



COMMUNITY OF HOPE UCC

SEPTEMBER, 28TH,

WORSHIP SERVICES | EVERY SUNDAY AT 6:00PM



OCTOBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

WORLD COMMUNION
SUNDAY
NEIGHBORS IN NEED
OFFERING
"SEVEN SECRETS OF
PROGRESSIVE RENEWAL -
AD-MINISTRY-TION"
BOB LAWRENCE PREACHING
COMMUNITY MEAL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

INT'L CLIMATE CHANGE
AWARENESS DAY
SHAWN THOMAS/BRENNER &
BECKSTEAD CONCERT
"SEVEN SECRETS OF
PROGRESSIVE RENEWAL -
TRANSFORMATIONAL MISSION"
BOB LAWRENCE PREACHING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

HARMONYC FUZION CONCERT
LUKE 18:1-8
BOB LAWRENCE PREACHING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

LUKE 18:9-14
LIZETTE MERCHAN
PREACHING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

PERSONS-IN-CARE SUNDAY
LUKE 19:1-10
RICHARD WARD PREACHING

Dear Fellow Travelers,

As summer is quickly fading into fall, I'm reminded that I have now completed a full year of four distinct seasons for the first time in my life. (Yes, I realize that, in Oklahoma, you don't have to wait a full year for four different seasons... they can happen all in one day! But still, it's new to me...)

It has reminded me of the deeply earth-based, agrarian roots of our faith. This "life with four seasons" has brought to mind the ever-changing and cyclical nature of our lives as co-habitants of this planet. In one very real way for me, this has put me in deeper touch with the transcendent value of our relationship with God.

Some would say that "God" is nothing more than the container for all the things we do not yet understand, and that as humanity increases its knowledge of the universe, the need for God will diminish. The past year here has made it clear to me that even in the midst of our knowledge, there is room for an appreciation of the mystery, the wonder, the awe of it all.

For example, our knowledge has increased such that we can predict the cycles of weather. As I learned this past spring, we can even predict the probability of tornadoes. And yet, as I have also learned, a true Okie doesn't use the knowledge of a pending tornado to run and hide, but rather uses that as an opportunity to stand on the porch and watch the approaching storm. Do we do that because we want to increase our knowledge? Or do we stand on our porches and watch severe storms because there is something in the midst of it that our science and knowledge cannot explain, something beyond us that causes us to just stare in awe?

There is something to be said for the awe of watching the forces of nature at work. Whether it's the slow erosion of the earth that results in such wonders as the Grand Canyon or Bryce National Park, or the immediate and life-threatening force of a tornado, earthquake or hurricane, we are constantly surrounded by reminders that we live in the midst of truly miraculous wonders.

And those wonders are not limited to nature, although, if we pause long enough, we can allow nature to remind us. Those wonders are also occurring in the seasons of our lives together as companions on a journey. Those wonders are what, literally, changes people's lives.

As we stare in wonder at the beauty of the changing of the seasons, may we also be reminded of the beauty of the lives that are being transformed by the work of Community of Hope, and may we all re-dedicate ourselves to continue to share the beauty of that transformation.

Journey on!

Rev. Bob Lawrence, Pastor



A THANK YOU FROM DANIELLE GIRDANO

by Danielle Girdano

I just wanted to send a special thank you to you and all the folks at Community of Hope! You showed true hospitality and grace in welcoming us into your church and hearts! You really do have a wonderful group of people there and it was such fun and honor to meet them all! Thank them again for all their well

wishes and prayers. So kind and sincere! I hope we meet again and I can attend another one of your services! Big hugs and big smiles with love!



FINANCE TEAM UPDATE

by Betsy Edwards, Finance Team



Barry has been gone a month and I think that I have a pretty good handle on the work of the Finance Team. The real test will come with the development of the budget for 2011 which will begin very soon. To create a better communication we've added a new e-mail for the Finance Team: finance@cohope.com or if criti-

cal you may e-mail me at home:

bjked80@suddenlink.net. For the most part I will be in the office on Wednesday afternoons. You may also see me before church on Sunday evening for any important matters.

Also a **huge thank you to Shirley Andrews** who has agreed to help with the bookkeeping! If you'd like to provide much needed additional help, please do not hesitate to contact our Administrative Assistant Julie Tate at: admin@cohope.com or the Finance Team directly.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. UCC congregations will receive the NIN offering on October 3, 2010 as part of their World Communion Sunday observance.



THE BEVERLY DUFFIELD KNITTING AND CROCHET SOCIETY UPDATE

by Connie Schmidt



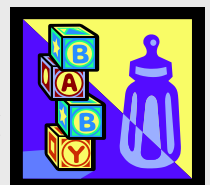
The Beverly Duffield Knitting and Crochet Society met the second Tuesday of September for what was planned as the last swim of the year. The water was not inviting, so the fourteen attendees got busy on

their projects. They also helped celebrate Mary Bohannon's 30th birthday, with a feast of cupcakes. It's time to get cracking if anyone has hopes of making homemade Christmas gifts. Help is available if you need it. The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 12 at the home of Liz and Terry at 6:30 PM. Bring your projects to work on and a dish to share. Beverage will be provided.

