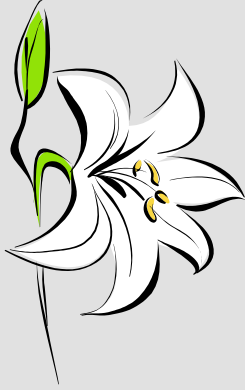




Community Of Hope UCC

April 2, 2011

Worship Services every Sunday at 6:00pm



April 3
Healing of a Blind Man

April 10
Lazarus Sunday

April 17
Palm Sunday

April 21
A Shared Meal

April 22
Memorial Service for Jesus

April 24
Easter Sunrise service
Pancake breakfast (in the morning)
The Road to Emmaus (in the evening)

Dear Companions,

As the redbuds and daffodils and tulips announce the arrival of spring, while allergy medicine sales increase, I am reminded that the renewal or rebirth of the earth around us in spring time comes with some costs. Here in the Tulsa area, as we move into a period of official drought, our impacts on the environment, as well as the impacts of the environment on our lives, are becoming topics for everyday conversation.

This is some of what we are trying to experience this month as we finish up our "Road Trip with Jesus." Our journey with Jesus and his disciples to Jerusalem is meant to highlight the excitement, the renewal, the rebirth of hope that was experienced by Jesus' earliest followers, as well as an opportunity to understand more deeply the costs of living into those hopes and dreams. We are attempting to make the wonder and the message of "up-ending" in Jesus' ministry topics for our daily lives.

We begin the month of April by commemorating the cost to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as he attempted to lead this country into our hopes and dreams. And we will end the month of April by commemorating the cost to Jesus of Nazareth of attempting to lead his people into the kin-dom of God.

Whether it's the beauty that erupts in nature despite the darkness of winter, or the beauty that has erupted in our country as we have continued to seek to live into the "promised land" that Dr. King envisioned, or the beauty that erupts in each of our lives as we seek to live into the kin-dom of God that was central to Jesus' vision, we are reminded of how beautiful things can become if we continue to work toward those hopes and dreams, in spite of the costs.

At this time of rebirth and renewal, I invite you to remember the visions and dreams that pull you forward in spite of the darkness and death that too often accompany our dreams. I invite you to renew your vision of what Community of Hope is trying to do in the world to bring about the kin-dom of God. And I invite you to renew the covenant we all made to be "companions on a journey."

Journey on!

Rev. Bob Lawrence, Pastor



Announcements from our Pastor, Rev. Bob Lawrence

From April 11 to May 6th, H.O.P.E will be the bag refund recipient at Whole Food Market. Please shop at



Whole Food during this time and bring your own reusable grocery bag. When you check out, let the cashier know that you want to donate the refund to H.O.P.E. Your gift will help support HIV prevention in Tulsa.

The theme for the weekend will be "Journeying into Healthy Relationships" and we will look at developing healthy relationships of various sorts (family, romantic, friends, etc.) The retreat is open to anyone who is HIV+ (and their partner, regardless of status). **On-line registration will be available via our web site (<http://www.cohope.com>) starting April 15. Registration is \$5 (scholarships are available) and includes all meals, accommodations, activities, and round-trip transportation. Space is limited, so be sure to register early.**

Our annual Spring HIV Retreat will be May 13-15 at Camp Christian in Choteau, OK.

Special Holy Week Activities

As part of our "Road Trip with Jesus" our Holy Week activities will be slightly different than normal. Our objective with this road trip has been to immerse ourselves into the stories of Jesus' trip to Jerusalem and to try to understand what it might have felt like to be among Jesus' original followers. The sub-theme to our road trip has been "Living as if we don't know the end of the story."



Our **Maundy Thursday service** (6pm April 21) will be a discussion and brief re-enactment of what the Passover seder that Jesus shared with his disciples might have been like. We will start with a ceremonial washing, have time for a presentation and discussion, and then participate in a re-enactment of a portion of Jesus' last meal with his followers.

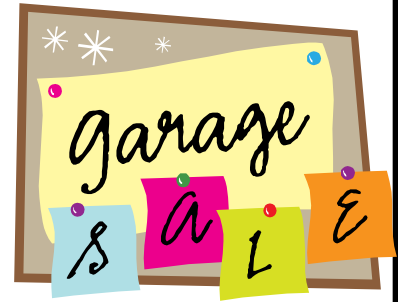
On **Good Friday** (6pm April 22) we will do something completely different. Since we want to understand what Jesus' earliest followers might have been going through, we will stop and pause and think about the death of Jesus by holding a memorial service for him. It will be a fairly straightforward memorial with eulogies by each of the people we have encountered on our road trip as they share with us their grief at the loss of their friend and rabbi.



On **Easter Sunday**, we will gather at 6:30am for a joint sunrise service with the Tulsa Center for Spiritual Living as we celebrate and live into the wonder of that morning. Following the service, we will have a pancake breakfast. (If you're interested in helping with the breakfast, please contact Ken Vonada.) That evening at our regular 6pm worship service, we will take the next steps on our journey by spending time with a couple returning home to Emmaus.

Please plan on joining us for these wonderful activities that are meant to help us understand a little more deeply what it really means to be companions on a journey seeking to live in the way of Jesus.

