

# HOUSE OF PRAYER

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

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

## Retreat



Pastor Eric Luedtke

I'm curious how you hear the word *RETREAT*? What image comes to your mind first? Is it the image of "getting away" for a time of regrouping and regathering and relaxing often in an idyllic setting? Do you get the image of a military battle in which

one side calls *RETREAT* in the midst of casualties and losses?

I just returned from the **Leading Well Learning Retreat**, a continuing education event that I have attended annually for the past seven years. The goals for the event are Sabbath Rest, Practical Learning, and Collegial Support. Each year the event provides me with all of those pieces and part of the "take away" for me is always a renewed focus of where God is leading me in my personal life and ministry. I give thanks for the congregations that have afforded me the opportunity to attend annually.

There is often a "word" that seems to speak loudly throughout the retreat and this year that word is "grounded." This is another peculiar word which might evoke different ideas for different people. After all, we probably can all share a story of being "grounded" as a child for some misbehavior. We also might be able to find those events or beliefs in our lives that keep us "grounded" or anchored in who we are.

During the season of Epiphany, we spent time as a congregation focusing on our Core Values; the statements that ground us as a congregation. As we did that I spent time listening to what was said through the specific questions that were asked, but also in the comments on the periphery of the conversation.

One statement that resonated from multiple sources was a sense that members of House of Prayer have poured a lot of energy into getting through the transition process and a wondering of how much energy we collectively have to move into "something new," as Isaiah 43 would call us to be ready for.

As we approach the season of Lent, it feels like a good time for us to **retreat** as a congregation. Not in the sense of a military battle where we return with our casualties in defeat, but in the sense of regrouping to gain energy for what is next.

We'll have the opportunity throughout Lent to gather on Sunday mornings for worship and Fellowship and join with our collaboration partners at Woodlake for Wednesday meals, worship, and co-creating conversation. It's a chance for us to strengthen our relationships. It's a chance to ask questions and hear perspectives that we might not get on Sunday mornings. It's a chance for us to collectively consider something new that God might be calling us into.

Wednesday evening activities will all be held at Woodlake Lutheran Church this year (House of Prayer hosted last year). Being in a different setting can sometimes be unsettling, but it can also open us up to seeing things differently as we sit in different spaces and engage with different people as well as our many friends who will join us.

It is my prayer that you will take the time to engage the season of Lent in this way and together we will grow as a congregation into the future that God has imagined for us.

LENTEN  
SPIRITUAL  
RETREAT

## Leadership Ministry Team Update

### Not Written Yet



*Brent King  
HOP President*

In this winter of TV binge watching, it seems like some movies are on every day (I mean, EVERY DAY!). Tell me you haven't noticed The Shawshank Redemption, Lethal Weapon, Die Hard, Top Gun, Ghostbusters, A Few Good Men and The Godfather (to name just a few) during your channel surfing--at least eight times each since Christmas.

One of the frequently played movie series I've noticed at least eight times, and enjoy watching, are the time travel-themed Back to the Future films. In this film series, our time traveler, Marty McFly, starts his adventure in 1985 and eventually visits its 1955, 2015 and 1885 on his way back to 1985. Marty's girlfriend, Jennifer, accidentally travels to 2015 as part of the journey—all in a DeLorean.

Fast-forward to the of the last installment in the trilogy (Back to the Future III), when Marty and Jennifer have a brief reunion in 1985 with the time-travel inventor, Dr. Emmett Brown. I always smile when I hear the exchange between Jennifer and Dr. Brown:

**Jennifer:** Dr. Brown—I brought back this note from the future, and now it's erased!

**Dr. Brown:** Of course, it's erased!

**Jennifer:** But what does that mean?

**Dr. Brown:** It means that your future hasn't been written yet; no one's has! Your future is whatever you make it...so make it a good one!

I really should just stop there; you know where I'm going with this.

During his Epiphany sermon series, his challenge questions to the congregation, and the responses we have written on Post-It notes and emails, Pastor Eric has been leading the congregation on a journey to discover and embrace the answer to: "Who Are We Created to Be?"

What you and I are writing and considering in those answers are the "future that hasn't been written yet" for House of Prayer's mission and calling. HOP has a rich history that stretches back 70 years, but the decisions we consider and make today are the ones which will govern how we embrace our purpose in 2024 and beyond.

