



916 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043
www.houseofprayerhingham.org

Tidings

The Monthly Newsletter of
House of Prayer Lutheran Church

April 2023

"Though we stumble, we shall not fall headlong, for the Lord holds us by the hand."

Psalm 37:24

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Some of you, dear members of House of Prayer, have noticed that I have a new set of "wheels!" I am now the proud owner of a Planet Walk tripod cruiser, and in purple no less. It matches my purse, winter coat and sometimes even my slacks. Life is good!

However, if you had told me ten years ago that I would need such a device, I would have heartily disputed your vision of my future. As age has crept up on me, I have needed to lean more on others, especially Jesus.

In like manner, most of us would not have anticipated the period we are undergoing here at HOP. We are currently in the process of searching for a Pastor and an Administrative Assistant. Who knew this would be our story, even just a year ago? We all feel a bit unsteady and so we lean on each other, especially Jesus.

Through it all, our congregation is still incredibly active and giving. We filled to the brim thirty-two bags of groceries for the Weymouth Food Pantry on God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. The Pantry was so grateful and amazed at our generosity. We are making a difference in the community, being Christ among them, no doubt about it.

As we travel through uncharted territory, let's pray: "Dear Lord, take my hand if I falter. Keep me steady and strong as I do your work here on earth. Let it be so."

Carla

Carla Errichiello-Hill, President

House of Prayer Lutheran Church

Weekly Virtual and In-person Worship

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

www.houseofprayerhingham.org

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Dates to Note

**Maundy Thursday & Good Friday
Worship**
April 6 and 7
7:15 PM

Welcome the Stranger
April 16

Church Council Meeting
April 20
7PM

**Transition/Call Committee Session
With God, All Things are Possible**
April 23

Deadline for May Tidings
April 25

Cookie Walk
May 21

NE Synod Assembly
June 9-10

Church Staff

The Rev. Beatrice Michals-Brown
Supply Pastor

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Please send all information for the Tidings to:
hoptidingseditor@comcast.net

CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President Carla Hill
Acting Vice President Kathleen Almand
Treasurer Kathleen Almand
Secretary Jacqui Lyons

AT LARGE CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Sue Bose
Scott Hudson-Bryant
Naomi Just
Caroline Linscott
Cathy Martin
Vicki Oman
Linda Vassallo
Shawn Wegener

HOUSE OF PRAYER MISSION STATEMENT

*To share and spread Christ's message of love.
To nurture a vigorous and
compassionate church family, open to all.
To provide meaningful worship and Christian education.
And to actively reach out to help and serve others.*

ELCA MISSION STATEMENT

*"Marked with the cross of Christ forever, we are claimed,
gathered and sent for the sake of the world"*

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Christian Education	Kim Boyd
Evangelism	open
Facilities	Scott Morad
Finance	Jacqui Lyons
& Stewardship	
Parish Life	open
Shepherds	Barbara Buntrock & Linda Lundin
Social Ministry	Cathy Martin
Worship & Music	Sandy Swanson

Transition/Call Committee

The Transition Committee coffee hour topic on April 23rd is: With God All Things are Possible. Scott Hudson-Bryant will be the presenter. Please join us!

Here's the recap from the March 5th coffee hour talk "Why did God plant this church?", lead by Kim Boyd. Part of the introduction given was that our WHY is who we are as a church, no matter what we do or where we go. This "WHY" has to be willing to drive us when we feel we can't go on anymore, or are feeling lost. It should also be applicable to every aspect of our church life.

The questions to guide us for this week's talk were: (these were supposed to be answered in small groups amongst ourselves, but I used them to guide the whole talk)

1. Why are you part of THIS church? How did it make you feel? What is it about the experience you loved? What is it about this church that makes it special? How did this experience affect you and who you've become? What was the lesson from that experience that you'll carry with you today? Of all the things, what makes THIS one the experience you share?
2. What does our church have to do to make it's mark?
3. Why does our congregation do what we do?
4. Why do we exist? Why has God planted us here, in this place, today?
5. Why US?

