



HOPE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Santina Poor, Pastor

November 12, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of Hope UCC,

Due to rising numbers of Covid cases and hospitalizations in our county, region, and throughout the State of Illinois, the Illinois Department of Health issued the following recommendation, "IDPH recommends, over the next three weeks, stay home as much as possible, leaving only for necessary and essential activities, such as work that must be performed outside the home, COVID-19 testing, visiting the pharmacy, and buying groceries." As a result, out of an abundance of caution and to faithfully care for our community, our church office staff will work remotely from home November 16-December 4. We will continue to live stream our worship services from the sanctuary on Sunday mornings unless we are instructed to do otherwise by our federal, state, and/or local health officials and safety protocols and guidelines. Pam and Pastor Santina had A LOT of practice making this all run smoothly during the stay at home order earlier in this pandemic, so please be assured that all mail, email, and voicemail will be collected and returned. We ask that if you are in the church building for any reason and at any time, that you please sign in on the sheet provided by all doors (front, rear, kitchen) with your name, contact number, and date/time you are in the building. We will need this information for any contact tracing that might (but hopefully will not) be necessary.

We thank you for your cooperation with this and your patience and support as we continue to navigate this unprecedented time. There is so much suffering around us, but there is still so much hope. Please hold in prayer all those who are sick and who have lost loved ones to this virus. Please pray for our hospital staffs and caregivers who are struggling with the burden of these growing numbers. And please pray for those who will not cooperate with the guidelines that can keep us safe, that they may grow in compassion and care and wear a mask and maintain safe distances. We will get through this and will safely gather together again – what a great celebration we will have!

Please call or email the church office or Pastor Santina if you have any questions or concerns about this process. We will 'see' you in church on Sunday in our livestream service on Facebook Live.

Peace,
Pastor Santina
Grady Birdsell, Hope UCC President