

# The Hope Church Beacon



## MAY 2024

## HOPE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

35127 Garfield Road, Clinton Township, MI 48035

Church Office: (586) 296-8760

Email: [hopeucc4@gmail.com](mailto:hopeucc4@gmail.com)

Office Hours: M-F 9am-1:30pm

Website: [Hopeuccmi.com](http://Hopeuccmi.com)

Facebook Public Page: [facebook.com/hopeuccmacomb](https://facebook.com/hopeuccmacomb)

YouTube: Hope United Church of Christ - Clinton Township

## WORDS OF HOPE

When May arrives, we officially begin the season of celebrations. We celebrate Mother's Day, graduations, weddings, Memorial Day and those are just the beginning of celebrations! The church also celebrates the Day of Pentecost as the birthday of the church. On that first Pentecost, people without a common language were able to understand each other.

That same Spirit is alive and moves among us as it did in the early church! Through our series, "Resurrection Stories," we have celebrated that new life is possible, that transformation can happen no matter how difficult our circumstances might be. We recognize that each person is unique and in a different place on their faith journey and yet we share a common bond of people seeking to know and share God's love.


As we celebrate the birthday of the church on Pentecost let us also discern where God's Spirit is moving today, both in and outside Hope Church. As we review our Be the Church surveys, we will commit ourselves to some important goals to mobilize the church to work to alleviate suffering and proclaim resurrection hope through the power of the Holy Spirit! The Spirit sparked creative energy across the ages and today it allows us to dream new dreams about how to be the church in 2024 and moving forward. As we enjoy our celebrations this month, let us remember the birthday of the church, let us never stop praying the ancient prayer of the church: "Come, Holy Spirit, Come!" Let us continue to open the doors and windows of our hearts and welcome God's love to flow through us.

Birthday Blessings,

Pastor Meg

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## New Member Class

 Do you know what this comma means? Are you interested in finding out? Have you been attending for a while, and you would like to know more about what it means to be a member? Would you like to become more involved, but you don't know where to begin? Do you have questions about what the UCC is all about? Come and join in the conversation with Pastor Meg, and then decide if it feels like a good fit and a good time for you to become a member.

Join in the conversation on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. We will meet in the parlor following worship. Grab some refreshments and come join us. Plan on attending both weeks if possible. Please call the church office or let Pastor Meg know if you can attend. Wherever you are on your life journey, you are welcome here!

## BOOK STUDY

**You are welcome to join in. Wednesday, May 1st and May 8th on zoom at 7 pm.**

**PLEASE NOTE: If you are interested in Thursday meeting please contact Pastor Meg.**

We will meet for 2 more weeks. Pastor Meg has a copy of the book are at church, or you can order online. Accidental Saints by Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber.



## SENIOR'S MEETING

Seniors met on Monday April 15th for an afternoon of fellowship. This month we enjoyed a luncheon of Mexico food supplied by members of the group. After which, we had a business meeting exploring ways to encourage others in the congregation to join us. If you find yourself clicking the remote or ironing clothes our group can get you away from those mundane tasks. Well at least on the third Monday of the month there is an alternative. Come join us; talk with Tom, Ida, Joe or others of the Seniors for more information.

**See you on May 20th at 12 noon.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS (cont.)

### Happy Birthday Church!

**Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>** we will celebrate Pentecost. Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian church. At Hope Church we decorate red and orange fabrics and balloons to signify the flames of the Spirit. We have bubbles and flags waving to show the power of the wind. You are asked to **wear something red** and come ready to sing *Happy Birthday* to the church. We will share birthday cake and play birthday party games during coffee hour. Come join in the fun and share the message of our faith!

### 2024 Church Photo Directory- Building Connections

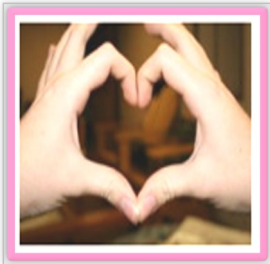
We have received the 2024 Photo directories. The directories will be distributed at church by the Spiritual Council beginning in the end of April. You are entitled to a copy of the directory if you have participated. We will also have a few additional copies for new members and those who have a need for a directory. This updated directory will help us make connections and allow you to put a name with a face. We also have a church address book which we update a couple of times a year so that our members can stay in touch. These directories are not available for solicitors to use for their business. Thank you to everyone who participated!

