

the trumpet



CROWN HEIGHTS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 2011

Vol. 6 Issue 4

From Dianne's Desk 

WHAT STORY WILL YOU TELL?

Last night I got to attend the celebration and reception for our Arts Academy students, teachers and families. What a delightful experience! Our Fellowship Hall was full of folks, including three teachers and the principal of Putnam Heights Elementary School. Many of the students taking arts classes are also part of our Whiz Kids tutoring program. They were so excited to show me what they had made and several of the musicians were brave enough to play their instruments in front of all these people! A few of the teachers also shared their musical talents, demonstrating for all of us what can happen when we really practice what we've learned. We also got to enjoy a great video, combining the video footage done by The Oklahoman staff with photos taken by the Arts Academy students and Larry White's filming and expertise. [In case you missed it, the Oklahoman religion editor Carla Hinton did a great feature article on our Arts Academy in the March 12 edition.] By the end I was teary-eyed, seeing the joy and the concentration on each child's face. This is so good for everyone involved! We are building the self-esteem of each participant, students and teachers, and helping them grow into the young men and women God has created them to be.

I also had a memory resurface from my early days at Crown Heights as a child. When I was in kindergarten, my mother pulled together a group of about five children and off we went each week to take speech lessons from a young woman she knew at church. She always had to be in a wheelchair and she had a little trouble getting her hands and arms to do what she wanted. Yet there was no doubt that her mind was quite alive and well and she was clearly in charge at class each week. We were expected to memorize poems, which we would usually recite for our class. Then recital time rolled around, and we each had to choose which poem we would do for the parents. I have no idea which one I chose, but I do believe that our little recital, with all our teacher's students, was done in the Fellowship Hall at Crown Heights. Who would have dreamed 40+ years ago that one day I would be giving sermons in this very pulpit? I've never had the deep-seated fear of public

speaking with which so many people struggle, and I suspect this may be why.

What if our Arts Academy has helped shape the lives of upcoming musicians, actors, or artists, giving them a dream and a goal that changes the trajectory of their lives? This may sound overly dramatic to you, but when kids live in homes where there's never enough money, food or time for them, the attention and encouragement of a teacher or a tutor can make all the difference. God is so clearly at work in this place! I am so grateful for Janet Basler and Sue Brown's vision and dedication to this ministry, not to mention all the other volunteers that provide transportation, supervision and support. Thank you, thank you, thank you! You are instruments of God in this process and I am so grateful you took the time to care.

We need to tell this story! We also need to tell the story of our new feeding ministry and the Habitat House in the fall and the Whiz Kids tutoring and the Not Alone Day coming up and the Skyline drives and all the other wonderful ways that God is using us to transform the world from the corner of 37th and Western! The studies all say that adults in their 20's and 30's are drawn to groups or agencies or churches that are truly making a difference for the common good.

We are doing that, but newcomers will never know unless we tell them. We don't need to break our arms patting ourselves on the back or be arrogant or conceited at all. Just be open to every opportunity that God brings your way to share your excitement and your faith, then issue the invitation to others to come help. As Evelyn put it last Sunday, we need to be like the woman at the well, spreading the word, "Come and see!"

Blessings, Dianne



NEW FEEDING MINISTRY BEGINS APRIL 14

We are very excited about our new ministry partnership with “The Common” program at The Spero Project, located at 4646 N. Santa Fe. Twenty people from Crown Heights have expressed interest and support for this new way of caring for our neighbors. Here’s the vision:

Our dream for “The Common,” is to see churches connect with a community in need, meeting regularly to provide food, encourage them, and equip them to grow. We would love to have clients return for not only food, but to cultivate relationships. The Spero Project believes that relational ministry is the avenue for bringing hope, truth, and love to the hurting, and our mission is to provide avenues for the church to participate in life-changing relational ministry.

The Spero Project, (“spero” means “hope” in Latin), has been quietly serving men, women and children in need for over 20 years. They have a large, effective food pantry ministry which works in conjunction with the Regional Food Bank and the Walmart in Edmond. Our ministry with them will happen on the second Thursday night of the month, when we will serve single mothers and their children a nutritious meal, then divide up for child care, devotional time, small prayer groups, and helping each family load their food for the month. Please keep this new ministry in your prayers and let us know if you would like to help prepare the meal or serve in some other way. Our first night to host will be April 14.

