Lead Pastor: Rev. Trina Bose Florth

June 2017

Vol. 13 Issue 5

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

It's been a year since I came to Crown Heights United Methodist Church, and what a year is has been in my life! My whole family has found a home in your church. We enjoy worshipping and churching here with you.

A few highlights of my year include:

- getting to know our homebound members better (truly they are each treasures),
- the honor of co-officiating Rev. Bill Henry's Memorial Service,
- praying for baby William on his first day on the planet,
- marrying couples in our beautiful sanctuary,
- the Children's Christmas Program (they nailed it!),
- engaging in creative mission projects, like writing notes to every student at Putnam Heights Elementary School,
- hearing Katie's Sunday School class belt out "Down to the River" in worship,
- eating Big Truck Tacos with new friends (more often than I can count!),
- working with the best staff (paid and unpaid)!

This year has truly been a honeymoon for me. It's been fun and exciting, like new love! But I am sad to say, I can feel the honeymoon phase coming to a end between us. I actually said to a clergy friend, "I am going to miss the honeymoon. Please, tell me the next phase offers something good." She laughed, "Of course, the next phase is good; in all honesty it is better!" Just like in marriage, once you get past the honeymoon, a deeper level of trust and love develops based on really knowing one another.

And so, I invite you all into this next phase with me. I hope to remember it's in understanding our differences that depth and growth develops. I pray we can turn toward each other and communicate and trust each other enough to work through our issues, as they arise.

Paul understood the complexities of living in community and gave much advice about how to relate to one another. He said in his letter to the Ephesians, "With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit— just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all" (4:2-6). May we live into Paul's words in our next phase of ministry together!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Who: Children, Age 3 - entering 5th graders
Dates: Monday, June 19 - Thursday, June 22, 2017

Times: 5:45 - 8:00 p.m.

RSVP: Church office, call 524-8428

MAKER

Throughout this week, we will learn about all amazing things God has made in our world. Our kids with be creative and inventive as they discover they're lovingly crafted by God. We are happy for all our neighborhood kids to join us. Just call the church office to sign up.

Calling all volunteers: VBS is a gift to the children of our church and community. We are going to need everyone to participate in making VBS a success. We all have something to share that will make these four days better in some way. Be thinking what your gift is and how to share it with the kids. Thank you.

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CALENDAR

June 2 Friday, Dodger Game 7 p.m. 4 Trustee Meeting, noon 7 Wednesday, Finance Meeting 14 Ladies Day Out - luncheon 19 – 22 Monday through Thursday Vacation Bible School 26 – 30 Monday through Friday, District Youth Camp

THANK YOU!



Our biggest thanks to Rendon Chambers for filling in on the piano while Mariann was on vacation. (May 14 & 21) Rendon did an amazing job!

June 4

Acts 2:1-21

"Set God's People Free"

June 11

Genesis 1:1-2:4, the creation story "Let's Work Together!"

<u>June 18</u>

Joshua 1-2, a story from VBS "Rahab Believes"

June 25

I Samuel 25, a story from VBS "Abagail Brings Peace"

Thank you for shopping for our VBS crafts and science projects.



SUMMER TRIPS!

Free shampoos!

It's summer vacation time! As you are traveling this summer, keep in mind the complimentary toiletries from hotels can be useful to others. Please bring any unused toiletries items to the Garden Room. There is a box to collect any donations (right next to Skyline Eye Clinic donation box—hint! hint!). We will organize what we have into hygiene kits. Thank you.

GOODBYE AND THANK YOU!

For the last year, Devaunjue (Jay) Williams has been our Children and Youth Ministries Director. He has been everything we could have asked for—kindhearted, consistent, warm, reliable, fun, and eager! In fact, he is so quality he was pursued for another job. Jay will be a co-pastor over children and youth at Village UMC. He will join a creative leadership team aimed at revitalizing that church. We send Jay off with our love and blessing. *You're not far, Jay, don't be a stranger!*

From Jay's letter: Although my heart is heavy, I am excited for all the wonderful things God is doing in my life and the life of CHUMC. It is my prayer that God sends someone who values our children and youth ministries as much as you all do. As I explore my new found opportunities, I ask you to keep me in your prayers as well. It is my hope to employ all that you have taught me as I further my ministry career.

Peace and Blessings, Devaunjue Williams



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BUILDING UPDATESBy Trina Bose North & Jared Pickens



Have you taken note of all the improvements to our church building lately?

In March, we replaced all the lighting in our Sanctuary. We fully converted our fixtures to LED and improved the overall quality. This was a big undertaking, costing just over \$12,000. Our church paid for this project through private donations and our memorial funds, which are monies given to our church in memory of a loved one. We are especially thankful for all those who gave to this project in memory of Rev. Bill Henry.

In May, the wood around the stained glass windows for the Children's Library (facing Western) was repaired and repainted. We also added a protective covering over the glass for insulation and protection. This project was a gift by the Medley family in memory of Lynn and Bob Medley. Our church is so grateful for this much

needed gift to the Library.

Lastly, we would also like to thank Elizabeth Anthony, Bill McKnight, Lane Neal, and Walter Vann for their direct involvement and leadership of the lighting project, as

well as Colleen Bicket for her leadership in helping find the dollars to make these projects a reality. Thank you all!

With improvements to the Sanctuary and Children's Library, our job is to continue to use these spaces for ministry and dream bigger about what God is calling us to do within these walls!