### Human Resource Committee Update

The Human Resources Committee (HR) met on April 10, 2024 regarding the immediate resignation of Calley Garvin due to personal reasons. The Committee was advised the position for Administrative Assistant had already been posted earlier that day. The position for a Christian Education Director was also posted at the same time and is currently on hold at this time.

We have had a couple of possible candidates; however, they are not a good fit for our needs. The Administrative Assistant is a critical position in our church and we need someone with a very proficient computer background. If you know of someone that has proficient written, verbal, and computer skills, ***Please ask them to visit our Face Book post and click on the link for our posting at indeed.com.***

# SAVE THE DATE!!!



**Camp Caring** is our one Day Mission and Fun Camp for children ages 4 thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We can use older youth to serve as helpers. This Day Camp has been popular with our kids and their friends. It is also a

good way to get your grandchildren involved without having to make a huge time commitment. We do mission projects in the morning and add in recreation in the afternoon. The time is from 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Please mark your calendar and plan to donate blood at our Blood Drive on Thursday, June 13, 12 Noon - 6:00 PM. Remember, each donation has the ability to save 3 lives. Please sign up online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org). If you do not have access to the internet to register, please reach out to Susan Winters at 734-678-3582, and she will schedule an appointment for you. We're looking forward to seeing you there.

# HOPE CHURCH INFO

## We Are the Church!

We need teens or adults to serve as liturgists by reading the scripture each week. If you would be willing to serve in this capacity, please reach out to Pastor Meg and sign up at the Welcome Table.

Pastor Meg is inviting children and teens to read the Call to Worship. If you have a young person in your family who would like to participate in worship, please contact the church office. Pastor Meg will write the material at your child's reading level. The children do not need to be church members.

We are the church together!

## HEARING ASSISTANCE NOW OFFERED AT HOPE UCC

Can't quite hear Pastor Meg's sermon? Think the choir just doesn't sing loud enough?  
We can help!

We can accommodate you with our assistive listening system! We have installed a complex system that can transmit directly to your hearing aids through your own smartphone or with a special receiver we can lend you. We also have earphones for those without hearing aids.



Make sure you can hear God's wonderful good news!

## \* Blood Pressure Screening \*



Every Month

First Sunday of the Month.

All info is kept confidential.

# Coffee Hour

Looking forward for volunteers to assist with **coffee hour** set up and clean up for May, June, and July. It is best if there are two every Sunday. If you would like to help make coffee hour possible, please sign up via the sign up sheet on the round table in the Narthex.

**A special *THANK YOU* to everyone who has helped in April with Coffee Hour!**

I also want to thank everyone who signed up and will sign up for March to make our coffee hour a success.

## **PEANUT ALLERGIES\***

**Due to peanut allergies, please label any coffee hour goodies that contain or may contain any form of nuts.**

As always, a BIG THANK YOU to all the willing helpers!

God Bless,  
Carol Troutman



**and Treats!**



# CHRISTIAN MISSION & WITNESS (cont.)

## KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Please consider participating in the Kroger Community Rewards Program. It's easy...all you need to participate is an email address and a Kroger rewards card. Then just shop at any Kroger store, swipe your rewards card, and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to the **Hope Church Operating Account**.

If you have access to a computer, you may enroll in the program by entering <http://www.kroger.com> into your browser and follow this path....Savings & Rewards....Kroger Community Rewards....I am a Customer....Account Summary....Community Rewards....our Kroger number (HS995). If you have questions or concerns about this program, please call Susan Winters at 734-678-3582. If you haven't signed up, please consider doing so.