PALM SUNDAY

All-Church
Palm Sunday Salad Luncheon
April 17

Bring your favorite salad, bread or dessert and come for a wonderful time of fellowship, following second service, on April 17th at noon. Let’s celebrate the coming of spring and the joy of serving God.



EASTER EGG HUNT



You’re invited to the Easter Egg Hunt which will be Saturday, **April 16 at 2:00** at Wesley United Methodist Church. There will be crafts to do, eggs to hunt and an appearance by the Easter Bunny!

Bring your friends for a fun time!

HOLY WEEK PLANS

Our **Maundy Thursday Communion Service** will be on **April 21**, beginning at **6:00 p.m.** This is the night we remember Jesus’ last supper with his disciples. If you need child care, please let us know as soon as possible.

The **Good Friday Service** will be **April 22**, also starting at **6:00 p.m.** Easter Sunday services will be at the regular times, 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., with wonderful music.

Invite your friends and family to join you for these meaningful services.



NOT ALONE DAY: APRIL 30

If you’re new to Crown Heights, you may not know about our neighborhood day of service, combining the efforts of several churches to convey our care and appreciation for our neighbors. “Not Alone Day” conveys our message: we want all the folks in this area of Oklahoma City to know that they are not alone. We’ll gather at 8:30 a.m. on **Saturday, April 30**, at Crown Heights Christian Church, (two blocks north of us at 39th and Western). Following a brief time of worship, the volunteers will break up into small task groups to tackle the various projects. Be watching for more information, coming soon in our Sunday bulletins.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL UPDATE by David McKnight

It is the end of the first quarter, so it’s time for a financial update. As we all know, things are a little tight this year, but there is still good news to report. As of February there have been extra gifts of over \$4000 and pledges are almost all up to date. March’s numbers are not in yet, but it seems like the Apportionment Tree is looking a little emptier every Sunday.

As for expenses, be sure to thank any group with a budget, because they are all staying under it.

Check back next quarter for another update.

CHUM MEN'S GROUP BEGINS

by Jeff Peters

Interdependence is and ought to be as much the ideal of man as self-sufficiency.

~Mahatma Gandhi

As was discovered at our first meeting, this quote rings true for men of faith. Fellowship is a great tool to refuel our hearts, minds and souls so that we can live a life of self-sufficiency. The formation of the CHUM Men's group will allow us to maintain and improve our own lives and mentor one another. Plans were discussed to participate in outings together such as ball games and dinner, and to discuss a bible study based on Tony Dungy's book – "Quiet Strength". It was decided that the Men's group will be in charge of the annual Habitat for Humanity work day for Crown Heights United Methodist Church. The next gathering of the group is planned for Friday, April 8th to attend the OKC Thunder game where ticket proceeds will go to benefit the "Nothing But Nets" campaign to fight malaria in Africa.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- Alesia Hooper
- Andy Moore
- Brenda Pitts
- Christopher Curtis
- Frances Zisman
- Gail Foster
- Henry Sanders
- Jacob Wallace
- Josephine Adkins
- Justin Larman
- Mackenzie Thompson
- Mark Pitts
- Mary Brooks
- Natalie Kastens
- Paul Bicket
- Rachel Copeland
- Sally Hayes
- Samuel Endicott



THANK GOD FOR ALICE!

Many of us remember with gratitude the wonderful life of Alice Whittle. On Sunday mornings Alice preferred to sit on the very back row, south side, at the 11:00 service each week. (This may have been because she was almost always running a little late!) She worked in a variety of significant jobs throughout her lifetime, enjoyed her life with her dear husband, and treasured her extended family.

Mary Brooks, one of her closest friends, writes:

Alice was the youngest of 3 sisters, she only married once and was late doing that. He was the "Love of her Life". She was intelligent beyond belief; well read and traveled; generous, kind, trusting. She helped me in my journey back to a new understanding of my faith and my relationship to the God of my understanding. She liked "good wine and food" and a very dry martini. She enjoyed the symphony and opera. She shared her pew on Sundays and lived her faith everyday.

