

Lead Pastor: Rev. Trina Bose North

CROWN HEIGHTS United Methodist Church October-November 2020 Vol. 16 Issue 5



October Concert

Saturday evening October 3, 2020 5-7pm

Mariann Searle is putting together a night of all our favorite Broadway songs, a little something for everyone. Join us for food, fellowship, and music (starting at 6pm).

November Concert

Saturday evening November 7, 2020 5-7pm

Join us to celebrate *Dia de Los Muertos* with a Mexican food dinner. Church members Leo Villaseca and Sarah Dawson will talk about how this day is commemorated in Mexico.

And well-known, Oklahoma musician Edgar Cruz will introduce us to Mexican music.

No charge, but there will be a donation taken for our church's air conditioner expenses. Bring a lawn chair and your mask. You are invited to our first **Backyard Concert** at the church. This one is Broadway themed, and New York pizza and cheesecake will be served.

No charge, but there will be a donation taken for our church's air conditioner expenses. Bring a lawn chair and your mask. Invite a friend to join for this fun event!

Virtuoso guitarist Edgar Cruz has performed professionally for over four decades and has played throughout America, Europe, Mexico, and South America. He has performed many music festivals in his home state of Oklahoma since the late 70's. Those who witness Cruz's performances become entranced at the precision, speed, and complexity with which his fingers strike the strings of his guitar to create a symphony of sound unusual to just one instrument. Cruz offers an incredibly versatile repertoire and show with selections like "Bohemian Rhapsody," "Dueling Banjos," "Hotel California," classical, Beatles, original, and Latin favorites. Audience interaction, participation, clapping, singing, dancing, and "OLE's" are all encouraged. Ole!

THE TRUMPET (USPS 000-612) is published bi-monthly by Crown Heights United Methodist Church at 1021 NW 37th Street Oklahoma City, OK 73118-7199. Periodical postage paid at Oklahoma City, OK.

Address Service Requested

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Trumpet at the above address.

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October and November Calendar

October

Outdoor Worship Sundays at 9:30am

- 10/3 Saturday- Backyard Concert, Broadway 5-7pm
- 10/11 Sunday— Local Hike led by Mary and Kurt McDaniel, 10:30am (bring a picnic lunch)

10/18 Sunday— Ballot Notarization in front of the church 2-4pm

10/24 Saturday— Church Workday with UCO, 10am-2pm

10/25 Sunday, after worship (10:30am)— Lecture on the Book of Jonah by Rev. Dr. Sharon Betsworth, Halloween Card names due by 10/25

November

11/1— TIME CHANGE and worship schedule change:

Sanctuary Worship at 9:30am and Outdoor Worship at 11am

11/1, 8 15, 22 and 29- Sundays 4-5pm- Book Study 7 Days of Christmas, back patio/ Zoom

11/7 Saturday- Backyard Concert, Dia de Los Muertos, concert by Edgar Cruz 5-7pm

11/15 Sunday- Picnic at Scissortail Park, noon

11/22 Sunday- Skyline Grocery Bags due at the church

A Word from Trina

I hope you take a moment and look over the schedule for the next two months. We are looking for safe ways to worship, connect, grow spiritually, and serve others.

Come November, we will begin offering **worship** each Sunday in the Sanctuary at 9:30am and then have Outdoor Worship at 11am.

If you feel comfortable gathering outside at church, please join us for our **Fall Concert Series** (10/3, 11/7 and 12/5). Each night promises great music, dinner, and time to visit with one another. On Sunday October 25, stay after worship for a **lecture on The Book of Jonah** by Rev. Dr. Sharon Betsworth. She will introduce us to this wonderful story, just before I preach on Jonah throughout the month of November. Also in November, there will be a **book study** on the back patio with a Zoom in option on Sunday afternoons at 4pm.

Other outdoor activities are a **hike**, led by Mary and Kurt McDaniel. After worship on October 11, we will head down to a trail at Thunderbird. The hike will be about 5 miles. Bring a sack lunch. Or join on Sunday November 15 for a **picnic** at Scissortail Park— just a relaxed time to gather with our kids playing nearby.

For our October Monthly Mission, the church will be sending out **Halloween cards** and candy to any of your friends and family (\$10 per name, proceeds go to our mission fund). And in November for our 5th year in a row, we will be collecting **grocery bags** with a full Thanksgiving meal inside. Please shop the list on page 5.

Our goal is to find creative ways to be the church! I hope there is something for everyone. Please be in touch with me if you have any questions or concerns.

