

June 2023

## FOCUS

The Monthly Newsletter of Hope Unitarian Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma

The monthly theme for June is “delight,” and we hope you’ll find many delightful things in this month’s newsletter!

Items especially worthy of note are [Hope’s plans to participate in Tulsa Pride](#), the wonderful [photos from Rev. Justin’s Installation service](#) on April 30th, and the return of [Family Movie Night](#) on Friday, June 2nd. We’re not allowed to publicize the title of the movie we’ll be showing, but call the church office at 918-481-0999, x4 or [drop us a line](#), and we’ll spill the beans! Or spill the tea. Or just tell you the name of the movie. (That sounds less messy than the other options.)

And Hope *always* offers opportunities for finding more delight in your life! Come hang out with us for the community, the chance to learn something new, and the perfect place to experience the wonders and thrills of nature.

### Also in this issue:

Reflections from the Minister  
[Page 3](#)

Religious Education Corner  
[Page 4](#)

Meet Your Staff  
[Page 6](#)

Photo Gallery:  
Rev. Justin’s Installation  
[Page 7](#)

June Events  
[Page 11](#)

Generosity Recipients  
[Page 13](#)

About Hope Church  
[Page 14](#)

June's Theme: *Delight*

Sunday Service via Zoom:  
[www.hopeuu.org/SundayService](http://www.hopeuu.org/SundayService)





Rev. Justin would love to meet with you to provide pastoral care or just to get to know you!

His usual office hours are Tuesdays through Thursdays, 10 AM through 3 PM. Please email him at [revjustin@hopeuu.org](mailto:revjustin@hopeuu.org) to schedule an appointment to meet in person or via Zoom.

If your need is urgent, call him at 918-481-0999, x2.

### Reflections from the Minister

The Word Delight invokes some of the most intriguing feelings and memories. Delight is not joy but people who feel joy delight. Delight is not happiness, but people who are happy also delight. Delight causes a chuckle, a smile, a light jocularly that doesn't necessarily ever evolve into a belly laugh for delight is too elegant for such a gauche thing, display. Delight is both a noun and a verb.

Delight is the gold rimmed cup of tea not the mug of hot coffee, it is the small cordial not the stein of beer. This isn't to say that delight cannot give birth to this raucous energy, this fullness of joy and laughter, yet delight is reserved, not guarded, just reserved. Of course, delight can also be giddy, but not always.

There is a truth to delight that has no words, so speech can define the feeling, but the truth is more evident than spoken during many a lecture or sermon.

I feel delight when I hear a baby coo and children rustle during a church service. I feel delight when my dog puts her paws on my lap and stairs at me with her big eyes. I feel delight when I gather with friends who need not regard one another with airs. When speech is nice but not necessary, when silence prevails because life is most true when we are together.

I delight in memories when I look at old pictures and travel to my old places. I delight in the years I spent fishing in the Ohio River with my friends in silence, I delight in days when my love for Alicia was so new I spent most of the time afraid that when she really knew me, she'd realize she was better off without me.

I delight in the days we now spend quietly in our home. I delight in knowing that she will be there when I wake.

What do you delight in?



## Religious Education Corner

*By Tennille Wilson, Hope's Director of Religious Education*

### **The Joyful Impact of Delight**

In a world that often feels filled with stress and busyness, delight serves as a gentle reminder of the simple pleasures that surround us. It is a brief but powerful emotion that can brighten our days and uplift our spirits. Delight has the remarkable ability to transform ordinary moments into extraordinary ones, leaving a lasting impact on our well-being.

Delight is found in the unexpected and the ordinary, in the everyday experiences that often go unnoticed. It can be as small as witnessing a playful squirrel in the park or as grand as witnessing a radiant sunset painting the sky. It is in these moments that we pause, our hearts filled with wonder and joy.

When we allow ourselves to embrace delight, something magical happens. It becomes a source of inspiration, sparking our creativity and encouraging us to explore new horizons. Delight invites us to approach life with a childlike curiosity, to see the world through fresh eyes and an open heart.

Moreover, delight has the power to connect us with others. Sharing moments of delight with loved ones strengthens bonds and creates cherished memories. Laughter, shared experiences, and acts of kindness all contribute to the collective delight that enriches our lives and nurtures our relationships.

