

“Willful ignorance of the past, blinds the present, and imperils the future”



In the aftermath of the grotesque displays of violence and terrorism by white supremacists in Charlottesville, VA we have come together as members of a faith community trying to process these events. Conversations have begun and sharing our humanity within the confines of HOPE support the processes of internalizing and questioning our responses to this event. I do not have answers nor intend to explain events like these. I would like, however, to suggest one path to process and reflect on the state we are in.

In trying to understand the present and find answers to guide our actions, I think we need to remember to look to our past. Reactions to current events with incredulity are not grounded in our collective past. Just this week marked the 54th anniversary of Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream Speech”. Contemporary recollection is often on the last moments of that speech, however, Dr. King was strident in naming injustice for a majority of his 18-minute oratory. An ignored part of the speech includes:

“We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God’s Children.”

Dr. King unequivocally stated the time to act is now. To contextualize this speech further, August 28th was the culmination of a long and violent spring and summer in Birmingham, AL. After being jailed in April, Dr. King penned his *Letter from a Birmingham Jail* in which he sharply criticized white moderate clergy members who preached gradualism and criticized Dr. King’s strategy of marches and direct action in Birmingham. He rebuked this criticism and argued for direct action stating”

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”

On September 15th, 1963, after marches by young people in May and the historic march on Washington at the end of August, four little girls were murdered as a result of actions of local white supremacists who bombed the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, AL. Despite this horrific violence, the movement continued undeterred.

It is easy to say things are different now or to ask how did we get this point, but the historical fact remains that white supremacy has coursed through the veins of America in multiple ways from the fanatically violent to implicit economic, legal, and educational policies.

In our attempts to grapple with the present, we must confront the past in all of its’ failures AND also seek guidance from our forebears who took on white supremacy and heeded Dr. King’s call to act rather than take a lukewarm stance behind the veil of moderateness. If we forget, or worse yet, ignore the actions of the scores of interracial, intercultural, and interfaith groups and individuals who committed to dismantling white supremacy, we risk our future. We have much to learn from Bayard Rustin, Audre Lorde, Stanley Levinson, Dolores Huerta, Cesar Chavez, Fannie Lou Hamer, and countless others who acted non-violently but used direct action to fight injustice.

While times like these can try our souls, and weigh on our hearts, we can seek guidance in the past to lift us in the here and now. Our future depends on our understanding of the past and the wisdom and strength we draw on from those who preceded us. To ignore that past is to desecrate their sacrifices. Our future will be shaped by how we act today. Righteous indignation can be a productive channeling of energy. Just look back to John 2:13-16 as an example. I am confident that we at HOPE will support each other’s actions to confront and dismantle white supremacy.

Mike Manderino

HOPE UCC Designated Moderator

News & Notes

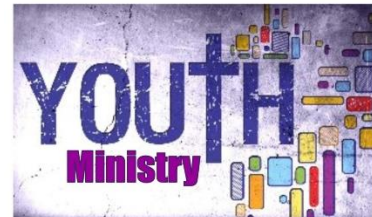
The HOPE Happenings will be taking a vacation along with our Office Manager, Gail, for the next two weeks. The next issue will be published on September 20, 2017.

Have you heard, yet?

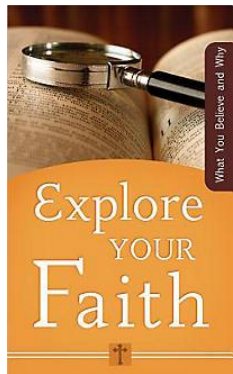
We're starting a youth ministry at HOPE! Right now, there are a half-dozen youth in middle school and high school who are connected to HOPE and we want to create a space for them to grow, learn, build relationships, and thrive as a part of our community. Launch date for this ministry is January 2018

Join us after worship on **September 10** for a special lunch to learn more about the values and mission that are driving this exciting adventure! All are welcome to stay for lunch.

