

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  
Physical Address: 129 West 14th Street  
(580)332-1398 / PO Box 566 - Ada, OK 74821  
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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
PAID  
ADA, OK 74820  
PERMIT NO. 237

# The First United Methodist Church ADVOCATE



Vol. 30, Number 21

October 7, 2016



Brian Matthews

In worship this past Sunday I made the statement that when it comes to how the church manages the money placed in the offering plate, **transparency** must “rule the day.” Any time a church treats financial matters as “secret,” or does something underhanded, or doesn’t follow established and adopted policies and procedures, people lose faith in the church at best and quit giving (or maybe even attending) at worst. To foster a sense of transparency, and model how I believe every church should operate, I opened the floor to questions...any question related to the church, giving and/or money. Since I know the distribution of this newsletter is greater than our worship attendance, I thought I’d rehash a couple of the questions and answer a couple more of my own.

**Question #1—Where does the money go after it is taken off the altar on Sunday morning?**

The finance committee of the church has established policies and procedures to ensure the money is handled, counted and deposited safely and securely. These policies and procedures meet the standards of the United Methodist Council on Finance and Administration, and a copy can be given to anyone interested. In short, the money is locked up securely until it can be counted and deposited on Monday.

**Question #2—Should I base my giving on gross, net, adjusted gross, taxable?**

In my years of giving I have most likely used every number conceivable as the starting point for my giving. For many years I based my giving on gross income while Shannon based hers on take-home. One of the “gurus” I like recommends adjusted gross. My favorite UM pastor (Adam Hamilton) gives based on gross minus social security tax, since he will tithe from social security in retirement. In life today, the Matthews’ are a single income family and we give using gross income as the starting point. My recommendation to you is to focus on the percentage you plan to give and then simply pick gross, net, or adjusted gross. In other words, to me the percentage you decide to give is the more important determination.

**Question #3—What percentage of our budget is spent on missions?** Although it is really difficult to pin down the exact amount we spend as a church on missions, I can tell you 15.71% of our 2016 budget is allocated for “missions.” This includes the local, national and worldwide aid we give directly AND the amount of giving known as apportionments, which all UM churches support to maximize impact on a local and global scale. Keep in mind, this number does not include money budgeted for salaries, even though staff perform acts of mission as part of their duties, nor does it include any money spent on our buildings, which are often used for missional purposes. In our year-end reports we generate a more accurate number, but as for the budget we spend just under 16 cents of every dollar helping those who do not call FUMC Ada “home.”

**Question #4—Is tithing (giving 10% of one’s income) really doable?** The short answer is “yes,” but let me say more. In our society too many people run out of money long before the end of the month, and end up using credit just to make ends meet. For those in this position, giving to the Lord is tough and tithing even more so. In order to get “life” in order, people in this position need a financial intervention. Shannon and I are followers of Dave Ramsey’s financial principles. We haven’t always been, and in fact we have been in the “too much month at the end of the money” boat. Because of our experience and the difference *Financial Peace University* made in our lives, I (and hopefully Shannon) will be offering *FPU* during the Spring session of Mosaic. If you want to learn some sound financial principles that can truly change your life, and allow you to become the giver God wants you to be, I highly recommend taking *FPU*...it will transform your financial life.

I hope some of these questions/answers were helpful. If you have a question about church finances (or any other topic for that matter), please do not hesitate to ask. I may not know the answer off the top of my head, but I will find the correct answer as soon as possible. Have a great week and I look forward to being in worship with you soon!

PS—thank you for allowing me to be your pastor!

Jesus is Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink.

Pastor Brian Matthews

# ECU WESLEY

## ECU HOMECOMING!!!

ECU Wesley participated in homecoming for the 1<sup>st</sup> time as a ministry. We placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall out of all the student organizations for the week! We participated in the banner contest, chalking contest, trivia contest, powder-puff football game, worked the volleyball game, attended the pep rally/bon fire, participated in the parade & had 2 students in the homecoming court!

We also had lunch on Saturday, September 24 before the parade for our students, their families, alumni, board members, friends and donors of our ministry. We had around 50 or so join us for lunch.

We want to say thank you to the Transformers Class for providing desserts for our lunch and the candy for the parade.



ECU Wesley participated in the Homecoming Parade on Saturday, September 24.



Students & ECU Wesley staff attended the Homecoming game on September 24.



Diego & Emily were part of the Homecoming Court on Saturday, September 24. Diego was representing ECU Wesley & Emily was representing BLA (Business Leaders Association & a member of ECU Wesley)



- 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
- October 8<sup>th</sup>: ECU Soccer vs. Harding @ ECU @ 11 am; ECU Football vs. SWOSU @ 6 pm
- October 9<sup>th</sup>: Leadership/Dinner @ 6 pm
- December 1<sup>st</sup>: Spaghetti Spectacular @ FUMC, Ada

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 Campus Minister  
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 Facebook: ECU Wesley  
 Twitter & Instagram: [ecu\\_wesley](https://www.instagram.com/ecu_wesley)

### Lillian Grace Stevens



Congratulations to the Stevens Family on their beautiful baby girl!

