

Chapel Worship 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Sanctuary Worship 10:45 a.m.  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Rev. Brian Matthews, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Bob Langston, Local Missions and Pastoral Care  
Dr. Roberto Escamilla, Minister of Evangelism  
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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
PAID  
ADA, OK 74820  
PERMIT NO. 237

# The First United Methodist Church ADVOCATE



Vol. 30, Number 15

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Brian Matthews

Things are getting ready to really pick up around here so I'm gonna use my space this edition to do one of my favorite types of articles...I like to call this "Ramblings from the Pastor." This article will give you great insight into what goes on inside my crazy brain as things fly in and out. Sit back and enjoy:

⇒ On Sunday, August 14 in the 10:45am service we will have a special "Blessing of the Backpacks." All students are invited to bring their backpacks to worship and we will take time to have a special prayer and blessing over our students and teachers.

⇒ In case you haven't noticed, it's hot outside!

⇒ In just over 2 weeks I will head to luxurious Blackwell, Oklahoma (and the Blackwell Inn) for 2-3 days of sermon planning and fellowship with several of my pastor friends. During this time away I will plan almost every sermon from January-July 2017. If you have any ideas for sermon series, please share them with me. Some of the best sermon series I've ever preached were "birthed" during this planning retreat, and many of the ideas came from parishioners who had a favorite passage, book, movie or story they thought would make a good sermon series. If you have any ideas I'd love

to hear them!

⇒ If you don't have a ribbon to wear in support of (and to remember to pray for) Avery Anderson, we have some in the church office.

⇒ In a matter of weeks we will begin our Wednesday programming. There will be 2 sessions for kids (one after school and one in the evening), a fellowship meal, and opportunities for study and fellowship for youth and adults. I hope you will prayerfully consider your participation...I believe these times of fellowship, study and prayer can make a HUGE difference in our faith journeys, and in the journeys of our children and youth. Be listening and looking for more information on "Mosaic" in the coming weeks.

⇒ How many roads must a man walk down before they call him a man?

⇒ School begins very, very soon for all local students. In case you are unaware, our church has adopted the Ada Early Childhood Center. Cindy Brady is excited about the possibilities that exist for our church to be in prayer and service to the teachers and students at AECC. We will be sharing more in the near future. AND, don't forget about the Wesley Foundation at ECU. We are the anchor church for this vital ministry and there are always ways to support Janey and the students. If you would like to know more about how you can partner in either of these endeavors, please talk to Cindy, Janey or myself.

It looks like I have officially run out of room so I'll wrap this edition up by saying "Thank You" for the ways you have welcomed my family and me over the summer. We officially feel part of the group, and we cannot thank you enough and we look forward to a LONG ministry in Ada! If you ever have any questions or comments, please feel free to call, email or simply stop by...my door is (almost) always open!

Jesus is Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Brian Matthews".

Pastor Brian Matthews



5 of our ECU Wesley students participated in the President Leadership Program Summer Retreat to Black Mesa on July 26-29, 2016.



Picture left to right: Hayden Moore, Emily Stinson, Zac Stanton, Emma Rolin & Loudon Johnson.



**ECU Homecoming is Saturday,  
September 24, 2016!!!**

We will be having lunch and open house at 11 am on Saturday, September 24, 2016 at the ECU Wesley. Bring your family and join us for a cookout and see our ministry! We would love for our alumni, friends, family, current students/their families, supporting churches to join us for this time!

Cookout will begin at 11 am. Parade is at noon and the football game is at 4 pm vs Oklahoma Baptist University!

More information to come!!!



The Chancel Choir Retreat is Saturday, August 20th with Ken Southard directing. Refreshments and donuts will be at 9:00 am and rehearsal will start at 9:30 am, with lunch being provided as well after rehearsal. We would love to encourage any new church members to attend as well.

The Voices of praise will begin rehearsals on Tuesday, September 6th. There will be snacks and games at 3:30- 4:00 pm and rehearsals are from 4:00-5:00 pm. Anyone in grades 1st-6th will meet together on Tuesdays this year.