While ideas like livestreaming, contemporary services and LGBTQIA++ inclusion seemed impossible 40 years ago, they are part of the mainstream today. Who knows what this landscape will look like 40 years from today? I don't know, but I'm ready to take the first step in that direction--with you.

Where we are going...we WILL need roads, but we are laying some really good foundation this winter!

### 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

January was another positive month for House of Prayer from a financial standpoint with Net Operating Revenue of \$13,164. Thank you for all of your generous gifts as we start 2023!

Please be on the lookout for the pledge letter for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Patti has updated our pledge cards with a more streamlined look and we appreciate her work to make the pledging process as easy as possible and look forward to the returns. Pledging is a very important factor in setting up our annual budget so we appreciate all the response we can get. We look forward to putting a budget together that meets the needs of the congregation.

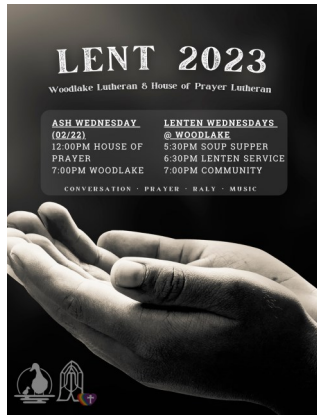
Lastly, we had a bit of a formatting issue with our financial report in the February edition of Hi-Lines and our total revenue line was incorrect. We appreciate those who contacted us about the issues and are grateful for an engaged congregation. A correction was published in the February 16 edition of E-News. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [charleysimonson@hotmail.com](mailto:charleysimonson@hotmail.com).

<b>January Financials</b>				
	<u>Jan. 2023</u>		<u>YTD</u>	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<b>Revenue</b>				
Offerings	58,568	49,000	262,184	253,000
Rental Income	10,050	8,750	65,500	57,150
Other Income	122	130	2,595	1,550
Preschool Income	10,388	10,000	50,634	53,325
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>79,128</b>	<b>67,880</b>	<b>380,913</b>	<b>365,025</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>				
	65,964	63,045	357,190	388,501
<b>Net Operating Revenue</b>	<b>13,164</b>	<b>4,835</b>	<b>23,723</b>	<b>-23,476</b>

<b>Dedicated Fund Activity</b>		
	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>YTD</u>
<b>Dedicated Funds Received</b>		
Evangelism	0	0
Worship	0	20
Facilities	1,185	12,444
Fall Festival	0	2,745
Foundation	0	675
Event Allocation	9,050	9,050
Youth and Family	200	3,108
Preschool	644	4,138
	11,079	32,180
<b>Dedicated Funds Spent</b>		
Evangelism	188	63
Facilities	22,763	27,698
Fall Festival	0	439
Foundation	550	975
Youth and Family	0	3,871
Preschool	908	6,707
	24,409	39,753
<b>Net Dedicated Activity</b>	<b>-13,330</b>	<b>-7,573</b>

## Around House of Prayer

### Lent Collaboration



During the Season of Lent we join our collaboration partners at Woodlake Lutheran Church for a season of co-creation. We come together around a simple meal, a time of worship, and opportunities to engage conversation and community prayer. All events will be held at Woodlake Lutheran, 2120 W. 76th St.

We invite all to be part of these Wednesdays in Lent as a way to dig deeper in our spiritual journey and to grow in relationship with our neighbors in Christ.

**The Lent Wednesday schedule is:**  
**March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**

- **5:30-6:20 – Meal**
- **6:30-7:00 – Worship**
- **7:00-8:00 – “Co-Create Spaces”** including: Music Rehearsals, Prayer Space, Worship Theme Reflection Conversation, RALY, First Communion Class

#### **Simple Soup Supper Menu:**

March 1: Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Garden Salad, Breadstick, Dessert

March 8: Tomato Basil Soup, Croissant Sandwiches (turkey/ham), Dessert

March 15: Chicken Tortilla Soup, Garden Salad, Breadstick, Dessert

March 22: Broccoli Cheese Soup, Croissant Sandwiches (turkey/ham), Dessert

March 29: Potato/Ham Soup, Garden Salad, Breadstick, Dessert

Beverages: Water, Milk

Cold cereal also available

For any questions about our Lent collaboration, contact Pastor Eric Luedtke at 612-866-8471 ext. 2, or [eluedtke@hoplc.org](mailto:eluedtke@hoplc.org).

