

Hope UCC Weekly Update: September 19, 2021

There is always something happening at Hope UCC, so we thought we would add a weekly announcement feature to the bulletin that is mailed and emailed out to everyone. This Weekly Update will provide you with announcements, information, and updates on all that is going on in our community – at church and beyond.

Reel Theology Begins September 17th: In the Heights



Our first gathering will be Friday, September 17th and we will begin with the film adaptation of the blockbuster musical *In the Heights*. This film is the 2021 American musical based on the stage musical of the same name by Quiara Alegría Hudes and Lin-Manuel Miranda. The film tells the story of a corner in the predominantly Dominican Washington Heights neighborhood of Upper Manhattan in New York City, where every member of the community pursues their dreams of a better life.

Although we cannot begin with our usual potluck dinner, you are welcome to bring your own dinner and we can eat together at 5:30. The film will begin at 6:00 with the discussion to follow. All ages are welcome but please remember that this film is rated PG-13, so plan accordingly.



NAMI Walk - September 18, 2021

Join "Team Hope UCC" for this annual 5K to raise awareness about mental health issues.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) provides support and works to improve the lives of persons living with serious mental health conditions and their families. NAMI focuses on education, advocacy and support, and works with healthcare providers and other community leaders to address needs within the Quad Cities area. Their work complements treatment, filling an information and education gap for individuals and families. Hope UCC's team will walk together and all funds raised will go directly to NAMI's

programs helping our friends and neighbors in the Quad Cities. If you are unable to walk that distance, consider cheering us on from the sidelines or making a donation to our team. It's a great way for us to be present in the community, representing our church, supporting those who are facing this critical health issue. Please see Pastor Santina or go to:

https://www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donordrive.team&teamID=44071

in order to sign up to walk with Hope UCC's team or make a donation.

Thank you for supporting NAMI and for helping to raise awareness about helping people living with mental health conditions.



Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL Worship Bulletin September 19, 2021 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost "Reject Racism and Embrace Diversity" Thank you for joining us for worship today. We are glad you are here!

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Hope UCC!

*Those who are able, please stand

PRELUDE Christians, We Have Met to Worship (1 piano 4 hands)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HANDBELL FANFARE

*CALL TO WORSHIP We are God's church: **We come together to worship.**

God has given us God's Word: We come together to learn from God.

God has filled us with God's love: We go out to share God's love with others.

God calls us into God's family: We come together to share our lives.

God has put God's words on our lips: **We go out to tell the world about God.**

God has given us God's Spirit: We come together to celebrate and live the Good News.

We are God's church: **We come together to be the church.**

*OPENING HYMN All Are Welcome (see end of bulletin)

***INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST**

Holy God, How shall we worship you? We have heard what you require of us and to leave empty talk and pride behind and walk the walk that demonstrates and shares your love. Prepare us today to step out in faith, even into troubled waters. We will not be afraid as we do because Jesus will guide our steps along the way, teaching us to walk humbly, to love boldly, and to serve you, God, with body, soul, mind, and strength. Together we pray for the humility and courage to be the church and follow where your Spirit leads us. Amen.

BE THE CHURC

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources. Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.

Protect the environment. Care for the poor. Forgive often. Reject racism.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, You are the rock of our salvation. We know our faults and try to hide from you and others. We have not cared for all people in the same way. We do think some are more gifted, or better, or prettier. We are more willing to rejoice with someone, than to suffer with another. We are not sure the prisoners should be set free, or the poor given hope. Redeemer of all people, forgive us. Anoint us with your Spirit's power so our eyes might be opened and our ears freed to listen to what Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, teaches us about your love and grace for our lives. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS AND PASSING OF PEACE

We are created in the image of God and are blessed with the capacity to reflect God's will in our daily lives. God cares for us and invests us with responsibility. Thus God honors us with high expectations and confidence in our willingness to seek out life's best for all people. We are loved. We are forgiven. Our baptism is renewed.

Let us offer one another the gift of peace. May the Lord's peace by with you! (If you are using this liturgy as a private devotion or participating in the live stream worship, please hold out your hands in blessing for all you are joined with in spirit. If you are participating in the live stream worship, please type in your peace greeting.)

HANDBELL CALL TO PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

One: May the Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray:...

With the assurance Jesus offers, together we pray the words Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HEBREW LESSON

Micah 6: 6-8

- ⁶ "With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?
- Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
 Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"
- ⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS

1 Corinthians 12:4-13

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

SERMON

SERMON HYMN Bring Many Names (see end of bulletin)

INVITATION TO OFFERING

With free-will offerings, we will sacrifice to God, giving thanks for mercies too abundant to count. We want to share all that has been entrusted to our keeping, that God may be praised, and peace may come to all God's people.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

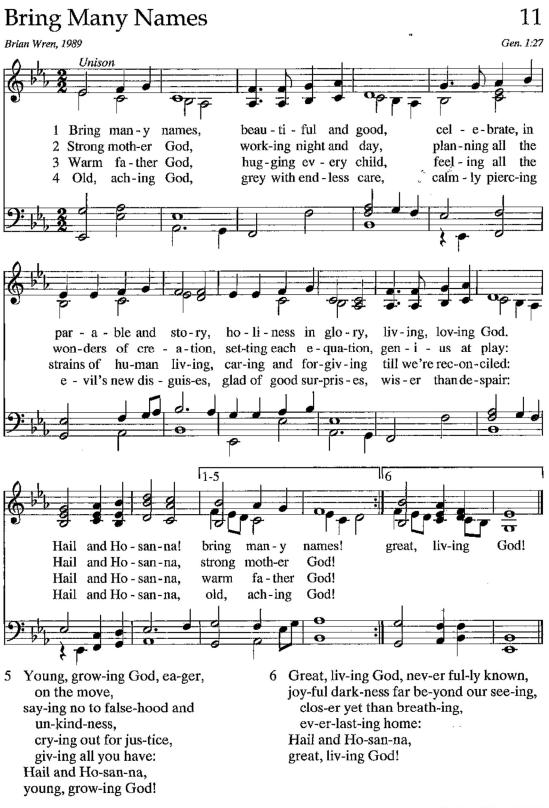
We who have spent much on our own pleasures are pleased to share that others may obtain the necessities of body and spirit. Thank you, God, for this opportunity to support the ministry and mission of our congregation. May there be harvest of righteousness among us, shown in the peaceful handling of disputes, in mutual love and support, and in courageous outreach to people near and far who need the help we can give. Bless each gift and giver. Amen.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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The author states that aspects of the divine are revealed in our maleness, femaleness, youth, and age in a moving, growing matrix of life in God. The tune Westchase was composed especially for this text. Tune: WESTCHASE 9.10.11.9. Carlton Young, 1989

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