

Sabbatical



For the past month I've been on a sabbatical from work. It's a benefit that my company offers to anyone who has worked with the firm for seven years or more, and although I've worked there for nine years now, I'm the only person I know who has taken advantage of it. I don't know if this is because people at my firm really love their jobs or if they just don't know what to do with themselves if they aren't at work.

While I was preparing to take my sabbatical, I decided to do something I've always wanted to do: write a novel. Knowing myself the way I do, I knew that I would need to make a pretty detailed plan to keep me on track to finish the book in a month, so I made an enormous storyboard with a bunch of color-coded note cards showing the themes, plot points, and details I wanted to include. By the time I completed the storyboard, it was so exhaustive and meticulous that I could tell my sabbatical was going to be almost as much work as my day job.

So, for the entire month of June, I wrote. I wrote four days a week with a word count goal for each day. I spent evenings and non-writing days in a distracted haze as I planned what I would write the next day. I stared at my ceiling from my bed for about forty-five minutes every night, unable to fall asleep because of the mess of plot holes and self-doubt jumbling up my exhausted brain.

But I loved every minute of it. Eight-hour days full of writing flew by like days in a cubicle never have. I felt like one of those people who claim they've "never worked a day in their life" because they love what they do so much. I am so grateful for the month I've had; it's one I will never forget.

My hope for all of you is that whenever you are presented with an opportunity to make one of your dreams come true, you take it; even if you're full of doubt; even if you don't know how it will work out in the end.

Erin Cooley

HOPE UCC Designated Moderator

News & Notes



New HOPE UCC T-Shirts Have Arrived!

Get yours today! Our new shirts look fabulous! A variety of child and adult sizes available for a suggested donation of \$15 to HOPE UCC. T-shirts are great to wear to all HOPE UCC events, i.e. Aurora Pride Parade, Jesus Has Left the Building, GameShow Palooza, etc.

Orders for Gift Cards due Sunday, July 1

The monthly order for gift cards will be placed the week of July 1, so please submit your order and cash or check (made payable to HOPE UCC) by Sunday, July 1. Gift cards will be ready for pick up the following Sunday, July 8.



Summer Event – Ice Cream Social & Movie Night – June 28

Who likes ice cream? Who likes movies? Who likes being outdoors in the summer? If you're any of these three things, why not come to Jeanne & Trott's house on Thursday, June 28 for the **ICE CREAM SOCIAL & MOVIE NIGHT**? We'll provide the venue, the ice cream, and the movie "COCO" outdoors under the stars. You bring your favorite ice cream topping to share and a lawn chair. What's easier than that? We'll start the ice cream

around 7:15 and get the movie started around 8:15 – 8:30 depending on darkness. If you can't stay for the movie, still come for some ice cream. Let's see how creative we can get with our ice cream creations! Address: 6675 Wheatfield Street, Woodridge. Phone: 630-269-3069 (Jeanne) 630-310-2413 (Trott)



SAVE THE DATE for Jesus Has Left the Building & We're Following Him

What: Jesus Has Left the Building and We Are Following Him

July's "workshop" project will be led by HOPE's youth group, The Landing! The youth have chosen our next JHLTB project. It will be at Ready, Set, Ride: Therapeutic Horseback Riding for Children with Special Needs

When: Sunday morning, July 29th

Where: Ready Set Ride, [13056 Essington Rd., Plainfield, IL 60585](#)

Stayed Tuned: Details and more information is coming in the HOPE Happenings & announcements on Sunday mornings. We hope to have both physical & non-physical workshop opportunities for HOPERS of all ages & abilities. There will be a sign-up sheet available soon for JHLTB as well as a post workshop gathering for lunch.



Sharing Joys & Concerns

Please keep these people & events in your prayers:

- † Thank you for your prayers for my niece, Tiffani. The judge granted her full custody during the school year. (Zach J.)
- † Let us pray for the children...the children and the families who love them. (Sally B.)
- † Prayers for Mom/Grammy as she has the first of two eye surgeries. Please calm her nerves and guide the surgeon's hands. (The Zillmers)
- † Please pray for my extended family who have the Ataxia gene. Also, happy thoughts and prayers for Jane F.M. in heaven. (Katie M.)
- † Let us pray for Jackie, recovering from a bad cold, and struggling with weather conditions. Grateful she's feeling better. Please continue to grant her relief. (The Zillmers)
- † Prayers for Phyllis K., the foot and ankle she had surgery on is inflamed and giving her a lot of pain. (Linda J.)
- † Please pray for improved recovery for Carolyn H. She is home and thriving. Thank you for all the prayers. (Michael & Terry)
- † Let us pray for Little Man! He's turning one on June 9. Continued prayers he becomes a permanent member of our family. (Michael & Terry)
- † Prayers for the continued comfort of my friend, Jenny, who is in hospice care. I am lucky enough to get to visit her next week, and I feel very fortunate to do so. (Erin C.)
- ☺ Thanksgiving for Melody and a happy birthday to her! We love you! (Shannon & Regina)
- ☺ Happy Pride Day! Keep everyone safe. (Mark G.)
- ☺ Edward celebrates his birthday today! (Mark G.)



Celebrating Birthdays

07/01 Lily Halder
07/03 Canaan Halder
07/09 John Kroening
07/09 Janeen Bradley
07/11 Jaiden Manderino
07/14 Tamille Carter
07/19 Kristy Revoldt
07/30 Ian Hankins

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

Please note: Adult Education is on Summer Break until September. A start date for Adult Education will be published in August 2018.

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 July 4, by 2 p.m.**

Announcements for Sunday due by Wednesday of each week.

Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS @ HOPE UCC

<p>June 27 – July 2</p> 	<p>Pastor Lucas – Out of Office</p>
<p>June 28, Thursday</p> 	<p>Ice Cream Social & Movie Night @ Jeanne & Trott's House (7-9 p.m.) Please see article for more info.</p>
<p>July 1, Sunday</p> 	<p>Deadline for Gift Card Orders for the month of July The monthly order for gift cards will be placed the week of July 1, so please submit your order and check (made payable to HOPE UCC) by Sunday, July 1. Gift cards will be ready for pick up the following Sunday, July 8.</p>
<p>July 3, 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>July 4, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>July 8, Sunday</p> 	<p>New Partner Class # 1 @ HOPE UCC (9 a.m.)</p>
<p>July 8, 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>July 11, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>July 12, Thursday</p> 	<p>Naperville Band Concert (7:30 p.m.) A Night at the Oscars! Central Park, Naperville (Between Jefferson & Benton, just east of Washington Street) Come if you can and look for the HOPers!</p>
<p>July 15, Sunday</p> 	<p>New Partner Class #2 @ HOPE UCC (9 a.m.)</p>
<p>July 15, Sunday</p> 	<p>Ministry Council Meeting (Following Worship)</p>
<p>July 17, 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>July 18, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>July 19, 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>