There were a number of people sharing stories of how they felt welcomed by not only Pastor, but by other members of the congregation that came up to talk to them when they were new to the church. Part of it was through making introductions to other members who either lived in the same community (Hull, Weymouth; not just Hingham) or came from near the same hometown to relocate here. Another part was the opportunity with Sunday School and other Cristian Education.

A number of comments reflected around the work we do with other organizations in our area (Wellspring, food pantry, Habitat for Humanity, etc.) and how that ability to give and serve others no matter in how small of a fashion is a large inspiration and overall "good" feeling for ourselves and those around us. Someone specifically mentioned that this is a way that we can not only talk about how we can help others but "walk the walk". Another mentioned how this is a way that we can live in our faith. It also seemed important to have MANY opportunities and agencies to support, so folks could pick and choose which ones spoke to them the most. This included the important work of the shepherds providing ministry to our own members.

Many of the big answers to WHY our church in particular were along the same lines as the comments above. They included the feeling of forgiveness and the Spirit beginning to end through the word of God, the theology/messages being shared and feeling a connection to them; that we were a welcoming & accepting congregation, we have the fellowship hall that is available not only for our use but for outside agencies/groups, a sense of community and connecting with each other, how this is a comforting and peaceful place, like a part of our family, outreach & service to others, familiarity in our worship style, and of course the MUSIC!

How this made us all feel was appreciated (this in part also included being recognized for the work we do and to recognize others who help us reach these goals), our active and creative worship (think themes, blessing of the animals), uplifted and moved, and overall, we looked forward to worship together.

Some suggestions for the future were to have more sharing opportunities (like these groups, other small groups), having opportunities to serve posted in the church-not just on the table to sign up, but also something that is ever present (and being updated) with what we do, like a list of "what this church does" INSIDE and outside of our walls. This included perhaps posting more to the local news areas and social media, having Social Mavens start an Instagram account for us (to reach younger ages). An idea also came up for someone from Social Mavens (who manages our website and social media) come to talk to us all during coffee hour about how we can ALL spread our good works on our own social media to help increase our overall presence.



Committee members: Sue Bose, Kim Boyd, Millie Hill, Scott Hudson-Bryant, Bob Linares, Melody Lipner, Ed Martin, Kathy Sutkowski, Sandy Swanson.

Celebrate God's Good Creation *Every* Month!

Collaborate regionally with our Synod's Green Team when they gather monthly for an Eco-Spirituality Drop-In call:

Next one... April 16 @ 7 pm - EcoSpirituality drop in gathering. For Zoom link, email mwhyte@nesynod.org. *Please note the change from second to third Sunday for this month only due to Easter.*

Connect nationally with Lutherans Restoring Creation as we hear stories from across our country to inspire and inform a right relationship with the treasured gifts of God's good creation.

For more information go to: <https://lutheransrestoringcreation.org/connections-calls/>

Social Ministry April 2023

Welcome the Stranger

Mark your calendars for an international potluck lunch sponsored by the Social Ministry Committee, after worship on **Sunday, April 16**. The lunch will feature Doreen Rinas, chair of the New England Synod's Refugee and Immigration Task Force, who will speak to our efforts as a church and a nation to "Welcome the Stranger".

Our potluck will recognize the diversity of our immigrant roots. We invite you to bring your favorite dish from the country of your ancestors. We expect lots of Swedish, Irish, German and Canadian dishes!!! (If you are unsure of what to bring, just bring your favorite "foreign" fare!). Guests are welcome - we will have a chance to talk about where we came from and today's immigration landscape.

God's Work, Our Hands happened March 12th and we collected a whopping 32 bags that included basic food needs and handmade cards from the church. That day, members wore the God's Work, Our Hands bright yellow shirts and the bags were blessed and dedicated to the families receiving the bags. The Weymouth Food Pantry was very happy with our donation and the bags will go a long way to meet the needs of their clients.

Another Father Bill's lunch is planned for this month. There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway.

Wellspring Easter Dinner boxes dinner boxes were due April 2nd for pickup by Wellspring on Monday, April 3rd. The food list has not changed and is available on the church website. Please fill the boxes with the items and add to it with other items such as pasta, soup, tuna fish, peanut butter, etc.

