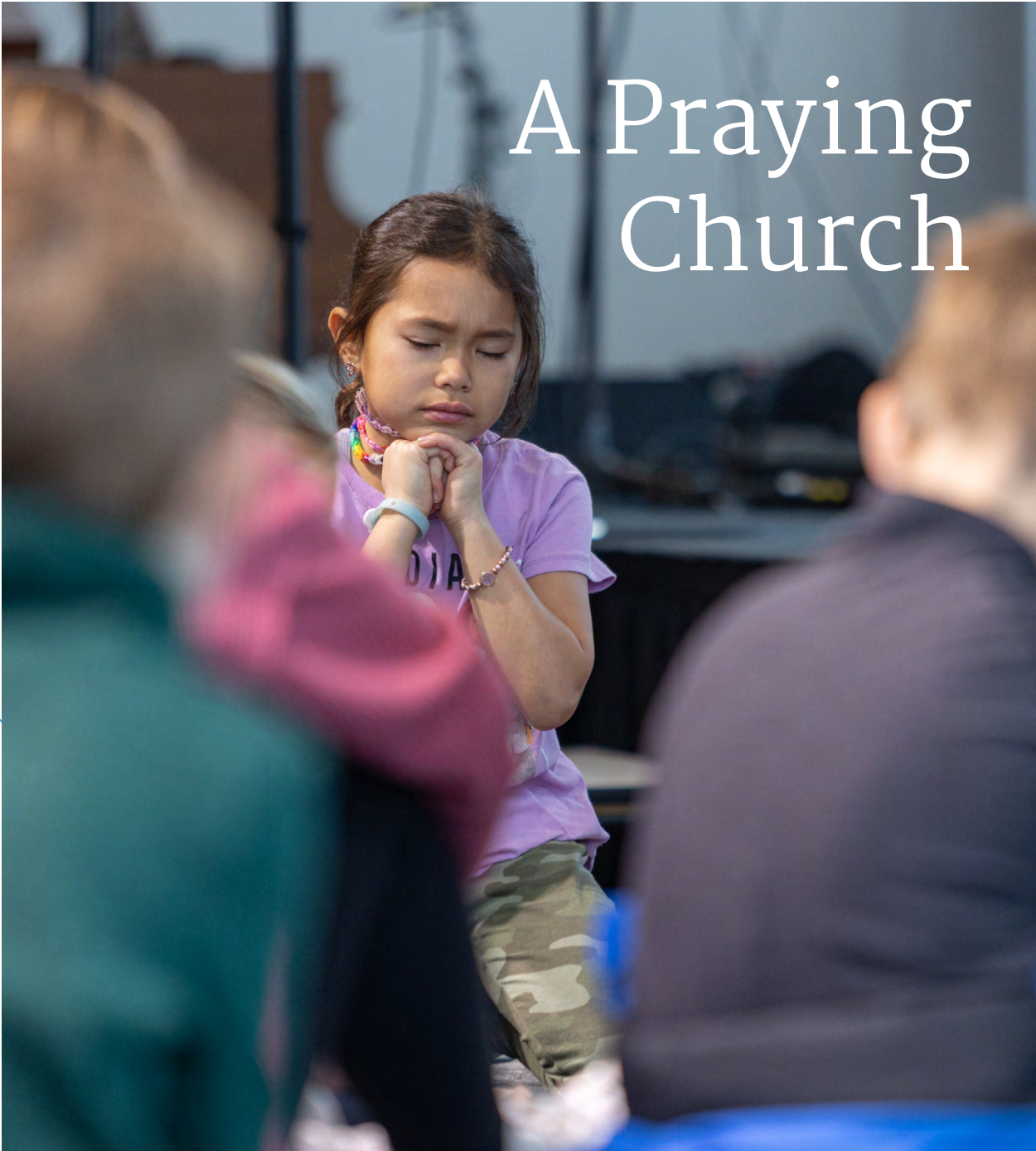


THE SPRING ISSUE | 2026

THE  
**CROSSINGS**

A Praying  
Church



# A Praying Church

by David Lenz, Lead Pastor



**L**ike many Minnesotans, I bleed purple—which is to say my passion for the Minnesota Vikings runs deep. As Super Bowl LX was approaching, I discovered that the NFL channel had 30-minute highlight shows of every Super Bowl ever played. I dutifully watched the segments on the Vikings' four Super Bowl losses (1970, 1974, 1975, 1977), reliving the pain. Around that time, I heard someone note that the Vikings last played in a Super Bowl 49 years ago! As Minnesota fans look to the future of the Vikings, it is understandable that many say, "They haven't got a prayer."

Our Lenten theme is "Growing in Prayer." As faithful followers of Jesus, we want to grow in our facility of coming before God in prayer—bringing our praise, our intercessions, our petitions, our confessions, our hopes, our pain. Part of growing in prayer is facing those moments when we haven't got a prayer. Not because of sloth or indifference, but because the language of prayer has run dry. We turn on the prayer tap, and nothing comes out. What then?

