

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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The First United Methodist Church ADVOCATE



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September 11, 2016



Brian Matthews

Each year as part of our church's Charge Conference paperwork I am asked (by the Bishop) to reflect upon how I live out my baptism by serving the Lord and His church. I always enjoy writing that brief report because it reminds me that I am called to live out my baptism first and foremost, and my ordination second. I would encourage you to reflect upon how you live out your baptism on a daily, weekly, monthly and yearly basis...it can be a very worthwhile experience. One practical way to do that is by reflecting upon the vows we United Methodists take when we join the church. In case you've forgotten them, each new member pledges to support the mission and ministry of the church with their "prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness." While attending a seminar last week it was suggested we pastors make a habit of regularly sharing with our church how we live out these membership vows, which is essentially the same exercise I will do between now and December, so I'm gonna take the next couple Advocates to share with you how I live out the membership vows of the United Methodist Church.

Prayers. Prayer is an important part of life. Prayer connects us to God and others. Prayer impacts us and others. The way I pray has changed many times through the years. When I was young I viewed prayer as something that only happened when you stopped, clasped your hands, closed your eyes, bowed your head and spoke either audibly or silently to God...and prayer was my way of letting God know what I (and others) needed. I can also remember believing/feeling that if I didn't spend enough time in prayer God would not bless me or continue to guide and direct me. Today I view and practice

prayer much, much differently. Prayer is something I do throughout the day no matter what I'm doing. When I see someone in need I offer a short prayer for them. When I hear about someone in need or see something happen I pray. I pray while driving, walking around the building, sitting at my desk and wherever else I am when I Spirit hits. In addition to these short, impromptu times of prayer, I also have times that are more structured. Each morning of the work week I gather with the office staff and begin the day with prayer. We lift up concerns and give updates and then go to the Lord asking His blessing and guidance for those in need and upon our days as we serve Him. On my desk I keep a set of prayer beads that I use regularly. The beads offer a structure that I sometimes need and I find quite helpful. These particular beads were made by a pastor friend of mine, but if there was enough interest we could easily do a short-term Mosaic class on prayer beads and allow participants to make them. If prayer beads are of interest to you let me know and we'll see what we can do. Additionally I have 2 alarms on my phone to remind me to pray at specific times each day: at 9:28am I join others around the state in praying for "the Lord of the Harvest to send his workers because the fields are ripe for harvest," and at noon I join pastors and lay people around our district in praying the Lord's prayer.

Presence. Being present both in the local church and conference happenings is important to me. Although I am completely unable to be present at everything our local church does, I am doing my best to be present as much as possible by visiting Sunday school classes and events, bible studies, committee meetings, children and youth events and any other event I can squeeze into my 24 daily hours. On a side note, if I have not yet visited your group please mention it to me so I can rectify that...I found out last week about a Sunday school class I wasn't even aware existed so please let me know if your group has not yet seen me. I also do my best to be present at district and conference level events. Obviously I attend Annual Conference each year and required gatherings in the district, but I also do my best to support optional events like the Stewardship Focus Day, Rev-X (a fellowship of Generation X clergy), benefit events for different groups and events at our local ECU Wesley Foundation.

That's some thoughts on the first 2 vows and I'll tackle more next edition. Between now and then I hope you will spend some time considering how you live out the practices of Prayer and Presence. On a scale of 1-10 how are you doing? In what ways could you improve 1 step? Have fun with that and I look forward to seeing you soon! Take Care and Have a Great Week!

Jesus is Lord,

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

Pastor Brian Matthews



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 2 pm and the football game is at 6 pm vs Oklahoma Baptist University!

More information to come!!!

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Facebook: ECU Wesley
Twitter & Instagram:
[ecu_wesley](https://www.instagram.com/ecu_wesley)



ECU Wesley attended both services at FUMC, Ada on August 21, 2016 before they begin traveling around the Oklahoma Conference sharing their ministry story.



- Each Monday: Pass out Random Snacks of Kindness @ 9:30 am on campus
- Each Monday: FUSION Worship of the fall semester @ 8 pm
- Each Wednesday: Not A Fan Co-Ed Bible Study begins @ 8:30 pm @ ECU Wesley
- September 11th: ECU Wesley speaks at First Presbyterian Church, Ada
- September 11th: ECU Wesley Leadership Meeting/Dinner @ 6 pm
- September 15th: ECU Wesley volunteers @ Abba Table @ 5 pm-7 pm
- September 18th: ECU Wesley leads worship at Lindsay FUMC
- September 24th: ECU Homecoming (Cookout @ 11 am @ ECU Wesley)
- December 1st: Spaghetti Spectacular @ FUMC, Ada



The fall leadership team: Janey Wilson, Devon Taylor, Britni Sisco, Stephanie Cox, James Houchin, Sam Adams and Loudon Johnson



SEPTEMBER 6TH WAS THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR A LOT OF THESE AMAZING KIDS HERE AT FUMC. WE ARE SO BLESSED TO HAVE THEM ATTENDING THE GOOD SHEPHERD PRESCHOOL AND CANT WAIT TO SEE HOW MUCH THEY GROW OVER THIS NEXT YEAR.

UWESLEY men A word from the

We had a wonderful breakfast this morning September 7, 2016 at the Aldridge Coffee Shop meeting room.

We had a great buffet breakfast with various fruit, juices, biscuits, gravy, potatoes, scrambled eggs and ham, and sausage and bacon. We enjoyed great fellowship and several moving testimonies. This happens the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 am, come and join us.

