



HOPE UNITED  
CHURCH OF CHRIST  
the church by the lake

## DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

HUC Issue 0519 - May & June 2019



**CONNECT. NURTURE. PRACTICE.**

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the church by the lake

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## Pastor's Letter:

We are alive in Christ! In this Eastertide, we celebrate the new life that the resurrection brings.

In the coming weeks, we will celebrate Noah Ehlenfeldt's graduation from high school and his new beginnings at college; we will celebrate Jesse Bollinger's 40th birthday (thank you for your commitment to the church, Jesse!); we will celebrate the end of the school year with a party at God2L, and the beginning of our free summer lunch program,

and we will participate in General Synod UCC. In our own lives, within the life of our families, and in our communities (Cochrane, and the global community) we have endless possibilities for renewed living.

One opportunity is in our "Lifting Up Hope" accessibility project, which honors our commitment to be a welcoming place for all people by making it possible for anyone to enter and enjoy our church.

Several of our members and friends are currently finding it difficult to use the stairs, and several more see it coming in their own lives.

You are invited to an informational meeting, discuss this project, and then vote on May 19th.

Please prayerfully consider the ministries to which we are called, and if this project fits into God's call to us.

Blessings,  
Pastor Colleen Kwong

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Pastor Colleen Kwong

Email: [colleenkwong@gmail.com](mailto:colleenkwong@gmail.com) | Phone: 262.424.2818

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## Worship at the Flag Memorial:

We will gather at the flag memorial on Cochrane Road at 9:00am on May 26 to acknowledge our gratitude to those who served our country through military service, and to recognize the invitation to serve in whatever ways God calls us. God is with us all in life and in death, and the time in between .

WE WILL FOLLOW THE WORSHIP SERVICE WITH A POTLUCK.

All are welcome - invite your family and friends!

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## Graduation Sunday:

We celebrate with the Ehlenfeldt family as Noah graduates! We will recognize Noah's achievement and goals on May 5 during the worship service, and have time to greet him at our social hour following worship.

CONGRADUATIONS NOAH!

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## Jesse turns 40!:

Jesse Bollinger has been serving the church faithfully in many capacities for many of his 40 years, and we are going to celebrate his birthday on May 19 as a sign of our gratitude. Following worship and our con-gregational vote regarding the "Lifting Up Hope" project, we will enjoy a lunch provided by family, and one of Marilyn's famous birthday cakes.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESSE!

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# “Lifting Up Hope” - Accessibility Project

**All are Welcome if you Can Get In becomes: All Are Welcome!**

“Lifting Up Hope” is: Building an addition to house a lift (like a small elevator), a new accessible bathroom, a new entry on the parking lot side of the church building, and the bonus is additional kitchen, office, and fellowship hall space. Why? So all people can access the church building! It will help us to grow our children’s God2L Christian Education program, give access to the sanctuary and fellowship hall to ALL people, and provide opportunities to host community events, clubs, gatherings, church events, and who knows what else God will ask of us? It’s time! We will have two informational meetings which will include architect’s plans and fundraising timelines, leading up to a congregational vote before the end of May. If approved and all goes well with fundraising, we will break ground before the ground freezes in the Fall of 2019 and be finished around Christmas or shortly thereafter!

## **Timeline:**

Last week of April: Informational booklets mailed to all members—let us know if you do not receive yours during the first week of May

- May 05: Fundraising committee and consistory meet with fundraising consultant from UCC.**
- May 08: First informational meeting at 6:00pm (both meetings have same content, so choose which-ever one fits your schedule) with question and answer time.**
- May 12: Second informational meeting, after worship, with architect present to answer questions**
- May 19: Congregational vote on whether or not to proceed with “Lifting Up Hope”**

If you cannot attend the congregational voting meeting, please request an absentee ballot from Consistory President Sarah Kramer.

If approved, then the Summer will be for fundraising, asking for funds or pledges from members (option of paying over three years’ time), writing grants, etc. Solid bids from at least two builders following architect’s blueprints will be reviewed and one builder chosen. Ground breaking before ground freezes in the Fall, and 3-4 months building time. In by Christmas or shortly thereafter!

