



House of  
**PRAYER**  
— CHURCH —



# growthtrack



CHURCH



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Catch the vision of House of Prayer Church and learn more about what it means to become a member.

## INTRODUCTION

### WELCOME TO CHURCH 101

We're glad that you've chosen to find out more about House of Prayer church. This class is the basic introduction to our church family. Since we have members from many different backgrounds, This class was designed to clearly explain who we are and what we believe.

### Our Story

House of Prayer Church is "a church of all nations, going to all the nations". (Formerly known as First Assembly of God, Waterbury.)

Reverend Coleman Barlow and his wife, Nancy, opened First Assembly on Father's Day, June 1979. They first met in the old Methodist Church on West Main Street and later in the Jewish Community Center in Middlebury, Connecticut. After years of faithful service, Reverend Barlow transferred leadership of the church over to Reverend William Ulsh. Ulsh led the congregation to purchase property on Thomaston Ave. The first service in the building on Thomaston Ave. was held December, 1987. The church has held services at that location ever since. After Pastor Ulsh, First Assembly was led by Pastor Albert Andreason for six years, then by Pastor Timothy Roddam for two to three years. Our current pastor, Reverend James Lilley and his wife, Verna Lilley, came to Waterbury in April of 1998.

In June 2002, the church purchased the two houses next to the church. In June 2004, the church purchased 2.4 more acres of land, the former Waterville Lumber property. Renovations to the 12,400 square foot building began on November 15, 2004. On July 13, 2006 the church received it's certificate of occupancy for the Family Life Center. In less than two year's time, the church transformed an old barn into the Family Life Center where the children's church, youth group, and numerous other Ministries meet.

In 2011 to 2013, the church added a new upstairs Sanctuary, conference room, bathrooms and office spaces in the Family Life Center. In 2017, the church launched it's "Feed the City" campaign. House of Prayer Church is currently building a Coffee House/Bookstore, new Daycare Center, and an expanded Food Pantry.

In 2018, after a decade of sensing the Lord's leading to rename First Assembly, Pastor James Lilley and the leadership team changed the name of the church to House of Prayer Church.

The Lord continues to bless the city of Waterbury, surrounding regions, and other countries of the world through House of Prayer Church. We are filled with thankfulness for what the Lord has done and we look with eager expectation to see what God will do thru House of Prayer Church in the years to come.

## **PART ONE:**

### **OUR PURPOSE**

*“Let there be real harmony among you so there  
Won’t be any splits in the church. I plead with  
you to be of one mind, united in thought and  
purpose.”*

*1 Corinthians 1:10 (LB)*

CATCH THE FOUR FOLD VISION

# PRAYER FAMILY EQUIPPING MISSIONS



AND HELP BRING IN THE HARVEST

MATTHEW 9:36-38

## OUR VISION STATEMENT: WHY WE EXIST AS A CHURCH

We are a \_\_\_\_\_, Spirit-Filled Regional \_\_\_\_\_ winning and training people young and old, to grow and mature in their relationship with Jesus Christ, and releasing them to impact their world.

WE....

1. \_\_\_\_\_

We train people to pray, providing them with diverse outlets of intercession to effectively petition God for answers. (Isaiah. 56.7)

### Build Strong Families

We build strong families to nurture them spiritually, emotionally, financially, and physically. (Genesis 2:25)

Join or lead a small group

**Real life change happens in the context of \_\_\_\_\_ In the Bible, they worshipped in the temple but ministry \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 20:20).**

## SMALL GROUPS

Our small groups meet once a week in places all around our city this will provide a place for you to connect, grow, and discuss the issues and challenges of life. Our leaders use their gifts and passions to create a group that allows others to join with them in serving God. Regardless of your age, interest, or location, we are sure there is a group out there for you.

### Small Groups Provide Three Things:

A place to \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 9:22)

A place \_\_\_\_\_ (1 John 3:16)

A Place to \_\_\_\_\_ (Proverbs 27:17)

### Three things you should know about small groups:

1. They are **“Free Market”** Groups:

Our groups are as varied as we are. Whatever the age, interest or location there is a group that is just right for you.

2. We Have **Three** Semesters Every Year.

New groups start and stop three times a year- spring, summer and fall semesters. Each semester is kicked off with an online registration and a new small group directory.

3. You can **Host** a Group

We believe that everyone has areas of strength and gifting that could benefit others. The first step in becoming a small group leader is to attend the Small Group Leader Training. These classes are offered throughout the year to give you an overview of what it takes to start a group. You'll discover that it's easier than you think.