SAVE THE DATE!

NOVEMBER 7, 2010

WE WILL BE HAVING A BABY-SHOWER FOR JODI'S BABY GIRL. BRING YOURSELF, A THOUGHT, A PRESENT AND A FOOD ITEM AND WE'LL BE OPENING UP GIFTS AT OUR COMMUNITY MEAL!



COMMUNITY OF HOPE, UCC AND OUR NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

by Rev. Lizette Merchán-Pinilla, Mstr. of Justice and Witness

SAMUEL is a sermon preparation resource designed for use with the Revised Common Lectionary. SAMUEL is produced by the Congregational Vitality and Discipleship Ministry Team of Local Church Ministries of the UCC. Community of Hope, UCC has been invited to participate for two sermon seeds sermons efforts for the months of September 19 and October 17 through our own Minister of Justice & Witness, using those Sunday's lectionary texts.



Each week, Sermon Seeds are also adapted as "Weekly Seeds" on i.ucc.org for Bible study in the local church and for personal devotion and study. Along with the text and reflection, you'll find a prayer, a verse for meditation, and focus questions for discussion. A Bible study forum on i.ucc.org provides a place for sharing responses to the text.

Find our Minister for Justice & Witness' latest effort at: http://www.ucc.org/worship/samuel/twenty-fifth-sunday-in.html#Lectionary_texts (For a printed copy please call our Administrative Assistant, Julie Tate, to request one.)

COMMUNITY OF HOPE, UCC AND WORSHIP WAYS

by Rev. Lizette Merchán-Pinilla, Mstr. of Justice and Witness

Worship Ways of the United Church of Christ is a variety of prayers, liturgies, and "how-to" articles for use on Sundays, Festivals, and special UCC calendar days. For the last couple of months Community of Hope, UCC through its bilingual Minister of Justice and Witness Rev. Lizette Merchán Pinilla has been providing liturgies "En Español" for the National web usage through UCC.org/español.

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. The material "as is" or to take it and adapt it for our UCC local settings.

Check them out on-line:

<http://www.ucc.org/espanol/haga-uso-de-los-recursos-en-espa-ol-de-la-iglesia-unida-de-cristo.html> (For a printed copy please call our Administrative Assistant, Julie Tate, to request one.)

IMAGINE 49TH ANNUAL KANSAS - OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE, OCT. 1-3, 2010

by Rev. Lizette Merchán-Pinilla, Mstr. of Justice and Witness

At our 49th Annual Kansas-Oklahoma Conference there will be an opportunity to attend two focus groups that will provide background information, resources and support for four vital areas of ministry (lay delegates, clergy and all are welcome) One of these focus groups: Imagine Vital Witness for Justice & Peace will be lead by Rev. Michael Po-

age (retired minister from the Kansas Assoc.), our very own Rev. Lizette Merchán Pinilla (Community of Hope, UCC) and Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson (UCC Minister for Racial Justice)



2010 KOMEN TULSA RACE FOR THE CURE—SUPPORT OUR OWN!

by Rev. Lizette Merchán-Pinilla, Mstr. of Justice and Witness

The 14th annual Komen Tulsa Race for the Cure will take place at CityPlex Towers adjacent to the beautiful campus of Oral Roberts University on Saturday, September



25, 2010. Over 13,000 participants are expected at this year's event featuring a Timed and Untimed 5k Run/Walk, 1-mile Fun Run/Walk (untimed), special survivor activities and fun for the whole family! Register online: http://komentulsa.org/race_info.html

Also honor and be thankful for our own COH survivors: Beverly, Geraldine, Dawn, TC, and all of those family and friends affected by cancer!

NICARAGUA MINISTRIES UPDATE

by David Hoot, Nicaragua Mission Team

FLOODING IN NICARAGUA

Recent heavy rains have caused widespread flooding throughout Nicaragua and Central America. Our companions in Chacraseca have also been affected. Crops have been lost, housing damaged, and the already terrible roadways have worsened. We are collecting emergency donations for Chacraseca Flooding Relief. These funds will go directly to

provide assistance with food and housing needs. Please put 'Nicaragua Flood Relief' in the memo line of your checks. And keep our companions in your prayers.

NICARAGUA STORE AT THE K/O CONFERENCE

The Nicaragua Store is going on the road to the K/O Conference in Wichita, KS September 30 to October 2. This will be the first time for this venue. We will be sharing the benefits of Fair Trade with everyone during the conference.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM AT LANGSTON UNIVERSITY

The Nicaragua Team will have an information and display table at the Social

Justice Symposium at Langston University on Friday, October 29th, from 7:30am to 5:00pm. Also, David Hoot will be making a presentation during the event: Nicaragua-Social Justice Through International Partnership. Volunteers are needed to staff the information table during the day. It is hoped that students and teachers from Langston will become partners with COH and Chacraseca in the future.