## GROUPS AND MEETINGS

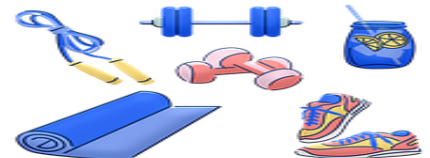
### HOPE SPARKLES EXERCISE CLASS

This class combines Stretching Exercises, Working on our Balance, and Low-Impact Cardiovascular Exercised. We use 2-pound weights, provided by the Church, for Strength Training Exercises. We use Therapy Bands, provided by our instructor, for Stretching Exercises. The results are a much HEALTHIER AND HAPPIER LIFESTYLE FOR YOU!

This is an ongoing class: Every Monday from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. and every Wednesday from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Our instructor, Linda Hohf from the Arthritis Foundation, is very knowledgeable of our joint and muscle pain and plans our exercise programs accordingly. (no class Memorial Day May 27th)

**The cost is \$1 per person, per class.**

What makes this Exercise Class Special is "YOU." All you have to do is "SHOW UP" FOR AN HOUR OF FUN AND FITNESS WITH FRIENDS!





# COMMUNITY



**PFLAG-CT** cordially invites the congregation of Hope UCC to join in the monthly support meeting. The meeting will be the last Tuesday of the month from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Hope has been so good to the chapter and our mission is to support, educate, and advocate for the LGBTQ community. We want to give you the opportunity to join us and see what we're all about. You can go to our website, [PFLAGCT.org](http://PFLAGCT.org), fill out the form, and reference Hope UCC on there. This will put you on our email list and you'll get notification of the meetings. You can email me directly to have the Zoom link sent back to you.

My email is [yvonnetaad@wowway.com](mailto:yvonnetaad@wowway.com), and again, please reference Hope UCC. Thank you again for your support for our chapter, stay safe and healthy, and God bless you.

Yvonne Tadjewski, President, PFLAG-CT

Phone: (586) 757-5551

25650 Kelly Rd., Roseville, MI 48066



**USE YOUR PRACTICAL SKILLS TO HELP NEIGHBORS IN NEED!**  
Volunteers are greatly needed to help frail, older and disabled adults in our community with:

***MINOR HOME REPAIRS  
INDOOR / OUTDOOR  
CHORES & BASIC  
HOUSEKEEPING***

For a frail older adult or a person with disabilities, simple tasks like dusting & vacuuming, changing light bulbs or raking leaves can be impossible. Many minor home repairs are often well beyond their abilities, and far too expensive for them to purchase professionally. The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program helps our older and disabled neighbors with such tasks so they can remain safe and independent in their own homes. If you can help weekly, monthly or even just a couple times a year, please call us today. The time you give will make a real difference in someone's life.

**Call (586) 757-5551.**

***[Learn more about our work at [www.ivcinfo.org](http://www.ivcinfo.org).]***

# HOPE GIVING



There are several ways to give!

The church is in a season of growth. We need your support to keep our ministry thriving.

## ONLINE:

VISIT THE HOPE UCC WEBSITE – [WWW.HOPEUCCMI.COM](http://WWW.HOPEUCCMI.COM)  
SELECT “GIVE A GIFT” TAB AND THEN “GIVE A GIFT HERE”

## CELL PHONE:

Text “HUCCF” to 45777. The site will respond with a link which you can use to route your donation to a specific fund. If you would like to donate to the “General Fund” you can simply text: “Gift Amount” followed by “HUCCF” to 45777. For instance, to give \$10 text “10 HUCCF” to 45777.



