

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 16

August 26, 2016



Brian Matthews

This past Sunday night I headed north to the big town of Blackwell, Ok, where amongst the windmills and in the comfort of the Best Western Blackwell Inn I joined my good friends Josh Leu (Ada resident at one time by the way) and Ronnie Fields. While having a great time, laughing way too much, and eating some good food we each planned nearly our entire preaching calendar for 2017, including a couple sermon series we sketched out together and will all preach at some point during the year. In the tradition of movie previews, which I love watching, here are some sermon series "Coming Soon to a Pulpit Near You."

◇ **Half Truths: Christian Phrases that Need to be Eliminated**

Have you ever heard well meaning Christians say something that at face value sounds good, but on further reflection is only "half true?" In January we will examine several of these "sometimes toxic" sayings.

◇ **More than Miracles**

Often times when Jesus performed a miracle, there was more than one miracle occurring, and in this series we will explore the miracles behind the miracles.

◇ **The Last Week**

The Last Week of Jesus life, known as Holy Week, is full of teachings and events all Christians should be acutely aware. During the Season of Lent we will take a look at each day that is chronicled in the Gospels.

◇ **Your Money or Your Life**

Dave Ramsey is the nation's leading expert on biblical finance. His books and classes have helped millions of Americans get out of debt and manage their finances using biblical principles. In this sermon series we will learn from the wisdom of Dave Ramsey as we determine what's more important in our lives: our money and all the "stuff" we acquire, or a biblical life where our money works for us and not the other way around.

◇ **Nooma: Understanding the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is one of the most understood (and sometimes even distorted) Christian beliefs. During this 3-week series we will explore the Holy Spirit and how He is important in daily living.

◇ **The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached, pt. 2**

In July 2017 we will tackle part 2 (chapter 6) of Jesus' famous sermon on the mount.

◇ **The Other 6 Days**

Starting the Sunday after Labor Day 2017 we will spend several weeks examining the proper integration of our faith into the workplace, so that our faith is something more than something we practice on Sundays only.

◇ **The Words of Romans**

October 31, 2017 is the 500th Anniversary of Martin Luther's 95 Theses, which became the spark of the Protestant Reformation and forever changed the landscape of Christianity. Luther's preface to the Book of Romans was especially helpful to Methodism's founder, John Wesley, and so in October we will honor Martin Luther by examining the major themes in Paul's Letter to the Romans.

◇ **Who Do You Say That I Am?**

We will end 2017 by examining the many names/titles given to Jesus in scripture and the early church.

I hope this gives you some insight into 2017 and perhaps some food for thought in the coming weeks. As always, if you have some insight into any of these series, or would like to chat about them, or have any ideas for the future, please come by and do so! Have a great week!

Jesus is Lord,

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

Pastor Brian Matthews



# ECU WESLEY



ECU Wesley was well represented at the Block Party on Sunday, August 14, 2016



One of the teams that participated in the ECU Wesley Photo Scavenger Hunt & Snow Cones on Monday, August 15, 2016.



One of the teams that participated in the ECU Wesley Photo Scavenger Hunt & Snow Cones on Monday, August 15, 2016.



First day of classes picture on August 15, 2016. Kayla Houchin of Lone Grove, Devon Taylor of Piedmont & Bridgette Christian of Lone Grove.

## SAVE THE DATE

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!!!



- Each Monday: Pass out Random Snacks of Kindness @ 9:30 am on campus
- Each Monday: FUSION Worship of the fall semester @ 8 pm
- August 28<sup>th</sup>: ECU Wesley speaks at Seminole FUMC
- August 31<sup>st</sup>: Not A Fan Co-Ed Bible Study begins @ 8:30 pm @ ECU Wesley
- September 5<sup>th</sup>: LABOR DAY-ECU WESLEY CLOSED (NO FUSION)

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Facebook: ECU Wesley  
Twitter & Instagram:  
[ecu\\_wesley](http://ecu_wesley)

## From the Kitchen

Summer's over and the kitchen's on fire again!

