

THANK YOU AND FAREWELL

This is my last article as your Council Moderator and therefore, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for giving me such a wonderful leadership opportunity. Working with the members of Council and all the committee folks has been a great privilege. The passion and compassion that fills our conversations and problem solving have been important to the work that we do at HOPE. We have a lay-leadership model that is outstanding – and provides opportunities to put our faith into action. My many, many thanks to the hard work of these folks.



Working with Pastor Lucas has been a great experience and I have learned a tremendous amount from him. He leads with organization knowledge and vision. He has given me hope, direction and thoughtful inspiration – it has been an honor.

I also want to give a shout out to Gail – our office manager and all-round church support. As a moderator, there are many times I need information or a quick resolution to a problem and Gail has been available every time – with a smile. It has been a pleasure working with her.

I move over to past-moderator and Jeanne Smith moves on. Jeanne has led HOPE in ways that helped us through our transitional time and to the leadership of Pastor Lucas. She has the ability and skills to relate to everyone with such wisdom and understanding– and boy, did we need that! She was a great support to me as I became moderator – a coach in all ways.

Next year, Mike Manderino will take over as moderator. He will bring a new perspective – a deep understanding to how people think and work. He will lead with knowledge and patience that will be outstanding for HOPE. I am excited for his leadership. We are in such good hands!

Thank you to everyone for your support to our church community – HOPE is a great place to be!

Becky McCabe

HOPE UCC Ministry Council Moderator

News & Notes



Christmas Carol Sing-Along (9:45 a.m.)

Join us before Worship at 9:45 a.m. during Advent for a Christmas Carol Sing-Along.

Blue Christmas Service – December 21 (7 p.m.)

Christmas can be a painful time for some. It may be the first Christmas without a loved family member who has recently died; it may be a time that has always been difficult. The constant refrains on radio and television, in shopping malls and churches, about the happiness of the season, about getting together with family and friends, reminds many people of what they have lost. The anguish of the death of a loved one can make us feel alone in the midst of the celebrating and joy. We need the space and time to acknowledge our sadness; we need to know that we are not alone. We need encouragement to live the days ahead of us.



Christmas Eve Service @ HOPE UCC (10 a.m.)

Since Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, we will have our Christmas Eve worship service at our normal 10 a.m. time with a Carol Sing beginning at 9:45 a.m. The service will include an Instant Christmas pageant and will end with cookies and hot chocolate. Please bring some cookies if you have a favorite recipe you'd like to share!

Jesus Has Left the Building and We're Following Him – December 31

New Year's Eve is on Sunday, December 31 - and is the 5th Sunday of the month. Therefore, we have a Jesus Has Left the Building event at Ronald McDonald's in Winfield. We will be cooking and serving brunch to the families staying there while their child is hospitalized at Central DuPage Hospital. Ronald McDonald house provides a place for families to call home so that they can stay close to their hospitalized child. This helps make it easier for families to focus on their child and keeps them all closer together. Providing food for these families is a very humbling and rewarding experience!

We will NEED 10 VOLUNTEERS to help us prep and cook food that morning. More detailed information to come. Therefore, please sign up at church this Sunday or contact Becky McCabe if you are interested or have questions in serving. Becky's email is becky.mccabe1@gmail.com.



Sharing Joys & Concerns

Please keep these people & events in your prayers:

- † Let us pray for Nathan's grandmother, Jody, who is recovering from a nasty bout of the flu. Hopefully, she can move to a rehab facility soon to start rebuilding her strength. (Erin Cooley)
- † Pray for Anna, who will have an MRI to try to diagnose vertigo and dizziness. (Ellen & the Ensemble)
- † Prayers and congratulations to the Dempsey family, as they await the arrival of their first grandchild next year. (Les & Jackie)
- † Extreme joy and good health for our daughter-in-law and son, Bequita and Sam, as they expect their first child after many years of disappointment. (Nick & Jane D.)
- † Please pray for my cousin and her family evacuated for the California fires. May they and their property stay safe. Also, my other cousin who is sent to fight the fires. (Dee Z.)
- † Celebrate Human Rights Day! The work is never done. Please remember the most vulnerable worldwide and continue to fight for justice and freedom! (Zach)
- † Edward S. as he travels back to Vegas. (Mark G.)
- † Pray for Dean F. hospitalized with congestive heart failure. (Zach)

On December 23, Dick Anderson, one of the founders of HOPE, will be 80 years old. He'd be so thrilled to get a card or two from HOPERS.

Send cards to:
Dick Anderson,
9008 Kingston Drive,
Denton, Texas 76207



Celebrating Birthdays

12/08 Tina St. Angelo Wetzel
12/23 Dick Anderson
12/24 Julie Hapke

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 – 9 a.m. @ HOPE UCC

We will watch a short video and then discuss the idea of Science and Spirituality. All are welcome to explore who we are and where we think we are going. You may be surprised by what you hear about yourself.

~ **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 December 18, by 2 p.m.**

Announcements for Sunday due by Wednesday of each week.

Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS @ HOPE UCC

<p>December 17, Sunday</p> 	<p>Ministry Council Meeting (Following Worship)</p>
<p>December 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>December 20, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Please note: Change of Venue This week the Dempsey's will host a Christmas Breakfast at their home in Naperville.</p>
<p>December 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>December 21, Thursday</p> 	<p>Blue Christmas Service @ HOPE UCC (7 p.m.) When Christmas hurts...Join us for a service of remembrance of those we've lost.</p>
<p>December 24, Sunday</p> 	<p>Christmas Eve Service @ HOPE UCC (10 a.m.) Since Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, we will have our Christmas Eve worship service at our normal 10 a.m. time with a Carol Sing beginning at 9:45 a.m. The service will include an Instant Christmas pageant and will end with cookies and hot chocolate. Please bring some cookies if you have a favorite recipe you'd like to share!</p>
<p>December 25 – 28</p> 	<p>Pastor Lucas – Out of Office</p>
<p>December 27, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>December 31, Sunday</p> 	<p>Jesus Has Left the Building and We're Following Him (Work-ship instead of Worship) Please see article for more details.</p>
<p>January 2, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Evening Explore Your Faith (7 p.m.) Note: Change of Venue for January & February Meets at Hruska's residence, Naperville, this week.</p>
<p>January 3, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>January 10, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>January 10, Wednesday</p> 	<p>PADS Dinner @ First Congregational, Naperville (6 p.m.)</p>