Get your voice ready for another exciting and fun year!

If you have any questions about either the Chancel Choir Retreat or the Voices of Praise please contact Rozzie Purdy at (580) 332-6624.

*Make a Difference!*  
**DONATE**

We are out of money for the Local Aid Funds, if you would like to donate to help you can either come by the church office or put it in the offering plate and label "local aid funds".

Thank you for all your help it is greatly appreciated.



- August 13th: Students move in at ECU
- August 14th: Block Party (evening time) at ECU
- August 15th: First day of fall semester/Chamber Fair (morning)/Snow Cones & Scavenger Hunt @ 7pm @ ECU Wesley
- August 22nd: First FUSION Worship of the fall semester

Janey Wilson,  
Campus Minister  
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Follow us on social media:  
Facebook: ECU Wesley  
Twitter & Instagram:  
[ecu\\_wesley](https://www.instagram.com/ecu_wesley)

# You're Invited!

Join us for the Blessing of the Backpacks



Sunday,  
August 14th  
10:45 am



Bring your backpack to the 10:45 church service, Pastor Brian will pray a blessing for you and your backpack for the new school year!



Another school year is upon us and Ada Early Childhood Center is excited to begin a new year. We are also excited about the partnership that has been established between our school and FUMC. Already, we have had tremendous support from the church in the following ways:

- Enrollment with the use of church tables
- Beautification day (several members of the church came out to help and spiff up the school)
- Cinnamon rolls from Sue (which were greatly appreciated)
- Brian attended our back to school meeting and blessed our year with prayer
- Paper delivered to our school (Thanks Rev. Langston!)

Many of you have asked how to help and have already volunteered your services, but many of you may be asking yourself "What can I do?" We would love for individuals to come and help students on and off the bus and offer "high fives" and "smiles". Maybe you would like to help out in a classroom, or perhaps you would be willing to help prepare materials for teachers or read to a class on a regular basis. Many of our students have needs such as shoes or clothing throughout the year. Possibly you would like to help in that way. You may not feel that you can do any of the above, but the most IMPORTANT need we have is prayer. We need people to pray for our school, our staff, and our students on a daily basis. That is certainly something that every one of you could commit to doing and I believe will have a greater impact on our school than anything else.

Along with the faculty and staff of AECC, I sincerely thank you for all that you have already done and will continue to do to support our school.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please feel free to contact Cindy Brady at 310-7283.



Our awesome youth have participated in some of these events.

August 3rd



16 for workday at Ada Early Childhood Center.

We spread mulch around playground



August 6th



22 Went to Six Flags

They had such a great time!

## youth group Summer Calendar

**AUGUST**

14th- Going to Elevation Jump Park

Follow the latest student ministry news Instagram @fumcadastudents and twitter@fumcadastudents



There will be an important meeting of the Committee will be on Thursday, September 15th at 6 pm in the Lindsay Classroom.

Mosaic classes will start again on the Wednesday after Labor Day.

Please look for details in the next newsletter.



If you know someone that needs to be on or removed from the prayer list please contact the office and let us know. We would love to keep everyone up to date on it and in our prayers daily. Thank you!

# Opportunities of the Week



# Church Family Prayer List

**Worship times are the same each week, unless announced**

### Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship (Chapel)
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:45 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
- 3:30 p.m. Park Ministry Dinner (Glenwood Park)

### Tuesday

- 9:30 a.m. Talmidim Bible Study (Postponed till further notice)
- 12:00 a.m. Prayer in the Sanctuary Prayer Room
- 6:00 p.m. Grief Share (Lindsay Classroom)

### Wednesday

- Noon Methodist Men's Bible Study (Library)

### YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- 3:30 p.m. Students are allowed in Youth room & CLC
- 6:00 p.m. Jr. High Small Group (One Room)
- 6:30 p.m. Joint Worship (Jr. & Sr. High (Youth room))
- 7:00 p.m. Jr. High dismissed, Sr. High starts with sermon & Small groups (wreck room)

