



## Hope UCC Weekly Update: January 25, 2026

*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.*

### Hope's Annual Meeting this Sunday, January 25

Please plan to stay for Hope UCC's Annual Meeting this Sunday, January 25 immediately following worship. A Zoom link will be emailed. We will discuss and vote to approve Hope UCC's 2025 Annual Report and our 2026 Proposed Budget. These will be available for preview prior to the Annual Meeting. All are welcome to stay for the meeting: EVERYONE has voice in these meetings, however, members of Hope UCC may vote. Reports for the Annual Report are due to Connie in the church office by January 18th. Thank you!

### New Grief Support Group Forming January 27, 2026

#### Tuesdays at 4:30 P.M.-5:45 P.M. - Meeting for Ten Tuesdays

Grief comes to us in many shapes and forms and is caused by all types of loss and hurt. We invite you to navigate your grief in community as we begin a new grief support group using the excellent materials *"Understanding Your Grief: Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart"* by Alan D Wolfelt PhD.

We will meet at 4:30 P.M. on Tuesdays beginning January 27. There are 10 meetings scheduled. Please share this information with anyone you know who you think might benefit from sharing their journey with this group. Please know that even if you've been part of this group or another in the past, you are absolutely welcome to be part of this new group. All are welcome. Please see Pastor Santina for more information or to sign up.

### New Ministry Opportunity! Monthly Dinner at Christian Care

For the past few years, Hope UCC has prepared and served dinner for our neighbors at Christian Care on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. After witnessing the importance of this program and discerning our ability to increase our participation in it, we are excited to be able to now provide dinner on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, beginning January 18. We will have a sign up sheet available for volunteering for this great opportunity. We have lots of information about recipes for a crowd and our 2026 Mission and Outreach budget has increased to reflect this ministry and the costs associated with it so that ingredients for the meal will be covered. Thank you for hearing God's Spirit calling you to care for our neighbors!

### Welcome to Our Friends from World Relief Citizenship Classes!

Beginning this month, we are thrilled to welcome a group of neighbors into our building who are working on their US Citizenship. Through a program offered through World Relief QC, this free class provides the preparation to find success in achieving US Citizenship. World Relief QC provides the teacher (Anita – she's wonderful!) and the materials, and our church will provide the space and possibly volunteers to help Anita and her students with some conversations to help overcome language barriers. Classes will be held in the Conference Room on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M. each week.

## **Bulletin Board Designers Needed**

Do you enjoy seeing pictures and announcement for all to see? We have an opportunity for you! You can use your talents and time to refresh our bulletin boards on a monthly schedule. Please contact Lindsey Svetlick, MiD for further details

## **Visitation Committee: Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup> 11am at Culvers**

The Visitation Committee will meet Wednesday the 28th of January. We are back to our normal, last Wednesday of the month. We meet at Culver's at 11am.

Thanks, Barb Hawotte

## **Soup'er Bowl Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> 2026!**

Enjoy some soup, goodies and a good time? Bring your money to "vote" for your favorite team (or commercials). The proceeds will go to the "Hope UCC Scholarship Fund".

## **Ruth Circle Annual Dinner on February 16th at 5:30pm**

Ruth Circle will have their annual February Dinner on Monday, February 16 at 5:30pm at the Olive Garden in Moline. All women of the church are invited to join in this evening of food, fun, and fellowship. Please RSVP by February 13 to Laura, 309-714-0669.

## **Hope UCC Book Club: January 26th at 2:30pm**

Please join the Book Club this month at 2:30pm on Monday, January 26 at Hope UCC. All are welcome. See you there!



### January Birthdays

<p>As always, if you note any inaccuracies or missing birthdays of any friends or members, please do not hesitate to let the office know, and we will correct and update our information in an expeditious, speedy, quick, prompt, swift, and efficient manner.</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">David Ward</td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">January 02</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">Walter Lysell</td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">January 08</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">Marcia Free</td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">January 14</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">Dorothy Burdick</td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">January 25</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">Becky Newton</td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">January 28</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">Carolyn Jeanine Burke</td> <td style="width: 33%; padding: 5px;">January 29</td> </tr> </table>	David Ward	January 02	Walter Lysell	January 08	Marcia Free	January 14	Dorothy Burdick	January 25	Becky Newton	January 28	Carolyn Jeanine Burke	January 29
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Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL  
Worship Bulletin January 25, 2026

Discovering the Gifts of God

The Gift of Transformation

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 Vocal Choir Anthem *Hymn of Promise*

*Words & Music by Natalie Sleet*



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, all who have known gloom and anguish.  
Come, all who have walked amid terrors of the night.

