



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

Tidings

The Monthly Newsletter of
 House of Prayer Lutheran Church

February 2024

"It is a snare to imagine that God wants to make us perfect specimens of what He can do; God's purpose is to make us one with Himself...The thing that tells for God is not your relevant consistency to an idea of what a saint should be, but your real vital relation to Jesus Christ, and your abandonment to Him whether you are well or ill. Christian perfection is not, and never can be, human perfection". -Oswald Chambers (1874-1917), My Utmost for His Highest

As we move from the season of Epiphany into Lent, we are reminded that the revelation we receive from God in Jesus Christ is not a single event that stopped its work in us long ago. Instead, it is an event that continuously reverberates in us through Christ's life, death and resurrection. Lent is therefore the time in which we journey into the wilderness, when we go forward into the hard realities of life, we confront our own death and sin, we struggle with the challenges of life accompanied by the new reality ushered in by Jesus. In this new reality, we get to see our human life from a different point of view, and thus our efforts and our priorities begin to take the different flavor of resurrection life and its promises. To preserve this flavor, we strive through different spiritual practices to sacrifice or to strengthen certain areas of our life in imitation of Christ for the sake of getting closer to God. So in our own way, we try to be a little bit more saintly during Lent.

However, there are many caveats that we must heed in this season. We often think that the journey of Lent is about spiritual performance, one that we will be graded by God as if He was some strict teacher who doesn't give A's easily. Or on the other end we might take Lent so lightly that we forego any spiritual practice and do not take the gift of having a communal time set aside for deepening our life of faith. Both these outcomes can stem from our grappling with the meaning of perfection and self-denial, two prominent Lenten themes. To seek perfection, which means to conform oneself entirely to God's Will in Christ Jesus, and self-denial, which means to de-center ourselves and our desires, and center Christ's life in us, are meant to aid us in clearing the way to see and return our attention to God, be with God, and realize God is for us. We know that perfection and self-denial are often

Weekly Virtual and In-person Worship

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

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What's Inside

Social Ministry pg. 5

Music Notes pg. 6

Christian Education pg. 7

Birthdays & Anniversaries pg. 9

Prayer List pg. 10

Dates to Note

Church Directory Updates Due

February 9

LRC Film Screening Part 2 of 3

Souper Bowl of Caring

February 11

Ash Wednesday Service

February 14

7:15 PM

Church Council Meeting

Via Zoom February 15

7 PM

LRC Film Screening Part 3 of 3

February 18

Ivy Preschool Open House

February 26

Ivy Preschool Q&A Session

March 3

Weymouth Food Pantry Temple Talk

March 10

God's Work, Our Hands

Cookie Walk

April 7

hard, sometimes even impossible to achieve from a human point of view, which is the reason many of us can be hard on ourselves when we don't perfectly meet the goals we set for Lent. Thank God, these two states of being are not about leveling up as a human being or reaching a higher position in the spiritual and earthly realm, but rather to abandon oneself in the perfect mercy of God, to realize that God is our portion forever. Lent is about focusing on God's grace that came through the cross, that it is sufficient and plenty to uplift us in the struggle and challenge of a life lived according to God's will in Jesus Christ.

So as we journey together this Lenten season, may all our disciplines, struggles and imperfections reveal Christ's perfect love and mercy for us.

- Pastor Emmanuel



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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

Faithful Learning Forums

All are welcome to stay after worship to watch a 3-part series together (part one aired on February 4) and share our hopes and intentions for the work we do as personal disciples of Christ and a community actively loving our neighbors. The film is "*Regenerating Life: How to cool the planet, feed the world, and live happily ever after.*" [As part of the Lutherans Restoring Creation](#) network, there will be a live online conversation with the filmmaker on February 27th (please share with friends across the globe). Even if you can't stay for any/all of our post-service gatherings, be sure to register for the webinar at <https://bit.ly/regeneratinglife> and you will be sent the free access code to watch the film on your own.

