



Hope UCC Weekly Update: September 29th, 2024

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.

Confirmation Information Meeting following Worship NEW DATE: September 29

Youth in grades 6-12 and their parents/guardians/family members are invited to come to an informational meeting about Hope UCC's Confirmation program beginning in October. Grab a snack in the Fellowship Hall and bring it to the Conference Room for a short meeting about this year's plans. My apologies for the date change!

Blessing of Our Pets, Friday, October 4th from 8:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M. & 2:00 P.M.-4 P.M.

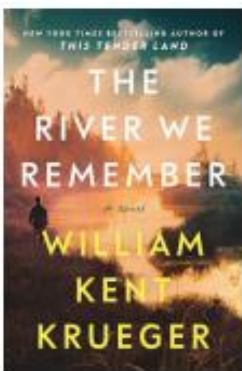
We will honor the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and the environment, with a Blessing of the Animals throughout the day. All pets and their caretakers are invited to meet with Pastor Santina for a blessing. Weather permitting there will be a table set up near the Blessing Box. If it is raining, we'll be inside the building. Bring your pets and tell your friends to bring theirs to church for a special blessing that day.

NAMI Walk on September 28, 2024, 8am-12pm

Save the date, register to walk with Hope UCC's Team, and support NAMI – the National Alliance on Mental Illness Greater Mississippi Valley Chapter. Join us on Saturday, September 28 at 8:00 A.M. to walk together as we raise mental health awareness and raise funds for NAMI's mission. By walking together in this important community event, we are letting our friends, family, and neighbors who live with mental health issues and their loved ones know they are not alone!

To register to walk on Hope UCC's team and/or to make a donation, please go to:

<https://www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.team&teamID=68289>

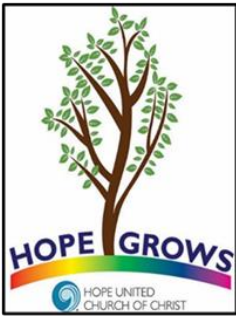


The Hope UCC Book Club September 30th at 6pm

All are welcome to join the Hope UCC Book Club on Monday, September 30th at 6pm. We meet in the Conference Room at Hope UCC. September's selection will be *The River We Remember* by William Kent Krueger. The novel is a complex, spellbinding mystery and a masterful portrait of midcentury American life. *The River We Remember* is an unflinching look at the wounds left by the wars we fight abroad and at home, a moving exploration of the ways in which we seek to heal, and a testament to the enduring power of the stories we tell about the places we call home. You do not want to miss this discussion! Please contact Dorothy Burdick with any questions about Hope UCC's Book Club!

Bulletin Announcement Deadlines

If you have announcements for the weekly Bulletin, they must be received by Tuesday prior to the Sunday Bulletin. Thank You!



Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL
 Worship Bulletin September 29th, 2024
 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Thank you for joining us for worship today.
 We are glad you are here!
 Because you are who you are,
 you are welcome here!*

***You may stand.**



PRELUDE *Your Song* by Elton John

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THRESHOLD HYMN NCH#438 *When Peace, Like a River (It Is Well with My Soul)*

1 When peace like a river, uphold me each day,
 when sorrows like sea billows roll,
 whatever my lot, you have taught me to say,
 "It is well, it is well with my soul."

Refrain:

It is well with my soul;
 it is well, it is well with my soul.

*COMING TOGETHER AS A WORSHIP COMMUNITY

One: In God we find refuge.

Many: God hears us and saves us.

One: God is our rock and our fortress.

Many: God is our hope.

One: And so we gather together, seeking God's peace.

Many: We are fully present, offering God our praise. Together, we gather in worship.

*OPENING HYMN NCH #407 *How Firm a Foundation*

*INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST

Meet us, Lord, on this road we travel. Be at our side on the journey of faith and guide us on the path toward our destination. Renew our strength as we continue to walk and commune with you. Open our eyes, so we see the signs of your presence around us. Open our hearts, so we may receive your peace and love. Empower us as we share this worship today, to pass on to others the grace you have shared with us so freely. Amen.

