



Hopeful Connections

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The Gift of Love & Faith - How Firm a Foundation!

What an exciting time in the lives of our young adults! All over social media, the news, and in our own family and friend groups, we see pictures and hear stories of children and young adults graduating, promoting, and launching into the next chapter of their lives. When I see the stories on the evening news about graduates overcoming great obstacles to graduate and succeed, I am a sobbing wreck. I couldn't be happier and prouder of these students if I actually knew them myself. Although they are 'strangers' to me, they don't feel that way. Their stories are very real to me because I will never take educational achievements for granted. No matter the grade level, there are many struggles and highs and lows when it comes to getting through the academic year and Covid has definitely brought new challenges to the process. But the graduates this year, whether promoting from kindergarten, middle school, eighth grade, or graduating from high school or college, have all overcome new challenges and succeeded. They have demonstrated a resilience that they may not have known they possessed. We congratulate them and offer all of them our prayers for future success in whatever paths they choose and where life leads them.

Many graduates have the blessing of support and love that helps to keep them going even when they think they cannot continue. A favorite expression, "It takes a village," is exactly what applies here. I hope that Hope UCC is a part of that village for our new graduates. Even if we are not physically together, this faith community continues to pray for our students-young and old. Hope UCC will remain a place where they can return for a visit, a hug, a cup of coffee and a cookie, or even a potluck lunch if they come in on the first Sunday of the month. We will always be here for you, helping you remember from where your strength comes and all the power you contain and the love with which you are held- by us and by our Creator. God bless you all on your journeys. You are a gift from God. You are beautifully created and ready to change the world.

Congratulations to our youth who have promoted from 8th grade this month:

♥ Abby Beug

♥ Reagan Hawotte

We will celebrate our graduates during worship on June 6. We are excited to see what these great young adults will accomplish in the years ahead.

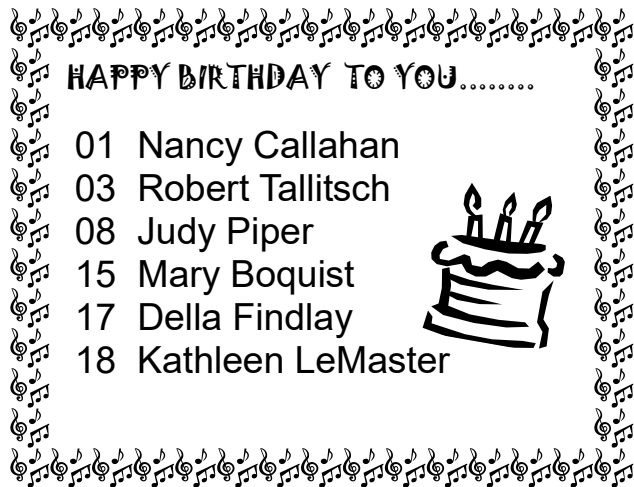
♥ Tyler Demarest: United Township High School

♥ Mackenzie Demarest: United Township High School

♥ Colton Jones: Moline High School

♥ Charley Poor: Moline High School

♥ Lewis Poor: Elmhurst University



June Scripture

June 6	1 Samuel 8:4-20
June 13	1 Samuel 15:34-16:13
June 20	2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
June 27	2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
July 4	2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

Thank You

Thank you to our friends at Hope church for the many cards and memorials for the death of my mother. We appreciate your kindness and loving thoughts. She was a wonderful mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great, great grandmother. Our entire family misses her.

Denny Black



Congregational Sympathy

Congregational love and sympathy is extended to Marcella Park upon the death of her husband Duane. Duane passed away peacefully on May 20, 2021. Our love and prayers are lifted for Marcella and her family in this time of loss.

Lectionary Bible Study Summer Break

Join us for our final gatherings on June 1st & 8th. We will take a break this summer but will return in September. Our final meeting will be June 8 when we will gather outside at church for our summer send-off!

Thank You from Mission and Outreach Ministry!

Hope UCC, you continue to amaze us with your loving generosity! Thank you for your generous bicycle donations for World Relief. 4 bicycles and funds to purchase additional bikes were donated. What a wonderful way to support our neighbors – thank you!

Thank you also for your tremendous response to the UCC's One Great Hour of Sharing collection. Your loose change sure added up! \$578 was collected – WOW! In addition, M&O donated \$200 bringing our total to \$778. Imagine what good will come from your love and generosity? God's love made known all over the world.

AND WE'RE NOT DONE THANKING YOU YET!

Thank you for all the hygiene and care products you brought in for Christian Care. The bags of towels, pillows, water, and hygiene products filled the entire back of Donna's SUV.

Hope UCC – you truly embody our belief that Hope Grows!

*Santina, Jenny, Kathy, and
all of Hope United Congregation
All of us at World Relief
can not thank you enough
for all you do for us &
our community. Your
recent bike drive and
monetary donations has
put so many smiles on
the faces of the recipients,
I will be sure to send
you pictures. Thank you
all for your continued love,
prayers, and support. We
hope to be able to meet in
person again soon.
HUGS to ALL Julie Homburg*

Visitation Committee

The Visitation Committee will plan to resume their mission in the month of June. We normally meet for lunch and then go visit with our members and friends who are in home care or in a facility. I would invite anyone to join us in this mission. We have lots of laughs over lunch and always enjoy visiting with our friends. We usually do this the last Wednesday of the month at 11:30. If you would like, please join us on Wednesday, June 30th at 11:30 at Culver's. Also, if you know of someone who would like to have a visit from our committee, please contact me.

Barb Hawotte

Book Club

Book Club will resume June 28 at 6:00 PM. We will meet here at church as the Moline Public Library is not allowing use of meeting rooms at this time. This first meeting will be just an informational meeting and the first book title will be given out. Please plan to attend so we can get an idea of how many will be resuming book club. All are welcome.

PrideFest at Bass Street Landing-Volunteers Needed June 4 & 5

Hope UCC is excited to partner with our sister congregations in the Quad Cities at PrideFest this year. Our contingent, *United Church of Christ Open and Affirming Congregations of the Quad Cities*, will be represented by our church, First Congregational Moline, and Edwards UCC. Church of Peace and First Congregational DeWitt may be joining us as well. We will each represent the denomination as well as our own local congregations. Our Mission and Outreach Ministry is leading this outreach event, bringing Hope UCC into the community and letting folks know this special congregation is here and ready to welcome all of God's children. Would you like to help the Quad Cities get to know Hope UCC? Volunteers are needed Saturday, June 5 from noon through 8:00 p.m. Please let the church office or our M&O Ministry know if you can help with a 2-hour shift: Jenny Hookey, Kathy Hobson, Donna Werner, Barb Hawotte, Lisa & Brian Williams.

Hope UCC Covid Policy Update

Masks: If you **are fully vaccinated**, your mask is optional.

If you **are not fully vaccinated**, you are required to continue wearing your mask while in the building.

Congregational Singing: Regardless of vaccination status, we ask that you wear your mask while singing.

Seating: We will continue to maintain social distanced seating in the sanctuary.

We thank you for your continued faithful cooperation and support!

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(See Exodus 14)

07-28-2014

MOSES ENJOYING SUMMER BREAK