

HOPE

The weekly newsletter of

God is Still Speaking,
HAPPENings

HOPE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

02/07/2018

COLLECTIVE AMNESIA

After “SOUPer Bowl” Sunday at HOPE, there was Super Bowl 52 which is always a highly anticipated and viewed event. It has become iconic not just for the game but for the halftime show and the commercials. Super Bowl 52 was the culmination of a season marked by boycotts of the NFL in solidarity with the Colin Kaepernick protests. There have been increasing studies about the impact of the game on players’ brain health, and continuing issues of domestic violence. Yet, come the big game, those issues are usually cast aside to watch the game, the halftime show, and the commercials. Most, striking to me was the Dodge Ram commercial that used Dr. Martin Luther King’s words over the images of hardworking Americans using Dodge Ram vehicles.



As this is Black History Month, which was originally created by Carter G. Woodson as Negro History week in 1926, advertisers often incorporate prominent African-American leaders and figures into their campaigns like Dodge did on Sunday. While one might see this as bringing Dr. King’s words to life, in this case his Drum Major Instinct Speech, delivered exactly two months before his assassination. This is a speech that is lesser known but beyond measure in its message rooted in the Gospel of Mark, Chapter 10. However, the excerpt used in the commercial is highly misleading. If you read or listen to the whole speech, you would also hear this message:

“Now the presence of this instinct explains why we are so often taken by advertisers. You know, those gentlemen of massive verbal persuasion. And they have a way of saying things to you that kind of gets you into buying. In order to be a man of distinction, you must drink this whiskey. In order to make your neighbors envious, you must drive this type of car. (*Make it plain*) In order to be lovely to love you must wear this kind of lipstick or this kind of perfume. And you know, before you know it, you're just buying that stuff. (Yes) That's the way the advertisers do it.”

If you Google the critique of the ad, you will find an excellent remix where the above words are read by Dr. King over the same commercial. Our selectivity in what we remember and what we share historically. Often, especially in terms of social justice issues, we selectively remember the “feel good” quotes and messages. Not the radical ones. Not the ones that ask us to examine our beliefs and our values. In the two months following this speech, Dr. King was organizing sanitation workers in Memphis, was organizing a Poor People’s campaign. He had lectured about the triple evils of poverty, racism, and militarism. We don’t talk much about these messages.

Perhaps like we often forget when Jesus flipped over tables, rebuked the Pharisees, and spread messages that force us to look in the mirror. We must be vigilant to not develop that collective amnesia both spiritually and as agents of social justice.

Mike Manderino

HOPE UCC Ministry Council Moderator

News & Notes

Bring your appetite and your pancake flipping skills!

Plan to join us at the HOPE UCC - Mardi Gras / Shrove Tuesday / Ash Wednesday Pancake Dinner!

Tuesday, February 13th, 6:00 PM



“What is a shrove?”, you might ask. And “Why are we eating pancakes at a Tuesday dinner at church?”. And “Why are we recognizing Ash Wednesday on Tuesday?”.

The word shrove originated from “shrive” which means to confess. Shrove Tuesday, which originated during the Middle Ages, is the day before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent. Lent is a time of abstinence. Shrove Tuesday is a time to celebrate and indulge yourself before Lent. Some Christians, past and present, do not eat foods such as meat, fish, fats, eggs, and milk. To prevent the food being wasted, families would feast and consume the food that would not last the forty days of Lent.

The English ate pancakes to use as much milk, fat, and eggs as possible. The French described the feasting as “Fat Tuesday” or Mardi Gras. Carnival, which is derived from the Latin *carne[m] levare*, meaning “to take away the flesh”, is another term associated with Shrove Tuesday. It has links with the Romans and ancient Europeans celebrations of the Spring Equinox. The carnivals in Eastern Europe include energetic groups of people in large masks parading and playing jokes on bystanders. New Orleans and Rio de Janeiro also celebrate with elaborate costumes, masks, dancing, and feasting.

Come for the pancakes. Stay for the ashes.

WORSHIP Ministry needs your assistance!

We’d like to borrow a few items to help our HOPE UCC - Mardi Gras / Shrove Tuesday / Ash Wednesday Pancake Dinner be delicious and successful! We are in need of multiple non-stick electric griddle or frying pans, plastic pancake flippers, crock pots, tongs, and a couple of 25-foot extension cords. Please bring the equipment, labeled with your name, to HOPE by Sunday, February 11th. It will be put to good use on Fat Tuesday! You will find it clean and ready for pickup Wednesday, February 14th.

If you can help, please email HOPE’s office manager, Gail, or add your name to the sign-up sheet at the front desk. Thanks very much!

