



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

Tidings

The Monthly Newsletter of
House of Prayer Lutheran Church

December 2023

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:18-19)

It is somewhat ironic that as we end the year 2023, we are also experiencing a "new thing" – a brand new Pastor! We are leaving behind a whole host of events that have happened at House of Prayer – discerning workshops, writing a ministry site profile, supporting both transition and call committees and, finally, being led to the newest thing – Reverend Emmanuel Correa Vazquez.

"Forget the former things"; God seems to be saying "do not live in the past!" It's good to look back; to recollect past events like we did at the workshop on the history of House of Prayer. However, do not be inclined to stay there because the past will not sustain us. Seasons do end in life, even the good ones. Instead, let's ask ourselves, "What does God want from us today and in the future?"

Many of us like "new things" – clothes (Macy's!), cars, homes, food. These are, of course, temporary and fleeting. How about a new adventure in 2024 that will stand the test of time. Let's try sharing the Christian walk with a new leader.

I am so looking forward to God bringing many new things, new events and new people to our church. Granted, not all new things are good – be discerning. As you travel together down a new path, make sure that it feels right and is from God. Remember to celebrate your new Pastor and all he can bring to House of Prayer. Take time to guide him and support him on his journey – a "new thing" for him.

This is my last monthly Tidings article. I know that you are in good hands with Pastor Emmanuel. He will lead you with love and with the Holy Spirit so that you may continue to serve each other and the world. God bless you and keep you safe in His loving arms.

Carla

Weekly Virtual and In-person Worship

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

www.houseofprayerhingham.org

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Dates to Note

Unicorn Singers Concert to Benefit
Wellspring
December 9

Thank you Coffee Hour Pastor
Beatrice
December 10

Wellspring Dinner Boxes Due
Poinsettia Orders Due
December 10

Church Council Meeting
Via Zoom December 21
7 PM

Christmas Eve Worship Service
December 24
9:30 AM
5:30 PM

Tidings Submission Due Date
December 27

Church Staff

The Rev. Emmanuel Correa Vazques

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Minister of Music Lenae Badger
Church Administrator Barb Mullin
Financial Secretary Sandy Swanson
Tidings Staff Dana Abbott, Barb Mullin

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

CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President Carla Hill
Vice President Kathleen Almand
Treasurer Kathleen Almand
Secretary Sue Bose

AT LARGE CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dana Abbott
Scott Hudson-Bryant
Naomi Just
Cathy Martin
Vicki Oman
Marci Sutkowski
Linda Vassallo
Shawn Wegener
Thea Morad

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	Shawn Wegener
Finance	Ed Martin
& Stewardship	
Parish Life	open
Shepherds	Sue Bose
Social Ministry	Cathy Martin
Worship & Music	Sandy Swanson

Our Journey Together-The Next Step

Congratulations to all of us! On Sunday November 4th, we met and voted to welcome soon to be Pastor Emmanuel to House of Prayer!

We could not have done this without your participation over the last year in making our Ministry Site Profile (MSP) and your commitment to the “**Big Ask**” from Carla over the summer.

But this is only the beginning. We have many goals in the MSP plus an exciting, new Pastor, who knows our goals, to help us with the “**Next Steps**”!

If you responded to last summer’s stewardship campaign, a huge thank you!

If you were waiting to see what would actually happen, we started seeing it on November 4. Will you be a part of this new era?

Now is the time for **your participation**. Together, we identified our goals for the future and ushered in a new Pastor. We ask that you prayerfully consider increasing your pledge in view of the bright days ahead for House of Prayer."

It is simple to make your pledge. Send an email to Sandy Swanson (Financial Secretary) sandswan@comcast.net , tell her you want to be part of this exciting time for House of Prayer and let her know what your pledge is. Please pledge by December 15.

From all of us on the Stewardship Committee **a big Thank You!**

Your Stewardship Team

Kathleen Almand

Ed Martin

Ernie Hill

Sandy Swanson- Financial Secretary



WELCOME EMMANUEL CORREA VAZQUEZ!

We welcome Emmanuel as the next Pastor of House of Prayer. We are grateful, in this season of Thanksgiving that God has brought us together.

Transition/Call Committee *Sandy Swanson, Chair*

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all on the committee: Kim Boyd, Sue Bose, Mabel Ericson, Millie Hill, Scott Hudson-Bryant, Melody Lipner, Ed Martin, Bob Linares, Kathy Sutkowski. A strong team with many talents, but especially being guided by the Holy Spirit as we prayed and discerned for a new pastor. Good teamwork and amazing contributions from the congregation. A sincere thank you to the entire committee and the congregation for all the hard work put into this process with these wonderful results of our new pastor arriving this month.

