

**“Blessed are they who are persecuted
for the sake of righteousness...”**



1968 Summer Olympic Games - Mexico City

After yet another tumultuous week in the wake of the devastation of Irma in Puerto Rico, the question of patriotism has dominated the media in relation to Colin Kaepernick's silent protest of the extrajudicial killing of Black men in this country. The actual reason for these protests has been obscured by the conflation of "taking a knee" as being anti-American or anti-military. Some will argue that politics and sports should remain separate. That argument, however, is not grounded in history nor reality. This week, I would like to share a story of protest in athletics from 1968. I believe it is instructive not only to understanding the current debate, but also the role of protest to fight injustice.

In 1968 at the Summer Olympic games in Mexico City, two American track stars, John Carlos and Tommie Smith had planned to display a symbolic gesture to call attention to the searing racism that was taking place in the US. Both athletes each donned a single black glove and with a single fist raised in the air, symbol of the Black Power movement, bowed their heads during the playing of the National Anthem. They were immediately vilified by the IOC Chairman Avery Brundage (a Nazi sympathizer) and sportscaster, Brent Musburger. The Olympic Committee had them removed from the Olympics and stripped them of their medals. They faced death threats, condemnation at home, the loss of employment, and suffered personal and professional loss.

I used to have this poster in my classroom, because it is an iconic image and displayed the bravery of two Americans. I never really paid attention to the third man in the picture. Peter Norman was an Australian runner, who gave Smith and Carlos his gloves when they left theirs at the Olympic Village and suggested they each wear one. He also sought out an Olympic Project for Human Rights button to wear in solidarity as Smith and Carlos displayed their protest. That movement fought against IOC Chair Avery Brundage as well as apartheid in South Africa. He was removed from the games by Australia and despite being the best runner in his own country. He was not invited back to the Munich games in 1972 where his 1968 time would have earned him gold. He was also ostracized from the 2012 games in Australia.

This moment encapsulates the role of protest in the face of injustice. Many people play different roles. The bravery and strength of John Carlos and Tommie Smith cannot be overstated. But the role of Peter Norman is instructive as well. He represents what it means to be an ally. It cost him his athletic career but never did he seek more spotlight than Smith or Carlos. There is a statue at San Jose State University of the podium with Smith and Carlos but Norman is missing. When Smith and Carlos wanted him added to the podium, Norman declined so that those who visit could stand in his place to imagine the moment. Being an ally means de-centering yourself so that the fight against injustice is at the forefront.

As we reflect on our current debates, I usually find the Beatitudes to be a source of guidance in how to respond to the debate. Two of the eight Beatitudes specifically use the word righteousness. How are we hungering and thirsting for righteousness? How are we willing to be persecuted or stand with those who are persecuted? We have some great examples in sports and this is but one story to better understand our current one.

Michael Manderino

HOPE UCC Ministry Council Designated Moderator

News & Notes

Advent begins on December 3rd!

The Worship Ministry is looking for people willing to come together to share their creative ideas and make plans for worship services during the Advent season. The time commitment would be short – probably three meetings from mid-October until the end of November. As a group, you will decide on a theme and then help plan worship services around that theme. Please contact Mary Kroening (630-420-2611), or Pastor Lucas if you are interested.



SEPTEMBER FOOD DRIVE

The children of HOPE have begun a food drive for the month of September. Based on the loaves and fishes story, they have determined that sharing food with those who are in need would be doing the work that Jesus has called us to do.

Every Sunday during September and the first Sunday of October please bring non-perishable food goods to HOPE. We will be weighing what we receive and then when we are finished we will deliver the food to Loaves and Fishes in Naperville.

This Sunday we gave out decorated grocery bags to be filled and returned. We ran out and so will be making more to share with HOPE partners and friends. Feel free to encourage others to give even if they are not connected to HOPE.

We thank you for whatever you can give - and look forward to sharing with others.

For more information about Loaves and Fishes go to:

<https://www.loaves-fishes.org/> or https://www.loaves-fishes.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/LR_needed_items.png

Thanks, from the Kids of HOPE



Nursery Volunteers Needed



We need volunteers to provide childcare for any children under the age of four in our Nursery during our Sunday Worship Service. We are asking for volunteers because the need has been sporadic and the Ministry Council couldn't financially justify paying someone on a weekly basis. To ensure those who volunteer will be able to listen to the Worship Service, we are installing a speaker in the Nursery.

We are looking for two volunteers per Sunday. We are also looking for two types of volunteers – "Scheduled" and "Ad Hoc". Scheduled Volunteers would sign-up for Sundays on a regular basis. "Ad Hoc"

Volunteers would be available to provide childcare should we not have two scheduled volunteers for that particular Sunday.

You should be aware all volunteers need to be trained on the current legalities of childcare. To make this as simple as possible, our Christian Education team is working with Pastor Lucas to incorporate the training into our Worship Service on Sunday, October 22nd. A more detailed training for volunteers will be held immediately after the service. All volunteers would be asked to attend.