Book Study in November and December



CHRISTMAS



You are invited to participate in a book study on <u>**7 Days of Christmas: A Season of Generosity</u>** by Jen Hatmaker</u>

Sundays November 1 through December 13, 4-5pm Meet on the back patio of the church OR Zoom in to join the discussion.

Trina purchased 10 used copies of the book, \$6 each. Talk to her for a copy.

Write up: *7 Days of Christmas* takes on seven key areas—food, clothes, spending, media, possessions, waste, and stress—and turns them into thoughtful and practical generosity that captures the true spirit of Christmas. The book contains snippets of Jen's journey throughout to offer insight, humor, ideas, facts, and encouragement for the reader to consider while embracing this change, if only for 24 hours at a time.

October-November 2020

Sanctuary Worship Guidelines

We are preparing our Sanctuary for in-person worship. Please, read the guidelines we are instituting for safety.

- Masks are required. Family units will be seated **at least** six feet apart. Once seated, try not to change seats.
- Pews are marked off. Each pew can seat up to two people or one family unit.
- Masks and hand sanitizer will be available at every entrance.
- Doors will be open, to eliminate touching of door handles, and air will be circulating during worship.
- There will be no congregational singing, but we can have piano music or a soloist (12 feet from any other person).
- We will not have nursery but will have activities for children in the back of the sanctuary.
- Three balconies in the sanctuary offer more distance from others. The balconies on the north and south are smaller, room for one person or family unit. The west balcony is larger, room for 3 people or family units.
- Please look for signage as to where to sit. Do not sit on the row closest to the railing for the safety of the people underneath.
- Before and after the service, please move quickly to the back exits. If you would like to visit with others, try to do so outside.

Inside worship requires extra precautions to limit the spread of COVID-19. Also we will Livestream worship on Facebook and post videos so those who prefer home will have that option.

Worship Options October – Outdoor Worship at 9:30am In case of weather, we will move into the Sanctuary.

November – Sanctuary Worship at 9:30am, Outdoor Worship at 11am

Each Sunday, we will continue to Livestream worship on Facebook and post videos on our webpage.

On-Line Ministries

Serving our community online is a priority for us. We want to give our congregation options to stay home and still worship and connect to one another. You are invited to plug in to these opportunities:

Facebook (Crown Heights United Methodist Church) for info and worship videos.

Webpage (<u>crownheightsumc.org</u>) for online giving and sermon videos.

Zoom for small group gatherings— conversation on directed topics.

If you are having a hard time viewing worship, please let Trina know. We can work with your system and help you connect to the webpage or create a Facebook account for you. We can provide the worship videos on USB drives and help you watch them on your computer or a portable player. Just let us know what you need.

Crown Heights UMC Blankets

Marc Silver*, NPR Journalist, says blankets might prove helpful during this pandemic. Since outdoors is preferable to indoors in terms of risk because air flow dilutes the virus and disrupts the flow of any viral particles, blankets might be the key to continue outside socializing at a safe distance as the weather gets cooler.

As we continue Outdoor Worship into the fall, the church is making blankets with our logo embroidered on them. Blanket size is 50x60 inches. Cost is \$12 per blanket.

So it's time to get your next essential item for the pandemic—masks, lawn chairs, and now blankets!



*Marc Silver, Coronavirus FAQ (9/18/20)

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Monthly Mission-October

Our church mission's fund provides assistance to anyone who knocks on the church door with food, bus passes, and limited financial support, and it also supports our church mission projects.



As a fundraiser for our mission's fund. we are mailing out **Halloween treats** to any child or adult in your life. You provide the church office names and addresses for anyone to whom you would like us to send a Halloween card and candy, and we will take care of the rest! Cost is \$10 per name. Give Trina or Susan in the office names by Sunday, October 25 (susan@crownheigh tsumc.org).

Monthly Mission-November

Thanksgiving Bag Shopping List

Our church is collecting bags of food for families in need of a Thanksgiving meal. Our grocery list is all the non-perishable food items needed to feed a family of six, not including the meat. Please shop the grocery list above and deliver to the church. Bags will be given to Skuline Urban Ministries for Thanksgiving distribution.

- **Q** 2 boxes stove top stuffing
- 2 boxes scalloped potatoes
- □ 1 box pancake/baking mix (for biscuits)
- 2 cans green beans
- 1 can sweet potatoes
- 2 cans corn
- 1 package cookie mix
- 1 box cake mix

by Lee Endicott

□ 1 can prepared frosting to go with cake mix

Total cost per bag \$18

You may donate the cost of a bag (\$18), and we will do your shopping (turn in money by November 15), or bring bags with items to the church by Sunday November 22.

