



CROWN HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH — PASTOR: REV. TRINA BOSE-NORTH

Proximity Matters by Rev. Trina Bose North

Attorney and author of *Just Mercy* Bryan Stevenson, in a “Brief But Spectacular” talk on the *PBS Newshour*, proposes the idea that proximity will change us. Actually, he says, it will break us— break us open to see the needs of this world and fill us with a yearning for redemption, reconciliation, and repair.

Stevenson put forward a theological reality I had not named. God desires transformation for our world and calls each of us to do God’s work of redemption, reconciliation, and repair. Stevenson pointed out our yearning for change comes from proximity to pain.

So we need to place ourselves in the proximity of pain and listen. I am guessing most church-people will say, of course, we know this and have done this in our lives. But I would like to suggest this is something we

need to do again and again. In fact, we need to practice this level of listening as a spiritual discipline. So may this serve as a time to recommit ourselves to vigilantly seek out uncomfortable places and be open to the pain in front of us.

Every person we encounter has something to teach us, if we are willing to go deep enough to learn the lesson. I know we can’t walk around seeking proximity and depth every minute of the day, but I bet we can be more intentional. This is work for our souls. As I seek out God, my calling, and my passion, God will break open my heart with the stories I need to hear.

Trina’s Sunday School class has been listening to speakers featured on PBS’s “Brief But Spectacular.” Join us through the end of February for these videos & discussions— Sundays 9:45am in the Parlor.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:30 am-- Sanctuary Worship with weekly communion
- 9:45- 10:45 am-- Sunday School
- 11 am-- Sanctuary Worship with Children’s Moment

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SCHEDULE

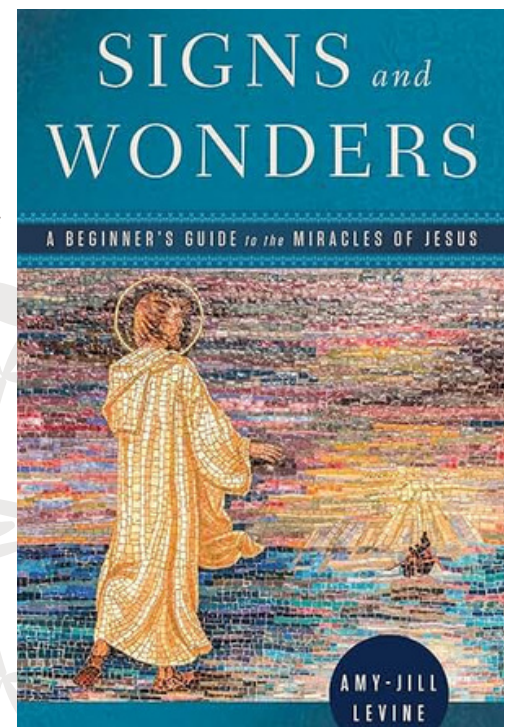
- Nursery is available from 8:30 am- 12:15 pm.
- Children and Youth Sunday School is from 9:45-10:45 am. Meet in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast then a lesson.
- Children and Youth attend the 11 am Service. In Worship, kids are invited up for the Children’s Moment and Children’s Church.

6-Week Study on Jesus’ Miracles

Join us for a 6-week Lenten study as we explore the miracles of Jesus in *Signs and Wonders* with Amy-Jill Levine, Professor of New Testament studies. In *Signs and Wonders: A Beginner’s Guide to the Miracles of Jesus*, Amy-Jill Levine explores selected miracles of Jesus in historical and theological context. For each miracle, she discusses not only how past witnesses would have understood the events, but also how today’s readers can draw meaning from Jesus’s words and actions.

Sundays March 9- April 13 at 9:45am in the Parlor, Trina’s Sunday School will focus on this book.

Join us for a video segment by the author discussion to follow.