### 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**  
7pm – Woodlake Lutheran

We gather with the disciples of Jesus in the Upper Room. While they are simply expecting a Passover Celebration, Jesus knows it is much more – it is his Last Supper before his crucifixion which comes with his charge for those who will follow him – Love one another as I have loved you.

We join with our Richfield Area Lutheran Ministry partners (Woodlake Lutheran, Tapestry, and Oak Grove Lutheran) as we worship together.

**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.

## Around House of Prayer

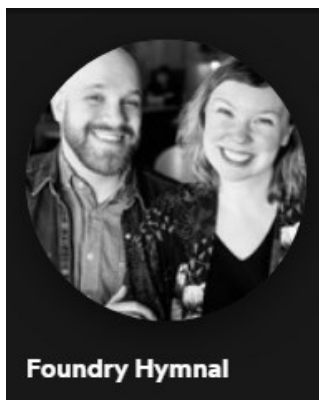
### Lenten Choir Opportunity



As part of the learning opportunities following our Lenten services, all are invited to come experience singing with the Woodlake Lutheran & HOP Lutheran Combined Choir! We will together prepare some beautiful choral music for our Lenten Wednesday and Sunday services, strengthening the community we share through the meaningful experience of singing together. Our rehearsals will take place in the Choir Room at Woodlake from 7:00-7:45/8 pm with the larger, combined group, followed by a shorter rehearsal segment for each individual choir. **WELCOME ALL!** For any questions, contact Roselyn Hanson Weber, Dir. Liturgical Worship, at [rhansonweber@hoplc.org](mailto:rhansonweber@hoplc.org).

### Lenten Worship

Every Wednesday night in March, we will worship together using an original Lenten Vespers. This service was written and recorded in 2021 by Andy (Woodlake Lutheran, Richfield) and Pr. 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."

### First Communion Class



At House of Prayer we practice an Open Table at Communion. This means that anyone who steps forward with hands outstretched to receive the gifts that Christ offers will receive them regardless of age, education, church membership, or any other factor. We trust that Jesus is working in this sacrament beyond our human understanding.

We also believe that knowing our beliefs around Communion is important, so we offer Communion Instruction for those who want to understand the Lutheran theology of Communion and our beliefs as a church. We'll be offering this instruction as part of our Lent collaboration with Woodlake Lutheran on Wednesday, March 1, 8, 15 from 7-7:45pm. We invite you to gather at Woodlake for a light meal between 5:30-6:30pm, join in worship at 6:30, and then participate in Communion Instruction from 7-7:45 on March 1, 8, and 15 – or if your schedule allows only the class portion, arrive at 7pm.

We are asking that each child who participates be accompanied by a parent so that the conversations we start can continue at home – and there are no age limits on who can attend – if your child has been asking about Communion or seems curious when they see Communion served in worship, the time is right. If you aren't sure if your child is ready or have other questions, talk to Pastor Eric – [eluedtke@hoplc.org](mailto:eluedtke@hoplc.org) or 612.866.8471 ext. 2.

### 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).

## 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 in Richfield 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.

All singers who wish to participate in the Hymn Festival choir, conducted by Dr. Roselyn Hanson Weber (who is the Director of Liturgical Worship at House of Prayer), are welcome. The Festival Choir will assemble to rehearse at 4:30 PM on April 16, prior to the Hymn Festival that day.

Email Jill Larson at [jill.larson33@gmail.com](mailto:jill.larson33@gmail.com) your NAME and VOICE part, if you wish to sing. Deadline is March 15.

A reception will be held immediately following the Hymn Festival.

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

### 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 and in the E-News. You can also give online at [hoplc.org/give](http://hoplc.org/give) - "other" with Easter Garden in the description. Dedications received by Sunday, 4/2, 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.



### House of Prayer Foundation Donation Policy

Donations to the HOP Foundation must be in the form of a paper check written to "**House of Prayer Foundation.**"

The Foundation cannot accept checks written to "House of Prayer Lutheran Church" with "Foundation" in the memo line.

