

October 2024

THE HOPE CHURCH BEACON



HOPE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

35127 GARFIELD ROAD, CLINTON TOWNSHIP, MI, 48035

CHURCH OFFICE: (586) 296-8760

EMAIL: HOPEUCC4@GMAIL.COM

WEBSITE: HOPEUCCMI.COM

FACEBOOK PUBLIC PAGE: @HOPEUCCMACOMB

YOUTUBE: HOPE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST - CLINTON TOWNSHIP

Words of Hope

Newsletter cover articles are often about a spiritual topic or highlight a church ministry. The topic of suicide is not a particularly popular message. As a society we have allowed suicide to become a silent epidemic. Many of us find the issue so painful that we deny that it could ever impact our family. We have a tendency to think that our faith serves as an emotional insurance plan. We worry that we don't have the right words and so we avoid the dialogue.

September was Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. However, it is a topic we need to address all year long. The reality is that we all know someone who has been touched by suicide and we all know someone, (or we ourselves) who has or is dealing with suicidal thoughts or other mental health concerns.

Here are some common myths about suicide:

Myth: *Suicide only effects those with mental health conditions.*

Fact: Not all people who attempt or die by suicide have a mental illness. Relationship problems and other life stressors such as legal issues, loss of a home, death of a loved one, a debilitating illness, abuse and other crisis situations are associated with suicidal thoughts.

Myth: *Once an individual has been suicidal it is a permanent condition.*

Fact: Active suicidal ideation is often short-term and situation specific. While suicidal thoughts can return, they are not permanent. An individual who is treated will likely live a successful life.

Myth: *People who die by suicide are taking the easy way out.*

Fact: These individuals are suffering so deeply that they feel helpless and hopeless. People do not choose to feel suicidal. They are experiencing very serious symptoms due to either a mental health issue or a life crisis.

Myth: *Talking about suicide is likely to encourage the act.*

Fact: Talking about suicide not only reduces the stigma, but also allows individuals to seek help, rethink their options and share their story with others.

As the church, we need to speak about suicide. We must work to eliminate the stigma and advocate for mental health awareness. As your pastor, I can help you connect with compassionate resources. You are not alone. There is 24 hour help at the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline @ 1-800-273-8255 or 988 or Crisis Text Line (text HELLO to 741741).

Scripture reminds us "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit." Psalm 34:18



Let us continue to pray and be in dialogue,
Pastor Meg Wilson

HOPE CHURCH INFORMATION

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!

Hope Website



www.hopeuccmi.com

YouTube



@hopeunitedchurchofchrist-c8235

Instagram



@HopeUCCmi

Facebook



@HopeUCCmacomb

Hearing Assistance is 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!**

CHURCH NEWS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:



World Communion Sunday - October 6th

Trunk or Treat - October 19th 4pm

Children's Sabbath & Bible Sunday - October 20th

Congregational Meeting - October 27th

All Saints Remembrance - November 10th

Rev. Lillian Daniel Preaching - November 17th

Hope Thanksgiving Lunch - November 17th

Hanging of the Greens - December 1st

Motor City Choral Christmas Concert - December 6th

Christmas Pageant - December 15th

Christmas Eve Worship - December 24th 6:30pm

Epiphany Celebration - January 5th



Blood Pressure Screening



**Every Month - 1st
Sunday of the Month.
All info is kept
confidential.**



CHURCH NEWS

We're Looking for a Volunteer Kitchen Manager at HOPE UCC

Exciting things are happening at Hope United Church of Christ, and we're looking to fill a volunteer position as our new Kitchen Manager! If you have an interest in food service, enjoy working with people, and are passionate about food safety, this could be the perfect role for you!

What We're Looking For:

- Someone excited to become Food Management Certified (we'll provide guidance for certification)
- A leader who can oversee volunteers during church events
- An organized person who can manage and stock the kitchen, making sure food safety protocols are always followed and the kitchen cleaned on a regular basis
- A friendly face who loves being part of church gatherings and events

This position will also be seated on the property committee. This is a wonderful opportunity to contribute to our vibrant church community and be a part of something special. You'll play a key role in making sure all our events go smoothly and safely!

Interested?

Contact us to learn more about this rewarding volunteer position!