**Many: Sometimes we have felt oppressed and forsaken.**  
**Our losses seem greater than we can bear.**

One: God is our light and our salvation.  
God is our stronghold; we need not fear.

**Many: Enemies lose their power when we look up to God.**  
**We come now, seeking God's face.**

One: Come, behold the beauty of our God.  
Come to find shelter in a day of trouble.

**Many: We will sing and make melody to God.**  
**We will dare to lift up shouts of joy.**



OPENING HYMN

*How Firm a Foundation*

NCH #407



\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Shine on us today, gracious God, for we need the light and salvation you offer. Come to each one gathered here, and to all who are a part of this community of faith. Come to our city, our nation, our world, to still the quarrels and dissolve the enmity among us. Come with good news of health and wholeness for everyone. Do not cast us off, do not forsake us, O God of our salvation. Amen.



\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Turn our lives around, God. Help us to identify in ourselves those parts of us that need to change if we are to experience your joy. Too long we have been hiding in the shadows, reluctant to express our faith. Too long we have shunned the light, afraid of what might be exposed. Too long we have avoided people with whom we have a quarrel, refusing to build bridges across our differences. Save us from ourselves that we may enjoy your realm. Amen.

## \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

## \*SHARING GOD'S PEACE

## BELL ANTHEM

*Meditation on Beach Spring*

arr. Karen Lakey Buckwalter



## 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

<sup>1</sup> But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Psalm 27:1,4–9

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>4</sup> One thing I asked of the LORD;  
this I seek:

to live in the house of the LORD  
all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the LORD,  
and to inquire in his temple.

<sup>5</sup> For he will hide me in his shelter  
 in the day of trouble;  
 he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;  
 he will set me high on a rock.  
<sup>6</sup> Now my head is lifted up  
 above my enemies all around me,  
 and I will offer in his tent  
 sacrifices with shouts of joy;  
 I will sing and make melody to the LORD.  
<sup>7</sup> Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;  
 be gracious to me and answer me!  
<sup>8</sup> “Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!”  
 Your face, LORD, do I seek.  
<sup>9</sup> Do not hide your face from me.  
 Do not turn your servant away in anger,  
 you who have been my help.  
 Do not cast me off; do not forsake me,  
 O God of my salvation!

#### \*GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 4:12–23

<sup>12</sup> Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup> “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,  
 on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—  
<sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness  
 have seen a great light,  
 and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death  
 light has dawned.”

<sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

<sup>18</sup> As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

SERMON

*The Gift of Transformation*

SERMON HYMN

*Christ Be Our Light*

Please scan this QR Code for a link to Hope UCC's donations page.



### INVITATION TO OFFERING

What can we do to send the message of the cross to those who think it is foolishness? How will the gospel be proclaimed to people who are perishing, both within and far beyond this church? One way is through the sharing of resources God has given us—our time, talent, and treasure. Let us give with joy.

*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.*

### \*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

 **Let these gifts follow Christ's lead into the lives of people who live in poverty or despair. O God, use them to heal divisions among your children. Show us how to be instruments of peace. Ready us to follow Jesus, to make an offering of ourselves, not just our money. Teach us so we may teach others. Heal us so we can become instruments of healing. To these purposes we dedicate this offering and our lives. Amen.**



### \*CLOSING HYMN *Shine Jesus Shine*

#### \*BENEDICTION

One: The peace of God goes with us and dwells with us.  
By God's grace, we share in the hope of glory.

**Many: While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**

**Through this love, we are reconciled to God.**

One: Go, therefore, to tell your friends and neighbors.  
God has done great things for us.

