



House of Prayer Lutheran Church

Richfield, MN

www.hoplc.org - 612-866-8471

House of Prayer is a gathering of God's people who value welcoming, relationships, compassionate community, and openness.

Welcoming

Relationships

Compassion

Openness

Community E-News

Here's an update about what is happening at House of Prayer!

Pastor Eric on Vacation

Pastor Eric is on vacation (celebrating his 25th wedding anniversary) from February 22 to March 5. If you have a pastoral care need during this time, please contact the church office (612-866-8471 or office@hoplc.org). Cara or Mary will assist you or connect you with an on-call pastor.



Rescue Me From Danger

As a new disciple, Peter aims to prove himself and steps out onto the sea with Jesus, but the wind and waves shake Peter and he loses trust. Still, Jesus is right there to reach out a hand when Peter needs it. For questions regarding worship while Pastor Eric is on vacation, please get in touch with Cara Wright at 612-866-8471, ext. 3, or cwright@hoplc.org. We welcome Pastor Sarah Bunge back into the fold as a guest pastor over the next two weeks, and she will preside over our worship services.

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY FOR WORSHIP LIVESTREAM

9:30 am Liturgical Worship Service

11:00 am ReFuel Coffeehouse Worship

HOP's YouTube Channel

[House of Prayer Lutheran-Richfield](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWGuAMVXeYe5BuxQWhkVWDA)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWGuAMVXeYe5BuxQWhkVWDA>

Recordings will also be posted later in the week on HOP website at <https://hoplc.org/recordings>

**Click Here for This Week's
Bulletin**

Liturgical Worship Service
Sunday, February 18, 2024
[Worship Bulletin-Click Here](#)

ReFuel Worship Service
Sunday, February 18, 2024



Minister for Congregational Care – Call Extended!

Thanks to all who participated in our special congregational meeting on Sunday, February 11 to vote on our candidate for Minister for Congregational Care. An overwhelming majority of votes were cast to extend a part-time call to Pastor Korla Masters. Pastor Korla is concluding her ministry at Augustana Lutheran Church in Northeast Minneapolis and will begin her ministry at House of Prayer on April 16. We look forward to welcoming her and getting to know her more. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Pastor Eric at 612-866-8471 or eluedtke@hoplc.org, or Caity Wright at caitywright13@gmail.com.

Wednesday Lenten Worship

Thanks to all who came to our first Wednesday Night Lenten Collaborative Worship Night. It was fun to see people of all ages from HOP and WL. We prayed, we ate, we painted, we stepped outside our comfort zone and got to know new people, we sang and worshipped together. Come join us next Wednesday night from 5:30-7p at HOP downstairs in Fellowship Hall. For more information about Wednesday Nights in Lent, contact Pastor Micah at mpearson@woodlakechurch.org.



Lent 2024: God Colors Outside the Lines Lenten Service and Suppers hosted at House of Prayer

God has a remarkable way of breaking through the confines of culture, society, and even the institutional church. This Lent, we are called to take a second, third, even fourth look at things – to witness the divine artistry that goes beyond our expectations. In the midst of diverse perspectives, we may not all agree or see the same thing, and perhaps that's the beauty of it. Maybe we were never intended to! Let's embrace God's masterpiece of coloring outside the lines and learn to love the richness it brings to our faith journey.

Wednesday Nights in Lent
Feb 21, 28, Mar 6, 13, 20 (HOP Fellowship Hall)
5:30-6:00 Dinner
6:00-6:30 Guided Conversation/Art
6:30-7:00 Holden Evening Prayer

Feel free to park in the south parking lot and entry through the double silver doors. For questions about Wednesday nights in Lent, please contact Pastor Eric at eluedtke@hoplc.org or Roselyn Hanson Weber at rhansonweber@hoplc.org.