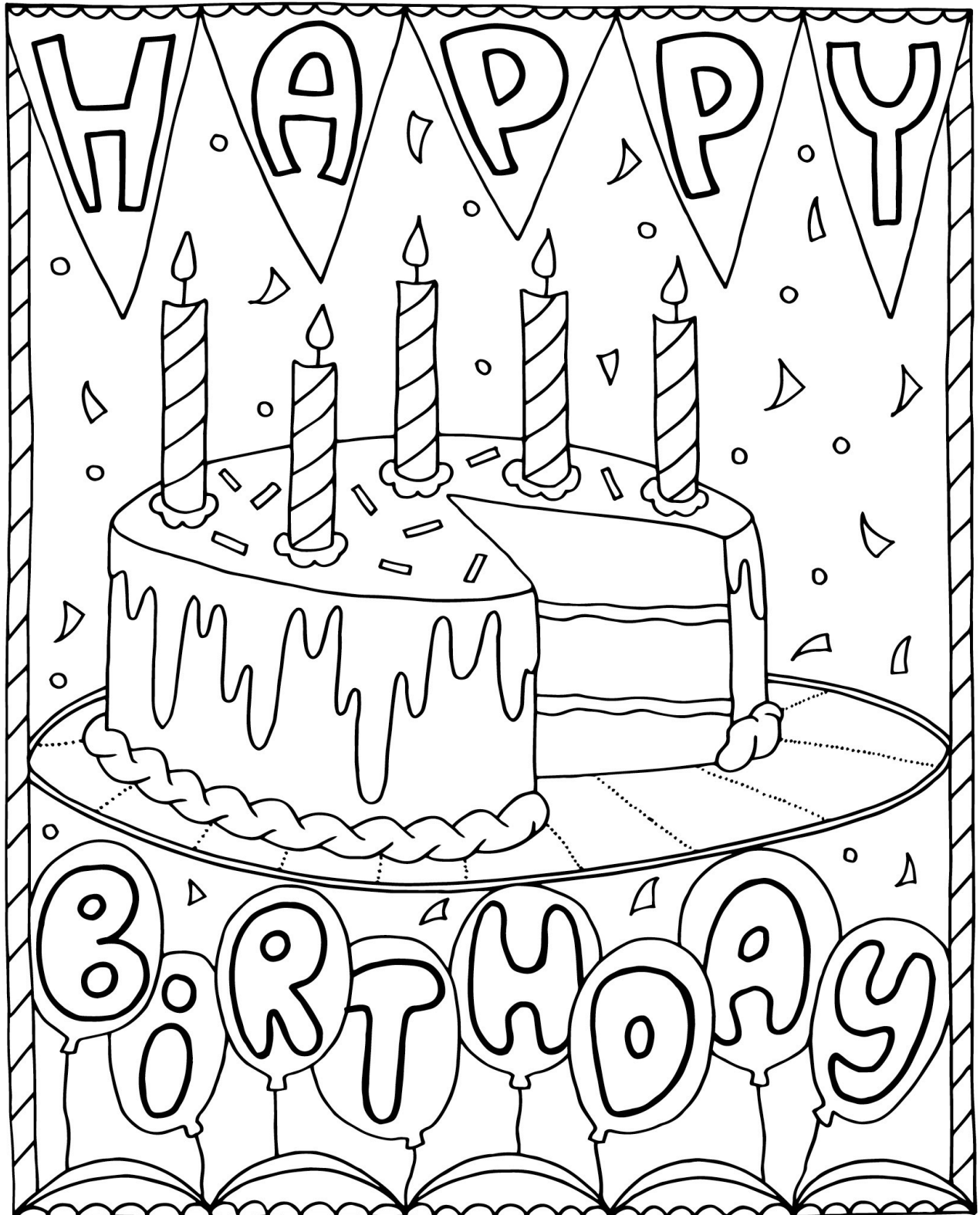
*In both cases, you will be directed to our secure payment processing center where you will be able to easily walk through the steps to register and/or direct your donation.  
(Hint – If using the text method, save this phone number in your “Contacts” list to make it easier to access.)*

## IN-PERSON:

We have a donation box in the sanctuary.  
You can mail your gift to the church office.  
You can drop it off from 9 a.m. -1:30 p.m. M - F

Your Giving Statement will reflect the total donation. Questions? Contact Lori Sarnowski

Pentecost, the Birthday of the Church!



(cc) BY-NC-SA

LEIAHMJANSEN.COM

## Camp Talahi Registration Open Now!



Camp Talahi has held a special place in the hearts of young people positively impacted by attending camp. This camp is connected to the Michigan Conference of the UCC. This summer there are several opportunities for youth and families at camp. There are camps for children ages kindergarten through senior high. There are camps for gender diverse youth and an opportunity for youth to serve as Counselors in training.

