber@hoplc.org](mailto:rhansonweber@hoplc.org).



### Easter Garden

Consider a special gift to HOP this Easter by sponsoring a flower for the Easter Garden or making a donation to:



- Facilities Fund (extra building projects, unanticipated maintenance)
- General Operating Fund (all HOP ministries)

Sponsorship forms are available on Sunday mornings. You can also give online at [hoplc.org/give](https://hoplc.org/give). Dedications received by Sunday, April 2nd, will be included in the Easter bulletin.

For questions, contact Cara Wright at [cwright@hoplc.org](mailto:cwright@hoplc.org). 612-866-8471 (ext. 3).

## Around House of Prayer

### Hymn Festival to Celebrate Jon Kietzer's 50 Years at HOP

A Hymn Festival will be held at House of Prayer Lutheran Church on Sunday evening, April 16 at 7:00 PM. The event will recognize and celebrate Jon Kietzer's 50 years of music ministry at House of Prayer. The Hymn Festival will feature seven organists including Karen Bartz, David Cherwien, David Fienen, Kris Langlois, Gregory Peterson, and Mark Sedio, plus Jon Kietzer.

A reception will be held immediately following the Hymn Festival. For any questions, contact Roselyn Hanson Weber at 612-866-8471 x7 or [rhansonweber@hoplc.org](mailto:rhansonweber@hoplc.org).



### House of Prayer Foundation Meeting & Grant Requests Due

The HOP Foundation will meet on Monday, April 10, at 6:30 pm to discuss business and review funding requests. As of December 2022, the Foundation had total assets of \$688,004. We will be discussing grant funding requests at this meeting. If you'd like to make a request, you can email Jill Johnson ([stemcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:stemcoordinator@gmail.com)) or Sandy Williams ([srwillms70@hotmail.com](mailto:srwillms70@hotmail.com)) for a grant application form.



### Music Sunday in May

#### MUSIC Sunday



All singers, wind ensemble members, and bell players (past and present) are invited to participate in Music Sunday on May 21. The 9:30 am

worship service will celebrate Jon Kietzer's 50-year anniversary/retirement.

The deadline for singers to indicate they wish to participate is April 24. Please RSVP with your NAME and VOICE PART to Jill Larson at: [jill.larson33@gmail.com](mailto:jill.larson33@gmail.com) All are welcome!

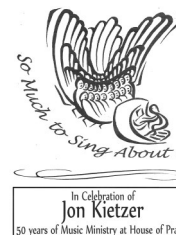
More details will be forthcoming soon about a special rehearsal in preparation for Music Sunday.

For any questions, contact Roselyn Hanson Weber at [rhansonweber@hoplc.org](mailto:rhansonweber@hoplc.org) / 612-866-8471 x7.



### Music Sunday Brunch

On May 21, 2023, House of Prayer will be honoring Jon Kietzer's 50-year anniversary/retirement of music ministry at HOP by celebrating Music Sunday.



Following the 9:30 AM service, a brunch will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets must be purchased in advance by HOP members on April 16, 23, and 30 in the narthex. The brunch is \$15 per person; checks payable to HOP with "Brunch" in the memo line. If space remains, the brunch will then be opened to other guests.

Please plan to join in this festive gathering. For more information, contact Karen Steenson, at [d2ksteenson@gmail.com](mailto:d2ksteenson@gmail.com)

## Lenten Collaboration 2023

### Wednesday Night Activities



Wednesday nights in Lent were a great time to gather with our friends at Woodlake Lutheran Church for worship, food, study, and fellowship.

Activities included soup supper, Bible study, RALY youth group; first communion class, and combined choir rehearsals.

It was a time to reflect and co-create.

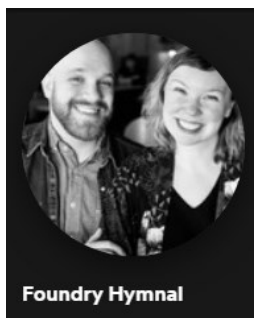
### First Communion Bread Baking

Our first communion students made communion bread on Wednesday, March 15. They measured and mixed and blessed the bread.