Watch & Converse together - Sundays February 11 and 18 (for about 90 minutes after service). If you are not able to join in-person, you can use this special access code to watch the film on your own: <https://vimeo.com/860622781> passcode: RL16Fcleandv! *and then* join our HOP conversation ~11:30am: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89221836421?pwd=c0NUaCtXU2pzdUt3bE56SDZTWo3QT09>
Meeting ID: 892 2183 6421
Passcode: 143143

Questions? Ask Phoebe Morad - phoebe@lutheransrestoringcreation.org

Ivy Preschool Coming to House of Prayer this Summer/Fall

IVY PRESCHOOL UPDATE - Things are progressing very well for Robin and Kristin, co-directors of the Ivy Preschool. They are dealing with requirements from the town of Hingham in getting the school compliant with current regulations. By the summertime, you will notice some changes in the bathrooms, mostly during the week if you stop by. When school is in session, one bathroom will be dedicated for Ivy students and the other (the "men's bathroom") will be unisex. Both will have new locks on them for security and privacy purposes. An Open House will take place on **Monday evening, February 26th** for prospective parents and students. Robin and Kristin will be visiting House of Prayer for a Meet and Greet on **Sunday, March 3rd after service**. Please stop by during Coffee Hour to get to know our new neighbors. I'm sure you'll agree that our church is looking really spiffy lately! As always, if you have any questions/concerns, do not hesitate to contact Kathleen or myself. —**Carla**



Save the Date:
February 27th
8pm ET

Regenerating Life: How to cool the planet, feed the world, and live happily ever after

LRC is offering a free link to the film + hosting a discussion with film-makers. See the trailer: <https://hummingbirdfilms.com/regeneratinglife/>

To register or for more information about these events ask Phoebe Morad for details or visit www.LutheransRestoringCreation.org

Social Ministry *Cathy Martin, Chair*

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, March 17, 2024.** Please join us. Our committee is open to anyone. Any questions, contact Cathy Martin at cathymartin19@verizon.net or 617-645-9636.

Habitat for Humanity Build

We are planning another trip to Kauai to work with Kauai Habitat for Humanity. It will be from September 28 – October 6, 2024. We have not set a budget yet, but based on previous years it will be around \$1,700 per person excluding airfare. This will cover all costs associated with the event. Please let Ed Martin know if you are interested.

SAVE THE DATES!!!!

On **Sunday, March 10th** we welcome Pam Denholm from the Weymouth Food Pantry for a Temple Talk and coffee hour. We are partnering with her organization for this year's **GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS on Sunday, April 7th.** Our project this year is the famous **COOKIE WALK!** We'll keep you posted as details are available. Start getting out those cookie recipes - yum!

Music Notes from Lenae

Happy New Year, HOP Family! Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas with family or friends or both, and all my best to you for 2024!

I always feel blessed each year to be at HOP, where people really listen to and appreciate the music in our services, to get to work with each of the wonderful pastors we've had in my tenure at HOP, to work with Millie, then Kristen, and now Barb in the office, and of course to get to work with my Adult Choir! Many thanks to all of them for their hard work and commitment all year in providing weekly anthems, helping introduce new hymns and liturgies, sharing their talents on other instruments, and many of whom have been willing to be a part of our Reimagining Worship services. Many thanks to Kathleen Almand, Pat Beal, Kim Boyd, Carla Hill, & Sandy Swanson for singing up front with me, and to Scott Hudson-Bryant for being our drummer! (also many thanks to the tech folks who help live-stream our services every week, but who have a bit more of a challenge on Reimagining Worship Sundays: Kim Boyd, Rich Haukom, Scott Hudson-Bryant, Scott Morad and Sandy Swanson. We couldn't do it without them! And if anyone else is interested in learning to be a tech assistant on Sundays, PLEASE let us know! We'd love to have a bit more depth there, especially when Rich is away during the winter months.) We have welcomed Bill Hayes into the Adult Choir, and he's already shared his talents on guitar, which we hope he'll do often! We also have a new choir member who's also new to HOP - Mary Howarth! Welcome, Mary!