**We are an Equipping Center:**

We strategically cultivate believers them to fulfill their destiny in Christ (Ephesian 4:11-16)

**House of Prayer Growth Track:**

At HOP we want to equip you through the use of our bookstore. Our growth track will help you discover and develop your redemptive purposed. The growth track is designed to lead you through a step by step process of growth. (Hebrew 6:1)

**Equipping Series:**

***Level 1 Grounded in Truth:***

Christology-Trinity-Holy Spirit-Angelology-Prayer Life

***Level 2 Growing in Love:***

Hearing the Voice of God-Knowing the will of God-Relationship-Growing Stronger pt.1-Growing Stronger pt. 2

***Level 3 Gifted for Service:***

Prophetic Seminar-500 Series-Motivational Gifts Class-Gift of the Father & Spirit and Son-Activation Day.

**We have A World Mission Plan:**

We develop individuals to impact their neighborhood, region, and beyond with the Gospel. (Matthew 28:18-21; Acts 1:8-Model)

**“You will be my witness in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. “Acts 1:8**

1. “In Jerusalem” \_\_\_\_\_
2. “In Judea and Samaria” \_\_\_\_\_
3. “To the ends of the Earth” \_\_\_\_\_

## **What Can I Do?**

### 1. **Pray**

“Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the Harvest therefore, to send out workers in His Harvest field” (Matthew 9:37-38)

### 2. **Go**

“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “ Who shall I send? And who .will go for us? And I said , ‘Here am I. Send Me!’ ’ He said, “Go and tell this people. “ Isaiah 6:8-9

### 3. **Give**

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:19-21(NIV)

## **House of Prayer Growth Track:**

### **1. CHURCH 101**

This Class is a basic introduction to the ministry of House of Prayer Church. It introduces you to the purpose and definition of the church. You will learn about our values, vision & strategy. Learn the basic belief every Christian needs to find success in their walk with Christ.

### **2. ESSENTIALS 201**

This Class develops the essential habits that every believer needs to become a fully-devoted follower of Jesus Christ.

### **3. DISCOVERY 301**

This Class will help you discover your personality, gifts and purpose in life, and see how God combines them for the best fit in ministry.

### **4. DREAM TEAM 401**

This class introduces you to all opportunities you have to make a difference at House of Prayer Church. God’s ultimate goal for your life is to make an eternal difference in the life of another person!



## **PART TWO:**

### **OUR STRUCTURE**

*“For God is not a God of disorder, but of peace....  
Everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.”  
1 Corinthians 14:33, 40*

# **HOUSE OF PRAYER CHURCH**

**Consist of believers who invest their hearts, time, families and finances in the building of a local church deserve to have confidence in church leadership. People are looking for leaders who conduct themselves with integrity and respect when making decisions that affect their lives.**

**Our church government is made up of four groups of leadership:**

## **1. GUIDED BY PASTORS**

**The pastoral staff team is led by the Senior Pastor. This team oversees the day-to-day ministry and operations of the church. These staff pastors serve the congregation and are responsible for the development of the spiritual life of the church.**

## **2. PROTECTED BY BOARD OF ELDERS**

**They provide the eyes and ears of the body of Christ and help provide the solutions to the various problems and situation that occur. They also oversee the finances of the church. They are there to make sure the church is running in order and that God is in the end glorified through every action and decision that takes place.**

## **3. SERVED BY MINISTERS**

**Ministers are to simply follow Jesus' command to Love God and to Love people. By loving God, they are able to love the people as Christ does. They are His hands, feet, eyes and ears. As a Minister hears and sees the people's needs, they are to provide biblical advice to the individual.**

## **4. CHURCH FINANCES**

**"A Tithing of everything... belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord." Leviticus 27:30**

**At HOPC we practice tithing for the support of Christ's body, the church, as God commands. We recognize that giving 10% of our income is the Biblical standard of Giving.**

**Many people love to give to God, but need to have confidence in the methods and purposes used by organizations to which they give. Therefore, there are a great number of people willing to give if they are able to see honesty, integrity, and genuine spiritual values reflected in the lifestyles of their church leaders. All Church finances are overseen by our board of trustees and our book keepers.**

## **PART THREE:**

### **OUR HOPE FOR YOU**

*“We hope that your faith will grow and that the Boundaries of our work among you will be Extended.”*  
*2Corinthians 10:15 NLT*

## **OUR HOPE FOR YOU**



**Complete the Growth Track**

**Serve on the Dream Team**

**Become a member of House of prayer Church**

**Attend Equipping Class**

**Join a Small Group**