Antoinette Evans, Ellen Brady, Genna Hankins, Marie Higgins, Mark Geiger, and Pastor Lucas
~ Youth Ministry Planning Team



RESTARTING HOPE'S Evening "Explore Your Faith" Group



HOPE's Evening "Explore Your Faith" group will be restarting **Tuesday, September 19th** from 7:00 – 8:30 at the home of **Jane and Nick Dempsey**. This fall Evening "Explore Your Faith" will meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

Modeled on the format of the group that meets Wednesday mornings, the evening group will similarly discuss a particular current event through the lens of your Christian faith. The current events are selected weekly by the staff of the "Wired Word" which will be emailed to the group's participants prior to each meeting.

To celebrate restarting the group, a light dinner will be provided at the first meeting!!

PLEASE NOTE: You need not commit to attending every meeting to participate. You are more than welcome to attend when you can.

If you would like to participate or have any questions, please let us know.

Nick and Jane Dempsey
417 S. Julian St., Naperville
pndempsey@aol.com
Phone: 630 357 5434

SAVE THE DATE! Join the fun!

Join the members of the Soaring Team (HOPE's visioning and planning group) for a conversation either on **Sunday, September 24** after worship (lunch provided) or on **Tuesday, September 26** at 7 p.m. at the church. The Team already has some really exciting insights and ideas to share with you and wants to start getting your input. Don't miss this opportunity! We can't wait to share what we've discovered so far with you!

~ Your Soaring Team

Erin Cooley, Melody Ellsworth, Wes and Bryant Hankins, Carrie Miller, Les Pierce & Jeanne Smith



Manna 2.0

HOPE has rolled out a new scrip gift card program and we are so excited as it will now be even easier for you to financially support HOPE through your everyday shopping! Instead of doing individual ordering of gift cards, we will have on hand gift cards of various denominations ready to sell from these retailers:

Amazon
Jewel
Meijer
Panera
Shell



Speedway
Subway
Target
Walmart

As you know, for each card we sell, HOPE receives a portion of the sale. If there is a brand card that you're interested in purchasing, but we do not have it on hand, we are happy to order it for you! Click [HERE](#) to access the complete list of retailers. Please contact Gail for more information about these special orders at 630-922-0470.

Thank you for your patience as we all adjust to this new program and figure out how to help you support HOPE UCC.

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support.



How do I support HOPE when shopping on AmazonSmile?

Click the link: smile.amazon.com/ch/36-4179063 to link your account to support HOPE.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

How much of my purchase does Amazon donate?

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. From time to time, we may offer special, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services or provide for additional donations to charitable organizations. Special terms and restrictions may apply. Please see the relevant promotion for complete details.

Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?

Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

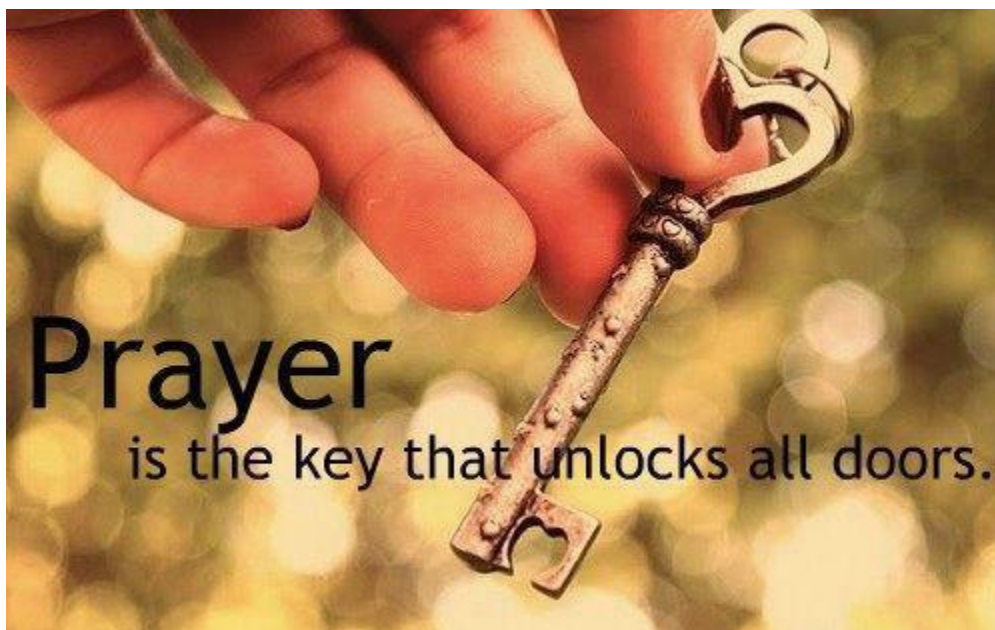
Can I change my charity?

