

Necessary Chores

In my household, there is a chore that no one wants to do: make the bed.

At a time in our lives where sleep is precious and our day-to-day schedule often has only the slightest amount of wiggle room, Nathan and I usually feel that the admittedly few minutes it takes to make the bed in the morning would be better spent indulging in a second (or third) cup of coffee or looking for the *specific* book about Triceratops that Milo would like to read in the car while we drive to work and school. But I still try to do it every day and ask Nathan to do it on the days when I don't, for one reason: it doesn't matter how good the rest of our room looks – when the bed's unmade, the room looks like a mess.

There is a certain sense of calm and control that I personally get from cleanliness, but beyond that, there's also a sense of pride. To my mind, when we make a home – whether we're talking about an actual living space or a "home" in the sense of a communal place we gather with like-minded people – we take pride in that home. We like to keep it tidy to the best of our abilities because we're proud of what we have built there.

Some of you may not know that cleaning the facility of HOPE is a volunteer-led job. Not only does utilizing volunteers to clean our space allow us to save money that can be spent in other worshipful ways, but it also gives us another way to reflect on how much our church-home means to us.

When we take ownership of our space (and the messes that crop up within it) we can reflect on how much we value it. Most of us know the amount of hard work and dedication that goes in to making HOPE a warm, welcoming community – and the physical element of that warmth is just as important as the emotional component. When we walk in to HOPE, we take in the bright, vibrant décor and the clean, neat space, and we can see that we love and value our church home just as much as we do our residential homes.

This week, let's make a point to say a prayer of thankfulness for the partners who show how much they love HOPE by keeping it clean for the rest of us: John and Mary K., Tim and Marie H., Shannon L. and Melody E., Anna A. and Dan K, Jane and Nick D., and Mark G., we love you and are so glad that you do this work for HOPE!

Erin Cooley
HOPE UCC
Designated
Moderator



Dear HOPE Partners –

Don't you enjoy coming to HOPE where everything is nice and clean? Aren't you proud of how it appears when new people come to visit – perhaps seeking to become part of our community? This cleanliness is the result of six special teams who rotate on a weekly basis...and they're looking for some help!! The more teams we have the lower the impact on any one team.

A lot of thanks go to **Mary & John Kroening, Shannon Lane & Melody Ellsworth, Marie & Tim Higgins, Mark Geiger, Anna Ahonen, Dan Keil, and Jane Dempsey.** Some of these teams have been cleaning HOPE since we moved into the original Ministry Center in south Naperville – way before we located to our current home on Quincy Avenue!! That's quite a commitment!!

Cleaning HOPE takes about an hour or so and includes vacuuming, dusting, disinfecting the bathrooms and kitchen area, dusting, wiping tables, straightening chairs, taking out the garbage and recycling, and generally fixing any messes you might see.

Would you be willing to sign up for the regular rotation or just for a few weeks a year? You can create a team in many ways. For example, you can have a Family Team or find a friend and create a Partner Team or, like Mark, be an Individual Team. We will provide a mentor to get you started, a simple outline of what needs to be done, show you where the cleaners and cleaning equipment are stored, and a key to get in the door so you can clean at your convenience. Also, if you can't make an assigned week, one of the other teams will trade with you so you have flexibility in scheduling.

If you would be willing to help, please contact me at pndempsey@aol.com, Home: 630 357 5434, or Cell: 630 235 3042. I look forward to hearing from you!! Thank you in advance!

Nick Dempsey
Resource and Operations Committee

News & Notes

JESUS HAS LEFT THE BUILDING & WE'RE FOLLOWING HIM **will be in the AFTERNOON!! Come Join us in "Workshop"**



What: Brunch & **Jesus Has Left the Building & We're Following Him**

When: **Sunday, April 29th**

JHLTB - 12:30 p.m. -3:30 p.m.

Pre-Workshop Brunch - 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Where: **Brunch - Courtyard Banquets**

3S200 Rt. 59, Warrenville, IL

Ample parking is available.

Buffet Style meal. Cost is \$12.95 per adult and \$8.95 per child plus tax and gratuity

Jesus Has Left the Building "Workshop" – First Congregational Church

25 E. Benton, Naperville, IL

The church is located in downtown Naperville. It is just east of Washington Street.

There is a parking lot directly behind the church, and the kitchen door opens to the parking lot.

Please Sign Up Today!

*Indicate if you will be joining us for brunch. Courtyard Banquets will set up a large table for us.

*Please let us know if you would like a job assignment that can be done seated or is less labor intensive.

Please talk to Laurie Fosen or Jolene with any questions!

Gift Card Orders Due

The gift card order for the month of May is due by **Sunday, May 6**. Fill out the order form, include payment (cash or check made payable to HOPE UCC) with your order and place it in the red folder on the front desk. Gift cards will be ready for pick-up the following Sunday, March 13.