Ministry Resource Team Update

Adaptation is Key

by Julie Williams If pandemic conditions has taught us anything, it is that adapting is key to survival and to thriving! Our Ministry Resource Team is making revisions to keep worship relevant and accessible! For the month of October, we are continuing Outdoor Worship at 9:30 am. In event of inclement weather, worship will be moved into the Sanctuary.

In November, we will be offering two services— a 9:30am service in the Sanctuary and an 11:00am service outside. Please note each Sunday, we will continue offering Livestream worship on Facebook and post videos on our webpage. Our goal is to meet the needs of our congregation while keeping our members safe! We can do this!!!

Finance Update

We are now just a few weeks into our fundraising campaign for the air conditioning repair and have had a very good initial response from the congregation. As previously reported, one of our air conditioning units has gone out. The total cost for the repairs and renovation needed to move the units off the roof is \$35,000. To date, we have received around \$5000 toward the air conditioning fund. While we still have a way to go, this is a good start. In the coming months, we will have various fundraising events including our Backyard Concert Series to raise money for the repairs. However, you don't have to wait for the show to donate! This congregation has a great history of supporting our church financially, and I know they will this time as well. Thanks for all you do!

Ministry Resource Team

Nominations 2021

| Trustees | | |
|----------|-------------------------|------|
| | Jim Rust | 2021 |
| | Beverly Endicott | 2022 |
| | Lane Neal | 2023 |
| Finance | | |
| | Sue Fellers | 2021 |
| | Todd Coles | 2022 |
| | Lee Endicott | 2023 |
| SPRC | | |
| | Nancy Anthony | 2021 |
| | Sue Brown | 2022 |
| | Jay Acquaviva | 2023 |
| Church | | |
| | Greg Tate | 2021 |
| | Evan Kostelka | 2022 |
| | Julie Williams | 2023 |
| | | |

October-November 2020

Whiz Kids Update

Crown Heights Whiz Kids is looking for new tutors and substitutes to volunteer this year in our reading program. We are in our 18th year of providing reading tutoring for at-risk students. This year the program goes online. Twelve students and their tutors from last year + three new students and tutors began our Whiz Kids' year Thursday afternoon, September 17th.

Our training includes how to meet with students in a Google online classroom and how to access books the students will read. Students receive "real" books to read with activities related to the books. Tutors receive suggestions for asking questions and working with the kids on activities related to the books. Many of our tutors were surprised how easily they learned to do virtual meetings with each other and their Whiz Kids.

Our students are associated with the Boys & Girls Club of OKC. The Boys and Girls Club is set to recruit new Whiz Kids and help them each week to meet with their tutors for Whiz Kids. **Now we need tutors**. Whiz Kids meet from 4:30- 5:45 each Thursday afternoon. Each session includes a Bible Story with Pastor Trina, a 30 minute reading time, and a time after the kids leave for tutors to discuss with each other ideas for working with their Whiz Kids.



Picture: Tutors being trained on Zoom meetings on 9/10/20

Children and Youth Update



Pics of kids at our Mid-week Lesson, Thursdays at 10am With the limitations of Covid, we continue to look for ways to connect with our children and youth.

Sunday School On the Go— 10 lessons through the mail for younger and older kids— Many of our kids continue to progress through their lessons and earn their prizes. If your child has fallen off but wants to get back in, just call the office and Susan will send them what they need.

Mid-Week Lessons— Thursdays at 10am on the back patio— Each week, Trina will teach a lesson to kids. All are invited to the church for a time of hands-on learning and play. Should last about 30 mins. Wear masks.

Worship— As we worship outside and make plans for Sanctuary worship, we will continue to provide a child care person to provide activities and watch children. They are available to take kids to the back playground, if the parents consent.

Youth Update

Since July, we have offered a monthly outside pizza night. This is such a difficult time for our students new schools, virtual schedules, less social activities. Hold them in your prayers.

Next event:

October 3, Saturday— Backyard Concert, 5-7pm Dinner is provided, enjoy the music.





by Janet Basler

Crown Heights United Methodist Church

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August and September Highlights

August 9— We gathered at The Neals' to say goodbye to the Pickens, before their move back to Tennessee. We enjoyed **Big Truck Tacos**, Ashley's favorite!



Meet our newest members, **Eric**, **Elizabeth**, **and Sadie Ware**. Elizabeth Horton-Ware is a United Methodist minister and is the Religious Life director at OCU. Eric teaches math at Casady School, and Sadie is in 2nd grade. A warm welcome to each of you!



Homecoming was celebrated on September 13. We celebrated with Dolph Grolock sharing stories about his life and with Cuppie and Joe's cupcakes. Such joy seeing so many of our church family again!