Each family took a loaf home and the rest will be shared for communion at our Collaboration Maundy Thursday worship service at 7pm on April 6 at Woodlake.



### Lenten Worship



Foundry Hymnal

Every Wednesday night in Lent, we worshipped together using an original Lenten Vespers. This service was written and recorded in 2021 by Andy (Woodlake Lutheran, Richfield) and Pastor Elise Pokel (Transfiguration Lutheran, Bloomington) as a digital album for personal use during

the height of the pandemic. The music and text have been adjusted to suit congregational worship and will feature the combined choirs of Woodlake and House of Prayer. The original recording can be heard on streaming platforms like Spotify and Apple Music by searching for the artist "Foundry Hymnal."

### Easter Egg Hunt Prep

RALY and Woodlake Young Adults stuffed Easter eggs for the Easter Egg Hunts on Wednesday, March 22. Join us rain or shine on Easter Sunday at 10:30 am for the Easter Egg Hunt. It's open to kids of all ages, and we welcome you to join one of the services, either before or after the "hunt."



It's open to kids of all ages, and we welcome you to join one of the services, either before or after the "hunt."

Contact Andry Jurcich ([andryj@invisik.com](mailto:andryj@invisik.com)) or Daniel Ditmanson ([dditmanson@hoplc.org](mailto:dditmanson@hoplc.org)). with any questions.

## Around House of Prayer

### Fellowship Speaker Series



Coming on April 13th at 1:00 pm!

Topic: Selecting care support as we age.

Senior Living with Amy James, Kate Blessing and Sandy McGurran.

Ever wonder the difference between assisted living and nursing home care? Do you want to know more about qualifying for medical assistance? When is the right time to explore home care or hospice services? Join us for a walk through senior care including definitions and details of each care level, the average costs and considerations to think about. We will also explain other in-home resources that can be supportive as a person's care needs increase. Be sure to bring the questions you want and need to know. There is no cost obligation! Come and enjoy coffee and cookies with your friends from House of Prayer, Woodlake and Oak Grove. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Barnes at [sebarnes36@hotmail.com](mailto:sebarnes36@hotmail.com) or Noel Sagness at [ncs6391@gmail.com](mailto:ncs6391@gmail.com).

### Stewardship

Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 2, as Stewardship Sunday (and Palm Sunday, too!)

We are celebrating that all we have is God's and God is doing amazing things among us at House of Prayer.

You should have received a stewardship letter and pledge card in the mail, we invite you to return your pledge by mail or bring it in person on April 2. If you prefer to fill out your pledge online you can visit [www.hoplc.org/give](http://www.hoplc.org/give) to complete the form online.

If you are using Simply Giving your current commitment will continue and you can make an increase at any time.

If you have questions about giving to House of Prayer, contact Patti Benson, [pbenson@hoplc.org](mailto:pbenson@hoplc.org)



### Book Discussion Group

House of Prayer Book Discussion Group will meet on Thursday, April 6, at 1:30 pm in the Office Conference Room.

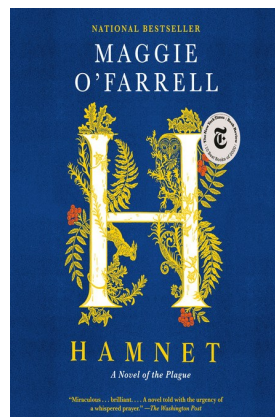
At our April meeting, we will be discussing *Hamnet A Novel of the Plague* by Maggie O'Farrell, or a book of your choice.

Upcoming Meetings:

May 4 –  
*Horse* by Geraldine Brooks

We welcome anyone who loves to read!

For more information about Book Club, please contact Sandy Williams at [srwllms70@hotmail.com](mailto:srwllms70@hotmail.com).



### Card Ministry

Card Ministry is a group who enjoys fellowship and sharing their artistic talents to reconstruct used greeting cards.



We meet the first and third Wednesdays at 10:00 am and sell cards the last Sunday of the month.