Lent 2024

“God Colors Outside the Lines”



Lenten Choir Opportunity

As part of our special offerings during the upcoming season of Lent, all are invited to come sing with the Combined HOP & Woodlake Lutheran Choir. We will together prepare some beautiful choral music for our Lenten services, strengthening the community we share through the meaningful experience of singing together. Our rehearsals will follow our weekly 6:30 p.m. Lenten Holden Evening Prayer services, meeting from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Choir Room at HOP. **Choir rehearsals on 2/7 and 2/21 will be at Woodlake.**



WELCOME TO ALL! If any questions, contact Roselyn Hanson Weber, Dir. Liturgical Worship, at rhansonweber@hoplc.org.

Lenten Meals - Venezuelan Dinner This Week

We are looking forward to being "inwardly fed to outwardly feed" as we enjoy Lenten Soup Suppers with our collaboration partners from Woodlake, and this week Tapestry, Wednesday nights in Lent (Feb. 21 - Mar 20). With encouragement from our Creation Care Team, we are attempting to make Lenten Suppers 95% trash/recycle free and only produce organic waste. Many thanks to all of you for extra work clearing/sorting your trays after dinner and our supper volunteers from HOP and WL that will be doing extra dishes to make this happen. Contact Cara Wright at 612-866-8471 ext. 3 or cwright@hoplc.org if you have questions.



Wednesday Night Lenten Soup Supper: 5:30-6:00pm in Fellowship Hall

- February 28: Venezuelan [Sancocho](#) (Beef Vegetable Soup). The Venezuelans from our Collaboration partner, Tapestry, will provide a delicious meal of homemade Sancocho! We will have an additional side and dessert as well. Tapestry will share a bit about its work with immigrants and a few folks will share stories during dinner. Be sure to come hear about this important work and enjoy wonderful food!
- March 6: Chicken Noodle Soup, variety sandwiches, fancy dessert
- March 13: Broccoli Cheese Soup, variety sandwiches, fancy dessert
- March 20: Potato/Ham Soup, variety sandwiches, fancy dessert

Creation Care Team "Think Before You Throw"

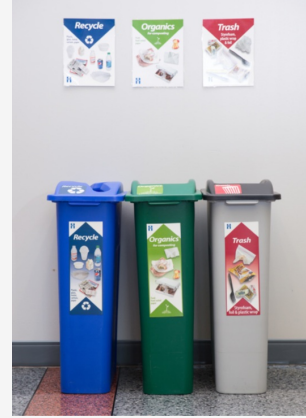
The HOP Creation Care Team met on Monday, Feb. 5 to discuss our first project - "Think Before You Throw."

Watch for:

- New 3-Station recycle/compost/trash bins (hopefully

- provided by a grant from Hennepin County).
- Efforts to reduce trash to avoid spending more money to increase trash service.
- Streamlined ordering of bags.
- 95% Organic Lenten Suppers.
- Education about what goes where!

If you would like to be part of the group, please contact Cara Wright at 612-866-8471 ext. 3 or cwright@hoplc.org.



Gift Cards for HOP Friendship Fund

We broke a record this February 1. Each month, we purchase \$400 (16, \$25 gift cards) from our operating budget (HOP Friendship Fund) and grant funds from the HOP Foundation. The first half of the cards are released on the 1st of each month. On February 1st, all our cards were given to our neighbors in need by 10:20am (20 minutes after the Church Office opened)! The need is that great! We remain hopeful and confident that our work makes a great difference in the world around us. Please consider donating to the HOP Friendship Fund ([online - Operating Fund](#) with "Friendship Fund in the note field), by check, or by donating gift cards of \$25 to Holiday or Walmart (cards can be dropped off or

mailed to the House of Prayer office at 7625 Chicago Avenue South, Richfield, MN 55423.) Let us know if you would like the value of the cards added to your HOP contributions. Please contact the Church Office at 612-866-8471, if you have questions about HOP's Friendship Fund or other resources for neighbors in need.



No Pastor's Bible Study - February 27th, or March 5th

Bible Study will not be held on Tuesday, February 27 or March 5 due to Pastor Eric being on vacation. We will resume the Tuesday Bible study on March 12 at 9:30am.