Upcoming activities will be the cookie walk in May and ELCA Good Gifts to collect water filters and blankets.

If you would like to join our committee or participate in any of the activities we do, don't hesitate to ask. Our next meeting is May 7 after church. We will be meeting in the area right outside the sanctuary or at the back of the Sanctuary. Please join us. Our committee is open to anyone. Any questions, contact Cathy Martin at cathymartin19@verizon.net or 617-645-9636.



A Message from House of Prayer Music Festival Chair

I hope the congregation and our community is well.

I'm writing to you today to express some thoughts I have about moving forward with House of Prayer's Music Festival in 2023. At this time, I need to step away as the Chairperson for this event to focus on other responsibilities that need attending to right now. To be able to dedicate my heart and my mind to this Team, I need to be in a more-wise mindset.

I'm impressed with this Team's ability to create a sustainable event model. I am thankful for the connections that we made with Wellspring & Marshfield High School last year. Involvement with our partners and members of the community, on this level, is right on. I believe that continuing to head in this direction will be fruitful for HOP's future.

I appreciate the opportunity to have served here and I'd like to consider rejoining this Team in some capacity, should there be an opportunity to do so in 2024.

I'm at church most Sundays and available through email and by phone (781-974-4308). Feel free to flag me down if you have any questions. I have a lot of our Team's notes & information from over the past few years that I would be happy to share with anyone who would like to take up this Chair and carry on with the event for this year.

*Thank you for your time, for reading this and for your understanding,
Scott H-B*

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD PEOPLE!

Of course, you're all good! Seriously, the Council and Transition Committee are looking for 6-8 people to serve on the Call committee for the new Pastor. The transition committee will be concluding its work in the next few months and then we will begin the process of interviewing prospective Pastors interested in joining us here at House of Prayer. If you feel called to work on this very exciting project, please speak to Sandy Swanson or Carla Hill or email sandswan@comcast.net or carlahill40@comcast.net. Please continue to pray for our congregation as we move forward in God's service to all His people.

Earthquake Support

The devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria has everyone wondering what would be the best way to help where there is such great need. The social ministry committee is exploring ways we can help and this could develop as some of these needs become identified. At the moment, one way to help is through monetary donations at <https://community.elca.org/middle-east-crisis>. We will continue to look for other ways we can provide support. This site also has other information: <https://elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/Our-Impact/Middle-East-Crisis>.

Synod Assembly Representatives

Interested in learning more about what's going on in the broader Lutheran church? Volunteers are needed for the House of Prayer representative team at the New England Synod Assembly, taking place this year on Friday, June 9th and Saturday, June 10th at the DCU Center in Worcester, MA. Expenses associated with participating will be covered. Youth representatives are particularly welcome. Standard registration is open until May 19th. If you are interested in attending, please contact Carla or Kristen in the office.

Christian Education Committee *Kim Boyd, Chair*



He is Risen, He is Risen indeed! Alleluia! (or at least we can ALMOST say that, depending on when the Tidings gets out to us all-I know I was late getting my submission to the tidings editor, Dana!)

I do hope that you were all able to enjoy Palm Sunday and get to Holy Week services (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday) as well as being there for Easter Sunday. It's such a moving time, and a LOT happens in a short time. Happy Easter!! There will be NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on Easter Sunday, April 9, so that families can spend time together and celebrate the resurrection.

The last month we have had very light attendance at Sunday School, but we have still talked about the Lenten season and how the lessons in the Bible can apply to us, like seeing the good in everything, finding love in all the strangest places we might not expect it to be, and HOPE. We got together to make cards for the God's Work, Our Hands food bags for Weymouth food pantry, had a family game night on March 25th with popcorn, and tried to get enough folks to put together an Easter dinner box for Wellspring. Since we couldn't do it as a Sunday School group this year, I do hope that you were able to do one with your families.

As April is a month of school vacation, there will unfortunately be a number of weeks with no Sunday School classes. As mentioned earlier, there will be no Sunday School on Easter, April 9, and no Sunday School over school vacation April 16 or 23. If we didn't see you on Palm Sunday, we look forward to seeing you again April 30th!! Looking ahead to May, there will also be no Sunday School May 28th, Memorial Day weekend. We'll fill you in on our plans for Pentecost Sunday (that same weekend), or what we might do around that time. Perhaps some planting by the church entrance?? If you have any thoughts, we'd love to hear them! Speaking of hearing your thoughts, if there is another night you would be available to get together for another game night in April or May, we'd love to know.

