

Ode to Joy... of Melons

Every job, every person, every season has its own rhythm. The rhythm of my life is changing and so far, it feels great. After 36 wonderful years teaching 7th and mostly 8th graders, my August routine is altered. No more lesson planning or going in early to set up a classroom. No more opening day gatherings. No more grading! Life in the middle (school) was great but it's time to move on. Time for a different rhythm.

The joy for me is that I don't have to jump right into something brand new. I've got enough unfinished projects at home and around my waist to last well into the autumn. I've got a fantastic life partner who loves making to-do lists. And I've got a garden.

Each year for the past 20 plus years, Marie and I have plotted away at the community garden. We get our designated 30x40 foot piece of land and plant away. Most years we don't get started until the end of May or early June. Not this year! This year, in anticipation of "having more time", we got things planted early. By mid-May, most things were good to go. By the end of May I had mulched our plot with wheel barrow after wheel barrow of extra cover. The rains came. The plants grew.

June and July found us on the road. On the rare days when we were home, I went to the garden to check, to water, and to pluck out the occasional weed. To my surprise, the cantaloupes were doing exceedingly well. By that I mean there were actual cantaloupes. After years of planting cantaloupe seeds, I actually had something that I might be able to pick. This was new territory. How does one tell if it is ripe enough to pick? I called my dad for a consult. What is the rhythm of a cantaloupe? Give a tug he said. Just a little pull on the vine. Still tight? Not ready. You will know. Click. Dad is a man of fewer and fewer words these days. His rhythm is changing as well. Back at the garden, I gave a gentle tug and BOOM. A store sized cantaloupe was resting in my hands. Another tug, another prize. The picture says it all.

So, my friends, what is your rhythm? Where do you find joy? Who gives you a tug and lets you know it is time? How does HOPE fit into your rhythm? Marie and I have been gone most of the summer. I've missed my friends at HOPE. Truly. I can't wait to get back into the rhythm of being with HOPERS again. You all make me think and remind me that there are caring, questioning, and accepting souls who love unconditionally and are working hard to make the world a better place. That's a rhythm I can dance to.

And hey, if you think my melons look good, you should see my potatoes.



Tim "Feeling the Rhythm" Higgins
HOPE UCC Pastor-Parish Co-Chair

News & Notes

It's COUGARS BASEBALL time!



Who doesn't love sitting in the warm night air eating a hot dog and washing it down with a beverage of your choice? **Saturday, August 18**, come see the Cougars play some baseball against Clinton, Iowa. Seat tickets are \$13. **Game time is 6:30 p.m.**, but there's more! It's **Super Hero Night** and then **fireworks** after the game. One last thing...The band **Hi Infidelity** (popular rock oldies) is playing before the game out behind the park in center field. They start around 4:45 p.m. There's a signup sheet in the lobby so please let us know your interest in getting tickets and how many. **TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME...** (Sing that in your head. It helps get you in the mood!)

HOPE Children & Youth Safe Community Training (Nursery, Kid's Quest, & The Landing)

To all HOPE UCC Children & Youth Volunteers (Nursery, Kid's Quest, & The Landing)

Embracing Safe Community training for all volunteers who work with children and youth at HOPE (Nursery, Kid's Quest, & The Landing). If you were not able to participate in the October 2017 training, please plan to attend the session (maximum of one hour) on Sunday, September 2 immediately after the worship service.

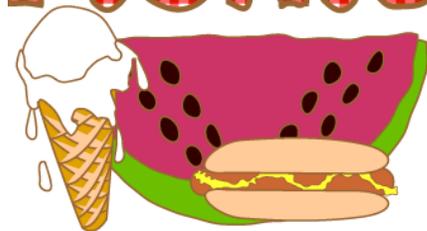


Sunday, September 2 immediately after worship services

- Required by our insurance policy
- One hour maximum
- Healthy snacks for you and your kids will be provided

Thanks for your commitment to children and youth.

PICNIC



Annual HOPE UCC Picnic – Sunday, September 16

After service, please come to Herrick Lake West Pavilion for food, fun, and laughs. HOPE provides the hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, and desserts. You all bring the side dishes. This year, BYO beverage. Water will be provided. There's a little change to the Bingo game. If you plan to play, please bring a WRAPPED item. The item must be 1 pound of something. One pound of anything! Of course, there will be other activities for all.

There is a sign-up sheet purely to give Community Life an idea of roughly how many are able to attend.



HOPE UCC Mission Project

DuPage PADS 14th Annual Run 4 Home 2018
Ending Homelessness One Step at a Time
10K & 5K Run and 5K & 1K Walk



Saturday, September 15th, 2018 – 8:00am
703 West Liberty, Wheaton

Join HOPE UCC's team **"Welcome Home!"** as we run & walk together to raise funds for our mission partner DuPage PADS. It's sure to be a fun event for a great cause. Wheelchairs are welcome, and strollers/baby joggers are welcome in the 5K & 1K walk.

