



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

Tidings

The Monthly Newsletter of
House of Prayer Lutheran Church

March 2024

“The cross opens its arms to the four winds; it is a signpost for free travelers.”

-G.K. Chesterton

Like the disciples in Mark's Gospel, we often fail to understand what God is doing. We set our sights only on earthly things, and limit the depths of God's glory in Creation and what He has done for us. The British author G.K. Chesterton wrote about how Christian faith is centrifugal, it expands out into the world wherever God leads. The cross, as a symbol, branches out to all cardinal directions, covering the whole world with its reach. The idea behind this image was that the Christian faith has the gift and the sanity to look at the world in all its possibilities, both material and spiritual. “Mysticism keeps man sane”, he wrote, for in such a view, we do not reduce the world, but enlarge and deepen its grandeur.

The resurrection is one of these acts of God's grandeur that we often limit with our earthly vision. For most of March we are still in Lent, we are journeying, being led by the winds that will take us into the destination that God has gifted us in Christ.

Appropriately, the month ends with Easter. We have Easter as the day we look forward to in hope, marking the transition into the life of the resurrection, that life filled with that mysticism that makes the world splendorous with God's glory. As we approach Easter, we embrace in faith the greatest mystery and revelation, a profound reality in matter and spirit gifted to us by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. With the hope of the resurrection, God opens up the gift of true life. We do not reduce life, rather we expand it by leaning into the infinity of God.

In House of Prayer, as we continue to focus on God and set our sights on the joy that comes from this deep dimension that we grasp in faith, we will continue to thrive in what is most important. In God, there is always more to look forward to, and I pray in this month that God gives us the vision to be witnesses of this reality which celebrates

Weekly Virtual and In-person Worship

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

www.houseofprayerhingham.org

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Dates to Note

Father Bill's Lunch Packing
March 8

Weymouth Food Pantry Temple Talk
March 10

Social Ministry Meeting
March 17

Church Council Meeting
Via Zoom March 21
7 PM

Palm Sunday Lily Orders Due
Easter Dinner Boxes Due
March 24

Maundy Thursday
March 28 7:15 PM
Good Friday
March 29 7:15 PM

God's Work Our Hands Cookie Walk
April 7

Confirmation Weekend at Calumet
April 12 - 14

Synod Assembly
June 6 - 8

God's greatest gift to us. New things and new happenings will be ahead of us, let us meet them with the essentials rooted in our hearts. Let us be free travelers, following the signpost of the cross into resurrection life.

- Pastor Emmanuel



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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

Bulletin Announcements

Readers Needed for PALM SUNDAY Passion Narrative on March 24th! There are many character parts to be filled for the passion reading. We especially need men! Please see Lenae if you could be a reader that Sunday.

Easter Dinner Boxes – once again we are partnering with Wellspring to provide holiday dinner boxes for neighbors in need. The list of items for the boxes is on the bulletin table. There are a few usable empty boxes in the office – if you have some to donate, please leave them in the office or outside the office door. Dinners should be delivered to HOP by Palm Sunday.

Easter Lillies – We will order lilies for the altar on Easter Sunday. Order forms are on the hallway table. Please order by March 24. The cost is \$10 per plant, and plants can be taken home after Easter service.

Security Update – To improve the security and safety of the church and staff, the entry door will remain locked unless there is a group meeting in the building. There is a new doorbell that rings in the office. The lockbox code will be changed quarterly. If you need access to the building off hours, please contact the office for the current code.

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!

Opportunity to Participate in Synod Assembly, June 6-8

Each year, House of Prayer sends two members to represent us at Synod Assembly in Worcester. It's a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the greater Lutheran Church and how other congregations in our Synod are thriving/surviving in today's world. And, this year, we will be voting on a new Bishop!

If you would like to attend or want to learn more, please contact Kathleen Almand. Support for expenses is available.

Social Ministry *Cathy Martin, Chair*

The committee plans to bring in more of the community partners to HOP for temple talks to bring the programs and initiatives closer to the congregation.

Next Meeting: Sunday, March 17, 2024

God's Work, Our Hands will be the cookie walk on **Sunday, April 7**. Any funds raised would go to the Weymouth Food Pantry. Pam Denholme, executive director of the Weymouth Food Pantry will do a temple talk on **Sunday, March 10** to talk about the pantry and the cookie walk.

Father Bill's Update: The next bagged lunch will be **Friday, March 8**. We'll deliver 30 lunches. Thank you to all for the bedding donations in January.

Habitat for Humanity: In September, Ed and Nancy Martin with Kim Boyd are planning to work on a Habitat project in Kauai, Hawaii. The dates are September 28th through October 6th. The cost will be around \$1,700 excluding airfare. If interested, please contact Ed Martin.