There is comfort in knowing that when we haven't got a prayer, Jesus does. Hebrews 7:25 tells us that Jesus "is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them." Similarly, the Apostle Paul celebrates that "Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us" (Romans 8:34). Thank you, Jesus!

There is comfort in knowing that when we haven't got a prayer, the Holy Spirit does. Among the manifold ministries of the Holy Spirit is this: "Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words" (Romans 8:26). Thank you, Holy Spirit!

There is something else we can do: let the words of Scripture themselves form the language of our prayers. I found this spiritual practice in Linette Martin's wonderful little book, *Practical Praying*.

For example, how do we pray for Minneapolis in a season of crisis and challenge? We can adapt the words of Psalm 122:6–9 (which invite us to pray for the peace of Jerusalem): "Pray for the peace of [Minneapolis]: May those who love you be secure. May there be peace within your walls and security within your citadels. For the sake of my family and friends, I will say, 'Peace be within you.' For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good" (NIV, adapted).

How do we pray for a family member who is facing spiritual or physical danger? We can adapt the words of Jesus' great "high priestly" prayer: "Holy Father, protect [Andrew] by the power of your name. Protect [him] from the evil one. Sanctify [Andrew] in the truth" (John 17: 11, 15, 17—NIV, adapted).

How do we pray a blessing over a friend? We can adapt Aaron's benediction: "Lord, bless [Elizabeth] and keep [her]; Lord, make your face to shine upon [Elizabeth] and be gracious to [her]; Lord, lift up your countenance upon [Elizabeth] and give [her] peace" (Numbers 6:24–26).

When you haven't got a prayer, take comfort in the prayer ministry of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. When you haven't got a prayer, let the words of Scripture form your prayers. May we continue to grow in prayer—when the words come easily, and even when they don't.

Your Pastor,  
David Lenz

# Prayer that Shapes the Soul and Unites the Community

by Dan Ritchie, Covenant Partner

As we've surveyed the congregation and talked about the defining characteristics of our church, the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has frequently returned to prayer as essential to Hope's DNA. Prayer is a key spiritual discipline for Hope's pastors, elders, and laity. It is a source of Christ's guidance and intimacy that Hope youth have experienced. And in baptism, it is a mystery that even infants enter into as we pray for them and their families.

Won't you join your brothers and sisters as we enter into a special emphasis on prayer? As a member of the PNC, I can affirm that we need the wisdom, strength, and unity that only your prayer can give. The same wisdom and unity are needed for all of Hope's ministries. Our Lenten sermons on prayer and the Monday night groups for women and for men will help us go deeper.

Judie and I have been part of a small group for over 30 years. We've always practiced prayer, and often we've studied it too. Most recently, we did the four-session "prayer practice" from John Mark Comer's curriculum, "Practicing the Way"—the same curriculum that Pastor KC and Lauren Puncoschar have used in their winter adult discipleship course. I've begun using Comer's teaching on how we can use Scripture to inform our prayers: we can ask God to shape our souls according to specific insights we get from today's time in the Word.

The pattern in "Practicing the Way" is always the same: learn about the way of Jesus in community; practice the exercise—prayer, in this case; reflect on your own expe-

rience; and process the material together. The goal is always the same too: coming to love God and love others more deeply. These resources are strongly rooted in Scripture and Christian tradition. This helped me move beyond "praying my problems" to listening more prayerfully to Scripture as a way of allowing Christ to shape my soul.

Experiences at Hope have deepened my prayer life too. The weekly men's prayer and study time has brought me in touch with faithful brothers who bring their joys, questions, and moments of pain together. At a Men's Retreat, a speaker urged us to write a prayer—a truly honest prayer—to summarize our gratitude, confession, and deep requests of God. Now that was a blessing—and a challenge!

Over the last two years, groups of us have also fasted and prayed during specific seasons—Lent and Advent—using the "fasting practice" from Comer's curriculum. Mike Grussing, a deacon at Hope, says that "fasting revealed more clearly the unity of body and soul. Our body hungers for food, much like our souls hunger for God." Another man relates that the physical hunger of fasting helps him maintain a focus and dependence on God as he prays—and that prayer includes a heightened hunger for God.

Through prayer, you support Hope's mission as a whole. From Next Gen to the PNC, and from our service ministries to our pastoral care, you are part of this covenant community. May we all grow in prayer during this season.



# More Than Just Words

by Caitlin Smith, Hope Church Youth

When I was little, prayer was just part of my routine. I would fold my hands, close my eyes, and say the words I had been taught. "Thank you for my family, please help me do well in school." I believed God was listening, but honestly, it felt like I was just going through the motions. Prayer was something I did, not something I truly felt connected to.

As I got older, I began to understand that prayer could be more than a routine. It became a way for me to build a personal relationship with God. At first, prayer was something I only turned to when things were hard or when I wanted something. If I was stressed, scared, or struggling, that was when I prayed the most. In those moments, prayer felt urgent, but it was not consistent.

