

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



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Brian Matthews

In the last edition I began an article talking about how I live out the membership vows I took when I joined the United Methodist Church many years ago. Although I am no longer a member of a local church (all pastors are members of the Annual Conference), I still view much of my ministry and life in the church in light of these vows. In case you've slept since last edition, or need a refresher, when we join the United Methodist Church we vow to support the church with our "prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness." Last time I talked about "prayers" and "presence," so if you missed that I encourage you to find it online at [www.fumcada.org](http://www.fumcada.org) OR there's probably an extra copy in the church office. So let's continue:

\* **Gifts.** Although there could be many ways to define or interpret this one, within the context of the membership vows "gifts" refers to the financial support of God's church. I grew up in FUMC Muskogee in the shadow of a great man named Jim Egan. Mr. Egan, for whom Camp Egan in NE Oklahoma is named, was a great man of God who embodied biblical stewardship and finance. I remember him standing before the church and declaring that everything he had (and he was a very wealthy man) was a gift from God, and God had simply given him the money to manage while he walked this earth. Mr. Egan was the first person I ever heard communicate this message in such a simple, clear way...and since he had great wealth it really made an impression on me. I have tried to follow in Mr. Egan's footsteps in my own life. Although my income has certainly varied over the course of my adult life, my giving has not because I believe in percentage-based giving, and the biblical standard of 10%. When speaking with people about giving I stress

percentage giving because it takes most of the guesswork out of giving. In the coming years you will hear plenty from me about stewardship, but for the purposes of this article I want you to know Shannon and I are indeed tithers (I don't want you to know this to make you think I am "cool," but because I want you to know in this area I practice what I preach).

\* **Service.** Like all Christians I know I have a calling to serve the Lord and His church. And since being a pastor is my vocation, I make sure I serve in ways that are not part of my "job." Currently I serve as a volunteer Chaplain at Mercy Hospital, meaning I take turns with other pastors in the area being "on-call" for a week at a time. During these weeks I visit patients as instructed by Mercy and fulfill requests from patients when needed. Although I have not done so yet, I am also part of the chaplain corps for the Ada City Police and Fire. Outside of Ada I am an active member of the Oklahoma Conference Camping Board of Trustees and the Cross Point Camp Site-Development Committee. Church camp is something near and dear to my heart, so serving with these 2 groups allows me to provide guidance and insight to our Conference's camping ministry. One of the newest areas of service for me, and one I really enjoy, is being a "coach" for a group of pastors in the ordination process. These pastors have been commissioned and (if everything goes well) will be ordained at Annual Conference 2018. I meet with this group quarterly and provide insight and guidance to these pastors, as well as a safe place to work through issues that inevitable arise in the practice of ministry.

\* **Witness.** If there is an area where I struggle it's this one...not because I ignore it but because I am new to town and don't really know anyone yet outside of the church...however, as I get to know more people I will become more active in this area. Currently the best I can do in this area is be encouraging to you and ensure that I am always prepared when visitors arrive. My promise to you is to always be excellently prepared with the best sermon or lesson possible, so when you bring a guest to worship it will be a good experience.

I hope my reflections on how I live out our membership vows has been insightful to you, but more importantly I pray you will spend some time reflecting on how you live out these vows. Jesus doesn't call us to be perfect, but he calls us to be faithful. May He give us the strength we need to be faithful disciples and church members. Have a great week and I look forward to being in worship with you real soon!

Jesus is Lord,

Pastor Brian Matthews





### ECU HOMECOMING!!!

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!



Some of our ECU Wesley students made the long trip to Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia on Thursday, September 1, 2016.

3 of our 5 ECU Wesley Football players were ready to travel to the first away game on August 31. From left: James Houchin, Trooper Elwonger & Hayden Moore.



- 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 24<sup>th</sup>: ECU Homecoming (Cookout @ 11 am @ ECU Wesley)
- October 6<sup>th</sup>: Faculty/Staff Discussion Group @ the BSU @ 12:15 pm-1 pm

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Twitter & Instagram: [ecu\\_wesley](https://www.instagram.com/ecu_wesley)



#### Moring



Bruce and Meg Moring joined September 18th. They have transferred from Wellspring United Methodist Church in Georgetown, Texas.

#### Burns



Jonas Burns joined on September 18th.

#### Benn

(not pictured)

Audra Benn joined September 18th. She transferred from First United Methodist Church in Sulphur, OK.

## SAVE THE DATE

United Methodist  
Boys Ranch Fall Rodeo  
And Basket Auction  
Saturday, October 22, 2016  
Held at 12:00 p.m.

97332 Highway 10A  
Gore, OK  
(918) 487-5281



Thank You, Lisa!

The Evangelism Committee held a simple reception for Lisa Elliott in recognition of her six years serving as Chair of the Committee. Lisa has done a superb job not only presiding but doing work for evangelism every single day. Lisa has so many invisible gifts. She has now assumed her new responsibilities as one of our Children's Directors and therefore Donna Gault will be the new Evangelism Chair.



Our receptionist and Communications Director Amber Babcock made this beautiful cake in Lisa's honor.