Mosaic begins Wednesday September 7th and we're looking forward to having Wednesday night supper with you the next few months. Cost for adults is \$6.00 and children are \$2.00. Here is the menu for September :

- 7th- Beef and cheese enchiladas served with red beans, chips, salsa and Louisiana yummy.
- 14th- Chicken parmesan served with green bean casserole, tomato and cucumber salad, hot rolls and strawberry cake.
- 21st- Pasta served with corn salad, garlic bread and chocolate cake.
- 29th- Pork loin sandwich served with potato salad, baked beans and apple cobbler.

To start up our fall program we provided the Ada School System (450 teachers) with breakfast for their first day back to work. They enjoyed the food and fellowship and asked us to say a BIG thank you to First United Methodist Church.

I would like to thank our staff and others that came to help (some at 4:30 am and others on their days off): Aggie Allen, Phyllis Danley, Lisa Elliot, Pastor Roberto Escamilla, Stephen Harris, LaDona Hill, Donna Jamar, Ann Lane, Janet Larney, Rev. Brian and Shannon Matthews, Elaine McKnight and Jason Parker.

Also a giant thanks to our Methodist women that provided all the homemade breads and pastries served. We had enough that the teachers were excited to take doggie bags for lunch. Thanks again lots of love, Sue

## Sisters hand-in-hand Banquet

Our FUMC joined hands with the Cowboy Cross Cut Church to provide our widows with a western night of fun this month.

To accomplish our part in the evening program I didn't have to call the "Ghost busters" because the Methodist A-Team was on call.

Thank you to...

LaDona Hill- Interior Decorating  
Brian Matthews and Will Boggs- Entertainment  
Dick Danielson, Deril Black- willing to help with whatever we needed.

Julie Luke- My tablecloth angel  
Kitchen Queens- Ann Lane, Aggie Allen, Elaine McKnight, Gail Danielson.

A large herd of cowgirls and cowboys from the Cowboy Church came to set up and clean up. They provided the cost of the meals and also came with a door prize for each of the widows.

With every ones help the banquet was a huge success.



## UMW MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Members,

We begin our fall season with a Unit Meeting, September 12th at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall with a meal being provided.

The speaker will be Stacey Ninness of Neighborhood Services Organization. She began her career there in 2005 and is currently president and CEA of this Oklahoma City based non-profit organization.

Stacey is a native of Shawnee, Oklahoma and a graduate of East Central University. She is involved in many community organizations and is a baseball fan. She and Todd have been married for 17 years.

We invite all FUMC women to attend this time of fellowship and hear this busy working wife and mother speak.

## Notes from the



It was a great day to be at the park! Only around 85° and a nice breeze. We served about 450 meals today! Thank you to all who helped us set up; your help carrying everything to the serving area is very much appreciated! We also send our thanks the KFC, J.D.'s Cafe and to Amber's Sweet Shoppe. All that you share with us is what makes it possible to serve all those meals each week. Of course to our very special crew, Julie, Jeff, Jim, Rick, Chris, Don, Nina, Tim, Fran, Clay, Colin, and welcome back Janota. You are all truly the heart of Sunday Dinner at the Park. Thank you all, and we hope to see you back next week. A special thanks to members of our church for you support and prayers. If anyone would like to join our crew, just show up at the park on Sunday at 3:15pm, we would love to have you!

Clay and Leslie

## LET US PRAY

### Come Pray With Us

Community prayer time is from 12-1 pm every Tuesday in the sanctuary. It is an informal come and go to accommodate working people. We have prayer stations set up and pray for churches, our city, our school, our country, etc. Everyone is welcome!

**On September 5th Please pray for our custodians**

**Steve Harris and Jason Parser**

**(See Upper Room Focus for that day on page 11)**

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Starting Wednesday, August 31st and continuing through Wednesday, May 10th, 2017, we will offer 2 Wednesday night activities:

From 4:00 to 5:30pm we will have Awana! There will be bible lessons, snacks, games and more! Children will earn Awana money for memorizing bible verses, and will be able to shop at our Awana store! If you would like to register for this class please pick up a registration form in the office.

From 5-6pm, come and go to dinner in the Fellowship Hall!



From 6-7 pm, we will have a rotational style bible adventure. Children will experience bible stories through crafts, snacks and games!

Your are invited to Awana or Bible Adventure or stay for both classes

and have dinner with us in between!



