



July 2023

FOCUS

The Monthly Newsletter of Hope Unitarian Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma

We hope you're enjoying the summer! How are you and yours spending the season? Swimming, camping, lazing in a hammock with a good book and a cold beverage? The possibilities are endless. But we hope you'll take time to join us at 4:00 PM on Sunday, July 2nd for the Ordination of Steven Leigh Williams! Hope is coordinating the service with [Church of the Larger Fellowship](#) (CLF), which Steven has served as a Pastoral Care Associate. Following the Ordination, Steven will be moving to California to serve as the Interim Minister at the [Palomar Unitarian Universalist Fellowship](#) in Vista, California. Come help us give Steven a great send-off!

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Sunday Service via Zoom:
www.hopeuu.org/SundayService



A Note About Focus for July and August

Summer is keeping us especially busy this year with both personal and professional obligations. The July and August editions of Focus will be shorter than usual, but we plan to resume our usual format in September.

We're only here for a minute.
We're here for a little window.
And to use that time to catch and share
shards of light and laughter and grace
seems to me the great story.

Brian Doyle





The Board Reports

This month's contribution is from James Donovan, President of Hope's Board of Trustees.

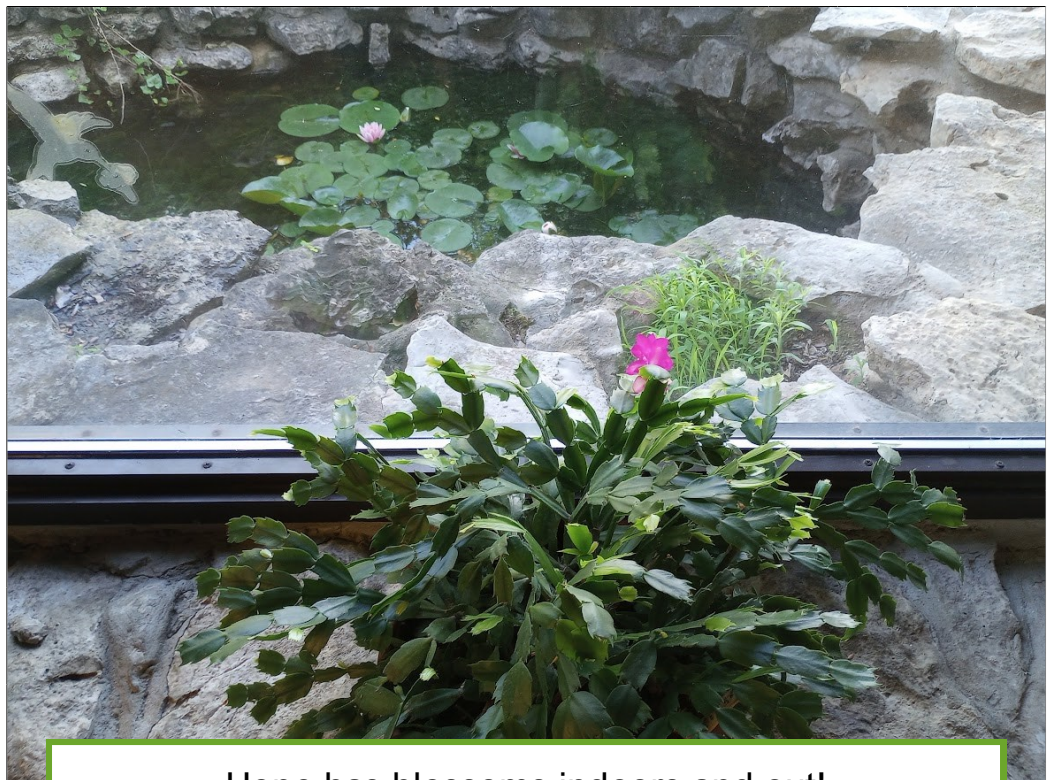
The new Hope Board of Trustees begins serving the church on July 1. Later in the month, we will have a retreat at Osage Forest of Peace near Sand Springs. At the retreat, we'll discuss the duties of the board, set goals for the year, review church policies & bylaws, and get to know each other.

If you have suggestions or questions for the Board of Trustees, you may contact us at boardpresident@hopeuu.org. You may also ask to meet with me in person by contacting me at that email address.

Board of Trustees for July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024: James Donovan, President; David Tracy, President-Elect; Rebecca Jones, Past-President; Mary Baird, VP-Programs; Rick Eagleton, VP-Finance & Planning; Cynthia Heifner, Treasurer; Gail Hawk, Secretary; Vanessa Self, Trustee; Bruce Luria, Trustee.



The goldfish know the best place to be on a hot day!



Hope has blossoms indoors and out!



July 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, July 11th
- Board of Trustees: 7:00 PM, Tuesday, July 25th

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 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
- Sunday, July 2nd, 4:00 PM: Hope and the Church of the Larger Fellowship will hold the Ordination service for Steven Leigh Williams at the church. All are welcome!

Star Spangled Symphony on July 3 at TCC

Join some of your Hope friends and see some of your Hope friends in the orchestra at the Signature Symphony concert on the TCC VanTrease PACE stage at 7:30pm on Monday, July 3. If you'd like to sit with other people from Hope, purchase tickets in Orchestra Tiered Level Left, Rows KK, LL, or MM for \$15. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to [4th on the 3rd – Star Spangled Symphony – Signature Symphony at TCC](#) or call 918-595-7777.