A special thanks to Sue Bose for taking over the last month as I was on vacation and out of state.

Exciting times coming for us here at HOP. Blessings, Sandy Swanson, Chair

We would like to offer the following information on the conversations between **IVY PRESCHOOL AND HOUSE OF PRAYER.**

At this point, we are getting closer to renting church space to Ivy Preschool. Specifically, the areas involved are the large room next to the kitchen the Founders room and the Nursery room. We hope to have a lease agreement completed and signed in the very near future. After the signing between the two parties, Ivy will begin upgrading and painting these rooms as well as the hallways connecting the spaces. Part of the upgrade may include some additional storage options for us in the hallway across from the restrooms. A play area with equipment will also be constructed on the Main Street side of the church.

The current plan is for the school to begin with a small summer program in 2024 and then utilize the full use of the two classrooms and the Founders room in September of 2024 from Monday through Friday. We will keep you posted as details develop in the New Year. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. We are excited!

Carla and Kathleen

Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be ordered to place around the altar for Christmas Eve worship. If you would like to purchase a plant, order forms are on the table in the hallway. Please note, payment of \$8 per plant should accompany your order and can be put in the offering plate or the “office” mail slot. The deadline to order is December 10.



Friends of the Homeless

Again this year, House of Prayer will be hosting the “Friends of the Homeless” group in Fellowship Hall. Led by Executive Director Herb Newell, this group provides holiday gift bundles (and holiday joy!) to more than 700 children and 300 families on the South Shore. They will begin setting up on December 6th and end on December 28th with cleaning up the hall. Coffee hour will be moved as well as some of our support groups but all for a good cause. Please welcome them in and support their wonderful ministry!

Social Ministry *Cathy Martin, Chair*

Wellspring: Christmas boxes for holiday dinners are due at the church December 10th. Food lists are available at church and are on our website <https://houseofprayerhingham.org/faith-in-action/>. Please use copy paper boxes with lids and wrap festively like a gift. There are a few boxes at the church on the shelf above the coat rack across from the restrooms. Staples print area sometimes has empty paper boxes that they will let you take or other print shops. In addition to the items on the food lists, please fill the box with other non-perishable items such as pasta, peanut butter, tuna, soups, etc.

Giving Tree: The Giving Tree has been set up by Victoria Warneck and many gifts have been taken. Thank you! This program is conducted in association with Ascentria. The gifts are due December 3. Please return the gift to the church with the gift tag. The Christian Education students will decorate gift bags for this program.

A big thank you to Linda Lundin who made 8 knitted cowls and 2 scarves for the **Christmas at Sea** program for the Seamen's Church Institute. They are beautiful and will be very appreciated by the recipients while at sea during the cold winter months.

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 Sunday, January 7, 2024 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.



Giving Tree gifts ready to put some smiles on some children's faces this holiday!



Christian Education Committee *Kim Boyd, Chair*

Christmas blessings to everyone! We will be having a light month as far as Sunday School goes this month because of the holidays, but we still have many fun things planned as it is a time of wonder and joy so don't forget to join us!

Christmas dinner boxes are due December 10th, and in the past, Sunday School classes have combined to gather items for a box to decorate and donate to Wellspring. See Kim Boyd for the list of items that you might be able to bring in to fill our box, and be ready to help wrap it up, too. There will be NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on Dec 24th or Dec 31st so we can all prepare with our families and relax to ring in the new year. And looking ahead, there will be NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on Jan 14th, for the long weekend (Martin Luther King, Jr).

Last month, Sunday School classes combined to make communion bread. A fun time was had by all! Bibles were given out to our two second graders by Vicki Oman during the worship service on Nov 19th. These are the same bibles the children will use during Sunday School as they move up to the 3rd grade classroom. We also had our Advent event. Hope you were able to join us. If you weren't there and would like to make an Advent wreath for your family, just let us know and we'll be happy to get the items down for you to make one.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Please let Kim Boyd know if you have any suggestions for Christian Education or would like to help out any Sunday.



From the Office

Barb is working on updating our church directory (the most recent one published is from 2019!). Please send along any additions/corrections to her at hopchurchoffice@comcast.net. Thanks!

