



The Trumpet



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

Rev. Trina Bose North

How many times have you heard someone say, "Jesus died for your sins"? It's a phrase so common in Christianity that we almost assume it comes straight from the Bible. Yet through Christian history, believers have offered many different understandings of why Jesus died on the cross. In theology, we call this **atonement**—the bringing together of God and humanity, bridging the gap between God and us. In fact, the word atonement can be thought of as AT-ONE-MENT.

How, then, is our relationship with God made right through the cross? Christian thinkers through the centuries have proposed rich and varied images: the cross as victory over evil (*Christus Victor*), as the satisfaction of divine justice, as a moral example of self-giving love, and more. Each invites us deeper into the mystery of God's grace.

Christianity stands alone among world religions in proclaiming a God who suffers— who is not distant from human pain but enters into it fully. We worship a God who faced the cross and, through it, reveals love stronger than death. This Lenten season, may we ponder the lessons of Jesus and the cross, and may God move us to deeper understanding, conviction, and faith.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30am- Sanctuary Worship with weekly communion

9:45- 10:45am- Sunday School

11am- Sanctuary Worship with Children's Moment

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SCHEDULE

Nursery is available from 8:30am to 12:15pm.

Children and Youth Sunday School is from 9:45-10:45am. Meet in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast, then a lesson.

Children and Youth attend the 11am Service. In worship, kids are invited up for the Children's Moment and Children's Church.

Trina's Sunday School will participate in Adam Hamilton's book on atonement.

Join us Sundays, February 22 through March 29, from 9:45-10:45am in the Parlor.

by Adam Hamilton

WHY
DID JESUS
HAVE TO
DIE?

THE MEANING OF THE
CRUCIFIXION

Despite the crucifixion's central place in Christian faith, the New Testament offers few clear answers about how Jesus' death saves, or why, exactly, he had to die. The New Testament writers use a host of metaphors—ransom, sacrifice, reconciliation, victory—but never explain exactly how it works or why it had to happen this way. What if that's because we've been asking the wrong question? What if the cross isn't a transaction to be explained, but a living Word from God meant to transform who we are and how we live?

Mark your calendars

Covenant Group— every Saturday 9:30- 10:30am in the Youth Activity Bldg, park on 37th St, enter through the Garden Room.

February

February 1, Sunday— Pop-Up Curbside Flower Shop, 9:30am- noon
 February 4, Wednesday— Youth Group, 5:30- 7:30pm
 February 8, Sunday— Souper Bowl Potluck, noon
 February 11, Wednesday— Retiree Lunch at Mesero in The Oak, 11:30am
 February 15, Sunday— Crafternoon, noon to 2pm
 February 18, Wednesday— **Ash Wednesday service, 6pm**
 AND Youth Group, 5:30- 7:30pm
 February 19, Thursday— UCO lunch, 11am (need Rice Krispy treats)
 February 22, Sunday— Gen X Night Out at Truck Yard, 5pm

March

March 1, Sunday— Methodism 101 over pizza, noon
 March 4, Wednesday— Youth Group, 5:30- 7:30pm
 March 7, Saturday— Volunteer at Free to Live Animal Sanctuary, 11am-3pm
 March 8, Sunday— TIME CHANGE and Crafternoon, noon to 2pm
 March 11, Wednesday— Retiree Lunch at Iron Star, 11:30am
 March 13-14, Friday to Saturday— Youth Lock-In
 March 29, Sunday— **Palm Sunday worship, 8:30 & 11am**
 Young Adult Lunch at Cheeba Hut, noon

April (Early Heads Up)

April 2, Thursday— Maundy Thursday service, 6pm
 April 5, Sunday— **Easter worship 8:30 & 11am**,
 fellowship & refreshments between services
 April 11, Saturday— OU Big Event, 9:30am- 2pm

Join Us...



Check out tabletop games at our church!!

FOOTBALL

Souper Bowl Potluck

Join us for a soup potluck on February 8 at noon. Stay to enjoy the meal and the company! Please bring your favorite soup to share.

Dessert: Girl Scout cookies sold by our church's troop. Consider donating cookies for our Mobile Meals clients.

