



Hope UCC Weekly Update: April 12, 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.



BUILDING BLOCKS OF FAITH

WHAT DOES A LIFE OF FAITH LOOK LIKE?

***A NEW WORSHIP SERIES AT HOPE UCC
APRIL 19-MAY 24***



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.

April Birthdays

Caridad Ramos	April 01
Jan Varga	April 02
Duane Goderis Sr	April 04
M.J. Poor	April 05
Kim Powell	April 19
Barbara Babcock	April 24
Terra Fairburn	April 24
Rebecca Morse	April 28
Virginia Anderson	April 28

Happy 80th Birthday to Jan Varga!

Jan's family invite you to share a birthday lunch celebration during Fellowship Hour on Sunday, April 12 following worship. Lunch and cake and fellowship together following worship celebrating this special lady – what a special Sunday together!!

Choir Notes

The choir invites any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to join the choir.

Quad City Flutes Unlimited

Quad City Flutes Unlimited will perform our Spring Concert at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2136 Brady St. Davenport on Friday, April 24 at 7PM. We invite you to enjoy the final (under an hour) concert for this performance season. Nearly 30 flutists are able to perform this concert and the selections are wonderful! Most of all, our group thanks Hope Church for allowing us to use space to rehearse in the fall and spring. Members of Hope performing in this concert are Christina Rider and Mary Tallitsch.

Spring Program Starting April 13: A Journey of Soul and Soil: Pole to Pole

All ages are welcome to join together to view and discuss the fascinating and thought provoking documentary series Pole to Pole. The series covers Will Smith's 26,000 mile pilgrimage from the North Pole to the South Pole and all that is discovered about our shared humanity, spiritual connection, and our sacred responsibility to the planet and each other. This program and our discussion will remind us that even in the most extreme corners of the globe, we are never truly alone.

We will meet twice a week to watch and discuss the spiritual, global, and environmental themes and ideas in this pilgrimage story.

Week 1: April 13th & 16th

Week 2: April 20th & 23rd

Week 3: April 27th & 30th

Week 4: May 4th & May 7th

Dinner: 5:30 pm - Bring your own dinner

Show: 6 pm - Watch one episode together

Conversation: 7 pm - Let's talk about it!

Ruth Circle: April 20 at 1pm

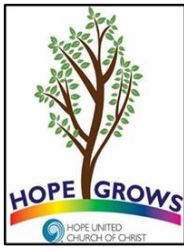
Ruth Circle will be meeting Monday, April 20 at 1pm in Fellowship Hall. All women of the church are invited to come and enjoy food, fun and fellowship.

Hope UCC Book Club: April 27, 2:30pm at Hope UCC

Join the Book Club to discuss this month's selection **Mrs. Endicott's Splendid Adventure by Rhys Bowen**. We meet on April 27th at 2:30 P.M. at Hope UCC and all are welcome. See you there!

Visitation Committee

Our Visitation Committee will meet on Wednesday, April 29th. We will meet at Culver's for lunch at 11:30 and then proceed to visit our homebound friends. All are welcome to come and join this fun and caring ministry. Thank You. Barb Hawotte



**Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL
Worship Bulletin April 12, 2026**

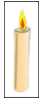
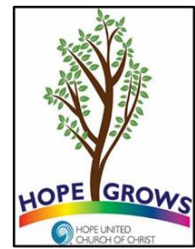
Rev. Santina Poor, Pastor

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Friends, today is Holy Humor Sunday!

Today, we're remembering how Thomas reacted when he heard Jesus had shown up to the other disciples. Remember, Thomas told the other disciples, "I will not believe" without seeing for himself that Jesus was alive. Then Jesus showed up, even though the door was shut. What a joy! Can you imagine the laughter and Delight? That's the same Spirit we seek here, today. Let's be full of joy as we worship God, giving thanks for the resurrected Jesus!