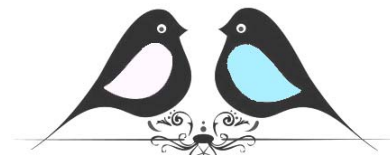
I can only hope to age with as much grace and humor as she did.

Alice was never blessed with children, but she delighted in her church family and made regular gifts to enable the ministries of Crown Heights. We recently received a note from the executor of her estate, along with a check to the church for \$10,000—no strings attached! What a powerful gift for our congregation, particularly in a year when we've lost so many pledges due to deaths or relocations. Through her gift, Alice's commitment to seeing the kingdom of God come upon the earth continues. What a great witness!

How about your will? Does it reflect your priorities for charitable giving? There are several ways to do this. You are always welcome to visit with one of the expert staff at the Oklahoma United Methodist Foundation, located nearby at 4201 N. Classen Blvd., 525-6863, or have an extended conversation with your own attorney. If you have been a tither, (giving 10% of your income to God's work in the world), why not continue that principle in giving directions for your estate? This could be an important part of the legacy you leave for God's world.

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- Ed & Erma
- Ed & Paige
- Robert & Charlotte



UMW GARAGE SALE

Great Success!

Thank you for bringing all your "trash and treasures" for our rummage sale in March. We raised \$1,000+. These monies will go toward our women's mission projects. Thanks to Charlene Jones and all her helpers for doing a great job.

ARTS ACADEMY KIDS SHINE

by Janet Basler

Singing clarinets, melodius guitars, rhythmic drums, and pianos' dancing music filled the air in Fellowship Hall as the Arts Academy celebrated creativity this year. About 90 people came to view the artwork, clay sculptures, photographs, and to hear some of the music teachers and students play beautiful music. The Share Circle hosted the celebration with wonderfully artistic food and decorations. Families and friends of the students and teachers talked with Putnam Heights School teachers and Principal, as well as several from our church, throughout the evening. Arts Academy volunteers and teachers were hugging the children as they left, asking if they were planning on coming back in the fall for more lessons. The answer was always an enthusiastic, 'I WANT TO.'



Perla – sculpting teacher, helps her students.

The evening ended with a video presentation Larry White had compiled from pictures the photography class had taken and the video from The Daily Oklahoman news story. As everyone left with smiles of pride and accomplishment, the comments on how important this program had become to all involved was repeated many times.

Just looking at numbers and not the learning, encouragement, confidence building, and creativity enhanced in all the students as well as their high school and college level teachers, the Arts Academy is very impressive. We had 9 adult volunteers working every week to make it all happen. We had 45 children involved, and 25 high school/college



Alex learns from Deanna.



Lauren reviews the photo list.

students teaching each week. We had 3 outside businesses supporting the Arts Academy with services and resources. We had 10 other church members and friends providing resources throughout the year, and hosting the celebration.

This is ministry and disciple-making of the highest degree. We at the Arts Academy are grateful to God for the opportunity to be a part of something so special.

Thank you to the following Crown Heights members and businesses who have contributed to the Arts Academy: You are the BEST!!!

Anita Roesler, Brigitte Gean, Brown's Bakery, Bruce Pitts, Charlene Jones, Charlotte Trobaugh, Coleen Bicket, Dianne Peters, Dolph Grolock, Evelyn Phyffer, Glen Gean, House of Clay, Inner City Violin, Larry White, Lorry Cates, Mike Brown, Phyllis Henry, Sally Hayes, Sue Brown, Susie Wallace, and Taffy Fellingham.

YOUTH

by Elyse Poland

Here's what's happening in Youth in April.

April 3	Wesley
April 8-9	6pm-6pm Boys'/Girls' Lock-In @ Wesley
April 10	No Youth
April 17	@ Wesley
April 24	No Youth

This month, our seniors, Harry Endicott and Katie Langer, will be going around to Sunday School classes to ask for sponsorship for the Senior Retreat in May.

The cost will only be \$75 for lodging, food, and gas.



Bruce & Taffy take kids home with their donuts.

LENT OFFERING: WHICH MINISTRY TOUCHES YOUR HEART?