Also, we have men's Bible study every Wednesday at noon in the Library at the church, all men are welcome. Dale Pflaum, [580-421-7348](tel:580-421-7348)

Festival of New Beginnings



September 11th at 8:30 am and 10:45 am
We will have great music and sermon which will be
"Community" by Rev. Brian Matthews.
Lets have a record attendance!
Calling all inactive and semi-active members to gather
with us!

New Members WELCOME

The Boyd Family



Misty, B.J., and their son Brandon joined on July 3, 2016. They transferred from First United Methodist Church in Gore, OK.

The Cook Family



Rhonda, her two sons Elias and Douglas, and her two daughters Julietta and Trulee joined August 14th, 2016.

The Stevens Family (not pictured)

Michael, Kayla and their daughter Roselyn joined August 22, 2016.

THE GOLDEN GIRLS HIT THE ROAD TO MONTANA!



Carol Hayden, Peggy Bagley, Mary Beth Myers and Mary James had such a great time on their trip full of shopping, sight seeing and of course ice cream! One stop was in Silverton, Colorado to take this amazing picture!

The best thing about Memories ... is making them

Notes from the



Labor Day Weekend! First I must say thank you to our crew for giving up an afternoon of their holiday weekend. They come when it's hot, they come when it's cold, and they even come when everyone else is enjoying a barbeque with their families! Nina, Fran, Rick, Jim, Julie, Jeff, Tim, Clay, Colin, and today, we were also joined by Felicia! She saw what we were doing and asked how she could help. I am blessed to be surrounded by so many wonderful people!

Once again, KFC, J.D.'s Cafe, Amber's Sweet Shoppe, and our special chef, Colin who makes the best loaded mashed potatoes, thank you one and all. With your help, we were able to provide more than 450 meals today!

We are already planning special meals for Thanksgiving and Christmas this year. We will be serving dinner on those days, weather permitting. We are currently collecting coats, hats, gloves and blankets to share at the park once the weather starts to cool. If you have any items you would like to share, please contact me, or items can also be dropped off at the church. Thank you to all, and hope to need you next week, for Dinner at the Park.

Leslie and Clay

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

ACOLYTE TRAINING

Acolyte training is for children in the 4th grade and older. They learn how to light the candles on the altar, help with the offering, and etc. Once trained, they are put on our schedule to Acolyte during the 10:45 church service!



September 11th, we will have the commissioning of new acolytes at our 10:45 church service.



There will be a swimming party at John and Lisa Elliott's house (312 North Hillcrest) on Sunday September 11th for all children in honor of the new acolytes from 2 pm to 4 pm.

Parents must attend to help watch kids!

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.	Talimidim 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)
3:15-5:30 p.m.	1st Children's Session (Education Wing)
5:00 p.m.	Mosaic Meal
6-7 p.m.	2nd Children's Session (Education Wing)
6:00 p.m.	Chancel Ringers Practice
7:15 p.m.	Chancel Choir Practice
YOUTH ACTIVITIES	
5:00 p.m.	Youth activities

PRAYERS: Avery Anderson, Janet Bare, Country Beard, Don Birdwell, Greg Belcher, Amy Boatwright, Dudley Bricker, Mae Hodgkins Caves, Twilah Blue, Marsha Crook, Tom Cook, Ann Daniel, Nawatha Dodge, Milt Donaghey, Donna Gault, Lili Giles, Kelley Haragan, Jovan Hodges, Kim Dicus Holton, Pastor Earl Hood, Maggie Hood, Jeanette House, Alvin Jamar, Bill Larney, Paul Lotter, Mike Manahan, Mike Manning, Lynn Marquis, **Kate McCortney**, Nicole McDonald, Tommy McKay, Sharon McNary, Miller Family, Curtis Miller Family, Mary Beth Myers, Sheila Odom, Wes Perkins, Dale Rice, Kimm Rich, Jason Richardson, Lawanna Ronald, Tom Runnells, Jessica Sasser, **Dorothy Scates**, Karsen Sheffield, Stephanie Sill, Lynn Snow, Jodie Standard, Doc Stokes, Ryan Stockton, **Reed Townsend**, Ken Turner, Don Prather, Nellie Phillips, Phil Rhynes, Bob Walls, 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 Cottingham, 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, Katie Buxton McNew, Molly Jackson, Charissa Reed, Kayla Stevens

ATTENDANCE

AUGUST 28, 2016

Sunday School	176
Chapel Service	76
Sanctuary Service	170

Total Worship 246

SEPTEMBER 4, 2016

Sunday School	148
Chapel Service	62
Sanctuary Service	133



Mark Your Calendars

EVENTS



OCTOBER

15th Church Missional Conference- 9 am
30th Trunk or Treat

NOVEMBER

11th Veterans Day Luncheon- 12 pm
12th Lake Country District Gathering with the Bishop- 11 am- 12:30 pm
13th & 14th Lectureship Meal- 5 pm
Lectureship- 6 pm
15th Messiah Sing Along

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY 11,
10:45 pm

Commissioning of Acolytes
(Sanctuary)

2-4 pm

Pool Party at Lisa and Johns house
(312 North Hillcrest)

MONDAY 12,
5:30-7:30 pm

UMW Local Unit Meeting
(Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY 15,
8-10:30 am
6-7 pm

Matthew 25 Mission Distribution
Stephen Minister Supervisory Group
Meeting (Library)

SUNDAY 18,
3-6 pm

Eagle Scout Ceremony
(Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall)

TUESDAY 27,
6-7:30 pm
WEDNESDAY 28,
11 am- 1 pm

GSPS Board Meeting (Parlor)

Golden Agers (Fellowship Hall)