As you know, for each card we sell, HOPE receives a portion of the sale. Click [HERE](#) to access the complete list of retailers. Please contact Gail for more information or questions at 630-922-0470.

As always, we will have on hand gift cards of various denominations ready to sell every Sunday from these retailers:

Jewel
Mariano's
Meijer



Speedway
Walmart



Movie Night @ HOPE UCC

Ladies and gentlemen, children of almost all ages, join us **Friday, May 11** for a fantastic movie night. "The Greatest Showman" (Rated PG) will begin at 7:00 p.m. Bring a comfy chair, something to drink and your imagination. We will supply the popcorn. No cost, no kidding!

Sharing Joys & Concerns

Please keep these people & events in your prayers:

- † Lift up the McCabe family, as their Naperville family home will be demolished this week. Built in 1898, it holds lots of memories. (Becky M.)
- † Pray for all those in the world living with mental health issues. (Lela & Tanya)
- † Let us pray for Chris' cousin, Ella, and her husband Tony and especially their new baby, Clara, who was born two months early. Pray baby Clara grows stronger and comes home soon. We are thankful baby Clara is tiny, but strong and healthy. (Jolene & Chris)
- † Prayers for our cousin, Marijo W., as she begins treatment for cancer. (Jolene & Chris)
- † Please pray for Joyce C., Mother of Kathy & P.J., who fell in rehab and cut her head. It has been a long journey trying to recuperate. (Sally B.)
- † Pray for Jeanne, who's roughing it in sunny Naples, Florida right now getting ready to play in the U.S. Pickleball Open. Good luck to her...and her teammates. 😊 (Trott)
- ☺ Delany Karl (one of HOPE's former childcare workers) wanted me to thank HOPE UCC for the Keep in Touch gift card, and also wanted to say she misses HOPE people and all the kiddos. (Trott)
- ☺ Prayers for Jenny S., who was pinned yesterday! Congratulations Nurse Jenny. Also, keep Zachary and Kaleb as they fly home from Florida. (Mark G.)
- ☺ Happy Birthday to Lela and Zach, who recently celebrated their birthdays.
- ☺ Joy! Our friend, Barbara T., will be coming home from rehab after her strokes. Also, big bro came home from the hospital after his heart surgery. (Lela & Tanya)



Celebrating Birthdays

04/27 Linda Smith
04/27 Shannon Lane
04/27 Jennifer Revoldt
04/30 Mary Kroening

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 May 2, by 2 p.m.**

Announcements for Sunday due by Wednesday of each week.

Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS @ HOPE UCC

<p>April 29, Sunday</p> 	<p>Jesus Has Left the Building and We're Following Him (Sign-up today! Please see article for more information.)</p>
<p>May 1, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Evening Explore Your Faith (7 p.m.) Meets at Hruska's residence, Naperville, on the first and third Tuesday of each month.</p>
<p>May 2, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>May 6, Sunday</p> 	<p>The Landing (Youth Ministry) @ HOPE UCC (11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.)</p>
<p>May 9, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>May 9, Wednesday</p> 	<p>PADS Dinner @ First Congregational UCC, Naperville</p>
<p>May 11, Friday</p> 	<p>Movie Night @ HOPE UCC (7 p.m.) Join us for a fantastic movie night. "The Greatest Showman" (Rated PG) will begin at 7:00 p.m. Bring a comfy chair, something to drink and your imagination. We will supply the popcorn. No cost, no kidding!</p>
<p>May 13, Sunday</p> 	<p>Rainbow Faith @ HOPE UCC (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>May 15, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Evening Explore Your Faith (7 p.m.) Meets at Hruska's residence, Naperville, on the first and third Tuesday of each month.</p>
<p>May 16, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>May 17, 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>May 20, Sunday</p> 	<p>Strengthen the Church Special UCC Offering (During Worship)</p>
<p>May 20, Sunday</p> 	<p>The Landing (Youth Ministry) @ HOPE UCC (11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.)</p>
<p>May 23, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>May 27, Sunday</p> 	<p>Rainbow Faith @ HOPE UCC (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>

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Youth Outlook Fundraising Brunch

This Sunday, April 29th from 1:00 – 2:00 at Piper’s Banquets in Aurora, Youth Outlook will be hosting a fundraising brunch to raise funds for their organization and to attract volunteers to get involved with their organization. If you are not participating in JHLTB and are interested in attending, please contact Nancy Mullen, Executive Director, at 815.754.5331 or nancy.mullen@youth-outlook.org by this Friday, April 27th (so they have enough time to order food),

Youth Outlook celebrates, empowers, advocates for, and provides services to meet the ever-evolving needs of LGBTQ+ youth and their families, friends, and communities.

Thank you for your consideration!