

# THE HOPE BUILDER

A monthly newsletter  
supporting the members and friends of  
Hope United Church of Christ. . . .

**FEBRUARY 2012**



**hopeuccstl.org**  
**314-353-2288**

## *How are you “Living Lent”?*

Believe it or not, the season of Lent is not that far away, beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Lent is an annual time for self-examination and reflection upon our discipleship and entire spiritual life. Join us during the four **Wednesdays in March (7, 14, 21, 28)** for a new Lenten opportunity to do just that. We’re calling it “**Living Lent**”!

**5:45-6:30 p.m. Light supper in Fellowship Hall**  
*(\$5 donation appreciated!)*

**6:30 p.m. Taizé worship service in the Chapel**

**7-8 p.m. “This I Believe” led by Pastor Sarah**

*“Based on the NPR series of the same name, This I Believe is a series of essays from the famous to the unknown--completing the thought that begins with the book's title. The pieces that make up the program compel readers to re-think not only what and how they have arrived at their own personal beliefs, but also the extent to which they share them with others.” Come for lively discussion and reflection!*

*Childcare will be provided from 6-8 p.m.*

**Sign-up sheets are posted on bulletin board across from church parlor. Come one week or all four, come just for part of the evening or enjoy it all!**

## Look inside for!

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## **2012 ECUMENICAL LENTEN CARBON FAST**

Try something new, shared by congregations across the country! Make Lent an opportunity to enter into a spiritual discipline of fasting from carbon (i.e. making environmentally-friendly choices in our daily living).

Here’s how it works: **Beginning Ash Wednesday (February 22<sup>nd</sup>)** and throughout Lent, participants will receive a daily e-mail with the day’s suggested carbon-reducing activity. When possible, this will include a quantitative measure of the carbon reduction resulting from the activity. Then, after Easter, each congregation is invited to hold a gathering to talk about what was learned and what changes each person hopes to continue to make.

Let’s make protecting God’s creation by reducing our carbon footprint as fundamental a spiritual discipline as prayer! To sign up contact Pastor Sarah, and she will e-mail you the link to register.

# Pastors' Message

Dear Friends in Christ,

All of us are called to serve Christ in mission. There are many ways one is called. For example, one support mission through prayer and financial donations. Many give lots of time by taking on projects around our church. Some participate in charitable organizations beyond our church walls. Others serve by being a part of the church council or the various Ministry Teams like Worship and Liturgical Arts or Building and Property, for example.

Participating in God's mission serves those in need and provides the unanticipated gift of...joy! Joy is a gift to those who serve. Here's an example of what I mean, Andrea Auginbaugh serves on our Outreach Ministry Team and coordinates "The Families in Need" ministry. With her permission I have reprinted the following e-mail from her:

*Hello, Everyone!*

*Attached is the voucher.*

*I wish I could pass onto all of you the sincere gratitude and relief I hear in people's voices as I pass on the message that Hope Church pledged \$100 to help them out with the Ameren bill. I don't know how to describe it except that it takes my breath away and brings tears to my eyes. Often our 100 dollar pledge is a drop in the bucket. There are some large bills out there. Sometimes it's the drop that keeps the electricity on for a little bit longer. Thanks for letting me share!*

*Andrea*

Being involved in Christ's mission often does take one's "breath away and brings tears" as we connect through Christ's love to those around us. To extend the love of Christ to others, in the various ways that being involved in a church community affords, is to expose oneself to Christ's unexpected and overwhelming joy. The joy experienced when one acts to reflect the Spirit of God through mission often does, indeed, take one's breath away! That shouldn't surprise us when we consider that the word "Spirit" comes from the Hebrew word "*ruah*", meaning "breath." which means breath. So I guess you might say that serving in Christ's mission is one way to experience the breathtaking joy of God!

May serving Christ bring you to tears of joy and take your breath away as well!

***-Pastor Ed***

*Donations can be made to the "Families in Need Fund". Write this fund name in the "other" section of your giving envelope or in the memo of your check, You can also use your credit card by going to [www.hopeuccstl.org](http://www.hopeuccstl.org). Then select "on line giving".*

# Our Church Family

**OUR CHURCH FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS** include: Hugo Brueggenjohann, Cheryl Hazel, Scott Conradi, Jo Ann Sletten (Jim Threlkeld's sister), Paul Sorrels (Sarah Erwin's dad), Mike O'Sullivan (uncle of Tim Mees), Liz Swayzee, Russell Salamin (uncle and Godfather of Andrea Stoll), Lori (friend of June Franks), Tyler, Spencer and Stephen Branham, Hal Franks, Betty Conrad (Mother of Lynn McCall) and Susie Richmann.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** to Marguy McVey on the death of her father, Francis McVey.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** to the family of former Hope UCC member, Bob Peining, on the death of Bob's mother.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** to the Powell family, friends of David and Vicky Moss, on the death of Ernie Powell's father.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Kim and Dan Emerson on the birth of their first child, Charles William, on January 27th.

