

HOUSE OF PRAYER

Is a gathering of God's people who value:

Welcoming, Relationships, Compassionate Community, and Openness

Living Out Our Values

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

This statement represents who we are as House of Prayer. This statement was the result of a series of congregational forums held in 2014. At each forum, welcoming, relationships, compassion, and openness stood out as cornerstone values of who we are as God’s people in this place. This Spring, the Leadership Ministry Team further explicated these values as they reflected upon our discussion about becoming a Sanctuary Church. The statement is as follows:

As we seek to live out our values in our life together as a congregation, we affirm the following:

Welcoming: ALL people are God’s people, created in God’s image and loved as children of God. All people, regardless of: race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, nation of origin, immigration status, native language, etc. are inherently valued by God and welcomed.

Galatians 3:28 There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

Relationships: God created us for relationship, with God and one another. While we continue to value the relationships we have within our membership, we also acknowledge the church is not simply a building that exists to solely meet the needs of its members. The Church is God’s people doing God’s work in the world. As such, we are committed to minister to those within the congregation and to the community.



Pastor Ben Sandin

1 Corinthians 12:12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

Compassionate Community: We are committed to walk with all those who suffer or struggle. We extend our compassion and love within our congregation, our community and world. We strive to meet the felt needs of the hurting and to work for solutions that address underlying causes of injustice.

Matthew 25:40 And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’

Openness: We affirm God is not done working in our midst. As such, we remain open to new ideas, new approaches, and new ways of working with people. This openness requires humility to recognize that we do not yet have all the answers and a willingness to live in the tension of uncertainty.

Isaiah 43:19 I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

These statements offer greater depth and applications for what it means for us to live out our values. You may have noticed banners in the narthex and posters in the conference room displaying these important value statements. These serve as visual reminders of who God has called us to be as we live out our faith. They look great and call us to God’s work!

Later this month we will have a four-part sermon series on our values. Join us for worship as we seek to live out our values!

God’s Peace, Pastor Ben

From our Congregation President

What's Our Legacy?



Wayne Swenson

Dear God, so far today, I've done all right. I have not gossiped, and I have not lost my temper. I haven't been grumpy, nasty, or selfish, and I'm really glad of that! But, in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed, and from then on, I'm probably going to need a lot of help. Thank you! Amen

I certainly do need God's help each and every day! In this, my final Hi-Lines article as your president, I have a question for all of us. How do we want to be remembered? When our careers and life are mostly in the past tense, what will be important that you wish would be said about you and the life that you lived? My career was 40 years in the financial planning industry. Money was a critical topic of discussion with the clients of our firm. With that in mind, I would clearly recommend that none of us make money the end goal. Remember, we can't take it with us! I would say it is a lot more important to be remembered as to how each of us lived our Christian lives and how each of us touched the lives of others.

Let me share *One Hundred Years From Now* (excerpt from "Within My Power" by Forest Witcraft):

One hundred years from now
It will not matter
What kind of car I drove
What kind of house I lived in
How much money was in my bank account
Nor what my clothes looked like.
But the world may be a better place because
I was important in the life of a child.

I hope and pray that my legacy will include that I have led my children and grandchildren (and others) on a spiritual mission of what God wants them to do with their lives. I have mentioned previously that one of our GRANDsons wants to be a pastor. All of my GRANDkids will probably say that Grandpa always said:

1. Leave it better than you found it! (the Boy Scout motto & Grandpa is a recycling nut!)
2. If all the world were like me, how would the world be?

This would be a good time for all of us to reflect on what will be said about us at our funerals.

Let us also reflect on House of Prayer. What are we as a church... and what will House of Prayer's legacy be? House of Prayer Lutheran Church is not a country club or social club. It's not just about fellowship. It's not just about food/potluck meals. It's not just a gathering place. House of Prayer is a community of people that are informed and transformed by our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ. We are called out, woven together, and empowered to be God's ambassadors to our city and beyond. As we say and hear every week: "Let us go and do God's work with our hands!" We need HOP and HOP needs each and every one of us. We need to continue to gather together, worship together, pray for one another, encourage one another, forgive one another and be on mission together! Part of the mission for each one of us is to share our faith and invite others to join us for worship. OK, here it comes again, that means to me "Each One, Bring One!" If we all worked toward that goal, we could double our attendance/membership every year and change the lives of so many people in our community. Wow!