INTERNATIONAL GIFT FAIR

The annual International Gift Fair will be November 13 and 14 at Fellowship Congregational Church, 29th and Harvard. The Nicaragua Store will be present to share our Fair Trade items for folks getting an early start to their holiday shopping. Volunteers are needed to staff the booth.



HEALTHY MIND IN A HEALTHY BODY EVENT A COMPLETE SUCCESS!

by Rev. Lizette Merchán-Pinilla, Mstr. of Justice and Witness

On a sunny Saturday, September 11, local families filled a church's activity center. They came for free health screenings at St. Francisco Xavier Catholic church to test for cholesterol, glucose, diabetes, blood pressure and body mass index. Rev. Lizette Merchán and a couple of companions from COH worked with the Alzheimer's Association to host the event: "Healthy Mind in a Healthy Body—Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow."

While the families waited in line to be tested, the balloon-blower-uppers were quite popular ... passing out balloons to the children and visiting with their families. Thanks to Anne Richardson and Jenny Kucera for inflating, knotting and distributing hun-

dreds of purple and white helium balloons.

Community of Hope has provided leadership and volunteers for health fairs in the past, and it's important that we continue to be a presence—with our hands and our hearts—in future opportunities.

The event was a complete success! We were expecting a maximum of 300—we got 412 participants! We had 27 volunteers (3 from COH), 13 vendors & 8 staff members, for a grand total of 469! For the first annual event this is incredible, thank you everyone!



A THANK YOU FROM WENDY SHEETS

by Wendy Sheets, VP of the Hoover Neighborhood Association

I am sending this little thank you to your church for their participation in our Hoover Block Party last Saturday. It was a great turnout and your balloons for the kids were a big hit! Thanks to you and your volunteers for offering to come out and help on such a hot September day. Thanks again!



COORDINATING COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

by Penny Fruth

1. There has been serious flooding in Nicaragua. Efforts will be made to gather funds to send with Leslie when she returns to Nicaragua in October.
2. Free Trade items will be displayed and David will speak on Friday, October 29 at Langston University, Tulsa Campus.
3. The Nicaraguan team is donating their remaining funds to start a Scholarship Fund to send one person to the University.
4. There are four more dinners to prepare at the Day Center before the end of the year. A re-evaluation of continuation will follow.
5. There was another family added to Tables-to-Go.
6. There is a financial shortfall in pledged and unpledged giving.
7. A Community Garden Party will happen on Oct. 10th.
8. Various money making efforts were discussed to provide funds for a handicap van for one of our companions.
9. Coordinating Council meeting time has been changed to the third Sunday of each month that includes a simple sharing of food. The meeting time is 3:30 p.m. and the first meeting will be October 17.
10. Garage Sale will be October 16.
11. The purchase of a wireless intercom and a peephole for the front door were approved.
12. There was a discussion of a Thanksgiving Meal as well as a discussion of an all day community-wide forum



NEIGHBORHOOD GARDEN PARTY

In solidarity with International Climate Change Awareness Day, our Community of Hope Neighborhood Garden will be hosting a party to raise awareness of the value of neighborhood gardens in addressing the broad range of issues associated with climate change. The festivities will be from **3pm to 6pm on Sunday, October 10**. For more information, visit the Neighborhood Garden's Facebook page, or the website for 350.org.

SHAWN THOMAS AND FRIENDS IN CONCERT

Shawn Thomas, an 'out' contemporary Christian musician and performer, will be performing at Community of Hope on Sunday, October 10 along with Brenner & Beckstead as part of their "Cross-Roads" concert series. Shawn performed at the Equality Center last year. One of Shawn's recent music videos ("Out in This World") was #1 on Out Voice. They will be performing a 'warm-up for worship' set starting at 5:45pm and will perform another couple of songs during our worship service that evening.

CROSS-ROADS
(Love Offering Received)
CONCERT SERIES

Brenner & Beckstead
Shawn Thomas

OCT 10TH @ 5:45 PM

TWO MINISTRIES MUSIC AND WORSHIP

www.cohope.com, UCC, Tulsa, OK.

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Community of Hope
A SHALOM BASE COMMUNITY

Return Service Requested

2545 South Yale Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74114-4837



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Organization
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Tulsa, Oklahoma



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

Attention!

Starting this month, our Coordinating Council meetings have been moved to the **3rd Sunday of each month at 3:30pm.**

Our next meeting will be **Sunday, October 17th at 3:30pm**, with a light shared meal after the meeting, before worship.

And don't forget: Visit our **newly re-designed** website at **www.cohope.com** for staff email addresses, weekly calendars and blogs from our Pastor!



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.