

# the trumpet



December 2010

Vol. 5 Issue 12

*From Dianne's Desk*

## ADVENT BEGINS

Somehow Advent has a way of creeping up on me. Oh my goodness—it's here! Find the candles, locate the tree, search for the nativity crèche, and change the paraments to purple. So it begins. This year Advent brings a renewed excitement of its own. Maybe it's because I've been rehearsing the choruses from the Messiah for weeks. Perhaps it's because the need seems even greater this year, with ongoing disasters in Haiti and so much talk about homeland security procedures and threats at home and abroad. Many still struggle to find jobs and others pray that they can keep up with the mortgage. We need the promise and assurance of Advent for our time, for our hearts.

Madeleine L'Engle was one of my favorite authors, known for her children's books but also for her reflections on the life of faith in the real world. I share with you her poem entitled "First Coming."

He did not wait till the world was ready,  
till men and nations were at peace.  
He came when the Heavens were unsteady,  
and prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait for the perfect time.  
He came when the need was deep and great.  
He dined with sinners in all their grime,  
turned water into wine. He did not wait

till hearts were pure. In joy he came  
to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.  
To a world like ours, of anguished shame  
He came, and his Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh,  
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.  
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh  
the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane  
to raise our songs with joyful voice,  
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,  
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!



And the best news of all is He is coming again, wherever hearts will receive him still, the child of the manger, the man of integrity, the Face of God.

Blessings, Dianne



## CHRISTMAS ANGELS

Shopping Underway!

One of Crown Heights' favorite traditions is adopting children and families referred to us by Skyline Ministries to make their Christmas a little brighter. All the angels have been claimed and our "elves" are busy selecting gifts and wrapping them just right. Be sure to put the name of the recipient on each gift and place them all in a sack with the family name and number on the outside.

Please have your Angel Tree gifts wrapped and returned to the Church no later than Sunday, December 12 (or earlier).

## DECK THE HALLS

You're invited to a wonderful evening of delicious food, delightful company and decorating the church. We'll be gathering on Wednesday, December 1st, at 5:30 p.m. for CHUM Café, followed by hanging the greens, decorating the tree, and singing Christmas carols along the way. All ages are welcome and needed! There will be a special activity for children. Come enjoy your church family as we welcome this special month of December.



**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services  
 Friday, December 24th  
 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.

It just wouldn't be Christmas without candlelight communion! Once again Crown Heights will be offering two opportunities for you and your family to worship on Christmas Eve. The 4:00 service will be somewhat shorter, remembering that very young children have a hard time sitting still on this exciting night. Everyone will have the choice to participate in the individual candle lighting as we sing "Silent Night." Child care will be provided for infants through preschoolers. Dress is casual. Invite your relatives and friends to join you for this most holy night!



**CHRISTMAS CAROLING:  
 DECEMBER 19, 3:00 P.M.**

Please plan to join our Wesley Heights Youth group on Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, as we go to visit and carol our elders who are homebound. We will be stopping in to sing for wonderful folks from Wesley and Crown Heights United Methodist Churches. You do not have to be a great singer to participate. Just wear a smile and make a joyful noise! Songbooks will be provided. Our seniors especially love to see children, so invite your friends and neighbors to join us. If you're looking for something to help you get in the Christmas spirit, this is an excellent opportunity. Gather in the youth activities building at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>! Bring joy to the world!

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- |        |                |
|--------|----------------|
| Craig  | Eric           |
| Harry  | Jacob          |
| John   | Julie          |
| Julie  | Kitty          |
| Larry  | Mary Katherine |
| Michi  | Mildred        |
| Peggy  | Richard        |
| Robert | Stacy          |
| Teresa |                |



**CHRISTMAS OFFERING NEEDED**

God has been so good to us this year! Our goal of finishing the year with all our bills paid and all our connectional ministries (apportionments) paid is within reach. Will you help us fulfill this worthy goal? Simply note "Christmas offering" on your check memo line or on your envelope. Together we can make a substantial difference in the lives of people here in Oklahoma, across the United States and around the world. Year-end gifts must be in the church office by December 30, in order for us to deposit them on December 31<sup>st</sup>. All gifts received after this date will be included in your 2011 giving statement. Thank you for being so generous toward God's work in the world.

**DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

- John & Jean
- David & Katie
- Brett & Mariann
- Joseph & Amy
- William & Eileen



**CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to Elyse Poland (our new youth director) and Will Heise who are now engaged to be married!

**CHANCEL CHOIR  
 by George Massey**

Please attend our last Wednesday rehearsal of the year on December 8 at 7:00 p.m. This is an important rehearsal for us before the Cantata.

The Cantata Dress Rehearsal is December 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and Sunday warm-up at 10:00 a.m. on December 12.



**DECEMBER SERMONS**

**Sermons for the Season**

- December 5 *Peace* **The Gift of Uncertainty** Isaiah 2:1-5 and Matthew 24:36-44  
 Advent reminds us that we live “between the times,” hanging on to our faith in Jesus while looking for his return. The scriptures remind us that only God knows “the day of his coming.” We like to have things settled and predictable, but even Jesus joins us in living with uncertainty. Where is the gift in this gap?
- December 12 *Joy* **Are You the Real Thing?** Isaiah 35:1-10 and Matthew 11:2-11  
 John the Baptizer had done a great job of preparing the people for the coming Messiah. Then he ends up in jail with his life on the line. He wonders if he got it all wrong. What doubts are you carrying with you to Bethlehem?  
**Cantata at 11:00 a.m.     *The Mystery and the Majesty***
- December 19 *Love* **True Love: A Sermon in Song** Isaiah 7:10-16 and Matthew 1:18-25  
 Joseph so easily fades into the shadows, yet his faith and commitment to Mary and Jesus make all the difference. Come celebrate the depth of his love as Rev. Peters speaks and sings the song of Joseph.
- December 24 **Christmas Eve Communion 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.** **Unto Us a Child is Born** Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 and Luke 2:1-20  
 Once again, God chooses to come not in the earthquake or a fire or a whirlwind, but in the tiny person of Jesus. If we keep looking for grand changes with spectacular side effects, we’ll miss the miracle. Come softly, with open eyes and ears, to witness again the birth of God.
- December 26 **One Service, 10:00 a.m.,** with communion, no Sunday School **Christmas Around the World** Isaiah 63:7-9 and John 1:6-18  
 What does Christmas mean to you? This morning we will sing carols from a variety of traditions, while we reflect on the wonder of Christmas Day. Would we have known and followed Jesus? What difference does his coming make in our daily lives?

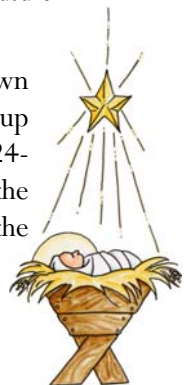


**EXPERIENCE HANDEL’S MESSIAH  
 On December 5th**

If you have never experienced a live performance of George Frideric Handel’s “Messiah” you are in for a treat! This amazing oratorio with four soloists, a major choir (150 voices for the Oklahoma City performance), and orchestra was written in a miraculous 24 days. Dr. Randi Von Ellefson, artistic director of the OKC Canterbury Choral Society, comments:

*The first performance took place in Dublin in March 1743 just before Easter. The texts are drawn from some of the most well-known Biblical references of prophecy and the fulfillment of the Messiah. . . . It is an oratorio which celebrates the whole of Christ’s work, from its anticipation in prophecy, through his life, suffering, death and resurrection, to his future second coming in glory.*

The performance will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, at the Civic Center Music Hall in downtown Oklahoma City. Tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance through the Civic Center Box Office. A group from Crown Heights is attending and traveling together. Call Brigette Gean if you would like to go with them: 524-2849. Dianne Peters is singing with Canterbury this year. She promises “it will be an outstanding concert and the perfect way to begin your Christmas season.” Homemade cookies will be included in the reception following the performance.



## WHIZ KIDS READY TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

by Janet Basler



Walking through the church on Thursday afternoons is a journey full of amazement and wonder. There are so many adults and children actively engaged in reading, playing word games, working on homework, smiling, talking seriously, and genuinely caring for one another.

