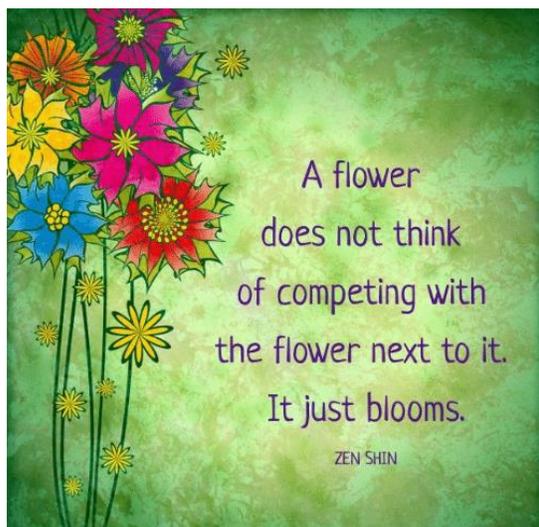


Joyfully and Unapologetically...ME!

This last month I had the opportunity to speak on a panel for Transgender Day of Visibility. When I was asked to be a part of the panel, I immediately said yes. But in the days leading up to the event and in the week or so after, I found myself reflecting on what it means to be visible as a transgender man.



I know that, on a larger scale, trans visibility is so incredibly important. Without being seen how are we supposed to have access to the healthcare many of us so desperately need? Without being seen, who will tell the young trans girl that she is beautiful and loved, even when the world seems to be telling her otherwise? Without being seen, how will the barriers between us and our communities be torn down?

Trans visibility is so important, and I will continue to make myself seen so that, maybe, the next generation of kids can grow up in a world where they don't have to live in both hope and fear that they will be seen.

And yet there is a small part of me that, more so lately, wants to cling to the invisibility that I have been afforded in recent months. With my low voice, newly flattened chest, and ever-patchy and ever-growing facial

hair, my gender has not been questioned in months. I am a man, and the world is finally seeing that without explanation or timid requests.

And so I find myself wrestling with myself. On the one hand, I have all I ever wanted: to be seen. On the other, I recognize that not all trans individuals have that privilege. And deeper still, I am wrestling with the reality that I still struggle to love this part of me. I am joyfully and unapologetically so many things: Christian, a writer, a nerd, a brother and uncle, a boyfriend and dog dad, and the list goes on.

But I struggle to be joyfully and unapologetically trans. I struggle to be joyfully and unapologetically bisexual. I am tempted to hide behind the very real white male privilege that I have acquired. But I am learning to love myself wholly, transgender and bisexual included.

I pray that we all take some time this week to reflect on what it means to not only be joyfully and apologetically Christian, but to be joyfully and unapologetically ourselves.

Parker Hall

News & Notes

Holy Week Events

The worship team would like to invite you to two Holy Week Events. First, we will host a soup supper at 6 PM on **Maundy Thursday, April 18th**. We will follow dinner with a ritual mirroring Jesus washing the disciples' feet and communion. Please sign up so that we can provide enough soup.

Secondly, on **Good Friday, April 19th**, at 7 PM, there will be a Tenebrae service – also known as a Service of Shadows. We hope you will be able to join us.



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!

SPRING has SPRUNG! Let's think *Green*! Let's think *Fresh*! For the month of April, "**Salads**" will be the theme - greens, beans, gourmet, or fruit! Please bring your favorite crowd-pleasing salad recipe to church on any Sunday in April 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.

Please Help with Planning Aurora Pride Festivities

HOPE needs volunteers to help with the planning and execution of this year's Aurora Pride festivities! This year, Pride has expanded to include a weekend-long market day with a parade finishing things off on June 9th at 12 p.m. Please contact Danielle David if you are interested in being a part of HOPE's involvement in this year's Aurora Pride Festival! Danielle can be contacted via email or text. DanielleDavid1027@gmail.com or 630-212-2161. Thanks!



Sharing Joys & Concerns

Please keep these people & events in your prayers:

- † Thank you to all who prayed for our sister, Shannon. She is here today, kicking cancer's butt because of all your love. (Tanya & Lela)
- † Let us pray for Les P. and his family as he undergoes surgery which will increase his ability to recover from his stroke. (Nick & Jane Dempsey and the Zillmers)
- † Pray for everyone at HOPE who leads and organizes and shares of themselves and their talents.
- † We are house-hunting and I am feeling very anxious about it. Please pray for calm hearts and a perfect (or close enough) home. (Erin C.)
- † Please pray for my sister, Kathy, for emotional and physical health.
- ☉ We are thankful for the returning sunshine and warm weather! (The Manderinos)
- ☉ I am grateful for a church community that continues to be uplifting and authentic. Thank you for the growing friendships, inspiration, love, and most of all, weekly restoration of HOPE. (Antoinette E.)
- ☉ Joy! Thank you! Thanks all who came to the Lisa Sanders/Brown Sugar concert on Friday night. All the love that was in this pace was beautiful. (Lela & Tanya)
- ☉ Thanksgiving for an awesome concert with Lisa Sanders & Brown Sugar on Friday night. Their music touched our souls. Thanks to Tanya and Lela for introducing us to this amazing music and bringing them to HOPE UCC.
- ☉ We are so proud of our brother-in-law, Matt, who ran a sub-3-hour marathon in Manchester, England! (Erin C.)
- ☉ Celebrate Becky M. being elected to District 303 School Board. The children will be the ultimate winners! (Tina)



PRAYER
Requests

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 16, by 12 p.m.**

Announcements for Sunday due by Wednesday of each week.

Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS @ HOPE UCC

<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 18, Thursday</p> 	<p>Maundy Thursday Soup Supper @ HOPE UCC (6 p.m.) (See article for more information.)</p>
<p>April 19, Friday</p> 	<p>Tenebrae Service @ HOPE UCC (7 p.m.) (See article for more information.)</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>
<p>May 7, 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>May 8, Wednesday</p> 	<p>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) Meets at Quincy's Restaurant, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</p>
<p>May 8, Wednesday</p> 	<p>PADS Dinner @ First Congregational UCC, Naperville (6 p.m.)</p>
<p>May 12, 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.)



Community Table

BENEFITTING



YOUTH OUTLOOK

*Join us for a celebration of community,
empowerment, and friendship.
All are welcome at our table.*

Naperville - April 12, 2019 @ 6:00 pm
First Congregational United Church of Christ



RSVPs required, seating is limited

\$35.00 per person (\$25.00 for youth)

Register - <http://bit.ly/2HIFUbacommunitytable041219>

**FREE
EVENT**



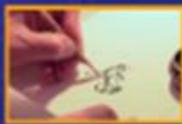
ISLAMIC CENTER *of* NAPERVILLE
invites you - our friends and neighbors to our

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