Yes, you can change your charity any time. Your AmazonSmile purchases after the change count towards your newly selected charity. To change your charity, sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser and simply select "Change your Charity" in "Your Account."

Sharing Joys & Concerns

Please keep these people & events in your prayers:

- † Please pray for our family, friends, and everyone in Texas impacted by Hurricane Harvey.
- † Help me be focused, stay humble, and have respect. (Lily)
- † My mother, who is still dealing with thyroid and kidneys. She is now needing to have an evaluation to get on the kidney donor list. Please stand in agreement for restoration of her kidneys. (Antoinette E.)
- † Love and support for our family as we celebrate the lives of our nephew Eric's mother, Debbie, and Tim's Uncle Dave, who both died this week. (Tim & Marie)
- † Paul, who had surgery on Thursday for a brain tumor. May the results be encouraging and the recovery full. (The Zillmers)
- † Uncle Howard hospitalized with COPD and pneumonia. (Zach)
- † A friend who is going through a rough time with trying to adopt. (Nicole)
- † Marcy, who had surgery on Wednesday to remove the lining of her lung and two cancerous tumors from her lungs. May your recovery be speedy and complete. (The Zillmers)
- † Duncan, our nine-year-old cousin, recently in the hospital for pneumonia and monitored for breathing issues. Please return him to health and wrap the family in your arms – scary time. (The Zillmer Family)
- † Wendy, as she recovers from her surgery. (Ellen & Mark)
- † Edward and David as they travel back to LAS. It was good seeing you. Safe journey. (Mark)
- ☺ Happy Birthday to our grandson, Erik, who is two-years-old on Tuesday! (Marie & Tim H.)
- ☺ Gratitude and joy for the celebration of Sweet 16 with my beautiful bride. Thank you for the last 16 years and the wonderful changes and impact you have brought to my life. (Dave Z.)
- ☺ Thank you for a fabulous date night and 16 wonderful years, my knight! (Dee Zillmer)



Prayer
is the key that unlocks all doors.

Celebrating Birthdays

08/30 Barb Zigterman
09/01 Ellen Brady
09/01 Connor David
09/03 Robb Winder
09/08 Nick Dempsey
09/20 Jill Hruska

If we've missed your birthday, please email
HOPE's Office Manager at
HOPE@shareHOPE.org.

HOPE LIBRARY

You may reserve items (books, videos or tapes) by calling HOPE's Office Manager at (630-922-0470) during office hours; by checking them out at HOPE UCC any time it is open; or by calling **Les & Jackie Pierce**, HOPE Librarians, at (630) 369-0485.

HOPE'S Leadership

Pastor	Lucas King
Moderator	Becky McCabe
Des. Moderator	Mike Manderino
Past Moderator	Jeanne Smith
Treasurer	Les Pierce
Secretary	Julie Hapke
Registrar	Jane Trotta
Community Life	Shannon Lane
Education	Marie Higgins
Pastor-Parish	Tim Higgins/Jay Hruska
Marketing & Communications	Jenn Revoldt
Missions	Zach Jarabeck
Resource & Operations	Nick Dempsey
Worship	Mary Kroening
Librarians	Les & Jackie Pierce
Photo Archive	Anna Ahonen
Webmaster	Jenn Revoldt

Quest

ADULT QUEST – Resumes on September 10!

Adult Education Classes will resume on **Sunday, September 10**, at 9 a.m. in the HOPE library. This year we will enjoy some lessons on the Gospel of John by Bishop John Shelby Spong.

These lessons were given recently at Bob and Martha Selby's church in Florida and provide some unique insights regarding this difficult Gospel. All are welcome; grab a cup of something hot and join in the conversation.