CHURCH NEWS

Bible Sunday

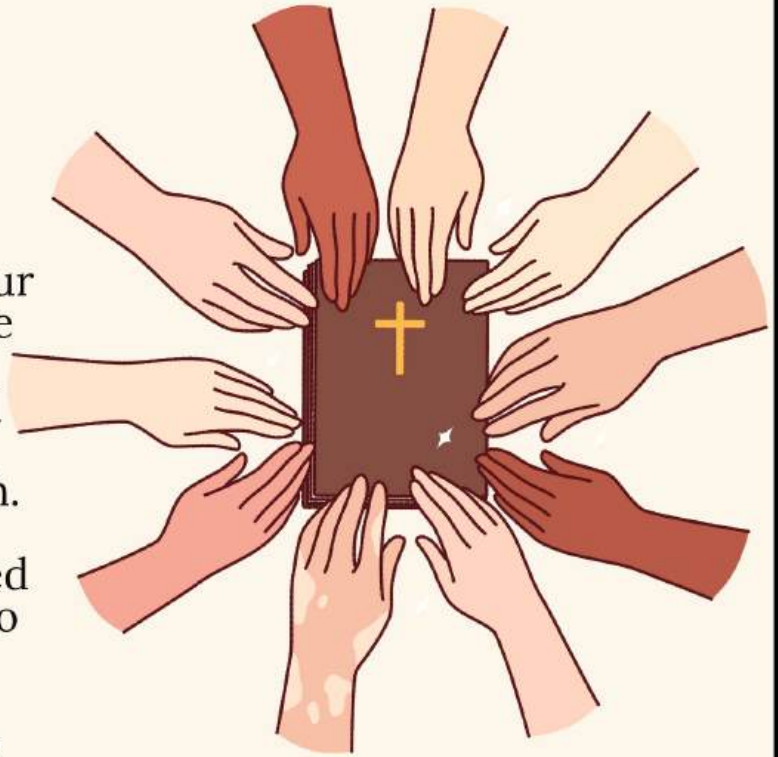
The church is committed to the tradition of giving young learners a Bible from their church family. Let's come together as a church family to support and uplift our children, showing them that they are cherished and valued.

We want to make sure to include all eligible children so that we can encourage them to grow in their faith.

Please contact Pastor Meg or the church office if you have an interested child in your family who would like to receive a Bible on

Sunday, October 20th.

We want to make sure to recognize each recipient in a special way on that Sunday during worship.



Trunk or Treat

Hope Church shall weave its annual enchantment with the Halloween spectacle, Trunk or Treat, on the eve of Saturday, **October 19th, as the clock strikes 4PM in the afternoon.** Young ones shall adorn themselves in fantastical garb, venturing through the mystical parking lot, gathering treats from chariots adorned with wonder. Elders are beckoned to embellish their carriages and bestow sugared offerings. Come rain or shine, this jubilee awaits. Gather your progeny, kin, and kindred spirits for an evening of merriment and enchantment!



CHURCH NEWS

All Saints Remembrance



On **November 10th** we will celebrate All Saints day during worship. This is a time to remember the saints that have passed on during the last year from our congregation as well as your loved ones. It is a moment to reflect on their legacy and find solace in the community of faith. If you have someone who has passed in the last 12 months that you would like us to include please contact Pastor Meg or the Church office with the details.



Guest Preacher

On **November 17th**, Reverend Lillian Daniel, Michigan UCC Conference Minister, will be preaching at Hope UCC. This opportunity offers a valuable chance for learning and building connections through discipleship. Let us welcome her with great hospitality and appreciation.



CHURCH NEWS

Congregational Meeting

A Congregational Meeting for Hope United Church of Christ is scheduled for **Sunday, October 27th**, immediately following worship services. The purpose of this gathering is to vote on the proposed budget for 2025.

Please note that this meeting will be in-person only. All members in good standing are encouraged to participate and cast their votes. The Board of Trustees has dedicated significant effort to prepare the upcoming budget, and a copy of the proposed budget will be available for review prior to the meeting.

We need you to attend so that we have a quorum.

Thank you for being an active part of Hope Church!



DO YOU HAVE A CHURCH KEY?

Dear Church Members,

As stewards of our cherished place of worship, it is crucial that we maintain an accurate inventory of all building keys. This not only ensures the security of our church but also helps us manage access responsibly. It has come to our attention that the building keys have not been inventoried in recent years.

