

# the trumpet



CROWN HEIGHTS  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 2012

Vol. 7 Issue 2

*From Dianne's Desk*

## DISCOVERING GOD

The tree in our Crown Heights logo reminds us that we are to put down roots, to grow deeper in our relationship with God in Christ, and to provide a safe place where others can find nourishment before they take wing to serve God's world. Sometimes our root system has to grow stronger before we can see new growth above ground. Perhaps this is our current season as a church. God is wanting us to grow deeper spiritually, so we will be more ready to receive and to share our life with others.

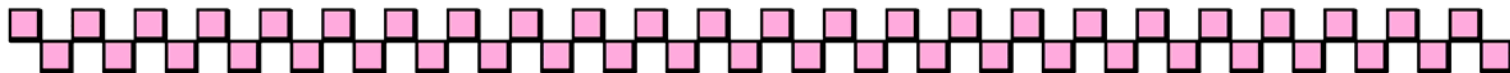
One of our specific strategies for 2012 is to get better at telling our faith story, as a church and as individuals. We as United Methodists have not been very skilled at doing this kind of sharing, at least not in recent generations. Without contemporary role models we admire, it is hard to know where to begin or what to say. We are pretty good at witnessing by example, but many people today have not grown up around church enough to even know what a Methodist is, let alone that our service is an expression of God's love, brought to life through our deeds and our words.

To help us get started, I'm going to ask us to do two things in worship each week. Take a few moments during the prelude or the offertory to reflect on your life during the past week. Where did you sense God was at work? Sometimes we call these "God sightings," and they can happen in all kinds of places. Did something suddenly fall into place that you've been concerned about? Was someone your guardian angel, just when you needed it most? Maybe there was a touching story on the news that grabbed your heart or took your breath away. With the beautiful weather we've been enjoying, you might have

caught sight of God in nature or in the kids at the park near your house. Even if it's been a routine week with nothing out of the ordinary, I am confident that God has been at work in your world. We just need to practice noticing. I encourage you to write it down or make a mental note, thank God for the experience and then look for an opportunity to share this moment with someone else. Occasionally, we will take a few minutes to practice this by talking to someone near us in worship, but most of the time this "God Sighting" will be yours to treasure and share at some other time.

The second thing I'm going to include in our bulletins each week is a verse or two of scripture for us to repeat and memorize by heart in the coming week. Now before you get nervous, let me reassure you that there will be no pop quizzes and this is clearly an optional activity. I'll be talking about what this can do for our spiritual lives in the next couple of sermons. If you receive nothing else in worship on Sundays, you will have this nugget of God's word to take with you for the coming week. If you have a special verse that's always been a favorite for you, send it to me and we'll include in the upcoming weeks. Bill Hybels calls these "biblical sound bites." Goodness knows we'll be hearing plenty of other sound bites in this election year! This could be a helpful way to balance out what we take in every day. The Bible is time-tested and endorsed by generations of spiritual seekers. Let's see what the Word from the Lord will be for us this week!

Blessings, Dianne



## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE: FEBRUARY 22

The season of Lent will begin with our annual Ash Wednesday service at 6:30 p.m. on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Dianne's message is titled, "Return to Me," based on Joel 2:12-13, 26-27, Psalm 51:1-10 and Matthew 6:16-21. The service will include the optional imposition of ashes in the sign of the cross, either on your hand or your forehead. This ancient tradition of the church reminds us that we are mortal, "ashes to ashes, dust to dust." Lent is the season of the church year dedicated to helping us reassess our values and our deeds, that we might become stronger followers of Christ.



## FEBRUARY 2012 SERMONS

Please join us for worship at 8:30 or 11:00 a.m. Friends are always welcome!

- February 5     **The Whisper of God**     I Kings 19:8-13 and Acts 10:9-16, 19-23a  
 God's whispers can come to anyone who is willing to listen. How do you know if that hushed voice in your head is the real thing?
- February 12     **Soul Whispers**     Acts 9:10-20 and Psalm 37:3-8, 23-24, 27-28  
 If you want to hear directly from God more often, take the time to treasure the written Word in your mind and your heart.
- February 19     Transfiguration Sunday     Mark 9:2-9 and II Kings 2:9-12  
**Listen to Him!**  
 Who was really transfigured on that mountain? How do we know?
- February 26     First Sunday in Lent     Mark 14:32-42 and Romans 8:26-28  
**Prayer of the Heart**  
 Jesus' deeply felt need and honesty as he prays in the Garden of Gethsemane, gives us the model for prayer from the heart. Prayer is the context for our relationship with God. Have you prayed today?

## LIBERIA BOOK MISSION UPDATE by Evelyn Phyffer

- Boxes currently ready to ship from Crown Heights - approximately 435.
- Packing is complete.
- OCU delivered 75 boxes and will cover their shipping costs.
- Hobby Lobby has been contacted.
- Anticipated departure date from Oklahoma City to Indiana - February 2012.
- Anticipated departure date from Operation Classroom to Liberia - March 2012.
- Shipping costs raised, approximately \$3,000.00. We still need additional donations for shipping fees. Operation Classroom requests \$11.50 per box to help defray shipping costs.

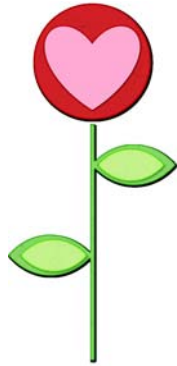
Thank you for your continuing support of this mission,  
 Evelyn



**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5**  
 by Brigette Gean



"Don't forget to bring your favorite soup or stew and/or dessert and join us on Sunday, February 5th after the second service for SOUPER BOWL OF CARING! We will be collecting donations of canned goods and money for our food pantry."



**THIS COUPON GOOD FOR**  
 Smiles, Joy, Warm Fuzzy Feelings Each Week.

Use as you volunteer to be a **Whiz Kid Tutor** or Helping at  
**The Arts Academy.**

**Also good for when you pray**  
 For our neighborhood Children's Education and  
 Relationships with God.

**JOIN OUR SPERO MINISTRY TEAM!**

You are invited to come help us with our ongoing ministry with single mothers and their children on the second Thursday night of each month. We provide dinner for all the families and the volunteers, then divide up for our various tasks: sacking groceries at the Spero Resource Center (nearby on Santa Fe), providing activities for the children by age groups, cleaning up after the meal, or facilitating the monthly prayer groups. Dinner is served at 6:00 and we are usually done by 8:00, when we help the families load up their groceries for the month. We ask our volunteers to arrive about 5:30 p.m. to assist with final set-up for the tables, etc. The word *spero* means "hope" in Latin, and this is exactly what we are trying to share through this important ministry. These moms are trying to survive and provide for their children, dealing with the realities of poverty and looking for new ways to move ahead in their lives. Your caring presence can make a real difference. For more information, talk with Dianne Peters, Wayna Tyner, Charlotte Trobaugh, or Evelyn Phyffer. February 9<sup>th</sup> is our next Spero night in the Fellowship Hall.

**A WELCOME BEQUEST**

We recently were notified that Crown Heights will be receiving a generous bequest from the estate of Peggy Sanders. The Sanders were very faithful in supporting the work of God through Crown Heights United Methodist Church for many years. We are deeply grateful that Peggy made provisions to continue that support, even after her death. The gift comes to us with no designations, so the church is free to utilize these funds wherever they are most needed.

We hope that every member of Crown Heights will choose to include a gift for the church in their will. You may choose to designate a specific amount or a percentage of the estate. You'll certainly want to consult with your attorney. Andy Oden at the Oklahoma United Methodist Foundation is also available to talk with you about various options.



**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Aaron  
 Joe  
 Jeff  
 Jack  
 John  
 Robert  
 Jerri  
 Lauren



**FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

Jerri & Patrick  
 Chris & Emily



**YOUTH DIRECTOR CHANGE**

Elyse Heise has decided to resign as our Wesley Heights Youth Director because her new full-time job is taking much more time and energy than she first anticipated. Elyse and Will will say their good-byes to the youth group during their upcoming Super Bowl Party. The good news is that Will and Elyse have decided to make Crown Heights their home church, so we will get to know them even better and the youth can still see them on Sunday mornings.

This means we are currently looking for a new youth director to work with our combined youth group on Sunday evenings. If you or someone you know would be interested in this part-time position, please contact Dianne or Wayna Tyner, our new Staff-Parish Relations Committee chairperson.

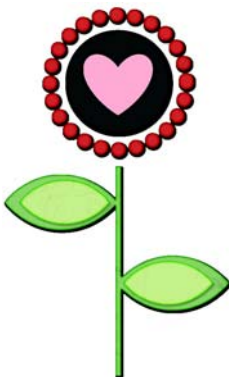
At Crown Heights United Methodist Church, we are called

- To **witness** to God’s love, grace, and acceptance, as revealed in Jesus Christ, through our words and our actions.
- To **equip** and **encourage** one another to grow in our faith and to **serve** in the power of the Holy Spirit, for the transformation of God’s world.