**Many: God is to be worshiped in spirit and truth.**

**Every moment of every day is a time for praise.**

One: We scatter, singing songs of thanksgiving.  
We will make a joyful noise, in praise to God.

**Many: We will also listen for messages God sends.**

**God is among us and goes with us every day. Amen.**



**\*Please remain in the Sanctuary for Hope UCC's Annual Congregational Meeting.**

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**Serving in Worship Today:** Reverend Santina Poor, Pastor Hope UCC

**Liturgist:** Lindsey Svetlick

**Ministers of Music:** Laurel Filzen Etzel, Greg Etzel

**Accompanist:** Robyn Carter

**Greeter:** Julie Bustard & Bob Poor

**Fellowship Hour:** Kathy Hobson, Ken Curtis, Bob Morales

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

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## How Firm a Foundation

Isa. 43:2-5; 2 Tim. 2:19; Heb. 13:5

"K" in John Rippon's Selection of Hymns, 1787; alt.

1 How firm a foun - da - tion for you has been laid,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,  
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose,

by God in the Word, in the sac - ri - fice paid!  
 for I am your God, I will still give you aid;  
 the riv - ers of woe shall not o - ver you flow;  
 my grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;  
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can God say than to you has been said,  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand  
 For I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,  
 the flame shall not hurt you; for I have de - signed  
 That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you, who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 up - held by my gra - cious, om - ni - po - tent hand."  
 de - liv - er - ing you from your deep - est dis - tress."  
 your soul to make pure just as gold is re - fined."  
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

In 1787, John Rippon, English Baptist clergyman, identified the author of this hymn as "K"; no one has yet verified a complete name. The pentatonic melody has been known by several names since it first appeared in Funk's Genuine Church Music (1832).

Tune: FOUNDATION 11.11.11.11.  
*Early United States melody*  
 from Funk's Genuine Church Music, 1832  
 Alternate tune: ADESTE FIDELES

## CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

Bernadette Farrell

## Verses



1. Long-ing for light, — we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for  
 2. Long-ing for peace, — our world is trou - bled. Long-ing for  
 3. Long-ing for food, — man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for  
 4. Long-ing for shel-ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for  
 5. Man - y the gifts, — man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



1. truth, — we turn to you. Make us your own, —  
 2. hope, — man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone —  
 3. wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread, —  
 4. warmth, — man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 5. hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

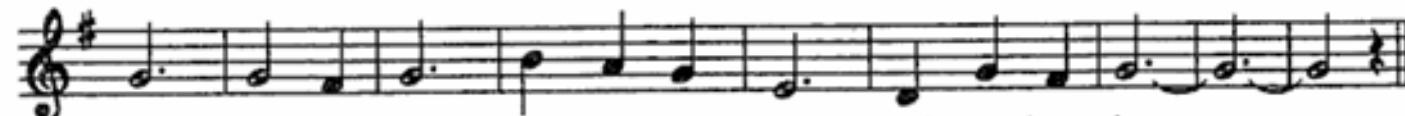


1. your ho - ly peo-ple, light for the world to see.  
 2. has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 3. bro - ken for oth-ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 4. shel - ter - ing oth-ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 5. to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.

## Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.



Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath-ered to-day.

## Shine, Jesus, Shine

Refrain

A E/A D A Bm B<sup>7</sup> E

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;

A E/A D A Bm G B

blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

A E/A D A Bm B<sup>7</sup> E

Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with love and mer - cy;

A E/A D A Bm B<sup>7</sup> E

A E/A D A Bm B<sup>7</sup> A D E/A D A

Refrain End

send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

A E/A D A Bm B<sup>7</sup> A D E/A D A

A      D      A      F/A      A      D

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the  
 2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -

A      D/A      D      E<sup>7</sup>      C<sup>m</sup>      F<sup>m</sup>

dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
 play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry.

D      E<sup>7</sup>      C<sup>m</sup>      F<sup>m</sup>      G

set us free by the truth you now bring us. Shine on  
 mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry. Shine on

gwt      E      G      gwt      E      Rptd

me.      shine      oo      me.      shine      on

me.      shine      on      me.      shine      on