



NOVEMBER 2025

CROWN HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

A Message from Madison

THANK YOU! What a wonderful turn out for our Trunk or Treat. We are so appreciative of everyone who brought a trunk, dropped by candy donations, helped make hot dogs and made sure that our bounce houses were running smoothly. This is always such a fun event for our community and is such a wonderful way to be in community with one another. As we head into this season of thanksgiving, I am always thankful for the volunteer hours that are put into our Children's and Youth programming. Each week there is at least 18 hours of volunteer time dedicated to our students. There's no way I would ever be able to do it all by myself. Thank you to all who volunteer, together we are creating a nurturing space for our children and youth to grow, explore their faith and make lasting friendships. Together we are a church that exists to share, connect, and serve to show God's love.

Aaron's Alley

The Power of One: Living All-In for Jesus

On October 11th at Oklahoma State University's Boone Pickens Stadium, something remarkable happened. A fan named Trent Eaton accepted a \$10 bet from his sister to go to the mostly empty Section 231 and swing his shirt around to energize the crowd. What started as one person's willingness to look foolish soon sparked a movement. Fans from across the stadium rushed to Section 231, taking their shirts off and twirling them around, bringing energy and joy to what had been a quiet stadium. The moment went viral, with ESPN naming them Fans of the Week. *(For more on this story, [Cowboy Fans Start a Shirtless Revolution in Section 231](#))*

Here's what strikes me most about this story: Trent said he had always been someone willing to be the center of a good laugh. He wasn't afraid to stand alone, to be the only one doing something that might look ridiculous. And his willingness to be "all in" — quite literally taking his shirt off when no one else would — inspired hundreds of others to join him.

Isn't this exactly what Jesus calls us to do?

Following Christ wholeheartedly often means we'll be the first one standing. It means being willing to look foolish in the eyes of the world. It means showing up with full commitment even when the stands around us are empty, even when our team is losing (and Oklahoma State was losing that day).

Peter demonstrated this same "all-in" faith when he stepped out of the boat to walk on water. He was the only one willing to look foolish, to risk failure, to leave the safety of where everyone else was sitting. And while the other disciples watched from the boat, Peter experienced something miraculous — he walked on water with Jesus.

The beauty of Section 231 wasn't just that one person was bold enough to start. It was that his commitment inspired a movement. When people saw someone fully committed, they left their comfortable seats and rushed to join him. Joy and energy replaced apathy.

The same thing happens in the Kingdom of God. When people see someone living fully dedicated to Jesus — not halfway, not holding back, but completely surrendered — it's contagious. Your willingness to serve when no one else will, to forgive when it's hard, to worship with abandon, to love sacrificially, to stand for truth even when you're alone — that inspires others to do the same.

Jesus doesn't call us to be a comfortable, halfway discipleship. God calls us to take up our cross daily, to lose our life to find it, to be "all in" even when it costs us something. God calls us to be willing to stand alone in Section 231 if that's where God has placed us.

So here's my question for us: Are we living with that kind of bold, unashamed commitment to Christ? Or are we sitting in the comfortable seats, watching from a distance, waiting for someone else to go first?

The world is watching. They're not inspired by apathy. Nor is the world inspired by people who feel sorry for themselves that the game (*life*) is not going the way they had hoped. Rather, people are inspired by others who are fully alive in Christ, who love with reckless abandon, who aren't afraid to stand alone if that's what faithfulness requires.

Be the Section 231 Christian in your workplace, your neighborhood, your family. Live so fully committed to Jesus that others can't help but notice — and maybe, just maybe, they'll leave their comfortable seats and join you.

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus..." (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Blessings,

Pastor Aaron

Helpful Hints from a Tax Advisor

Contribute required IRA distributions to charity: IRA distribution rules allow for the tax-free treatment of IRA distributions that are donated directly to the charity from the IRA of an IRA owner who is age 70½, or older. Specifically, a taxpayer may exclude from gross income so much of the aggregate amount of his or her "qualified charitable distributions" not exceeding \$108,000 in a tax year. By excluding the IRA distribution from income and excluding the donation from charitable contributions, the provision provides a tax benefit to itemizers and non-itemizers alike. The IRA qualified charitable distribution also allows for distributions to charities (up to \$50,000) through charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder unitrusts, and charitable remainder annuity trusts. Please be advised that, based on current IRS rules and standards, any advice contained herein is not intended to be used, nor can it be used, for the avoidance of any tax penalty that the IRS should assess related to this matter. Consult your tax advisor.