We kindly request that **all persons** who currently possess a key to any part of the church facility submit their key information to the office by December 1st. There will be a form to fill out giving us the information needed to help us update our records. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the church office.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.
Blessings,
Gail Fellman - Hope Church Administrative Assistant

CHURCH NEWS

Motown Soup

In our ongoing efforts to support those in need, our church's food pantry has found a remarkable ally in Motown Soups. This generous company has made a substantial impact on our mission through their financial contributions, which are directly supporting our pantry's ability to serve families and individuals in our community. Our very own food pantry has been fortunate to benefit from their generosity for many years.

We encourage you to consider Motown Soups for your next gift opportunity. In doing so, you'll be gifting a flavorful, well-crafted product while also playing a vital role to aid those in need. Together, we can build a stronger, more compassionate community. Visit www.motownsoup.com or order forms are available at the church as well.



In the event that you encounter an individual seeking assistance, we kindly request that they are directed to contact Pastor Meg or reach out to the church office during regular business hours. At Hope, we provide a range of support services for those requiring assistance. Our primary objective is to cultivate an environment where everyone feels safe, secure, valued, and embraced. This objective is best achieved through the coordinated allocation of resources. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Thank you.



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



CHURCH NEWS



Come and join us for Coffee Hour!

We are looking for volunteers to help with setting up and tidying the coffee and refreshments every week at our coffee hour fellowship event. Whether you're a coffee enthusiast or just have a heart for serving, we invite you to volunteer. Let's come together and allow the Holy Spirit to join us while we enjoy our coffee.

If you're keen to volunteer, please check out the sign-up sheet in the narthex for more information and available slots.

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

A special THANK YOU to everyone who helped in September with Coffee Hour!

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

Sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

Cost is \$20 per arrangement. Payments can be made online or in person.



GROUPS AND MEETINGS

Hope Fun Bunch

The Seniors or I should say "Hope Fun Bunch" met on the 16th of Sept. The Seniors voted to update their signage into a group which includes a wider opportunity for our congregation to participate. As always, we enjoyed a meal including pizza and mixed dishes of vegetables and desserts. After our meeting we talked, played games and cards.

Our next gathering is on the 21 of Oct. at 12noon. As you return to your winter schedule think about coming to The Hope Fun Bunch meet. There will be a sign up sheet on the table or let Joe, Ida or Tom know. The group meets once a month Jan--Nov.; with a Christmas dinner in December. Also there is a \$5 dollar annual dues.

Submitted by,
Tom Reeser

Officers: Tom Reeser, President; Ida Eckert, Vice-President; Joe Holland, Secretary-Treasurer

HOPE SPARKLES EXERCISE CLASS

This class offers a holistic approach to fitness, integrating stretching routines, balance enhancement exercises, and gentle cardiovascular workouts. We utilize 2-pound weights, supplied by the church, to engage in strength-building exercises. For flexibility training, we utilize therapy bands, provided by our instructor.

The cumulative outcome of these sessions is a significant improvement in overall health and well-being. Scheduled regularly, the class meets every Monday from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and every Wednesday from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Linda Hohf, our instructor from the Arthritis Foundation, demonstrates an exceptional understanding of our joint and muscle needs, tailoring our workouts to address them effectively.

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!

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



HOPE FOOD PANTRY

On September 14th, we organized a drive-thru distribution day. We had the privilege of serving 361 individuals, which includes 121 families. We distributed 10,601 pounds of food, cleaning supplies, and hygiene products.

The success of this pantry distribution day was made possible thanks to the generous contributions from our donors, the hard work of our volunteers, and the dedication of your Christian Mission & Witness Committee members.

We will welcome ANY donations for the Food pantry!

**HOPE Food Pantry is open
the 2nd Saturday of each month.
Our next drive-thru pantry distribution
volunteer service day will be:**

**Saturday,
October 12th
from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

**Volunteer service hours are 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
If you are interested in volunteering it is helpful to sign up or
contact a member of the Christian Mission and Witness Committee.
There is also a sign up sheet posted on the table in the Narthex.
We have packing and unloading parties all month long! Have your
family or group staff an event!**

**Please join us in thanking the volunteers for their hard
work and dedication on this mission project!**

Thank you for always remembering the Hope Food Pantry!
Our continued success is because of you!

HOPE FOOD PANTRY

What Should I Donate to the Food Pantry?