I started this article with a prayer that hopefully made you smile. Here's a familiar song based on Isaiah 64:8 titled *Change My Heart, Oh God* (Eddie Espinosa) that hopefully will remain in our hearts and minds in the days to come:

Change my heart, Oh God
Make it ever true
Change my heart, Oh God
May I be like You

You art the potter
I am the clay
Mold me and make me
This is what I pray

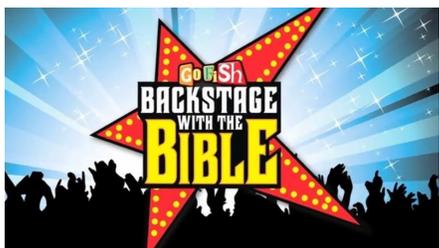
Let me close by saying that it has truly been one of the greatest privileges of my life to serve as your President and be a part of what God is doing in and throughout this church ... with all of YOU!

Wayne Swenson

Children, Youth and Family

Vacation Bible School

VBS is going “Backstage with the Bible” this summer from July 24-27! Dinner is available for the whole family at 5:15 each night and programming goes from 6:00 until around 8:30. VBS is FREE and you can register any time through the link on our homepage: hoplc.org. Please talk to Heidi Thomas (heidit1109@live.com) with questions or if you’d like to volunteer!



Flat Jesus

Several of you have already sent in pictures from your adventures with Flat Jesus but many of you have not! Check out the display in the Narthex to see examples and get a copy of Flat Jesus if you haven’t yet. As you bring Flat Jesus around, we encourage you to talk about the questions on the back, take pictures together, and share them with bwhalen@hoplc.org for the display!



Con-grad-ulations!

Several of our youth graduated from high school this spring and will be heading off in different directions as they take the next step into adulthood. We honored them at the Youth Banquet in May and then also participated in the Baccalaureate Service at Richfield High School this past month (pictured below).



Prayers for Youth & Family Trips

This month we have several families heading to Madison for an all-ages mission trip and later the high schoolers are heading to Montana for their rafting trip. Stories and pictures to come. We ask that you pray for safe travel, growing friendships, and that everyone who goes encounters God in new ways.



“Pin of the Month” *From the Collaboration Congregational Listening Team*

July Pin of the Month

Cooking with kids is a great way to connect with your kids and have some family fun. Try these easy pizza roll ups kids will love. Be creative with your fillings! Remember to try some of the other culinary delightful ideas for cooking with your kids on our Pinterest page under the Cooking with Kids Board <https://www.pinterest.com/familyfaithfun2/cooking-with-kids>

In The Community

Fourth of July Parade

Richfield knows how to celebrate 4th of July and it draws a big crowd! Once again, House of Prayer will be marching in the parade to invite people to Vacation Bible School and worship with us. The ReFuel band will be playing on our float and we'll have candy for folks to hand out.

There is still a chance to join us! Please let Ben Whalen (262-364-7390) know a.s.a.p. if you'd like to be a part of the parade. Check out richfield4thofjuly.com for more information about the celebration!



Richfield Gardeners Market



Last summer House of Prayer hosted our first Gardener's Market, a chance for all those with gardens to share their extra produce with neighbors. This year we'll be working with Second Harvest to offer even more produce on the 4th Sunday of the month at 5:00 p.m. That means July 23, August 27, and September 24 we'll be out in the parking lot with produce to share! If you have questions, would like to volunteer, or will have produce to donate please contact Ben Whalen or Karen Steenson.



Entertainment in the Parks

Check out free performances in Augsburg Park this summer!

There are kids' shows Tuesdays at noon and a variety of bands Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m. Check www.cityofrichfield.org/EntertainmentinthePark for the full lineup. There are also shows at the new Richfield Amphitheater every other Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. (July 12 & 26, August 9 & 23). We encourage you to go enjoy free live music in our community!

Race for Wood Lake Nature Center

15th
Annual

100% of the
proceeds benefit
Wood Lake
Nature Center



New
Weekend!

Saturday,
July 29

7:00 am (HM), 7:15 am (5K)
Richfield Ice Arena (636 E 66th St)

FREE
ENTRY!

VEAP BLOCK PARTY

Sunday
July 9
2017

Celebrating Community. Welcoming All.
9600 Aldrich Avenue South, Bloomington

4:00 pm
to
7:00 pm

Around House of Prayer

Congratulations & Thank You to HOP Leadership

New members of the Leadership Ministry Team were elected at HOP's Annual Meeting on Tuesday, June 13.

