

the trumpet



CROWN HEIGHTS United Methodist Church

Lead Pastor: Rev. Trina Bose North

February – March 2020

Vol. 16 Issue 1

Gifts of the Dark Wood

by Rev. Trina Bose North

Jumping out of the boat, Peter walked on the water to Jesus... he lost his nerve and started to sink. He cried, "Master, save me!" Jesus didn't hesitate. He reached down and grabbed his hand." - Matt 14: 22-33
The Message

Peter lost his nerve. He thought he was ready to follow Jesus anywhere, but then he went too far. For a moment, he was doing it—walking on water, just as Jesus led him. But then he lost his nerve. He felt ill-equipped; he didn't trust the water to hold him. That is a familiar feeling for me. I step out in courage, but often not thinking through all the details of what might come. And I am familiar with that sinking feeling Peter had. It is the feeling of not knowing what is coming next and not trusting that God is really in control.

Throughout Lent we are going to allow our fears a place in worship with the hope that there are gifts to be learned in these dark, unsettling moments of life. Our theme is "Gifts of the Dark Wood," and it is about "recognizing that experiences of failure, emptiness, and uncertainty are as critical for finding our way through life as they are unavoidable" (Eric Elnes' *Gifts of the Dark Wood*). We will see how the struggles of life are the seedbed of spiritual awakening to the fullness of life.

Lent begins on February 26 with our Ash Wednesday worship at 6:00pm. Join us throughout the Season to step into the unknown, un-contained, unscripted parts of our lives, knowing that Jesus goes with us and never hesitates to reach down and grab our hand when we need it.

Lenten Study

Study on the Apostles' Creed with Rev. Dr. Sharon Betsworth

Wednesdays March 4, 11, 25, and April 1—
Study on the Apostles' Creed, 6-7pm in the Parlor
(No meeting during Spring Break, Wednesday March 18)

Four Wednesday evenings in Lent, we will study the Apostles' Creed, following Brother David Steindl-Rast's book called "Deeper Than Words: Living the Apostles' Creed." Sharon Betsworth will guide our study, focusing on God, Jesus, and the concluding paragraph.

Brother Steindl-Rast's book reveals the often overlooked message of trust, compassion, peace, love, and awareness proclaimed by Christians in this creed.

We proclaim the words, yet too often miss the depth of their meaning in our lives.

Join us to reexamine what the Apostles' Creed has to say to each of us.



DEEPER
than WORDS

LIVING THE APOSTLES' CREED

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February and March Calendar

February

- 2/2 Souper Bowl Potluck, after 11am service
Mission activity in worship
- 2/12 Wednesday Ladies' Day Out, 11am
- 2/16 Diaper shower for 2 families (Hicks and Smith)
- 2/26 Wednesday Ash Wednesday service, 6:00pm

March

- Wednesdays March 4, 11, 25, and April 1—
Study on the Apostles' Creed, 6pm
- 3/8 Spring Time Change
- 3/11 Wednesday Ladies' Day Out, 11am
- 3/28 Saturday Skyline Breakfast, 8:30am

April

- 4/8 Maundy Thursday Worship, 6pm
- 4/12 Easter Sunday, 8:30 and 11am worship
with community breakfast from 9:30-11am

Monthly Missions

Each month our church offers opportunities to serve others. You are invited to participate in sharing God's love with our community in all these ways!

February 2 in worship, we will sign Valentine's cards for our homebound and college members.

March 28- we will prepare serve breakfast at Skyline Urban Ministry. We need to bring 6 casseroles and fruit. Meet at 8:15am until 11am at 500 SE 15th St.

April 18- Join us for a Church Workday with OU's Big Event. Times: 9:30 to 1pm

May- We are looking for a Wednesday evening from 6-8pm to volunteer at the Regional Food Bank.

Summer Mission Trip

July 26 to August 1, 2020 we will send a work group to Henderson Settlement in Kentucky. Leaving after church, we will drive Sunday & Monday. Tuesday-Friday morning, we will do a construction project or volunteer at the food pantry/ thrift store. We will arrive back in OKC on Saturday evening.

Henderson Settlement is a United Methodist mission center in the Appalachian Mountains. Their webpage is www.hendersonsettlement.com.

Cost is \$525. Scholarship money is available.

To sign up, please add your name to the signup sheet in the back of the Sanctuary and turn a \$200 deposit (as soon as possible). Final payment of \$325 will be due on June 1, 2020.

Bread Baking Ministry

We are looking for a new coordinator of our Bread Ministry. We mail a mini loaf of homemade bread to all Sunday morning visitors who live locally, as a gesture of welcome.

We will provide the mailing boxes and postage and you mail the bread to our visitors each week. The names will be emailed early in the week. Also when the freezer is running low on bread, we need our coordinator to send out a plea to the congregation for more.