We will welcome ANY donation for the Hope Food pantry!

Food, Hygiene, & Monetary donations are all welcome! It can be especially helpful to know what is needed or requested when planning to make a donation.

The best items to donate are non-perishables that last a long time:

- **Canned Goods:** Cans with a pull tab opening are best - Soup, Tomatoes, Beans, Fruits, Vegetables, Chickpeas, Ravioli, Tuna
- **Long-Lasting drinks:** Shelf Stable Milk or Powdered Milk, Fruit Juice, Tea Bags and Instant Coffee
- **Food Cupboard Items:** whole grains are best - Pasta, Rice, Cereals, Lentils, Beans, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Cake mix & Frosting, Pancake mix, Ready-to-eat food items for people without access to a stove

Lets Get Creative:

- **Snacks for kids:** Granola Bars, Individual Cookies, Juice Boxes, Squeezy Pouches, Jell-O/Pudding cups, Fruit cups, Crackers, Fruit Snacks
- **Spices:** Salt, Pepper, Dry Seasonings, Cooking Oils - these are great to donate as they last a very long time and add flavor to any meal
- **Gift Cards:** See pastor Meg if interested in donating \$5 gift cards for fast food restaurants
- **Thanksgiving in a bag** - Canned Turkey, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Green Beans, Yams, Pie Filling

Hope Food Pantry also distributes a Hygiene Kit every quarter.

We are asking that donations for the hygiene kits focus on these 3 most requested items:

Toilet Paper / Laundry Detergent / Dish Soap

[please note that these should be single servings, individual size]

Many families struggle to afford essential household items once they've covered living costs and putting food on the table. It's important therefore to donate these key items if you can spare them:

Toiletries: Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Mouthwash, Floss, Deodorant, Toilet Paper, Shower Gel, Shaving Gel, 2 in 1 Shampoo, Bar Soap, Hand Wipes, Female Hygiene Products, Loofa sponges, Lotion, Face Care

General household items: Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, Sanitizing Wipes, All purpose cleaner, Paper Towels, Dish Gloves & Sponges

Baby Supplies: Diapers, Teethers, Baby Wipes, Baby Powder, Baby Shampoo and Baby Food



In 2024, the Neighbors in Need theme is “Mental Health Justice for All!”

The current focus on mental health reflects the direction taken by the General Synod of the United Church of Christ in 2015 when it passed a resolution to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health. A just world for all is a world where the human rights and well-being of people with mental health challenges are respected, no matter who you are or where you are in life’s mental health journey.

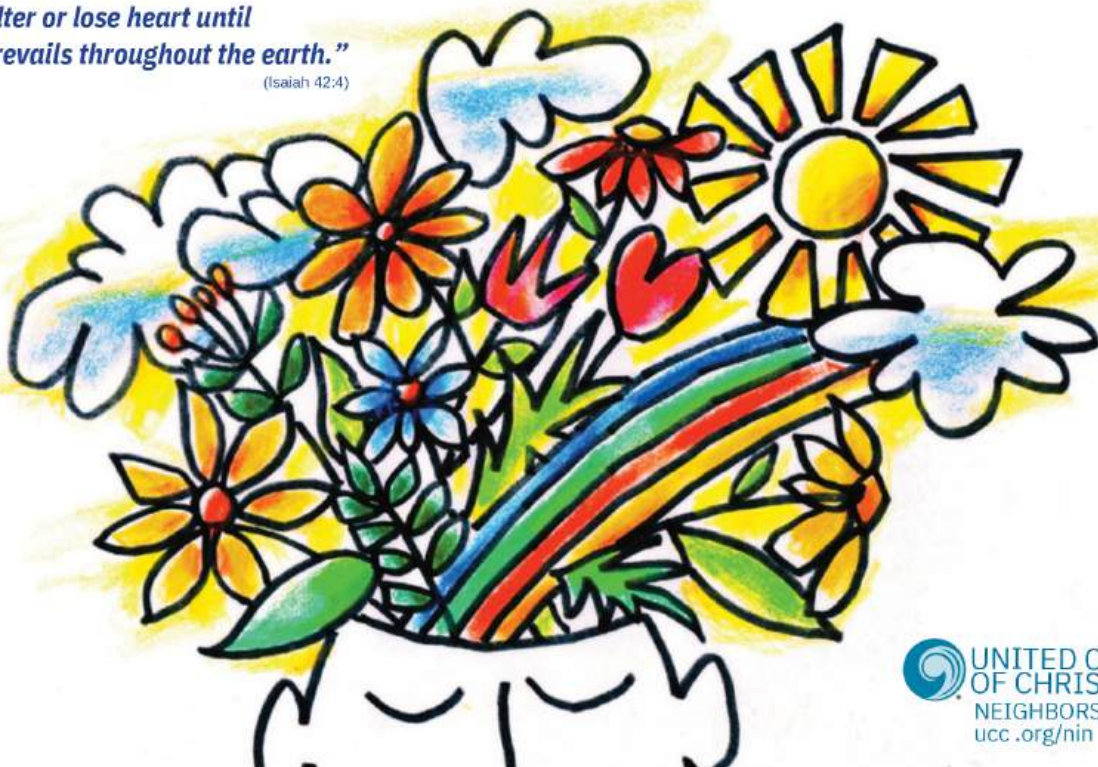
As you may recall, one-third of the Neighbors in Need offering supports the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). The other two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