July Birthdays

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

Larry Knoles - July 2
Elke Johnson - July 5
Mary Gardner - July 7
Barbara Richardson - July 18
Andy Scott - July 20
Connie Seibold - July 20
Gary Van Winkle - July 31



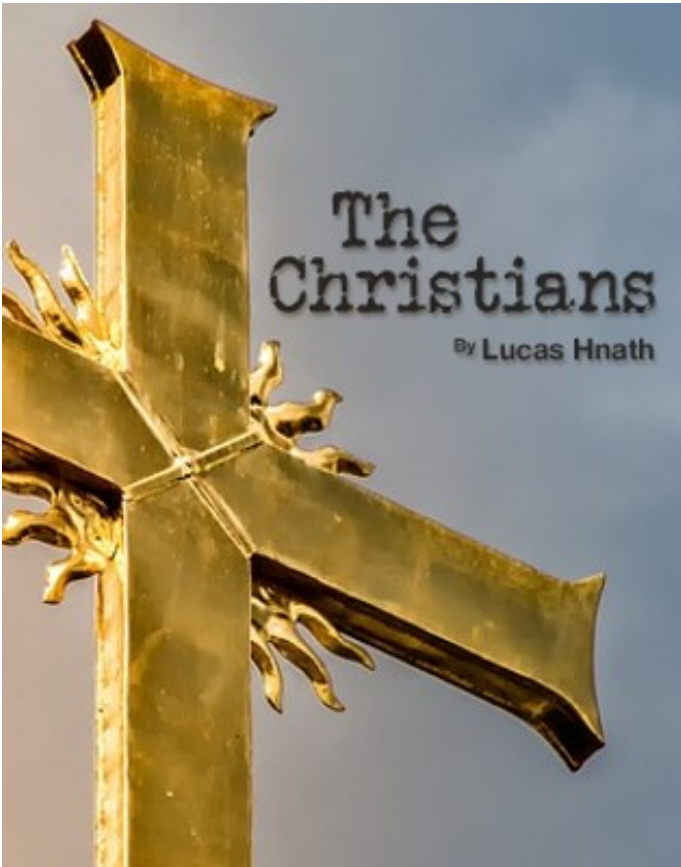
Church Office Closed on Tuesday, July 4th

The church office will be closed on the July 4th holiday.

July Adult Forums

- July 2: A representative of the Take Control Initiative, the July generosity recipient, will speak to us.
- July 9: Jacob Hart will talk about advances in artificial intelligence.
- July 16: So You Think You Know Warren Cox: James Donovan Interviews Hope member Warren Cox.
- July 23: Learn about Oklahoma United for Progress, a bipartisan organization that supports voter registration, objective data and fact-based issue education, advocacy for sensible governance, social reforms, and election reforms including open primaries.
- July 30: So You Think You Know Anne Steiner: James Donovan Interviews Hope member Anne Steiner.

Hope Unitarian Church Hosts American Theatre Company



American Theatre Company will present Lucas Hnath's award-winning play, *THE CHRISTIANS*, from July 13 – 16 at Studio 308 in Tulsa's East Village. Directed by Vern Stefanic, ATC's cast features Will Carpenter, Lydia Gray, Mark Ingham, Leslie Long and Micah Weese.

The story centers on a pastor who preaches a new and surprising message at his large mega-church, which shakes the foundations of his church's beliefs, challenges members of his congregation, and sparks questions impacting both body and soul. It's a big-little play about faith in America, and the sudden turbulence

triggered by a changing mind.

Performances will be held at 8 p.m. on July 13 -15, at Studio 308, located at 308 S. Lansing Avenue. A 2 p.m. matinee will be held on July 16, also at Studio 308.

Hope Unitarian Church will host a special public performance in the Great Hall at 8 p.m. on Monday, July 17.

All tickets will be general admission, and may be reserved at ATC's website, americantheatrecompany.org. Tickets will also be available at the door. For more information, call 918-804-2907.



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, July 9th; between 10:00 AM and noon on Friday, July 14th; or from 2:00 to 4:00 PM on Saturday, July 15th.



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 for specific dates.

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

Generosity Recipients

July's Generosity recipient is:



[Take Control Initiative](#) (TCI) works to remove barriers and increase access to birth control in Tulsa County. TCI envisions a community in which all people have equitable access to birth control, ultimately promoting community health and economic opportunity. Since 2010, TCI has worked to ensure individuals have the resources and information to decide if and when they want to become pregnant in an effort to honor and support their autonomy and safety. In coalition with a strong network of partners, TCI builds sustainable bridges between community and health centers.

Previous Generosity recipients:

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



Hope's Minister

Rev. Justin M. McCreary

Rev. Justin's usual office hours are Tuesdays through Thursdays, 10 AM through 3 PM.

Please email him in advance at

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

2023-2024 Board of Trustees

- James Donovan, President
- David Tracy, President-Elect
- Rebecca Jones, Past President
- Richard Eagleton, Vice President, Finance & Planning
- Mary Baird, Vice President, Programs
- Gail Hawk, Secretary
- Cynthia Heifner, Treasurer
- Bruce Luria, Trustee
- Vanessa Self, Trustee

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

Visit our website:

www.hopeuu.org

Visit our Facebook page:

facebook.com/HopeUnitarianChurch

