

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

Rev. Brian Matthews, Lead 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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December 2, 2016



Brian Matthews

Well December is officially upon us, meaning the countdown to Christmas has begun in earnest! Just as the Christmas Season is a time when families reconnect, it is also a time when many people reconnect with their church family. The Season is so powerful, it is also a time when many people who do not attend church consider doing so. Because of this, we at FUMC Ada want to do all we can to encourage the people of Ada to join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!

While there are lots of great activities scheduled (and you can read about them in this edition of *The Advocate*), the one I want to talk about is Christmas Eve. Hands down my favorite services of the year are the Candlelight Communion Services on Christmas Eve. There's something about watching the light of Christ spread through the room as we sing *Silent Night* that truly touches my soul. Not only are these services very meaningful and memorable, they also provide a great opportunity for the church. Research shows that unchurched people are more willing to visit a church for the first time on Christmas Eve than at any other time of the year. As part of our *Home for Christmas* program this year, we will be sending special invitations to people in the community to join us. In the coming weeks we will be asking you to provide names and addresses of three (or more) households you know do not regularly attend church. The invitations will be "low pressure" and we will not share where we got the names...we will simply invite the people to join us as a church family. I hope you will prayerfully consider people you would like us to invite on your behalf: family members, neighbors, co-workers, friends and those you know because of the "things" you do for fun. Think especially of people who are undergoing personal life stresses of some kind and could truly benefit from the love, comfort and support our church could offer.

I pray your Thanksgiving was great and your Christmas will be even better...let the season begin!

Coming Soon
To a Pulpit Near You:
4 Words that Could
Change Your
Christmas

WORSHIP

GIVE

receive.

REBEL

Jesus is Lord,

Pastor Brian Matthews



ECU Wesley shared their ministry story with Ada First United Methodist Church on Sunday, November 20th, 2016.



Devon Taylor, left, will be graduating in May 2017 and will head to SOSU in Durant to be the Associate Campus Minister.

EXCITING NEWS!

Beginning in June 2017, our very own Devon Taylor will begin as the associate at the SOSU Wesley while Janey will serve as the campus minister/executive director of the SOSU Wesley & remains the same at the ECU Wesley! Everyone is excited about this opportunity! We appreciate your prayers as both ministries begin this new chapter TOGETHER!



- December 4th: Leadership Christmas Party @ Janey's House
- December 5th-9th: Finals
- December 10th: Graduation
- January 2nd-4th: Leadership Retreat @ Egan
- January 8th: ECU Wesley leads worship @ St. Paul's UMC, Shawnee
- January 9th: First day of classes
- January 9th: FUSION Worship resumes @ 8 pm @ ECU Wesley
- January 10th: ECU Wesley Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting @ 6 pm @ ECU Wesley
- January 12th: Faculty/Staff/ Administration/Student Faith Discussion Group @ 12:15 pm-1:15 pm @ ECU Wesley

Janey Wilson,
Campus Minister
Email: ecuwesley@gmail.com
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Cell: (405) 651-4191
Follow us on social media:
Facebook: ECU Wesley
Twitter & Instagram:
[ecu_wesley](https://www.instagram.com/ecu_wesley)

UMW- Making a Difference

A big "Thank You" to the UMW Leadership Team members who decorated the table and provided and served the food for the Muntz- Myers Lectureship Brunch on November 14th.

Thanks again to all who furnished and purchased goods from the UMW Bake Sale. The proceeds go to Missions projects.

The UMW Unit Meeting will be December 12th at 5:30 pm with a prepared dinner in the Fellowship Hall. The World Thank Offering will be taken and a program will be presented.

All Women of the Church are invited.

FUMC COMMUNITY TEAM FACILITATORS INVITE ADA HOME FOR CHRISTMAS!!!

Greetings from Lindsay Snow, Lisa Elliott and John Elliott, your 2016 FUMC Community Team Facilitators! During 2017, our church will be focused primarily on living out our Mission Statement, approved by our congregation, for the glory of God!

The Advent Season has arrived, and this presents wonderful opportunities to touch many lives in little but meaningful ways. Sunday, December 18th is "Bring a Friend Sunday". We urge each and every one of our members to be intentional about touching a life on that day! If all your friends attend another church on Sunday, simply look around as you walk through the supermarket or go to a school event. Wherever you are, there are people searching for the hope that can only be found in Jesus Christ. If you would like some direction on who you might want to invite, please consider reaching out to a person in one of the groups identified in our mission statement. We have invited every church member to join the group for which you have a passion, so that we can begin 2017 with our teams ready to move into the community and get to work! Your invitation to join a group is enclosed as part of your 2017 Stewardship Commitment Packet. Hopefully you have received this in the mail. If not, please tell us!