Please remember to contribute to the Neighbors in Need Special Offering on October 6, 2024.

M E N T A L H E A L T H J U S T I C E F O R A L L

Mental Health is a Universal Human Right

*“God will not falter or lose heart until
justice prevails throughout the earth.”*
(Isaiah 42:4)





Know your No-No's



As much as we love our pets and want to spoil them, there are certain foods that are unsafe for animals. You should never feed a cat or dog:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Apple seeds
- Avocados
- Chewing Gum (sugar-free gums may contain the toxic sweetener Xylitol)
- Chocolate
- Candy (may contain the toxic sweetener Xylitol)
- Coffee or Tea
- Grapes and Raisins
- Moldy or spoiled foods
- Mushroom plants
- Mustard seeds
- Nuts - Macadamia, Walnuts, Pecans, Almonds
- Onions, Garlic, Chives
- Pits - Peach, Apricot, Cherry
- Poultry Bones
- Potato leaves, stems and Unripe Parts
- Rhubarb leaves
- Salt
- Tomato leaves, stems and Unripe Fruit
- Yeast dough

This is not an exhaustive list; If you want to give your pet treats, please make sure they do not contain any of the ingredients listed above. If you have questions or want more pet tips call (586)-731-9210.

Submitted by Karen Miller



HUMANE SOCIETY
OF MACOMB



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 haven't signed up, please consider doing so.

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, 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.

My email is 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 Tadajewski, President, PFLAG-CT



HAVE CAR, WILL TRAVEL?



HAVE CAR, WILL TRAVEL?
VOLUNTEER DRIVERS URGENTLY NEEDED!

The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program needs drivers who can provide rides for our older and disabled neighbors so that they can get to doctor appointments and essential errands. Just a couple hours of your time can make a huge difference in someone's life. You pick your own area & your own times. Drive as often or as little as you like in the comfort of your own car. Even one more ride a year might get someone to an appointment that could save their life!

Daytime drivers especially needed!

Please call IVC today at (586) 757-5551 for more information.



FAMILY PAGE



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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.

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 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.



Ken & Su

Lori & Al

Larry

Jerry & Shannon

Jean

Carol

Flaherty Family

John

Elaine

Joyce

Audrey

We offer a special prayer for those who keep their concerns and needs to themselves, hoping that everyone finds the strength, courage, and patience to navigate their personal challenges.



BOTS Meeting Minutes

Hope United Church of Christ Synopsis of Board Meeting September 10, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Steve Nielson. Pastor Meg led us in prayer.

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

Congregational Comments – Steve Nielson – None

Additions to the Agenda – Steve Nielson – None

Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve the agenda was made by Nancy Burnham with a second by Nancy Fay. Motion carried.

President's Remarks – Steve Nielson: Thank you to Nancy Burnham for running the August meeting while I was on vacation.

Approval of the August Meeting Minutes – Motion by Terri Hillman with a second by Lori Sarnowski to approve the August minutes. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report for August 2024 – Motion was made by Linda Parsons with a second by Kirk Schoenherr to approve the report for August. Motion Carried.