Luther Park Annual Report

As Luther Park begins the 66th year of ministry, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to your congregations for fostering the meaningful partnerships that have played a pivotal role in Luther Park's story. [The 2023 annual report for congregations is attached here for your information.](#) Some exciting news and notes:



- Madison Main began as Associate Director as of Jan. 1, 2024. She brings experience as former camp staff, a lot of passion and skills that will help her oversee retreats, summer camp and on-site operations.
- Luther Park's Annual Meeting will be held at Elim Lutheran in Robbinsdale on Sunday, March 17 from 1:30-3:00pm. All are invited to attend. Kindly RSVP to Leah to confirm attendance.
- [Summer 2024 camp opportunities](#) are available for people of all ages-including families, grandparents, and extended families.
- [Staff hiring](#) is underway for Summer 2024. Please send recommendations our way.
- [Retreat dates](#) for Summer/Fall/Winter are filling up. Get in touch now to book your spot.

Luther Park remains committed to being a dedicated partner and resource for your

congregations. We are eager to connect and continue this partnership with you!

God's Peace to you,

Leah Pletscher
Executive Director

Summer Registration at Luther Park

It may seem early, but summer is already on our mind. This summer RALY is again teaming up with Luther Park Bible Camp (Danbury, WI) for a summer of fun! Luther Park is an amazing place in God's creation where youth spend a week playing games, singing songs, and experiencing God in creation!

RALY is targeting June 23-28 for our week at camp this summer, as there are slots available for all ages! The cost to attend Luther Park is on a sliding scale, but upon registration RALY provides all youth a 50% scholarship to attend if you use the promo code "HOP Camper." If that still isn't enough, email me and we can work to provide you a full scholarship!

This year, we're asking RALY families to fill out a short registration form to help us communicate with you before/after your week at camp! [Please register here today!](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Pr. Neal Cannon (ncannon@woodlakechurch.org).



CAMP AT LUTHER PARK THIS SUMMER



Camper week for House of Prayer and Woodlake at Luther Park is targeted for June 23rd - June 28th, 2024.

- Grades 1st - 4th (Sunday, June 23rd - Wednesday, June 26th, 2024)
Half Week in the Cabins
- Grades 3rd - 6th (Sunday, June 23rd - Friday, June 28th, 2024)
Full Week in the Cabins
- Grades 4th - 12th (Sunday, June 23rd - Friday, June 28th, 2024)
Full Week BEGINNER Horse Camp
- Grades 7th-12th (Sunday, June 23rd - Friday, June 28th, 2024)
Full Week in the Treehouses

Grades 9th - 12th are encouraged to do the High School Leadership Training on Thursday, June 15th - Sunday, June 18th. Then, they are invited to come back as a "jr. counselor" (or an LT, as we call them at Luther Park) and volunteer with a cabin during the week of June 23rd - June 28th, 2024.

House of Prayer and Woodlake families can type in the discount code "HOP Camper" and get a 50% scholarship on whatever tier your family chooses! (Courtesy of fundraising done by the churches)



Grand Camp at Luther Park is Sunday, July 14th - Wednesday, July 17th, 2024. This camp is a fun way for Grandparents and Grandchildren to spend some planned time together doing all the fun and meaningful activities of camp together!

VBS with Luther Park staff is July 7-12th, 2024. This is the week that Luther Park staff come to Woodlake and bring all the fun camp activities with them. Registration is done on the House of Prayer and Woodlake website. *More information is coming!*



To find out more about each program and to register please visit our website: www.lutherparkdanbury.com.

Contact camp with questions by email, camp@lutherpark.com or 715-200-7023.

HOP Preschool

We made flower hands this week to remind us how gentle our hands can be with our friends. There is a lot of love in our preschool room! If you have questions about HoPP, please email Nicole at nolson@hoplc.org.





HOP Sunday School

This week in Sunday School we will be learning the story of Jesus Calming the Storm. We have a fishing activity planned and will do some painting too. Come wearing clothes for painting! For questions regarding Sunday School, please contact Kristi Liu at klinio10@umn.edu, or Andry Jurcich at andryj@invisik.com.





Fall Festival 2023 Wrap-up

The Fall Festival team met on February 8th, to review the details of the income received from the Festival; discuss the benefits and drawbacks of the activities that House of Prayer is active in (i.e. bake sale, knitting, silent auction), and discuss a proposal for use of the funds.