ProTip— bring a muffin tin to sample all the soups



Covenant Group

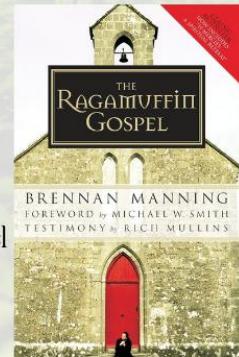
Saturdays, 9:30- 10:30am in the Youth Activity Building, enter through the Garden Room.

This is an open group that aims to deepen our faith through group discussions. Join us as we explore a topic and hear each person's experience, wisdom, or uncertainties on that subject.

At the New Year, we started reading The Ragamuffin Gospel by Brennan Manning. (No need to read in advance.)

A quote from the book:

“The ragamuffin who sees his life as a voyage of discovery and runs the risk of failure has a better feel for faithfulness than the timid man who hides behind the law and never finds out who he is at all.”



Worship +12

Besides worship, look for one other way to participate in church!



Methodism 101

If you would like to know more about our local church and the United Methodist denomination, join us for a conversation over pizza on **Sunday, March 1 at noon**.

Trina Bose North will briefly talk about the beginnings of Methodism, our distinct theology, and our sacraments. She'll tell a little of Crown Heights UMC's history and mission.

This is for anyone interested in learning a little more, whether you are a long-long Methodist or brand new. All are welcome to join this conversation.

RSVP to Trina for a count and give dietary restrictions.



Find Your People

Young Adults, 20s- 30s+

On Sunday, March 29 at noon, let's have lunch at Cheeba Hut. Address: 323 NW 23rd St.

Gen X, midlifers

On Sunday, February 22 at 5pm, join us at the Truck Yard in BrickTown. There are indoor & outdoor seating options. Come, get food, and catch up with great people. Address: 240 Centennial Dr

Retirees, retired or soon-to-be

Wednesday, February 11 at 11:30am, let meet at Mesero in The Oak, across from Penn Square. Address: 2121 NW 50th St, Suite 200. AND Wednesday, March 11 at 11:30am, back to Iron Star! Reservation under Trina's name! Address: 3700 N Shartel

All-Church Souper Bowl Potluck

Sunday, February 8 at noon, everyone is welcome to join for a Potluck in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a soup to share (or don't!) and buy Girl Scout cookies for dessert!

The Outsiders:
A Broadway Musical is coming to OKC's Civic Center.

Sunday August 30, 2pm
The church is putting together a group. Talk to Trina if you'd like to join us. We will try for the Sunday matinee, cheapest seats in the house!



TONY AWARD WINNER! **BEST MUSICAL**
THE OUTSIDERS
Stay Gold



PICTURES:

Jan 18- Young Adults (plus others) enjoyed a night of karaoke

Jan 14- Retiree lunch at Paseo Grill

Jan 18- Pancake Breakfast, thanks to all our men who cooked!



Finance Update

by Lee Endicott

The 2025 finances are now in the books and the Finance Committee is excited to announce that the year ended on a very high note. We begin each year with a budget that aims at having sufficient income to cover our expenses. However, 2025 ended up being an exceptional year. Thanks to the giving of our generous church members, we ended 2025 with a net profit of almost \$29,000.00! On top of that, we received another \$20,000 or so in rents that aren't reflected in that figure. We also received 98.5% of our pledges, which is a much higher percentage than usual. Non-pledged giving was more than 135% of the budgeted amount.

This year our church was faced with many unanticipated building repairs which we could not have done without our members' financial support. Your giving also allowed Crown Heights to aid others by paying all of our mandatory 2025 Conference Apportionments in their entirety. Those Apportionments are used to help those in need throughout our community, state, nation and world! You also went above and beyond supporting our Christmas offering which was designated for tenants at risk of losing their residences. Last year we budgeted \$6,500 for our Christmas Offering. However, thanks to our members, we raised \$12,816.78, of which \$9,600.00 was donated to Neighborhood Services Organization's Stay Housed Program. The remainder was put in our Mission Designated Fund to help those seeking aid from our church for housing issues.

Finally, I want to thank everyone who returned their 2026 pledge cards. This year, we increased our pledges by more than \$30,000 over 2025. Without your contributions, the church would not survive to continue doing God's work. Thanks for all you do!

Thank
You!