If you are interested or have any questions, please call Susan in the church office at 524-8428 or email susan@crowheightsumc.org.



Mission Trip Dates: **Sunday, July 26 - Saturday, August 1**

We will leave OKC after church on Sunday, July 26, arriving in Little Rock, AR, where we will stay overnight. The next day, we will arrive in Frakes, KY.

We will work Tuesday morning through Friday morning, leaving Frakes on Friday afternoon. We will arrive in Nashville, TN and stay overnight. We will arrive in OKC on Saturday, August 1.

Total cost per person attending is \$525

Sign up now - A deposit of \$200 per person is due upon sign-up (contact Trina or Susan in the office), and the remaining payment of \$325 is due by June 1, 2020.

Scholarships available.

Visit the Henderson Settlement website at www.hendersonsettlement.com

Whiz Kids and Art's Academy Update

by Janet Basler

WHIZ KIDS

Our Whiz Kids come to our church after a long day at school, a long bus ride to the Boys & Girls Club, and needing food in their bellies that they can enjoy eating. It's been a struggle to get that food for them, but God sent us Kay Byrne who loves to cook. The tutors noticed a marked difference in their Whiz Kids' focus the first week after eating the meatballs and mac & cheese Kay had prepared. We give thanks each week for Kay and her wonderful cooking.

ARTS ACADEMY

We are noticing a distinct difference in the music at the Arts Academy this semester. Tunes we can hum along with are floating thru the air each week now. The smiles at their accomplishments are coming more frequently for the young musicians and their teachers. We thank God each week for all that is happening at the Arts Academy.

WHIZ KIDS, ARTS KIDS & GOD

Each week on Wednesday and Thursday, Pastor Trina meets with all our Arts kids and Whiz Kids to tell them a Bible story, or a story that connects them with biblical teachings. Every week the kids are introduced to God and ways God is active in their lives. And they always, always hear that God Loves Them No Matter What. Thank you, Trina, for the time, energy, and love at the end of your day that you share so well with all our kids.

Whiz Kids Christmas Dinner

For our 15 students, we pulled out all the stops! On December 19, our students, their tutors, and their families all gathered for delicious homemade food, singing, and presents. It was a beautiful night for everyone.

Special thanks to Brigette Gean, decorator and organizer, Carol Weaver, maker of the most delicious mashed potatoes, Janet Basler, our Whiz Kids' Coordinator, And all our faithful tutors!



Ministry Resource Team

Nominations 2020

Trustees

- Lane Neal 2020
- Jared Pickens 2021
- Beverly Endicott 2022

Finance

- Lee Endicott 2020
- Sue Fellers 2021
- Todd Coles 2022

SPRC

- Jay Acquaviva 2020
- Nancy Anthony 2021
- Sue Brown 2022

Church

- Julie Williams 2020
- Greg Tate 2021
- Sally Hayes 2022

E-Giving

Please remember to use our convenient online option of giving. Through the webpage, members will be able to make one time donations or set up monthly giving.

Just to let you all know how it works—

There is a 2.75% fee for all credit and debit card transactions, and there is a 1% fee for all transfers of money from personal banking accounts. (To transfer money from your account, we will ask you to fill out a form.)

We appreciate any gift, of course. But if it is possible for you to transfer funds, the church would benefit even more!

Thank you.

Article on the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation

This was published through Bishop News Ministries on January 3, 2020. It gives background on the new plan for General Conference.

United Methodist Traditionalists, Centrists, Progressives & Bishops sign agreement aimed at separation

(Washington, D.C.) - A diverse group of 16 representatives from United Methodist advocacy groups with contrasting views and bishops from around the world has collaborated on a proposed agreement for the separation of The United Methodist Church (UMC). It will come before the United Methodist General Conference for vote at their legislative meeting in Minneapolis, Minn. in May 2020. The agreement is called [Protocol of Reconciliation & Grace Through Separation](#).

The action comes amid heightened tensions in the church over conflicting views related to human sexuality after the 2019 Special Session of the General Conference failed to resolve differences among church members...

Meeting over several months, the unofficial group reached an agreement by signatories associated with all of the constituencies within the UMC for a mutually supported pathway for separation, bridging differences among other plans to be considered by the General Conference. "The undersigned propose restructuring The United Methodist Church by separation as the best means to resolve our differences, allowing each part of the Church to remain true to its theological understanding, while recognizing the dignity, equality, integrity, and respect of every person," says the Protocol Statement....The representatives have pledged to work together to support the proposal and develop legislation to implement it.

