



the trumpet

CROWN HEIGHTS United Methodist Church

Lead Pastor: Rev. Trina Bose North

July-August 2019

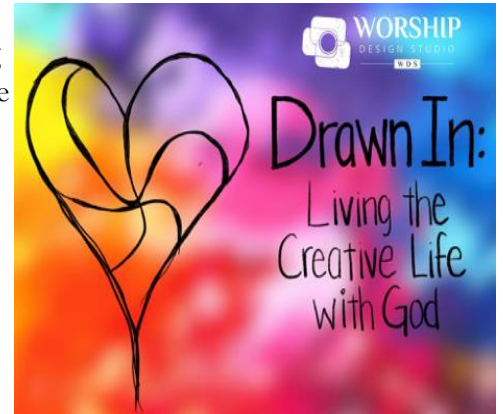
Vol. 15 Issue 3

Worshipping Our Creator God

by Rev. Trina Bose North

A few mornings ago, I woke early and slowly watched the dark sky fill with light. The new day was born before my eyes, as it does each and every morning though I rarely appreciate it. We live surrounded by God's creative energy. We see this in nature and in our own lives. God brings light, beauty, and growth into the world. And so can we. We can be creative in the ways we bring God's goodness into the world.

During the month of August, we will connect with our inherent creativity and nurture this foundational aspect of being human, giving us renewed energy for passionate work, delightful play, and creative problem solving to make this world a better place for all. Let's prepare our spirits to be "drawn in" to our Creator God. Instead of focusing on what we should do, let's find what we feel excited and compelled to do in our lives, in the world. The question becomes, "How can we create more good in the world and more God in our lives?"



God created the heavens and the earth... and called it all good!

—Genesis 1

VBS was a success!



Vacation Bible School was June 17-20. Our theme was Jerusalem Marketplace, and the decorations set the scene of being in a bazaar in Old Jerusalem. We had forty-five children attend and twelve youth participate as helpers. The kids were fed dinner and told a Bible story at the start of each evening. Then they rotated through crafts, cooking, and games.



All our cooks provided yummy, healthy meals. All our teachers were well prepared and engaging. All our shepherds were fun and loving. All our drivers were kind and efficient. Thank you to everyone who helped with VBS. With everyone doing their part, the work was shared between many.

Shalom to each of us! We earned a little peace and quiet after a full week of fun!



July-August Calendar

July

July 7-11— Sun-Thurs- Youth Mission Trip to Dallas

July 9— Tuesday- Finance Committee, 5:30pm

July 14— Sunday- Skyline School supplies due

July 21— Sunday- guest speaker Stacy Ninness (NSO)

July 28— Sunday- Family Meal, noon to 2pm

August

August 4— Sunday- Children's Pool Party at Judge Amick's

August 7— Wednesday-Ladies' Day Out, 11am

August 14— Wednesday-Ministry Resource Team, 6pm

August 18— Sunday-Youth Colorfest

September

September 8— Sunday- 90th Birthday and Homecoming

Monthly Missions for July and August

July Mission Project—Our church is asked to collect **school supplies** for Skyline Urban Ministries to distribute. Any school supplies will help, any amount. Some typical items students need are:

Crayola crayons, markers (washable), colored pencils, watercolor trays, glue/glue sticks, pre-sharpened pencils, dry erase markers, wide-lined notebook paper, boxes of tissues, Clorox wipes, and bottles of hand sanitizer

Bring our donations to church by **July 14, 2019**.

August Mission Project—In worship on August 18, our church community will create mosaic stepping stones for our homebound members. Join us and add your unique touch!

SAVE THE DATE-- Last Week in July 2020—Mission Trip- There is interest in going on a mission trip next summer. If you are interested in helping plan, please talk to Trina. She is gathering names for a team to work through all the details.

New Members!

Special warm welcome to our new members—

Lawren Krone
Jennifer Lark
Cathy Parisse
Mel & Michael Smith

We look forward to sharing the journey with you.

Mobile Meals Cooks

by Anita Roesler

For more than forty years CHUMC has provided an important ministry to the community through **Mobile Meals**, a home delivered meal program for the elderly and infirm.

We are now searching for a few good men or women to help cook those meals. It requires 2-3 hours in the morning to prepare the meal either at home or in the CHUMC kitchen and fill the trays for volunteer drivers to deliver from the church. You will also need to spend a short amount of time in advance deciding what to serve. You will be reimbursed for any money spent. We have a pantry and a designated MM freezer that Trina keeps stocked.

