

**Happy New Year!!**

Though January 1 already seems a distant memory, it still feels like a new year at HOPE. As we approach Sunday’s Annual Meeting, there is much “new” to celebrate.

The Annual Meeting, itself, offers an opportunity to celebrate the people and events that had a significant impact on HOPE UCC during 2013, while also celebrating the new opportunities that 2014 offers.

Rev. Greg Skiba will be joining us beginning February 1 to serve as our new interim pastor, as we take the next step on the journey to whatever new place God’s Spirit is leading us. Part of the transition to our new pastor will be adjusting to a new ¾-time arrangement with Greg. HOPE’s leaders and Greg will jointly explore how to utilize Greg’s time in the most effective way by complementing his skills with the valuable skills and talents within our congregation.

A new year of Kid’s Quest began last Sunday, with a new, expanded age group. Kid’s Quest will meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month, with the possibility of meeting an additional Sunday each month if teachers can commit to the additional week.

As we begin 2014, new leadership is in place. Marie Higgins has agreed to be HOPE’s Moderator until September (subject to confirmation at the Annual Meeting), working in tandem with Jeanne Smith during the summer to transition Moderator responsibilities to Jeanne. In addition, Becky McCabe has agreed to serve as HOPE’s new Secretary (subject to confirmation at the Annual Meeting), Ellen Brady has agreed to serve as HOPE’s new Registrar (subject to confirmation at the Annual Meeting), Zach Jarabeck will be the new leader of the Outreach Ministry, and Tim Higgins and Jay Hruska will jointly serve as the new leaders of the Pastor/Parish Ministry.

New opportunities and probably a few new challenges await us as we move forward in 2014. Please attend the Annual Meeting and hear what is new with each of HOPE’s ministries, and what you can do to help. Then, join in the excitement of the New Year at HOPE by identifying a new way to help. HOPE is a dynamic place where all people and ideas are welcome.

Happy New Year!

*David Zillmer*

Treasurer

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**HOPE United Church of Christ**

1701 Quincy Avenue, Suite 27  
Naperville, IL 60540-6684  
Office Phone – 630-922-0470  
Office Email – hope@sharehope.org  
Website – [www.sharehope.org](http://www.sharehope.org)

**Office Hours:**  
Monday - Friday - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sharing Joys & Concerns
Please keep these people & events in your prayers:

✦ The family of my daughter and son-in-law, whose father died. Larry Kiss, father of Richard Kiss, battled lung cancer since last year. (Sally Bice)

✦ Thanksgiving that Melody is home from the hospital. Continued prayers for healing. (Shannon and Gina)

✦ Thanksgiving for the life of Pat Shiplov (Katie Jones’ mother), who passed into eternal life on January 16. (Karon VanGelder)

✦ Prayers for Katie and Karon as they celebrate the life of Katie’s mom, who passed away. (HOPE UCC)

✦ The family of Pat, Katie’s mom. (Sally)

✦ Prayers for those discerning their next direction. May they find the right path for them and the peace that comes with decisions thoughtfully made. (HOPE UCC)

✦ My sister, who has recently completed substance abuse treatment and is learning to live clean and sober. (Carmi)

✦ The surgeons who will be operating on my friend, Lucy. She has a brain tumor. May God guide their hands. (Barb Zigterman)

✦ My sister, Rose Hayes, as she has surgery and biopsy this Thursday. (Zach Jarabeck)

✦ Blessings of fun for Anna Ahonen, Jay Hruska and Terry Foster-Hulbert performing in SHREK. (HOPE UCC)

😊 Five years of Gavin’s presence in the world!! And lots of friends to celebrate his life with. (Lisa & LaRissa)

😊 Thanks for the opportunities to gather with family and friends and laugh.

Prayer Squares

*Just a reminder that they are always available.*

_The prayers and love of the people of HOPE go to anyone who needs them. The prayer squares are our gift of love to anyone in need._

Emergency Pastoral Care

_Cindi Knox_ is HOPE’s emergency contact for anyone needing pastoral care.

She may be reached at 443.424.2747.
Manna Program – How It Works...   JUST DO IT!

Here’s a visual to help promote the program. Again, if we could increase our weekly orders to 30-35, we would see an incredible return on our effort. Just think of the amazing ministries we could be doing if everyone got on board!

This is you... writing a check for $25... to HOPE UCC....

This is HOPE UCC... writing a check for $25.... to the Manna Program...

This is the Manna Program... giving gift cards worth $25... to HOPE UCC...

This is HOPE UCC... giving gift cards worth $25... to you...

BUT WAIT... THERE’S MORE...!

This is the Manna Program... giving a commission check... to HOPE UCC...

You spend $25 and receive a $25 gift card...
HOPE UCC receives a commission for the sale...
It’s a win-win program.

