



Hope UCC Weekly Update: August 14, 2022

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.

Congregational Sympathy

Congregational sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Phyllis Dull. Phyllis passed away on Monday, August 8 at n her home. No services are planned at this time.

Register for September 24th All Church Service Trip to Feed My Starving Children

All ages are welcome to join Mission & Outreach as we travel to Aurora to serve at Feed My Starving Children on September 24. We will meet at Hope UCC at 9:45 a.m. and carpool to the worksite in Aurora, have lunch and then begin our shift that begins at 2:00 and concludes at 3:45. Jobs are available for all ages and physical abilities- you do not have to stand for all the jobs. Save the date and sign up after church August 14- September 15.

Farewell to Ben

We are so very grateful for the gifts Ben Holmes has shared with us in worship at Hope UCC for the past two years. Although we are sad to see him go, we are excited to see the new ways he is putting his gifts to use, nurturing others in their musical talents and helping to grow the arts in the Quad Cities. Ben will conclude his ministry at Hope UCC on August 24. We will celebrate him during worship that day. If you would like to make a contribution to a cash gift for Ben, please send your cash or check made out to Hope UCC to the office or put in offering plate with 'Ben' on the envelope and/or memo line. Thank you!

RUTH CIRCLE DINNER - EVERYONE WELCOME

Ruth Circle is having a summer dinner night on August 15, 2022. Everyone is welcome, you do not need to be in Ruth Circle to come. We will be meeting at 5:00 at River House - 1510 River Dr. Moline. No meeting, just a social outing, we hope many will join us, it is always a fun night. Any questions or to let us know you will be attending please call or see Sheila Goderis or Kathy LeMaster. We will need to know how many are attending to make our reservation. Hope to see many of you there.

Blessing Box Donations

Thank you for your ongoing support with donations. Please keep it coming. This week's needs include: dental floss, canned chicken, peanut butter, Spam/canned meats, and applesauce/fruit cups.

Book Club Book of the Month

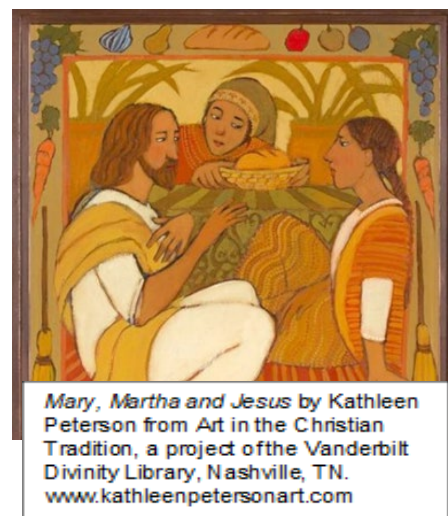
"The Lions of Fifth Avenue" by Fiona Davis. This book can be found at the Moline Library in the Book Club section. And remember to join us August 29 with a friend for discussion.



Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL
Worship Bulletin August 14, 2022
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Gathered at the Table
What's for Dinner and Who's Cooking?:
Serving God and Others

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Come, people of faith, trusting God's steadfast love. Take refuge in the eternal presence.

Many: **We want to acknowledge God first in our lives. We seek to rely on a power beyond ourselves.**

One: Gather in silent awe before the source of all things. Climb God's holy hill, giving thanks.

Many: **It is not easy to have faith in one we do not know. It is frightening to realize God's sovereign power.**

One: Know that Christ is the image of the invisible God, the one in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

Many: **We are the church, gathered in Christ's name. We are the body of Christ, seeking to live faithfully.**

***OPENING HYMN #498 *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love* (see end of bulletin)**

***INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST**

Awesome God, we thirst for your Word. We long to make sense of so much we do not understand. We want our worship to be more than a quick diversion from tasks that seem more pressing. We want to believe there is more to life than seeking personal gain. We bring to you today our troubles and anxieties, our estrangements and hostilities, our boasting and deceits. Meet us here with truth we cannot avoid. Amen.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Take away our distractions, O God, so we may be confronted by your expectation of us. We realize that our busy striving after things has dulled our awareness of you. We have sought fulfillment in ways that deny you and hurt other people. Sometimes our success tramples the needy and brings ruin to the poor. Even our benevolence becomes self-serving. O God, we want to find our hope in the gospel. Help us, we pray. 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 be 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.)*

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.

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 10:38-42

38 Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. 39 She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. 40 But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." 41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, 42 but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

SERMON "What's Cooking?"

SERMON HYMN #539 *Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant* (see end of bulletin)

INVITATION TO OFFERING

The psalmist laughs at those who trust in wealth. Perhaps we are ones who are objects of that scorn. Let us use our wealth to proclaim the one in whom we really trust, that creative energy of love who fills the whole universe and has been revealed to us in Jesus Christ.

Hope UCC thanks you for the gifts you share with this congregation. Your offering enables us to live into our mission. Offering plates are located near the Sanctuary doors.

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Through our offerings, loving God, we proclaim Christ to the world. We dedicate all we are giving to preaching, teaching, and outreach that move people toward Christian maturity. We offer ourselves as advocates for the poor and needy, as seekers for justice, as stewards of hope. We turn from false securities to put our confidence in you, that the mystery of your glorious Word may be opened up among all your people. Amen.