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

1. Statement of Operations – Income (Page 3):

- 1. Weekly Offerings for August 2024 were \$2,158 less than the amount budgeted and \$859 less than the amount received
- 2. for August 2023. There were four August Sundays in both 2023 and 2024. Year to date Weekly Offerings were \$2,566
- 3. less than the amount budgeted and \$337 (\$9 per week) less than the same period in 2023. We also received \$75 for
- 4. non-mission Special Offerings as well as \$50 for OCWM, \$30 for One Great Hour of Sharing and \$30 for C.U.E/Olivet in
- 5. August.
- 1. The only Investment activity for the Operating Fund consisted of \$0.43 in interest to the Money Market Account.
- 1. Year to date Operating Income, comprised of Weekly Offerings plus other Income accounts, is \$1,361 less than the
- 2. amount budgeted but \$563 more than 2023.

1. Statement of Operations – Expense (Pages 4-6):

- 1. Total Operating Fund Expenses for August 2024 were \$1,168 less than the amount budgeted but \$1,024 more than the
- 2. Expenses for August 2023. Year to date Expenses were \$11,268 less than budgeted and \$2,746 less than the same
- 3. period in 2023. Year to date favorability to the Expense budget continues to be driven by open staff positions, a Workers'
- 4. Comp refund, and lower heating cost, partially offset by higher electricity, office supplies, and administrative expenses.
- 1. There was a loss (Income less Expense) of \$3,187 in August 2024 versus a loss of \$1,010 August 2023.



BOTS Meeting Minutes

• SYNOPSIS OF OPERATIONS:	August	Year to Date
Operating receipts	\$ 13,784	\$ 142,185
Operating expenses	(16,971)	(154,954)
Excess of receipts over expenses		
(Expenses over receipts)	(\$ 3,187)	(\$ 12,769)

Dedicated Accounts (Page 7):

- Dedicated Accounts had income of \$2,522 and expense of \$579 for the month, leaving a balance of \$96,917.

Building Fund (Page 9):

- Hope for the Future offerings received in August 2024 were \$1,065 which was \$335 less than the amount budgeted and \$735 less than the amount received for August 2023. We have received Memorials of \$2,315 year to date. Final invoices for the parking lot repair totaling \$104,586 were paid to the engineering firm and Hutch paving in July.

Investments (Page 9):

- The securities account had an August gain of \$4,899 compared to a loss of \$3,895 for August 2023. Year to date 2024, the securities account had a gain of \$37,109 versus a gain of \$28,702 for the 2023.

Synopsis of Cash Flow (Income less Expense)

	August	Year to Date
Budgeted Accounts (Operating plus Building excluding Investments)	(\$ 1,513)	(\$104,301)
Non-Budgeted Accounts (Dedicated Accounts)	1,944	422
Total Cash Flow	\$ 431	(\$103,879)

New Business

2025 Budget Approval – Terri Hillman: The only change from the report presented to the Board in June was taking \$800 from the bottom line and adding it to the Office Supplies Expense account that has been running over budget for a couple of years now. The raises to the staff are at 3% which is the same as the Cost of Living increase given to Social Security Recipients. Pastor Meg will only be receiving a 2% increase which was at her request. The Other Employment Costs for Pastor Meg need to be left in the budget for the possibility of future use by Pastor Meg or in the event of a new Pastor being called. Pastor Meg says she is excited for us to present a balanced budget to the Congregation. There is some money allocated for special events for the children. The Board recommends this budget to be presented to the Congregation.

Church Picnic Update – Nancy Burnham: Thanks to Linda Rehm for being our shopper for the price of the chicken. The final choices were between Kroger and Meijer. Meijer was chosen after they matched the Kroger price for the extra 24 pieces. A total of 124 pieces are to be ordered. It will be \$128.00 for the chicken.

How to be the Church – Pastor Meg: The new church brochure will have the church banner on the back. Someone that attended the Polzin funeral services said that the banner spoke to her and she came to a regular service to see what our normal services were like.

Religious Real Estate – Pastor Meg: Heard from Matt Subick of Religious Real Estate Company. This company sells churches that close, or rents out church space. He came and looked at our property, took photos, measurements, etc. He sent us information about possible rental situations. There are various income options for our property. Pastor Meg suggests he come to or October or November Board Meeting. Then we would enter into a contract with a renter of the Sanctuary and/or Fellowship Hall and/or Sunday School rooms. Motion was made by Nancy Burnham with a second by Linda Rehm to invite Matt Subick to come to our Board Meeting in October or November to do a presentation. Motion carried. Pastor Meg will follow-up with Matt.



