



Hope UCC Weekly Update: February 2, 2025

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.



**EVENT: NAVIGATING PATHS OF TRANSITION
IN LIFE'S JOURNEYS**

WITH REV. JANE COURTRIGHT

WHEN: TUESDAY EVENINGS FROM 5:30 – 7:30 P.M.

FEBRUARY 4, 11, 18, 25th, IN OUR FELLOWSHIP HALL.

A SIMPLE SUPPER TOGETHER WILL BEGIN AT 5:30, &
OUR SERIES WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 & END AT 7:30.

NOTE: THERE WILL BE SIGN-UP SHEETS AVAILABLE.
IF POSSIBLE, PLEASE SIGN UP SO THAT WE WILL
KNOW HOW MANY PROGRAM RESOURCES
TO PROCURE & HOW MUCH FOOD TO PREPARE!
MOST IMPORTANT: **JUST COME!**

Change is inevitable in everyone's life journey, some Transitions more difficult than others. Navigating through those paths of change is the focus of this 4-week series. By telling our stories of the past & difficult paths, recognizing in-between stages, & looking toward the future, we will learn to implement practical & useful strategies for coping with transitions.

Basing the workshop contents on her personal history of transitions, Rev. Jane Courtright will lead this adventure! She has been mentored by spiritual director Jeannie Bowman, Quaker educator & spiritual companion. Jane will lead participants through a month of spiritual practices, rituals, meditations, & journaling for releasing and healing.

Join us in exploring the concept of navigating paths as we continue to face change in our world & lives of unknown twists, with a recognition of the sacred & holy in those changes.

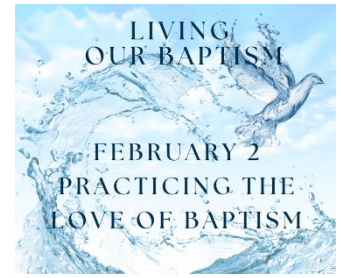


Ruth Circle News

Save the date of February 17 for our Pagalo's outing. We will meet at the Pagalo's in Rock Island at 5:30pm. Please let Dorothy Burdick know if you will be attending. Bring a friend!



Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL
Worship Bulletin February 2, 2025
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Rev. Santina Poor, Pastor



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

***Those who are able, please stand.**

PRELUDE

Love Lifted Me

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***COMING TOGETHER AS A WORSHIP COMMUNITY**

One: Come, people of God, to the one in whom we trust.
 Praise God who delivers and rescues us.

**Many: God is our rock of refuge, our strong fortress.
 God saves us amid wickedness and cruelty.**

One Hope in God, who has created you.
 Open yourself to the one who knows you well.

**Many: God accepts us, even when people do not.
 God affirms us, even when we fail.**

One: Our God gives us tasks to do and strength to do them.
 God's Word of love is ours to proclaim.

**Many: We have come to embrace the mysteries of our faith.
 We are here to worship the God who empowers us.**

*OPENING HYMN

NCH #396

Where Charity and Love Prevail

***INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST**

God of love, in whose name we have been consecrated for discipleship and service, encounter us in this hour, that we may grow in knowledge and actions. Disturb our certainties so we will be open to new insights. Upset our priorities to make room for faith, hope, and love. Expand our horizons to encompass ideas we have not entertained before. Open our hearts to people we have failed to welcome into our midst. Perfect among us that childlike trust that allows change to transform us in the presence of your love. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***OFFERING OUR CONFESSION AND RECEIVING THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Merciful God, you know us better than we know ourselves, but we have not believed this. You care about us even when we do not love ourselves, but it has been hard for us to understand that this is true. We see so dimly and hear your Word so faintly that we doubt your truth. We dare not trust the prophets or risk the cost of discipleship. We are afraid to believe, hope, and endure when there is suffering all around us. O God, grant us courage to change, to follow Jesus in spite of ridicule and rejection. Yet keep us from insisting on our own way, which may not be your way. Amen.

*SHARING GOD'S PEACE

LEARNING FROM OUR CHILDREN

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

One: 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.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

¹ If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, ¹⁰ but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹² For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³ And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.

SERMON

Love Never Fails

SERMON HYMN

Love Will Never Fail

Please join in singing the chorus of our sermon hymn Love Never Fails

Love is patient love is kind
 It has no arrogance or pride
 It seeks the good of others first
 It keeps no record of wrong or hurt
 It finds no joy in wickedness
 But rejoices in the truth
 Through it all it will endure
 Love will never fail

Chorus

Love will never never fail

Love will never never fail

Love will never never fail

Love will never fail

Though all prophecy will cease
 Though all knowledge it will fade
 Oh an end will come to speech
 Even death will pass away
 We will see You face to face
 And Your mercy will prevail
 Faith and hope they will remain
 Love will never fail
 Love love will never fail
 Love love will never fail

Chorus

Love will never never fail

Love will never never fail

Love will never never fail

Love will never fail

SHARING OUR GIFTS

God has called the church to be an agent of change. With prophetic voice and courageous work, we are to influence the world. Such a task requires our best: our continued growth in faith, our commitment to love, our giving of self and substance. The resources we dedicate here are a symbol of our whole life response.

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

With awe and wonder before you, O God, we dare to enlist all our efforts toward the realization of your realm. Where there is injustice, we would champion those oppressed and misunderstood. When some feel rejected, we reach out to accept them in Christ's name. May these offerings preach and teach and heal. 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 Santana will bring it to you in your pew.

COMMUNION HYMN

Ubi Caritas

Our Communion hymn is a Taizé chant which is a short song with the words repeated throughout, giving it a meditative character. Using just a few words, Taizé chants express a basic reality of faith, quickly grasped by the mind. You may join in singing, or simply hear the chant and let the words carry you forward in meditative prayer.

Ubi caritas et amor,

Ubi caritas Deus ibi est.

Live in charity and steadfast love,

Live in charity; God will dwell with you.

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 #448

Take My Life and Let it Be

*BENEDICTION

One: Go forth with faith to move mountains.
 Reach out with love that transforms the world.

**Many: Love is patient and kind, not jealous or boastful.
 Love rejoices in all that is right, not in wrong.**

One: Let the Scripture be fulfilled by your faithfulness.
 Let the Word take flesh in all you do.

**Many: Love bears, believes, hopes, and endures.
 We participate in the love of God that never ends.**

One: God promises to be our rock and our refuge.
 God is ever with us to deliver us.

**Many: God's Word will be in our mouths.
 God's love will warm our spirits. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

*On Christ the Solid Rock**Used by permission: One License # A-733028**Used by Permission. CCLI License #11387335***Serving in Worship Today**

Reverend Santana Poor, Pastor Hope UCC

Liturgist: Greg Etzel**Ministers of Music:** Laurel Filzen Etzel, Greg Etzel**Accompanist:** Mary Tallitsch**Greeter:** Bob Morales**Slide Ministry:** Lindsey Svetlick**Fellowship Hour:** Marcella Park, Bob Morales, Ken Curtis**Audio-Visual Ministry:** Jenny Hookey, Donna Werner, Bob Tallitsch, Kathy Hobson,
Bob Poor, Bek Svetlick