Our Spring Garage Sale will be on Saturday, April 30th, from 8am to 3pm. All proceeds from the sale will go towards Community of Hope's operating account and our various ministries. Please start doing your Spring Cleaning. If you need to store items before the sale, please contact David Hoot at davidhoot@hotmail.com or 918-747-8928. Otherwise please plan to bring your items to the church the week of April 25th. Volunteers will be needed the day before the sale on the 29th and during the sale on the 30th. Please let Lizette or David know if you are interested in assisting.

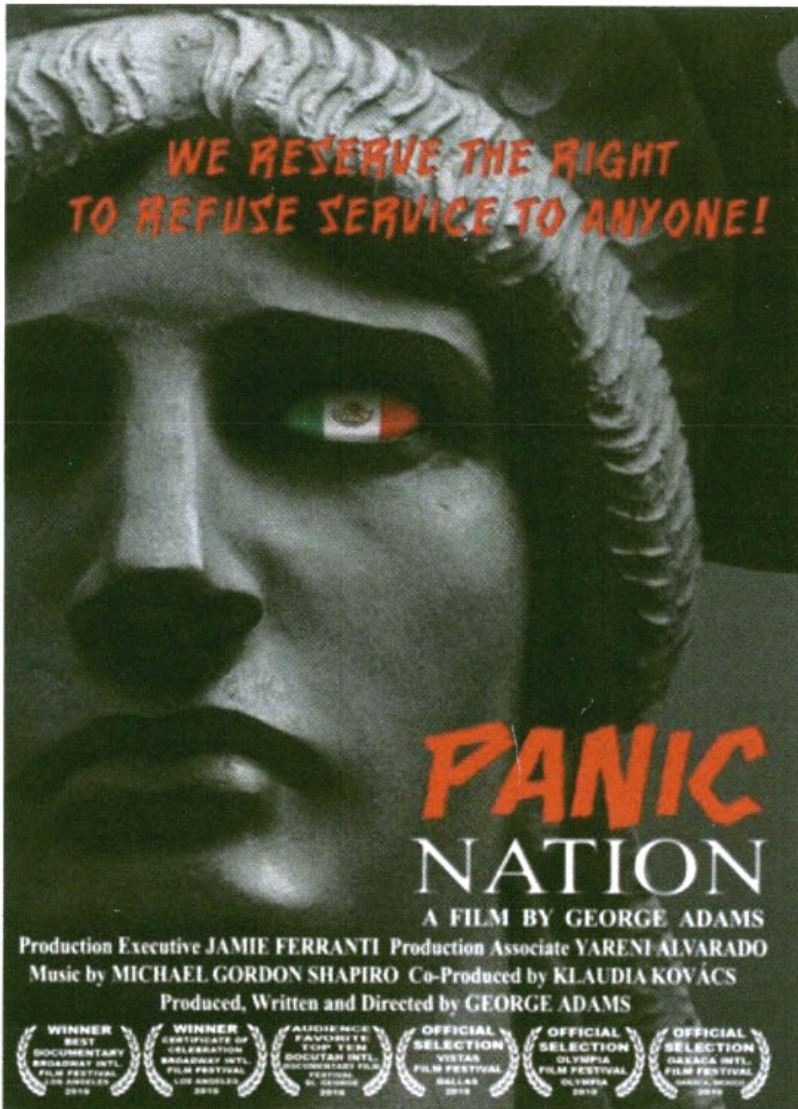


Dining Out For Life



Dine Out, Fight AIDS

The annual Dining Out for Life event will be happening here in Tulsa on Thursday, April 28. This is an annual event that happens throughout the USA as local restaurants team up with local non-profit agencies and agree to donate a percentage of every patron's bill to the non-profit agency. Most restaurants will be donating 25% of your tab (at no cost to you). Participating restaurants include Cosmo Cafe, Mod's Crepes, Lambrusco's and more. In Tulsa, the agency that benefits from the Dining Out for Life campaign is HOPE (Health Outreach Prevention Education), the area's leading provider of HIV education, prevention and testing. To find out which restaurants are participating, go to <http://www.hopetesting.org>.



**University of Tulsa
College of Law Presents**

PANIC NATION

MONDAY, APRIL 11 at 6PM

Price & Turpen Courtroom

In the John Rogers Hall

3120 East 4th Place, Tulsa OK 74104

A multi-award winning documentary delving into the history, reasons and the rise of state sponsored immigration laws and their effects. Featuring former White House cabinet member **Henry Cisneros**, two-time Harvard graduate, CNN contributor, syndicated columnist **Ruben Navarrette Jr.** and featuring Oklahoma State Representatives **Shane Jett** and **Randy Terrill**.

Join us for a discussion with the filmmaker and a panel discussion with special guest **Fmr. Oklahoma House Rep. Shane Jett** after the film.

THIS EVENT IS FREE OF CHARGE

AND IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

panicnationmovie.com

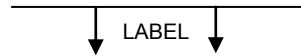
A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Community of Hope
A SHALOM BASE COMMUNITY

2545 South Yale Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74114-4837



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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

**THIS WILL BE OUR LAST PRINTED
NEWSLETTER! FOR FUTURE NEWSLET-
TERS PLEASE VISIT US ONLINE AT:
WWW.COHOPE.COM**

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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.