There is also a family camp and a young adults' camp. The 2024 summer schedule is available online at [camptalahi.org](http://camptalahi.org) and we have hard copies at the church. Camper scholarships are available for those who need financial assistance from Camp Talahi and Hope Church has some funds for campers. Every year members of the camp community donate specifically to camper scholarships to ensure that camp remains affordable and accessible to all campers.

Camp Talahi had a generous gift given to them this year to give out \$100 to each new camper to Camp Talahi. If you have a brand-new camper that has never been to camp before,

**please email [camptalah@gmail.com](mailto:camptalah@gmail.com) or text 406-855-4317** to get the coupon code before you register. Please contact Pastor Meg if you will be requesting financial support from Hope UCC.



# PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS ...

**Names not printed in on-line  
publications to protect  
privacy**



## HOPE CHURCH PRAYER LIST

Our congregation knows that prayer is our tool for connecting to God. Together, we pray in worship, and we pray at home. Please check the prayer list in both the newsletter and the bulletin to help us keep our prayer requests current. **You may contact the church office to remove or add a name.** We also have a prayer sculpture in the church lobby, and you are welcome to write a prayer request on a heart and hang it on the sculpture. When we lift our concerns in prayer, we will surely know the presence of the Lord.

Please remember those on our Prayer List ... With a phone call, card, or note, and keep them in your Thoughts & Prayers. **For those who are silent about their concerns and needs, a special prayer for ALL to have the strength, courage, and patience to deal with their individual situations.**

**God Bless!**

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO ORDER ALTAR FLOWERS FOR THAT SPECIAL DAY?

Sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall or donate online!

**Cost is \$20 per arrangement.**

# REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

*The Power of Prayer ...  
Those that are Homebound*

**Names not printed in on-line  
publications to protect privacy**

## **WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Alexandria Cole to John Serwick  
April, 2024  
Daughter of Tim & Nancy Cole**

## **BAPTISMAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Isabel Karen Neill**

**April, 2024  
Daughter of Erin & Adam Neill  
Godparents: Ashley Welch & Kevin  
Neill  
Grandparents: Larry & Karen  
McCuen**

**We Always Need Updated  
Member  
Information!**

Has Your Address Changed?  
Has Your Phone # Changed?  
Please contact the church office at  
586-296-8760, or email me at  
hopeucc4@gmail.com, if you have updates  
regarding your address or phone number for  
our Church Directory.

Thank you,



**\*MEMORIAL GIFTS ARE  
APPLIED TO THE  
BUILDING FUND,  
ACCORDING TO OUR  
BYLAWS. THANK YOU!!**

Hope United Church of Christ  
Synopsis of Board Meeting  
April 9, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by President Steve Neilson. Pastor Meg led us in prayer.

Those in attendance: : Pastor Meg, Steve Nielson, Nancy Burnham, Terri Hillman, Nancy Fay, Lori Sarnowski, Jerry Rogers, Kirk Schoenherr. Absent: Linda Parsons and Linda Rehm.

**Congregational Comments** – Steve. None

**Additions to the Agenda** – Steve/Pastor Meg added staffing issues. This will come under new business.

**Approval of Agenda** – **Motion** to approve the agenda as presented was made by Nancy Burnham with a second by Lori Sarnowski. Motion carried.

**President’s Remarks** – Steve. The Lenten/Easter season was informational, loving and a caring set of services. He was able to attend most of them and Pastor Meg did a great job with this Easter season.

**Approval of the March Meeting Minutes** – **Motion** by Kirk Schoenherr with a second by Jerry Rogers to approve the March minutes. Motion Carried.

**Treasurer’s Report March** – **Motion** by Kirk Schoenherr with a second by Jerry Rogers to approve the March minutes. Motion Carried.

Re: Financial Report for March 2024

The following items summarize the financial results for the month of March:

Statement of Operations – Income:

- Weekly Offerings for March 2024 were \$1,041 less than the amount budgeted and \$476 less than the amount received for March 2023. There were four Sundays in 2023 but five Sundays in 2024. Year to date Weekly Offerings were \$1,783 less than the amount budgeted but \$794 (\$57 per week) more than the same period in 2023. We also received Special Offerings in the amount of \$1,645 for Easter, \$160 for Energy, \$150 for Our Church’s Wider Mission, and \$640 for One Great Hour of Sharing.