Lillian was born on September 17th, 2016 at 3:52 pm weighing 7 lbs and 5 oz and was 19 inches long.



### Home For Christmas

October 17th from 6-7 pm  
 Located in the Lindsay Classroom

*Everyone listed below are expected to attend:*

- Staff with programmable responsibilities
- UMM President
- UMW President
- Youth/Children's Ministries
- Music Ministries
- Secretarial Staff
- Mosaic Leaders

Pastor Roberto Escamilla  
 Coordinator



# **Muntz-Myers Lectures**

November 13th-14th, 2016

**Rev. Tom R. Albin**

Dean of The Upper Rooms Chapel and Ecumenical Relations  
Nashville, TN

## **General Theme:**

“Walking with Jesus in The Wesleyan Spirit”

## **Titles:**

Sunday Morning Worship Services: “Baptized by John, Baptized by God”

Sunday Evening Lecture: Jesus, the First Methodist

## **In Addition:**

Monday Morning Women’s Event (10 am): Was Mary, the Mother of God, a Methodist?

Monday Noon, Spiritual Leadership Lunch : Spiritual Leadership in Jesus, John and Charles

Complimentary Dinner at 5 pm

Monday Evening (6 pm): Becoming Spiritual Parents and Grandparents: The True Test of a United Methodist Christian

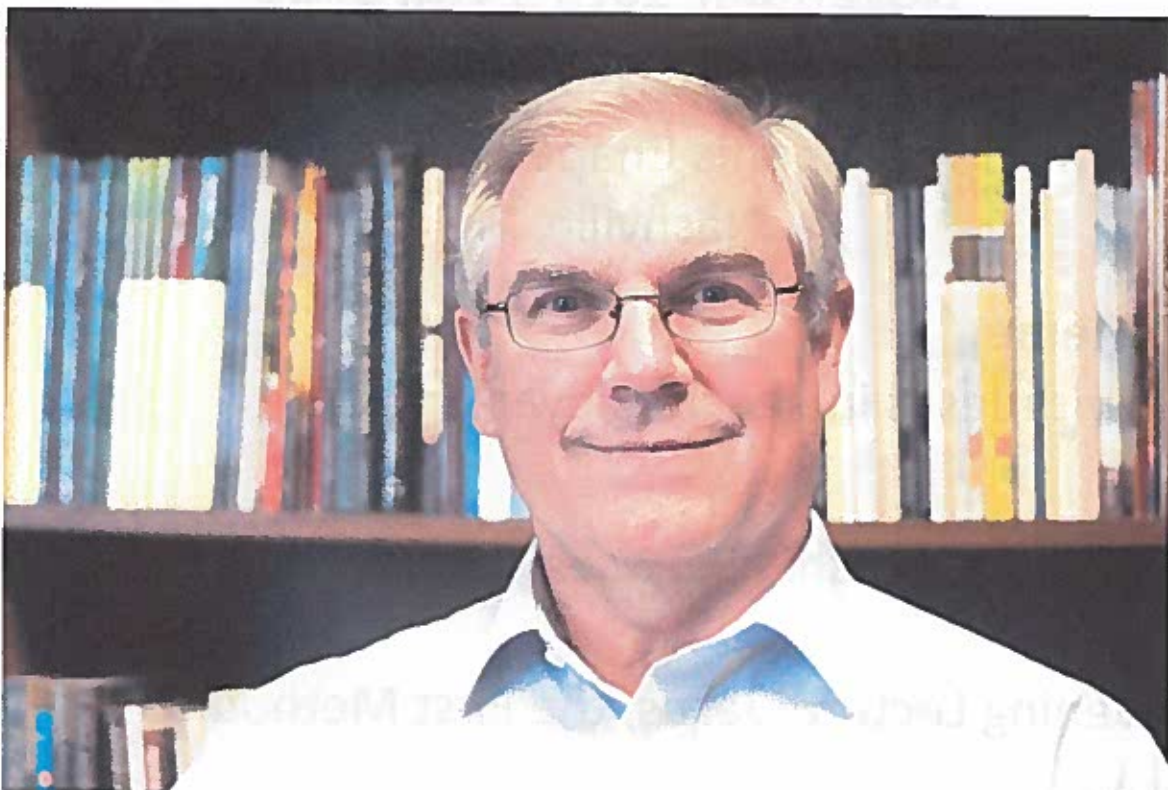
## **Special Music:**

Sunday– Chancel Choir

Monday– Interns

**The Nursery, Youth and Children’s activities will be available.**

# Rev. Tom Albin



## **Dean of The Upper Room Chapel and Ecumenical Relations**

Rev. Albin is an outstanding Teacher, Preacher and Author, that holds several degrees and is currently involved in a doctoral program at Cambridge, University.

He is recognized across the church as a leader in Prayer and Spiritual Formation as well as Wesleyan Studies.

Please plan to attend all services.

