

News Begets News

A March Update

By Jeff Japinga
Executive Presbyter

Sometimes, the mere appearance of a news item in EMerge or on our Presbytery Facebook page prompts additional learnings about that same event.

On March 24, I posted the following on my own and on the Presbytery's Facebook page: *"Proud of the representation from the congregations of Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area today at the capitol in Saint Paul. Well done. #marchforourlives #enoughisenough"* What I didn't know is how extensive that involvement really was.

I received the following this week from a member of House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul:

Thousands of students and supporters marched peacefully in St. Paul on March 24 as part of the worldwide March for Our Lives demonstration to protest gun violence. The Minnesota State Patrol estimated a crowd of 20,000 at the State Capitol. The student-led movement emerged after a Feb. 14 mass shooting that left 17 students and educators dead at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.



House of Hope was pleased to support the March for Our Lives event by offering a free park-and-ride bus service for HOH members, their friends and other Presbyterian churches in the St. Paul area.

Approximately 130 people used this service, about a third of whom were from other churches or were friends of church members.

Mike Nord and Lee Jamison, co-chairs of the Peace and Justice Committee, said that they received many compliments about the church's involvement with March for Our Lives. They noted that one of the main activities of the committee going forward will be to keep the movement, and gun violence concerns in general, in front of the congregation.

Thank you, House of Hope.

What is your church doing in ministry and mission? Let us know, and we will let the rest of the Presbytery know.