The only Investment activity for the Operating Fund consisted of \$3.00 in interest to the Money Market Account.

Year to date Operating Income is \$1,329 less than the amount budgeted but \$2,489 more than 2023.

Statement of Operations – Expense:

In keeping with direction approved at the Annual Meeting in February, \$79,238 was transferred from the bank Savings account to the Money Market fund in the Charles Schwab investment account in March. Those funds appear in the financial reports as offsetting expense in the Operating Fund and income in the Building Fund. Total Operating Fund Expenses for March 2024, excluding the effect of the transfer, were \$2,194 less than the amount budgeted and \$5,598 less than the Expenses for March 2023. The variance in March Expense year over year was mainly driven by a large Grounds Upkeep payment for salt and snow removal in 2023 and a \$2,208 refund for Workers’ Compensation in 2024.

Year to date Expenses, adjusted for the funds transfer, were \$3,189 less than budgeted and \$958 less than the same period in 2023.

There was a loss (Income less Expense) of \$1,958 in March 2024 versus a loss of \$9,233 in March 2023.

SYNOPSIS OF OPERATIONS:	<u>March</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Operating receipts	\$22,256	\$56,749
Operating expenses (as adjusted)	<u>(24,213)</u>	<u>(64,059)</u>
Excess of receipts over expenses (Expenses over receipts)	<u>(\$ 1,957)</u>	<u>(\$ 7,310)</u>

**Dedicated Accounts:**

Dedicated Accounts had income of \$981 and expense of \$1,223 for the month, leaving a balance of \$95,702.

**Building Fund:**

Hope for the Future offerings received in March 2024 were \$200 more than the amount budgeted and \$135 more than the amount received for March 2023. We have received Memorials of \$990 year to date.

**Investments:**

The securities account, adjusted for the funds transfer, had a March gain of \$7,483 compared to a gain of \$5,942 for March 2023. Year to date 2024 the Securities account has a gain of \$18,829 versus a gain of \$14,079 for the 2023.

<b>Synopsis of Cash Flow (Income less Expense)</b>	<u>March</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Budgeted Accounts (Operating plus Building excluding Investments)	\$ 97	(\$ 2,715)
Non-Budgeted Accounts (Dedicated Accounts)	<u>(242)</u>	<u>(793)</u>
Total Cash Flow	<u>(\$ 145)</u>	<u>(\$ 3,508)</u>

**Unfinished Business**

Painting Improvements  
Civil Engineering

**New Business**

**Motor City Chorale** – Steve said this group is coming on Sunday, April 14, 2024 at 3 p.m. Pastor Meg will do a robo call to remind our members and also announce it on Sunday morning.

**Jimmy Johns Game** – Nancy mention Jessica Hazelton and Todd Eckert are heading of this event. The tickets will go on sale soon at church and are \$15. each. See Jessica or Todd if you are interested in going.

**Review of Lent and Easter** – Pastor Meg said next year Ash Wednesday is on March 5<sup>th</sup> so we won't be having a Valentine/Ash Wednesday dinner. The Lenten series may be in person and on line. We had a great team in place this year and involved a lot of new people. Kyle McKuen hung the fabric on the cross for Good Friday and changed it for Easter.

It was great to see so many people in the pews on Palm Sunday and Easter, lots of kids on Sunday.

**DMA Grants** – Pastor Meg mention she applied for 2 grants from the DMA. The grants are available from \$250. to \$1,000. The funds are for missions or social justice use. One grant will be for Camp Caring. The second one some of the older youth expressed an interest in a small garden.

**June 11<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting** – Steve would like all Board members to try to attend. We will meet at 6 p.m. for a light dinner and our meeting at 7 p.m. Terri Hillman also stated she will have a first draft of the budget and is asking all committee chairs to watch for her email for information for budget needs for next year. Steve added that we may have the results of the “Be The Church” survey.