REGISTER to join HOPE's team "Welcome Home" or **DONATE** to team "Welcome Home!" online at:

<https://dupagepads.org/run-4-home-2018-10k-5k-run-walk-dupagepads-wheaton/>

You may register online through September 13th.

Save \$5 when you register by August 18th.



New HOPE UCC T-Shirts – Get Yours Soon!

Hurry! 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. HOPE UCC Annual Picnic, Aurora Pride Parade, Jesus Has Left the Building, GameShow Palooza, etc.

Please Join Fellow HOPERS at these Ongoing Gatherings

Women Out to Lunch

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.



These two groups hold stimulating conversation about current events and topics important to our lives and faith. We love the questions and searching for answers together.

Explore Your Faith Breakfast – Wednesdays @ 7:30 a.m.

This group meets weekly at Quincy's Restaurant in Naperville for breakfast. They utilize "The Wired Word" curriculum, which is based on current events, to discuss significant topics.

Evening Explore Your Faith – First and Third Tuesdays @ 7 p.m.

Meeting twice a month at Jay and Jill Hruska's home, this group holds thought-provoking conversations about current events and other important subjects.

Sharing Joys & Concerns

Please keep these people & events in your prayers:

- † Let us pray for those who are lost. Sometimes, it's easier to just give up. Help us, Lord, to fight for life. I am just tired of the struggle. (Anonymous)
- † Please pray for my cousin, Bob H. After everyone had left after the funeral of his dad, he went into the hospital with a cancerous tumor in his esophagus. (Sally B.)
- † Prayers for my cousin, Danny. He's home, but on oxygen and using a walker. He continues therapy. Your prayers are appreciated. (Barb Z.)
- † Let's pray for physical healing as my mom continues to recover from eye surgery, and Dave recovers from a biking accident. (Dee Z.)
- † Let us pray for healing of family relationships between my dad and all the siblings during rough times. Please also restore emotional health and comfort due to loss and recovery of a home fire. (The Zillmers)
- † Please pray with gratitude for some couple time and good conversations this week! Also, for the generosity of friends to grant horse time for Ravinia! (Dee Z.)
- † Prayers for Little Man's siblings. Please keep them in your prayers while those of authority plan their future. (Michael & Terry)
- † Please pray for guidance for our family dynamic and the future. (Michael & Terry)
- † Let us pray for Terry's mom, Barbara, as she is taking care of Terry's father who is battling many illnesses and is in the hospital. (Michael & Terry)
- † Prayers for my friend, Sally, who is having surgery for a broken femur. (Sally B.)
- † Please pray for my grandson, Chris, who is experiencing some struggles. (Sally B.)
- † Let us pray for all those in the path of the Holy fire. My former sister-in-law and nephew live in the next town over from where the fire is burning. (Zach)
- † Please let's pray for Linda J., who fell this week and badly injured her ribs. Heal quickly! (Zillmer Family)
- † Prayers for our fellow HOPErs who are traveling or will be traveling.
- † Thanks to Antoinette, Ellen, Mark and the other adult leaders who organized, staffed, supported, and chaperoned the Landing Lock-In. We, youth and adults, alike, are pleased by your dedication and the gifts you share.

Prayer Requests



Celebrating Birthdays

08/24 Maddie Fosen
08/30 Barb Zigterman

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 August 22, by 2 p.m.**

Announcements for Sunday due by Wednesday of each week.

Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS @ HOPE UCC

<p>August 16, 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>August 18, Saturday</p> 	<p>Kane County Cougars Baseball Game (Concert @ 4:45 p.m./Game @ 6:30 p.m.) See article for more info.</p>
<p>August 19, Sunday</p> 	<p>HOPE UCC Congregational Meeting (Following Worship)</p>
<p>August 21, 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>August 22, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>August 26, 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>August 29, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>September 2, Sunday</p> 	<p>Safe Community Training for Adults Working with Youth (Following Worship) (Please see article for more information.)</p>
<p>September 4, 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>September 5, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>September 9, Sunday</p> 	<p>The Landing (Youth Ministry) @ HOPE UCC (11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.)</p>
<p>September 9, Sunday</p> 	<p>Ministry Council Meeting (Following Worship)</p>
<p>September 9, 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>September 12, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>September 16, Sunday</p> 	<p>HOPE UCC Annual Church Picnic (After Worship) We will gather again at Herrick Park (west picnic area) for our usual food, fun and games. Details to come.</p>
<p>September 18, 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>