The groups are:

Children, Youth and Families: Perhaps you are aware of a new family that has moved into our community or a family that has been here for a while and has not found a church home. All children youth and families are welcome!

Young Adults: Consider young adults (18 to 30) in your workplace! There are also many foreign exchange students at ECU, who may not have a place to call home for Christmas. We also have many children of members who are now young adults, and may not have been to church for a while! If you have an interest in young adult ministries, these are great places to start!

Those Striving to Meet Life's Basic Needs: If you would like to invite a striver in our community, consider visiting the park on Sunday Afternoon while dinner is being served. Also, Lisa can give you an abundance of names from the Feed My Lambs List! There are so many people struggling financially in our community, and many are hungry for more than anything money can buy. We can offer them Jesus!

The Elderly of our Community: Many elderly members of our church and other seniors in assisted living may have difficulty getting to church. If you are passionate about the elderly, you might consider actually helping a person get to our service.

Single Parent Families: Single parents are everywhere in our community. Christmas can be a difficult time for folks trying to provide their children with Christmas on their own. If you would like to reach out to a single parent, simply invite someone you know, or Lisa can provide you with names from the Feed My Lambs List.

The Broken-Hearted: This group encompasses a variety of people who are broken hearted for any reason. This includes but is not limited to those living with a terminal illness and their families, those mourning the loss of a loved one, those in prison, those suffering from addictions, those suffering from depression. We probably all know someone in this group. If reaching the broken hearted is your interest, this is a great time to reach out to someone!

We will ask for the names and contact details of the people you plan to invite on December 18th during the church services on December 11th. Your evangelism team will be happy to extend an additional invitation to them if you like, or simply do a follow up call and invite your friend to one of our Christmas Eve Services!

Our intention is to touch hearts. If filling pews helps the Holy Spirit do this, that is good, but our main purpose is to introduce people to Jesus. We wish you all a blessed and happy Christmas Season, and may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your Spirit!

Sincerely, Lindsay, Lisa and John

OUR STORY (Endowing the Future)

Why a Foundation Endowment? So our church's ministry will always be secure. The heritage of Ada FUMC dates back more than one hundred years to those who had a vision for the future of their church and it's ministry. Our present congregation has inherited both this ministry of our church and the fiscal responsibilities. Your gifts to the First United Methodist Church of Ada Foundation, Inc., combined with the gifts of others, will help meet the ministry of the FUMC of Ada forever. It is a sacred response to God's call to use your assets today and, when you have finished your time on earth, to enhance the ministries of FUMC of Ada for tomorrow's children, youth, and adults.

Cash, the most popular way of giving accelerates the Foundation's earnings immediately. Gifts of real estate, stocks, mineral rights, etc., may generate significant income tax benefits for the donor.

Other ways to give to the Foundation are by wills or trusts, gift annuities, life insurance policies, stocks and bonds or charitable remainder trusts. See your attorney concerning these aspects of your personal estate planning. Officers of the Board of Trustees will be glad to discuss this matter with you.



What is, Las Posadas?

It is a Christian celebration that is held at John and Lisa Elliott's home. (312 N. Hillcrest)

We have Christmas Caroling led by Rev. Brian Matthews, a piñata and even Santa. It is a Time of Reflection and Prayer along with a brief Devotional.

Plus it is all the delicious "home-made" tamales you can eat!

Please invite your friends and all of your family to attend on December 18th at 6 pm.

The Voices of Praise and the Children's Ministry will present the Christmas Story on December 11th, at the 10:45 service with a rehearsal at 9:30. Traditional carols and narration will tell this wonderful story of the birth of Christ.



ATTENTION GOLDEN AGERS

The next meeting has been moved up a week to December 14th. Please come and share music, food and fellowship!



We will be starting a new prayer list for the 2017 year and cleaning out some of the names that are currently on there. If you would like someone on the new prayer list starting January 1st, 2017, please call the office and let us know who you would like to add.

Thank you!

Notes from the



It was coat weather at the park Sunday! Fortunately it stopped raining by the time we served dinner. The crowd was smaller than usual, but we had plenty of food to serve and we also had lots of stuffed animals to share as Christmas gifts.