Joy Robison is one of the adults who takes time from her job to put her all into working with these children. She can be seen each week reading or telling a Bible story, playing a game, encouraging Bible stories to come alive in drawing or acting, and even helping children make cocoa to illustrate how much God cares for them. She works with all the children during their 'Club Times' while the tutors are in their weekly training time. The children ask each week to sing Joy's favorite song, "I've got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Down in My Heart", which she is ready to oblige them. The one thing they always get to hear from Joy and Pastor Dianne, who helps her, is that 'God Loves Them No Matter What'. It is a blessing to hear Joy in her wonderful ministry each week.

30 volunteers will be needed to help serve the dinner and help in the kitchen.

At this time of year, the talk at Whiz Kids is about when the big Christmas dinner for them, their families, and their tutors is going to be. It is always such a fun, exciting time for everyone involved. This year we are planning for about 150 people to come to the dinner on **Thursday, December 16, from 4:45-6 pm.** Brigitte and Glen Gean have graciously volunteered to coordinate the meal. About 30 volunteers will be needed to help serve the dinner, and help in the kitchen. And many desserts will be needed to be donated for the meal.

Maybe this is the year you get to take off from your everyday work and become a part of something that makes Christmas come alive. The Whiz Kids Dinner is just that 'something'. Call Janet Basler (229 3041) to be a part of this wonderful time in our church.

## ARTS ACADEMY A SUCCESS

by Janet Basler

Music soared thru the building the last week of the Arts Academy. Drums beat in a definite pattern. "Old Saint Nicholas" and "Ode to Joy" drifted from several pianos. Guitars strummed smoothly from one chord to another. Paint brought clay wind chimes and paper mache sculptures to life. The shading on still life drawings began to add dimension to the objects drawn. Photographs, edited and printed, showed ordinary objects in multi-color beauty. And a trombone made musical sounds for the first time.

The fall semester of Arts lessons came to an end with smiles, thank-yous, and amazement from the parents who visited. Many teachers said they couldn't wait to get back in January. One college student teaching an art class has decided after this experience that she is being called into art education. A teacher at Putnam Heights school said she gets goose bumps each time she hears the pianos placed at the school being played as the students faithfully practiced each week. Several students are hoping there will be enough teachers at the Arts Academy next semester that they will be able to take two classes instead of just one.

HUGE thank-yous go to Sue Brown, Mike Brown, Bruce Pitts, Charlene Jones, Taffy Fellingham, and Susie Wallace for their weekly commitment to make the Arts Academy work. Thank you also to the 20 high school and college students who were the teachers for the Academy, especially to our own Harry and Sam Endicott for their continued commitment to teach guitar each semester. The next session of lessons will be for 9 weeks beginning in January. If you'd like to be a part of this wonderfully fun ministry, please call Janet Basler at 229 3041 to talk about the possibilities.

## CHUMC – UNITED METHODIST MEN

by Jeff Peters

At the start of 2011, a new group will be forming for the men of Crown Heights UMC.

We may think that a spiritual relationship with God can be or should be done individually. However, sometimes a powerful way to grow is to listen and learn from others --- helping each of us through fellowship to expand our lives by knowing and experiencing Christ's ways.

We are all sons; Some are fathers, brothers, husbands; Some work while others are retired; Some are mentors or volunteers --- We are also the Men of CHUMC. Let's join together in fellowship to learn about each other and grow in Christ's love.

If you would like to be a part of UMM at CHUMC, please talk to Jeff Peters (our pastor's spouse) at church, send him an email - storm4caster@gmail.com, or give him a call - 323-0651.

I look forward to hearing your journey story and sharing mine with you!