The Protocol anticipates the formation of a new traditionalist Methodist denomination. Once formed, the new church would receive \$25 million over the next four years and give up further claim to the UMC's assets. An additional \$2 million would be allocated for potential additional new Methodist denominations which may emerge from the UMC. Acknowledging the historical role of the Methodist movement in systematic racial violence, exploitation and discrimination, the Protocol would allocate \$39 million to ensure there is no disruption in supporting ministries for communities historically marginalized by racism.

Under the Protocol, conferences and local congregations could vote to separate from The United Methodist Church to affiliate with new Methodist denominations created under the agreement within a certain time frame. Churches wishing to stay within the UMC would not be required to conduct a vote. Provisions exist for entities that choose to separate to retain their assets and liabilities. All current clergy and lay employees would keep their pensions regardless of the Methodist denomination with which they affiliate.

Under the Protocol, all administrative or judicial processes addressing restrictions in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist* related to self-avowed practicing homosexuals or same-sex weddings, as well as actions to close churches, would be held in abeyance until the separation is completed. The Protocol also references a plan which calls for a special general conference of the post-separation United Methodist Church. The purpose of the Special Session would be to create regional conferences, remove the current prohibitions against LGBTQ persons, and to repeal the Traditional Plan.

Speaking on behalf of the group, Bishop John Yambasu (Sierra Leone) stated, "All of us are servants of the church and realize that we are not the primary decision makers on these matters. Instead, we humbly offer to the delegates of the 2020 General Conference the work which we have accomplished in the hopes that it will help heal the harms and conflicts within the body of Christ and free us to be more effective witnesses to God's Kingdom."

Meet our New Children's and Youth Staff



I am **Jamie Gross**. My husband Taylor and I have been members of CHUMC for almost 15 years, along with our two kids, Cory and Daniel. I have been a CHUMC Children's Church teacher for six years, and our Girl Scout troop #584 leader for five years. I LOVE the incredibly diverse and growing children's program that has grown out of the vision and love of Betty Horn, Janet Basler and Lee Endicott.

I am committed to the kids of this church and grateful to the entire church family for loving the kids by making them feel welcome and respected. I appreciate the guidance Trina has provided along with so many others to love our kids through adulthood, helping them develop tools for a successful life. I love this church and am grateful to be officially joining the team!



My name is **Abigail Herring**. I am an education major studying at Oklahoma City Community College. I currently work at Journeys Kidz and Baskin Robbins along with babysitting and teaching piano and music theory. I am excited to be back in the nurse's office and taking care of our babies. I can't wait to meet new faces and help our little ones grow each week.



I am **Sarah Reeder**. I currently work as a registered medical assistant and phlebotomist for OU and plan to go back to school for my bachelor's in nursing and work as a surgical nurse. Before working in the medical field I worked with children for about 10 years off and on. When I'm not working I love spending time with my family and my sweet 3 year old border collie, Tillie, as well as traveling. I am looking forward to being a part of the family of Crown Heights United Methodist Church and helping the children learn about Christ and build a solid relationship with him. I am especially happy to be a part of this church family as this was the church many of my family members attended years ago.



Hello everyone, I am **Jake Harrell**! I am a Youth Ministry and English major at OCU. I am very excited to be joining Crown Heights as the new Youth Activities Director. I am thrilled to be a part of this group because as soon as I began to learn more about Crown Heights I started to realize I am extremely passionate about the things Crown Heights pursues: diversity, Reconciling ministries, mission work, and youth. I can't wait to share my gifts with you, and I wanted to let you all know how much I already love you! Feel free to reach out to me and say hello! I would love to get to know you!

Youth and Children Update

see pictures on the right-

After church on January 5, we took our kids to Tinseltown to enjoy the **movie** "Spies in Disguise." All 35 of us had a great time.

The youth had a **lock-in** on Friday Dec 21-Saturday Dec 22. They had dinner at the church, played Christmas games for prizes, and enjoyed a midnight game of Sardines! The pic is at Starbucks, drinking hot chocolate.



Youth Schedule

February 16— Youth will have lunch at the Oklahoma City University cafeteria. Our new Youth Coordinator Jake Harrell is a college student at OCU and will give our youth a tour of the campus.

March 8—Home Improvement

Stay after church this Sunday to decorate the Youth Room. It needs some love and more personal touches!



Crown Heights United Methodist Church
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December Highlights

Here are some of our festive Church staff—
Susan, Madison, and Mario.
We appreciate each of you!



We celebrated the joy of the Christmas Season this year in worship. Our theme was from Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, *God Bless Us Everyone!*
On December 8, we enjoyed a vocal quartet, singing old English carols.
On December 15, the children and youth performed *A Christmas Carol*.



December 23-- Mobile Meals' substitute cooks, Cassie and crew, brought the Christmas cheer! Hand-decorated boxes and homemade Christmas goodies. Thanks for serving in this way!