

## **Kids Quest Challenge**

On February 11, the message of Kids Quest was Mark 12: 41-44, which is the story of the widow who gave two copper coins to her synagogue. Although comparatively small in value, this was a huge sacrifice for her, because it represented a gift of everything she had to give.

**57 Cents**

We also heard the story of Hattie, a young girl who could not attend Sunday School at her church because the church was too small to accommodate all of the children who wanted to attend. Upon Hattie's death at the age of 8, her mother gave the pastor of the church 57 cents that Hattie had saved for use toward a new Sunday School building. The pastor took the 57 cents back to his congregation, and Hattie's story so inspired the people of the church that they soon raised enough money to build a new building with plenty of room for all of the children.

These stories are particularly appropriate as we enter the season of Lent. Lent is a time when many people decide to give up something of personal value – to sacrifice something – to better connect with the sacrifice Jesus made for all of us. Other people decide to take on something new as a way of carrying forward Jesus' message of service to others. Getting our own inspiration from Hattie's story, during Kids Quest we decided to try to bridge both the sacrifice and the service. And we need your help. We would like each HOPE family to consider setting aside 57 cents per day during Lent (40 days plus 6 Sundays) in collection boxes the kids made during the Quest time. Boxes are available at the entrance to the worship area for anyone who did not get one on February 11. On Easter Sunday, we will gather the collections as contributions toward HOPE's missions. The Kids Quest kids will offer recommendations to the Missions Ministry for how to use the funds that are raised.

Your sacrifice of 57 cents per day – or whatever lesser amount you can afford – between now and Easter Sunday will translate into service for our community. Please consider participating in this Kids Quest effort.

**HOPE UCC Kids Quest Teachers**



## News & Notes



### **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](mailto:soaringteam@sharehope.org).

### **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.**

### **Thank You Pancake Dinner Helpers!**



Thank you so much for sharing your extension cords, griddles, frying pans, crock pots, tongs, and flippers for the HOPE Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday/Ash Wednesday Pancake dinner!

It was a lot of fun to cook together. It's amazing to see the various pancake techniques for buttering, "syruping", stacking, or side-by-siding. Best of all is the chance to visit and get to know people. And of course, the pancake eating isn't too bad either!

We appreciate your willingness to help make a special evening possible!!!

**HOPE Worship Committee**

*Mary Kroening, Ellen Brady, Anna Ahonen, Marie Higgins*

## 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](mailto:becky.mccabe1@gmail.com).





## Celebrating Birthdays

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](mailto: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

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

Office Phone – 630-922-0470  
Office Email – [hope@sharehope.org](mailto:hope@sharehope.org)  
Website – [www.sharehope.org](http://www.sharehope.org)

**Office Hours:**

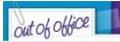
**Tuesday - Thursday - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Deadline for additions or corrections to the next issue of  
HOPE Happenings is February 20, by 2 p.m.**

**Announcements for Sunday due by Wednesday of each week.**

**Thanks!**

# UPCOMING EVENTS @ HOPE UCC

February 8 – 14 	<b>Pastor Lucas – Out of Office</b>
February 15, Thursday 	<b>Women Out to Lunch (Noon)</b> 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.
February 19, Monday 	<b>Small Group Conversation (7 – 8:30 p.m.) @ Jeanne Smith’s Residence</b>
February 20, Tuesday 	<b>Evening Explore Your Faith (7 p.m.)</b> <b>Note: Change of Venue for February.</b> Meets at Hruska’s residence, Naperville, this week.
February 20, Tuesday 	<b>Small Group Conversation (7 – 8:30 p.m.) @ HOPE UCC</b>
February 21, Wednesday 	<b>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.)</b> Meets at Quincy’s Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.
February 21, Wednesday 	<b>Small Group Conversation (6 – 7:30 p.m.) @ Marie Higgins’ Residence</b> <b>(This group is geared towards families with small children.)</b>
February 22, Tuesday 	<b>Small Group Conversation (7 – 8:30 p.m.) @ Bryant Hankins’ Residence</b>
February 25, Tuesday 	<b>Small Group Conversation (11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.) @ HOPE UCC</b> <b>(This group is geared towards families with teens.)</b>
February 25, Sunday 	<b>Youth Group Meeting @ HOPE UCC (11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.)</b>
February 25, Sunday 	<b>Rainbow Faith (1-3 p.m.)</b> 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: <a href="http://www.meetup.com/Rainbow-Faith-LGBTQ-Christians/">www.meetup.com/Rainbow-Faith-LGBTQ-Christians/</a> If you have questions, would like to participate or support this ministry, please contact <b>Pastor Lucas</b> .
February 28, Wednesday 	<b>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.)</b> Meets at Quincy’s Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.
March 6, Tuesday 	<b>Evening Explore Your Faith (7 p.m.)</b> Meets at Dempsey’s residence, Naperville, on the first and third Tuesday of each month.
March 7, Wednesday 	<b>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.)</b> Meets at Quincy’s Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.
March 11, Sunday 	<b>Youth Group Meeting @ HOPE UCC (11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.)</b>
March 11, Sunday 	<b>Rainbow Faith (1-3 p.m.)</b> 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: <a href="http://www.meetup.com/Rainbow-Faith-LGBTQ-Christians/">www.meetup.com/Rainbow-Faith-LGBTQ-Christians/</a> If you have questions, would like to participate or support this ministry, please contact <b>Pastor Lucas</b> .
March 11, Sunday 	<b>Bobby Jo Valentine Concert @ HOPE UCC (1 p.m.)</b> (More info will be forthcoming.)

# 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

Scan here for full story or visit our blog:

[www.dupagepads.org](http://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.*