



the trumpet

CROWN HEIGHTS United Methodist Church

Lead Pastor: Rev. Trina Bose North

May-June 2019

Vol. 15 Issue 2

Easter Message

by Rev. Trina Bose North

"Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song."

— Pope John Paul II

Easter is the celebration of God's promise of New Life. God is continually bringing life out of death, joy out of sorrow, and light out of darkness. While we gathered on Easter to celebrate this promise, eight sites in Sri Lanka—including three Christian churches—were bombed. Nearly 300 people were killed.

We find ourselves asking, is the Easter message still true today? With all the examples of pain and suffering in our world, we wonder has God really conquered death. The Old Testament prophet Isaiah said, "He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces." (25:8a). The language in this verse is future tense. It will happen. In fact, God is making it happen right now.

I wish Easter meant there would be no more suffering in the world, but instead it means suffering is not the last word. It means God is always working for New Life, pulling us toward peace, joy, and love. This is what we celebrate each Easter. So for the people affected by the bombings in Sri Lanka, we pray God's Easter promise of New Life be made real again for them.

Special Worship Schedule

April 27— Worship at 4:30pm
After worship, Open Discussion
of Reconciling Invitation

April 28— NO Sunday worship
because of Memorial Run

Church Conference

There will be a Church Conference on **Sunday May 19, 2019 at 9:45am** in the Sanctuary.

In response to the United Methodist Church's stance prohibiting gay weddings and ordination, the Reconciling Group at Crown Heights UMC is asking our congregation whether Crown Heights UMC should become a Reconciling Congregation and part of the Reconciling Ministries Network, which includes adopting the following statement:

Crown Heights United Methodist Church is dedicated to personifying inclusion and equality for ALL children of God. We welcome people of every sexual orientation, gender identity, age, race, class, nationality, mental or physical ability to be in ministry with us. We want our community to recognize Crown Heights as a safe haven where all people are welcomed, affirmed, loved, and supported by the members of our congregation. We call our church members to be the extended hand of God.

Ephesians 4:4-6 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

All members are invited to vote on this decision. If you would like to become a member, you can join our church at the end of each worship service on Saturday April 27 (4:30pm), May 5 and 12 (8:30 and 11am), and May 19 (8:30am).

April-June Calendar

April

April 24— Wed. Arts Academy Showcase, 4:30pm

April 27— Sat. Ministry Resource Team, 2:30pm

Worship at 4:30pm

After worship, Open Discussion of
Reconciling Invitation

April 28— NO Sunday Worship because of
Memorial Run

May

May 4— Sat. Painting Workday, 8:30am- 3pm

May 5— Youth Activity, noon

May 8— Wed. Ladies' Day Out, 11am

May 9— Thur. Whiz Kids' Graduation

May 19— Church Conference, 9:45am

Vote on Reconciling Invitation

May 27-30— Annual Conference

June

June 2— Graduate Reception,
between worship services

June 5— Wed. Ladies' Day Out, 11am

June 9— Youth Activity, noon

June 17-20— VBS

Monday through Thursday, 5:30-8pm

Monthly Missions

April 1—Our church wrote encouraging notes to all students of Putnam Heights Elementary School. We placed the notes on each student's desk just before state testing. The kids were so excited. Teachers told stories of kids taking their notes home with them.

Saturday, May 4—Join us from 8:30am to 3pm to paint the exterior of a house. We will meet at the church and drive to our worksite. Please let Trina know if you can join us.

Monday-Thursday, June 17-20—All hands on deck for VBS! There are so many ways to volunteer for VBS. Talk to Madison. You can decorate, greet children, lead activities, shepherd groups, clean up, bake cookies, or shop. We appreciate every little thing done to make this week happen!

VBS

by Madison Rubino

Vacation Bible School

June 17-20, 2019

5:30-8:15pm

Jerusalem Marketplace



We are in full swing of planning VBS for Summer 2019! We are specifically looking for volunteers to help facilitate the games stations and to make cookies, but if there is another area you would like to serve in, any help is welcome!

