



Hopeful Connections

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Volume 27 Number 11

November 2021

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Thankful

Although we give thanks throughout the year, November is the month we put our thanks front and center. Everywhere we look, we see the unmistakable signs of the change of season: green trees changing to orange and yellow, leaves on the ground, bare branches, and fields once full of corn and beans, now harvested and wide open. It is as though nature is reminding us to slow down, look at all this beauty around us, and give thanks for all that we experience in the seasons of our lives. We learn and grow through all the joys and the challenges we face, and as part of this community of faith at Hope UCC, we are blessed with the assurance that we do not do this alone – we are gathered together on this journey.

I am so thankful for Hope UCC. This congregation continues to teach me what the heart of discipleship and God's love looks and feels like.

As usual, I turn to one of my favorite poets to describe what fills my heart in this time of recognizing all for which we give thanks.

"Messenger" by Mary Oliver

My work is loving the world.

Here the sunflowers, there the hummingbird—
equal seekers of sweetness.

Here the quickening yeast; there the blue plums.
Here the clam deep in the speckled sand.

Are my boots old? Is my coat torn?

Am I no longer young, and still half-perfect? Let me
keep my mind on what matters,
which is my work,

which is mostly standing still and learning to be
astonished.

The phoebe, the delphinium.

The sheep in the pasture, and the pasture.

Which is mostly rejoicing, since all the ingredients are here,

which is gratitude, to be given a mind and a heart
and these body-clothes,

a mouth with which to give shouts of joy
to the moth and the wren, to the sleepy dug-up clam,
telling them all, over and over, how it is
that we live forever.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all!

Yours in the journey,
Pastor Santana



November Scripture

Nov. 7	Isaiah 25:6-9 Revelation 21:1-6a John 11:32-44
Nov. 14	1Sam 1:4-20, 2:1-10
Nov. 21	Joel 2:21-27 Matthew 6:25-33
Nov. 28	Jeremiah 33:14-16 Matthew 2:1-12

FOUND BRACELET

A very nice bracelet was found outside/back parking lot area. Please call office if you think it may be yours.

Book Club

For the remainder of the year, book club will continue to hold their meetings at church. We hope to get back to meeting at the library in the new year.

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will not meet for the remainder of this year. They will start back up in February with the Spring Fling Dinner. Location and info will be announced at a later date.

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast Fellowship has been suspended. Due to concerns of COVID, participation has been very low. So until further notice, there will be no Men's Breakfast Fellowship at this time. Any questions or concerns, please call Dan Hawotte.

Save the Date: Advent Workshop November 27!

Families of one and families of many are welcome to join the fun as we prepare for Advent with a fun time together creating decorations to celebrate the season. Watch for more information about time of the event and other details from our Faith Exploration Ministry team. We look forward to celebrating with you.

Hope UCC Stewardship 2022: Devoted

We hope you have received your 2022 Mission Plan and stewardship information. As we reflect on all that we have accomplished throughout 2021 we also take this important time to discern how God is calling us to live as God's people and be the church in 2022. There is much information in these packets and we hope that as you read through the information you will feel led to send in your faith promise of support for Hope UCC's 2022 mission. If you have any questions about the proposed 2022 budget or any of the information contained in the plan, please contact Hope UCC's treasurer, Bob Tallitsch, or Pastor Santina. Likewise, if you are reading this and would like to receive this year's Mission Plan and information, please contact the church office: 309-762-1419 or info.hopeuccqc@gmail.com. On behalf of our Trustees Ministry, we thank you for your continued support of Hope UCC in the many ways that support is offered.

Thank You

Thank you to my church family for all the cards, flowers, phone calls visits and prayers during my surgeries and recuperation. With a special thanks to visitation. It was all so much appreciated!

Dorothy Burdick

Thank you all so much for the many calls and cards with the passing of my brother Bob. It was so much appreciated. It really helps to hear from people and know that they are thinking of you.

Sue Grchan



'Pam Appreciation Sunday' November 14

Please join us in thanking our Office Administrator/Bookkeeper, Pamela Becker, for her 16 years of service at Hope UCC. Pam will be leaving us soon and although we hate to see her go, we are excited for her as she and Brian plan many adventures and trips to fill their retirement together. We will celebrate Pam and thank her for being such an important part of Hope UCC and our mission following worship on Sunday, November 14. If you would like to find out more about contributing to a gift for Pam, please contact Grady Birdsell at gbirdsell@sbcglobal.net or Kathy LeMaster at ptcruiser-nana@gmail.com. If you would like to help with the party by making treats or setting up or cleaning up, please contact Mary Tallitsch at mtallitsch@gmail.com.



Reel Theology on November 19: Nomadland

Please join us as we watch and discuss the film *Nomadland*. Bring your own dinner at 5:30 if you would like to eat together before the film begins at 6:00. *Nomadland* is a 2020 American neo-Western drama film based on the 2017 nonfiction book *Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century*. The film stars Frances McDormand as a van-dwelling working nomad who leaves her home after her husband dies and the sole industry in her town closes down, to be "houseless" and travel around the United States. This multi-award winning film is deeply thought-provoking and offers a sensitive look into the experience of those living an 'outsider existence' and many understandings of community. We hope you will join us for this viewing and discussion. The film is rated R due to a brief scene of nudity.

