

## *Hope Church, PCA*

### *A mission church in Bartlesville, Oklahoma*

We believe the mission of Hope Church Bartlesville is to bring the living hope of reconciliation and perfect peace found in Jesus Christ to our friends and neighbors, through weekly preaching of God's Word, administering the Sacraments, discipling the saints, and engaging our community with the Gospel, that they might hear and believe.

*We are seeking a church planter-pastor to join us in further developing and embodying this mission.*

### *Our Story...*

Beginning as early as 2011, families from Bartlesville began attending RiverOaks PCA in Tulsa and Trinity PCA in Owasso. These families were willing to drive such a distance because of the Gospel-centered preaching of the Word of God, the visibly authentic community, and a Christ-like love for those inside and outside of the church. Over the next 6 years, a community group was formed in Bartlesville, and families from Texas and Kansas moved into the area and began attending Trinity.

Together, this group agreed that Bartlesville needed such a church and began praying to that end. In January 2017, with the support of the Trinity Session, five families gathered, prayed, and decided to begin meeting for worship with the intent of planting a church in Bartlesville. Our first service was in April of 2017, and there were over 80 attendees (including members of Trinity as well as friends from the Bartlesville community who wanted to support our first meeting). Over the next several months, four more families from Bartlesville officially joined our number, and several others came alongside to help with the work of planting Hope. By September, we began meeting weekly, with attendance fluctuating between high 40s to a record of 94 (60-80 is typical). We petitioned the newly formed Hills and Plains Presbytery, who strongly support churches planting churches, and became a mission church on January 1, 2018. Since that time four additional families have joined *Hope Church*.

### *Our Church...*

Our initial launch team was composed of predominantly young families, but our regular attendees have quickly grown to include empty nesters, singles, and many retired couples. We currently have about 60 members and an average attendance of 75.

Hope Church desires to continue to grow as a community to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As we worship and do life together, we seek God's grace for authentic, grace-filled lives that demonstrate the gospel.

Each Lord's day, which is typically led by a PCA pastor from a regional church, is focused on the means of grace, teaching and being taught, fellowshiping, breaking bread and praying together. (Acts 2:42)

The regular practice of the means of grace carries over into our discipleship and fellowship as we meet in smaller groups to share God's Word with one another, to pray for one another, and to help each other endure and keep the faith. Our ministries' goals are to disciple attenders of all ages and maturity levels to be lovers of Jesus, to be transformed by that love, and to live and share the Gospel as we go about life in our community.

We Hope that our love for God and one another becomes our reputation in Bartlesville and that we are able to humbly and graciously join hands with other Bible- believing congregations for the purpose of ministering to the Bartlesville community.

[Full Disclosure: We have a pretty good time at Hope Church, and it may be hard for you to reign us in sometimes. It's hard to get people to sit down and start worship, because they are all talking and fellowshiping. We struggle to do passing of the peace, because the preacher can't get us back to our seats. They have to run us out of the building to lock up, because we don't want to leave. Consequently, members can be heard saying, "I HATE to miss church," because they love, love, love, worshipping and fellowshiping on the Lord's Day. We enjoy getting together period; from men and ladies meetings, to community groups, camping trips, and retreats. We laugh often, care deeply and practically for one another, and even dance together (not during worship we might add) . We have to admit: we love being together. Just sayin..... ]

### *Our Community...*

*Located in the beautiful rolling hills of northeastern Oklahoma, Bartlesville is a small community of 36,000, but it has tremendous resources and a great potential to send the Gospel forth into the world.*

Three major companies reside in Bartlesville, which bring employees into the area and then send them out all over the world. The populous is more affluent and educated than one might think due to the influence of these companies. Voice of the Martyrs is headquartered in Bartlesville and sends support into both unreached people groups and areas hostile to the Gospel. Due to the unique circumstances of Bartlesville, the church planter will be influential in training up and sending "lay missionaries" across the planet.

Viewing the skyline of Bartlesville, one would think they were looking at a much larger city. It is a small town with a big heart and big city amenities as well. Attractive large office buildings are scattered throughout downtown, due to Phillips Petroleum Company headquartering in Bartlesville for 85 years before merging with other companies and moving their headquarters to Houston in 2002. Phillips 66, ConocoPhillips and Chevron Phillips are still major employers in the area. Creativity abounds here and a large number of chemicals and plastics that you use in your everyday life were invented here. This rich heritage has helped Bartlesville to develop a personality that is culturally far bigger than its small town feel. Where else could you attend an OKMozart International festival with world class musicians each year, view Remingtons and Russells at a world class Western Art museum, and have lunch in a Frank Lloyd Wright building and yet never have to drive more than 15 minutes?

### *Check out the city we love...*

*"Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain." - Psalm 127:1*



Video: <https://vimeo.com/120702604>

- [Pathfinder Parkway](#)-- a 16 mile activity path that runs all through the city
- [OKMozart](#) International Music Festival
- [Oklahoma Wesleyan University](#)
- [Rogers State University, Bartlesville Campus](#)
- [Sunfest](#)
- [Frank Lloyd Wright Price Tower](#)
- [Voice of the Martyrs](#)

There are also many interesting attractions within a short drive of Bartlesville:

- [Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve](#) (20 min.)
- [Pioneer Woman Mercantile](#), Pawhuska (35 min.)
- [Safari Zoological Park](#), Caney, KS. (30 min.)
- [Tallgrass Prairie Preserve](#), Pawhuska (30 min.)
- Tulsa, OK- Shopping, Restaurants, and Entertainment (40 min.)

### *Praying for our Church Planter-Pastor...*

Hope Church members desire an approachable pastor who uses his “spiritual gifts to strengthen our body so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith,” – both his and ours. Romans 1:11.

We are praying for a pastor who:

- Studies, prays and prepares to teach and preach the whole counsel of the Word of God (Acts 20:27)
- Develops helpful liturgy for each Lord’s Day service, and ensures attendees understand the various elements of the service.
- Loves God’s Word passionately, loves meeting with and encouraging the members of Hope, desiring to faithfully feed the flock that God has entrusted to him. Reproves, corrects, and trains us in righteousness so that the congregation might be complete (II Tim.3:16-17).
- Desires to shepherd us outside of the church building. We want him to love sharing the Gospel with the lost in our community. We want to be trained and effective at co-laboring with him in this effort!
- Grows to love Bartlesville and its citizens, and will teach and be a living example of how to grow relationships and share the Gospel in the community.

- Works with, prays for, and comes to genuinely love other Bible-believing churches in the Bartlesville area.
- Understands our past- that we are the overgrowth of a healthy church- and would be excited to help build up and support other church plants, including those that may spring forth from Hope.

Though we are a new church, we are unified in our vision and values, and feel as though we are already an established church. However, we know this is only the beginning of God's work in Hope Church. We are excited to work with our pastor's vision in humble submission, knowing that the Lord will use him to grow us from the church plant that we are to the established church we feel like.

*We believe this is a prime opportunity for someone who wants the challenge- and fun- of growing with us.*

**TE Application**

Name:

Ordination Status:

Wife's name:

Children, Names and Ages:

Current location:

Current employment/service (include short description of responsibilities/activities)

Reason for interest in Hope, Oklahoma, Bartlesville...

Thoughts/suggestions on and fit with current Hope Mission Statement

Ideas/comments to help our mission church (if any)