**MUSIC MINISTRY UPDATE**

We are pleased to announce that Mariann Searle, our very gifted accompanist and UCO’s Music Director for the music theater department, has agreed to be our Coordinator of Music Ministry and direct the choir! Mariann has been in conversation with a number of her students at UCO about our need for more choir members. Several are willing to volunteer to sing, but are unable to attend rehearsals on Wednesday evenings, given their other responsibilities. So here’s the creative approach we’re going to be piloting this spring. Crown Heights’ folks and any students who can come on Wednesdays will be rehearsing every Wednesday evening at

7:00 p.m. An additional weekly choir rehearsal on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. will be specifically for the volunteers who can’t come on Wednesdays, with the rest of the choir folks joining them at 10:30. The choir will typically sing three Sundays a month at the second service. We have also budgeted funds for guest musicians to sing or play instrumental solos at least once a month in both services. We also plan to have additional guest musicians during Holy Week and at Christmas time, to enhance our worship services. We always welcome additional singers for our choir. If you can’t come on Wednesdays, please come to the Sunday morning rehearsals and join us as we sing praise to God!



2012 Martha Jean Lemon Special Lectures



**Bishop Robert E. Hayes, Jr.**

*Bishop, Oklahoma Area  
of the United Methodist Church*



**Dr. Amy Oden**

*Dean, Wesley Theological Seminary  
Washington, D.C.*

**The Bible and the Church**

**February 16, 2012**

**Bishop W. Angie Smith Chapel at Oklahoma City University**  
NW 23rd Street and Blackwelder in Oklahoma City

***How the Bible Shaped the Church***

University Chapel Service, Bishop Hayes preaching  
**1:00 p.m.**

***How the Church Shaped the Bible***

Dr. Oden lecture  
**3:00 p.m.**

***The Bible and the Church – Dialogue Lecture***

Bishop Hayes & Dr. Oden  
**7:30 p.m.**

*All lectures are free and open to the public.*

*For more information contact Rev. Rodney Newman at 405-208-5484 or RNewman@okcu.edu*

The 30th anniversary of the Wimberly School of Religion will be celebrated with an open house beginning at 4:00 p.m., reception at 5:15, and a dinner at 6:00. To purchase tickets to the dinner, contact Cathy Bewley at 405-208-5284 or cbewley@okcu.edu.

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

**CHURCH STAFF**

Dianne Rohrer Peters, Senior Pastor

Stacy Gilbert Coombe	Administrative Assistant
Libby Campbell	Accounting Secretary
Mario Estrada	Custodian
Mariann Searle	Coordinator of Music Ministry
Elyse Heise	Director of Youth Ministries
Bailey Maxwell	Nursery Coordinator
Justin Larman	Nursery Assistant
Leah Coleman	Nursery Assistant
Taylor Handy	Nursery Assistant
Evan Robison	Nursery Assistant


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

# February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:00 pm Choir	2 2:45 pm Whiz Kids 6:30 pm Spero Meeting 6:30 pm NA Meeting	3	4
5 5th Sunday after Epiphany Souper Bowl of Caring 4:00 pm Youth	6 9:00 am Mobile Meals 6:00 pm NA Meeting	7 5:00 pm Arts Academy	8 7:00 pm Choir	9 2:45 pm Whiz Kids 5:30 pm Spero 6:30 pm NA Meeting	10	11
12 6th Sunday after Epiphany Noon Finance 4:00 pm Youth	13 9:00 am Mobile Meals 6:30 pm NA Meeting	14  Arts Academy 5:00 pm	15 7:00 pm Choir	16 2:45 pm Whiz Kids 6:30 pm NA Meeting	17	18
19 Last Sunday after Epiphany Noon Ad Council 4:00 pm Youth	20 9:00 am Mobile Meals 6:00 pm NA Meeting	21 5:00 pm Arts Academy	22 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday 7:00 pm Choir	23 2:45 pm Whiz Kids 6:30 pm NA Meeting	24	25
26 First Sunday of Lent 4:00 pm Youth	27 9:00 am Mobile Meals 6:00 pm NA Meeting	28 5:00 pm Arts Academy	29 7:00 pm Choir			