In 2023, we brought in a net total of \$3881.38, which is about \$1500 more than in 2022. We are pleased to see that the income is trending up. The Fall Festival Team has been saving the funds over several years, and the plan has been to use them to improve bathroom facilities at the church. The team currently has \$28,730.07 in funds.



At this meeting, a motion was made and approved to support a feasibility study for turning the current library space into a handicapped-accessible bathroom, with the intent to commit \$25,000 in funds from Fall Festival to support the project, if the rest of the money can be raised. If you have any questions regarding the Fall Festival or

are interested in future Fall Festival activities, please contact Julie Bonebrake at jbonebrake@yahoo.com.

Concordia Choir Concerts

The world-renowned Concordia Choir of Moorhead, Minnesota, under the direction of Dr. Michael Culloton, will perform in **Central Lutheran Church on Sunday, February 25, 2024, at 4:00 pm.** From the music of J.S. Bach to familiar hymn arrangements, the Concordia Choir will amaze you with their technical mastery and incredible sound. Visit ConcordiaTickets.com for tickets.

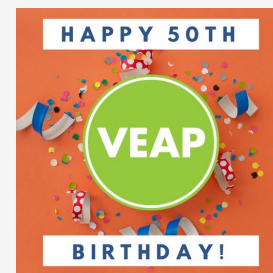


Richfield 4th of July Celebration

Plans are underway for RALY youth (along with HOP and Woodlake) to enter a float in the 2024 parade that will take place on July 4th. If you can assist with the concept and design of our float, please contact Kim Houle (612) 558-0634 or wifeofadrummerguy@gmail.com to join the fun.

VEAP Birthday Bags

Happy 50th birthday VEAP! In honor of this special milestone, they're inviting our community to contribute to their Birthday Bag Kits as one of their monthly challenges in 2024. You can either create a bag yourself or contribute individual items (birthday bags typically include cake mix, frosting, birthday candles, birthday plates/napkins, and assorted party favors). Assembling these birthday bags is a wonderful activity for all ages, making a positive impact on our community and spreading joy on this significant occasion. Are you up to the challenge? For questions, please contact Terri Behrends Singer at terri@hr4u.org.



Bloomington-Richfield Grief Support Coalition

Winter 2024 - January 4 through February 22
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
1701 W. Old Shakopee Road
Bloomington, MN 55431
office@stlukesbloomington.org

February 22 Sibling Loss - Maggie Bauer

Spring Grief Support Groups will begin on Thursday, March 28th. Information will be

posted beforehand.



HOP Online Giving - Check It Out New Easy to Use Website

Enroll in HOP Online Giving, our preferred platform to contribute your recurring gifts in a secure, confidential, and reliable manner. We offer a few options to use this service:



- visit HOP Online Giving at hoplc.org/give to self-enroll or manage your account
- or use the QR code: Use your phone camera to scan the QR code below. Click the pop up to go to HOP Online Giving to self-enroll or manage your account.
- or print a paper enrollment form here: [2023 HOP Online Giving](#), or request one from our financial administrator Patti at pbenson@hoplc.org, 612-682-3158 ext 4.

To ensure your full donation goes to HOP, we suggest using an automatic bank transfer (ACH) which incurs no fee to you or HOP. Or if using a credit card, please consider covering the processing fees. All our gifts come from God and we are called to give back to the church and our world. Your gifts to House of Prayer contribute to our ministry and mission and are always greatly appreciated.

For Help Enrolling: Contact Patti Benson at pbenson@hoplc.org



Get In Touch With LMT

Feel free to get in touch with anyone on the Leadership Ministry Team for questions or conversation:

President: Caity Wright - caitywright13@gmail.com

Vice President: Cindy Jacobs - blondiegirlsmom@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Sara Barnaby - sara@anrias.com

Recording Secretary: Shirley Moen - smoen@riverway.com

Human Resources: Betsy Paradise - betsyparadise1@gmail.com

Support Ministry: Steve Pierson - stevepierson56@hotmail.com

Congregational Development: Andry Jurcich - andryj@invisik.com



Community Engagement: Kim Houle - wifeofadrummerguy@gmail.com

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