Each year during Lent we choose to give sacrificially to United Methodist missions here in Oklahoma, across the United States and around the world. Tags for each “portion meant for others” are currently displayed in the narthex. Here is a sampling of various ministries we support:

- ◆ **Prison Ministry**
Supports the Kairos Ministry, New Day Camp for the children of incarcerated parents, Exodus House, and Redemption Churches to assist former inmates and their families
- ◆ **Urban Ministries**
Supports Skyline Urban Ministry in OKC and Restore Hope in Tulsa
- ◆ **Cookson Hills Center**
Ministers to some of the poorest people in the state of Oklahoma, in the Tahlequah area
- ◆ **Campus Ministries**
Helps fund campus ministry efforts at colleges all around the state
- ◆ **Circle of Care**
Supports the Boys’ Ranch, Children’s Home, and foster care ministries in Oklahoma
- ◆ **United Methodist Manor and Nursing homes**
Nursing care facilities in Tulsa, Clinton, Enid and Edmond
- ◆ **Chemical Dependency Programs**
Assists people battling chemical addictions
- ◆ **World Service and Conference Benevolences Fund**
Helps to fund missionaries across the world, the American Bible Society and other outreach ministries
- ◆ **Africa University**
An expanding United Methodist center for higher education on the continent of Africa

You can choose to designate your gift for any of the ministries or you can simply make a general gift for the Lent offering. Whatever you choose, please be sure to note your preference on your envelope or the memo line of your check. Thank you for making a real difference and bringing transformation to God’s family.

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

IN OUR PRAYERS

Eileen Dunn, who has moved to Florida to be near her daughter

Duane Frisbie’s family on his recent death

GET WELL WISHES

Jeanette Posey, recovering from surgery

Peggy Sanders, recently hospitalized



LIBERIAN MARKET

If you would like to purchase some of the items Evelyn spoke about in her message, this is your opportunity!

On Palm Sunday, April 17, following each service and during the luncheon, a variety of items will be for sale in the Breezeway. The Market will include Josiah baskets, Ben’s bullet art and carvings, and the Liberian dolls.

Proceeds of the sale will go to the special offering that will be delivered at Annual Conference for the following areas:

The Bolivia and Oklahoma United Methodist Partnership, Cookson Hill Center, and The New Hope Elementary School in Liberia



GANG PREVENTION AT WHIZ KIDS
by Janet Basler

We know that kids who have a strong positive adult influence in their lives are less likely to join a gang as a teenager.

Whiz Kids tutors are very positive adult role models, mentors, and friends for their Whiz Kids.

We know that kids who feel good about themselves and confident in their abilities are less likely to join a gang as a teenager.

Whiz Kids tutors help their Whiz Kid learn to read, enjoy reading, and know they 'can do it' in school.

We know that kids who are part of a positive group are less likely to join a gang as a teenager.

Whiz Kids is a group of kids who have fun together, learn together, and enjoy each other every week.

Each year the Whiz Kids program sends a Gang Prevention Specialist to talk with our tutors one time, and with the tutors and kids another time. Each year he tells us what we already

know about the importance of being a positive influence in a kid's life, and what will help them stay out of gangs - self confidence, and positive groups. He also tells us how to know when there is gang activity in our area (there is, by the way, in our children's neighborhood), how to recognize signs of gang activity in our children (we have noticed them, by the way), and how to prevent our children from becoming involved (we are working hard to do this).

It is frightening for some of us at Whiz Kids to hear what our Gang Prevention Specialist has to say. Especially as we look at our Whiz Kids and know they are dealing with many of the things he talks about on a daily basis. Our Whiz Kids are precious in our sight. After all we've spent quality one-on-one time with them every week since September. We want the best for them. We care about them, alot.

There are more children at Putnam Heights Elementary School who need to be a Whiz Kid. All they need is a positive adult to say 'yes'

CHOIR REHEARSAL REMINDER

Chancel Choir, please note the Wednesday rehearsals for the remainder of this season:

April 13 and 20
May 4 and 18
June 8



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER

Jamsie Braud transferred from St. Luke's on April 3.
Welcome Jamsie!



