

**WORSHIP****COMMUNITY OF HOPE, UCC**

**GOD IS STILL SPEAKING!**  
**WORSHIP SERVICES | EVERY SUNDAY**  
**AT 6:00PM**

*Rev. Bob Lawrence, Pastor*

**PRIDE AND PENTECOST!**

No, I'm not planning a sequel to Jane Austen's novel... However, I find the juxtaposition of Pentecost Sunday and, two weeks later, Tulsa's Pride Festival to be an important reminder of the work of the kin-dom that involves Community of Hope.

Our shared journeys from Easter to Pentecost have had the theme of a reversal of expectations. This reversal was preached by Jesus at his first sermon (delivered to his home synagogue), taught by him in countless parables, and exemplified by him in the people with whom he chose to share meals. Marjorie Suchocki, in her book *"God, Christ, Church: A Practical Guide to Process Theology"* speaks of the crucifixion and resurrection being the key example of this reversal when she says,

*"Reversal is revelation. The cross was a great shock to the disciples, a reversal of all their expectations concerning the rightful culmination of Jesus' presence, proclamation, and person. But precisely in this most profound reversal, God may be most profoundly revealed."*

As we have been learning together starting with Easter, even those who were Jesus' earliest followers didn't quite understand what this reversal of expectations really meant. It wasn't until they began to settle into their grief, pain, and confusion that they came to an understanding of their roles as witnesses to these new expectations. The moment of that understanding, the day on which those new expectations began to take hold, is the day we celebrate as Pentecost.

Part of the unique revelation of those reversals that is at the core of Community of Hope's message is the notion that all are welcome at our not-quite-round table, that brokenness can be made whole through the sharing of our journeys, that a heartfelt commitment to live into an understanding that the kin-dom is NOW is all that is required to join hands with your fellow Companions.

One of the ways Community of Hope expresses that is by agreeing to stand with, to journey with, members of the GLBTQ communities. Whether that is marching in our Pride Parade contingent, or joining us for the Pride Interfaith Service on Pentecost Sunday, or even simply making sure that ANYONE who attends Community of Hope is made to feel welcome, we live out the reversal of expectations that Jesus lived and his followers experienced on Pentecost.

Especially as we celebrate Pride and Pentecost, it is important to remember that "no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

*Bob*



*June - LGBTQ Pride Month*

**SUNDAY, JUNE 6**  
**PRIDE SUNDAY**  
**LUKE 7:11-17**  
**"INCONVENIENT DEATH"**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 13**  
**LUKE 7:36-8:3**  
**"INCONVENIENT EXTRAVAGANCE"**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 20**  
**LUKE 8:26-39**  
**"INCONVENIENT HEALING"**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 27**  
**LUKE 9:51-62**  
**"INCONVENIENT DISCIPLESHIP"**

# TULSA PRIDE 2010 SCHEDULE

## TULSA PRIDE LEATHER & FETISH FASHION SHOW

Tuesday May 25rd – 7:30pm, Dennis R. Neil Equality Center

## TULSA MORE COLOR ART SHOW

Opening night reception May 27th, On Display May 27th – June 5th,  
Dennis R Neill Equality Center

## EQUALITY DAY AT THE ZOO

Saturday May 29th 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, Tulsa Zoo

Tickets will be sold at the OkEq Pride table located at the front gate.

Children 3-11 \$3.00  
Seniors \$5.00  
12 & over \$6.00

(Please remember that there is a \$2 parking fee per vehicle.)

## PFLAG NIGHT AT CIRCLE CINEMA

Tuesday June 1st 7:00 pm, Circle Cinema



**TULSA  
PRIDE**  
2010

30 YEARS OF CELEBRATING PRIDE

## PRIDE NIGHT AT THE LIBRARY

Thurs. June 3rd 7:00 pm, Council Oak Mens Chorale,  
Tulsa Downtown City-County Library

## PFLAG SPAGHETTI DINNER

Friday June 4th 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm,  
Centennial Park—Community Building

## TULSA PRIDE – YOUTH NIGHT

Friday June 4th 5pm – 11pm, Centennial Park

## TULSA PRIDE FESTIVAL & PARADE

Saturday June 5th 10:00 am to 10:00 pm, Centennial Park

*HEELS for HOPE Race 10:00 am*

*Founders Brunch to honor our elders 10:30 am to Noon*

*Pride Pooch Dog Show 2:00 pm*

*Pride Parade 7:30 pm Starts at Boulder & Archer*

*ends at Centennial Park*

*Eric Himan & the Adams Concert 9:00 pm*

*Equality Fire Works 10:30 pm*

## TULSA PRIDE AT THE BOK WITH THE WNBA

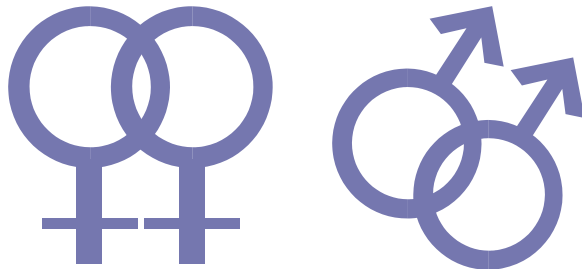
Saturday June 19th @7pm, Tulsa Shock at the BOK Center

## EQUALITY NIGHT AT THE PHILBROOK

Tuesday June 22nd, Philbrook Museum of Art,

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Free Admission



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## **NICARAGUA MINISTRIES**

The team will depart Tulsa on Saturday, July 24th, and return on Sunday, August 1st. The team will be visiting our partner community of Chacraseca. The traditional project will be assisting a family with building their new home. Other projects may include working at the community clinic, visiting the schools, and getting updates on past projects. A favorite part of the trip is visiting families we have worked with in past years and renewing that connection and relationship.