2025 Apportionment Update

We paid our Oklahoma United Methodist Apportionment in full. Our required Apportionment was \$28,280, but surprisingly, we paid \$30,691, meaning we paid 109% of our requirement. This happened because our members gave through our church to support UM ministries, like Project Transformation, Campus Ministries, Hispanic Ministries, and the OK Indian Missionary Conference.

We also generously gave \$2,363 to Circle of Care, Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries, NSO, Cookson Hills Center, Skyline Urban Ministry, and Oklahoma City University.



Rooms for rent

For those office out of our building, we want it to be a comfortable, kind work 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.



Stay Housed Offering

This year, our Christmas Offering went to lessening evictions in our community. We donated \$9,600 to Neighborhood Service Organization's Stay Housed and kept \$3,200 at the church to help people who call upon us in crisis.

The director of Stay Housed, Jessica Earley, spoke with our church about how to help those facing eviction. In OK, tenants can be evicted if they are 14 days behind on their rent (even if deposits cover their last month of rent). Extending that by a week would greatly help tenants understand the process and catch up on payments.

Service opportunities

Monthly Missions

February

City Rescue houses 300 individuals and families per night, and they work to get people into permanent housing (900 people were housed last year!).

Throughout February, please bring us your used kitchen and home decor items. We pass them along to City Rescue's shop for people moving into permanent housing. Also, twin and full-sized linens are helpful as well.

AND

Get your spare change ready, we are going to do a Noisy Offering, raising money for City Rescue Mission. With the cash, we will shop for their most needed items.

March

We have a connection to Free To Live (No Kill) Animal Sanctuary for dogs and cats in Guthrie. Kevin Putt is on their Board. Saturday, March 7, from 11am to 3pm, let's go and volunteer with them. We might be asked to walk dogs, play with cats, or clean out pens & litter boxes.

Free to Live can also use the following items as they work to serve over 300 cats and dogs each year.

NEEDED ITEMS:

Nylabone or Kong dog toys, Cat toys

Non-clumping cat litter, Dog or cat treats

Wet dog food and wet cat food,

Small AM/FM radios (animals love listening to music!)

Laundry soap, dish soap, bleach



Calendar of Giving

We want you to know what extra giving/serving opportunities are on the horizon.

March and April—

Please bring individually wrapped Easter candy to the church by March 22 for the kids' Egg Hunt.

AND

Our Easter Offering will go toward our 2026 Apportionments to the OK Conference of the UMC.

AND

April 11, Saturday, help us supervise and host OU's Big Event volunteers at our church.

AND

April 16, Thursday, join us for the City Rescue's Heart for Hope Luncheon, Noon



Check this out!

Look what we did together in December and January...

- We provided kitchen & food items for a UCO student in the dorms for Christmas break.
- We paid \$200 toward a family's rent & gave kitchen items & some furniture for their home.
- On December 9, our church gave \$450 to get a family's water back on. The mom also left with 3 bags of children's items to be wrapped as Christmas gifts.
- Our church provided Christmas for 2 families and 2 residents at Palo Duro. For the newest residents at Palo Duro, we bought them new linens and kitchen items. We shopped for a family at Che's school, and we brought Christmas to the littles who attend our church- new clothes & new (used) bikes!
- We cooked the Christmas meal for Palo Duro's Christmas party & Whiz Kids' dinner.
- Our Christmas Offering raised \$12,800 to prevent evictions through Stay Housed & our church office.
- We paid our OK UM Apportionment at 109%! Above & beyond the call of duty!
- For a young woman who grew up in our church, we stored her furniture & belongings to save her money. When she moved into her apartment, we added to it to make it home.
- On January 21, just ahead of a snowstorm, we paid \$521 to get a woman's electricity back on.



Whiz Kids

For the 23rd straight year, a fantastic Whiz Kids Christmas party rocked the walls of Fellowship Hall and launched us all into the Christmas spirit. A HUGE Thank You to Brigitte Gean and her crew for decorating the hall (check out the red pickup truck on the stage), preparing a delicious meal, serving, and cleaning up. We served about 120 that night, including the principal and several teachers from Wilson Elementary School and our 20 kids and their families. The party ended with Santa passing out gift bags of books, school supplies, and full-sized individualized beach towels with the kids' names on them. What a joyous event for our neighborhood community!