I miss not having a Children's Choir since the pandemic, and have hope that someday we can make that happen again. (But there's a rumor that one of my former Children's Choir members is interested in joining the Adult Choir, just like Thea Morad did! Will keep you posted!)

Also have to say it's so lovely having a singing pastor again! Enjoying working with Pastor Emmanuel and hearing him sing!
Lenae





Christian Education Committee *Kim Boyd, Chair*

Hello and Happy Winter! It's nice the days are slowly getting longer (but many are also getting colder). This past month we didn't have much chance to meet due to MLK Jr. weekend, the 2 p.m. Installation service for Pastor Emmanuel (WELCOME, Pastor Emmanuel!) and then the congregational meeting after church on the 28th. This coming month will also be a little light on the Sunday School times as school vacation will be upon us this month. There will be NO SUNDAY SCHOOL February 18th or 25th, the weekends around school vacation. Enjoy the break, but hope to still see you in church!

On Sunday, February 11th, we will be having our annual "SOUPER Bowl of Caring" during coffee hour. As this is also the Sunday before Lent begins (Wed, February 14th is Ash Wednesday), we will be having a little Lent event where we can decorate lunch bags for Father Bill's lunches while we enjoy our soup and snacks. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the hallway if you'd like to bring something to share during the Souper Bowl. The confirmation class will also be collecting canned goods for the food pantry and collecting money after the service in the big soup pot. (you can contribute all month long to the Souper Bowl by writing a check and including "Souper Bowl of Caring" in the memo if you can't make it to church on February 11th) We look forward to seeing you all there and hope that many in the confirmation class can be around to help set up, serve, and clean up.

As we now have a new Pastor, Phoebe, Sandy, Vicki and Pastor Emmanuel will soon be meeting to discuss confirmation. Phoebe sent out an email to all those in the confirmation class to gather some information from everyone. If you haven't responded to her questions yet, please do so. This will help with the planning of how they will proceed and what confirmation class will look like moving forward.

As always, if you have any comments or suggestions on how to make Sunday School what you'd like it to be, or if you'd like to help in any way, please let me know! I can be reached at kimboyd61@hotmail.com.

Don't forget that Camp Calumet is a great place to spend some time away from home...you can use the conference center as a place to park yourselves during a ski trip or join in on some of the fun activities they have set up.

LEGO WEEKEND

FEBRUARY 9-11, 2024

Please join us for a weekend centered around Fun, Family, and LEGOS!

Saturday will be filled with LEGO building, friendly competitions, yummy Calumet food, trivia fun, and maybe some snow tubing!

Pastor Dick Burgess will be returning as chaplain. He sure does enjoy anything to do with LEGO building too!




SCAN FOR MORE INFO!

FEBRUARY VACATION WEEK




FEBRUARY 19-23, 2024


Use Calumet as your base of operations for family skiing at local ski areas or you can choose to skate (bring your own skates this year), cross-country ski (bring your own skis), snowshoe (we have snowshoes!), go tubing, or just hang out right here at Calumet.

Look for Daily Devotions, tubing & skating as weather permits, afternoon campfires, and more!

Calumet provides comfy accommodations, yummy food, and a friendly atmosphere for your vacation.




SCAN FOR MORE INFO!



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. Deadline is Friday, February 9. Thank you!

	Happy Birthday
February 1	Drew Martin
February 15	Naomi Just
	Scott Morad
February 16	Emily Badger
February 23	Jack Morse

	Happy Birthday
March 5	Jeanne Morse
March 13	Kristen Lundin
March 25	Jessica Johnson
March 29	Ken Buntrock
March 31	Lenae Badger

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)
James L (friend of Martha Willson)
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)
Ryan, Austin (friend of Martha Willson)
Rydin family
Santacroce, Linda (friend of Sue Bose)
Schooning, Sonia (friend of Martha)
Scott-Rawlins, Cherese (friend of Myrtle Hickman)
Severson, Karen (friend of Ann Moegle)
Silva, Jeffrey (grandson of Dorothy Flett)
Sonie (friend of Martha Willson)
Sullivan, Elisabeth (friend of Ursula Hackemer)
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