NEW DATE: An Illustrated Faith: Deepening Our Spiritual Journey through Creative Journaling Saturday, December 4 at 3:30-5:00 P.M.

Families of one and families of many are invited to join the Faith Exploration Ministry for this fun and informative afternoon workshop. Reverend Lisa Gaston will lead us in this spiritual practice. No artistic background or experience is necessary for this practice which is found to deepen our engagement with scripture and prayer practices. Many have found that Bible journaling brings a new awareness of scripture of texts they have heard and read for many years, because engaging with it creatively offers a fresh perspective to them. This is a fun and meaningful time together designed for all ages to share together so please bring your children and/or grandchildren. Childcare will be available for children under the age of 5 (please let the church office know if you will need childcare).

Faith Exploration will provide the materials for journaling so please let us know you will be attending. RSVP with the church office either by calling or emailing:

309-762-1419 or office.hopeuccqc@gmail.com

We will have refreshments provided at 3:30 and the program will begin at 3:45. A \$5 donation is suggested. Please contact the Faith Exploration Ministry members with any questions: Laura Black, Sue Grchan, Kim Powell, and Jan Birdsell.

Pastor Santina's Schedule

I've finally have accepted that all the changes throughout the pandemic have altered the way I need to schedule my time during the week. Since I started here in January 2018 I scheduled Wednesday as my study/sermon writing day and Friday as my day 'off' and all other days being available in the church office. This month I'm changing things around a bit and I think this actually is a better schedule for the rhythm of the way things work during the week. Mondays will be my day off and I will use Friday as my study/sermon writing day. I will be in the office Tuesday –Thursday and if I'm not there, I'm somewhere close by! I am available to schedule anything with you anytime throughout the week. What has not changed is that I am available for you and any pastoral care or emergencies anytime. Please call my phone or the church office to get in touch. Thank you for your support!

~Pastor Santina

Youth Group News: November & December

Youth Group meets Sundays from 3:00-4:15 P.M. unless otherwise noted

November 7: Remembering Our Saints

Dedication of Blessing Box following 10:00 a.m. worship – so meet at Blessing Box at 11:00 a.m.
NO YOUTH GROUP MEETING TODAY

November 14: Story of Hannah

We'll discuss the story of Hannah and meet a few other strong women from the Bible.

November 21: Thanksgiving Sunday

For what are we thankful?

November 27: Advent Workshop at Hope UCC (time: to be announced)

Come over to church and share breakfast treats and create some special ornaments for your Advent and Christmas season.

November 28: 1st Sunday of Advent: Hope

Make an Advent wreath to take home and one for our group; discussion of what the Wise Men were hoping to see as they followed the star.

December 4: Illustrated Faith Workshop: 3:00-5:00 P.M.

Bring your family and join us as we use our creativity to deepen our spiritual journey.

December 7: 2nd Sunday of Advent: Peace

How do we see and feel peace through our faith? How did the shepherds feel at first and how did they come to see and feel peace when they learned of Jesus's birth?

December 14: 3rd Sunday of Advent: Joy

Let's get to know Mary, Jesus's mother, a little better today.

December 17: A Night at the Movies – "It's a Wonderful Life"

Join together with our Hope UCC friends for an intergenerational movie night to watch and discuss this Christmas classic together.

December 19: 4th Sunday of Advent: Love

We will have a Christmas party and gift exchange

December 24: Christmas Eve

5:00 P.M. Lessons and Carols service (In person and live streamed- *in person depends on Covid and weather* J)

December 26: No Youth Group



Thanksgiving PUGS at Hope UCC

Wait, are we going to see adorable dogs at Hope UCC this Thanksgiving??!! Not exactly, but we are going to collect some of the most needed items for our Quad Cities neighbors during November! Join Mission and Outreach as we collect items for our Blessing Box Ministry and our friends at Christian Care and World Relief. We've made it easy to remember what we are collecting:

P = Protein: Canned protein includes varieties of beans and legumes, canned meats (tuna, chicken, Spam, sausages), and peanut butter

U = Underwear: new men's & women's all sizes through xxl

G = Gloves: men's, women's, and children's: all sizes to include insulated work gloves as well as mittens

S = Socks: new men's, women's, and children's: all sizes and thicknesses

All donations will be gathered at our Communion Table in the chancel throughout November. Please bring items by November 27th for delivery the week of November 28th. We thank you for your loving kindness and generosity. Please contact any M&O Ministry team member with questions: Donna Werner, Lisa & Brian Williams, Jenny Hookey, Kathy Hobson, Barb Hawotte, and Ginny Anderson.

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11-23-2005

I HAVE TO AGREE WITH NANCY ... THE
BELT POP IS TOTALLY WHEN YOU
TRANSITION FROM THANKFULNESS TO
GLUTTONY