The cards we remake are anniversary, birthday, get well, sympathy, thank you and thinking of you. Donations of these cards are greatly appreciated and we couldn't do it without them. We do not remake holiday cards.

Come give us a try, you may be surprised how much fun cutting and gluing can be. We have supplies and fellowship to share!

Please contact Nancy Bjornstad at [ne\\_bjorn.6203@yahoo.com](mailto:ne_bjorn.6203@yahoo.com) with any questions.



## Children, Youth and Family

### Sunday School

Our Sunday schoolers excitedly await the return of warmer weather this spring. We are gathering weekly every Sunday morning at 10:30 am in rooms 1 and 2, but hope to be outdoors again soon.

All children Pre-K (age 3) and older are invited to join the fun. Come share in exploring God's love for all people through crafts, songs, games, and Bible stories.

No pre-registration required! Parents are welcome to attend or enjoy Coffee and Donuts Fellowship.

#### Mark Your Calendar:

- Sundays, April 2 – May 21: Sunday School at 10:30 am
- Sunday, April 9: Easter Egg Hunt at 10:30 am
- Sunday, May 28: Memorial Day Break (No Sunday School)
- Sunday, June 4: Ice Cream Sundays at 10:30AM

Contact Kristi Liu at [kline010@umn.edu](mailto:kline010@umn.edu) or Andry Jurcich at [andryj@invisik.com](mailto:andryj@invisik.com) for more details about HOP Sunday School or if you have questions.



### House of Prayer Sunday School & RALY Easter Egg Hunt Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023, at 10:30 am

House of Prayer Lutheran  
Sunday School & Youth Group

## EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, April 09, 2023 at 10:30AM

7625 Chicago Ave S | Richfield, MN

Find a special RALY Golden Ticket egg to win cool prizes.

Join us rain or shine!

Celebrate Easter with a hoppin' good time of hunting for eggs! How many treat-filled eggs will you collect in your basket?

Join us rain or shine on Easter Sunday at 10:30 am. There will be many eggs, and they will not be hard to find! There will also be a "special" prize inside one of the eggs from our RALY Youth Group.

This is an annual event for House of Prayer, held immediately following our 9:30 am Liturgical worship service, and prior to our 11:00 ReFuel contemporary worship service.

The egg hunt is open to kids of all ages, and we welcome you to join one of the services, either before or after the "hunt." Contact Andry Jurcich ([andryj@invisik.com](mailto:andryj@invisik.com)) or Daniel Ditmanson ([dditmanson@hoplc.org](mailto:dditmanson@hoplc.org)) with any questions.



## Children, Youth and Family

### RALY Summer Schedule

#### Camp Week: June 25-30 & Family Weekend: June 30-July 2

at Luther Park Danbury (1st-12th Graders)

Half week and full week options available! And there is a weekend family retreat option available the following weekend for those who want their youth to get a taste of camp, but still are too young to go alone! We want you to go to camp! Use the code "HOP Camper" and get a 50% scholarship on all programs! Additional need based scholarships available upon request.



#### Vacation Bible School: July 10-13

(PreK-5th Grade) at Woodlake Lutheran Church

Vacation Bible School is an evening program focused on hands-on faith. This is a FREE 4 evening program, and will begin with a community meal at 5pm, and then VBS until 8pm. Each evening will be filled with songs, games, arts and crafts, bible stories, and more.

Register on the HOP Website: [Youth & Family/Children-VBS Registration button](#).

#### Summer Stretch: July 10-13

(Middle School Grades 6th-8th)

We are excited to bring the Luther Park summer staff back again this year!

Summer Stretch is an afternoon program focused on fun and relationship building. Activities will include bowling, Richfield public pool, Vertical Endeavors and more! We will begin at 1:00 and go to 5:00, at which point everyone is invited to participate in a community meal before going home. The cost for Summer Stretch is \$100, and if this is unaffordable for your family, please talk with Daniel.

Register on the HOP Website: [Youth & Family/RALY-Summer Stretch Registration button](#).

Contact Daniel Ditmanson at 612-866-8471, ext. 5 / [dditmanson@hoplc.org](mailto:dditmanson@hoplc.org) with any questions.