## **ICE—THRA—NAMI—LCM, UCC—UCC/WC—DRAE**

Being in the midst of our Community of Hope, UCC happenings has called us to work within and beyond our walls - in numerous opportunities. Just to name a few:

- We were invited to participate in an informational meeting with the Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) group in Tulsa to learn what the programs stands for, and what it has done so far in Oklahoma and more specifically, Tulsa. Your prayers and advocacy voice are encouraged, as immigration issues seem to be at the top of the list of many groups with varied interests. A followup meeting is expected soon.
- COH has a continuous commitment to partnering with other local groups, such as the Tulsa Hispanic Resource Association (THRA) and the National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI). COH collaborated in a Leadership Academy workshop hosted at our church to empower consumers and the general public to learn how to become a better Mental Health Advocate and voice of one's and others' issues at a local and state level.
- Community of Hope, UCC has received the invitation from our UCC Congregational Vitality and Discipleship Ministry - Local Church Ministries Team to become part of Worship Ways en Español. Accepting that invitation, Lizette is creating a variety of prayers, liturgies, and "how-to" articles for use on Sundays, Festivals, and special UCC calendar days. These resources come from all settings of the UCC; they are written by pastors, educators, musicians and covenanted ministry staff members. They are based on the Sunday readings found in the Revised Common Lectionary. Check it out at <http://www.ucc.org/espanol/>

Also as part of our joined ministry with the Women's Consultant ministry (UCC/WC) in the national setting of the United Church of Christ -your Dir. of Religious Activities & Education (DRAE) is traveling to San Ysidro California to the Romero Center for Border Ministries. This trip will help further our understanding of the migratory realities between Latin America and the United States, providing immersion and educational opportunities enabling us to enhance our political, socio-economic, and cultural views of the forces that are shaping the lives of many countries and families throughout the continent. Also to reflect theologically on the constant migratory exchanges between both sides of the border. Check the Center out @ <http://www.ucc.org/justice/centro-romero/>

## **TABLES—TO—GO MINISTRY**

This is going to be a brief report, but I just wanted to thank everyone for your participation in May's "Tables-to-Go!" I am very happy and grateful to announce the deliveries went very smoothly this month.

The one area I would like to mention is that we can certainly use more food and/or cleaning items to make our client's lives a little easier. If you feel inclined to give to this ministry, you might consider canned goods or any kind of cleaning supplies and I'm sure our friends who receive our baskets would be so grateful.

Thank you so much, COH, for continuing to make "Tables-to-Go!" a success and a community ministry in which all of us can participate in one way or another.

## FINANCE REPORT, MAY 2010

Another month has passed, so it's time to update you on how we are doing financially. This month, I have good news, ordinary news, and the usual appeal.

First the good news: we have completed two highly successful fundraisers. As stated last month, the Garage Sale at the beginning of April raised over \$800. This was followed by our most successful Trivia Night yet, on May 1. Gross receipts from Trivia Night were \$1,839.50 and, after expenses, our Community's net income is \$1,661.43. Thank you to all the volunteers who participated in setup, cleanup, organizing and entertaining. Also thanks to those who gave extra support through donations and prizes.



In relation to our budget, these two events raised just under \$2,500. This is half way to our 2010 forecast of \$5,000 fundraising income. I hear rumors of a fall garage sale. *Are there other fundraising ideas simmering out there that can help COH reach its goal?*

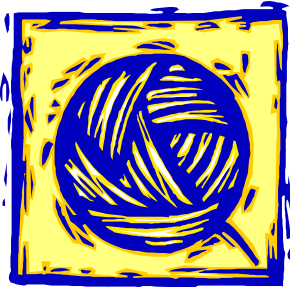
The ordinary news is that COH continues to do extraordinary things with limited financial resources. As of April 30, Pledged Donations are running at 95.7% of budget (down slightly from March), Unpledged Donations are at 92.9% (also down) and Total Income (not from Reserves) is at 97.8%. Fortunately total expenses are also below budget expectations, at 98.7%. Overall, our Reserve Fund draw down is about where it should be – 100.4% of budget as of April 30.

Looking ahead, there are long term initiatives being planned to reach out and become well known in the neighborhood and the wider community, hopefully resulting in growth. There are also initiatives to reduce the financial stress of the next couple of years. Rather than cursing this financial darkness, I see *Hope* as we *Reverse Expectations*, especially pertaining to our financial health.