Scott Wright - President
 Brent King - Vice President
 Charley Simonson - Treasurer
 Paula Kiehl - Community Development
 Heidi Thomas - Congregational Development

Extend your thanks to the following people for their service on the Leadership Ministry Team.

Wayne Swenson - Former President
 Cara Wright - Former Vice-President
 Jean Robbins - Former Outreach Team Chair (continuing)
 Beth Lanke - Former Communications & Technology Chair
 Sandy Williams - Former Worship Team Chair (continuing)
 DuAnn Thompson - Former Life Together Team Chair (continuing)

Save the Date - Parking Lot Party!

On the afternoon of Sunday, August 27, we'll have our annual Parking Lot party, so save the date and start inviting friends! More information to come.



Thank You! Thank You!

I am not even sure how to say THANK YOU to all of you for the wonderful worship services, party, and gift. I am overwhelmed and humbled by your outpouring of love and support. And though I shed many tears, it was a wonderful day. The FitBit is already on my wrist, and the generous gift of money will send me to Norway with my daughter in June 2018.

My heart is filled with thankfulness. I thank God for calling me to ministry in this place. Thank you to the entire Staff for your support over the years. It has been a joy, a privilege, and a blessing to work alongside each of you. Thank you to all who planned this party, prepared and served the food, set up tables and cleaned up following the lunch; and for all of you who participated in the program. It truly

was a day I will never forget. And a big thank you to you—the members of House of Prayer—for your generous gift as well as for your kind words, love and support. My family finally realizes why it was so difficult for me to make the decision to retire. I will miss you all.



I am not saying good-bye, but simply—I love you all, and will see you again.
Pastor Linda Lund

Save the Date!

Richfield Churches Collaboration Combined Service at Veteran's Park

Mark your calendar for Sunday, August 20th for the Collaboration Worship Service and Picnic at Veterans Park in Richfield (6335 Portland Ave. S). House of Prayer, Woodlake and Oak Grove congregations will come together again this summer for worship, fellowship and food. See you there!

Around House of Prayer

Bloomington-Richfield Grief Support Coalition Summer Series

Thursdays, July 6 - August 24, 2017, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Woodlake Lutheran Church (7525 Oliver Ave. S., Richfield)

- July 6 *Honoring a Loved One's Life & Memory Through the Year*
 Arnold Krueger
- July 13 *Exploring Memory & Meaning: The Pain & the Gain*
 Phyllis Zillhart
- July 20 *Family Matters: The Impact of Loss on Families*
 Ed Holland
- July 27 *Dealing With Being Grief-Stuck*
 Dale Swan

For more information: www.brgriefcoalition.com

VEAP Donations for July / August School Supplies

It's time to shop for school supplies! So many children in our community can benefit from your school supply donations. Place your donations in the VEAP Box in the Narthex.



"Indoor" Outdoor Service



HOP PreSchool - Register Now

- School term begins 2nd Tuesday after Labor Day and runs through Thursday before Memorial Day
- Holidays similar to Richfield Public Schools
- Classes meet Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00-11:30 am.
- 2017-18 tuition is \$190 per month, plus a \$55 registration fee

Contact the Director, Heather Harrison, at 612-861-7110 or email to harrison@hoplc.org.



Financial Report

2017-18 Budget by areas of Focus

Worship:	27.05%	\$168,792.00
Youth and Family	18.66%	\$116,438.40
Discipleship	25.46%	\$158,870.40
Evangelism	28.83%	\$179,899.20

Total budget approved at the annual meeting on 6/13/17 was: \$624,000.00

We should end the 2016-17 fiscal year with a small surplus (meaning our income was greater than our expenses). Thank you for your continued support of House of Prayer. Without it, we couldn't do God's work with our hands. Thanks be to God!! *Scott Wright, Treasurer*

The Heritage Team Remembers

compiled by Darlene Clauson

35 Years Ago: May We Order One For You?

New choir robes for the senior choir will be ordered (custom made) this summer. If you plan to join choir this fall, call Diane now in the church office, 866-8471. Don't miss the boat!

(Hi-Lines, July 6, 1982)

30 Years Ago: Boston, Cape Cod, Here We Come!

Leaving on Friday, July 10, our Youth Director, Jim LaDoux, will be joined by 25 senior high youth, young adults, and counselors on the annual Summer Youth Work/Camp Trip. The group will participate in a painting project at Camp Calumet Church Camp in New Hampshire, as well as sightseeing. Thanks to all who have supported the many youth fundraisers to make this trip possible. Please remember these members of our church family in your prayers and wish them a safe trip.

