



### **Hope UCC Weekly Update: September 5, 2021**

*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.*

### **Clean Up at McCandless Park on Tuesday September 7 at 5:00 P.M.**

Join Hope UCC's Mission and Outreach Ministry for a post-Labor Day park clean up at McCandless Park (the park our church adopted this year). We'll meet at the park at 5:00 P.M. to pick up any rubbish and enjoy the late summer weather together. Please bring gloves if you have them, M&O will provide bags. McCandless Park is located at the intersection of 1st Street & 7th Avenue in Moline. Please contact any member of our Mission and Outreach Ministry with any questions: Jenny Hookey, Kathy Hobson, Brian & Lisa Williams, Barb Hawotte, and Donna Werner.

### **Bell Choir resumes Sept. 8 at 6:30 PM**

The Hope Hand bell choir resumes rehearsals on Sept. 8 at 6:30 PM. If you have always wanted to be a part of this music fellowship at Hope UCC, wait no longer! Rehearsals are each Wednesday and we play on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month plus special services such as Christmas Eve. Please feel free to contact Mary Tallitsch (764-8507 or [mtallitsch@gmail.com](mailto:mtallitsch@gmail.com)) if you want more information or all the reasons you'd LOVE being a part of the choir.

### **QC Pride Parade September 11**

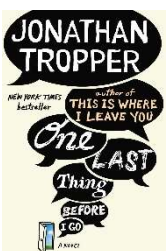
Join your church community and our sister UCC ONA congregations as we show our love and support for our QC LGBTQIA family, friends, and neighbors as we march together in the QC Unity Pride Parade. The parade begins at 11:00 A.M. Want to carpool to the parade? Please meet at Hope UCC at 9:30 A.M. We'll get dropped off at the starting point and picked up at the end for a ride back to church. If you'd like to meet us at the parade starting point, please meet us no later than 11:00 A.M. As soon as we get the location details from the parade organizers, we'll let you know where we'll be. We are working on a float for the parade so that all can participate regardless of physical ability. If you'd rather watch and enjoy the parade instead of march in it, that's great too. Please let Pastor Santina know if you'd like to be part of this special event!

### **Corrected Phone Number for Cliff & Della Findlay**

Please note the correct phone number for Della & Cliff is 309-912-7111. The number listed in the monthly newsletter was incorrect.

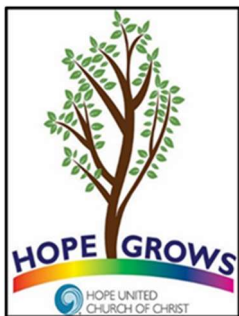
### **Office Closed**

The church office will be closed Monday, Sept. 3 in observance of Labor Day.



### **Book Club**

The September book club selection is *One Last Thing Before I Go* by Jonathan Tropper. Book Club meets the last Monday of the month. All are welcome! The next meeting will take place September 27th, 6 PM at church.



**Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL**  
**Worship Bulletin September 5, 2021**  
**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

*Thank you for joining us for worship today.*

*We are glad you are here!*

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
 you are welcome at Hope UCC!*

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Listen! God is welcoming us to this time of worship. Young and old, rich and poor, all are welcomed.

**Many: This is a place where all belong. This is a time when all are accountable to God.**

One: The Maker of all seeks our common good. The God of Mercy calls on us to be merciful.

**Many: We are not judges over our sisters and brothers. We are called to love our neighbors as ourselves.**

One: Come to sing praises and put your trust in God. Come to prepare yourself to serve in Christ's name.

**Many: We bring all our needs to God, our hope. We want to share faith and hope with others.**

**\*OPENING HYMN #309 We Are Your People** (see end of bulletin)

**\*INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST**

**Author of all humankind, come to lift us up to our full humanity as we worship you in this hour. You surround us on every side and are acquainted with all our ways. You know our shallow motives and our deepest thoughts. You are aware of the distinctions we make and the favoritism we express. Yet you welcome us, not as strangers but as heralds of your reign. We want to worship you and to represent you well. Come among us now with your transforming power. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, we confess that our good intentions have gone astray. We favor the people who are like us and honor those we deem to be important. We dishonor the poor, write off those with whom we disagree, excuse our self-serving behavior, and sow injustice on every hand. It is so much easier to give advice than to do good. We would rather point fingers at others who are unfair than to give up our own advantages. O God, we plead for your forgiveness and for a depth of faith that will make a difference in us and in our world. Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS AND PASSING OF PEACE**

We are created in the image of God and are blessed with the capacity to reflect God's will in our daily lives. God cares for us and invests us with responsibility. Thus God honors us with high expectations

and confidence in our willingness to seek out life's best for all people. We are loved. We are forgiven. Our baptism is renewed.

