



Programs and Activities

2024

Seeking Hope, Love, and Justice - Together in Community

An Introductory Guide to Our Community



1st Edition
hopeuu.org



Our Identity

About Us

Welcome to Hope Unitarian Church. Our unique church offers a warm invitation to people of all ages to join us Sunday mornings for a variety of enriching activities. At Hope, we are a diverse community of individuals, each on our own unique spiritual journey. We share an unwavering belief in the worth and dignity of every individual. It is our calling to translate our faith into meaningful acts of justice and compassion, creating a world that reflects our values. Together, we foster a vibrant community where we seek truth through love, staying true to our name: Hope. Join us!

Our Mission

Supporting the free and responsible search for truth and meaning; Teaching the history and traditions of Unitarianism; Promoting and defending freedom of thought; Celebrating life's passages; Serving the larger community with justice and compassion.

Core Values

Reason, Integrity, and Tolerance

Our Covenant

Love is the spirit of this church, and service is its law; this is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

- James Vila Blake

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Contact Information

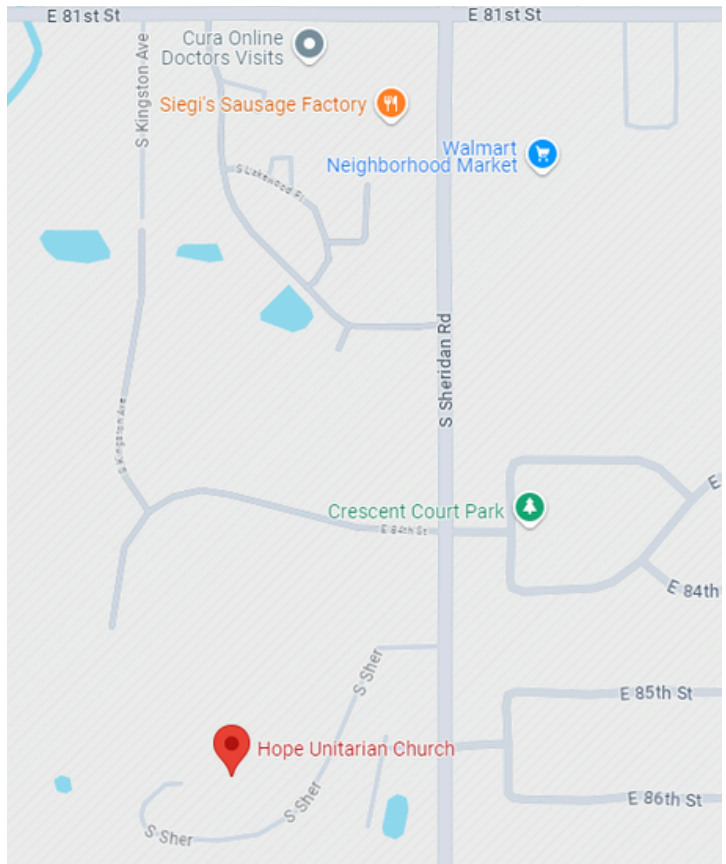
Hope Unitarian Church
8432 S. Sheridan Rd.
Tulsa, OK 74133
hopeuu@hopeuu.org
(918) 481-0999

Office Hours

Rev. Justin's office hours are 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM Tuesdays through Thursdays. Email him at revjustin@hopeuu.org to schedule an appointment to meet with him in person or via Zoom.

Hope's general office hours are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Tuesdays through Fridays.

Hope is closed on Tuesdays from 12:30-2:00 PM for Staff Meeting.





Sunday Service

Our service starts at 11 a.m. On the first Sunday of the month, children join us. On other Sundays, they have their own service before attending their regular classes. Children are welcome in the sanctuary at their parents' discretion. We begin our service by lighting our chalice, a common ritual in many Unitarian Universalist congregations. Our service is a harmonious collaboration between our minister and our music program where we pause in wonder at the glorious gifts of life and we give thanks for the many blessings we have received. We create a space of healing and love where diversity of belief is celebrated. We hope that all find nourishment during our worship together.

Generosity Recipient

Each week, we give away ALL of the undesignated funds from our Sunday offering. The Outreach Committee chooses Non-Profit Organizations that are aligned with the mission of Hope Unitarian Church.

CYRE & Childcare

The mission of Hope's CYRE (Children and Youth Religious Educaiton) is to foster lifelong exploration of religious thought and values through a program that promotes spiritual development by means of free inquiry, mutual respect, and responsible behavior. All children and youth are welcome regardless of abilities, gender identity or orientation. Every week children join in free play, have a lesson and a workshop, chapel, snack, and outdoor play - as we are able.