TWICE BLESSED

We are twice blessed with, not one but two, babies on the way! The Pickens are expecting their bundle of joy in mid-July, and the Burketts are expecting in late August. Our church showered the couples with baby books on May 14th in worship, and Supper Club had a shower for them on May 19th. Thank you to everyone who gifted these babies. Together we truly showered these families and surrounded them with our love. And now we wait! Just a couple months before we get to love on these babies in person!







CHURCH STAFF

Trina Bose North, Lead Pastor

Stacy Gilbert Coombe Libby Campbell Mario Estrada Mariann Searle Kalen Hancock Katie Langer Keaton Langer Elijah & Sofia Administrative Assistant
Accounting Secretary
Custodian
Coordinator of Music Ministry
Youth Sunday School
Nursery Coordinator
Nursery Assistant
Nursery Assistants

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ARTS ACADEMY'S 8TH SHOWCASE OF TALENT by Janet Basler

WaHoo!!! WOW!!! Sounds coming from Fellowship Hall during the 8th annual Arts Academy Showcase of Talent on April 26th. We had a wonderful evening with about 100 people coming to see what the Arts Kids had done. After playing their instrument or singing each Arts Kid was smiling as they turned toward the audience's wild applause! Each Arts teacher breathed a sigh of relief when their child finished, as their big, wonderful smiles came through. They were as invested in the performances as the kids were. The Ceramic, Drawing, and Photography teachers enjoyed talking with their kids' parents and school teachers explaining all they'd done. They received such affirmation that they were all smiles also. While eating cookies supplied by Kitty Ogburn, Julie Williams, Edna Niles, Carol Barrymore, and Glenda Noble-Skinner, everyone had another chance to congratulate the kids and teachers one more time. Altogether it was a fabulous evening for everyone.

Then 2 days later I got a call from Dena at InterCity Violin. Dena has been providing the Arts Academy with violins for the last 9 years. We often talked about our hope that someday she and the Arts Academy would help start a young violinist become a true musician. She called to say that she thinks it has finally

happened!!!!



Daniel played 3 songs with great focus.

It seems Daniel, one of our violinist this year came to InterCity with his Mom to return his violin for the summer. During this visit he asked Dena if he could play for her. She and the other staff at InterCity were moved to tears at his playing with such focus, and obvious love of music. Daniel's Mom told them he loved it so much she had taken him to Giang's high school recital recently. Giang is Daniel's Arts Academy teacher who helped 'hook' him into the violin.

Then Dena asked Daniel if he'd like to continue his lessons through the summer. With an enthusiastic 'Yes' from both Daniel and Mom, Dena found an instructor on her staff willing to take him on, and told Daniel to take his violin home for the summer. They were so excited. Not only would he get to continue learning and playing all summer, they explained that now because the violin was coming home again, Daniel would be able to play in the school's talent show later in May. Dena and I commented over and over during our conversation how happy we were that both of us 'hung in with each other' for all these years. It meant kids like Daniel would be able to create music throughout their lives. What a wonderful gift from God!!!!



Caleb wowed us with his guitar.

Thank You to Janet Basler and Charlotte Trobaugh for all their work this year.



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WHIZ KIDS by Janet Basler

This Whiz Kid 'end of year' time was full of smiles, good food, and fun.

First almost all our Whiz Kids and tutors spent a beautiful Saturday at Crystal Lake with about 500 other Whiz Kids and tutors. The day included eating lots of snow cones & popcorn (after a big hamburger/hot dog lunch), fishing off the dock, riding in a boat, playing games, and bouncing in bounce houses. Thanks to Stephanie Cole for driving the van for several Whiz kids and tutors, and to the tutors for being such fun on a day out and away from reading.

Then the following Thursday the kids and tutors were treated to pizza and ice cream as awards for our longtime tutors were given out. Also, our graduating 5th graders were applieded for their exemplary modelling of being the best kind of Whiz Kid for the younger ones, and for their success in learning to read through the years.

After the ceremonies were complete, and the food appropriately appreciated, the kids and tutors went to separate rooms to complete their challenges for the day.

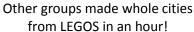
Each child took enough of the materials from their challenge to continue playing with it all summer, also.

All left Whiz Kids a little sad to leave for the summer, but very satisfied with a job well done, that day and all year long



Some kids created boats from foil that floated on the water despite many coins and a tape dispenser in their hull!

Some kids built bridges from Popsicle sticks that held the largest book in the library!









While some were making card houses, fish mobiles, and an extraordinarily high straw tower.



Many cheered as they watched one group's domino chain fall as planned around and around itself.

Crown Heights United Methodist Church

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Office Hours: Mon-Wed-Fri mornings

Tues - Thurs afternoons

Facebook: Crown Heights United Methodist Church



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MAY HIGHLIGHTS



Happy Mother's Day! Crown Heights United Methodist Church is so blessed to have such a diverse community of people who attend worship each Sunday! What a beautiful family. Jay Williams.



Mother's Day Tea— The UMW hosted a tea on Saturday May 13th. The Fellowship Hall looked beautiful as we gathered for hot tea and finger foods. Our guest speaker was Linda Amick Dodson. She is a deputy Court Clerk and ran for elected office last fall. We heard about her life and faith journey. An absolutely lovely afternoon!



On Saturday May 20th, LuWayne Irwin received the Community Champion Award, given by Catholic Charities and the Oklahoma City Refugee Coalition. They recognized LuWayne for her extraordinary support of the international refugee community. They commended her for her dedication, tenacity, love, and advocacy. Crown Heights UMC is so proud of all LuWayne does for our community and church. She really had become "Grandma" to many!

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID