

Bigger, Yes; But Better?

BIGGER

is not always

BETTER

My aunt bought our family a gift membership to Brookfield Zoo at Christmas, and thanks to the confluence of spring break, PTO, and a warm, sunny spring day, yesterday we got to use it. Milo and I filled our backpack with snacks and drove east to the zoo.

We've been a few times before, so on our way, I reminded Milo of all the things we would see: Tropic World with all the primates and (my personal favorite) the giant anteater; the wolves and polar bears and grizzly bears; and our shared favorite, the giraffes. "There are so many choices!" I chirped to him as we drove. "It's so big! We're going to have so much fun!" And we did have fun. It was a wonderful day to be outside, in the sunshine, with my favorite four-year-old boy.

At dinner at home that night, we regaled Nathan and Josh with our adventures and showed them the strip of photos we took in the photobooth (which is Milo's favorite activity to do anywhere there's an opportunity.) And after that, Milo said, "Okay Mom: so tomorrow, can we go to the little zoo?"

It took me a minute to understand where he meant: the Phillips Park Zoo in Aurora, a zoo mostly populated by injured and rehabilitated animals who would could not safely be released back into their natural environments. This past summer we went there many times on our days at home together when we really needed to get out of the house, and Milo spent lots of time checking out the turtles and the snakes and trying to catch a glimpse of the elusive otters.

"You want to go to the little zoo too? The one down the road, with the park next to it?" I clarified. "Yeah! It's my favorite!"

How silly of me, how "grown-up" of me to assume that the bigger zoo with more animals would be the more appealing zoo to my little guy. He loves our "little zoo" not because it's expansive or filled with impressive, unusual animals. He loves it on its own merits, for his own reasons.

Going forward, my hope for myself and for all of us is not to conflate "bigger" with "better." May we love all the "little zoos" in our lives, just exactly the way that they are.

Erin Cooley

HOPE UCC Ministry Council Moderator

News & Notes

Surprising and Moving...

The Sunday after the attack on the Mosque in Christchurch, New Zealand, some of us were feeling a desire to reach out as a show of support and solidarity, so Barb and Matt Conkrite, Antoinette, Ellen and I took flowers to the local Mosque in Naperville. We figured we would leave them at the door to be discovered when the faithful returned. (Mosque services are on Fridays.) As I waited outside for the others to arrive with the flowers, cars full of women begin arriving. I was approached twice by women asking if they could help me; they both expressed gratitude when I explained our purpose. The second woman gave me her cell number and asked me to text her when the others arrived and she would come out from the workshop they were attending to meet us, which I did.

When we got inside, the reaction from the ladies was both surprising and moving. There were hugs all around, and frequently tears. They were so grateful and friendly, and they offered to have us attend the workshop! We said we did not want to disrupt their meeting, and besides, I didn't have a hijab. Later when I returned with Ellen, an older woman who turned out to be the workshop leader, came out and requested we come into the meeting. About 75 women from all over the area, all wearing traditional Middle Eastern garb, were seated in a circle around a table with white sheets on it. The workshop was teaching the Muslim cultural and religious requirements on caring for the deceased. The Speaker was inspiring, and we were both moved. She said fear is ok, but not too much fear. And hope is ok, but not too much, for it may cause complacency.

The leader had us approach the microphone, and introduced us to everyone and expressed such respect, warmth and gratitude to us. She gave me the microphone, and several took videos of us on their phones. I hardly remember what I said!

As we began to leave, women got up out of their chairs just to come and hug us and thank us for coming. We were very moved. Two ladies escorted us out and stayed to talk for a while. Some know of HOPE's relationship with them, and repeatedly invited us to their Open Mosque Day on the last Sunday of April. I couldn't wait to tell Pastor Lucas of our experience! I gave a copy of the flyer that Nadja texted me to Gail, and requested she post it in our HOPE Happenings. I hope we can continue to show support to the community. The feelings and the warmth I received that Sunday afternoon stayed with me all week.

Sally Bice

FREE EVENT

icn

ISLAMIC CENTER of NAPERVILLE
invites you - our friends and neighbors to our

Open
MOSQUE
DAY

Sunday, 04.28.2019 11am-5pm
Islamic Center of Naperville
2844 W. Ogden Ave, Naperville, IL 60540

CALLIGRAPHY
FOOD
HENNA
MEET THE IMAM
MOSQUE TOURS
PRESENTATIONS

WITH A SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR KIDS

To RSVP contact: 630-426-3335 or admin@icnmasjid.org

Jesus Has Left the Building & We're Following Him

Join us this **Sunday, March 31**, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Ready Set Ride in Plainfield. We will be helping with some spring touchup jobs around the horse stables! Come with us for a fun time to give back to a great organization that does so much for their community and helping those with special needs! Remember, this event takes the place of Worship Service that Sunday.



Lisa Sanders in Concert (April 5 @ 7 p.m.)

Award-winning singer-songwriter, Lisa Sanders with Brown Sugar Hayes in concert at HOPE UCC! Doors open at 6:30 p.m. \$10/per person / \$20/per family. Sign up in the HOPE UCC lobby.

Cook Book Fundraiser

Have you ever wondered how Jeanne & Trott make Corn Chowder taste so good?! Or what is in Dave's winning Chili?! Or what makes Linda's "Christmas Crack" so addictive?! Have you ever asked, "Who made THAT?" and "Where's the recipe?" at a HOPE UCC pot luck?! Well the craving ends here with a chance for HOPERS to share their culinary greatness!

Over the next several months, we will be collecting recipes from the congregation... Each month will have its own theme... The intent is to compile these recipes and construct a cook book to be sold as a fundraiser for HOPE UCC and its missions - and just in time for Christmas 2019!



Baby, it's STILL cold outside! Time for comfort food! For the month of March, "Casseroles" will be the theme - easy to make, easy to enjoy! Please bring your favorite crowd-pleasing casserole recipe to church on any Sunday in March or submit via email to Dee Zillmer, deeliriousone@aol.com THANK YOU! Excited to "share the table" one step further!

Kids' Quest Project – Will you help?

During Lent we remember Jesus through giving up something (sacrifice) and/or taking on something (service). Kid's Quest would like to ask your help by doing both. Anyone who is willing and able to sacrifice 57 cents/day (\$26.22 for the Lenten season) or some larger or smaller amount is asked to take a contribution basket and return it on Easter Sunday. The Kid's Quest group will work with Pastor Lucas to identify local charities whose service we can assist with the contributed funds after Easter.



We are doing this in memory of Hattie May Wiatt, a girl whose 57 cents, following her death, led to a fundraising effort that built a Sunday School building that was big enough for all children, and that ultimately became the beginning of Temple University. Baskets will be located on the table in the Sanctuary.

Sharing Joys & Concerns

Please keep these people & events in your prayers:

- † Love and support to all who are suffering. I love you and I am here for you. (Tanya)
- † Prayers of healing for my good friend, Annette, who has been diagnosed with leukemia, and has been in Prentice Women's Hospital for seven weeks. (Anna)
- † Let us pray for Aiden, his Mom, and brother. Divine intervention is needed for their family's mental health. (Tony)
- † Prayers for a full house for Derek's L. A. film festival premiere of *The Transcendants*. (Anna)
- ☺ I am grateful for the ministry council and their joyful dedication to HOPE UCC. (Erin)
- ☺ Joy for my son, Damon's birthday! Some of you may remember how close to death he came a few years ago. Now he has a young daughter, and life is good! (Sally B.)
- ☺ Prayers for me as I continue to recover from my bronchitis. Thank you for all the cards and texts. I felt the love and support. (Mark G.)
- ☺ Gratefulness! During Lent, I look around more closely and find out how many good things are happening, good friends, many of us healing well. (Bea)



Celebrating Birthdays

04/10 Les Pierce
04/12 Quinn Revoldt
04/12 Harper Revoldt
04/13 Anthony Lieggi
04/17 Tony Ozzauto
04/21 Lela Lauricha
04/21 Tim Higgins
04/22 Zach Jarabeck
04/27 Shannon Lane
04/27 Linda Smith
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	Erin Cooley
Des. Moderator	Dan Keil
Past Moderator	Mike Manderino
Treasurer	Les Pierce
Des. Treasurer	Lela Lauricha
Secretary	Barbara Roethel
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

Adult Christian Education

KID'S QUEST - Sundays during Worship

HOPE UCC's Christian Education for children. Teaching kids about Community, Scripture, Values and Service through participatory learning.

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 April 2, by 12 p.m.**

Announcements for Sunday due by Wednesday of each week.

Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS @ HOPE UCC

<p>March 31, Sunday</p> 	<p>Jesus Has Left the Building and We're Following Him (10 a.m. to 1 p.m.) We will be helping at Ready Set Ride with some spring touchup jobs around the horse stables! Join us for a fun time to give back to a great organization that does so much for the community and helping those with special needs! Remember, there will be no Worship service that Sunday.</p>
<p>April 2, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Evening Explore Your Faith (7 p.m.) Meets at HOPE UCC, Naperville, on the first and third Tuesday of each month.</p>
<p>April 3, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>April 5, Friday</p> 	<p>Lisa Sanders Concert @ HOPE UCC (7 p.m.) Award-winning singer-songwriter, Lisa Sanders with Brown Sugar Hayes in concert at HOPE UCC! Doors open at 6:30 p.m. \$10/per person / \$20/per family.</p>
<p>April 7, Sunday</p> 	<p>Confirmation Classes Continue @ HOPE UCC (9 a.m.)</p>
<p>April 7, Sunday</p> 	<p>The Landing (Youth Ministry) @ HOPE UCC (11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.)</p>
<p>April 10, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>April 14, Sunday</p> 	<p>One Great Hour of Sharing – UCC Special Collection (During Worship)</p>
<p>April 14, 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>April 16, Tuesday</p> 	<p>Evening Explore Your Faith (7 p.m.) Meets at HOPE UCC, Naperville, on the first and third Tuesday of each month.</p>
<p>April 17, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>April 18, 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>April 21, Easter Sunday</p> 	<p>Confirmation (During Worship)</p>
<p>April 24, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>April 28, 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 1, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>May 5, Sunday</p> 	<p>Cinco de Mayo Potluck @ HOPE UCC (Following Worship) More details to be announced.</p>

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

2019 TRANS DAY OF VISIBILITY

LOVE, FAMILY, ADVOCACY



What To Expect at the Event:

- CELEBRATION!
- Nationwide Screening of the Series- "America in Transition", facilitated by Karari Olvera.
- Participate in a panel discussion with members from the Transgender community to learn about the challenges and hopes for the future.
- Become an advocate and use your voice to support Transgender rights!

Thank you to Open Door Health Center of Illinois, Gail Borden Public Library, Senator Cristina Castro, Representative Anna Moeller and the Elgin Human Relations Commission for sponsoring this event!

AMERICA IN
TRANSITION

GAIL BORDEN LIBRARY
270 NORTH GROVE AVENUE
ELGIN, IL 60120

MARCH 31, 2019
2PM-4:30 PM



Gail Borden
LIBRARY

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT
DANISE HABUN AT DANISEH@ODHCIL.ORG OR
847-754-8064



REGISTER HERE: [HTTPS://WWW.GAILBORDEN.INFO/EVENTS](https://www.gailborden.info/events)