Finally, I make my appeal. In about two months, David H. will be off with several companions for the annual mission trip to Nicaragua. And even though the 2010 budget doesn't include any Scholarship Travel funds for companions (maybe next year), we did commit \$1,800 to build a home for a family in Chacraseca. This is one of our "calling cards", one of our big "Outside our Walls" ministries. So, please *consider giving a little extra over the next couple of months to support this important ministry, as well as all our ministries.*

Shalom,  
Your Financial Team

### BEVERLY DUFFIELD CROCHET AND KNIT SOCIETY



Beverly Duffield Crochet and Knit Society met April 6th in spite of dire weather predictions. Ten attended and a fine time was had by all. New crafts are coming out and conversation is not lacking. Tuesday, May 25 we will gather at

Jenny & Lizette's home! **All are welcome** and invited. This is a fun activity and **work is not required.**

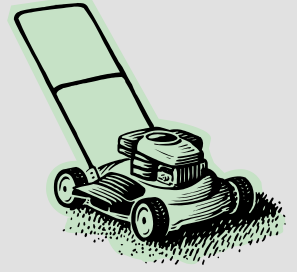
### SAVE THE DATE! CAR WASH JUNE 26TH



We will have our annual car wash fundraiser on Saturday, June 26th, from 10am to 2pm. Your donations will support all ministries and missions at Community of Hope.

## KIN-DOM DAY JUNE 19TH!

We gather in this place every week. For worship, for fellowship, and numerous support groups meet here every evening. COH could use some TLC! Our next Kin-dom Day is June 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Only 25 tasks on our wish list to spruce up the building. Join us on that Saturday to get the job done. Many hands make work light!



## INFORMATION FOR COMMUNITY MEETING

On Sunday, May 30 at 4:30pm, we will gather for a Community Meeting to address three very important issues affecting the future of Community of Hope. The information below is a summary of the three proposals.

(Please note that this is not an official agenda for the meeting. There may be other items discussed at the meeting. Also, please note that these are not the official proposals. They are only summary statements designed to give you basic information on what will be discussed at the meeting.)

residential lots. The lots will take up the entire width (north/south) of our property and will be 130' deep. The permitting process will cost approximately \$1,750, and we will be asking \$35,000 per lot. The lots will be listed with Cathy Grant of Patterson Realtors. This recommendation will authorize the Land Use Team to handle the negotiations with any potential buyers, as well as negotiations with our current mortgage holder (the United Church of Christ) to allow us to sell that land without affecting our existing mortgages. It will also authorize the expenditure of the necessary fees to complete the permitting process.

The second proposal being presented by the Land Use Team involves the establishment of a Community Garden that will be available to Companions as well as our neighbors in the Hoover and Lortondale Homeowner's Association. Raised beds and the dirt to fill them have been offered free of charge through a community grant designed to encourage community gardens, but they must be installed and completed by June 30. This recommendation will authorize

the Land Use Team to accept and install the raised beds and dirt, and to develop policies and procedures for use of the Community Garden, to be presented and approved at June's Coordinating Council meeting.

The third proposal involves hiring an Americorps volunteer to work part-time at Community of Hope from August 2010 through June 2011. This volunteer would work exclusively on our HIV ministries, including but not limited to retreat planning, facilitating the Wounded Healer ministry, providing better quality nutrition services to our Tables-to-Go families, working as our liaison with our community partners in HIV ministry, supervising the Tree of Hope project, and other items related to our HIV ministries (as determined by the HIV Ministries Team and the Tables-to-Go Team). This person will work two days/week at Community of Hope, and three days/week on other HIV-related projects in Tulsa (through the Tulsa Community AIDS Partnership). Community of Hope would need to pay a small portion (\$1,895 total for all 11 months) of the volunteer's stipend, along with any reimbursable expenses (mileage, gas, etc.). Although Community of Hope's portion is for all 11 months of employment, it must be paid in full by mid-October and is not refundable. This recommendation will authorize our Pastor to work with the approved Americorps volunteer team (five individuals that are selected by a team of community service providers) to find a qualified candidate to work with Community of Hope. If such a candidate is located, this recommendation also authorizes the expenditure of the \$1,895.



The Land Use Team is proposing that Community of Hope move forward with the permitting and negotiation process to split the lot on which we are located (2545 South Yale) to provide sufficient land on the Braden Avenue end of the property for two

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

# Community of Hope

A SHALOM BASED COMMUNITY

Nonprofit  
Organization  
**U.S. Postage Paid**  
Permit No. # 1787  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Return Service Requested

2545 South Yale Avenue  
Tulsa, OK 74114-4837



↓ LABEL ↓

We are a multiracial, multicultural, open and affirming, accessible to all,  
just peace church where God is still speaking!  
Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

## THE BULLETIN BOARD

**COMMUNITY MEETING**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 30 AT 4:30PM**

**DON'T FORGET...**  
**KIN-DOM DAY JUNE 19TH @ 10AM!**  
**&**  
**CAR WASH JUNE 26TH @ 2PM!**

Our vision is to be a community of faith, committed in the way of Jesus to the struggle for justice, compassion, and life-giving spirituality for all people; and our mission is to witness, in and through our life together, to the good news that the way of God is in our midst...and the journey is our home.