Adult Forum

Adult Religious Education starts at 10:00 AM. Sessions vary and can involve speakers, book discussions, and congregational activities. Adult Forum is run by a team that is responsible for planning, coordinating, and presenting sessions. Registration is not needed. if you would like to join the Adult Forum team, or have suggestions for an Adult Forum session, please email hopeuu@hopeuu.org

Ways to Connect - Small Groups

At the heart of Hope Church is the connections we form with each other. If you would like to join a small group, volunteer to help with events or Sunday services, join a standing committee or one of the many ad hoc committees that form throughout the church year to plan events, or simply participate in social events, listed here are some of the opportunities that are available to you as a member or friend of the church.

✓ **Book Clubs**

Many Hope members are in various ongoing book clubs. Our newest one focuses on banned books.

✓ **Game Night**

A fun adults' night out. Connect with other gamers by enjoying new and old favorites together. Starts with a potluck dinner at 6 p.m., games start at 6:30. Bring your favorite foods and games to share.

✓ **Hope Singers**

Hope Singers share their beautiful voices, providing music for Sunday Services and special events. No audition required.

✓ **InReach Spirituality Groups * Monthly**

Small covenantal groups using UU curriculum, meditation, spirituality, and stimulating discussion. Two current active groups meet on a Thursday or Friday afternoon at Hope. New members welcome.

✓ **Lunch Bunch**

Meets at a different restaurant on the third Wednesday of each month at 11:30. All are welcome.

✓ **Supper Club * Monthly**

6-8 people meet for food and fellowship in the host's home or at Hope or a restaurant. Supper Club members take turns hosting. Anita and Jo Ann set up the guest lists. You are free to invite others if you have vacancies. New members and friends are especially welcome, as this is a great way to fellowship with other members/friends., old and new.

✓ **Women of Hope**

Meets the first Thursday each month at 6 p.m. for a potluck dinner and fellowship. Contact: Deborah Whittaker at

C **Ways to Connect - Standing Committees**

✓ **ACTION**

An affiliation of faith and civic groups that work together to unite, educate, and facilitate action for the public good on issues of concern to people in the Tulsa metro area. If you are interested in learning about political activism and problems facing our communities, join an ACTION team.

✓ **Aesthetics**

To ensure appropriate decor and order of the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for Sunday services and special occasions.

✓ **Adult Forum Team**

Plans topics and coordinates speakers for adult religious education on Sunday mornings.

✓ **Care Team**

A team appointed by the Board of Trustees and the Minister to provide caring support to our members in multiple ways, including supporting members experiencing illness or other challenging life circumstances. Information received is protected by confidentiality unless given permission to share.

✓ **Facilities**

Coordinates maintenance of our buildings, their contents, and equipment.

✓ **Gardens & Grounds**

Assists in maintaining landscaping, gardens, trails, and ten acres of woodland. There are opportunities for the novice to the expert gardener.

✓ **Membership**

Welcomes and provides information to visitors. Helps integrate new members into our community. Plans and promotes programs that support our membership.

✓ **Music Committee**

Works with the Music Director to create and maintain a comprehensive music program at Hope. Helps to plan and coordinate special music events and concerts.

✓ **Outreach Committee**

Provides members with opportunities to act on social justice issues. Supports the Day Center for the Homeless, including providing a monthly dinner. Selects non-profit organizations for Hope's Generosity Receptient Program. Coordinates the Partners in Education Program.

✓ **Publicity & Marketing Committee**

Helps create content for social media and traditional media for Hope Church. Contact Morgen Fields at hopeuu@hopeuu.org if you are interested.

✓ **Welcoming Committee**

Provides opportunities for education and outreach related to LGBTQ+. Chair is appointed by the Board President.

✓ **Women's Issues Group**

Raises awareness of issues impacting women's and girl's well being, promotes activism on women's issues and celebrates and honors the history of the women's rights movement and contributions of women to our society.

Programs and Special Events

✓ **Activities Fair**

An opportunity to learn more about our committees and programs. Takes place during an Adult Forum on a Sunday each Fall.

✓ **Annual Auction & Dinner**

The church's largest fundraiser other than the Pledge Drive, held each Fall. A week-long online auction, followed by a special evening for adults (childcare available). An opportunity to dress up, enjoy a dinner, bid on special items, and have lots of fun!

✓ **Bookstore**

Offers books for the taking, on a variety of topics, including UU material, world religions, philosophy, inspirational texts and so much more. Come browse the shelves for hidden treasures. If you have books you wish to donate, please bring them so our inventory can continue to grow. We also offer UU and Hope items for sale including pens, Hope lapel pins, UU stickers and more. Stop by and have a look.

✓ **Breakfast on the Hill**

We come together 4 or 5 times each year to enjoy a warm breakfast before Sunday Service. Sponsored by various groups within the church.