Mark your calendars

February

February 2, Sunday— Crafternoon, noon-2pm AND Covenant Group, 5pm
 February 5, Wednesday— Youth Group, 5:30-7:30pm
 February 9, Sunday— Souper Bowl Potluck, noon-- NO Covenant Group
 February 12, Wednesday— Retiree lunch, 11:30am
 February 16, Sunday— Covenant Group, 5pm
 February 19, Wednesday— Youth Group, 5:30-7:30pm
 February 23, Sunday— Covenant Group, 5pm

March

March 1, Saturday— All-church Burger lunch at Sid's in El Reno, 11:30am
 March 2, Sunday— Covenant Group, 5pm
 March 5, Wednesday— Ash Wednesday service, 6pm
 AND Youth Group, 5:30-7:30pm (attend Ash Wednesday service)
 March 7, Friday— Young Adult Karaoke, 6:30pm
 March 9, Sunday— Time change Sunday AND Crafternoon, noon,
 AND Covenant Group, 5pm
 March 10, Monday— Cook dinner for OCU Wesley 6pm, deliver at 7:30pm
 March 12, Wednesday— Retiree lunch, 11:30am
 March 16, Sunday— Covenant Group, 5pm
 March 19, Wednesday— Youth Group, 5:30- 7:30pm
 March 23, Sunday— Covenant Group, 5pm

April (looking ahead)

April 5, Saturday—OU's Big Event, workday at the church
 April 13, Sunday— Palm Sunday, 8:30 & 11am worship
 April 17, Thursday— Maundy Thursday service, 6pm
 April 20, Sunday— Easter Sunday, 8:30 & 11am worship, Fellowship time between services

Join Us...

Crafternoons

Enjoy sewing, quilting, knitting, scrapbooking, painting? Join the crafters on Sundays, Feb 2 and March 9 (noon to 2pm) at the church. Bring a snack to share.



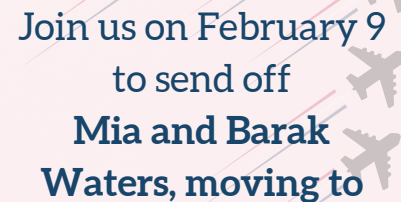
Covenant Group

Sundays, 5- 6pm in the Youth Activity Building, enter through the Garden Room.

We are offering a new opportunity for those wanting to deepen their faith through group discussions. Sundays at 5pm, join us as we take on a topic and hear each person's experience, wisdom, or uncertainties on that topic. Participants will be asked to bring forward a topic and/or lead a meeting, or there will be devotion materials available to start the conversation. The goal is to start our week with conversations that grow us spiritually.

Guidelines for the meetings:

- Be on time, plan for meetings to last no longer than one hour.
- Turn off your phone.
- Try to allow everyone to share before you offer a second comment.
- Treat people's comments as confidential.
- Use "I" statements.
- Avoid cross-talk, meaning direct all comments to the group,



Join us on February 9
 to send off
**Mia and Barak
 Waters, moving to
 Nebraska,**
 AND on March 2 to
 send off
**Elisabeth, Clayton,
 and Milo Wilson,
 moving to
 Washington DC.**
 Barak and Clayton
 have both been
 stationed at Tinker,
 but are being
 reassigned.
 We have loved
 having them in our
 church while they
 were in OKC!

Tabletop Tavern



Join us for tabletop board gaming. This is an opportunity to come together to play Warhammer 40K (like the game of Risk, but way bigger and a bit faster) Magic the Gathering, Dungeons and Dragons, Yu-Gi-Oh, and have games for "rent" (from Clue to the nerdiest game you can imagine!). This is a great place to hang out and get to know new people.

Enter through the patio facing Western Ave.

TABLETOP HOURS:
Fridays
February 7, 21 & 28
5- 10pm

Your local destination to all things tabletop & nerdy!

THE TABLETOP Tavern

UPCOMING DATES
JAN. 10, 24 & 31
FEB. 7, 21 & 28
5-10PM

1021 NW 37TH ST.
OKC, OK

Need Office Space?

For those officing out of our building, we want it to be a comfortable, kind environment. We only advertise through the church so we attract people who desire community as they work.

We have offices available for rent in the east Youth Activity Building. The rooms rent for \$300 monthly for the offices.

Talk to Trina to discuss your needs.

The rooms have WiFi, light custodial, and are furnished.



Find your people

Young Adults, 20s- 30s+

Join us at Seoul Pocha, 1520 NW 23rd St. for food and karaoke! on Friday March 7 at 6:30pm.