**MANY THANKS** to the many of you who contributed generously to Heifer International as part of our 3rd Annual Alternative Gift Market during Advent, 2011! Your "purchases" totaled **\$1,907.50**, and this means that our three-year total for Heifer is over \$6,000.00. These gifts are helping poor, hungry, and malnourished people all over the world; and they will continue to help, because one of Heifer International's foundational principles is "Passing on the Gift." Families who receive help promise to pass on that help to other families in their community. Again, many thanks!

*Thanks, Clint McCann*



**A Donation to the conference call fund has been made by Ellamay Rall in honor of Marge Borgmann**

## WE'RE HAVING A BABY!!!!

Our Eden intern, Emma Dobson, and her husband Rob are anxiously awaiting the arrival of their new baby daughter in March.

Please join us in Fellowship Hall **February 19th** after the 10:30 am service for a Baby Shower to welcome their new daughter. Cake and punch will be provided and all are welcome. They are registered at Babies R Us and Target. If you would like to make a donation to a gift card or have any questions, please contact Kathy Hall at 314-892-7459;

[kathy.hall@parentsasteachers.org](mailto:kathy.hall@parentsasteachers.org) or  
[hall7459@charter.net](mailto:hall7459@charter.net)

Hope to see you there.



## Looking for Sunday School Teacher/Helper

I just need one more teacher for the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade class and one helper for the k-2<sup>nd</sup> grade class. Please let me know if you are interested-this last session runs March thru May.

*Thanks, Vicky Moss*

## FLOWER CHART

Did you know anyone has the opportunity to place flowers on the Chancel Table during weekly services to commemorate birthdays, anniversaries, loved ones or celebrations? Simply sign your name, and your dedication, on the line of the date you would like your flowers to be in service. The flower chart is on the large bulletin board in the hallway next to the church office.



Flowers will be ordered by Joyce or Michelle in the office. You can pay for the flowers by placing a donation of \$25.00 in the collection with a notation of "Chancel Flowers" on the check. Your dedication will be printed in the information page. After service, please take your flowers home and enjoy them!

# Upcoming Events

## STEPS THROUGH TIME: JOURNEYS IN THE MIDDLE EAST *Program at Eden Seminary*

Over the course of a dozen years of exploring Jordan, Israel the West Bank, Cyprus and Turkey, Thomas Oates documented the scenes he encountered.

Eden Theological Seminary is grateful to have had the opportunity to display Mr. Oates' works this academic year. Now they are inviting all for a wine & cheese reception in celebrations of the documentary photographs and for student presentations about the study experiences in Israel and the Middle East.

February 15, 2012 5—7:00 p.m.  
Samuel D. Press Hall  
Eden Theological Seminary

The event is free of charge, but reservations are requested. RSVP to Kathy Thomas 314 918-2565 or [kthomas@eden.edu](mailto:kthomas@eden.edu).

## *Lunch and Literature*

Join fellow avid readers for discussion of a favorite book! These informal discussions are held approximately every five weeks throughout the year. Our next discussion will be **February 12th** when we will discuss the book Little Bee by Chris Cleave.



Please bring a sack lunch as we gather to eat and talk around the table in the Friendly Room.

For further reading (and reading and reading...):

84 Charing Cross Road—March 18  
By Helene Hanff

Blink—April 22  
By Malcolm Gladwell

Room—May 27  
By Emma Donoghue

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks—July 1  
By Rebecca Skloot

*Pastor Sarah*

## MERRYMAKERS' SCHEDULE FOR 2012

Mark these dates on your calendar for the year so that you don't miss any of the fun of the monthly MerryMakers' social outings. More details will be announced as the dates get closer. All of welcomed, invited and encouraged to join in.

**February 11th** Spaghetti Dinner  
**March 17th** McKnight Road Church Variety Show  
**April**—Habitat House  
**May 19th** Boat House  
**June 1st** Grizzly's Game  
**July 14th** Game/movie/dinner  
**August 11th** Hobo Dinner  
**September 15th** Food Bank  
**October 13th** Sing a Long

## DISCOVERING THE BIBLE...ONE BOOK AT A TIME

Our "Discovering the Bible" series has just a few sessions remaining! We meet on the third Tuesday of each month for about an hour, walking our way through the Bible book by book. Our next session is Tuesday, February 21st at 7pm in the Friendly Room. We will be discussing **Chapter 29**. Hope to see you there!

