

A photograph of a gravel path in a park-like setting. Two wooden benches are placed on the path, flanked by large, dark-colored planters containing various plants. The background is filled with lush green trees and a sky with scattered white clouds. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

**FOCUS
JUNE
2026**

**FLOURISHING
TOGETHER**

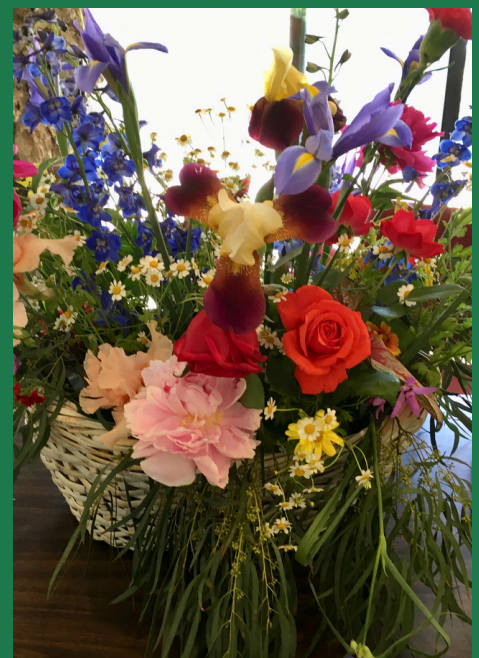


JUNE AT HOPE

June at Hope is full of ways to connect, eat together, and enjoy time with one another as summer gets underway. A highlight this month is Breakfast on the Hill on Sunday, June 14 at 10 AM. It's a relaxed, welcoming morning where we share breakfast and good conversation together—always a favorite chance to catch up with friends and meet new people in the congregation.

We're also looking forward to the Dave Sahler Memorial Concert on Sunday, June 28 at 5 PM. This year's concert will feature former music director Amy Cottingham Barton performing with us, bringing music and energy back to Hope for the evening. It's a great chance to enjoy live music together and spend time with the community on a Sunday evening.

Along with these two events, there are plenty of other ways to stay involved throughout the month, including Women of Hope on June 4, Hope Lunch Bunch on June 17, Game Night on June 18, Feed the Homeless on June 20, and Hope Happy Hour on June 25. We hope you'll join us as we move through June together.



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FLOURISHING TOGETHER: A NOTE ON INTERDEPENDENCE

BY REV JUSTIN M. MCCREARY

The first six principles of Unitarian Universalism were ratified in 1961. You might be surprised if you read those principles, as they are permeated with masculine language often referencing the brotherhood of man. In 1981 the UU Women's Federation led the charge to update these principles with new language representing gender equality. These six principles were accepted and ratified in 1985, but the story isn't finished there, for, as many of us know, there are now seven principles.

The seventh principle, we find out, faced a challenge from many Unitarian Universalists, due to its reference to earth-based spirituality and its ecological awareness. I am not going to tell that story today. My focus is more insular. Having said that, I am glad that we embraced the seventh principle that not only gained acceptance but began to become central to the UU experience, especially as it introduced the word interdependence.

Interdependence, as it was explained to me, is the middle ground between the words, independence and dependence. It speaks of our relationship to ourselves and one another. Thus, interdependence came to represent not just the relationships we have with ourselves and one another, but the relationship we have to the world and universe around us.

Interdependence became our call to unity, acknowledging the independent nature of our "selves" in the search for truth and meaning, while also holding us accountable for our relationship to the "other," including the world around us. However, this did not so much evoke a cultural shift in Unitarian Universalism, as it represented its malleable nature. Meaning, this principle lit up the path on which we were already traveling.

Thus, we find ourselves many years later. The principles would again evolve, this time into values, where interdependence became central, declaring that we are, in fact, each other's keeper. Though self-differentiated we may aim to be, we are also part of a system, and we must learn to balance who we are with what we create.

Unitarian Universalism is not an isolated faith of sectarian practitioners that hide from the world. We are drivers of change, and ever builders of a beloved community. We declare our connection to each other and the world with pride, we are change makers and builders, always looking for the better way.



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 to schedule an appointment to meet in person or via Zoom. If your need is urgent, call him at 918-481-0999, x2.





Flourishing Together

by Nia Darrington-Stokes, Director of Religious Education

In Unitarian Universalism, we talk often about beloved community, but beloved community is not something we build alone. It is something we practice together. Flourishing, in our faith, is not an individual accomplishment; it is a shared commitment.

To flourish together means recognizing that every person in our community children, youth, adults, and elders matters and carries wisdom shaped by their lived experience. When one group is overlooked or silenced, the whole community is diminished. When each person is nurtured and valued, we all grow stronger.

Flourishing is deeply relational. Children flourish when they are listened to and trusted. Youth flourish when their questions and truths are welcomed. Adults flourish when there is room to grow, unlearn, and begin again. Elders flourish when their stories are honored and their presence is cherished. Each generation needs the others.