Visit the HOPE UCC Fundraising Page for more information and to download order forms: http://sharehope.org/#/church-online/manna-gift-cards
Celebrating Birthdays
01/04 Ravinia Zillmer
01/08 Anna Ahonen
01/18 Jackie Pierce
01/21 Gavin O’Neal
01/23 Faith Smith
01/25 Michael Smith
01/25 Bill Zigterman
01/27 Becky McCabe

If we’ve missed your birthday, please email HOPE’s Office Manager at HOPE@shareHOPE.org.

**Deadline for additions or corrections to the next issue of HOPE Happenings is January 28, 2:00 p.m. Thanks!**

Announcements for Sunday due by Wednesday of each week.

QUEST MINISTRIES ~ 9:00 a.m.

**ADULT QUEST**
A continuing series of exploration of who we are and what we believe.

Starting Sunday, January 19, Adult Quest will begin a series on the “SOUL”.

How has the soul been viewed in history and religious traditions? What do you think the soul is? How do we feed the soul on a regular basis? Where does the soul go after death? Bring your questions and opinions and we will see where this goes; it is a personal journey of exploration.

Facilitated by Les Pierce, with a cast of other inquiring minds.

**MANNA NEWS!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Merchant Fanatics</th>
<th>New Merchant Redbox</th>
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<tr>
<td>$25 / 9% for HOPE</td>
<td>$25 / 7% for HOPE</td>
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**Fanatics.com** has the world's largest assortment of officially licensed sports merchandise from the NFL, NCAA, MLB, NBA, PGA, NASCAR, OLYMPICS, NHL and much more from the top brands like Nike, Adidas, Under Armor and New Era. Over 250,000 unique licensed products from all of the top pro sports leagues including cool licensed gear and stuff from over 600 colleges. Whether you want something for yourself, your spouse, your kids, your car, your pets or your home, Fanatics.com is the one-stop shop for every sports fan!

With more than 35,900 locations nationwide, Redbox is the fun, fast, easy way to rent the latest new release movies on DVD or Blu-ray Disc®. Featuring up to 200 titles and 630 discs, Redbox is a fully automated video rental store contained in one red box at many of your favorite retailers. Use your Redbox card at Redbox.com or at any US Redbox location.

**HOPE'S Leadership**
Moderator: Marie Higgins
Des. Moderator: Jeanne Smith
Past Moderator: John Israel
Treasurer: Dave Zillmer
Des. Treasurer: THIS COULD BE YOU!
Registrar: Katie Jones
Social: Mark Geiger
Education: Tracy Urben
Mission: THIS COULD BE YOU!
Pastor-Parish: Jay Hruska/Tim Higgins
Outreach: Zach Jarabeck
Resource: Linda James
Worship: Anna Ahonen

Photo Archive: Anna Ahonen
Webmaster: Jenn Revoldt

**HOPE LIBRARY**
You may reserve items (books, videos or tapes) by calling HOPE’s Office Manager (630-922-0470) during office hours (10 a.m.-2 p.m.); by checking them out at HOPE UCC any time it is open; or by calling Martha Selby, HOPE Librarian, at (630) 355-3709 OR Karen Garland, Assistant HOPE UCC Librarian at (630) 922-8348.
# UPCOMING EVENTS @ HOPE UCC

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>January 26, Sunday</strong></td>
<td>HOPE UCC Congregational Meeting (Follows Worship)</td>
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<td><strong>January 29, Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.)</td>
<td>Quincy's, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</td>
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<td><strong>February 2, Sunday</strong></td>
<td>SOUPer Bowl Sunday (Follows Worship)</td>
<td>(See Article Below)</td>
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<td><strong>February 5, Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.)</td>
<td>Quincy's, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</td>
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<td><strong>February 8, Saturday</strong></td>
<td>Ministry Council Retreat (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.)</td>
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<td><strong>February 11, Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>All Ministries Night (7 p.m.)</td>
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<td><strong>February 12, Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.)</td>
<td>Quincy's, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</td>
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<td><strong>February 16, Sunday</strong></td>
<td>Ministry Council Meeting (Noon)</td>
<td>(All are welcome to attend.)</td>
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<td><strong>February 17, Monday</strong></td>
<td>HOPE UCC Closed – Presidents' Day</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>February 19, Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Explore Your Faith Breakfast (7:30 a.m.)</td>
<td>Quincy's, 1112 E. Ogden Avenue, Naperville.</td>
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Thank you!!!!

Open Door Clinic wishes to thank everyone at HOPE UCC for their generosity and donations of non-food items to be divided among our most needy clients in the Aurora Clinic area. As you see, behind the donations, our cupboards were almost bare!

What Can You Do to Help HOPE?

If you are interested in volunteering for Scripture Reading, Children’s Time, Community Prayer, Host/Hostess, Coffee/Snacks, or Cleaning, please let Anna Ahonen know. Her email address is aahonen78@gmail.com. If you know the dates you will be available, sign-up sheets for the first quarter of 2014 are on the front desk. Please check your calendars before signing up.

HOPE Photos Needed!

Have you ever taken a picture at any of HOPE’s events or services? If your answer is “YES”, PLEASE send your photos to Anna Ahonen. We would like to update our website and refresh the photos in our building. Anna’s email address is aahonen78@gmail.com.

10th Annual HOPE Souper Bowl Sunday!

Yes. It’s true! 10 years. On Sunday, February 2, join us in our traditional Super Bowl celebration by bringing a crock pot of soup and share in some fellowship immediately after service with other HOPErs commiserating on why the Bears (or Packers...John, Dave) didn’t make it. Community Life will provide the bread, crackers, drink, and desserts. Jeanne will resurrect the 100 square pool so bring your dollar bills and join in the first fundraiser of the year. Please, also bring a separate can of soup or two which will be donated to those less fortunate. Does this get any better? Yes it does! This happens to be the first Sunday Rev. Skiba will be joining us! Let’s welcome him by showing him what HOPE is all about: Eating, sharing, a little gambling, and most of all, lots of camaraderie.
Forth from the Communion Table

As we celebrate Communion on the first Sunday of each month, HOPE UCC expands the sharing of the Communion Table by participating in an offering for the benefit of a local community agency. As not everyone is able to attend on any particular Sunday, we receive the offering through the second Sunday of the month. This month due to the extreme cold on the first Sunday of the month, we are receiving the offering through this Sunday (January 19).

In order to allow you time to prepare and broaden your giving by grabbing bargain sales, the Communion community offerings for the next months are:

**February**: suggested by our Social Committee, which is sponsoring HOPE UCC’s SOUPer Bowl Potluck after worship.
- **Item**: cans of soup which will be donated to a local food pantry

**March**: Youth Outlook: Danielle in passing conversation mentioned the possibility of another collection for this agency which is important to me personally as I was involved in its founding:
- **Items**: bottled water, individual bags of chips and granola bars for the drop-in centers; copy paper and stamps for the office

**April**: Companions Journeying Together, Inc.
- **Aunt Mary’s Storybook Project**: incarcerated mothers record themselves reading a book to their children; the book and recording is given to the children
- **Fathers Read** project: incarcerated fathers gather once a month to read to their children
  - **Brought to us by Julie Alessandri**
  - **Items**: Brand-new children’s books

Please contact me in person or by email (kcvangelder@gmail.com) if you have suggestions for upcoming months or any questions.

Soup for the Soul

Did you know we had a meals ministry at HOPE called Soup for the Soul? You might be saying to yourself, what is Soup for the Soul? That sounds like a cool ministry, tell me more! This is a wonderful opportunity to serve people in our community in times of need by providing a yummy meal and a visit. Here are the details:

**What is Soup for the Soul?**
The meals ministry is a wonderful opportunity to provide a meal(s) to an individual or family in time of need. We use food as the vehicle to not only nourish the body, but also the soul. This is an excellent opportunity to connect with others in our community. The visit with the recipient of the meal is just as important as the meal itself.

**How Does It Work?**
The meals ministry coordinator is made aware of a need, either through a direct request for help by email, phone or through a referral by someone else. Volunteers are then contacted and asked to provide a meal; either home cooked or purchased, and deliver it to the recipient.

**Who Do We Serve?**
We serve families and individuals in times of need... after the birth of a baby... after surgery or hospitalization... during times of crisis or bereavement. Persons receiving the meals do not need to be partners of HOPE. This is a unique way to reach those in our community who could use the support but are not part of HOPE. If you know someone who could benefit, please contact the meals ministry coordinator.

**How Do We Serve?**
Meal schedules depend on the needs of the family. It could be once a week or several times a week. All coordination is started by email and a web-based scheduling tool is used to sign up for meals. The meals ministry coordinator will send out an email with the details of the need, including a link to the online scheduling tool.

**What Are The Meal Guidelines?**
We provide a complete meal and deliver it to the recipient. The meal can be store bought, homemade, frozen or just about anything! The meal does not have to be fancy or gourmet. You can even pair up with a friend (i.e. one makes the main dish and the other person brings the dessert). We attempt to accommodate allergies and food preferences. We strive to work out a schedule that benefits the recipient the most while working with the schedule of the volunteers.

**How Can I Help?**
The meals ministry is an excellent way to serve others and make a difference in someone’s life. The purpose is to help someone in need by providing a ready-made meal. In times of need, it is an incredible blessing to see a friendly face and receive a meal. When an email comes your way that a meal is needed, sign up and bring some good food and friendship to someone in need. Contact Shannon Lane (shannonlane30@aol.com) if you know of someone, or have a need for a meal.
PACK THE HOUSE FOR PUCK CANCER

Sunday, January 26, 2014

$5 Donation at the Door
Come out and help the Fighting Squirrels raise money for Puck Cancer!
5:15 pm - Green Squirrels vs. Rampage
6:30 pm - Blue Squirrels vs. Rampage Exhibition

Carol Stream Ice Arena
540 Gundersen Dr,
Carol Stream, IL 60188

RAFFLES
FOOD
CHUCK A PUCK
MERCHANDISE

JOIN US AFTER THE GAMES!
The Village Tavern will donate a percentage of food and beverage sales.
291 S Schmale Rd. in Carol Stream