**Parking Lot Update** - Steve stated the Board has received emails indicating the latest update for the work to begin. The Township Civil Engineer has redrawn the plans to get around the gas lines on the property. They were being delivered to Hutch on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The new plans indicate pipes will be closer to the wall between



the church and Kaul Funeral Home. Norm Nenninger indicated there will be some changes in the construction but they will be minor. The roof drains will need to be longer but it is not a bigger expense. The work will be delayed until the end of April. The Township people, Hutch and the church meet this past Friday and discussed the issue and there will not be a big delay. Nancy Fay asked for the construction people to be aware of Pantry Day and other church functions.

**Staffing Issues** – Pastor Meg stated the potential candidate for the CEC position has fallen through. Nancy Burnham will repost the job on Indeed.

Calley, our Admin has resigned effective immediately for personal reasons. Pastor Meg will reach out to her and ask for her assistance in getting in to the computer for ordering supplies and various items needed for the work she has done. We wish her well and will honor her resignation. HR will also meet to discuss and repost her job on Indeed.

## Pastor's Report - Pastor Meg:

**Worship:** : I will write a review of Lent and Holy Week as a separate document. I have started a sermon series that we will use for the next few weeks leading up to Pentecost. We have been saying the Apostles Creed on the first Sunday of the month. I will also be introducing other creeds that are recognized by the UCC. We are also incorporating worship music with both traditional and more contemporary styles.

**Pastoral Care:** The grief group finished its study. This group will meet once in April for a wrap up meeting. I meet with individuals in need of support during difficult times.

**Church Business:** Holy Week is a very intense time for the church office.

**Spiritual Council:** We submitted the approval of the proof book so we should receive the final book in the next few weeks. There is a new member class that will be offered on April 26<sup>th</sup> and May 5<sup>th</sup>. The Lenten Book Study meet on zoom. I also hope to offer a spring book study in April based on the book Accidental Saints by Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber. This study will be offered both in person and via zoom on Wednesday evenings at 7pm and Thursdays at 10:30 in person beginning April 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Pastor Relations:** This group met in February. We will meet again this spring. The purpose of the committee is to help strength the relationship with the congregation and the pastor. The committee also serves as a sounding board for the pastor.

**Christian Education:** Confirmation classes are meeting regularly. Palm Sunday was a very family friendly event. We are still looking for a CEC Director.

**DMA & Conference Upcoming Involvement:** Rev. Dr. Diane Baker and I co-chair the Committee on Ministry. The DMA Spring Meeting will be on April 20<sup>th</sup>. This will be a hybrid meeting. The ordination of Dr. Selma Massey is scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup> at GPCC.

**Community Outreach:** We continue to see visitors with some frequency. We need to make a deliberate effort to welcome visitors at coffee hour.

Other notes: The new picture directory should be out soon; a new member class and book study will be starting soon. Focus is to fill Calley's position as soon as possible. The new sermon series is going well .

**Consent Agenda Items** – Steve. received reports from the Spiritual Council, Pastoral Relations and the Property Committee.

Motion was made by Nancy Burnham with a second by Kirk Schoenherr to accept these reports as submitted. Motion carried.

*These items are not for discussion. They are for review purposes only. Board will accept them as presented. If, however discussion is needed, a trustee can make a motion to remove them from the consent agenda for further discussion.*

**\*MOTION TO ACCEPT CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS  
SPIRITUAL COUNCIL  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
CHRISTIAN MISSION AND WITNESS COMMITTEE  
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE  
STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE  
INVESTMENT COMMITTEE  
PROPERTY COMMITTEE  
HR COMMITTEE  
PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE  
MUSIC COMMITTEE

**Motion** to adjourn the meeting by Terri Hillman with a second by Kirk Schoenherr to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. Motion carried.

Meeting was closed with The Lord's Prayer.