BENEDICTION

One: Choose this day a life of listening and trusting. Let God have first place on your daily agenda.

Many: **We will give ear to promptings of the Spirit. We seek to hear God's teachings and warnings.**

One: Let your faith be evidenced in all your dealings. Share humbly and caringly the hope that is in you.

Many: **We believe others can hear the Word of God through us. We will be careful to represent the gospel faithfully.**

One: You have chosen well; receive God's blessing. Give thanks each day for God's gracious favor.

Many: **Thanks be to God for both comfort and judgment. Praise God for both reassurance and challenge. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

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498

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

John 13:1-20; Gal. 5:13-14

Tom Colvin, 1969; rev. 1994

Refrain Unison

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1 Knelt at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their
 2 Neigh-bors are rich and poor, var - ied in col - or and
 3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, show - ing our faith by our
 5 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their

feet, Je - su, you act - ed as ser - vant to them.
 race, neigh-bors are near and far a - way.
 love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.
 deeds, serv - ing the neigh-bors we have from you.
 feet, this is the way we should live with you.

This African folk melody was presented to the Church at Chereponi, Northern Ghana, by Ghanaian musicologist, A. A. Mensah, when United Church of Christ missionaries, Al and Sue Krass were serving there. Like Tom Colvin, a Scottish missionary in neighboring Tamale, Al Krass was encouraging the making of hymns to indigenous melodies. Tom Colvin wrote these words to this adapted form of the melody in dedication to the Church at Chereponi.

*Tune: CHEREPONI Irr. with refrain
 Ghanaian folk song; adapt. Tom Colvin, 1969
 Arr. Jane Marshall, 1982*

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

539

Richard Gillard, 1977; alt.

Rom. 12:9-18; Col. 1:24-29

1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you?
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - elers on the road;
 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shad - ow of your fear;
 4 I will weep when you are weep-ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
 5 When we sing to God in heav - en we shall find such har - mo - ny,

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser-vant, too.
 We are here to help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.
 I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
 I will share your joy and sor-row till we've seen this jour-ney through.
 Born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

(repeat stanza 1)

Richard Gillard was born in England and later made his home in New Zealand. Largely self-taught, Gillard has described his musical style as "folk." This is the best known of his many songs in the United States.

Tune: SERVANT SONG 8.7.8.7.
 Richard Gillard, 1977
 Arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham, 1977; adapt.

Financial Status of Hope U.C.C.

As I write this fiscal year 2022 is more than ½ over, and the June and July books have been approved. In the goal of maintaining 100% financial transparency, I would like to explain the financial status of Hope U.C.C. at this time of the financial year.

On the next page you will find the July Financial Report. (And a very large “thank you” to Bridget for her excellent work on preparing these reports.) I would like to point out several important items in this report:

- If you look at the line titled “Total Income” please note the following:
 - o Income at the end of July, which marks almost 60% completion of the fiscal year, income is at or slightly behind schedule, with 51.8% of income realized.
- Now, if you look at the line entitled “Total Expenses” near the bottom of the second page of the financial report you will not that, at the 58% point of the fiscal year Hope U.C.C.’s expenses are at only 52.2%.

So...as of the end of 58% of the fiscal year Hope U.C.C. is in the black! Or, in other words, we are not spending more money than we are taking in!

Now I would like to point out several other important items in the July Financial Report.

Please look at line 1009: Transfers from Investments/Savings:

- The 2022 budget calls for a transfer of \$18,129.31 from investments and savings. This transfer was completed in June to help offset the cost of the roof repairs.
- The cost for the roof repairs is noted under “Holding Funds” on the third page of the Financial Report rather than under Trustees Ministry. This is because it was not a budgeted item approved by the congregation when the budget was set. However, it was approved by the congregation at a special congregational meeting in June.

Now please look at the total expenses for Personnel (after line item 2015), Trustees Ministry (after line 3015), Faith Exploration and Education Ministry (after line 4003), Worship and Music Ministry (after line 5006), and Mission and Outreach Ministry (*after line 6005).

- With the exception of Trustees Ministry, all of the church’s ministries are in the black, in that they have not overspent their budgets thus far in the fiscal year.
- Expenses for the Trustees Ministry are slightly over budget thus far, which is due to some unexpected property expenses and fee increases for custodial services (due to switching from a paid custodian to a new custodial cleaning service), digital media expenses, repairs and maintenance, office supplies and postage.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to the line item entitled “LPL Financial” under “Cash and Assets”. You will note that the balance of this investment account is down by slightly more than \$100,000 since 31 December, 2021. This is due to

- A significant drop in the stock market during the unstable financial times that we are all experiencing this year.
- A withdrawal of \$18,129.31 from the investment account as budgeted for 2022.

So... long story short, Hope U.C.C.'s finances are sound...and we are in the black (no deficit) thus far in 2022.

Thank you for your financial support of our church's mission. If you have any questions feel free to contact me, either by phone or e-mail. My contact information is listed below.

With love and appreciation for your trust in me and my work,

Bob Tallitsch

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