In our pursuit of success and fulfillment, we often forget to prioritize delight. We become caught up in the demands of our responsibilities, neglecting the moments



that bring us true joy. However, it is essential to intentionally seek out and savor these moments.

Cultivating delight requires a shift in mindset—a conscious choice to embrace the present and find joy in the little things. It involves slowing down, being mindful, and appreciating the beauty that surrounds us. It means letting go of worries and allowing ourselves to be fully present, opening our hearts to the simple pleasures that exist in our daily lives.

So, let us make a commitment to invite delight into our lives. Let us take a moment to observe the world around us, to listen, to breathe, and to feel the pure joy that resides in our hearts. By embracing delight, we awaken a sense of gratitude, wonder, and appreciation for the beauty that permeates our existence.

In the grand tapestry of life, delight is the vibrant thread that adds color, vibrancy, and meaning. It is the spark that ignites our spirits and reminds us of the boundless joy that exists within and around us. Let us cherish these moments of delight, for they hold the power to transform our lives, nourishing our souls and illuminating our journey.

I am interested in what happens to people who find the whole of life so rewarding that they are able to move through it with the same kind of delight in which a child moves through a game.

Margaret Mead





## Meet Your Staff

I will never forget the first time I felt The Warmth of Community at Pride! It was the Summer after my Freshman year at The University of Tulsa. I was invited to go as an extra guest with an older friend of mine in the Law Program to whom I looked up too as a big brother. My first thought was what if my Family finds out? Quickly followed by what was I going to wear? The Parade was at Mohawk Park, lasted about ten minutes, consisted of, as memory serves me five cars and a Flotilla of Drag Queens! That being said I had found a New Community! Stand Proud.

The Second Time I felt The Warmth of Community was on a visit to Hope Church with another older friend of mine. A Mentor who stood up for me at my Wedding as Family and presented me to my then Husband to be. Stand Proud.

The Warmth of Community at Hope Unitarian Church never fails to energize and ground me at the same time! June is Pride Month for the LGBTQ+ Community. Please come join with this facet to the Community! Volunteer to help out at Our table at the Festival! Watch, and or March in the Parade! Or at least come to see what costume I am sporting this year!

Hope to see you there!

*Mr. Lenny*

Director of Spiritual Expressions CYRE

Hope formally installed Rev. Justin as our settled Minister on April 30th!  
*Photos courtesy of Christy Levine and Robert Billings.*

















## June Events

### Board and Committee Meetings

All Hope members are welcome to attend the following meetings, which are held at the church unless otherwise indicated:

- Finance Committee: 7:00 PM, Tuesday, June 13th
- Board of Trustees: 7:00 PM, Tuesday, June 27th

### Church Events

All are welcome to attend the events listed below. (This is not a complete list of events taking place at the church this month; other events may be private or limited to members of specific church groups.) Dates and times listed below may change! Please check the church's online calendar at [www.hopeuu.org/calendar](http://www.hopeuu.org/calendar) for the most current schedule of events.

- Sundays: Children and Youth Religious Education: 9:45 AM, Adult Forum: 10:00 AM, Sunday Service: 11:00 AM
- Friday, June 2nd: Movie Night! See [next page](#) for details.
- Friday, June 9th and Saturday, June 10th: Garage Sale.

### Hope at Pride 2023

Come join us for a new experience at Tulsa Pride! We've reserved a booth at the [Festival](#) and will be setting up a table, canopy, and chairs so that anyone from Hope can sit and connect with the Festival attendees.

The Festival is from 12:00 to 7:30 PM on Saturday, June 24th, with setup at 10:00 AM. A signup sheet for two-hour shifts is available at the church. There will also be a signup sheet for those who want to march in the parade with our sister church, All Souls. Everyone is welcome at this family-friendly event!





### Family Movie Night Is Friday, June 2nd

Hope’s popular Family Movie Night returns on Friday, June 2nd! The doors will open at 6:00 PM and the movie starts at 6:30 PM. Due to licensing requirements, we’re not allowed to publicize the name of the movie, but contact the church office at [hopeuu@hopeuu.org](mailto:hopeuu@hopeuu.org) or 918-481-0999, x4 to ask for the movie title.

### June Birthdays

Our warmest wishes to all Hope members and friends who have birthdays this month!