They return July 19th: Jim Burt, Mike Dunn, Renee Falls, Doug Farnsworth, Jodi Harmon, Michelle Holmes, Ken Holton, Jim LaDoux, Aaron Ludvigson, Gina Luhman, Heather Mahn, Leanne Moe, Ted Moe, Jaeson Morrison, Lyndon Nygaard, Lisa Paquette, Jill Price, John Rollie, Melanie Seibert, Troy Sjostrand, Mike Steenson, Kim Swenson, Amy Victor, Jon Victor, Julie Wolander.

(Hi-Lines, July 7, 1987)

30 Years Ago: House of Prayer Members and Media Meet Refugees.

Alganesh and Berhane arrived safely from Eritrea, Ethiopia, at noon on June 30th, but tired from the long ordeal. They are now in their apartment at Heritage Square Apartments near the church and were introduced to the congregation last Sunday at worship and at a special reception in the narthex. They speak some English. Berhane is a carpenter and Alganesh is a maid. House of Prayer, as a sponsoring congregation, is doing all they can to help them begin a new life. Household items and everyday necessities are needed. If you can help in any way, please call the church office at 866-8471. *(Hi-Lines, July 7, 1987)*

25 Years Ago: House of Prayer Helps Environment.

An 8,000-gallon oil tank was installed in 1953 when the church was built when oil was used for heating the church. Since oil is no longer used, it had to be removed according to the Environmental Protection Agency. The oil tank was removed in early June and the sidewalk near the north en-

trance to the church was replaced. We are now on full service with the Gas Company in using natural gas. *(Hi-Lines, July 1992)*

25 Years Ago: 1,000 Quilts – We Are Proud!!

A little known group here at House of Prayer has reached quite a milestone. The Quilting Group has just recently completed making 1,000 quilts. Though a big achievement, the group is small in numbers. Five women presently comprise the group, which includes: Diane Root, Lois Lundeen, Marion Hagen, Gertrude Olson, and Elmira Doering. At times there were only two. The group is under the very capable leadership of Diane who does the machine sewing at her home. They enjoy each other's company and would probably tell you it's more social than work. The group has been in existence since 1977. *(Hi-Lines, July 1992)*

15 Years Ago: Sunday, July 28, Come and say thanks to our intern, Deb Bergstrand.

She is concluding her year of internship with us. Deb will be preaching and a reception is being planned. *(Worship Service bulletin, July 21, 2002)*

10 Years Ago: New Officers to the Leadership Ministry Team.

We are grateful for their willingness to serve and look forward to the partnership.

Brent King – President
 Jill Johnson – Vice President
 Lori Danielson and Sue Holton – Joint Treasurers
 Sandy Oleson – At-large member
 DeeDee Edlund – Evangelism Team Chair
 Linda Lund – Worship Ministry Team Chair
 Karen Steenson – Education Ministry Team Chair
 Rob Winkler – Small Group Ministry Team Chair
 Steve Johnson – Outreach Ministry Team Chair
 Terri Behrends-Singer – Support Ministry Team-Chair

Charlie Robbins – Human Resources Ministry Team Chair

(Hi-Lines, July 2007)

10 Years Ago: 4th of July Parade!! The House of Prayer Youth will be walking in the parade along the side of the new bus handing out candy to those watching. The parade starts at 1 p.m. along Nicolet and down 66th Street.

(Worship Service bulletin, July 1, 2007)

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

(612) 866-8471

E-mail: office@hoplc.org

Website: www.hoplc.org.

Pastors: Ben Sandin, Senior Pastor

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Sunday Worship Services:
9:30 a.m. Traditional Service
11:00 a.m. ReFuel Alternative Worship

The **Hi-Lines** is published by the House of Prayer Staff and volunteers. Copy Editor, Elyn Kirchner, can be reached at editor.hilines@gmail.com.

Milestones

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

<u>Couples</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Years</u>
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Anniversaries (50+ years and 5 year increments)

Wayne & Gretchen Swenson	07/22/1967	50 years
Tim & Karen Hesse	07/24/1982	35 years
Erik & Jill Therien	07/25/1992	25 years
Steve & Ann Barnes	07/26/1958	59 years

DEATHS

<u>Name / Dates</u>	
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Don Hermstad	Died June 12th
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25 Years Ago:

1992 House of Prayer Staff members.
How many can you name?