We on the Christian Education team are always looking for ideas and suggestions as well as some assistance to make this a great program! Send any ideas to kimboyd61@hotmail.com.



MUSIC NOTES FROM LENAЕ

Happy Spring, Everyone!

Just wanted to give a shout out to the Adult Choir for pulling off some tricky music during this Lent season, and special kudos to Scott Morad for two large solos that required a good bit of work on his part! I appreciate this fine group of singers who come early on Sunday mornings to rehearse for less than an hour each week yet are able to present choral anthems every Sunday. It's not easy to do that! We are always looking for more singers, so please let me know if you might be interested in joining the choir.

I encourage everyone to try to come to our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services on April 6th & 7th. Pastor Henry used to say that you come at Easter in a very different way having walked through these meaningful Holy Week services, and I agree. Music is a big part of what happens in these services. I try to set the tone for the services with the Prelude music, and at the Good Friday service this year Kathleen Almand will be sharing her talents on violin. The hymns all tie in with what is happening in the services, and I feel that the words take on new meaning in these contexts. Hope you can join us!

We will be adding some handbells to our anthem on Easter Sunday. I'm always thankful to the choir members who are willing to ring bells for us!

Lenae

Worship/Music Committee

We are meeting monthly with Pastor Beatrice with some nice ideas presenting to us! And we are inviting you to assist us! We would like to 'dress up' the front of our church. Suggested ideas are planters, flags, welcome signs etc. If you are someone with some good planter/plant ideas, flag ideas, signage ideas, we'd invite you to let one of us know, as we'd really appreciate some assistance, someone who might have a good flare for any of these areas. Solar lights lining the driveway is an idea for our nighttime meetings. Our big sign by the road needs an update also. We would appreciate some ideas regarding that.

Art and Faith (previously Art and Sacred Story) materials are still available, and we would like to see if there is an interest in continuing having some time to do this. Please see the sign-up sheet in the hallway if you'd like to participate.

We will be looking into some 'cleanup' areas - the Sunday school room, the cupboards in the hallway. The nursery was last done last year but wouldn't hurt to look at it again. Please let this committee know if you'd like to participate with us.



Bread making - we thank all of you that have already donated, and to those that have signed up for this. Just a reminder, you may use ANY recipe, not just the one previously used. Feel free to bake your own favorite recipe or pick up a loaf at the store. Please provide the bread by 9:00 a.m. on Sunday. If you are baking the bread using the recipe provided, you may freeze the bread, single loaf per Ziploc bag, and please put the date on it that you baked the bread. It will keep up to six weeks in the freezer.



We'd enjoy having you on our committee - please prayerfully consider joining us. Thanks so much!

Lenae Badger, Sue Bose, Kathy Sutkowski, Sandy Swanson

From the Office

- Bible study is suspending virtual meetings for now and hopes to meet in person again soon.
- Ed & Nancy Martin have a new address: 37 Weber Farm Rd., Wrentham, MA, 02093.

	Happy Birthday		Happy Anniversary
April 02	Lynda Watt	April 03	Brad & Marina Johnson
April 04	Katherine Bartolotti	April 15	Sal & Katherine Bartolotti
April 05	George Ohlson	April 16	Doug & Donna Hudson-Bryant
April 08	Nancy Martin		
	Hannah Macdonald		
April 21	Christopher Warneck		
April 24	Steve Hall		

	Happy Birthday		Happy Anniversary
May 03	Jennie Hudson-Bryant	May 09	Ingrid & Gene Lancaster
May 07	Brad Johnson	May 27	Kim & Matthew Boyd
May 08	Caitlyn Folino		
	Paul Folino		
May 19	Heather Folino		
May 21	Lisa Rydin		
May 22	Scott Hudson-Bryant		

If you would like to have your birthday or anniversary added to the calendar, contact Kristen in the office.