OPENING HYMN

Hark The Herald Angel Said

*Hark, the Herald Angel said,
Why seek Jesus with the dead?
He's not here, as you can see,
Grave clothes lie where he would be.
On your way now, tell the others,
Jesus will be with his brothers.
Sisters, too, he wants to see
on the hills of Galilee.
Hark, the Herald Angel said,
He is risen from the dead*



***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

One: Let us pray

Many: Holy God, we celebrate the Good News of Jesus' resurrection, "Tah, dah!" Help us rejoice in the presence of your Spirit in our midst on this Holy Humor Sunday. Open our hearts and minds so we can breathe in the joy you desire for us and for all who seek to follow Jesus. AMEN

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Many: God of joy, we know that you have blessed us richly, yet so often, we are down in the dumps over silly little disappointments. You have given us Jesus Christ, and raised him from the dead, and promised us eternal life. But we act like we don't know it! Forgive us, God! Keep us mindful that you always have the last laugh, and that your promise is for true joy in every circumstance, and life forever. Amen

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*SHARING GOD'S PEACE



PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

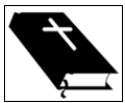
One: The Lord be with you.

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.



Acts 2:14a, 22-32

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

²² "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,
 for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
 moreover, my flesh will live in hope.
²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades
 or let your Holy One experience corruption.
²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life;
 you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

²⁹ "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,
 nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

³² "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

SERMON

Fact-Checked, Lindsey Svetlick, MiD for Ordination & Youth Minister

SERMON HYMN

1 Joy to the World, the Lord's alive,
 Awake, rejoice and sing!
 It's just as He had said,
 He's risen from the dead.
 Salvation now He brings,
 Salvation now He brings,
 Salvation, salvation now He brings.

2 Joy to the World, the empty tomb,
 Proclaims a victory.
 Of light compelling,
 A great dispelling
 Of darkness in the world,
 Of darkness in the world,
 Of darkness, of darkness in the world.

3 Joy to the World, Our Savior reigns,
 Let Heaven and earth proclaim
 The glories of His righteousness,
 And wonders of His love,
 And wonders of His love,
 And wonders, wonders of His love.

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




INVITATION TO OFFERING

Thank you, God, for the joy that bubbles over into laughter! We pray that you use these gifts to bring joy to the world. We remember that while you love a cheerful giver, you're also willing to accept from the grouches among us. In the name of the risen Lord, Amen.

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

 **Turn our pennies into punchlines of hope and our dollars into deliveries of joy. We give these offerings not because we have to, but because we're so caught up in the 'Easter Laugh' that we can't help but share the wealth. Bless the givers, the gifts, and even the ones who forgot their wallets but brought a good joke to tell at coffee hour. In the name of the Risen Christ, Amen.**



*CLOSING HYMN

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere,
 Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus is alive.
 While soldiers watched the gravesite, that quiet Sunday dawn
 There came a big commotion, and then the storm was gone.
 Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere,
 Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus is alive.
 The women found no body their spices to anoint,

Instead they found an angel, God's message to appoint.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere,
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus is alive.

Go from where He isn't to where He said He'd be.

An Eastertime reunion, the hills of Galilee.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere,

Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus is alive.

***BENEDICTION**

One: Go forth into the world with a spring in your step and a giggle in your heart!

Many: We go to share the "Easter Laugh" with everyone we meet!

One: Remember that God is the author of the best punchlines and the creator of the ultimate surprise.

Many: We will look for God's joy in the grocery store, the garden, and even in the laundry pile!

One: May the God of Giggles, the Christ of Cheer, and the Spirit of Sparkle be with you now and forever.

Many: Amen! We're going out to play!

Knock, knock. **Who's there?**

Shore. **Shore who?**

Shore hope to see ya'll next week!



***POSTLUDE**

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Serving in Worship Today: Reverend Santina Poor, Pastor

Lindsey Svetlick, MiD for Ordination & Youth Minister

Liturgist: Kathy Hobson

Ministers of Music: Laurel Filzen Etzel, Greg Etzel

Accompanist: Robyn Carter

Greeter: Jan Birdsell

Fellowship Hour: Varga Family

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