APRIL 2011 SERMONS

THE ROAD TO EASTER

- | | | |
|----------|--|--|
| April 3 | “Blind, but Now I See”
What happens when healing occurs? Can we see God’s miracles or are we blind to God’s work all around us? | John 9:1-41 |
| April 10 | “Can These Bones Live?”
Just when it appears that all is lost, the wind of Spirit blows through to bring us new life. Did you catch the breeze? | Ezekiel 37:1-14 & Romans 8:9-11, 16-17 |
| April 17 | Palm/Passion Sunday
“Who Is This?”
After all this time, people are still confused about Jesus’ identity. Pilate was troubled as well. What shall we do with Jesus? | Matthew 21:1-11 & Matthew 27:11-23 |
| April 24 | Easter Sunday
“Glorious, Risen Christ”
Even Mary Magdalene had difficulty recognizing the risen Christ. Who or what will enable us to proclaim, “I have seen the Lord!”? | John 20:1-18 & I Corinthians 15:35-44 |





God is in the midst of the city...
Psalm 46:5

**Come and Share God's Love
With Your Neighbors
Come and Make a Difference
in the Lives of
Families
Children
The Elderly
Community Blitz Service Day**

EASTER LILIES



Lilies will beautify our sanctuary Easter Sunday. If you would like to give one or more in honor or memory of relatives or friends, please complete the form below.

The lilies are \$12.00 each. You may put your order form and check in the offering plate (please mark it "lilies") or mail it to the church. The deadline for orders is Monday, **March 18.**

Donors will be listed in the bulletin. You may take your lily home on Easter Sunday.



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

Yes, I would like to give _____ lilies (\$12.00 ea.).

Given by: _____

- In memory of _____
- In honor of _____
- To the Glory of God
- Other _____

ONE FORM FOR EACH PARTICIPANT PLEASE

* *If you received a T-Shirt previously and it is still usable, leave the T-Shirt Size Blank.*

Name _____ T-Shirt size* _____

Congregation _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Please place an "X" by the project on which you wish to work On April 30, 2011

- Refurbishing a house in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity—Brush of Kindness
- Refreshing CHCC Apartment
- Surveying community for Habitat for Humanity potential participants (Door to Door—both Brush of Kindness and new home applications will be encouraged.)
- Clean up Yard for elderly, including trimming brush
- Making Baby Blankets for Infant Crisis Center
- Making Get Well, Cheer, etc. Cards
- Preparing/serving/delivering lunch for other Workers
- (For children) Making gifts for Mobile Meals Participants

Your Team Leader will Contact You with any Details You may need to Know.

Children Can Help Too!

Complete a Separate Form for your Child. Elementary Age Children must work with a responsible adult on any of the projects away from the church. If this registration is for a child please, indicate the name of the responsible adult here.

Responsible Adult _____

You can also help by providing:

- Fleece with children's themes for blankets, should be:
 - 44" Square (or larger)
 - Non-shedding
- Materials to make cards:
 - Cardstock with envelopes
 - Colored Cardstock
 - Blank note cards/greeting cards with envelopes
 - Good used pictures from used cards or other sources
 - Crafters glue
 - Glitter Glue (white or silver)
 - Ribbon
- Cookies for Fire and Police Personnel

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

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

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We're on the web! www.crownheightsumc.org

April 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 4th Sunday of Lent 4:00 pm Youth Wesley	4 9:00 am Mobile Meals 6:00 pm NA Meeting	5	6 6:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Trustees Mtg. 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	7 2:45 pm Whiz Kids 6:30 pm NA Meeting	8 Youth Lock In	9
10 5th Sunday of Lent Noon Finance Mtg. No Youth	11 9:00 am Mobile Meals 6:00 pm NA Meeting	12 Eat at Johnnies	13 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	14 2:45 pm Whiz Kids 5:30 pm Spero Project 6:30 pm NA Meeting	15	16 2:00 pm Easter Egg at Wesley
17 Palm Sunday Salad Luncheon Noon Ad Council 4:00 pm Youth	18 9:00 am Mobile Meals 6:00 pm NA Meeting	19	20 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	21 2:45 pm Whiz Kids 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm NA Meeting	22 6:00 pm Good Friday	23
24 Easter Sunday No Youth	25 OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 am Mobile Meals 6:00 pm NA Meeting	26	27 6:00 pm Bible Study	28 2:45 pm Whiz Kids 6:30 pm NA Meeting Q	29	30 Not Alone Day 8:30 a.m. Crown Heights Christian 4:00 pm Wedding