Prayer list

"I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints." Ephesians 1:18

Angel, Kathy (co-worker of Dana Abbott)
Antle, Michelle (friend of Lenae)
Armstrong, Sophie (Bergman's granddaughter)
Badger, Tim
Breune, Janna (friend of Lenae)
Bryson, Caitlin (friend of Chris Hayes)
Carlson, Joanne (Linda Lundin's sister)
Clifford, Kathy (friend of Kim Boyd)
Dallamora, Joe (Jen M's parents)
Dauber, Lynda (friend of Parsekians)
Davis, Elise (neighbor of the Hayes)
Derderian, Craig (nephew of Parsekian's)
Derderian, Glenn (nephew of Parsekian's)
Derderian, Gloria (sister-in-law of Parsekian's)
Ericson, Mabel
Ericson, Pochinart (daughter-in-law of Mabel)
Errichiello, David (Carla's brother)
Fields, Leisel (friend of Jen McCready)
Gall Family (friends of Lenae)
Galotti, Debbie (friend of Rita LaPlante)
Gensheimer, Katy (friend of Lenae)
Gifford, Bill (friend of Chris Hayes)
Gitungano, Alex (friend of HoP)
Glynn, Mary (friend of Sue Bose)
Graham, Ellis (granddaughter of Rob Lacy)
Hall, Rae & Gerda
Hansen, Mark (friend of Jacqui Lyons)
Hayes family and friends
Hickman, Myrtle
Higginbottom, Sophia (friend of Rita LaPlante)
Hilston, Paula (Pastor Hilston's wife)
Hutchinson, Rick (friend of Lundins)
Ikoribitangaza, Leo (friend of HoP)
Isles, Andrea (sister of Katie Linscott)
Just, Christian (brother of Ginny & Naomi)
Just, Ginny (former member)
Just, Naomi
Kalla, Judy (friend of Bill & Chris Hayes)
Lacy, Rob
LaRocca, Debi & family (friends of Warnecks)
LaRue, Marge and family (friend of Dana Abbott)
Leary, Erin (Millie's granddaughter)
Leary, Kris (daughter of Millie Hill)
Lundin, Kurt
MacKennon, Linnie (friend of Lundins)
McCullough, Lynne (relative of Emily Badger-McCullough)

McGivney, Marlene
McGivney, Paul (Dana's brother)
Meslo, Lisa (Hayes' sister-in-law)
Michaels, Marcia (friend of Victoria Warneck)
Mitchell, Marcia
Murray, Maggie (friend of Mary Jane)
Myers, Chuck (friend of Lundins)
Neat, Kathy
Niendorf, Kris
Nucifore, Linda Nilsson (sister of Karen Nilsson)
Nucifore, Alan (brother-in-law of Karen Nilsson)
O'Donnell, Kathleen (friend of Rita LaPlante)
*Olsson, Adam (Doris' grandson)
*Olsson, Emily (Doris' granddaughter)
*Olsson, Todd (Doris' grandson)
Oman, Linda
Paresky, David (friend of Parsekians)
Parsekian Patty (MaryJane's daughter-in-law)
Phillips, Ed (friend of Lundins)
Pryor, Mark (friend of Leah McGaughey)
Rawlins, Betty (friend of Myrtle Hickman)
Rawlins, Patty (friend of Myrtle Hickman)
Renzuli, Barbara (friend of Joan Philipon)
Richardson, David (Victoria's uncle)
Rodrigues, Mary Ellen (friend of Lenae)
Rush, Jean (friend of Ursula Hackemer)
Rydin, Jan
Santacroce, Linda (friend of Sue Bose)
Scott-Rawlins, Cherese (friend of Myrtle Hickman)
Silva, Jeffrey (grandson of Dorothy Flett)
Smith, Don (friend of Lancasters)
Stewart family (friends of Lenae)
Street family
Temperly, Joanne
Thielman, Isaiah and family (friends of Dorothy Flett)
Toomey, Skip (brother-in-law of Hayes)
Walsh, Dennis (friend of Chris Hayes)
Watt, George & Lynda
Weaver, Ryley (friend of Bill & Chris Hayes)

*serving in the military