*Pastor Sarah*

"Go to [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org) to sign up to receive the UCC Daily Devotional"-Ed

# Ministry and Treasurer Updates

## MISSION TASK FORCE

The second meeting of the task force will gather on *Sunday, February 19 at 9:15* in Fellowship Hall. We will go over the list of ideas generated in the first meeting and then pick one or two to focus on for the year. If you are interested in “hands on mission”, then come and join us to see where we go next! This new group of disciples is open to all!! If you have any questions, talk with one of the pastors.

*Pastor Ed*

## THE WORK OF THE PEREGRINE SOCIETY

The following information about the work of the Peregrine Society was included in a recent thank you letter to the JOY Circle of Hope for their continued support and most recent donation of \$50.00.

*“In 2010 the Peregrine Society served over 2,200 area cancer patients with the following services:*

- *143,194 cans of nutritional supplements*
- *3,155 rides to treatment centers*
- *1,039 prescription medications*
- *54,265 medical supplies.*

Thanks to *Betty Jean Grady* for sharing this letter.

**Stewardship Corner**.....Our new giving envelopes have arrived and if you haven't picked yours up yet, you'll find it in the Narthex of the sanctuary. The boxes that aren't picked up will be mailed, so please help us avoid this expense. A few reminders:

- If no category is marked on your offering envelope, it will go to the General Fund.
- Automatic giving is an easy way to give to Hope year-round! When you are on vacation, sick, or oversleep on a Sunday morning, Hope always receives your offering if you are enrolled in automatic giving. Currently, there are about 20 church members who donate to Hope automatically each week.
- Using the Initial Offering envelope helps defray the cost of the boxes (\$5.00). Thanks to all who have used this envelope! If you've forgotten or lost yours, feel free to use a pew envelope and write Initial Offering and your name.

*Sue Rainer*

**TREASURER'S REPORT – SUE CASEY . . .** January started off with the first Sunday on New Year's Day, January 1 and smaller than usual attendance. For the month, income was \$20,981 while budgeted income from General Fund “white envelope” was \$26,256 – for a shortfall of \$5,275 to start the year.

Also during January, the tax filings were completed – 1099's, W-2's, city, state and federal filings. Budgets have been implemented and a report will be made to Council at the February meeting on final figures for 2011.

This year, there are new and exciting ways to give to Hope Church. Have you seen the updated website? A button is available for “on-line” giving through VANCO Services. One-time gifts as well as scheduled gifts can now be made on line. For others, automatic contributions through the “bill pay” option at your financial institution may be the way to go. *(If you are using “bill pay” option please recall to increase your giving amount if you have increased your 2012 pledge.)* And then, there's that antiquated method of “checks” or cash that I still use. So, in 2012 we have ways to give for all.

# Youth Happenings

<b>Sunday Feb. 12th</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation in youth room @9:15 Sunday School for 3 years old through 5 <sup>th</sup> grade @9:15 Youth Choir Practice @ 10:00
<b>Sunday Feb. 19th</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation in youth room @9:15 Sunday School for 3 years old through 5 <sup>th</sup> grade @9:15 High School Sunday School @9:15 Youth Choir Practice @ 10:00
<b>Sunday Feb. 26th</b>	<b>No Sunday School</b> Family Choir @9:15 Youth Choir Practice @10:00 Youth trip to Grocery shop and deliver to Isaiah 58-Lunch Out
<b>Sunday March 4th</b>	Sunday School for 3 years thru 8 <sup>th</sup> grade @ 9:15 Youth Choir Practice @ 10:00
<b>Sunday March 11th</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation in youth room @9:15 Sunday School for 3 years old through 5 <sup>th</sup> grade @9:15 Youth Choir Practice @ 10:00

## CONFIRMATION UPDATE

11 of our youth have been participating in a two-year confirmation program. Confirmation is a rite of the church in which youth affirm for themselves the baptismal vows their parents made at their baptism. As preparation, they spend time in study, fellowship, and mission to learn more about the purpose of the church and their own discipleship.

Please note two upcoming events that celebrate this significant even in the life of a young Christian, as well as for the congregation:

Confirmation Presentation: **Saturday, March 31, 2012** at 10am in the Chapel  
*Come and hear what the confirmands have experienced and learned as we celebrate their accomplishments.*

Confirmation Sunday: **Sunday, April 1, 2012** (Palm Sunday)  
*Join us in the 10:30 service as the confirmands and their mentors participate in the Rite of Confirmation.*

## STOCK SALE RETURNS

Looking for another great return on your money this year?