# Cinco de Mayo Mexican Dinner

On May 4 at either 5:00pm or 7:00pm (two seatings, choose one) you can experience delicious Mexican foods prepared by chef “Pedro” Kwong and his crew in a festive setting, with linens, china, and gracious service. Get your tickets now, and sell some to your family and friends, your work colleagues, or strangers on the street!

**Menu:**

**Freshly prepared Guacamole**  
**Chicken Burritos**  
**Cheese Enchiladas**  
**Spanish Rice**  
**Pedro’s Black Beans**  
**Beef Fajitas**

Plenty of food for vegetarians in the above list! Delicious, freshly made, and “better than restaurants” as spoken by those who have tasted the samples!

The VFW will make their bar available for beer purchase.

## Call or email for tickets:

Lori McCammon  
[lmccammon55@gmail.com](mailto:lmccammon55@gmail.com)  
949.606-2015

Orlin Brommer  
[okb@mwt.net](mailto:okb@mwt.net)  
608.248.2988.

## Ho-Chunk UCC Immersion Experience

Our brothers and sisters of the Ho-Chunk tribal church in Black River Falls invite anyone interested to visit them for a campout (or motel) on June 7-8 beginning at 5:30pm.

Included is a campfire, camping on their church grounds, tribal games and snacks. The next day, Saturday, they will provide breakfast and lunch and a “scavenger hunt” type tour of their community. The day ends with worship and leave for home around 4:00pm. Price is \$25 per person or \$50 family.

Register by filling out the registration forms and mailing to:

First Congregational Church UCC  
311 Second Street  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54024

Questions?  
Rev. Missy Miller  
Phone: 715.423.0350  
Email: [fccsec@wisrapidsucc.net](mailto:fccsec@wisrapidsucc.net).

A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT WITH OUR NATIVE AMERICAN  
(HOCHUNK OR WINNEBAGO) NEIGHBORS!

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## Embracing All People Series

A representative will be at our April 28 worship from Project FINE. Plans are in the works for a guest speaker at our June 9 worship service. More details will follow in the announcements as they become available.

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## Salad & Stories of the Spirit

Hope UCC will offer Salad and Stories of the Spirit on June 19 beginning at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. We invite you to join us! The theme will be: Psalm 135:3 Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; Sing praises to His name, for it is lovely.

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## Summer Sack Lunch Program

Program will begin May 29 going through August 14th, every Wednesday from Noon-1:00pm at the pavilion near the pool. A Sign-up Sheet for 2 individuals to help on each Wednesday from 11:00am-1:00pm, making sandwiches, fruit and veggies will be added to the Fellowship wall. A letter will be sent to C-FC to let students and parents know about this summer program the week of May 24.

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## Plant Exchange

June 2 Hope UCC will host a Plant Exchange at 8:30am and after 9:00am services. This will be a free event, bring one (2 or 3) take one. Can be houseplants or outdoor plants, and seedlings are welcome. Hopefully this will give all of us a chance to thin our yards and add something new! We can include our community in this fun ex-change.

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# General Synod UCC

This year Milwaukee will host the General Synod of the United Church of Christ, which is the nation-wide meeting which is held every 2 years at locations throughout the United States. During June 21-25 Delegates will gather to discuss issues of social justice, polity, and discern God's call to serve Christ through our lives. On Sunday, they expect 5000 to be present in worship, and you can join in. To attend the synod as an observer, you can hear the issues of our day discussed by thoughtful Christians. To attend as a volunteer, you can help to facilitate the conference in many ways: Hospitality, information, usher at worship, assist staff in word processing.

If you just wish to attend Sunday's worship, or volunteer at worship as an usher, then you may also enjoy seeing the exhibits (Pastor Colleen will be showing and selling her church pottery which have products related to churches and faith, informational booths on church ministries and missions and more. You might also wish to attend Sunday to experience the Street Party sponsored by the UCC with music, food, and more!



**PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE TO ATTEND OR TO VOLUNTEER.**

We are participating by providing 3000 small wood trees - our Trees of Hope - which are being made by Orlin Brommer, assisted in labeling by Marilyn Bollinger, the God2L children, and maybe even you! These will be given to delegates as a thank you for their service. Also, worship communion will be served with the chalices and patens made by Pastor Colleen with the design requested by the Synod.

Wisconsin has never hosted the General Synod and this is a rare opportunity to see and be the larger church in action!