At this time, the Foundation can only accept **paper check donations and not online donations.** HOP church also cannot accept online / Simply Giving donations intended for the Foundation.

**Donations to the Kietzer Music Ministry Fund can only be accepted in the form of a paper check payable to the "House of Prayer Foundation" with Kietzer Music Fund in the memo line.** Please **do not** use the "other" category on the HOP web page to give to this fund online.

Please mail or drop off your check to HOP church, where they will be held for collection by the Foundation Treasurer.

The Foundation is a 501.c.3 entity independent from HOP church, and this policy ensures appropriate separation of funds.

Contact Sandy Williams, HOP Foundation Treasurer at [srwllms70@hotmail.com](mailto:srwllms70@hotmail.com), with any questions.

### 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 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).



## Around House of Prayer



### Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. - Psalm 100

Please join us for these events celebrating Jon Kietzer's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary/retirement:

**Sunday, April 16** – 7:00 PM - Hymn Festival with seven organists (see p. 6 for more information)

**Sunday, May 21** – 9:30 AM Worship Service – Music Sunday – Celebrating Jon's music ministry  
A catered brunch will follow in the Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, June 4** – 9:30 AM Worship Service – Minnesota Boychoir will sing during the service

**Sunday, September 10** – 9:30 AM Worship Service – Jon's official retirement/50<sup>th</sup> anniversary date  
A reception will follow the service

If you would like to sing on either April 16 (deadline March 15) and/or May 21 (deadline 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!

During his past 50 years at House of Prayer Lutheran Church, Jon Kietzer has enhanced our musical experiences while serving as organist and as the director of adult and youth choirs, bell choirs, and the brass and wind ensemble. Thousands have been spiritually moved by Jon's creative leadership of the music ministry program.

Jon's 50-year legacy will continue as he retires through your support to the House of Prayer Foundation's newly created: **Jon Kietzer Music Ministry Fund**

Donations will be used for special musical projects and events, i.e., concerts, educational outreach and youth activities. Please consider making a gift that will keep on giving!

Contributions to the HOP Foundation must be in the form of a check written to **House of Prayer Foundation** with Kietzer Music Ministry Fund written on the memo line.

Donations may be mailed to House of Prayer at:

House of Prayer Foundation  
Attn: Kietzer Music Ministry Fund  
7625 Chicago Avenue South  
Richfield, MN 55423

The House of Prayer Foundation is a separate 501(c)(3) nonprofit. All donations are tax-deductible.

## 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, March 2, at 1:30 pm in the Office Conference Room.

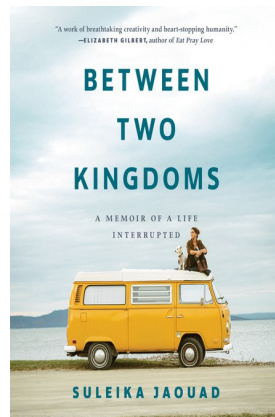
At our March meeting, we will be discussing *Between Two Kingdoms* by Suleika Jaouad.

Upcoming Meetings:

April 6 –  
*Hamnet A Novel of the Plague* by Maggie O'Farrell.

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



Join us at 10:30 every Sunday for Sunday school!

Kids from pre-k to early teens are all welcome, and while the kids are in Sunday School, parents can have donuts and fellowship with the congregation, or leave and come back. We also invite you to then stay for our Re-Fuel Coffeehouse Worship Service at 11:00 am.

There will not be Sunday school on Sunday, March 26th for Spring Break.

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 Preschool

Hello from preschool! The children continue on during the cold and snowy months and seem to grow by leaps and bounds during this time. It's so fun to see young children (we can accept children as young as 31 months) enter the preschool shy and unsure and then grow into confident and capable children when they leave for kindergarten! While much of our work is learning letters and numbers, we spend time every day learning how to be a good friend, speak kindly, communicate with adults, recognize our emotions and just learn how to live with each other. It's a blessing to work with this age of children and I'm grateful our church has the space for them to come and learn and grow. We'll start to enroll for fall 2023 soon - we will continue to offer preschool, with up to full-time childcare, 5 days a week. If you know of someone who may be interested, please contact HoPP Director, Nicole Olson, at [nolson@hoplc.org](mailto:nolson@hoplc.org).