That began to change through my experiences at Hope Shores, Connect, and Youth Retreats. I learned that prayer was not just meant for emergencies or difficult seasons but for everyday life. Hope Church helped me realize that prayer could be honest and real, even when I did not have everything figured out. I did not need perfect words. I just needed to be open.

Through Connect, my prayer life grew in a new way. Being part of a youth group helped me find the confidence to pray out loud and pray for other people, not just silently to myself. Hearing others pray and being encouraged to do the

same pushed me outside my comfort zone. Praying for friends helped me realize that prayer is not only personal, but also a way to support and care for others through my faith.

As my prayer life has grown, I have realized that prayer is not about saying the "right" things or having everything figured out. It is about showing up consistently and trusting that God is listening. Prayer has become less of a habit and more of a relationship. It reminds me that I am not alone and that my faith continues to grow as I do.

Hope Church helped me realize that prayer could be honest and real, even when I did not have everything figured out.



# Prayer Shawl Ministry

by Cheryl Hauer, Covenant Partner

The ministry started in 2006 with Nancy Ma as the leader. There were a group of women who loved to knit and crochet, so she gathered them, and the ministry began.

This ministry serves as a blessing to both the knitters and the receivers of the shawls.

The knitter prays for the one who will receive it, though they usually do not know who that person will be. We often hear from those who have received a shawl expressing their gratitude and how it made them feel loved and prayed for. These reports truly bless the group.

We include a pamphlet called "Praying with a Prayer Shawl," which beautifully explains what the shawl represents. It is a warm reminder that we are surrounded by God's love, peace, and his healing presence during seasons of sorrow or health challenges. It can be draped across shoulders to feel its warmth—a comfort when praying or reading God's Word, doing devotions, or just when the receiver needs to rest. The prayer shawl aids in feeling God's warmth and love and care in a tangible way.

Included in the pamphlet are these beautiful verses from the psalms:

"You created my inmost self, knit me together in my mother's womb. For so many marvels I thank you; a wonder am I, and all your works are wonders."

Psalm 139:13-14, NJB

Pastors and ministry leaders bring prayer shawls to individuals. Often a shawl is brought to someone in the hospital or who has received a severe health diagnosis or is entering hospice. Our Next Gen team also brings our smaller shawls to young families when a baby is born. There is a sign-out sheet so we can keep track of who has received them and when.

More than 200 regular shawls have been given out just in the past decade and over 20 baby shawls in the past few years.

(Right) Charlotte Schmidt receives a prayer shawl from Pastor KC DiNardo.

(Opposite) Clara Pogue and Caitlin Smith pray together at Hope Shores Bible Camp.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the third Thursday of each month. We have prayer, devotions, sweet fellowship, and treats. If you are a knitter or crocheter (or would like to learn), we would love to have you join us.

Questions? Contact Cheryl Hauer at 612-861-5853.

[The shawl] is a warm reminder that we are surrounded by God's love, peace, and his healing presence during seasons of sorrow or health challenges.



## Serving Fun + Fellowship

by Kathy Shafer, Deacon Moderator

**D**eacons serve at Hope in many ways. One way is by committing to being helpers in activities designed to bring Hope "closer in community."

One example is **The Gathering**, a monthly social event centered around lunch and an entertainment program. You will find a deacon handing out name tags or washing dishes! The Gathering event is the second Thursday of the month. Look for the sign-up table in the commons!

The deacons will also be facilitating and leading a **prayer stations event** on Thursday, March 12. The purpose of this event is to unite Hope attendees in faith and prayer as we progress through the pastor succession process.

Finally, an event all our "more senior" members look forward to, **The Friendship Luncheon**, will take place on May 7. This is an opportunity, hosted by the deacons, for everyone 75+ years of age to enjoy a catered lunch and a special service. For some, who no longer drive, it is a welcome opportunity to enjoy fellowship with long-time friends as well as make some new friends!

The deacons are happy to serve in these ways and we get the added benefit of growing closer in community as we do it! There are many ways, for everyone, to serve and enjoy being a part of the Hope church community. I would encourage you to try out these events or the many others offered—and maybe to offer to be a helper at one yourself!



## Two Charitable Giving Tax Changes for 2026

by Greg Nida, Stewardship + Hope Fund Committee

**M**atthew 22:21 tells us to "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." In order to "Render to Caesar" (pay taxes) no more or no less than we need to, it is important to know and understand the tax laws. In 2025 the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) changed some of these laws.

One change for 2026 is that taxpayers who do not itemize their deductions (approximately 90% of filers) will be able to claim a charitable deduction of up to \$1,000 for individual filers and \$2,000 for joint filers. In 2025 this deduction didn't exist. This would be for direct cash contributions to qualified organizations so doesn't include donations to Donor Advised Funds. Hope Church is a qualified organization.

Cash contributions include checks, credit or debit cards, Automated Clearing House (ACH) transactions, Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), payroll deduction, and online payment platforms. The IRS has documentation requirements to be able to deduct cash contributions. To save space, I'm not going to list these requirements. Please Google "IRS documentation needed to deduct cash contributions" for more information.

A second change for 2026 is that there is a floor on itemized charitable contributions deductions. In 2025 there was no floor. For taxpayers who itemize, only charitable contributions in excess of 0.5% of a taxpayer's adjusted gross income (AGI) will be deductible. For example, someone with an AGI of \$50,000 needs at least \$250 (\$50,000 x .005) in charitable contributions before any charitable deduction can be taken. AGI is total gross income minus specific items such as deductible contributions to traditional IRAs and many other items. Google "definition of adjusted gross income" for more information.

These changes along with others in the OBBBA I did not cover could affect how you plan and manage your charitable contributions. Please check with your personal advisors.



Contribute online to the general offering, the Deacon fund, and more through Hope's giving portal.

(Left) Jackie Uphoff at a previous Deacon Friendship Luncheon. (Opposite) Wade Johnson prays for members of the Pastor Nominating Committee during traditional worship.

# A Season of Discernment—Together

by Debbie Bell and Kevin Dybdal, PNC Co-Chairs

**I**n ECO, discernment is communal—grounded in prayer and led by the Spirit. We trust that clarity unfolds as we listen together.

It is easy to say that Hope Church is now in a "season of discernment" as the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) continues to move through rounds of interviews. But in truth, this season began much earlier—unfolding over time, through prayer, conversation, questions, and listening together, as the body of Christ called Hope Church.

When many of you prayed and nominated people to serve on the PNC, that was discernment.

When elders prayed, interviewed those nominees, and brought nine names before the congregation, that was discernment.

When you prayerfully elected us to serve as your Pastor Nominating Committee, that was discernment.

When members shared their voices through surveys and focus group conversations, that was discernment.

When Session and the Upper Midwest Presbytery Ministry Partnership Team prayerfully approved the Opportunity Profile to be shared through postings and networking relationships, that too was discernment.

And discernment continues.

When you pray using the PNC prayer card or the weekly prayer letter; when you join in prayer during Monday morning Bible study, in worship on Sunday mornings, or in Session meetings; when you participate in a prayer walk or prayer breakfast or prayer stations; when you hold this process in your heart, even with questions—you are invited into discernment.

Through this community, God has called us—the PNC—to identify the Lead Pastor/Head of Staff whom God is already preparing for the next season of Hope. As we continue this work—praying, listening together, and following the Spirit's leading—we remain grateful for you, the people and friends of Hope Church.

Discernment is a shared work: as the congregation prays, the PNC listens for God's leading, trusting the Spirit to guide Hope Church forward.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6, NIV

Thank you for your prayers,

Debbie Bell, Kevin Dybdal, Kristen Berry, Justin Bratnober, Ellen Egelston, Yonathan Moya, Vickie Rico, and Dan Ritchie



## Holy Week Worship Services

### **Maunder Thursday Worship + Bread Exchange | April 2**

6:30 pm | Portland Worship Center

Join us for an experiential time of worship and Communion. Bring a loaf of bread (store-bought or homemade) to exchange!

### **Good Friday Service of the Nails | April 3**

12:00 pm | Sanctuary

Worship by experiencing the objects of Good Friday as we remember Jesus' death through Scripture and song. The service will culminate in a time of nailing the cross in remembrance.

### **Good Friday Tenebrae Worship | April 3**

7:00 pm | Sanctuary

Remember the power of the cross through testimony, singing, and Scripture. We will experience the darkness of Calvary and wait for the light of Easter.

### **Easter Sunday Worship | April 5**

9:00 am | Traditional with Brass | Sanctuary

10:30 am | Contemporary with Brass | Sanctuary

Celebrate the good news of the resurrection in worship! Special Easter treats will be provided during Crossover Fellowship.



Pastor David Lenz leads in traditional worship on Easter Sunday.



Sarah Bomhoff raises a palm leaf on Palm Sunday.



Megan and Yonathan Moya laugh with others at the 2025 Hope Shores Gala.

## 2026 Hope Shores Gala: Behind the Scenes!

March 7 | 4:00-7:00 pm | Hope Church

Tickets are on sale for our 10th annual Hope Shores Gala. We'll gather for an evening that includes a social hour with camp appetizers, an Italian dinner, testimonies, and the revealing of themes and staff for this summer ahead. This year, Pastor David Lenz and Cynthia Lenz will be inducted into the Hall of Faith.

Can't make it to the Hope Shores Gala? Then "Give before the Gala"! Your generosity will fuel ministry and support campers so they can experience God at camp. Follow the QR code to Hope's giving portal. Choose "Give Before the Gala" as the fund, and be part of transforming lives through camp ministry.