It works best for two people working together to do this, so grab a friend and call Susan at CHUMC (524-8428) to tell her you want to participate in this mission. Currently, volunteers each cook once a month for 14-17 people on Mondays, but the more cooks participating, the less often your services will be required.

We need some people willing to cook—on a regular basis or as a substitute. Any help you can give would be appreciated! Thank you for your help and caring!

Family Meal

Please join us for something new! On July 28, immediately following the 11AM service, we will meet in the sanctuary and divide into groups to go have a lunch "family meal" together.

Family meal is a storied tradition of restaurants all over the world. It gives their team a chance to take a break from their busy days and sit together and fellowship over a meal. Let's take time to connect, appreciate each other, and celebrate our work.

Childcare is provided until 2PM. Let's enjoy our family meal together! Please RSVP to Trina or Madison your children's names so we can staff childcare appropriately.

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.

Trustees Update

NEW EXTERIOR KEYS—Mid-July, we are re-keying the exterior locks on our building. It has been about twenty years since our keys have been changed, and we want to secure the building and keep a good count of who has keys. We are ordering many copies to distribute to our Mobile Meals cooks, trustees, children’s programming volunteers, and church staff. Trina Bose North will distribute keys to whoever needs access to the building. Please call her (535-8298) if you get locked out or to request a key. The magnet door codes are not affected.

Thank you for your patience as we work through all the details. We hope this transition is as smooth as possible.

Arts Academy Update

by Janet Basler

Children in the neighborhood near our church will be the focus of our attention in providing art and music instruction in the Arts Academy this year. We hope to continue to use high school and college age musicians to teach piano and guitar each week, and are looking at a new form for the visual arts part of the Arts Academy.

We are looking for adult **volunteers** from the church or **friends of members** to teach classes in: ceramics, sculpting, drawing, painting, singing, dance, woodworking, bells, photography, weaving, crochet/knitting, or....?

The hope is these would be 40 minute classes that meet for 4 weeks. We hope to have the classes sometime between 5:00 and 6:30 pm on Wednesday evenings.

If you would like to be involved in teaching or helping in one of these classes or know someone who might be interested, please call Janet at 229-3041 to discuss the possibilities.



The Arts Academy Recital was April 24. Pictures: Daniel playing the drums and Shelby with her guitar student

Whiz Kids Update

by Janet Basler

We need tutors for Thursday afternoons!

Whiz Kids this school year will be a new experience for us, as Putnam Heights Elementary has closed. We have a few former Crown Heights Whiz Kids who want to continue with their tutors from last year. Their tutors have agreed to pick them up from their new school and bring them to the church for Whiz kids—but, that's not possible for new Whiz Kids, as all the new schools are quite a distance from the church.

So, to help us find Whiz Kids, the Whiz Kids organization found a liaison to work with us. Together we are looking into a new idea. The hope is to fill our program at Crown Heights with children who need help reading and who attend the afterschool program at the **Boys & Girls Club**, which is only a block and a half away from the church.

We anticipate a mid-September start date. **YOU COULD BE ONE OF THE TUTORS!** Call Janet at 229-3041 to get more information on being a Whiz Kids tutor this year.



Pictures from May 2019:
Left- Whiz Kids End-of-the-Year Pizza Party at Hideaway
Right- Orr Family Farm, fun day for Whiz Kids



Originally published in the Oklahoman on Saturday, June 15, 2019

The marquee outside one metro-area church has a message for the surrounding community.

"All are welcome. All means all."

The signage outside Crown Heights United Methodist Church is just one indication that the house of worship recently joined a faith-based coalition working in support of gays and lesbians in the United Methodist Church.

The Rev. Trina Bose North, Crown Heights' senior pastor, said the church voted in May to become part of the Reconciling Ministries Network. The Chicago-based organization is a network of churches, individuals and faith groups working toward full inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer individuals in the United Methodist denomination.

North said church members knew about the network for years but seriously began considering joining it after the Methodists' special General Conference meeting in February in St. Louis. Methodist delegates from around the world gathered at that meeting to take up the issue of gay inclusion in the church. At that time, delegates voted to uphold the denomination's prohibition against same-sex marriage and the ordination of gays and lesbians. Delegates also voted to implement punishments for Methodist clergy who defy the prohibition: suspension from ministry for one year without pay for the first offense and the loss of ministry credentials for a second offense. In the past, punishment has been inconsistent for clergy who have come out as gay or lesbian to their congregations or who have performed gay weddings.

North said she and the church's Reconciling Group were grieved over what they saw as the denomination sending a message that the LGBTQ community is unwelcome in the church. She said the group decided to host several discussions about the issue of inclusion of gays and lesbians. The conversations led to the church holding two congregational votes. Church members voted to accept or reject a statement of inclusivity, and they cast ballots on the matter of joining the Reconciling Ministries advocacy group. The statement of inclusivity was approved by 97 percent.

