



PASTOR’S LETTER

I am excited about trying something new at House of Prayer – a ministry where we can explore our faith through art. The Council approved exploring this new ministry project at its June council meeting. What is important to know is that to participate in this ministry you DON’T need to be an artist. Art is not the focus of this ministry, it is the means by which we will explore faith. In this context art can be created by anyone.

With the start of this program, we hope that not only will it be meaningful for our own members, but also reach people in our community. Attending worship as a first contact for many people is often not comfortable. This ministry can provide a more comfortable avenue for people to experience House of Prayer and connect with us.

The next step in this ministry is to set up a working team. There are some models for this kind of ministry, but the working team will shape how the ministry will look for us. We need to make this ministry into something that works for us – how often will it meet, how will it be advertised in the community, what with our time together look like, and how will we make this a sustainable ministry.

If you are asked to be a part of the working team, I hope you will say yes, but if this ministry is speaking to your heart, volunteer to serve. If you would like to know more, please ask me. After the pandemic we really need to some new excitement. Just getting back to “normal” really isn’t enough.

Blessings,  
Pastor Sandra

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## Jesus: Divine and Human

### Sunday Adult Class in July

Jesus: Divine and Human, Reflections from Matthew is the title of a new study we will begin in the Sunday Adult Class beginning in July.

“Matthew wrote for a community which, like our own, was going through a time of dramatic, cultural and religious change. Several time in his story Matthew employs the striking image of an earthquakes to describe what was taking place...In our time, as in Matthew’s, being a Christian is similar to living on a dangerous fault line. Each day we can listen to the rumblings of change all around us and feel what we thought was familiar terrain giving way under us.” (from the introduction of the study book)

Join us as we reflect on passages from Matthew looking for wisdom for living today.



### Farewell Reception For Deacon Intern Lisa

Deacon Intern Lisa's last Sunday with us is July 25. We will be giving her a parting gift of her diaconal ordination stole. We will also hold a small reception after worship.

## INTERN CORNER

By Deacon Intern Lisa Diana

“And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful” *Colossians 3:15*

As I am finishing up my last month here at House of Prayer, it is feeling bittersweet. First of all, I would like to say thank you for such a welcoming experience for me. It was, of course, not the best of times, being in the midst of a pandemic, however I still felt welcomed and that has meant a great deal to me. I have gotten to know some of you more so than others. My hope is that I have made a positive impact on your ministry and worship here. I know some of you probably have wondered what it is a Deacon Intern does. Or, what will I be doing when I leave here. My passion lies in helping vulnerable populations that are in need. When I think about my understanding of what the Deacon call means to me, I tend to go to Matthew 25:35-36, “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.” While there are different Deacon callings, this is the call that draws me. It is a call to everyone, I believe, to love their neighbor. Everyone responds to this call in a different way. And, at some level, I think that there are times when we all are hungry, thirsty, a stranger, naked, sick, and in prison. Ministry is a two way street. I have been ministered to while being here through you. Relationships are by their nature reciprocal, as well. Our relationship to God, Jesus, our family, our friends, and even the stranger. It is in giving that we receive. While I don't know exactly where I go next, although it will probably be at a helping organization in the community, I will continue to hold you in my prayers and the experience I have had here I will treasure.

God's grace and peace be with each of you always.

Deacon Intern, Lisa Diana.

If you would like to contribute to Lisa's parting gift of an ordination stole, please write "Lisa's Gift" on your contribution. Thank you!

JULY  
CELEBRATIONS

**Birthdays:**

- 7/3: Jenifer Larson
- 7/6: Stanley Ellebracht
- 7/9: Brian Winter
- 7/12: Betty Ellebracht
- 7/16: Hubert Schwarzer
- 7/25: Dylan Garner
- 7/26: Douglas Nelson
- 7/27: Karen Forse

**Anniversaries:**

Betty and Stanley Ellebracht, 7/28



**RETURNING TO  
IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES  
UPDATE**

Quilting on Mondays, Bible Study on Tuesdays, and Art Group on Wednesdays have all resumed in-person in the Education Wing of the church building.