Here is a **list of supplies** that will be needed for our classes:

Mortar and pestles

Air dry clay

Colored and neutral tone raffia

Medium sized hammers

LED votive lights

Nails

Small bottles of essential oils

Aromatherapy diffuser refill pads

15 oz. cans—cleaned with no sharp edges

Small bottles of Tacky glue

If you are able to start collecting these, that would be great!

Please contact Madison if you have any questions or would like to volunteer: 405-406-6461

madison.rubino@gmail.com

Thank you so much! We are so excited for VBS!

New Members

Special warm welcome to our new members—
Madison Rubino (Children and Youth Director),

Amber Lotspeich,

Julie and Greg Tate,

Jim and Pam Rust

We look forward to sharing the journey with you!

Arts Academy's Showcase of Talent by Janet Basler

On April 24th our Arts Academy will host this year's Showcase of Talent at 4:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

We will show off the weavings and ceramics our art students have completed. We will hear from pianists, drummers, a guitarist, and a saxophone player.

We have fewer students this year, so the showcase will not be very long, but should be wonderful to see. We really need an audience, so if you can make it at 4:30 on April 24th to cheer these young artists on, I'm sure the smiles you see will warm your heart.



The pianists are getting ready for their big moment in the Recital!



The artists are ready to display their work in the Showcase.

Whiz Kids Have Busy Springtime

by Janet Basler

Our Whiz Kids and their tutors have spent this school year working hard to read all they can. Often that is by reading books and talking about what they've read, but sometimes it is through reading the parts of the reading games they play with each other. Now it is time to add some celebration of their hard work, and some new experiences to their young lives. Our Whiz Kids' school, Putnam Heights Elementary, will be closing after this year. As our Whiz Kids will be attending different schools next year, we are trying to make the best of what could be our last time together. They continue to read each week but are also enjoying a few 'extras' that being a Whiz Kid includes. The 'Celebration of Us' started with a visit during their Whiz Kids time from the 'Thunder Bus' where they got to pick out their own new book. It's amazing that that Bus can hold over 3000 books! Next they spent a Saturday together at Dynamo Gymnastics running, jumping, flipping, and laughing a lot. Thank you to one of our wonderful tutors for hosting this event for everyone. Soon they will spend another Saturday at the Oklahoma Children's Theatre at OCU seeing how *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales* will bring out the giggles again. The end of April brings a Saturday of great fun at the Orr Family Farm with about 600-800 other Whiz Kids and tutors from across Oklahoma City during our annual Spring Fling. With so many exciting activities and areas to explore, it is always a wonderful day for everyone.

On May 9th, we will go to Hideaway Pizza for our year-end dinner and 'graduation' time to celebrate and end this wonderful year. We will be sad to say goodbye to so many, and hope that the new Whiz Kids coming to us next year will enjoy being Whiz Kids as much as this smart, creative, fun-loving, and respectful group of kids has this year. We ask for prayers for the new kids God is preparing to send us, and that the tutors and new tutors will meet the needs of all of them.



New faces at Crown Heights United Methodist Church



Susan Ebert is the new Administrative Assistant at Crown Heights UMC. She will be in the church office Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Susan lives in Oklahoma City with her husband, Steven Stark, and their sons, Severin, 11, and Wolfgang, 8.



Carla Guevara is now working with our Children and Youth. She is a double major in Economics and Political Science, minor in Spanish at OU. She is really excited to be a part of such a warm and welcoming community and hopes to grow her faith in God more through teaching our kids.

The Ration Challenge

by Rebekah Belase, CWS, Director, Funds Development

Our church is sharing our space to house the Ration Challenge staff.

They are working upstairs in the Youth Activity Building, Monday-Friday afternoons and evenings.

This ministry is part of Church World Service (CWS), which receives United Methodist Apportionment monies. Rev. Rebekah Belase is an Oklahoma UM clergy who works for CWS. Stop in and say hello!