Worship/Music Committee *Sandy Swanson, Chair*

We have ordered the All Creation Sings hymnals and offering to everyone the opportunity to donate one (\$20.00 each) in honor/memory of a loved one. There will be a signup sheet in the hallway on the table. Please note on your check that it is for the All Creation Sings hymnal. We've been singing songs from this hymnal and want to provide the hymnal in the pews for all.


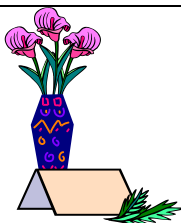
Re Imagining Worship will continue on the 4th Sunday of each month, with 'tweaking' happening due to your comments. We so appreciate your feedback and invite you to share at any time with the committee. Please share your comments with Lenae, Kathy and Marci Sutkowski, Scott HB, Vicki, and Sandy.


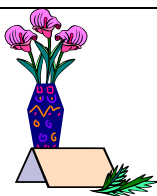
We will be posting a new signup sheet for 2024 for our communion bread. Thanks to all who have donated this year. We look forward to continuing for next year.

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

Lenae Badger, Sue Bose, Kathy Sutkowski, Sandy Swanson



	Happy Birthday		Happy Anniversary
December 1	Kathy Gray	December 31	George & Lynda Watt
December 2	Morgan Lundin		
December 10	Jane Ohlson		
December 12	Ingrid Lancaster		
	Dalton Vassallo		
December 24	Barbara Buntrock		
	Ed Martin		
December 28	Mabel Ericson		
December 29	Molly Folino		

	Happy Birthday		Happy Anniversary
January 2	Michaela Johnson	January 8	Ken & Barbara Buntrock
January 3	Cathy Martin	January 14	Kristin & Bob Golden
January 6	Ursula Hackemer		
January 12	Donna Hudson-Bryant		
January 18	Gene Lancaster		
January 20	Glen Olsson		
January 24	Dee Davidson		
January 21	Camden Vassallo		
January 25	Tim Linscott		
January 28	Linda Vassallo		

If you would like to have your birthday or anniversary added to the calendar, contact Barb 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

Armstrong, Sophie (Bergman's granddaughter)
Badger, Tim
Brett, Virginia (friend of Martha)
Bryson, Caitlin (friend of Chris Hayes)
Carlson, Joanne (Linda Lundin's sister)
Clifford, Kathy (friend of Kim Boyd)
Dallamora, Joe (Jen M's father)
Dauber, Lynda (friend of Parsekians)
Davis, Elise (neighbor of the Hayes)
Derderian, Craig (nephew of Parsekian's)
Derderian, Glenn and Sue (nephew of Parsekian's nephew and his wife)
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)
Gifford, Bill (friend of Chris Hayes)
Gitungano, Alex (friend of HoP)
Glynn, Mary (friend of Sue Bose)
Graham, Ellis (granddaughter of Rob Lacy)
Grankewicz family (Lenae's friends)
Hall, Gerda
Hall family
Hannigan, Mike (friend of Lisa and Rich Rege)
Hansen, Mark (friend of Jacqui Lyons)
Hickman, Myrtle
Higginbottom, Sophia (friend of Rita LaPlante)
Hilston, Paula (Pastor Hilston's wife)
Hutchinson, Rick (friend of Lundins)
Ikoribitangaza, Leo (friend of HoP)
Jensen, Dee (friend of Lenae's)
Just, Christian (brother of Ginny & Naomi)
Just, Ginny (former member)
Just, Naomi
Kalla, Judy (friend of Bill & Chris Hayes)
Knight, Patty (friend of Linda Vassallo)
Lacy, Rob
LaRocca, Debi & family (friends of Warnecks)
Leary, Erin (Millie's granddaughter)

Leary, Kris (daughter of Millie Hill)
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, 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)
Read, James L (friend of Martha Willson)
Richardson, David (Victoria's uncle)
Rodrigues, Mary Ellen (friend of Lenae)
Rogalski, Roberta (friend of Ursula Hackemer)
Rush, Jean (friend of Ursula Hackemer)
Rydin family
Santacroce, Linda (friend of Sue Bose)
Schooning, Sonia (friend of Martha)
Scott-Rawlins, Chereese (friend of Myrtle Hickman)
Severson, Karen (friend of Ann Moegle)
Silva, Jeffrey (grandson of Dorothy Flett)
Sullivan, Elisabeth (friend of Ursula Hackemer)
Temperly, Joanne
Toomey, Skip (brother-in-law of Hayes)
Walsh, Dennis (friend of Chris Hayes)
Walter, Helmut (Stefanie Wegener's father)
Watt, George & Lynda
Weaver, Ryley (friend of Bill & Chris Hayes)

*serving in the military