We look forward to seeing you at the pancake dinner on Tuesday, February 13th at 6:00 PM.



Soaring Team Small Groups Forming

Sign-up sheets are now available for small group conversations to decide what is next for HOPE UCC. Join the Soaring Team by signing up for one of these important discussions. Light snacks and drinks will be provided. Please find Erin Cooley if you have questions or email the team at soaringteam@sharehope.org.

Super Bowl Squares Winners

Anna A. -1st quarter
Ellen B. - 2nd quarter
Jeanne S. -3rd quarter
Daniel K. - end of game

Each winner receives a \$25 Script card of their choice. HOPE gets a \$103 donation from the participants. Thanks to all who participated this year!



The people of HOPE brought in a total of 106 cans of soup to donate to Loaves and Fishes. The challenge was to donate 52 cans of soup to tie into Super Bowl 52. Thanks to all who contributed to the cause with a special thanks to Henry and Anthony who helped promote the event and served as counters of the cans!

GAME SHOW PALOOZA



Game Show Palooza a FUNdRaiser for HOPE, and its missions is scheduled for **Saturday, April 14th**, doors open at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion in Downers Grove. Although it seems far away, there are a couple of tasks those participating can do now. First, it is time to start forming your "dream teams." Tables cost \$200 and seats eight team members (it breaks down to \$25 per person). Ask family, friends, coworkers, neighbors and anyone else you can think of that would like to have an evening of fun.

The next task you can do at this time is ask business owners for donations. Simply pick up a few tax-exempt letters explaining the event and its purpose. The letters are on the front desk at HOPE. Give the letter to business owners for tax purposes. Please stay tuned for more information each week!

Donations of full baskets should be brought in by April 4, but please let Tim, Marie, Trott or Jeanne know what that's going to be. If you have something to donate that isn't a full basket, please bring it to HOPE UCC by March 4. These types of items can be bottles of wine, gift cards to stores and restaurants, or movie tickets... **Please think of ordering gift cards from HOPE UCC. There will be a special gift card order collected on February 25 in order to have the cards available by March 4.**

New Discussion Group Forming

This last year has been overwhelming with constant disruption in policies, politics, and issues. It seems that every day there is something new to know or to react to or to be angry at. There is so much information - and so much fear. It can be overwhelming. How can we handle all this information and paranoia? How can we find hope? How can we help each other and our community and stay true to our beliefs?



In times when there seems to be so much negativity, it is always good to find a place where one can feel safe to have a conversation or learning period to look at the issues and the events that are shaping this country. Therefore, I am interested in forming a group of HOPERS and friends who would like to talk about the issues in our political world through our faith. A place where we can listen to each other and learn from each other. A place that can bring light to issues and events that will help us to be stronger HOPERS.

Together we will decide how this group will work together - maybe we want to just talk about the issues and how they personally impact us, or maybe we want to study an issue in depth or maybe we may want to turn issues into actions. These are just some ideas to spin on and consider. We may want to meet monthly - or chat online - or do both. But first, let's meet.

If you are interested, we will hold our first "gathering" on **Saturday, February 17th at 9 - 10:30 a.m. at HOPE**. There will be coffee!! If you have questions, please email me - becky.mccabe1@gmail.com.

Celebrating Birthdays

02/07 Nicole Hammerstad
02/11 Pastor Lucas
02/14 Julie Alessandri
02/18 Devon Ley
02/19 Mark Geiger
02/28 Nello Alessandri

If we've missed your birthday, please email
HOPE's Office Manager at
HOPE@shareHOPE.org.

HOPE LIBRARY

You may reserve items (books, videos or tapes) by calling HOPE's Office Manager at (630-922-0470) during office hours; by checking them out at HOPE UCC any time it is open; or by calling **Les & Jackie Pierce**, HOPE Librarians, at (630) 369-0485.

HOPE'S Leadership

Pastor	Lucas King
Moderator	Mike Manderino
Des. Moderator	Erin Cooley
Past Moderator	Becky McCabe
Treasurer	Les Pierce
Secretary	Julie Hapke
Registrar	Jane Trotta
Community Life	Shannon Lane
Education	Marie Higgins
Pastor-Parish	Tim Higgins/Jay Hruska
Marketing & Communications	Jenn Revoldt
Missions	Jolene Fiscella
Resource & Operations	Nick Dempsey
Worship	Mary Kroening
Librarians	Les & Jackie Pierce
Photo Archive	Anna Ahonen
Webmaster	Jenn Revoldt

Quest

ADULT QUEST – 9 a.m. @ HOPE UCC

"Come join us as we explore a variety of topics that impact our lives.
Bring some ideas that you would like to discuss."