Retirees, retired or soon-to-be

Join us on February 12 (11:30am) at Grand House Asian Bistro, 2701 N. Classen Blvd, OKC. Meet at the restaurant. March 12 (11:30am), we will meet at Tucker's Burgers, Classen Curve.



SID'S DINER

Crown Heights Night Out, everyone

The whole church is invited to El Reno's Sid's Diner, 300 S Choctaw Ave. on March 1 at 11:30am. This might be the best burger in Oklahoma! Let's find out.

Service opportunities

Monthly Missions

February

This month we will focus on the unhoused population in OKC. On February 23, we will have a speaker from Curbside Chronicle in worship. We will have a vendor selling their magazines for \$2 each. We will be gathering items to make care packages for all curbside vendors.

March

Monday March 10, we will bring dinner to OCU following their Evensong worship service, about 50 students normally. I am looking for a group who can meet at the church at 6pm to prepare the meal. We will deliver the hot food at 7:30pm.

April

Saturday April 5 from 9:30am - 2pm, come help us host students for OU's Big Event. Help greet or supervise a group of workers.

We all need a vacation!
As you travel, please bring back your un-used hotel hygiene bottles. Our youth package them up in bags for the homeless.



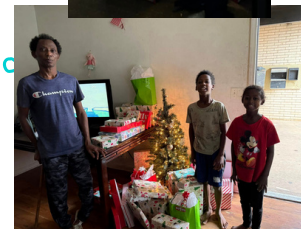
Winter Clothes

THANK YOU, church, for bringing all your extra coats, gloves, and warm clothes to church. We passed on about 400 pounds of clothing to Skyline Urban Ministry. Our church stocked their Style Shop, full of useful items in time for the coldest weeks of the year.

Bringing the Light of Christ to Others



December was a busy month of serving others-- as it should be!
We purchased \$1800 of half-price bus passes to give out throughout the year. Our parents provided a care package for a family traveling for surgery over the holidays.
We shopped for two men at Palo Duro, making sure Christmas came to them. On December 19, our church cooked for NSO's Palo Duro's Christmas party and the Whiz Kids' dinner- 25 volunteers made it all happen.
We bought Christmas gifts for 6 of our members' kids- clothes, books, something fun, and a tree for everything to go under!



Finance Update by Lee Endicott

The 2024 finances are now in the books and the Finance Committee is finalizing the budget for 2025. We finished 2024 with a relatively small \$5,000.00 loss. While it is obviously not good to operate at a loss, in this case it is not as bad as it might seem. The loss does not include more than \$19,000.00 in income the church received for weekday offices that were rented to various individuals. That money is not reflected in the income statement, but goes straight to a designated fund for future church repairs. If included in the regular church income, we would have operated at a profit. This is especially good in light of all the repairs, updating and beautification projects the church was able to do thanks to your generous response to our Capital Fundraising Campaign. We also were able to pay all of our mandatory Conference Apportionments in 2024 and hope to do so again in 2025. Without your contributions, the church would not survive to continue doing God's work. Thanks for all you do.



THANK YOU TO OUR DILIGENT FINANCE TEAM!

Member updates

January 20- Mychaelon Mullins officially joined our church. He is a first grade teacher, working at the same school as Natalie Brittingham. Mychaelon is a joy in every room he's in!



On-Line Giving is Easy!

Please remember to use our convenient online option of giving. Through the webpage (crownheightsumc.org, look for the donate link in the green box) you will be able to make one time donations or set up monthly giving. The QR code below takes you to our church webpage, as well.

Just to let you all know how it works—

- There is a 2.75% fee for all credit and debit card transactions.
- 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.



A highlight in worship on January 20 was witnessing Ron and Jennifer Sahmaunt present a blanket to Christian Leal. This is a Native American way of honoring Christian for his care and help in a moment of need. Christian and Audrey are former members, back visiting. They are soon moving from Atlanta to Austin. We hope they come back and say hi again soon.