A sign-up sheet will be placed on the board in the office. I hope we can count on as many of you as possible to help out. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you in advance!!

Nick Dempsey, Chair, Resource and Operations Committee

Thanks!

for helping Ready Set Ride

Hi HOPErs!

Thank you so much for supporting me and my project!

Together we raised \$120 for Ready Set Ride!
I hope you enjoyed the baked goods!

Ravinia Zillmer



Save the Date!

Arriving on December 9!

Manna 2.0 – Monthly Gift Card Orders due this Sunday, October 1!

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. A monthly order will be made after the first Sunday of each month. 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.

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.

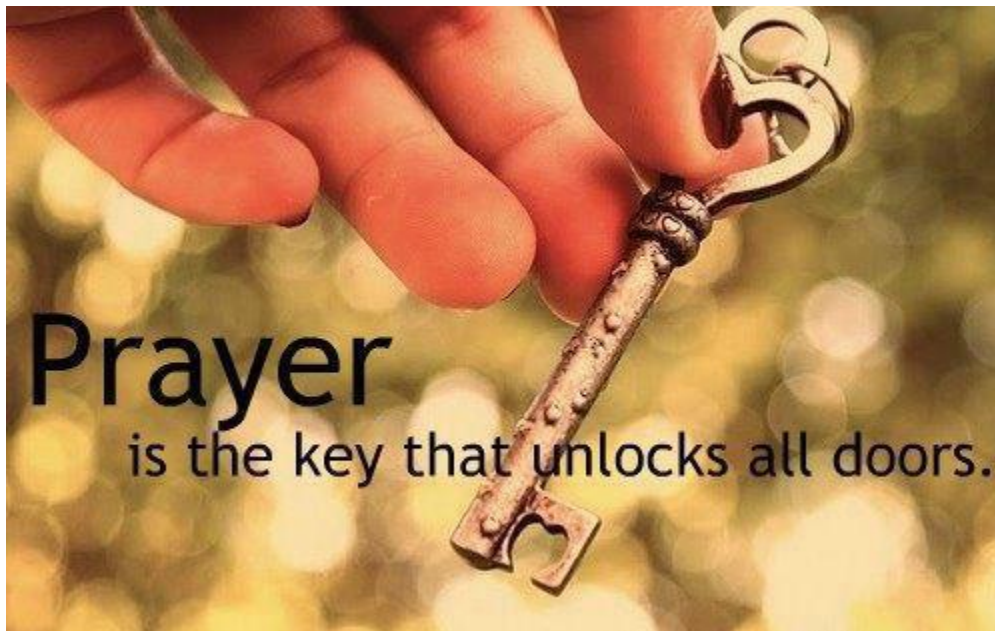
Can I change my charity?

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:

- † Michael, who is struggling with continuing his degree. The cost and devoted time is weighing heavily on our family. (Michael F-H.)
- † Continual prayers for Mr. Z. to stay and become a permanent family member to our home. (Michael & Terry)
- † Edward M. and family as they fly in from Hawaii. (Nicole H.)
- † My co-worker Michelle's husband who is very ill. (Zach)
- † Prayers for a successful final editing for my son Derek's movie. This time next week, they will submit to the Sundance Film Festival! (Anna)
- † Prayers for healing of my spine and hip. (Anna)
- † Nicole H.'s grandfather, who is in critical condition at Edward Hospital. (Zach)
- † Pray for all the people who are still affected by the storms and earthquakes. (Mark)
- † Please continue to be with my dad. (Zillmers)
- † Please bring work and financial stability to those unemployed. Please keep folks in your care until then.
- † Lee, as he is recovering from surgery. Also, for my family as we say goodbye to my great-aunt. (Courtney)
- ☺ My nephew, Billy, Jr., who is celebrating his birthday. (Mark)
- ☺ Nathan and I have such gratitude to "BB" and "Grandmama Dee", who took wonderful care of Milo while we were gone. (Erin C.)
- ☺ Andi C., Milo's "Gramera", on her birthday today! (Erin C.)



Prayer
is the key that unlocks all doors.

Celebrating Birthdays

10/01 Dave Zillmer
10/10 Jane Dempsey
10/13 Linda James
10/27 Jane Trotta
10/29 Jay 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

Adult Education Classes meet 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 October 3, by 2 p.m.**

Announcements for Sunday due by Wednesday of each week.

Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS @ HOPE UCC

<p>October 1, Sunday</p> 	<p>Neighbors in Need Special UCC Offering (During Worship)</p>
<p>October 1, Sunday</p> 	<p>Gift Card Orders due for October An order will be placed after the first Sunday of each month. As always, you can purchase inventory cards after worship every Sunday.</p>
<p>October 3, 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>October 4, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>October 8, 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>October 11, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>October 15, Sunday</p> 	<p>Ministry Council Meeting (Following Worship)</p>
<p>October 17, 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>October 18, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>October 19, 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>October 22, 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>October 25, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>October 29, Sunday</p> 	<p>Jesus Has Left the Building and We're Following Him (Details TBA)</p>