✓ **Chili Cook-Off**

A special event for a cold night in February. Bring your own special recipe to compete for prizes or just come to enjoy the food and fun.

✓ **Chocolate Auction**

An opportunity to buy scrumptious chocolate treats in February, before Valentine's Day, and raise funds for the church.

✓ **Feed the Homeless**

Provides a meal for the Day Center for the Homeless on the third Saturday each month. Offers many opportunities to volunteer to make or serve the meal. You can also donate clothes, cereal, or other needed items each month.

✓ **Generosity Recipient**

Each month, a different non-profit organization receives all undesignated donations from our Sunday morning offerings.

✓ **Garage Sale**

An opportunity to donate items you no longer need to this every-other-year fundraising event.

✓ **Holiday Star Tree**

Each Christmas season, the Outreach Committee sponsors a different organization to receive gifts donated by Hope members and friends.

✓ **Hope Annual BBQ**

Hope Annual BBQ - A special Saturday evening event with so much food and fun you don't want to miss it! Our own grill master, Rick Eagleton, cooks up his mouthwatering meats accompanied by side dishes galore. Come and enjoy!

✓ **New Member Sunday**

The congregation welcomes its new members. Held bi-annually on the first Sunday in April and first Sunday in October.

✓ **Partners in Education**

Hope Church sponsors MacArthur Elementary School to support various needs of the students and recruit's members to join Reading Partners.

✓ **Roots Class**

Are you new the Hope Unitarian Church, have you just become of a member? Roots class is for you. During roots class we explore the roots of Unitarian Universalism, Hope Unitarian Church, and we reflect on our role in the congregation.

✓ **Stone Soup Sunday**

Held on the second Sunday of each January, this meal highlights the importance of sharing and caring. Enjoy special soup dishes donated by members of the congregation after Sunday Service.

✓ **Trunk or Treat**

Our Children's and Youth Program sponsors a fun event with free candy for kids in the surrounding communities to enjoy.



Volunteer Opportunities

In addition to serving on a permanent or temporary committee, there are many other opportunities to volunteer your time and talent to support Hope Unitarian Church. You may volunteer once a month or once a year. The frequency is up to you.. Some of those opportunities are listed here.

✓ **Ambassadors**

Welcome and assist visitors on Sunday mornings.

✓ **Audio-Visual Team**

Sets up and runs the audio and slideshow for the Sunday Service.

✓ **Children's and Youth Program Helpers**

We hope you will join us and play a vital role in the lives of our children. Share a gift or talent, help plan a party, hold babies, or teach something. All volunteers must complete a background check and follow CYRE rules for volunteers.

✓ **Cookie Team**

Donate and/or help set up the table for cookies on Sunday mornings.

✓ **Events**

Lead or join a team to help with special events throughout the year.

✓ **Greeters & Ushers**

Greet members and visitors at the door, hand out the Order of Service, assist people to seating, collect Sunday offerings, or light the chalice on Sunday mornings.

✓ **Guest Musicians**

Share your musical talents on Sunday mornings.

✓ **Hope Helpers**

A team of volunteers who are willing to help provide meals or transportation to members in need. This team is coordinated by the Care Team.

✓ **Watering Team**

Keep our gardens thriving in the summer heat.

Stewardship and Pledging

The work of this church in the world is realized through the generous financial support of all who call this place “home”, along with your gifts of time and talent.

Financial support of the church allows us to sustain our programs, staff, building and beautiful grounds. Each member is asked to make an annual monetary pledge to support Hope Church.

While individual gifts are always welcome, we ask for a pledge so that our Finance Committee can use that information to prepare an annual budget, which the voting members of the congregation approve at our annual meeting.

To become and remain a voting member per our Bylaws, a member must make and pay towards their pledge each year. A waiver may be granted if you are experiencing a difficult financial situation.

You can fill out a pledge card at church, request to have one mailed to you, or request one via email by emailing hopeuu@hopeuu.org

Help us build a road to the future of



**Pledge your
support for the
coming year**

hopeuu.org/donate

**Advanced Introduction to
Liberal Theology**

Hope
UNITARIAN CHURCH

Saturday 9/14, 9/21, 10/5

By Rev. Justin M McCreary

A Class for members
who've completed
Roots and are
curious about Liberal
and Liberation
Theologies

Please email revjustin@hopeuu.org



Fair Trade Cart

Stocked with coffee, chocolate, tea, and other items. Purchases help small farmers, sustainable farming, and the environment.





Host Your Event at Hope

Hope Unitarian Church would love for you to host your next event, concert, party, lecture, or book club with us. We would also be honored to be a part of your wedding, dedication, or memorial service. Our unique building and grounds are the perfect backdrop for a variety of events. Our Sanctuary holds up to 200 guests, while the Fellowship Hall hosts space for about 70. If you prefer a more serene environment, our smaller log cabin is also available for rent. Rentals can also include the use of tables, chairs, kitchen, piano, parking lot, gardens, religious education areas, and playground if requested.