Wellspring: HOP is participating in the Easter dinner boxes. Please plan to wrap a copy paper box with lid and fill with the food list and additional food items as specified on the food list. The boxes will be due **Sunday, March 17**. If anyone has access to copy paper boxes, please bring to church. Food lists are available on the table outside the sanctuary.

If you would like to join our committee or participate in any of the activities that we do, don't hesitate to participate. Please join us. Our committee is open to anyone. Any questions, contact Cathy Martin at cathymartin19@verizon.net or 617-645-9636.

Shepherding Committee

The Shepherding Committee was pleased to welcome Pastor Emmanuel to our meeting on March 1. Our Card Ministry now numbers 17. February's cards were sent courtesy of Kate Bergman. Our Bereavement Ministry numbers 4 members of our church family who were lost over the past year. The most recent, Pocha Ericson, in February of this year. Our condolences and prayers to Mabel Ericson and family and to all family members of Rae, Janet and Joanne. As a contribution to the effort to rebuild church attendance, the committee reviewed the directory noting which members have not recently been seen at church. Pastor Emmanuel will reach out to these members. Finally, the committee welcomed Sandy Swanson to our meeting to explain her new role as coordinator for funeral/memorial services. Fellowship Hall will be made available to families to use as needed. Barb Mullin will provide a list of local caterers. Sandy will be available to help families make arrangements.

Sue Bose, Chairperson Committee members: Barbara Buntrock, Linda Lundin, Kate Bergman, Carla Hill, Dorothy Flett, Mardie Reimold

Worship and Music

As we've enjoyed trying 'Re Imagining Worship' services for the past 6 months, we've decided to put it on hold during Lent. We will re-evaluate bringing it back through the spring/summer. We've received much positive feedback with the service. Please continue to provide feedback to the W&M committee to help guide us as we continue to strive to provide meaningful worship each Sunday.

Committee members: Lenae Badger, Kathy Sutkowski, Marci Sutkowski, Pastor Emmanuel and Sandy Swanson, Chair

HOW TO GET TO KNOW YOUR PASTOR

Pastors play an important role in the daily life of your congregation and the community. Despite their churchly profession, fancy robes, and knowledge of Greek, pastors experience the same kinds of ups and downs as everyone else. They value member efforts to meet, connect with, and support them.

1 Connect with your pastor after worship.

After the worship service, join others in line to shake the pastor's hand. Sharing a comment about the sermon, readings, or hymns lets the pastor know that his or her worship planning time is appreciated. If your congregation doesn't practice the dismissal line, find other ways to make that personal connection.

2 Pray daily for your pastor, because he or she doesn't just work on Sunday.

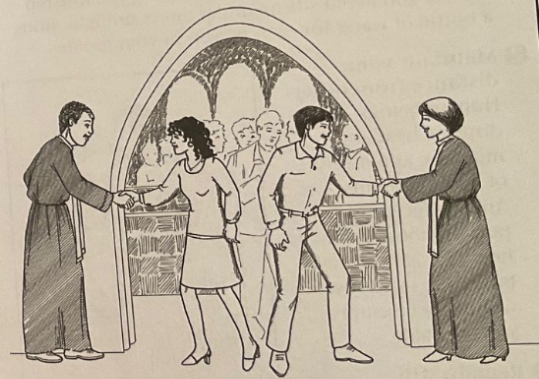
Your pastor has many responsibilities, like visiting members in the hospital, writing sermons, and figuring out who can help drain the flooded church basement. In your prayers, ask God to grant your pastor health, strength, and wisdom to face the many challenges of leading a congregation.

3 Ask your pastor to share with you why he or she entered ordained ministry.

There are many reasons why a pastor may have enrolled in seminary to become an ordained minister. Be prepared for a story that may surprise you.

- 4 Stop by your pastor's office to talk, or consider making an appointment to get to know him or her.** Pastors welcome the opportunity to connect with church members at times other than worship. As you would with any drop-in visit, be sensitive to the fact that your pastor may be quite busy. A scheduled appointment just to chat could provide a welcome break in your pastor's day.

Getting to know your pastor can help you to get more out of church.