~ **Les Pierce** - Adult Quest Facilitator

KID'S QUEST – Sundays during Worship

HOPE United Church of Christ

1701 Quincy Avenue, Suite 27
Naperville, IL 60540-6684

The Reverend Lucas King

Pastor Lucas' Cell – 720-378-2858
Pastor Lucas' Email – pastor@sharehope.org

Office Phone – 630-922-0470
Office Email – hope@sharehope.org
Website – www.sharehope.org

Office Hours:

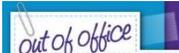
Tuesday - Thursday - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Deadline for additions or corrections to the next issue of
HOPE Happenings is February 13, by 2 p.m.**

Announcements for Sunday due by Wednesday of each week.

Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS @ HOPE UCC

<p>February 8 – 14</p> 	<p>Pastor Lucas – Out of Office</p>
<p>February 11, Sunday</p> 	<p>Youth Group Meeting @ HOPE UCC (11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.)</p>
<p>February 11, Sunday</p> 	<p>Rainbow Faith (1-3 p.m.) HOPE's ministry to support those in the LGBTQ+ community who are looking for a place to wonder and explore their faith. Find out more at: www.meetup.com/Rainbow-Faith-LGBTQ-Christians/ If you have questions, would like to participate or support this ministry, please contact Pastor Lucas.</p>
<p>February 13, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper & Ash Ritual (6 p.m.) Please see articles for more information.</p>
<p>February 14, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>February 15, Thursday</p> 	<p>Women Out to Lunch (Noon) Join the women of HOPE on the third Thursday of each month. Lively conversation, great food & warm fellowship is waiting for you at Giordano's Restaurant at 119 S. Main Street, in downtown Naperville. Parking is available in the lot across from the restaurant or the Van Buren Parking Building.</p>
<p>February 19, Monday</p> 	<p>Small Group Conversation (7 – 8:30 p.m.) @ Jeanne Smith's Residence</p>
<p>February 20, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Evening Explore Your Faith (7 p.m.) Note: Change of Venue for February. Meets at Hruska's residence, Naperville, this week.</p>
<p>February 20, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Small Group Conversation (7 – 8:30 p.m.) @ HOPE UCC</p>
<p>February 21, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>February 21, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Small Group Conversation (6 – 7:30 p.m.) @ Marie Higgins' Residence (This group is geared towards families with small children.)</p>
<p>February 22, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Small Group Conversation (7 – 8:30 p.m.) @ Bryant Hankins' Residence</p>
<p>February 25, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Small Group Conversation (11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.) @ HOPE UCC (This group is geared towards families with teens.)</p>
<p>February 25, Sunday</p> 	<p>Youth Group Meeting @ HOPE UCC (11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.)</p>
<p>February 25, Sunday</p> 	<p>Rainbow Faith (1-3 p.m.) HOPE's ministry to support those in the LGBTQ+ community who are looking for a place to wonder and explore their faith. Find out more at: www.meetup.com/Rainbow-Faith-LGBTQ-Christians/ If you have questions, would like to participate or support this ministry, please contact Pastor Lucas.</p>

<p>February 28, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>March 6, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Evening Explore Your Faith (7 p.m.) Meets at Dempsey's residence, Naperville, on the first and third Tuesday of each month.</p>
<p>March 7, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>March 11, Sunday</p> 	<p>Youth Group Meeting @ HOPE UCC (11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.)</p>
<p>March 11, Sunday</p> 	<p>Rainbow Faith (1-3 p.m.) HOPE's ministry to support those in the LGBTQ+ community who are looking for a place to wonder and explore their faith. Find out more at: www.meetup.com/Rainbow-Faith-LGBTQ-Christians/ If you have questions, would like to participate or support this ministry, please contact Pastor Lucas.</p>
<p>March 11, Sunday</p> 	<p>Bobby Jo Valentine Concert @ HOPE UCC (1 p.m.) (More info will be forthcoming.)</p>

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**(This is the spot to share your personal announcements.
Submit items to the HOPE UCC Office by Tuesday, 2 p.m.)**

"From a pad on the floor, to a key in the door."

"I'm so grateful to DuPagePads and their supporters.

Having a home has given me peace to build my family and begin to follow our dreams again.

You gave us hope and that hope is powerful."

- Diana, with 5 year old son Gabriel

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www.dupagepads.org



Did you know? Over the past 2 years DuPagePads reduced the average length of stay from 57 days to 45 days, a 21% reduction.

*** Save the date for our 12th Annual Taste of Hope event on March 1, 2018, 6pm - 9pm at Drury Lane.**