Hope Members and Pledging friends receive discounted rates for all Life Events and Rentals!



Our Staff and Board

Our Staff

Rev. Justin M. McCreary
MINISTER

Morgen Fields
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Elizabeth Obal
CHURCH ACCOUNTANT

Christy Stalcup
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Board of Directors 2024-2025

David Tracy <i>PRESIDENT</i>	Christy Chesnut Levine <i>SECRETARY</i>
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Vanessa Self <i>PRESIDENT ELECT</i>	Cynthia Heifner <i>TREASURER</i>
---	--

James Donovan <i>PAST PRESIDENT</i>	Emily Scherer <i>TRUSTEE</i>
---	--

Jeff Dossett <i>VP FINANCE & PLANNING</i>	Rick Eagleton <i>TRUSTEE</i>
---	--

Mary Baird
VP PROGRAMS



HOPE UNITARIAN CHURCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2024-2025

ROW ONE: JAMES DONOVAN, CHRISTY CHESNUT LEVINE, MARY BAIRD, VANESSA SELF
ROW TWO: CYNTHIA HEIFNER, DAVID TRACY, RICK EAGLETON, JEFF DOSSETT
NOT PICTURED: EMILY SCHERER



Cultivating Generosity, Nurturing Our Future

Your gift to the Hope Unitarian Church Foundation will help secure the next generation of our vibrant community in Tulsa. When you include Hope Unitarian Church in your planned giving, your legacy supports our enduring commitment to love, service, peace, and truth.

Hope Unitarian Church is a welcoming home for people with inclusive hearts. Your generosity strengthens our community today and ensures its impact for generations to come.

Ways to Give:

In Person at Hope Unitarian Church
Church Office during business hours
Online at hopeunitarianchurch.org/donate

Together, we cultivate a thriving community where hope takes root and flourishes. Thank you for your support!



Becoming a Member

Why Become a Member of Hope?

Members help make our shared vision and values a reality by participating with their presence, leadership, and financial support. Becoming a member is a significant step to affirming your commitment to a community where we celebrate freedom, reason, fellowship, love, service, and truth in our democratically governed congregation.

Who Can Join?

Membership is open to any person, 16 years or older, who is in sympathy with the purpose and programs of this church. Membership has its privileges but is not required to experience Hope Unitarian Church.

Categories of Membership

There are two categories of membership: Voting and Non-voting. Voting members are eligible to vote in congregational meetings, or to be considered for a position on the Board of Trustees. An annual pledge or financial commitment to the church is required per our Bylaws.

Questions About Membership?

If you have questions about membership, please feel free to speak to one of the members of our Membership Committee, make an appointment to talk with the minister, or join one of the Roots classes that are held at different times throughout the year.

How to Join

If you feel that the time is right for you to become an official member of our community, we warmly invite you to join our inclusive and loving community at Hope Unitarian Church. The process of joining is easy and only takes a few minutes. All that is required is to fill out and sign a membership card and sign our Membership Book. You will have the option of having your picture taken to be posted on our bulletin board and in the weekly Highlights.



Clara Dossett, Kael Hudson, Jo Ann Howse, Gail Hawk, Christy Levine, and Judy Sims.

Who Are We?



Sunday Service

11:00 AM CST

Religious Education
for Children and Adults
10:00 AM CST

Everyone, regardless of spiritual beliefs, age, race, culture, economic status, gender, or sexuality is invited to join us on the hill at Hope Unitarian Church. We are a diverse and welcoming community based on non-credal liberal values. We believe that personal experience, conscience and reason should be our guiding principles in religion....Our differences unite us. There is a place here for you, too. We welcome all who believe that religion is wider than any sect and deeper than any set of opinions. This is a place where reason and wonder thrive. Our spirituality is ever-evolving, never static. Your faith will help us grow.

You're Welcome Here

Welcoming Congregation



We are a Welcoming Congregation, recognized by the Unitarian Universalist Association. This means we affirm and include people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer at every level of congregational life—in worship, in programs, and in social occasions—welcoming everyone as a whole person.

Accessibility



We welcome and include people of all abilities at our church. Our building is wheelchair accessible, and service animals are welcome. We offer wire loop technology for those with hearing impairments. Pastoral care is available to everyone, and if your child needs special accommodations for Religious Education, please contact the church office in advance.

Green Sanctuary



Hope Unitarian Church is an accredited Green Sanctuary through the UUA. We're passionate about environmental justice, from our surrounding forest to broader community issues. Our priorities include environmental education, reducing energy costs, and being a model of sustainability.