BOTS Meeting Minutes

Membership Status – Pastor Meg: Pastor Meg would like a Board decision as to what constitutes a member in good standing since there is a rental fee for a member and a higher fee for a non-member. Pastor Meg would like two to three Board Members review what we had in the past and come up with a new, modern Member-in-Good-Standing status. Nancy Burnham, Lori Sarnowski and Nancy Fay will review and bring back their thoughts in November. They can meet on zoom or in person.

Sexual Misconduct Policy – Nancy Burnham: Terri Hillman had received an e-mail from our Insurance company to make sure we have a sexual misconduct policy since churches have been having so many sexual misconduct claims due to statute of limitations having changed so much. We do have a Safe Church Policy. Those working in Sunday School will need to be certified to be sure they are covered. They will probably need to take a class on-line and answer questions to be certified. HR should be involved. This will be reviewed in November. This new policy will take place as of January 1, 2025 per the insurance company.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Meg for July and August 2024 as no report was submitted for July:

Worship: We enjoyed a variety of special music selections by our members this summer. In August we had one Sunday of praise and worship music by our band. The sermon series did not follow the lectionary but focused on men and women of the Hebrew Bible. We continue to use young people to lead our Call to Worship and adults to read the scripture.

Church Business: Gail has been updating our publications including the Beacon and church brochures.

Christian Education: We had volunteers throughout the summer to keep Sunday School meeting each week. Camp Caring will be held once in July on 7/24 and once in August on 8/13. We will officially begin our Sunday School year on September 22nd with two different age groups.

Community Outreach: We have several upcoming events to encourage the community to check us out. We are using social media and traditional communications to promote these events. The events include 9/29- Blessing of the Animals 10/19 Trunk or Treat. Our food pantry is a way of making our presence noted in the community.

Consent Agenda Items – None were received.

Adjournment: Motion by Nancy Burnham with a second by Kirk Schoenherr to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. Motion carried. Meeting was closed with The Lord's Prayer

PENDING BOT'S APPROVAL



OCTOBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 AA 7-8pm OA 7-8pm	2 Hope Sparkles 1pm-2pm	3 Handbells 6-7 Choir 7:30-9pm	4	5 AA 7-8:30pm
6 Worship 10am World Communion Sunday 	7 Hope Sparkles 11am-12pm	8 CMWC 12:30pm BOTS 7pm AA 7-8pm OA 7-8pm	9 Hope Sparkles 1pm-2pm	10 Handbells 6-7 Choir 7:30-9pm	11	12 FOOD PANTRY 10-12 AA 7-8:30pm 
13 Worship 10am	14 Hope Sparkles 11am-12pm	15 AA 7-8pm OA 7-8pm	16 Hope Sparkles 1pm-2pm	17 Handbells 6-7 Choir 7:30-9pm	18	19 AA 7-8:30pm Trunk or Treat 4pm 
20 Worship 10am Children's Sabbath 	21 Hope Sparkles 11am-12pm Hope Fun Bunch 12pm	22 AA 7-8pm OA 7-8pm	23 Hope Sparkles 1pm-2pm	24 Handbells 6-7 Choir 7:30-9pm	25	26 AA 7-8:30pm
27 Worship 10am Laity Sunday Congregational Meeting	28 Hope Sparkles 11am-12pm	29 PFLAG 6-8pm AA 7-8pm OA 7-8pm	30 Hope Sparkles 1pm-2pm	31 Handbells 6-7 Choir 7:30-9pm		

THE LEADERSHIP OF HOPE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Meg Wilson, Pastor & Editor / Gail Fellman, Publisher & Editor
Church Office: (586)-296-8760

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT: STEVE NIELSON
VICE PRESIDENT: NANCY BURNHAM
SECRETARY: LINDA PARSONS
TREASURER: TERRI HILLMAN

NANCY FAY / LINDA REHM /
JERRY ROGERS / LORI SARNOWSKI /
KIRK SCHOENHERR

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR: REV. MEG WILSON
ADMIN. ASSISTANT: GAIL FELLMAN
MUSIC DIRECTOR: DEBORAH FRONTCAK
ORGANIST: PATRICK BAKER
ACCOMPANIST: DENISE KILDEA