*OFFERING OUR CONFESSION

Gracious God, When we remember the journey of our faith, the story that we live with you and one another, we recall all the ways we have missed the mark and failed to live our Christian story well. We have neglected to listen to and believe the stories of our neighbors. We have ignored how we contribute to the hardships that exist in our community. We have turned away from the needs of the poor. We have shied away from the suffering of our neighbors. We have valued independence over interdependence and connection. In so many ways, big and small, our lives have not demonstrated our testimony of new life in Christ. But we know there is a better way to be in this world. A way that reflects your love for Creation. We seek that way now as we ask that you forgive us and bring your wholeness to our lives. Amen.

*RECEIVING ASSURANCE OF GOD'S MERCY

*SHARING GOD'S PEACE

PRAYING AS GOD'S PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER

Each of us has a unique experience with the Lord's Prayer. Please use the words you are most comfortable using as we share this prayer together. We can pray with one voice using a variety of words.

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 SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 71:1-6

¹ In you, O LORD, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.

² In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
incline your ear to me and save me.

³ Be to me a rock of refuge,
a strong fortress to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.

⁴ Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.

⁵ For you, O Lord, are my hope,
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.

⁶ From my birth I have leaned upon you,
my protector since my mother's womb.

My praise is continually of you.

*GOSPEL LESSON Luke 24:13-35

¹³ Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us[□] while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

SERMON *Celebrate Healing*

SERMON HYMN NCH #394 *In Christ there Is No East or West*

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Open the eyes of our hearts Lord. Enable us to see as you see and respond as you respond. Let us offer our presence, our prayers, our service, our witness, and our gifts to God.

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.

BLESSING OUR GIFTS

Holy God, what will be done with the gifts we offer in these moments has not been revealed to us. But knowing you through Jesus, and trusting in you by the power of the Holy Spirit, we do know they will be used to bring hope, healing, and justice to all those people and places who long for these blessings. We offer these gifts with gratitude to you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

GATHERING AT THE TABLE: SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Welcome

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

Many: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth

and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Many: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Remember

One: Let us be a community of messengers, proclaiming and reminding each other and creation:

Many: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Consecration

One: Let us pray...

Many: In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen

Breaking Bread and Pouring the CupSharing Holy Communion

The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated through an open table at Hope UCC. All are invited to share this holy meal. Please come forward to receive a piece of bread and then take a cup from the tray. If you are unable to come forward to receive Communion, Pastor Santina will bring it to you in your pew.

COMMUNION ANTHEM *All Belong Here* by Rand & Rand

When you're not sure who you really are
 When all you feel is the shape of your scars
 And you have more wounds than you can count
 Open your eyes, look all around
 You aren't alone, this is your home

Come and remember who you are here
 Do this to remember who I am
 Come and remember you belong here
 All belong here

When you don't know how to forgive
 When locked doors seem like the only way to live
 And you've got more questions than you can count
 Open your eyes, look all around
 You aren't alone, this is your home

Come and remember who you are here
 Do this to remember who I am
 Come and remember you belong here
 All belong here

At this table come as you are
 Broken and bleeding's ok
 At this table eat and be filled
 Come and drink in this grace.

Come and remember who you are here
 Do this to remember who I am
 Come and remember you belong here
 All belong here

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence and the holy renewal in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us as we find healing and renewal at this table so that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that we may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN NCH #471 *What a Covenant*

*BENEDICTION

One: Go now as witnesses of God's eternal presence.

Many: The risen Christ has made himself known to us in this time of praise and in the breaking of bread.

One: Together, we set our faith and hope on God.

Many: We will fulfill our vows to live in genuine mutual love.

One: May God hear and respond whenever we call.

Many: May we leave this place ready to live our testimony of new life in Christ. Amen

POSTLUDE *Shout to the Lord* by Darlene Zschech

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Serving in Worship Today

Reverend Santina Poor, Pastor Hope UCC

Liturgist: Marilyn Rada

Ministers of Music: Laurel Filzen Etzel, Greg Etzel

Greeter: Leatha Boyer

Communion Preparation: Jan Varga, Judy Hawotte, Jim Grafton

Slide Ministry: Lindsey Svetlick

Fellowship Hour: Fellowship Ministry

Audio-Visual Ministry: Jenny Hookey, Donna Werner, Bob Tallitsch, Kathy Hobson,
 Bob Poor, Bek Svetlick