## Three Month Financial Summary

A summary of the 2024 financial results for January through March follows:

	<u>Operating Fund</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
<b>Income:</b>		
Regular Offerings	\$ 50,933	\$ 3,605
Special Offerings	3,525	990
Church Life Activities	1,525	
Other Receipts/Investment Account	766	18,829
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 56,749</b>	<b>\$23,424</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Mission and Witness Council	\$ 2,140	
Spiritual Council	2,409	
Christian Education Council	410	
Church Life	1,779	
Pastoral Services – Wilson	20,239	
Church Staff	15,105	
Church Property	14,955	
Technology	18	
Insurance	1,867	
Public Relations	105	
Administration and Other	5,032	
Equipment Acquisitions	0	
Contingency Funds	0	
<b>Garfield Building Costs</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>64,059</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Income (Loss)*</b>	<b>(\$ 7,310)</b>	<b>\$23,424</b>

The Operating Fund had a loss of \$7,310 for the first three months of 2024. This compares to a loss of \$10,757 for the first three months of 2023. Total Operating Income of \$56,749 was \$2,489 more than the same period last year. Total Operating Fund Expenses of \$64,059 (adjusted for interfund transfer) were \$958 less than the same period last year.

Operating Fund Regular Offerings of \$50,933 were \$846 (\$65 per week) more than the same period of last year. In the first three months of 2024, we also received Special Offerings of \$1,645 for Easter, \$10 for Christmas, and \$730 for Energy. Mission Offerings for the period included OCWM - \$490, One Great Hour of Sharing - \$640, and Christmas Fund - \$10.

In the first quarter of 2024, the Building Fund had total Income (adjusted for interfund transfer) of \$23,424. Hope for the Future (Regular) Offerings of \$3,605 were \$680 less than the amount received for the same period last year. 2024 Special Offerings of \$990 were \$325 more than the same period in 2023. There was a March 2024 year-to-date Investment account gain of \$18,829 versus a gain of \$14,079 during the first three months of 2023. Building Fund expenses were zero which was \$5,596 lower than the same period in 2023 when Engineering and Township fees were paid to begin the parking lot repair project.

During the first three months of 2024, Dedicated Accounts received \$2,369 (CMWC Projects \$1,108, Food Pantry \$1,111, Special Gifts to Church School \$50, and Ukraine Relief \$100) and had expenses of \$3,162 (Good Samaritan \$155, Food Pantry \$1,910, Special Gifts to Church School \$850, Ukraine Relief \$100, and Misc Temporary Items \$147).

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

*\* NOTE: In keeping with direction approved at Hope UCC's February 2024 Annual Meeting, a transfer of \$79,238 was made in March from the First State Bank Savings account to the Money Market fund in the Charles Schwab Investment account. Those funds appear in the financial statements as offsetting Expense in the Operating Fund and Income in the Building Fund (Interfund Transfers). The analysis above excludes those entries so that reasonable comparisons can be made to 2023 figures.*

*Torri Hillman, Treasurer*

# CALENDAR — MAY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Hope Sparkles 1pm Spring Book Study 7pm	2 Bells 6pm Choir 7:30pm	3	4 AA 7 - 8:30pm
5 Worship 10 am Holy Communion Blood Pressure Screening	6 Hope Sparkles 11am-12pm	7 CMWC 12:30pm BOTS 7pm AA 7 - 8pm	8 Hope Sparkles 1pm-2pm Spring Book Study 7pm	9 Bells 6pm Choir 7:30pm	10	11 Food Pantry 10am -12pm AA 7 - 8:30pm
12 Worship 10am MOTHER'S DAY	13 Hope Sparkles 11am-12pm	14 AA 7 - 8pm	15 Hope Sparkles 1pm-2pm	16 Bells 6pm Choir 7:30pm	17	18 AA 7 - 8:30pm
19 Worship 10am PENTECOST	20 Hope Sparkles 11am-12pm Seniors Mtg. 12pm	21 AA 7 - 8pm	22 Hope Sparkles 1pm-2pm	23 Bells 6pm Choir 7:30pm	24	25 AA 7 - 8:30pm
26 Worship 10 am Baptism	27 NO Hope Sparkles	28 PFLAG 6 - 8pm	29	30	31	

## THE LEADERSHIP OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Meg Wilson, Pastor & Editor  
Church Office: (586) 296-87605

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Organist: Patrick Baker  
Accompanist: Denise Kildea  
Music Director: Deborah Frontczak