With the weather getting colder, we are still collecting coats and any cold weather clothing, for all sizes. We have had requests for heaters and electric blankets, and as they come in, we will share them at the park.

Thank you, to KFC, J.D.'s Cafe, Amber's Sweet Shoppe, and to our wonderful friends, Fran, Julie, Jeff, Jim, David, Don, Nina, Joanne, Clay, Colin, and Rick. We could not possibly serve as we do without all of these special friends.



Please join us for the celebration and kisses as we become Mr. and MRS.

You are invited to celebrate the beginning of

Cassidy Sienna Wilcox and Jack David Malm!

New Years Eve December 31st, 2016.

The Wedding Ceremony will begin at 4:00 pm with a Reception and Celebration to follow. This event will be held at First United Methodist Church, 129 West 14th St. Ada, OK 74820.

Please call or text Cassidy to RSVP at (580) 279-4656
They are registered at Walmart and Target.

Hanging of the Green

FESTIVAL of CAROLS

First United Methodist

Ada, OK

Sunday, December 4, 2016

4pm

Directed by

Roz Purdy

Pianist Phyllis Danley

Organist Rudy Lupinski

Accompanied by full orchestra



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 (Glenwood)
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Meet-Up (Church)

Tuesday

- 9:30 a.m. Talmidim Bible Study
- 12:00 a.m. Prayer in the Sanctuary Prayer Room
- 3:30 p.m. Voices Of Praise Practice

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
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Worship



Upcoming events this week

- SUNDAY 4th,**
4pm Hanging of the Green (Sanctuary)
- WEDNESDAY 7th,**
4 pm Advent Workshop (CLC)
- SUNDAY 11th,**
10:45 am Voices of Praise/ Children's
Ministry Christmas Pageant
- MONDAY 12th,**
12 pm Trustees Team Meeting
5:30 pm UMW Local Unit Meeting
(Fellowship Hall)
- TUESDAY 13th,**
6 pm SPRC Team Meeting
(Lindsay Class)
- WEDNESDAY 14th,**
11 am Golden Agers (Fellowship Hall)
6 pm All Church Caroling
- THURSDAY 15th,**
8 am- 10:30 pm Matthew 25 Mission Distribution
6 pm Stephen Ministry Supervisory
Group Meeting (Library)
- FRIDAY 16th,**
11:30 am Fellowship Class Christmas Party
(Fellowship Hall)

PRAYERS: Avery Anderson, Janet Bare, Country Beard, Neal Beasley, Don Birdwell, Greg Belcher, Amy Boatwright, Dudley Bricker, Twilah Blue, Mae Hodgkins Caves, Marsha Crook, Tom Cook, Nawatha Dodge, Milt Donaghey, Ansley Elliott, Bobbi Finley (Bonnie Shields Sister), Donna Gault, Kelley Haragan, Jovan Hodges, Kim Dicus Holton, Jeanette House, **Franklin Karner (Krystina Phillip's Grandfather)**, Bill Larney, Mike Manahan, Mike Manning, Nicole McDonald, Tommy McKay, Sharon McNary, Cameron Millard, Wes Perkins, Ralph Rhodes, Dale Rice, Kimm Rich, Jason Richardson, Lawanna Ronald, Tom Runnells, Jessica Sasser, Caden Sharp, Karsen Sheffield, **Hicks Smith**, Lynn Snow, Jodie Standard, Ryan Stockton, Don Prather, Nellie Philips, Phil Rhynes, Glenn Watkins, **Buddy Watkins**, Buddy Watson, Janet Wilburn, Deborah Williams, Michelle Williams, Alice Willis, Zac Wilson, Linda Wood, Madison Yates.

LONG-TERM PRAYERS: Bernie Belletini, Brent Biddy, Bud Blackburn, Dale Buss, Joshua Buss, Wanda Coplen, Steva Cottingham, Amber Cox, Tyler Cox, Kathy McKain Dargel, Chip Dudley, Mary Fogle, Joe Glasgow, Dakota Gray, Jennifer Hood, Mel Hutt, Tara Humphers, Ron Jackson, Shawna Jackson, Randy Johnson, Sarah Johnson, T.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, Doc Stokes, Lesa Ulrich, True Wallace, Charles Waller, Linda Wheeler, Debbie Cowling Whitley, Karen Williams, Richard Williams, Terry Wood.