- Katharine Dillsaver - June 8th
- Cheri Anrig - June 15th
- Lois Jones - June 15th
- Julia Harris - June 16th
- Cathy Sleezer - June 16th
- Anita Wood - June 16th
- David Tracy - June 17th
- Vivianne Reiman - June 30



### Day Camp

Under The Canopy ([www.underthecanopy.org](http://www.underthecanopy.org)), an eco-educational program, will be renting Hope’s facilities again this summer! Their day camp will take place at the church Mondays through Fridays during the last two weeks of June (the 19th through the 30th).

Church staff will be working mostly from home during the day camp, but will respond to email and voicemail messages from 9:00 AM through 3:00 PM Tuesdays through Fridays as usual.

**Father’s Day is Sunday, June 18th,** and Hope wishes all dads and father figures a very happy Father’s Day!



### Generosity Recipients

June's Generosity recipient is:



[BeHeard Movement](#) provides services to those in need through their "mobile drop-in center." They provide compassion, warm showers, laundry services, haircuts, clothing, hygiene and Case Management. They connect individuals to housing, medical and other services. Donations allow them to keep their mobile shower trailer on the street, fund their job program, and meet the everyday needs of those experiencing homelessness.

Previous Generosity recipients:

- **May:** [South Tulsa Community House](#)
- **April:** [The Pencil Box](#)
- **March:** [Tulsa SPCA](#)
- **February:** [The Surayya Anne Foundation](#)
- **January:** [Oklahoma People First](#)

### Cereal Days

Breakfast cereal (no Cheerios, please!) for the Tulsa Day Center for the Homeless can be dropped off at the church on Sunday morning, June 14th; between 10:00 AM and noon on Friday, June 19th; or from 2:00 to 4:00 PM on Saturday, June 20th.



### Log Cabin Rentals

The following support groups currently rent the Log Cabin on a weekly or monthly basis:

- Sundays, 2:00-3:00 PM: [Gamblers Anonymous](#) (GA)
- Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 PM: [SouthSide Recovery](#)/Narcotics Anonymous (SSR/NA)
- Wednesdays, 10:00 AM-noon: [Al-Anon](#)
- Wednesdays, 5:45-7:00 PM: [Codependents Anonymous](#) (CoDA)
- Usually the 3rd Saturday of each month, 4:00-6:00 PM: [Victims' Voices](#) (victim impact panel). Check their website or [www.hopeuu.org/calendar](http://www.hopeuu.org/calendar) for specific dates.

For more information about a group, please click their name on the list above to visit their website.



### Hope's Minister

#### Rev. Justin M. McCreary

Rev. Justin's usual office hours are Tuesdays through Thursdays, 10:00 AM through 3:00 PM. Please email him in advance at [revjustin@hopeuu.org](mailto:revjustin@hopeuu.org) to schedule an appointment to meet in person or via Zoom. If your need is urgent, call him at 918-481-0999, x2.

### Hope's Staff

- Tennille Wilson, Director of Religious Education
- Christy Stalcup, Music Director
- Kimberly Burdick, Church Administrator
- Eve Bjornsgaard, Worship Tech Coordinator
- Elizabeth Obal, Church Accountant

### 2022-2023 Board of Trustees

- Rebecca Jones, President
- James Donovan, President-Elect
- Richard Eagleton, Vice President, Finance & Planning
- Christy Levine, Vice President, Programs
- Gail Hawk, Secretary
- Cynthia Heifner, Treasurer
- Vanessa Self and Jean Coffey, Trustees

### Visit us:

8432 South Sheridan Road  
Tulsa, OK 74133

### Sundays

Children's Church and Youth: 9:45 AM

Adult Forum: 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Services: 11:00 a.m.

### Weekdays

Hope's general office hours are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Tuesdays through Thursdays. If you wish to visit the church in person, please call ahead to check staff availability. (For security reasons, external doors are kept locked unless an event is in progress.) We respond to email and voicemail messages from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Tuesdays through Fridays.

### Call us:

918-481-0999

### Mail us:

P.O. Box 35284  
Tulsa, OK 74153-0284

### Email us:

[hopeuu@hopeuu.org](mailto:hopeuu@hopeuu.org)

### Visit our website:

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

### Visit our Facebook page:

[facebook.com/HopeUnitarianChurch](https://facebook.com/HopeUnitarianChurch)