### House of Prayer Preschool



Hello from House of Prayer Preschool!

We are heading into the final part of our school year. Our last day will be May 27th and there is so much great work to be done before then! The children are growing leaps and bounds and it's so fun to see how many new things they learn every day.

Our plan for summer is to slow down a bit and offer part-time summer camps. This will allow the children to stay connected but have time for family too. We start back up with our full-time program in September and are already full and on a waiting list.

Questions about HoPP? Contact Director Nicole Olson at [nolson@hoplc.org](mailto:nolson@hoplc.org).

## In the Community

### Adopt a Storm Drain

**ADOPT  
A STORM  
DRAIN**



Spring has sprung! It's great seeing our neighborhoods come to life with people outside enjoying the warmer temperatures. With those warmer temps comes plenty of melting, leaving storm drains inundated with a winter's-worth of debris and "snirt."

The best thing you can do to stop this crud from entering our pristine waterways is to 'Adopt A Storm Drain' in your neighborhood. Most of us have them in sight of our front door. Here are the easy steps to help keep your city's storm water ponds clean for waterfowl and critters alike:

- Sign up online to adopt a storm drain in your neighborhood. [www.adopt-a-drain.org](http://www.adopt-a-drain.org)
- Keep your storm drain clear. Sweep leaves, trash and other debris off the drain surface year round.
- Track your impact. Enter the estimated total of debris you collect into your online account so we can track results.
- Lead by example. Let others know about your commitment and tell them how they can help prevent water pollution, too.

If you have any questions, please contact Kim Houle at [khoule@seiu.com](mailto:khoule@seiu.com) or at 612-558-0634. Together, we can help tend to our environment while being good stewards of all that our God has created.

### HOP Garden

Do you enjoy gardening? Do you know HOP has a community garden? If you are interested in working with the community garden this summer, please contact Steve Pierson at [stevepierson56@hotmail.com](mailto:stevepierson56@hotmail.com)) or Kim Houle at [khoule@seiu.com](mailto:khoule@seiu.com).



### Luther Park Work Days



We are so excited to get the crew back together and start a new year of projects! I ask that you consider joining us for at least one (if not all) of the work days at Luther Park this year. Not only is it full of work, but they are also full of FUN!

#### 2023 Work Saturdays

- April 1st
- May 6th
- June 3rd

Volunteers generally gather around 9am. There will be coffee and donuts/pastries to greet you in the Lodge. Lunch is provided and volunteers work until sometimes in the afternoon (3pm/4pm). Please RSVP if you plan on attending so we can make an accurate projects list and lunch count. As always, you are welcome to stay the night...just let Leah know.

As always, if you have specific gifts or talents that you can share with Luther Park, let Leah know because we just might have a special project for you! Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents with Luther Park! You are valued more than you know. Please contact Leah (McDougall) Pletscher at 651-472-4868 (cell) 715-656-7244 (camp) or visit [www.lutherparkdanbury.com](http://www.lutherparkdanbury.com)

House of Prayer Lutheran Church  
7625 Chicago Avenue South  
Richfield, MN 55423

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

(612) 866-8471  
**E-mail:** [office@hoplc.org](mailto:office@hoplc.org)  
**Website:** [www.hoplc.org](http://www.hoplc.org)  
**Pastor:** Senior Pastor, Eric Luedtke

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**In-Person Worship Services:**  
Sundays at 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
[www.hoplc.org/recordings](http://www.hoplc.org/recordings)



The *Hi-Lines* is published by the House of Prayer staff and volunteers. Any questions can be directed to Cara Wright, Director of Administration, at [cwright@hoplc.org](mailto:cwright@hoplc.org), or Mary Weaver, Administrative Assistant, at [mweaver@hoplc.org](mailto:mweaver@hoplc.org).

**Milestones**

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**  
*Anniversaries (50+ years and 5 year increments)*

Couples	Date	Years
No milestone anniversaries this month		

**MEMORIAL SERVICES**

Robert Zmeskal	3/16
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**A Look Back**



**2003 Cherub Choir**