Creating a flourishing community requires intention. It means cultivating safety, belonging, and care especially for those most vulnerable. It means listening across differences, practicing accountability when harm occurs, and committing ourselves to justice so that our shared flourishing is real and lasting.

Our UU faith calls us to imagine boldly: What would it look like if every decision we made considered the well-being of all ages? What might change if we genuinely believed that children are not just the future of the church, but an essential part of who we are right now?

May we continue the sacred work of tending our community with love, courage, and care so that we may flourish, together.





JUNE GENEROSITY RECIPIENT

Since 1994, the Jenks Community Food Bank has been serving families in the Jenks Public School District by providing food and other necessities to neighbors facing temporary hardship. What began as an Eagle Scout project housed in a small storage closet at First Christian Church of Jenks has grown into a vital community resource that now operates from its dedicated facility at 324 W. Aquarium Place in Jenks. Over the years, the food bank has expanded through the support of local churches, businesses, volunteers, and civic organizations committed to caring for the community.

The impact of the Jenks Community Food Bank continues to grow. In 2024 alone, the organization served 556 families representing 1,782 individuals and distributed nearly 260,000 pounds of food, including pantry staples, produce, dairy, meat, and bakery items. More than 4,000 volunteer hours each year help make this work possible, from sorting donations and stocking shelves to distributing groceries and coordinating store pickups. Through strong partnerships with schools, congregations, and local organizations, the Jenks Community Food Bank remains an important source of support and compassion for families throughout the Jenks area.



CURRENT NEEDS

Updated May-2026

Canned Tomatoes
Pasta Sauce
Canned Fruit
Mac & Cheese
Pasta Mix

Grocery bags:

Reasors Paper Bags
Braums 9"X13" Bags

[Donate](#)

[Volunteer](#)





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:

Tuesday, June 16th - 7 PM – Finance Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 23rd - 7 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting

● 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.

Women of Hope - Thursday, June 4th - 6 PM - Clara Dossett's Home
Breakfast on the Hill = Sunday, June 14th 10 AM
Hope Lunch Bunch - Wednesday, June 17th - 6:30 PM
Game Night - Thursday, June 18th - 6:30 PM
Feed the Homeless = Saturday, June 20th - 2 PM Prep | 5 PM Serve
Hope Happy Hour - Thursday, June 25th - 5:30 PM
Dave Sahler Memorial Concert = Sunday, June 28th - 5 PM

● Log Cabin Rentals

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

- 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.

● 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, or Tuesday thru Friday from 9AM-3PM.

This Month's Cereal Sunday will be on June 14th

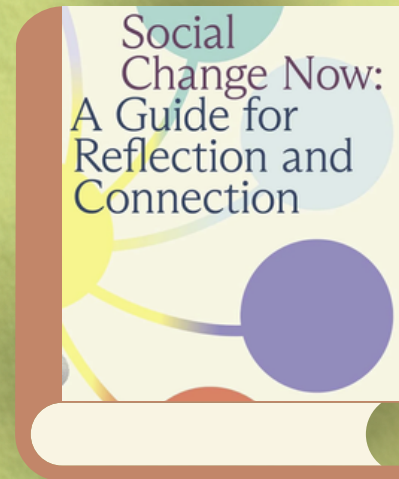


JUNE EVENTS

Happy Birthday!

June Birthdays

Larry Cochran - 2
Jacque Bowling - 2
Brooklyn Self - 4
Jeff Dossett - 7
Katharine Dillsaver - 8
Julia Harris - 16
Cathy Sleezer - 16
David Tracy - 17
Vanessa Self - 25
Vivianne Reiman - 30



UU Common Read 2025-2026

When we do a UU Common read together, we share in reflection, learning, and action. This year's common read book is "Social Change Now: A Guide for Reflection and Connection" by Deepa Iyer

May Adult Forums

June 7: Generosity
June 14: Breakfast on the Hill
June 21: A Discussion about Fathers & Fatherhood
June 28: Jacque Bowling, Clairvoyant Medium





ABOUT HOPE CHURCH

HOPE'S MINISTER

Rev. Justin M. McCreary

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

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. 918-481-0999, x2.

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-3:00 PM Tuesdays through Fridays. 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.

HOPE'S STAFF

Justin McCreary

Minister

Nia Darrington-Stokes

Director of Religious Education

Morgen Cavanah

Church Administrator

Rachel Hay

Lead Teacher

Elizabeth Obal

Church Accountant

Christy Stalcup

Music Director

TaMar Tease

CYRE Teacher

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www.hopeuu.org

2025-2026 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Vanessa Self, President

Jeff Dossett, President Elect

David Tracy, Past-President

Rebecca Jones, Vice President of Finance and Planning

Gail Hawk, Vice President of Programs

Christy Chesnut Levine, Secretary
Vacant Position, Treasurer

Carol Young, Trustee

Gail Nagengast, Trustee