## Children, Youth and Family

### RALY Summer Schedule

Save the dates:

#### **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 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.

### Luther Park Annual Meeting

Luther Park's Annual Meeting will be held at House of Prayer in Richfield on Sunday, March 19 from 5:30pm-7:00pm. Light appetizers will be served. Each member church sends one pastor and one lay person as voting members; however, all are invited to attend. Please RSVP to Leah Pletcher at [camp@lutherpark.com](mailto:camp@lutherpark.com), if you would like to attend.

**Summer 2023 Planning and Recruiting** - We have opportunities for people of all ages- including families, grandparents, and extended families. We are still looking for young adults who would be like to serve on our summer ministry team- send those potential candidates our way! These young adults are what make the ministry possible for so many people throughout our summers. Thank you for helping us recruit them! More specific summer and staff information can be found on our website: [www.lutherparkdanbury.com](http://www.lutherparkdanbury.com).

**Retreats and Getaways** - Lastly, don't forget about Luther Park for retreats for all ages, groups or for family/friend getaways. Retreats are starting to pick up again, so if you know you want a date, the sooner you can connect with us the better! Summer is about full and we are booking for Fall 2023! Retreat Season never stops for us and we are able to work with and accommodate to many different types of groups throughout the whole year. As always, Luther Park is available as a partner and a resource for your congregations!

For questions, contact Lean Pletcher, Executive Director, at [camp@lutherpark.com](mailto:camp@lutherpark.com).



## In the Community

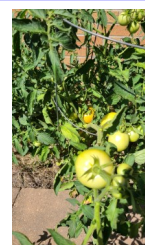


### Every Meal Open House

You're familiar with Every Meal, one of our partner organizations that helps address food insecurity in our community. Have you ever wondered how they organize all of that food and distribute it across the state of Minnesota? Join in an Open House event on Wednesday, March 29, from 4:30-6:30pm at the Roseville warehouse (2723 Patton Rd, Roseville, MN 55113). You'll get to see where food is packed and loaded for thousands of students across Minnesota, meet the team that makes Every Meal's multi-channel food distribution possible, and learn about the current state of childhood hunger in our communities. If you want to attend, contact Pastor Eric at [eluedtke@hoplc.org](mailto:eluedtke@hoplc.org) or 612.866.8471 ext. 2.

### HOP Garden

Do you enjoy gardening? Do you know House of Prayer 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) to enlist!



### VEAP

VEAP is in desperate need of food. March is their food drive month and the following items are the items they need the most:

- Whole grain rice (1-2 pound bags)
- Whole grain pasta
- Hearty soups (high protein, low sodium)
- Whole grain cereal (like Shredded Wheat, Kashi, bran cereals, Chex, etc.)
- Canned proteins (meat and beans)
- Canned fruit and vegetables
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Diapers (size 5-7) and baby wipes
- Cooking oil
- Coffee
- Baking essentials (flour, sugar, spices, baking soda/powder)
- Laundry detergent
- Dish soap
- Personal care items (shampoo, toothpaste, hand soap, shaving cream, toiletries, etc.)
- Gluten-free products (whole grains like brown rice, wild rice, quinoa, cornmeal; nut flours and butters; rice crackers, GF snacks, etc. Check for gluten-free product label.)
- Birthday candles, cake frosting, birthday-themed napkins/plates, cake mix, small birthday party favors like chalk, bubbles or bags of balloons
- Dog and cat food (particularly wet food, treats, litter, etc.)
- Paper bags and re-usable, cloth totes (We'll always take your extra paper grocery bags. We are not accepting plastic bag or totes donations).



You can also give funds directly to VEAP through this link: <https://veap.org/ways-to-give/donate-funds/>  
For questions regarding VEAP, please contact Terri Behrends-Singer at [terri@hr4u.org](mailto:terri@hr4u.org).

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

Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Twin Cities, MN  
 Permit No. 2944

**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
Charles and Sandra Mackenzie	03/21	53
David and Karen Steenson	03/28	59

**MEMORIAL SERVICES**

Troy Nelson	2/3
Rick Victor	2/6

**A Look Back**



**1953 Photo of “Coming Soon” Sign**