The YOUTH at Hope have just the way for you to invest. The youth are taking a mission trip to Colorado this July and will be raising money to help fund the trip. Stock will once again be sold like last year for the Heifer trip. Look for more details soon!!

*Vicky Moss*

### Upcoming Youth Activities: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and Up!

**February 26<sup>th</sup>** -Shopping with "Souper Bowl" collection and delivering to Isaiah 58-lunch after.

### March 24-25 Camp Mo-Val Weekend

We need a firm number of 15 total to be able to go!

Please let Vicky Moss know as soon as possible if your youth will be attending.

Approximate cost will be around \$40.00.



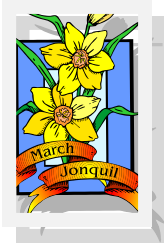
# March 2012

## Contact Information—

**Book Discussion, Quilters, Hope Builder Questions, Bible Study:** Church Office 314-353-2288 — **Al-Anon for Wednesday Night:** Susan 314-773-5725 — **Al-Anon for Friday Night:** Leeli 314-322-3238 — **Family or Handbell Choir:** Jim Threlkeld 314-481-6681 — **Dartball:** Jim Richmann 314- 275-8205 — **Co-ed Adult Volleyball:** Keith Zimmer 314-951-1918 —

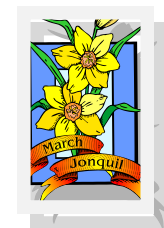
				THU	FRI	SAT
				1 <u>10:00 a.m.</u> St. Louis Church Alliance Lenten Service at Ascension Lutheran	2 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Open Mtg. Friday night group 8:00 p.m. Adult Volleyball	3
4 8:15 a.m. Worship with Sacrament of Communion 10:30 a.m. Worship with Sacrament of	5 6:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal	6 7:30 p.m. Dartball Make Up or All Star Week	7 9:00 a.m. Quilters 5:45 p.m. Living Lent Dinner & Program 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Open Mtg.	8 7:00 p.m. Ministry Leadership Meetings	9 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Open Mtg. Friday night group 7:15 p.m. Adult Volleyball at St. John's	10
11 8:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Worship	12 6:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal	13	14 9:00 a.m. Quilters Hope Builder Mailed 5:45 p.m. Living Lent Dinner & Program 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Open Mtg.	15 10:00 a.m. St. Louis Church Alliance Lenten Service at Hope UCC 7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting	16 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Open Mtg. Friday night group 7:15 p.m. Adult Volleyball at St. John's	17 Handbell Rehearsal
18 8:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Worship with Handbell Choir	19 6:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal	20 7:00 p.m. Bible Study led by Pastor Sarah	21 9:00 a.m. Quilters 5:45 p.m. Living Lent Dinner & Program 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Open Mtg.	22	23 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Open Mtg. Friday night group 8:45 p.m. Adult Volleyball	24
25 8:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Worship	26 6:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal	27	28 9:00 a.m. Quilters 5:45 p.m. Living Lent Dinner & Program 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Open Mtg.	29 10:00 a.m. St. Louis Church Alliance Lenten Service at St. Gabriel's Catholic Church	30 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon Open Mtg. Friday night group 8:00 p.m. Adult Volleyball at St. John's	31 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Presentation

# Special Notes



## Birthdays

March 1	Kieran Egan, Vada Hinnah
March 3	Jonathan Campbell, Brett Paglus
March 4	Carole Brueggjenjohann, Katie Mulhall
March 5	Steven Paglus, Katie Richmann, Sara Stock
March 6	Cameron Egan, Joshua Zumwinkel
March 12	Kenneth Puto
March 13	Austin Conner, Kathleen Heine, Bailey McNamara, Ellen Stumpp
March 14	Emily Butchart
March 19	Julius Sprick
March 20	Charlene Kuhl, Laine McCall
March 22	Art Dippel, Tim McNamara
March 24	Mary Ann Mikusch
March 25	Virginia Boll, Sarah Bush
March 26	Kathy Hall
March 28	Richard Grady, Virginia Taylor
March 29	Jack Butchart
March 30	Sarah Bantle
March 31	Sophie Ryan



## Anniversaries

March 9	Jill and Tim Redmond
March 11	Jill and Mike Brueggjenjohann
March 18	T. J. and Jessica Graetz
March 19	Jim and Tina Krieger
March 30	Autum and Eric Jennings, Laura and Mike Leavitt

## NEW OPTIONS FOR RECEIVING Hope Builder

2012 will bring new ways to receive your monthly copy of the Hope Builder. Many have expressed a desire to save the cost of paper and postage by reading their Hope Builder on line. Council has agreed with this method. Thus, sending the Hope Builder via email will be an option for the coming year. This should start sometime in the spring.