- Pastor Roberto Escamilla

**A WORD FROM OUR** **By**  
**Ryan Kilby**



Our student ministry & church are sponsoring the feeding of Ada High Cougar Football team at each away game. We are buying pizzas to feed the team for the return trip back to Ada. If people are interested in helping with the cost it would be greatly appreciated. I always want our ministry to be a ministry that is active in our school.

Also, FUMC Student ministry is providing lunch for the Ada Cougar FCA on Monday 9/26/16. If you would like to help Ryan with setting up at AHS please contact Ryan or the office.

**Series Summary**

The start of a new school year can be a very exciting time but also a rather scary time. Part of what can make it a scary time for many youth is the feeling that they don't quite measure up. There will always be someone who is taller, faster, or smarter than they are. Sometimes youth can feel like the outsider looking in and can wonder how and why God would ever want to use them. But God has a way of taking those the world might discard and using them in a big way. This series looks at examples of outcasts and outsiders to see how God wants to use them and us.

**New Sunday School Series called "1 Timothy 4:12".**



**1 Timothy 4:12**

Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.

Sept. 28 our student ministry will be joining other student ministries in Ada for SYATP.



On Wednesday Sept 28 there will be a joint worship experience at Ada High School called "UNITED" and we will have worship & Prayer with student ministries from area churches.

**News from Ada Early Childhood Center**



I am so proud to say that I am a member of FUMC Ada. The partnership that has been established between the church and AECC is amazing and so appreciated. I wanted to share some of the ways FUMC is making a difference in the life of students and teachers at AECC.

First, we are so excited to announce that the Fellowship class has adopted the entire Pre-K class. Thirteen members of the group have committed to volunteer time at the school. These individuals will be working with students, helping out in the classroom, or doing odd jobs for teachers. They are sending out a challenge to other classes to make a similar commitment. We can't wait for this partnership to begin. I am confident great things will come from this joint venture.

Another way that FUMC is partnering with AECC is by hosting all the children for a Halloween Carnival and party on October 28<sup>th</sup>. This will surely be a highlight for the children and teachers alike. Elaine McKnight and Cheryl McCortney came to share their love of reading with our students and what a joy it was to see children engaged in a book.

We would love to have your support with our Box Tops for Education campaign. Many products and food items contain these box tops and they can be collected and turned in for cash donations to the school. Simply cut out the box tops and place in the collection box that will be located on the table just outside the office. We can certainly use help in this endeavor.

Again, you may not feel that you can participate in any of the ways mentioned, but you can pray for our school everyday. We most assuredly need and appreciate that partnership as well.

Sincerely,  
Cindy Brady  
AECC



We are very blessed to have been a part of the Ada Cougars football game nights and continue to show our support and spirit throughout the season.

God Bless and Go Cougars!



**Notes from the**



Wow, it was hot out there last Sunday! With the help of some wonderful friends, we were able to provide around 600 meals! Each week, these very special people give up their time to come and serve dinner to strangers. Thank you, Fran, Felicia, Noah, Julie, Chris, Jeff, Tim, Rick, Jim, David, Clay, Nina, and Colin.

As always, thank you KFC, your generosity makes this meal possible. Thank you also to J.D.'s Cafe and to Amber's Sweet Shoppe. The food and the treats help to make this meal a special one.

There are others involved with Sunday Dinner. They help during the week by bringing supplies to our freezers. Thank you, John, Lisa, Darrell, and Doree. Each week, these wonderful people make deliveries to Colin's house, providing a large amount of the foods necessary to feed 600 people or more, every Sunday, year round. We hope to see everyone back at the park next 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.	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)
<b>Wednesday</b>	
Noon	Methodist Men's Bible Study (Library)
4:00 p.m.	Awana
5:00 p.m.	Mosaic Meal
6:00 p.m.	Daniel's Adventure to Babylon
6:00 p.m.	Mosaic Classes
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, Neal Beasley, 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, Helen Jaques, Bill Larney, Paul Lotter, Mike Manahan, Mike Manning, Lynn Marquis, Nicole McDonald, Tommy McKay, Sharon McNary, Curtis Miller Family, 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, Buddy Watkins, Glenn Watkins, Buddy Watson, Michelle Williams, Alice Willis, Zac Wilson, Judy Wofford.

**LONG-TERM PRAYERS:** Bernie Belletini, Brent Biddy, 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:** Taylor Hayden Adams, Callie Christian, Sarah Dailey Cody, Katie Buxton McNew, Molly Jackson, Charissa Reed, Kayla Stevens

## ATTENDANCE

<b>SEPTEMBER 11, 2016</b>	
Sunday School	219
Chapel Service	79
Sanctuary Service	202
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>281</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 18, 2016</b>	
Sunday School	186
Chapel Service	62
Sanctuary Service	178
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>240</b>



### OCTOBER

15th Church Missional Area Celebration- 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 Upcoming events this week

**MONDAY 26,**  
6-7:30 pm Community Council Meeting (Fellowship Hall) \*EVERYONE INVITED\*

**WEDNESDAY 28,**  
11 am-1 pm Golden Agers (Fellowship Hall)



**SUNDAY 2,**  
10:45 am 3rd Grade Bible Presentation (Sanctuary)  
12 pm Worship Team Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

**THURSDAY 6,**  
5 pm Local Unit Leadership Team UMW  
6 pm Stephen Ministry Supervisory Group (Library)