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

Harry Miller, Frieda Atkinson, DeWitt Atkinson, Bob French, Donald Leonard, Edna Hacker, Peter Georgiev, Kim Higginson, Alice Little, Marion Schroeder, Karen French, Faye Randow, Jolanda Wood, Scott Dittloff, Marta Yanez, Jess Young, and Our Military, particularly Michael Foglio, Christian Alaniz, Jordan Bielfeldt, and all of our veterans.

**LIFELINE RETURNS TO HOP**

Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at House of Prayer Lutheran Church on Monday, August 2, 2021.

A package of 5 screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered:

- Carotid artery ultrasound to identify plaque buildup in the carotid arteries, a major risk factor for stroke
- Abdominal aortic aneurysm ultrasound to identify presence of an enlargement in the largest blood vessel in the body
- An EKG to identify the presence of atrial fibrillation, which increases the risk for stroke
- Ultrasound of the lower legs to look for plaque buildup known as peripheral artery disease
- Ultrasound of the shin bone to identify risk for osteoporosis

These 5 vital screenings are offered for only \$149 and take 60-90 minutes to complete.

If you register today, you will receive a \$10 discount.

Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6441 or text the word "circle" to 797979.

**VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

	Readers	PowerPoint	Tellers	This month's usher is Shirley Vasquez	This month's communion assistant is Eva Poblano
July 4	Celeste Fernandez		Karen Force and Roberta Hanes		
July 11	Abby Tanner				
July 18	Elise Hemmerly		Julie Rowe and Paige Vetter		
July 25	Daphne Winter	Julie Rowe			



**THAT TIME OF YEAR IS COMING**

Just a heads-up that school will be starting and it will be time to collect school supplies and donations. People will be able to give in-persona and online, and lists of needed supplies will be published soon.



**CIELO Ministries: Unity in Action**

News Report by Jennifer Alaniz

The city-wide World Refugee day event founded and organized by the CIELO along with the City Immigration Liaison was a success. San Antonio Museum of Art hopes to continue collaborating with this important social justice project of education, inclusion, and diversity for underserved communities. Catholic Charities, RAICES, Center for Refugee Services, Northeast Independent School District, City Immigration Liaison office, University of Incarnate Word, and many individuals hope to continue with the project as well.

We received an anonymous donation to have our first meal share! All House of Prayer members will be invited. We are hoping for approval of space and to propose a date soon in order to begin planning.

In other news, an article on CIELO's collaboration with UIW and NISD adult and community education on a mentorship project in the fall of 2021, virtual ESL/ digital literacy for homebound refugee women was selected for publication in a prestigious global journal. This will be the second global publication drawing attention to the work that comes out of CIELO Unity in Action: A Ministry at House of Prayer. More information on that coming...

**Update on Returning to Worship**

Beginning on the first Sunday in July we will progress our phased return to worship. Those who are fully vaccinated may remove their masks when they are seated in the sanctuary. If you feel better with your mask on, you may continue to wear it.



**Free Webinars on Hybrid Worship**

Most Church consultants agree that hybrid worship (both in-person and online) is here to stay. That may or may not be the case for House of Prayer. They Synod is sponsoring a series of free webinars to help churches to understand hybrid worship and ministry and how to do it well. These webinars are open to everyone. If you would like to attend, go to the Synod website to register:

[https://www.swtsynod.org/df\\_media/W1siZiIsIjIwMjE5MDYvMjMvMTMvMDEvMjkyZDIwMWUzYWYtZGQyNC00ZmM4LWEIODktM2Q5YTNhN2JiYzU4L0h5YnJpZCZBdHVyY2ggV2ViaW5hciBGbHlci5wZGYiXV0/Hybrid%20Church%20Webinar%20Flyer.pdf?sha-97dff0522af3e6c](https://www.swtsynod.org/df_media/W1siZiIsIjIwMjE5MDYvMjMvMTMvMDEvMjkyZDIwMWUzYWYtZGQyNC00ZmM4LWEIODktM2Q5YTNhN2JiYzU4L0h5YnJpZCZBdHVyY2ggV2ViaW5hciBGbHlci5wZGYiXV0/Hybrid%20Church%20Webinar%20Flyer.pdf?sha-97dff0522af3e6c)