## Mosaic classes are starting September 7th!

Check the insert for more details and the sign up lists are located in the front of the office or in the Sanctuary.

## Festival of New Beginnings

September 11th

8:30 am and 10:45 am

We are inviting all inactive, semi-active and active

members to join us for worship and a great, delicious home cooked breakfast served from 8-10am.

An inspiring sermon series by Rev. Matthews titled "Why Church?"

**September 11th**– Community

**September 18th**– Mentors

**September 25th**– Real People

**October 2nd**– Money Matters

This is the time when we must support our church with our PRESENCE. There will be children and youth activities as announced.

Please plan to attend EVERY Sunday!





# Opportunities of the Week

# Church Family Prayer List

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

<b>Sunday</b>	
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)
<b>Tuesday</b>	
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)
<b>Wednesday</b>	
Noon	Methodist Men's Bible Study (Library)
3:15-5:30 p.m.	1st Childrens Session (Education Wing)
6-7 p.m.	2nd Childrens Session (Education Wing)
6:00 p.m.	Chancel Ringers Practice
7:15 p.m.	Chancel Choir Practice
<b>YOUTH ACTIVITIES</b>	
5:00 p.m.	Youth activities

**PRAYERS:** Avery Anderson, Janet Bare, **Country Beard**, Don Birdwell, **Amy Boatwright**, **Dudley Bricker**, Mae Hodgkins Caves, Twilah Blue, Marsha Crook, Tom Cook, Jeanne Dark, Milt Donaghey, Donna Gault, Austin and Michelle Gibson, Lili Giles, Kelley Haragan, Jovan Hodges, Kim Dicus Holton, Pastor Earl Hood, Maggie Hood, Jeanette House, Bill Larney, Paul Lotter, Mike Manahan, Mike Manning, Lynn Marquis, Nicole McDonald, Tommy McKay, Sharon McNary, Miller Family, Curtis, Debbie and Becky Ann Miller, Duane Murray, Mary Beth Myers, **Sheila Odom**, Wes Perkins, **Dale Rice**, Kimm Rich, Jason Richardson, Lawanna Ronald, Tom Runnells, Jessica Sasser, Karsen Sheffield, **Stephanie Sill**, Lynn Snow, Jodie Standard, Doc Stokes, Ryan Stockton, Ken Turner, Don Prather, Nellie Philips, **Phil Rhynes**, Bob Walls (Brett Walls father), Buddy Watkins, Glenn Watkins, Buddy Watson, Michelle Williams, Alice Willis, Zac Wilson, Judy Wofford.

**LONG-TERM PRAYERS:** Bernie Belletini, Brent Bidy, Bud Blackburn, Dale Buss, Joshua Buss, Dr. JoAnn Carpenter, Wanda Coplen, Steva Cottingam, Amber Cox, Tyler Cox, Kathy McKain Dargel, 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, **Linda Wheeler**, Debbie Cowling Whitley, Karen Williams, Richard Williams, Terry Wood.

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

## Watching Our Figures

<b>OFFERING</b>	8/14/16	\$ 8,178.00
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	8/14/16	
Sunday School	183	
Chapel Service	84	
Sanctuary Service	173	
<b>Total Worship</b>	<u>270</u>	
<b>OFFERING</b>	8/21/16	\$ 9,758.00
Cap Campaign		\$ 40.00
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	8/21/16	
Sunday School	183	
Chapel Service	97	
Sanctuary Service	173	
<b>Total Worship</b>	<u>270</u>	

## SEPTEMBER

### THURSDAY 1st,

5-6 pm

Local Unit Leadership Team Meeting (Library)

6-7 pm

Stephen Ministry Supervisory Meeting (Library)

5:30-7:30 pm

GSPS Open House

### MONDAY 5th,

All Day

Labor Day (Church Closed)

### TUESDAY 6th,

9am-3pm

GSPS first day of school

3:30-5 pm

VOP Choir

5:00 pm

Acolyte Training (Sanctuary)

### WEDNESDAY 7th,

12:00 pm

Methodist Men Breakfast (Aldridge Coffee Shop, 200 S. Broadway)

5:00 pm

Mosaic Schedule Starts



## SEPTEMBER

**Thursday 1st**

Labor Day (All Day)-

Church closed

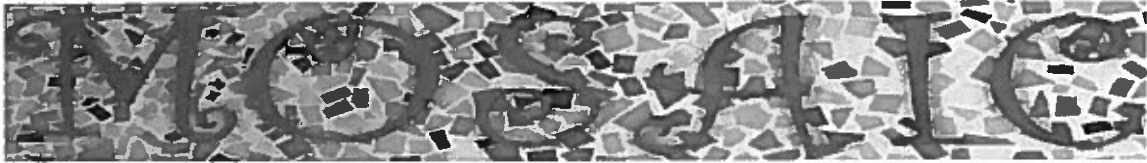
**Tuesday 6th**

GSPS First day of school

**Wednesday 7th**

Mosaic Schedule Starts





## FALL ADULT CLASSES

### **Register Now**

Mosaic learning opportunities are on Wednesdays from 6-7 pm.  
Please place a check mark next to the course you would like to take  
and turn in to an usher today.

**(first class begins September 7th)**

**VBV Bible Study**— by Rev. Brian Matthews

**Disciple Bible Study/Fast Track**— Rev. Bob Langston

**Bible Journaling for Beginners**— Carissa O'Dell (coordinated by LaDonna Hill)

**The Meaning and Practice of Worship**— Pastor Roberto Escamilla

**Counterfeit Christianity**— Pastor Don Venable

**Living by the Book**— Pastor Don Venable

We will have a delicious home cooked meal at 5pm.  
There will be youth and children activities simultaneously.

On the back is a description of each class and what you will be  
going over.

**Please take advantage of these great opportunities to grow  
spiritually and intellectually.**

# INFORMATION FOR MOSAIC CLASSES

## **VBV Scripture Study with Pastor Brian Matthews**

In this class we will be studying the Book Of Genesis VBV (verse by verse), with lots of insight from Pastor B and discussion from everyone. This class will essentially be "new" each week, meaning if you miss a week you can jump back in without missing too much. Bring your bible (or digital device) and join the fun!

## **Disciple Bible Study/Fast Track with Rev. Bob Langston**

This class is designed to adapt to our busy schedules. Meeting for 24 weeks, participants will explore the Old Testament for 12 week with a short break around Christmas before entering the 12 weeks study of the New Testament.

Group meetings each Wednesday night will focus on daily scripture readings as well as discussion prompted by a short DVD presentation and individual encounters of the participants. The focus on the "Marks of Discipleship" will encourage participants to make bible study a part of their daily life with a deeper commitment to follow the example of Jesus Christ.

## **Bible Journaling for Beginners with Carissa O'Dell (coordinated by LaDonna Hill)**

We all scribble in our bibles by adding sermon notes, prayers and word studies in the margins, plus underlining, highlighting, and circling or color coding verses that touch us. Lets take it to a deeper level by learning how to study the word of God through creative expression.

Carissa O'Dell will share with us her insight on how to praise God by illustrating our faith. All you need is your Bible or an art journal, and a No. 2 pencil with an eraser. (Unless you never make mistakes!) There are beautiful journaling Bibles on the market but absolutely not necessary. All other supplies will be furnished. Remember NO writing skills are needed just a desire to illustrate what you study in the Bible.

Come join the fun and learn creative lettering and art techniques while experiencing a more personal relationship with God.

## **The Meaning and Practice of Worship with Pastor Roberto Escamilla**

Why do we worship? This course will help us understand the sequences in the order of worship. Furthermore, we will learn the liturgical vocabulary of the church and what is a pastoral prayer and the role of music in worship.

## **Counterfeit Christianity by Roger E. Olson, taught by Rev. Don Venable**

"As Roger Olson shows in this excellent study, the problem with heresies is that they substitute a different god for the God of the Christian faith and draw people away from the salvation promised by the gospel. This book is an invitation not only to deepen our understanding but to renew our faith in the God revealed in Jesus Christ." -Henry H. Knight III, Professor of Wesleyan Studies, Saint Paul School of Theology.

## **Living by the Book, the Art and Science of Reading the Bible with Rev. Don Venable**

Learn to study the Bible in a way that will revolutionize your life. You will be using these tools every time you open your Bible and what you find will change your life.