We do want to be sure we mail copies to *all* who do not have access to email. If you are one who would like to continue having your Hope Builder mailed, please let us know that is your selection.

A third option will be an inventory of printed copies available here at Hope, which can be picked up when you are at the church during the month.

If you have any questions, please give me a call in the office.

*Joyce DeNeal*

## NEWS OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD . .

**March 2, 3 and 4:** St. Philip's UCC, 10708 Lavinia Drive, 63123, **2012 Book Sale.** Call for hours and pricing at 314-843-5100.

**March 10:** St. Philip's UCC **21st Super Trivia Weekend.** Doors open at 6:15 with 7:00 p.m. start time. \$100.00 per table. Call Jim for reservations at 314 894-0760.

**April 21: Neighborhood Houses 2nd Annual Trivia Night** at St. Louis Gateway Classic Sports Foundation. VIP Tables \$300 / Traditional Tables \$250 / Individual \$25. Registration information will be available soon.

“Go to [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org) to sign up to receive the UCC Daily Devotional”-Ed

# People of Hope U. C. C.

**Church Staff**

Rev. Ed Zumwinkel, Co-Pastor  
 Rev. Dr. Sarah Fredriksen McCann, Co-Pastor  
 Emma Dobson, Eden Intern  
 Joyce DeNeal, Office Administrator  
 Jim Threlkeld, Director of Music  
 Dennis Paglusch, Financial Administrator  
 Susie Richmann, Director of Children's Music  
 Vicky Moss, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries  
 Allen Holtman, Sunday Building Care  
 Ethan Hale, Weekday Building Care  
 Lamont Burns, Part-time Custodial Services  
 Michelle Lepak, Office Assistant

**Hope United Church of Christ**

6273 Eichelberger Street at Tamm Ave  
 St. Louis, MO 63109  
 Phone 314-353-2288

**Staff emails:**

ezumwinkel@hopeuccstl.org  
 smccann@hopeuccstl.org  
 Office email: jdeneal@hopeuccstl.org  
 dpaglusch@hopeuccstl.org  
 mlepak@hopeuccstl.org

***New and improved web site:***

[www.hopeuccstl.org](http://www.hopeuccstl.org)

**Church Council and Committee Liaisons for 2012**

Judy Owens .....	President
	Pastoral and Staff Relations
Denise Buck .....	Vice President
	Hospitality
Sue Casey .....	Treasurer
Lonny Davis .....	Assistant Treasurer
	Finance and Insurance
Dan Fagnani .....	Secretary
Jennifer Conrad .....	Assistant Secretary
Carolyn Mulhall .....	Outreach
Jim Richmann .....	Building & Property
Nancy Oberheuser .....	Special Events
Alice Galt .....	Stewardship
Bryan Erwin .....	Worship & Liturgical Arts
Jennifer Conrad .....	Youth & Children's Ministries

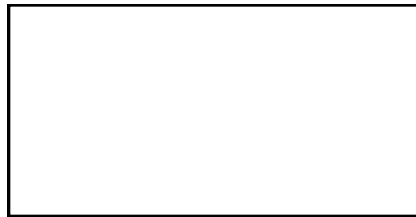
**Committee Representatives for 2012**

Eric Jennings .....	Building & Property
TBA .....	Finance & Insurance
Carol Zimmer .....	Hospitality
Clint McCann .....	Outreach
Lynn McCall .....	Pastoral & Staff Relations
Susie Richmann & Nancy Oberheuser .....	Special Events
Alice Galt .....	Stewardship
OPEN .....	Worship & Liturgical Arts
Katie Zimmer .....	Youth & Children's Ministries

Hope United Church of Christ  
6273 Eichelberger at Tamm  
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314-353-2288

Return service requested

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## **Hope United Church of Christ Statement of Welcome and Mission**

*No matter where you are on life's journey, you are invited to enter the big red doors of Hope United Church of Christ. We are an open and affirming congregation. We believe that every person is a child of God and all are welcome, regardless of race, economic background, marital status, gender or sexual orientation, age, physical or mental ability, nationality or faith history.*

*It is our mission, inspired by God's Holy Spirit, to engage persons in living out the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

*Please come, for all things are ready.*