[calendar of events link - https://crownheights.church/connect/calendar-of-events](https://crownheights.church/connect/calendar-of-events)

HOPE LODGE

Serving a meal to the patients and caregivers at the Hope Lodge is a great experience. We were able to visit with the folks staying at the Lodge during their treatment. We met staff and even the elevator repair man! The choir joined us and sang many of their past anthems for the group and they LOVED it. Thank you Kaleb and Diana for making this happen. Madi's kids crafted cards for the tables and there were so many sweet comments about the cards! Your staff used this as our Giving Back for October. We would love to see CHCC continue this partnership. Whether it's breakfast goodies, lunch or dinner, they are always in need. What you serve is up to you! If you are part of a Sunday School class, Committee group or a group of church friends, consider Hope Lodge for a way to give back!

FROM YOUR MISSION TEAM

In addition to all of the amazing and wonderful things our church has done in October to support our homeless neighbors, our community, and each other... now we turn to plans for November.

As you probably know, SNAP/food stamps are probably not going to be fully funded in November, and not for as long as the government remains in shut down. What, specifically, can we do to help those in needs around us?

Our "Pack the Pantry" theme for November is going to be focused on having enough food to give those who come to our door a solid meal each day. There is simply not room in our little pantry for enough food to meet this need, so the Mission Team and the staff will be making meal bags from your donated goods, and we'll put a sign on the pantry telling our homeless neighbors to come across the street and pick up their meal bag. Here are the things that are most important for us to have for those bags:

Granola Bars
Fruit Cups
Cheese Crackers
Vienna Sausage
Tuna Packets
Small sleeve of crackers
Juice bags

In addition, our church has relationships with several well established food pantries in our area, so the Mission Team has designated \$500 cash each to Wildewood food pantry, Skyline ministries, and Project 66. These are your tithes in action! God never stops supplying opportunities for us to "feed my sheep".

Bell Choir has started back up - Wednesday evenings at 6:20 - join us!!!

From Your Congregational Life Team

Calling all Guys

Come and enjoy food, fellowship and bowling (if you wish) at Guys' Night Out. The fun will take place on **Sunday November 9, 2025 from 5:00-7:00p.m.** at The Dust Bowl Lanes and Lounge.

The Dust Bowl is located at 421 N.W. 10th Street #203E.

The church will pay for the lane and each guy is asked to bring \$4 to pay for shoes if he wants to bowl.

There is a wide variety on the menu of things to eat and drink.

Please email the church if you plan to attend, pam@crownheights.church

Christmas Gifts Make and Take

Sunday November 16, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

Ladies, come and join us for some fun and fellowship at the annual Christmas Make and Take Event. .

We will be making some cute easy gifts for you to give to friends, relatives, neighbors, teachers, or service providers.

As we make the items, suggestions will be given as to how to make them extra special to give. No cooking experience needed.

It will be a fun afternoon of chatting and crafting.

Snacks will be served.

Church Fellowship Hall

You will get recipes and make 3 cute gifts to give

Cost \$10 for ingredients and supplies

Please Sign up on sign up sheet on the Bulletin Board so we can plan on supplies.

Giving Thanks Meal

Everyone please join us in our annual Giving Thanks Meal on Sunday, November 23, 2025 immediately after church in the Fellowship Hall.

Meat will be provided by the church and we are asking everyone to bring your favorite side dish, salad or dessert.

This will be a true Pot Luck Dinner.

Come and enjoy great food and fellowship as we

Thank God for all of our Blessings in Life.

Prayers

Bill Hemm, Pastor at Forrest Park Christian Church, has stage 4 lung cancer

Theta Pederson fell and had surgery on her leg and is in Ignite Rehab at 63rd and Portland
Perry Pederson is in Mercy with pneumonia

The patients at the Hope Lodge

Don Gibson is now home

Charlie Swinton is at home recovering

Nathan Grantham has had all of his radiation treatments for his Parotid malignancy, please continue to pray for him

Melissa White is home recovering from knee replacement

Linda Grantham's cousin, Nancy, received her new heart and has gone home, great news!!!
Prayer of healing for Jeff Hollford, family member of Joan Corbin's daughter-in-law

Jennifer Seibel's son, Luke, needs a double transplant, he is an 18 year old Senior at Del City

Deane Berry is 40 years old has 4 children ages 11-4 and has aggressive cancer, doesn't qualify for trial treatments due to aggressive nature of the disease

Porter McGehee and the McGehee Family - Porter was born with Noonan's syndrome, we are praying fervently for an improved Cardiomyopathy report

Sue Chamberlain

Ryan DeArman is going back and forth to the Mayo Clinic for testing and treatment

Sarah White's friend Caroline, has stage 4 breast cancer

Jill Christensen's father is on chemo