The Ration Challenge Community is about people coming together to show refugees we are with them, not against them. Eat the same rations as a Syrian refugee for a week around World Refugee Day (Thursday, June 20th)—just a small amount of rice, flour, lentils, chickpeas, beans, fish, and oil—and get sponsored to do it. The money you raise will provide food, medicine, and education for refugees and support the ongoing work of CWS to help vulnerable people rebuild their lives in safety. The Ration Challenge began more than five years ago with a small group of friends eating rations together in Australia and has now become a global movement for change, raising over \$7 million, and making a huge difference to the lives of more than 40,000 people. There has never been a more important time to do it. Right now, there are more refugees and displaced people around the world than at any time since World War II—people who have fled conflict and disaster in their own country and now face a daily struggle for survival. By taking the Challenge you will be providing food, medicine, and education for refugees, and supporting people living in poverty around the world. By sharing your experience with those around you, you will be opening people's eyes, hearts, and minds to what refugees go through, creating a more compassionate world. This people-powered movement is only getting bigger.

This year, the Ration Challenge launches for the first time in the US and the UK, where thousands of dedicated people will join you in eating rations to raise money and awareness. Not only will this help raise millions more to support communities around the world, we know that it is essential in the world right now to raise our voices, take action, and show our politicians that this is an issue we care about and that we won't turn our backs on those in need. Our goal this year?—to mobilize a community of tens of thousands of people, all committed to raising funds to provide desperately needed food, healthcare, and education and together raise our voices as one, sending a message that cannot be ignored. We care, we are taking notice, and we are with refugees, not against them. Thank you for being a part of this movement for change.

Rev. Rebekah Belase, Church World Service, Director, Funds Development

Youth Activities



Youth Dodgeball—
Our youth participated in a District Dodgeball Tournament on April 7, 2019. Your team ended up winning the Losers' bracket! They had so much fun and played well as a team. They make us so proud.

Youth Schedule

May 5— noon to 3pm, Cinco de Mayo Surprise

June 9— noon to 3pm, VBS prep

June 17-20— VBS, youth are invited to participate as helpers

July 7-11— Sunday-Thursday, Mission Trip—
The youth will do mission work through C2K (Connecting to the Kingdom). C2K is an inner-city service ministry of three United Methodist Churches in Dallas, Texas. They will provide us lodging and volunteer opportunities in Dallas. We might work in a food bank, help at a daycare setting, or serve meals to the homeless. Their mission is to connect us to Christ, using our work as worship. [Webpage—c2kdallas.org](http://c2kdallas.org)

August 11— Pool Party, Trina & Justin's house

Youth Mission Trip



Dallas, Texas July 7 - 11 (Sunday - Thursday)

Cost: \$ 25

Adult Sponsors: Trina, Madison & Spencer

The youth will be working through the organization C2K (Connect to the Kingdom) which is an inner-city service ministry of three United Methodist Churches in Dallas, Texas. They will provide lodging and volunteer opportunities in Dallas. We might work in a Food Bank, help at a daycare setting, or serve meals to the homeless. Their mission is to connect us to Christ, using our work as worship.

MADISON: 405-406-6461 | TRINA: 405-535-8298

Easter Prep!

by Julie Williams

On Tuesday, April 9, Laura and Lane Neal hosted a function for Easter egg stuffing! Participants included Laura Neal, Trina Bose-North, Madison Rubino, Andrea Guevara, Ashley Pickens, and Julie Williams. Also not to be overlooked in the recognition of participants: entertainment was provided by William, Samuel, and Theodore and last, but not least, Greta the dog!

During a two-hour session, approximately 1,200 eggs were stuffed. Knowing the joy that will be realized on Easter morning when our children arrive at church to participate in the egg hunt brought many smiles and good feelings! A big thank you to everyone who was able to assist...and to all of those in the congregation who participated with their candy donations! This wouldn't be possible without the love and support of our church family! Thank you!



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Easter Highlights



Easter by the Numbers

1,200 Easter Eggs

\$5,127 for Easter Offering

146 worshippers, both services

45 lilies

100 muffins

9 casseroles