**HOPE SHORES 2026  
SUMMER SCHEDULE**

JUNE 7-9	COLLEGE AGE CAMP
JUNE 11-13	YOUNG KIDS FAMILY CAMP
JUNE 14-19	2 <sup>ND</sup> -5 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE WEEK 1
JUNE 21-26	2 <sup>ND</sup> -5 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE WEEK 2
JUNE 26-28	WEEKEND FAMILY CAMP 1
JULY 9-12	SINGLE MOMS FAMILY CAMP
JULY 12-17	6 <sup>TH</sup> -8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE WEEK
JULY 20-22	MONDAY-WEDNESDAY FAMILY CAMP
JULY 23-25	THURSDAY-SATURDAY FAMILY CAMP
JULY 26-31	9 <sup>TH</sup> -12 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE WEEK
JULY 31- AUGUST 2	WEEKEND FAMILY CAMP 2
AUGUST 9	CAMP SUNDAY

To apply for camp staff or register for camp, go to [hope-pc.org/hopeshores](https://hope-pc.org/hopeshores)

## SUNDAYS

### Traditional Worship

9:00 am | Sanctuary

### Adult Connect

9:00 am | Flex Room

We welcome all ages of adults to gather together and discuss the sermon passage in preparation for worship at 10:30. Come grow closer in community as we meet each Sunday! [heidi@hope-pc.org](mailto:heidi@hope-pc.org)

### Crossover Fellowship

10:00 am | Commons

### Lao Worship

10:30 am | Community Events Room

### Contemporary Worship

10:30 am | Portland Worship Center

### Oasis

10:30 am | Chapel

An open learning community that enjoys a variety of speakers. [lauren@hope-pc.org](mailto:lauren@hope-pc.org)

## WEDNESDAYS

### Lenten Meals for All

5:30 pm | Portland Worship Center  
February 25–March 25

All are welcome to join us for dinner before Wednesday night programs during Lent.

### Sanctuary Choir

6:30 pm | Chapel

Singers of all skill levels are welcome to join the choir. We sing on Sunday mornings at the 9:00 am service and have a pre-service warm up and rehearsal at 8:30 am in the sanctuary. [chloe@hope-pc.org](mailto:chloe@hope-pc.org)

## GROUPS

### Bible Study and Prayer

Mondays | 10:00 am | Community Events Room

Study the Bible verse by verse, letting Scripture inspire our prayers for Hope Church, each other, and our loved ones. Led by Pastor David Lenz.

### Lenten Prayer Reflection

Mondays | 7:00–8:00 pm | February 23–March 23

Join us on a 5-week journey to reflect, study, listen, and pray. Be refreshed in your walk of faith as you lean in during Lent. Women will meet by the fireplace, led by Pastor KC DiNardo. Men will meet in the Youth Room, led by retired Pastor Doug Dye.

### GriefShare

Tuesdays | 1:30–3:30 pm | Chapel | March 10–June 2

A GriefShare grief support group for people grieving the death of a loved one starts soon. Watch a weekly video of counsel and insights from respected grief experts and relatable personal stories—followed by a time of sharing and support. For more information, contact Judy Berkness at 651-335-5336, or visit [griefshare.org/groups/278912](http://griefshare.org/groups/278912).

### Caring Card Ministry

2nd and 4th Tuesdays | 9:30 am–12:30 pm | Chapel

Grow closer in community while serving our congregation. Create cards for the use of the staff and deacons. We have use for creative people and use for people who only can cut and paste. Drop in for an hour or stay the whole time. We're currently accepting donations of faith-based Christmas Cards (only). Contact Kris McWilliams at [k.mcwill51@gmail.com](mailto:k.mcwill51@gmail.com) or just show up!

### The Gathering

2nd Thursdays | 11:45 am | 12:00 pm meal | 1:00 pm program | Community Events Room

Enjoy a catered meal followed by a program.

March 12: Pizza and salad meal with the return of our own Minnesota storyteller and photographer Doug Ohman

April 9: Italian buffet with your favorite hymns and Sunday School songs of yesterday led by John and Emily Goertz

May 14: Ham meal followed by Southern Gospel music performed by The Songmasters, Jerry and Ginger Dallin

Register in the commons the two Sundays before each event or contact Dan and Kory Everson at [danandkory@gmail.com](mailto:danandkory@gmail.com) or 612-866-7606.

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

3rd Thursdays | 1:00–3:00 pm | Commons Fireplace

Enjoy prayer, devotions, sweet fellowship, and treats. If you are a knitter or crocheter (or would like to learn), we would love to have you join us. Contact Cheryl Hauer at 612-861-5853.

## MEN'S MINISTRY

### Men's Bible Studies

Saturdays | 8:00 am | Zoom

Mondays | 8:00 pm | Zoom

Both meetings: [zoom.us/j/93078610437](https://zoom.us/j/93078610437)

Rich fellowship, prayer, and discussion on the Scripture for Sunday worship.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

### Walking Closely with Jesus: Women's Bible Study

Thursdays | January 8–May 7 | 9:30–11:30 am | Chapel

As we join Jesus in his birth, life, death, and resurrection, he invites us closer and transforms us through his unchangeable love. Led by Linda Heaner. Contact Susie Prin at [suzala45@gmail.com](mailto:suzala45@gmail.com).