## Watching Our Figures

**OFFERING** 7/31/16 \$ 13,895.00  
Cap Campaign \$ 1,320.00

**ATTENDANCE** 7/31/16  
Sunday School 164  
Chapel Service 82  
Sanctuary Service 184

**Total Worship** 266

**OFFERING** 8/7/16 \$ 12,735.00  
Cap Campaign \$ 1,100.00

**ATTENDANCE** 8/7/16  
Sunday School 163  
Chapel Service 90  
Sanctuary Service 177

**Total Worship** 267

**PRAYERS:** Avery Anderson, Janet Bare, Don Birdwell, Mae Hodgkins Caves, Twilah Blue, **Marsha Crook**, Tom Cook, Jeanne Dark, Graylin Davis, Milt Donaghey, Donna Gault, Austin and Michelle Gibson, Lili Giles, Jovan Hodges, **Kim Dicus Holton**, Pastor Earl Hood, Maggie Hood, Jeanette House, **Jimmy Litchfield**, Bill Larney, Paul Lotter, Mike Manahan, Mike Manning, Lynn Marquis, Nicole McDonald, Tommy McKay, **Sharon McNary, Curtis, Debbie and Becky Ann Miller**, Duane Murray, Mary Beth Myers, Wes Perkins, Kimm Rich, Jason Richardson, Lawanna Ronald, Tom Runnells, Jessica Sasser, Karsen Sheffield, Lynn Snow, Jodie Standard, Doc Stokes, Ryan Stockton, **Ken Turner**, Don Prather, Nellie Philips, Buddy Watkins, Glenn Watkins, Buddy Watson, Michelle Williams, Alice Willis, Zac Wilson.

**LONG-TERM PRAYERS:** Bernie Belletini, Brent Bidy, Bud Blackburn, Dale Buss, Joshua Buss, Dr. JoAnn Carpenter, Wanda Copen, Steva Cottingham, Amber Cox, Tyler Cox, Kathy McKain Dargel, Ron Davidson, Chip Dudley, Mary Fogle, Joe Glasgow, Dakota Gray, Bishop Hayes, Jennifer Hood, Mel Hutt, Tara Humphers, Ron Jackson, Shawna Jackson, Geneva Jamar, Randy Johnson, Sarah Johnson, J. Johnston, Helen Lee, Roger Morgan, Marissa Morris, Johnny Moss, Jane Muntz, Brenda Pflaum, DiAnn Readnour, Jennifer Reynolds, Jon Ross, Diann Smith, Lindsay Snow, Emma Stewart, Pam Stewart, Kay Tillman, Lesa Ulrich, True Wallace, Charles Waller, Debbie Cowling Whitley, Karen Williams, Richard Williams, Terry Wood.

**EXPECTANT MOTHERS:** Danette Balliett, Callie Christian, Sarah Dailey Cody, Brooklyn Harris, Katie Buxton McNew, Molly Jackson, Charissa Reed, Kayla Stevens

## AUGUST

- Tuesday 16,**  
6-8:30 pm Grief Share (Lindsay Classroom)
- Wednesday 17,**  
8-11 am Matthew 25 Packaging (St. Luke Episcopal Church)
- Thursday 18,**  
8-10:30 am Matthew 25 Mission Distribution (St. Luke Episcopal Church)
- 5:30- 7 pm GSPS Board Meeting (Parlor)
- 6-7 pm Stephen Minister Supervisory Group Meeting (Library)
- Saturday 20,**  
9-1:30 pm Choir Retreat (Choir Room and Fellowship Hall)
- Tuesday 23,**  
6-8 pm Grief Share (Lindsay Classroom)
- Wednesday 24,**  
11-1 pm Golden Agers (Fellowship Hall)



## AUGUST

- Saturday 20th Choir Retreat 9am—1:30pm
- Wednesday 24th VBS Reunion Party (CLC) 4-6pm  
Chancel Ringers Practice 6-7pm  
Chancel Choir Practice 7:15
- Wednesday 31st 1st Childrens Session 3:15-5:30pm (Education Wing)  
2nd Childrens Session 6-7pm (Education Wing)