Whiz Kids

by Bruce Pitts



First, I would like to thank all the Crown Heights members who helped make this year's Whiz Kids Christmas banquet one of the best ever. Trina, Brigette Gean, and her team beautifully decorated Fellowship Hall, set up the tables and chairs, served about 125 meals for the kids and their families, and stayed late to clean up the kitchen and Fellowship Hall. It was a rollicking good time which got everyone in the Christmas spirit and was a fitting end to our successful and joyful first semester.

We started the new semester with a celebration of the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. and a very spirited Star of the Week introduction by Melinda Norton. The Star of the Week is a weekly program where a tutor joyfully introduces and celebrates the hard work, effort, positive qualities and accomplishments of their student. Melinda's enthusiastic presentation of her student Lake not only let everyone know how well Lake is doing, but also made it clear how much love Melinda receives back from Lake and how much she looks forward to Thursday afternoons with Lake.

We have an active spring semester planned! Besides reading and learning, we are going on field trips to Dynamo Gym, Full Circle Book Store and even an art gallery. We could not help our children without all the support we get from CHUM and we all want to thank you for making Whiz Kids a part of your community outreach. You are making a positive difference!

Arts Academy

by Jamie Gross

Arts Academy is back in full swing after Christmas break. Our kiddos might be a little rusty but the teachers are ready to get them back to work. The very popular art class is starting a ceramics unit and will be making snowmen trays and hot cocoa mugs! The building is alive with our kids here again!



Youth Programming

YOUTH SCHEDULE

Typically, Youth Group meets the first and third Wednesday of the month from 5:30-7:30pm.

FEBRUARY

Wednesday, February 5- Lessons and Games

Sunday, February 22- Chili Dinner @ Edmond FUMC, 5:30-8pm

MARCH

Wednesday, March 5- Ash Wednesday service

Starting on Sunday, March 9, join for a Sunday School series called "Believe like Jesus" through April 13

Wednesday, March 19- Lesson and Games

Join each Sunday at 10am for breakfast in the Fellowship Hall and a lesson in the Youth Room. Youth will attend 11am worship on the first Sunday of month (no phones). The other Sundays, youth will have a Bible lesson during worship.



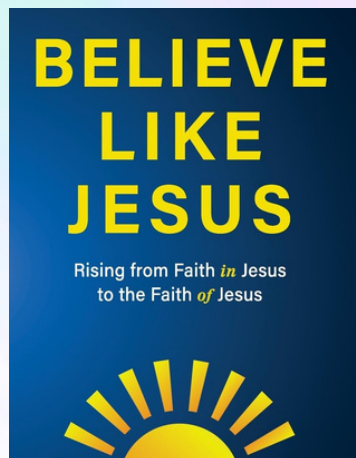
January 5- our kids and youth played outside during church. They made the most of the snow!

Children's Ministry

Our children will be participating in the same theme as worship during Lent. Bring your kids to "Believe Like Jesus" and be ready for Easter.

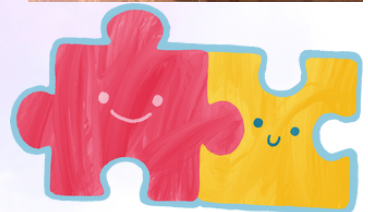
"Believe Like Jesus" begins on March 9 through April 13, during the Sunday School hour 10 to 11am.

In our series *Believe Like Jesus*, our children and youth will follow a road map to deepen their faith and actively engage with the world around them. This guide encourages them to embrace the power of faith, not as passive believers but as dynamic agents of change. Yes, our children and youth can absolutely be dynamic agents of change in our world!



YOU'RE MY FAVORITE

YOU LIGHT UP MY LIFE



I LOVE YOU TO PIECES

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



Periodical
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Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30am-1:00 pm
Facebook: Crown Heights United Methodist Church

Address Service Requested

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Trumpet at 1021 NW 37th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73118

Christmas Highlights



Our Journey to Bethlehem for Christmas

This Christmas we focused on the locations told about in the birth story of Jesus.

Each place had a lesson of its own for us.

Rome, Jerusalem, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Persia, and Egypt

December 22 was our children's program.

They acted out the Christmas story from Joseph's point of view.

December 24- Christmas Eve worship, the Krone grandkids were our candle lighters