### GALS' NIGHT OUT FLOWER BAR

Friday, April 17 | 6:30 pm | Commons

Mix and match fresh blooms to create your own mini floral arrangement while enjoying appetizers, good conversations, and meaningful reflections on flowers and fresh starts. No experience needed, no pressure—just a fun and fragrant night out with friends!

All women are welcome! Bring a friend or two along or come ready to meet some.

Register by April 7; Registration on Realm: \$10. For more information contact Betsie Mills at [ebetsie@msn.com](mailto:ebetsie@msn.com).

## THIS IS HOPE

Sunday, March 8 | 12:00 pm

If you're wondering, "Could Hope Church be my church home?" come have lunch on us, meet some of our staff, ask your questions, and explore ways to get connected in community.

RSVP to [lauren@hope-pc.org](mailto:lauren@hope-pc.org).

## COVENANT PARTNER CLASS

Wednesday, April 22 + 29 | 6:30 pm

If you'd say, "Hope Church is my new church home," take this next step and become a Covenant Partner (member)! Join us to meet other people new to Hope, connect with elders, and walk through the more official side of being part of Hope Church.

RSVP to [lauren@hope-pc.org](mailto:lauren@hope-pc.org).



Mary Wahl passes the peace during contemporary worship.

## SUNDAYS

### Sunday Funday

9:00 am | Garden Room | Infants-5th  
Kids 5th grade and under are invited to an hour of play and Bible time. [julie.lewis@hope-pc.org](mailto:julie.lewis@hope-pc.org)

### Wiggly Worship

10:30 am | Nursery (0-2 y.o.) + Garden Room (3-5 y.o.)  
Little ones will listen to a Bible story, sing songs, make friends, and play. [julie.lewis@hope-pc.org](mailto:julie.lewis@hope-pc.org)

### Kids Church

During 10:30 am Service | Mountain Room | K-5th  
After the children's message, kids are dismissed to worship and engage with God's story of love in kid-friendly ways. Kids will rejoin their parents at the end of the service. [michaela@hope-pc.org](mailto:michaela@hope-pc.org)

### Breakfast Club

9:00 am | Youth Room | MS + HS Youth  
This space is designed for our youth community to connect before worship and intentionally study God's Word together. Afterwards, we will join the adults for worship and sit together in the PWC.  
[clara@hope-pc.org](mailto:clara@hope-pc.org)

### High School Connect

6:00 pm | Youth Room | HS Youth  
A great place for high schoolers to grow in their faith and be part of a faith community. Come for snacks, worship, and good fellowship! [clara@hope-pc.org](mailto:clara@hope-pc.org)

## WEDNESDAYS

### KWAM

6:30 pm | Community Events Room | K-5th  
Kids. Will. Always. Matter. Experience fellowship, faith, and fun as we worship together and learn of God's story of love! [michaela@hope-pc.org](mailto:michaela@hope-pc.org)

### Middle School Connect

6:15 pm | Youth Room | MS Youth  
Middle schoolers are invited to engage in Christ-centered community through games, worship, small group discussion, and learn from God's Word. Invite your friends! [clara@hope-pc.org](mailto:clara@hope-pc.org)

Stay up to date with program information:

## YOUNG FAMILIES BIBLE STUDY

Mar 19, Apr 16, May 21  
5:15-7:00 pm | Commons

Parents of 0-5 year olds, join us for Young Families Bible Study! We are a group of families that meets once a month for dinner, fellowship, and Bible study. We enjoy dinner together at 5:15, and adults start Bible study at 6:00 with childcare for the kids! Contact Megan Moya at [meganrmoya@gmail.com](mailto:meganrmoya@gmail.com).



Eli Johnson gathers with Sam and Anne Nelson during Crossover Fellowship.

## EVENTS

### Hope Shores Spring Workday

April 25 | 9:00 am–3:00 pm | Hope Shores

Make your way up to Hope Shores and help clean the camp facilities and do small projects to open Hope Shores for the 2026 season. It's a joy to serve alongside others, build new friendships, and encounter the beauty of God's creation. RSVP to [greta@hope-pc.org](mailto:greta@hope-pc.org).

### Bible Sunday

May 10 | 10:30 am Worship | Portland Worship Center

1st, 5th, and 8th graders receive new, age appropriate bibles in worship.