~ **Les Pierce** - Adult Ed Facilitator

KID'S QUEST – Sundays during Worship

HOPE United Church of Christ

1701 Quincy Avenue, Suite 27
Naperville, IL 60540-6684

The Reverend Lucas King

Pastor Lucas' Cell – 720-378-2858
Pastor Lucas' Email – pastor@sharehope.org

Office Phone – 630-922-0470
Office Email – hope@sharehope.org
Website – www.sharehope.org

Office Hours:






Tuesday - Thursday - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Deadline for additions or corrections to the next issue of
HOPE Happenings is September 19, by 2 p.m.**

Announcements for Sunday due by Wednesday of each week.

Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS @ HOPE UCC

<p>September 1-18</p> 	<p>Gail – Vacation!</p>
<p>September 6, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>September 10, Sunday</p> 	<p>Youth Ministry Luncheon (Following Worship) Please see article for more details.</p>
<p>September 10, Sunday</p> 	<p>Rainbow Faith (1-3 p.m.) HOPE's ministry to support those in the LGBTQ+ community who are looking for a place to wonder and explore their faith. Find out more at: www.meetup.com/Rainbow-Faith-LGBTQ-Christians/ If you have questions, would like to participate or support this ministry, please contact Pastor Lucas.</p>
<p>September 13, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>September 19, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Evening Explore Your Faith (7 p.m.) Meets at Dempsey's residence, Naperville, on the first and third Tuesday of each month.</p>
<p>September 20, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>September 21, Thursday</p> 	<p>Women Out to Lunch (Noon) Join the women of HOPE on the third Thursday of each month. Lively conversation, great food & warm fellowship is waiting for you at Giordano's Restaurant at 119 S. Main Street, in downtown Naperville. Parking is available in the lot across from the restaurant or the Van Buren Parking Building.</p>
<p>September 24, Sunday</p> 	<p>Soaring Team Conversation (Following Worship) See Article for more information.</p>
<p>September 24, Sunday</p> 	<p>Rainbow Faith (1-3 p.m.) HOPE's ministry to support those in the LGBTQ+ community who are looking for a place to wonder and explore their faith. Find out more at: www.meetup.com/Rainbow-Faith-LGBTQ-Christians/ If you have questions, would like to participate or support this ministry, please contact Pastor Lucas.</p>
<p>September 27, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Soaring Team Conversation (7 p.m. @ HOPE UCC) See Article for more information.</p>
<p>September 27, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

(This is the spot to share your personal announcements.
Submit items to the HOPE UCC Office by Tuesday, 2 p.m.)

Jesus Seminar



on the Road

All Events at

DuPage Unitarian Universalist Church
1828 Old Naperville Road
Naperville, IL 60563

Sponsor

DuPage Unitarian Universalist Church

Registration

All Sessions

Pre-registration (by Sept 1, 2017)	\$60
Registration (after Sept 1, 2017)	\$75
Student Registration	\$50

Single Sessions

Friday Evening, 7:30-9 PM	\$20
Saturday Morning, 9:30 AM-noon	\$30
Saturday Afternoon, 1:30-4 PM	\$30

Contacts

Westar Institute

PO Box 346
Farmington, Minnesota 55024
(651) 200-2372
events@westarinstitute.org

Local information

Reverend Tom Capo
revcapo@gmail.com

Naperville, Illinois

September 15-16, 2017

God, Process, and Politics

Karen Bray & Hollis Phelps

Western thought and political actions once rested on a three-tiered universe: a powerful God above, humans on earth, and spirits in the underworld.

That universe has been replaced with relativity, string theory, and quantum leaps. We need new language about God that is consistent with our universe. With an emphasis on science, on a deity of limited power, and on an unfolding universe, process theology can change our language about God and the way we understand God and politics.



Karen Bray (Ph.D., Drew University) is an Assistant Professor of Religion and Philosophy at Wesleyan College and a candidate for Unitarian Universalist minister. She is interested in how secular institutions and cultures behave theologically. Her work has been published in various academic journals.



Hollis Phelps (Ph.D., Claremont Graduate University) is Assistant Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at Mercer University. He is the author of *Alain Badiou: Between Theology and Anti-Theology* and co-editor of *Beyond Superlatives: Regenerating Whitehead's Philosophy of Experience and Religion and European Philosophy*.