### MISSIONAL AREA CELEBRATION

#### Saturday, October 15th

#### 9:00 am

This year our Charge Conference has been changed to the Missional Area Celebration (Charge Conference). We will be meeting at Asbury Methodist Church in combination with several other churches in the Lake Country District to vote on the following: Our Pastor's compensation package (which has been approved by our Staff Parish Relations Team)

- 1) Our Lay Leadership Report
- 2) Continued candidacy for church Pastors (Emily Robnette and Joseph Pennington Mohr)
- 3) Continued support of our Lay Servants (Dale Pflaum and Vickie Creed)

There will be no time for questions and/or discussion at the Celebration, so if you would like to review the documents listed above BEFORE our Church Missional Conference, please feel free to see Donna in the church office Monday thru Thursday. Brian and or Donna will be able to answer any questions you have.

### Notes from the



It was absolutely gorgeous at the park Sunday! A beautiful sunny afternoon with a light breeze and the temperature in the mid 80's. With the help from a few of our friends, we were able to provide around 350 meals. We were able to share extra chicken, green beans, and cookies with the residents of the SOAR House. These are young men who are working hard to put their lives back together for various reasons.

Thank you to Jim, Fran, David, Rick, Clay, and Colin. As always, you made everyone at the park feel welcome and important! Thanks also to KFC, J.D.'s Cafe and to Amber's Sweet Shoppe. All that you share makes it possible for us to provide meals to the hungry. As you all know, winter is approaching.

As you shop for your winter coats this year, please consider sharing your used items to those in need. We are also collecting sweaters, hats, gloves and blankets. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you all for your gifts and your prayers, and we'll see you next Sunday, at the Park!

Clay and Leslie

If you would like to volunteer or be included in the Trunk or Treat/ Fall Festival please contact one of the Children's Directors- Lisa Elliott, Kim Moon or Lauren Rogers.

## MOSAIC NEWS

- 1) The Worship Class will conclude on October 12
- 2) Counterfeit Christianity will continue through October
- 3) VBV will continue through November.
- 4) Journaling will continue through November and possibly part of December.
- 5) Living by The Book will conclude at the end of October.

### No classes on October 19th! (Fall Break)



I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THE WONDERFUL FOOD AND LOVELY PRAYERS I RECEIVED AFTER MY SURGERY.

MICHELLE GIBSON

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### Fall Festival

And

### Trunk or Treat



Oct.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
IN FRONT OF THE CHURCH  
129 WEST 14TH STREET  
ADA, OK 74821  
WWW.FUMCADA.ORG

1 pm  
to  
6 pm

### Fun for the entire family!

**FREE**  
ADMISSION  
and  
**FREE**  
EVENTS

- Face Painting
- Cake Walk
- Costume Parade
- Bingo
- Hotdogs and Refreshments

If you have any question please contact the office at (580)332-1398



# Opportunities of the Week

the  
first  
united  
methodist  
church  
of ada

# 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
- 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)
- 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

## 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, Nawatha Dodge, Milt Donaghey, Donna Gault, Lili Giles, Kelley Haragan, Jovan Hodges, Kim Dicus Holton, Jeanette House, Ryan Kilby, Bill Larney, Mike Manahan, Mike Manning, Nicole McDonald, Tommy McKay, Sharon McNary, Odom, Wes Perkins, **Ralph Rhodes**, Dale Rice, Kimm Rich, Jason Richardson, Lawanna Ronald, Tom Runnells, Jessica Sasser, **Caden Sharp**, Karsen Sheffield, Stephanie Sill, Lynn Snow, Jodie Standard, Doc Stokes, Ryan Stockton, Don Prather, Nellie Philips, Phil Rhynes, Bob Walls, Glenn Watkins, Buddy Watson, Michelle Williams, Alice Willis, Zac Wilson.

**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, 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



## Upcoming events this week

- MONDAY 10th,**  
ALL DAY Columbus Day (Church Open)
- THURSDAY 13th,**  
4:30-6:30 PM Feeding Ada High Football Players (CLC)
- SATURDAY 15th,**  
9-11 am Church Missional Conference (Asbury United Methodist Church)
- MONDAY 17th,**  
12-1 pm Trustees Meeting  
6-7:30 pm Home For Christmas Task Force Meeting (Lindsay Classroom)
- TUESDAY 18th,**  
12-1 pm Finance Team Meeting (Lindsay Classroom)  
5:45-6:45 pm GSPS Board Meeting (Parlor)
- WEDNESDAY 19th,**  
8-11 am Matthew 25 Packaging (St. Episcopal Church)
- THURSDAY 20th,**  
8-10:30 am Matthew 25 Distribution (St. Episcopal Church)  
6-7 pm Stephen Minister Supervisory Group Meeting (Library)
- SATURDAY 22th,**  
2-4:30 pm Boys Ranch Fall Rodeo (Boys Ranch in Gore, OK)

## ATTENDANCE

### SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

Sunday School	170
Chapel Service	60
Sanctuary Service	152

**Total Worship** 212

### OCTOBER 2, 2016

Sunday School	178
Chapel Service	54
Sanctuary Service	207

**Total Worship** 261



Mark Your Calendars  
**EVENTS**



### OCTOBER

- 15th Missional Area Celebration— 9 am (Charge Conference)
- 30th Trunk or Treat