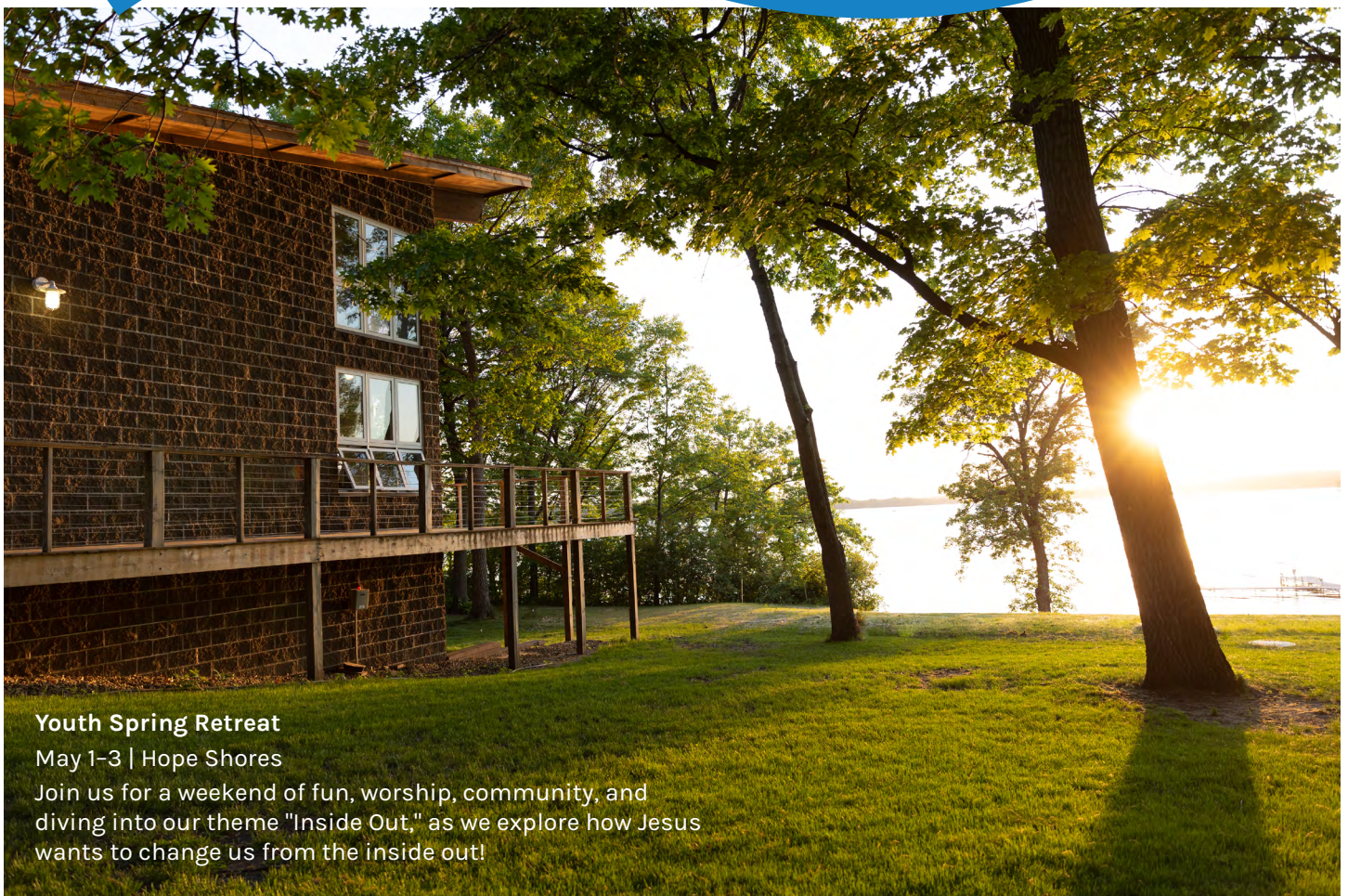
### KWAM Karnival

May 13 | Community Events Room

Families are invited to join this special last night of KWAM. There will be carnival games, prizes, treats, and a whole lot of fun!



Listen. Love. Learn. Lead. Launch.



### Youth Spring Retreat

May 1-3 | Hope Shores

Join us for a weekend of fun, worship, community, and diving into our theme "Inside Out," as we explore how Jesus wants to change us from the inside out!

## SERVE

### Community Emergency Service | 1900 11th Ave S

Pack grocery bags for outdoor food lockers, sort food rescue, help with food shelf setup.

Thursdays | March 12, April 9 | 9:30-11:30 am

Contact [peggy@hope-pc.org](mailto:peggy@hope-pc.org)

Spanish-speaking volunteers needed to support the front desk.

No special expertise is required, just being welcoming, patient, and comfortable speaking Spanish and answering the phones. All computer system training and support is provided.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday | 1:00-4:00 pm (primary need)

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday | 4:00-6:00 pm

Friday | 1:00-3:00 pm

Contact Nicole Smalley at [nsmalley@cesmn.org](mailto:nsmalley@cesmn.org).

### Good Neighbor Team — Refugee support + friendship

Offer practical support and friendship to a refugee family. Serve with other Hope volunteers as your schedule allows. Training provided by Arrive Ministries. [peggy@hope-pc.org](mailto:peggy@hope-pc.org)

### Loaves + Fishes To Go Meals Distribution

Thursdays | March 26, April 23, May 28

3:00-4:30 pm | Food prep and set-up

4:30-6:00 pm | Meal packing and distribution, clean up

Contact [peggy@hope-pc.org](mailto:peggy@hope-pc.org) or sign up to serve other weekdays at [tinyurl.com/HopeLoavesandFishes](http://tinyurl.com/HopeLoavesandFishes)

### Parent Share Class + Children's Team

Thursdays | March 12, April 9

Class | 6:15-8:00 pm

A support group for parents facilitated by Tamara Dauphin-Whear, Mental Health Counselor and Coach. 612-388-8514 or [tamarawhear@gmail.com](mailto:tamarawhear@gmail.com)

Children's Team | 6:00-8:15 pm

Help with activities for children during Parent Share. [peggy@hope-pc.org](mailto:peggy@hope-pc.org)

### USA Homestays: Host an International Student

Students from around the world attend local universities and many would love to connect with an American family. Host short-term (1-2 weeks) or long-term (3+ months). Contact Ben Robison at [benr@usahomestays.org](mailto:benr@usahomestays.org) or 612-770-0031.

### Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities

Drive residents to Hope Church for worship. Time commitment 1 Sunday a month. Pickup time 9:45 am and return to the campus by 12:30 pm. Training provided.

Participate in Thursday evening game nights 6:30-8:00 pm. Contact Dave Campbell at [dcampbell@ugmtc.org](mailto:dcampbell@ugmtc.org).

## DONATE

Donate funds to our community partners serving neighbors in need:

**Community Emergency Service** — [cesmn.org/donate](http://cesmn.org/donate)

**Loaves and Fishes** — [loavesandfishesmn.org/donate](http://loavesandfishesmn.org/donate)

**VEAP** — [veap.org/ways-to-give/donate-funds](http://veap.org/ways-to-give/donate-funds)

**Every Meal** — [everymeal.org/give](http://everymeal.org/give)

**Donate food items to Community Emergency Service and VEAP**—bring to the marked grocery cart in the Link. For most needed items lists go to:

[cesmn.org/donate-food-goods](http://cesmn.org/donate-food-goods)

[veap.org/ways-to-give/most-needed-items](http://veap.org/ways-to-give/most-needed-items)

## PRAY

Pray for mission partners. Contact [peggy@hope-pc.org](mailto:peggy@hope-pc.org)

### Pray with others serving refugees

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Thursdays | 2:30 pm | Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81236437761>

## VINE + BRANCHES

**Store clerks are needed for the following shift:**

Wednesdays | 4:45-8:15 pm

Volunteer for one 3 1/2-hour shift per month. Responsibilities include opening and closing the store, working at the checkout counter, stocking clothing, and most importantly, welcoming all our customers and showing them the love of Jesus. Contact [anne@hope-pc.org](mailto:anne@hope-pc.org) or 612-866-1359 for more information.

### Store Hours

Wednesdays | 5:00-8:00 pm

Thursdays | 1:00-4:00 pm

Saturdays | 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Donate clothing and household items to Vine and Branches. Bring to the marked bin in the Link.

For accepted donations list:

[hope-pc.org/hope-center/vine-branches](http://hope-pc.org/hope-center/vine-branches)



## SERVICE-LEARNING TRIPS

### Nueva Esperanza

Tegucigalpa, Honduras

August 4-11 | with Hope Mission Partners Carlos + Barbara Barahona

Receiving applications starting March 1. Passports required.

(Right) Lisa Lopez Huberty and Marty Huberty smile with children in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.



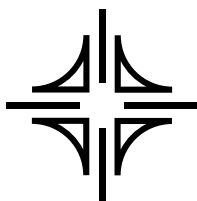
### Refugee Ministry

Winnipeg, Canada

July 8-12 | with Hope Mission Partner Sherry Mohamed

Receiving applications starting March 1. Passports required.

(Left) Winnipeg's downtown skyline.



### Congratulations to:

Megan and Yon Moya on the birth of Phoebe Moya on November 11, 2025.

Heidi Johnson on 25 years of serving as the Director of Vine + Branches.

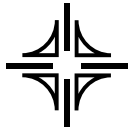
### Sympathy and Prayers to:

The family of Cindy Hansen who died December 28, 2025.

The family of James Wiggins who died January 5, 2026.

The family of Nancy Cramond who died January 14, 2026.

The family of Joyce Meichels who died February 8, 2026.



HOPE  
CHURCH

7132 Portland Avenue S.  
Richfield, MN 55423

[hope-pc.org](http://hope-pc.org)

612-866-4055

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## Special Worship Services

### **Maundy Thursday Worship + Bread Exchange | April 2**

6:30 pm | Portland Worship Center

Join us for an experiential time of worship and Communion.  
Bring a loaf of bread to exchange!

### **Good Friday | April 3**

Service of the Nails | 12:00 pm | Sanctuary

Worship and reflect on our sin and Christ's sacrifice.

Tenebrae | 7:00 pm | Sanctuary

Remember the power of the cross through testimony, singing,  
and Scripture.

### **Easter Sunday Worship | April 5**

Traditional Worship | 9:00 am | Sanctuary

Contemporary Worship | 10:30 am | Sanctuary

Celebrate the good news of the resurrection in worship along-  
side a brass ensemble! Special Easter treats will be provided  
during Crossover Fellowship.

Sunday Worship | 9:00 am Traditional | 10:30 am Contemporary