"The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Rev. Jeremy Basset
Director
(405)530-2028
jbasset@okumc.org

Gene Brantley
Associate Director
(405)530-2033
gbrantley@okumc.org

Rev. Richard Norman
Associate Director
(405)530-2032
RNorman@okumc.org

Lori Foster
Coordinator
(405)530-2070
lfoster@okumc.org

Kristin Terrell-Wilkes
Coordinator
(405)530-2029
kterrell-wilkes@okumc.org

Luisa Medina
Intern
(405)530-2036
lmedina@okumc.org

David Stephenson
Bolivia/Oklahoma Liaison
(918)346-5181
tulsadstephenson@yahoo.com

VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION – FASHION SHOW

Dear Patron:

The 2011 project of Volunteers in Mission through the Oklahoma United Methodist Conference for 2011 will be the construction of the New Hope Elementary School located in Nyamah Town, Liberia, West Africa. This is the birthplace of Bishop Bennie D. Warner. The 14,000 square foot Charter School will serve 14 local villages. We hope we can count on you to help make a difference in the lives of these children.

To facilitate funding for this project, the Volunteers in Mission will host an International Fashion Extravaganza and Tea. This special event will be held at Oklahoma City University's Meinders School of Business, Michael Gardener Conference Center, 3rd floor on Saturday, December 11, 2010 at noon.

We ask our patrons to help us reach and surpass our goals. A single patron pledge of \$30.00 or more will help provide the foundation for raising strong, educated children. Also available are table sponsorships which include seating for eight for only \$120.00. All patrons will be listed in the commemorative program booklet along with an advertisement of your business.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please contact me at 405.525.3181 or 405.521.0012. Advance tickets may be purchased on-line through Wesley United Methodist's website, www.wesleyokc.org or simply complete this form and return to Wesley United Methodist Church, 1401 NW 25th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73106. Please make checks payable to: OK United Methodist Church VIM and include on the MEMO line, New Hope School. Return your order form and check by NOVEMBER 25, 2010.

God Bless,

Handwritten signature of Anna H. Warner

Anna H. Warner
Fashion Show Coordinator



POINSETTIAS - 2010

We are now taking orders for the Christmas poinsettias that will beautify our sanctuary. Purchase one or more to honor or remember relatives and friends.

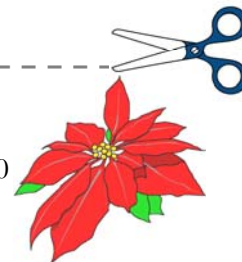
The plants this year are \$10.50 each. Please complete the form below. You may put your order form and check in the offering plate. (Please mark your check "poinsettias")

The information below will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. We welcome you to take your flowers home following the services on Christmas Eve.

Please print the information as you would like it to appear in the bulletin.

Yes, I would like to give \_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettias.

Christmas 2010



Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Other: \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] To the glory of God

## CHURCH STAFF

Dianne Kovacs Peters, Senior Pastor

Stacy Gilbert Coombe	Administrative Assistant
Libby Campbell	Accounting Secretary
Mario Estrada	Custodian
George Massey	Director of Music
Mariann Searle	Organist
Vahn Phollurxa	Music Assistant
Elyse Poland	Director of Youth Ministries
Kassie Carroll	Nursery Coordinator
Justin Larman	Nursery Assistant
Haley Pierce	Nursery Assistant
Kelli Cormack	Nursery Assistant

THE TRUMPET (USPS 000-612) is published monthly by Crown Heights United Methodist Church at **1021 NW 37 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.

We're on the web! [www.crownheightsumc.org](http://www.crownheightsumc.org)

# December 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 5:30 pm Christmas Cafe and Decorate the Church	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6:00 p.m. Wedding
<b>5</b> SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 5:00 pm Youth - Wesley 7:00 pm Messiah Civic Center	<b>6</b> 9:00 am Mobile Meals 6:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 3:00 pm Whiz Kids 6:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:30 am Finance 11:00 am Cantata 5:00 pm Youth - CHUM	<b>13</b> 9:00 am Mobile Meals 6:15 pm Ad Council 6:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>14</b> Eat at Johnnies	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 3:00 pm Whiz Kids 5:00 pm Whiz Kids Christmas Dinner 6:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 3:00 pm Caroling	<b>20</b> 9:00 am Mobile Meals 6:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 6:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion 4:00 & 6:00 pm	<b>25</b> CHRISTMAS DAY
<b>26</b> FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS 10:00 am ONE SERVICE 5:00 pm Youth - CHUM	<b>27</b> OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 am Mobile Meals 6:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 6:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>31</b>	