North said 84 percent of the congregation voted in favor of joining the Reconciling group, 10 percent opposed the idea and 6 percent abstained from voting.

Lane Neal, chairman of both the church's board of trustees and the church's Reconciling group, said joining the pro-LGBTQ network was an important move for the church. He said some church members had talked about possibly joining other faith denominations in the aftermath of the Methodist Church's double-down on the ban on same-sex marriage and the prohibition of openly gay and lesbian clergy.

Another group member Julie Williams said it seemed like a good time for "taking a public stance." "We had enough people who were excited about it," she said.

'New territory'

The church's Reconciling Group evolved from a voluntary church gathering held in September 2018 to discuss the issue of LGBTQ inclusion in the church. About 35 people helped form the group to continue conversations on the issue. Neal said the group eventually chose to bring the matter of joining the Reconciling network to the congregation even though they had not grappled with such a topic before.

"This was new territory for us. I don't know if there were any of us who were looking to upset the apple cart. We knew we needed to reach out, to create a conversation that we've been talking about since the first week of March," he said. North said it's important to note that Crown Heights Methodist will continue to abide by the rules of the United Methodist Church. "We are still United Methodists and are still limited by the rules of the Church. This vote does not mean we can marry or ordain gay people. It does mean that our congregation commits to walking with our gay members," she said.

"If we have a gay couple who wants to get married, we will surround them with our support and presence and help them work through all the specifics of their wedding in another location. And if we have a gay candidate for ministry come through our congregation, we commit to supporting and advocating for them through the Church's process."



Members of the Reconciling Committee outside of Crown Heights UMC

Oklahoma City area church joins Reconciling network

by Carla Hinton

Continued from page 4:

She said joining the network is simply a type of signal to both the LGBTQ community and the community-at-large.

"We want our community and denomination to know we are an open and affirming church. We want LGBTQ people and allies to know all are welcome here. This is a church with different nationalities, different income levels and different voting preferences all worshiping together," she said. "The warmth and hospitality of this church is genuine."

Allie Burkett, another member of the church's Reconciling group, agreed. "I think our goal is just to celebrate and experience life together," she said....

Crown Heights' Reconciling Group Update--

On June 22, the Reconciling Group within our church cheered on the **Pride Parade**. We sported our new shirts, with our church logo in rainbow colors.

By the way if you interested in a **shirt**, we do have some extras. Talk to Trina or Susan to buy one (cost \$10 each).



Reconciling Cookout— Mark and Mark will host a cookout—simply a time to gather to get to know one another. All are welcome to join us!

When: Saturday July 6, from 4:30-7pm
(dinner will be served about 5:30pm)

What to bring: any side or dessert to share

RSVP: atanz2@gmail.com and ask for the address

Children & Youth

Summer Fun!

July 7-11— Youth Mission Trip to Dallas, TX, the youth will volunteer doing urban ministries through Connect 2 Kingdom.

August 4—Children's Pool Party at Judge Amick, leave from the church about noon. We will drop kids off at home at 3pm.

August 18—Youth Colorfest at Church of the Good Shepherd. After church, we will go get pizza, then go to the Church of the Good Shepherd. For Colorfest, wear a white shirt, bring a spare change of clothes. Drop off will be at 6pm.



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.

Crown Heights United Methodist Church
1021 NW 37th St. ■ Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118
405-524-8428

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Facebook: Crown Heights United Methodist Church



EVELYN B. PHYFFER
3300 WINTERHAVEN ST. APT 124
LAS VEGAS NV 89108

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Highlights



May 4—We sent a group to Luther, OK to paint and do some other repairs on Dolph's house. The exterior paint sure brightened up the house. Thanks to everyone who came out and worked, especially Jim Rust and Jim Hayes. We made a difference together!



June 16—While the grownups worshipped, check out the fun our littles were having in the Nursery. This is William pushing Theodore in a doll stroller—photographed by Abby. We have such a great team working with our babies, children, and youth.
Thank you!

June 2—In the 11am worship service, we celebrated God's love for refugees, around the world and in our congregation. We heard stories from our members about their time in refugee camps and how they came to the US. Special thanks to Paw Shee, Nay Paw, Mu Paw, Eh Mina, and Gaythi Soe for sharing.



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Crown Heights UMC
on Facebook!

You can find our page by visiting
www.facebook.com/CrownHeightsUMC

There you will find news of the church, pictures of recent activities, ways to volunteer, and much more!