Music Notes from Lenae

I think next to the changing colors of the paraments in the sanctuary, the changes in the musical setting of the liturgy for each season also help us be more aware of the movement through the church year. If you've never paid attention, we begin the church year with blue paraments and the Kyrie, Holy Holy and Lamb of God from Setting 2 of the liturgy by Marty Haugen. We often use "Wait for the Lord" or "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" as our Gradual (just before the Gospel) in this season in place of the "Alleluia.". At Christmas, we switch to the white paraments that bear the image of the Nativity on the front, begin using the joyful Setting 3 of the Liturgy, and the Glory to God returns. Then for the Epiphany season, we use the green paraments, and for the liturgy we have been using the River of Life setting (the booklets in the pews) from the hymnal, "This Far by Faith". Now that it is Lent, our paraments are deep purple and we use the more subdued and contemplative Setting IV of the liturgy, which has a Kyrie and a Lenten Gradual that are both in minor keys, reflecting this penitential season. Before we know it, it will be Easter, when the white Easter paraments will be on the altar and pulpit, and we will return to the joyful Setting 3 of the liturgy. After the Easter season, we go out with a bang on Pentecost Sunday with red paraments, we have one Sunday of white paraments for Holy Trinity Sunday after that, and then for the very long duration of the Pentecost season through the summer, we will be back to green paraments and the River of Life setting of the liturgy. After the summer, we will go back to Setting 3 for a few Sundays and then it's time for Reformation Sunday, with red paraments celebrating this important church holiday for Lutherans! It's white paraments again for All Saints Sunday the following week, then back to green until the last Sunday of the Church Year -- Christ the King Sunday! (like New Year's Eve for the church!) To me, the Church Year seems to fly by as we commemorate each of these seasons with color and music. Maybe you can look with new eyes and ears!

Many thanks to the Adult Choir for bringing us through the fall, Reformation, All Saints, Advent, Christmas and Epiphany with anthems chosen to tie in with the scripture lessons for the day and often introducing new hymns from the hymnal that will soon be in our pews - All Creation Sings. Also thanks to Kim Boyd for sharing her talents on flute, and to Kathleen Almand for providing lovely violin music for the Ash Wednesday service.

My apologies if I haven't remembered to thank singers Carla Hill, Pat Beal, Sandy Swanson, Kathleen Almand and Kim Boyd, and drummer, Scott Hudson-Bryant for their willingness to be up front for our Reimagining Worship services. That required learning some new music, a Sat. rehearsal, as well as coming early on those Sundays. I'm grateful to them all! It was also nice to be able to bring in some former students of mine from Scituate to fill in for Scott on drums. Both did a great job! Both young men have been playing drums for several yrs. with their jazz band at school, but playing at HOP was their first real "gig". A church is a wonderful place for a first gig. It's such a great, supportive atmosphere, and HOP folks didn't disappoint! They were very complimentary and helped make that first experience a very positive one, so I thank you for that, HOP folks! Both said they'd be happy to come back in the future!

During this time of the year, we lose our bass, Rich Haukom while he spends the winter in FL, but we are happy to have welcomed Bill Hayes to the choir, and Mary Howarth! Just a reminder that if you like to sing, please consider singing with the choir! We'd love to have you!

Stay warm!
Lenae



Happy near Spring! The week I am writing this has definitely felt spring-like in the temperatures. My dog and I are loving it for our walks. I hope we see more weather like this soon, and on a consistent basis.

I want to take a moment to say thank you to everyone who helped to decorate lunch bags for Father Bill's and made soup, goodies, or made a donation for the Souper Bowl of Caring. We have officially raised \$724 in monetary donations plus tons of cans of soup-WOW!! Come see us give the money to Pam Denholm from the Weymouth Food Pantry when she comes to give her Temple Talk to us during the worship service on March 10th. It's amazing what this congregation can do in a short time and I like to think that we had fun doing it, too! We had beef stew, split pea soup, turkey and vegetable soup as well as a kale/lentil/sausage soup to share for our coffee hour plus baked goods and a few boxes of Girl Scout cookies to nibble on. The lunch bags will be filled on March 8th and delivered to Father Bill's. See pictures below from that day.

This past month was filled with little actual Sunday School time due to the Souper Bowl and school vacation, but we'll be back again for March! Do know that so we can all spend time with our families for Easter (yikes, it's early this year!), there will be NO Sunday School on Easter Sunday, March 31st. We are planning to have a youth meet and greet with Pastor Emmanuel during Sunday School time either March 17th or 24th so Pastor can get to know all of our younger members, hear their thoughts and feelings about what they'd like to see and do during church and as part of Christian education (that includes confirmation). Families, look to your emails for the chosen date...maybe we'll try to do it BOTH weekends to get as many kids involved as possible. We hope you can join us.

The youth group/confirmation group is planning to go to Camp Calumet April 12-14, which is the weekend starting school vacation. Please talk to Phoebe for more information about this and look for the flyer she sent out to your emails (for those of you with children in the appropriate age range for that). Let her know ASAP if your child plans to attend this event so we can reserve our spot. Phoebe is still looking for a little more feedback as to when folks might be able to gather over the weekends (Friday evening and/or Saturday afternoon) before it is time for Pentecost on May 19, 2024, which is when we will have confirmation for those who are in 10th grade or waited for our new Pastor to arrive to be confirmed. Until that time, please plan to attend "circle time" with Pastor after services in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays and as the weather allows, group talking walks down Main Street! We look forward to parental (and youth) feedback as to how you wish to see confirmation moving forward. If you haven't already, schedule some time to speak with Pastor (either formally or informally during "circle time") so everyone has an idea of what is expected and feels right for the group we have now.


Other than that, our small group of Sunday School teachers and helpers wish you a reflective Lenten season and a joyous Easter! Hope to see you at some of the Holy Week services leading up to Easter Sunday. As always, if you have any suggestions for us on the Sunday School team, please let me know. I can be reached at kimboyd61@hotmail.com or via text...just check the directory for the number.





Souper Bowl of Caring officially raised \$724 in monetary donations plus tons of cans of soup – WOW!



“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, they just have the heart”

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

	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		

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)	Leary, Kris (daughter of Millie Hill)
Badger, Tim	MacKennon, Linnie (friend of Lundins)
Brett, Virginia (friend of Martha)	McCullough, Lynne (relative of Emily Badger-McCullough)
Bryson, Caitlin (friend of Chris Hayes)	McGivney, Marlene
Carlson, Joanne (Linda Lundin's sister)	McGivney, Paul (Dana's brother)
Clifford, Kathy (friend of Kim Boyd)	Meslo, Lisa (Hayes' sister-in-law)
Dallamora, Joe (Jen M's father)	Michaels, Marcia (friend of Victoria Warneck)
Dauber, Lynda (friend of Parsekians)	Mitchell, Marcia
Davis, Elise (neighbor of the Hayes)	Murray, Maggie (friend of Mary Jane)
Derderian, Craig (nephew of Parsekian's)	Myers, Chuck (friend of Lundins)
Derderian, Glenn and Sue (nephew of Parsekian's nephew and his wife)	Neat, Kathy
Derderian, Gloria (sister-in-law of Parsekian's)	Niendorf, Kris
Ericson, Mabel	Nucifore, Linda Nilsson (sister of Karen Nilsson)
Ericson, Pochinart (daughter-in-law of Mabel)	Nucifore, Alan (brother-in-law of Karen Nilsson)
Errichiello, David (Carla's brother)	O'Donnell, Kathleen (friend of Rita LaPlante)
Fields, Leisel (friend of Jen McCready)	*Olsson, Todd (Doris' grandson)
Gall Family (friends of Lenae)	Oman, Linda
Galotti, Debbie (friend of Rita LaPlante)	Paresky, David (friend of Parsekians)
Gifford, Bill (friend of Chris Hayes)	Parsekian, Patty (MaryJane's daughter-in-law)
Gitungano, Alex (friend of HoP)	Phillips, Ed (friend of Lundins)
Glynn, Mary (friend of Sue Bose)	Pryor, Mark (friend of Leah McGaughey)
Graham, Ellis (granddaughter of Rob Lacy)	Rawlins, Betty (friend of Myrtle Hickman)
Grankewicz family (Lenae's friends)	Rawlins, Patty (friend of Myrtle Hickman)
Hall, Gerda	Read, James L (friend of Martha Willson)
Hall family	Richardson, David (Victoria's uncle)
Hannigan, Mike (friend of Lisa and Rich Rege)	Rodrigues, Mary Ellen (friend of Lenae)
Hansen, Mark (friend of Jacqui Lyons)	Rogalski, Roberta (friend of Ursula Hackemer)
Hickman, Myrtle	Rush, Jean (friend of Ursula Hackemer)
Higginbottom, Sophia (friend of Rita LaPlante)	Ryan, Austin (friend of Martha Willson)
Hilston, Paula (Pastor Hilston's wife)	Rydin family
Hutchinson, Rick (friend of Lundins)	Santacroce, Linda (friend of Sue Bose)
Ikoribitangaza, Leo (friend of HoP)	Schooning, Sonia (friend of Martha)
James L (friend of Martha Willson)	Scott-Rawlins, Cherese (friend of Myrtle Hickman)
Jensen, Dee (friend of Lenae's)	Severson, Karen (friend of Ann Moegle)
Just, Christian (brother of Ginny & Naomi)	Silva, Jeffrey (grandson of Dorothy Flett)
Just, Ginny (former member)	Sonie (friend of Martha Willson)
Just, Naomi	Sullivan, Elisabeth (friend of Ursula Hackemer)
Kalla, Judy (friend of Bill & Chris Hayes)	Toomey, Skip (brother-in-law of Hayes)
Knight, Patty (friend of Linda Vassallo)	Walsh, Dennis (friend of Chris Hayes)
Lacy, Rob	Walter, Helmut (Stefanie Wegener's father)
LaRocca, Debi & family (friends of Warnecks)	Watt, George & Lynda
Leary, Erin (Millie's granddaughter)	Weaver, Ryley (friend of Bill & Chris Hayes)

*serving in the military