As we begin the second semester, we will continue to enrich the lives of our wonderful Wilson kids through tutoring and fun. Among Whiz Kids sites in Oklahoma City, we are unique in taking the field trips we do. Thanks to the generosity of tutor sponsors Natalie Neubauer and Linda Newhouse, we will get our kicks, stretches, and jumps out at Dynamo Gym, and visit Full Circle Bookstore, where the kids get to pick out books they want and take an insider's guided tour of the store. We feel strongly that these trips are also educational and bonding opportunities with the tutors and our Whiz Kid family. In most cases with the field trips, the kids are getting exposed to places that they likely would not otherwise get to visit, so we get to practice our manners and demonstrate our listening and good public behavior skills.

While the field trips and celebrations are fun, we still keep our focus on the heart of our mission, which is to help our kids read in a positive and supportive environment. Thanks to Trina and all of our church members who support us with volunteers, financial assistance, and prayers. Together, we are making a positive difference in our community.



Arts Academy



Our Arts Academy students and teachers came back from Christmas Break refreshed and ready to go! How much practicing was done over the break is unknown, but the students have been working hard during lessons these weeks we have been back at it.

I am truly grateful to Colleen Bicket for helping us understand our budget, which will ensure the program continues to grow, to Sue Fellers and Sharon Mears (aka Mom) for their years of dedication to the knitting class, and to YOU, our church family, for the support you continue to show this very important program! Together, we are developing the God-given talents of these very special kiddos. **Thank you!**



by Bruce Pitts



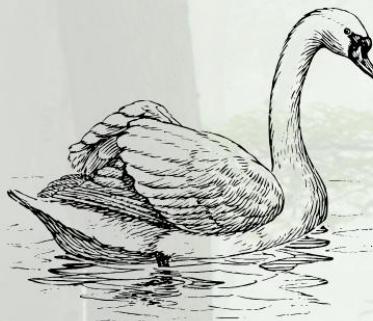
Youth Programming

Youth Programming

Youth at CHUMC are middle school, high school, and some college-aged students who meet weekly

on Sunday mornings (10 a.m. - Noon) to eat, socialize, play games, and read and discuss Bible stories and current events.

The group also meets on the first and third Wednesdays of every month (5:30 - 7:30 p.m.), unless there is a special event. Youth Director Atticus Shires (they, them, theirs) is proud that this group is queer-friendly, diverse in faiths and beliefs, and governed by our shared values of humor, quality time, and kindness.



YOUTH SCHEDULE

Join each Sunday at 10am for breakfast in the Fellowship Hall and a lesson in the Youth Room.

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

Coming Up...

February 1, Sunday- Worship at St Elijah's Orthodox Church

February 4, Wednesday- Lesson on Hinduism by Trina

February 18, Wednesday- Ash Wednesday worship

March 4, Wednesday- Lesson and games

March 13-14, 7pm Friday to 8am Saturday- Youth Lock-In

Meet Our Newest Members (all joining in February)



Jim and Lizzie Baker (and Cam)

Jim and Lizzie are getting married on March 6, making these 3 one happy family! Look for Jim at Flip's Italian Restaurant and Lizzie at Hideaway on Memorial.



Lisa and Kevin Putt

Kevin and Lisa are retired and both enjoy serving on several not-for-profit boards. Kevin chaired the Free to Live board for many years and is still a board member. They enjoy traveling all over the world, hiking, reading, and playing with their rescue dogs!



Jay Martin

Jay is married to Veronica. They have 2 adult daughters, 1 adult son, 1 son-in-law, and 1 precious granddaughter. Retiring in July after 29 years in the Air Force, Jay is still deciding what he'd like to do when he grows up!



Benay Fossey

Benay has been married to Nick for 18 years. Their son Calvin is 15 years old. Benay is a counselor for the pediatric hematology and oncology section at OU Children's Hospital for the past 7 years, but has worked as a therapist for the past 20 years!

*We pledge our prayers,
presence, gifts, and service.*

Crown Heights United Methodist Church

1021 NW 37th St.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118

405-524-8428



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

Holiday Highlights



Merry Christmas

We hope you enjoyed your Christmas gift, a little nativity set.

They were painted by volunteers in the church office.

Special thanks to Sue, who personally glued on 200 halos!

Keep your set for next year. We will add the shepherd & angel.

Coming in 2027, the 3 Magi!