Let us offer one another the gift of peace. May the Lord's peace be with you!

*(If you are using this liturgy as a private devotion or participating in the live stream worship, please hold out your hands in blessing for all you are joined with in spirit. If you are participating in the live stream worship, please type in your peace greeting.)*

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

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.**

Psalms 103

- 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,  
bless his holy name.
- 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and do not forget all his benefits—
- 3 who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,
- 4 who redeems your life from the Pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
- 5 who satisfies you with good as long as you live<sup>£</sup>  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- 6 The LORD works vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made known his ways to Moses,  
his acts to the people of Israel.
- 8 The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- 9 He will not always accuse,  
nor will he keep his anger forever.
- 10 He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- 12 as far as the east is from the west,  
so far he removes our transgressions from us.
- 13 As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.
- 14 For he knows how we were made;  
he remembers that we are dust.
- 15 As for mortals, their days are like grass;

- they flourish like a flower of the field;  
<sup>16</sup> for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,  
 and its place knows it no more.  
<sup>17</sup> But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting  
 on those who fear him,  
 and his righteousness to children's children,  
<sup>18</sup> to those who keep his covenant  
 and remember to do his commandments.  
<sup>19</sup> The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,  
 and his kingdom rules over all.  
<sup>20</sup> Bless the LORD, O you his angels,  
 you mighty ones who do his bidding,  
 obedient to his spoken word.  
<sup>21</sup> Bless the LORD, all his hosts,  
 his ministers that do his will.  
<sup>22</sup> Bless the LORD, all his works,  
 in all places of his dominion.  
 Bless the LORD, O my soul.

## SERMON

SERMON HYMN #471 *What a Covenant* (see end of bulletin)

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

Hear again the proverb: "Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor." What a joy we can know when our thankfulness exceeds our acquisitiveness, and our concern for others outweighs our greed! We are invited to share what we have received.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We give because you have been generous to us, gracious God. We give because we need to give in order to realize your image within us. We give to feed the hungers of body and soul that are all around us and deep within. May the ministries of this church meet the needs of our members, our community, and our world. Help us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

## \*BENEDICTION

One: We are commissioned as carriers of love. The attention we give to others is contagious.

**Many: We seek to honor all people by listening to them. We want to provide practical help to those in need.**

One: We are sent out to do good and to be merciful. Our trust is in God, who equips us to serve.

**Many: We seek to minister impartially. Both friends and strangers are our concern.**

One: Be strong, fear not, for God will save. Those who trust God will realize God's blessing.

**Many: God has blessed us with a good name. We are heirs of God's dominion forever.**

## POSTLUDE

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## We Are Your People

Brian Wren, 1973; rev. 1993

*Unison*

1 We are your peo - ple: Spir - it of grace,  
 2 Joined in com - mu - ni - ty, trea - sured and fed,  
 3 Rich in di - ver - si - ty, help us to live,  
 4 Glad of tra - di - tion, help us to see

you dare to make us Christ to our neigh - bors  
 may we dis - cov - er gifts in each oth - er,  
 clos - er than neigh - bors, o - pen to strang - ers,  
 in all life's chang - ing, where Christ is lead - ing,

1 & 6 Last time, end || 2-5

of ev - ery cul - ture and place.  
 will - ing to lead and be led.  
 a - ble to clash and for - give.  
 where our best ef - forts should be.

5 Give, as we ven - ture  
 jus - tice and care  
 (peace - ful, in - sist - ing,  
 risk - ing, re - sist - ing),  
 wis - dom to know when and where.

6 Spir - it, u - nite us,  
 make us, by grace,  
 will - ing and read - y,  
 Christ's liv - ing bod - y,  
 lov - ing the whole hu - man race.

*Originally written in 1973 for the hymnal of the United Reformed Church in England and Wales, New Church Praise, this text was revised by Brian Wren in 1993. The tune is named for the composer's father-in-law, who served as chair of the Congregational Union of England and Wales.*

Tune: WHITFIELD Irr.  
 John Wilson, 1975

471

## What a Covenant

Deut. 33:27

Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887; alt.

1 What a \*cov - e - nant, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -  
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -  
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -

last - ing arms. What a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine, lean - ing  
 last - ing arms. Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean - ing  
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Sav - ior near, lean - ing

## Refrain

on the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
 on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from  
 on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

all a - larms; lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

\*Or, "fellowship"

In a letter to two grieving friends, A. J. Showalter quoted  
 Deuteronomy 33:27, "... underneath are the everlasting arms."  
 Showalter then wrote this music and the refrain and sent them to  
 E. A. Hoffman to provide the stanzas.

Tune: LEANING 5.5.9.D. with refrain  
 Anthony J. Showalter, 1887