EXPECTANT MOTHERS: Amber Blansett, Taylor Hayden Adams, Ashley Brady, Lili Giles, Katie Harris, Katie Buxton McNew, Molly Jackson, Leah Johnson, Kayla Taylor

ATTENDANCE

NOVEMBER 20th, 2016

Sunday School	166
Chapel Service	75
Sanctuary Service	134

Total Worship 209

NOVEMBER 27th, 2016

Sunday School	158
Chapel Service	57
Sanctuary Service	164

Total Worship 221

*Our deepest sympathy to the
Percy Family on the loss of
Michael Percy's mother
Mary Lou Percy.*



Now is the Time To Order

Each year we decorate the chapel and sanctuary with poinsettias that you may provide in honor or in memory of a special someone. These names will be printed on a special insert on Christmas Eve. Bring or have your florist deliver a poinsettia wrapped in green foil to the church no later than NOON, DECEMBER 15th. The church secretary will need your names by this time or even earlier so that she can start on the bulletin insert. The poinsettias will be displayed on December 18th, 24th and the 1st in the chapel and sanctuary.

Your Name: _____

In Memory/Honor of : _____
(Circle one)

In Memory/Honor of : _____
(Circle one)

In Memory/Honor of : _____
(Circle one)

...And don't forget your Luminarias!

On Christmas Eve the youth will line the church's sidewalks with "Luminarias". You can sponsor a Luminarias "in honor or in memory" of loved ones for \$5. These honored persons will be listed in a special bulletin insert at our Christmas Eve services. If you choose we will also notify the honored person (s) of your gift with a card. All proceeds will be used for the youth activities fund (which provides funds to youth for mission trips, retreats, camp and other youth activities). You can sign up for your sponsorship on this form or by calling the church office by December 18th. Please take advantage of this excellent way to honor your loved ones, while adding to the beauty of our church on Christmas Eve and supporting our youth activities at the same time!

Please print your name as you wish to appear in the bulletin insert:

(Please list the person (s) you would like to honor or memorialize individually)

In Honor of: _____ or

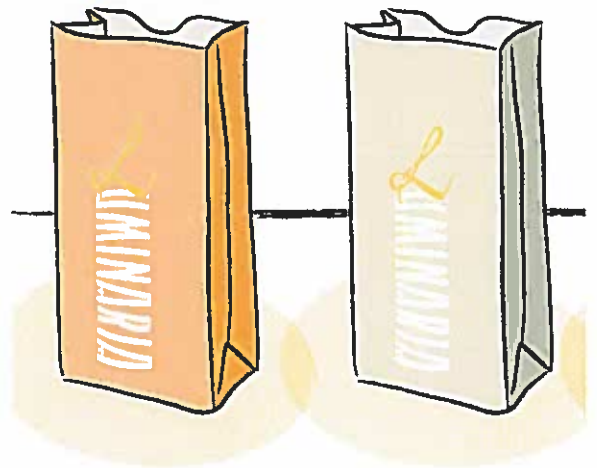
In Memory of: _____

___ Luminarias @ \$5 = ___

___ Please notify the following person (s) of my gift:

Name: _____

Address: _____



Advent 2016



- WEDNESDAY, November 27th** *First Sunday of Advent*
5:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
- THURSDAY, December 1st** ECU Wesley Spaghetti lunch & Dinner (CLC)
10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and
6:00 p.m. -6:30 p.m.
- FRIDAY, December 4th** *Second Sunday of Advent*
6:00 p.m. Hanging of the Green
- SATURDAY, December 7th** Church-wide Advent Workshop
6:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m. (Fellowship —Christian Life Center)
- SUNDAY, December 8th** GSPS PTO Pancake Dinner and Raffle
6:00 p.m.— 7:00p.m. Basket Fundraiser
- MONDAY, December 11th** *Third Sunday of Advent*
6:00 a.m. Voices of Praise Christmas Program
- TUESDAY, December 14th** All Church Caroling
6:00 p.m. (Enjoy snacks/fellowship after in the
Fellowship Hall)
- WEDNESDAY, December 15th** Poinsettias to be delivered to church
- THURSDAY, December 18th** *Fourth Sunday of Advent*
6:00 p.m. Las Posadas at John & Lisa Elliott's home
(312 North Hillcrest)
- FRIDAY, December 21st** Blue Christmas (Chapel)
6:00 p.m.— 7:00 p.m.
- SATURDAY, December 24** Candle Light Communion Service
6:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.
- SUNDAY, December 25th** One service only (10:45 am)
6:00 pm— 5:00 pm Davo's Diner

First United Methodist Church

129 West 14th Ada. Ok. 74820

Lead Pastor Rev. Brian Matthews