Here are the dates and subjects for each webinar:

- July 25      Introducing the Hybrid Church
- Aug 2        Designing Hybrid Faith Formation for the Post-Pandemic World
- Aug 9        Hybrid Worship-How on-the-ground and online worship connect
- Aug 18      Engaging People Online-It takes more than being there
- Aug 23      Technology Options for the Hybrid Church

**CAM DONATIONS FOR JULY**

Cereal and Oatmeal





JULY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
		8 a.m. Adult Bible Study in the Quilting Room	Art Group 1:00 -3:00 p.m.			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<p>Worship: In-person at 10:00 with a livestream to our Facebook page; it will be uploaded to our website afterwards.</p> <p>11:00 Adult Bible Study</p> <p>★HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY★</p>		8 a.m. Adult Bible Study in the Quilting Room	Art Group 1:00 -3:00 p.m.			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<p>Worship: In-person at 10:00 with a livestream to our Facebook page; it will be uploaded to our website afterwards.</p> <p>11:00 Adult Bible Study</p>		8 a.m. Adult Bible Study in the Quilting Room	Art Group 1:00 -3:00 p.m.			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<p>Worship: In-person at 10:00 with a livestream to our Facebook page; it will be uploaded to our website afterwards.</p> <p>11:00 Adult Bible Study</p>		8 a.m. Adult Bible Study in the Quilting Room	Art Group 1:00 -3:00 p.m.			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
<p>Worship: In-person at 10:00 with a livestream to our Facebook page; it will be uploaded to our website afterwards.</p> <p>Farewell Reception for Deacon Intern Lisa Diana after worship</p>		7 a.m. Adult Bible Study in the Quilting Room	Art Group 1:00 -3:00 p.m.			



**HOUSE OF PRAYER**  
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<https://www.facebook.com/hoplcsa/>  
[www.hoplcsa.org](http://www.hoplcsa.org)  
(210) 696-1194

Worship depends on quarantine restrictions and can be viewed on our website. Office hours are Tuesday through Friday, from 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.; for emergencies, please call Pastor Sandra at 210-248-7837.

Reverend Sandra Leifeste  
Dick Thackston, Congregation President  
Marcus Trejo, Vice President  
Jenifer Larson, Treasurer  
Shirley Vasquez, Member @ Large  
Personnel, Dave Johnson  
Worship Team, TBA  
Emmie Lou Schwarzer, Ministry Team  
Eva Poblano, Fellowship  
Roberta Hanes, Stewardship  
Bob French, Property  
Jennifer Alaniz, CIELO Ministries

**TWO WAYS TO GET HOUSE OF PRAYER'S  
CHURCH APP ON YOUR PHONE**

- To find and download our church App, go within your mobile device's app store (Google Play/iOS App Store) and search "Church App - [Tithe.ly](https://tithely.app)". The [Tithe.ly](https://tithely.app) Church App houses hundreds on apps from across the world! To find your church app within the [Tithe.ly](https://tithely.app) Church app, just open the app and search for your church by name or zip code. Once you have selected your church's specific app, the next time you open the [Tithe.ly](https://tithely.app) Church App, you app's designs will be ready and waiting - no searching involved. This [Tithe.ly](https://tithely.app) Church App will also ensure that your App Icon switches from the [Tithe.ly](https://tithely.app) Logo to your church's personal logo. This app icon switcher is compatible on most mobile cellular devices.
- Go to this link on your smartphone.  
<https://tithely.app.link/house-of-prayer-lutheran>.

HOUSE OF PRAYER LUTHERAN CHURCH  
10226 IRONSIDE  
SAN ANTONIO TX 78230

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY