

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



Vol. 75, Number 63

Tuesday, August 27th, 2019



*Lead Pastor,  
Brian Matthews*

## Did you know Pastor Brian has a blog? *Inside the Mind of revbmat* [www.revbmatt.blog](http://www.revbmatt.blog)



*(The following is a reprint/update from revbmat.blog)*

Like most people I was deeply saddened to see not one, but two senseless acts of violence in recent weeks. My heart ached as I read the accounts coming out of El Paso and Dayton, and the people in those cities have been in my thoughts/prayers. I've especially ached for the immigrants who were afraid to seek help for fear of being deported. In the wake of tragedy all God's children need care and support.

Unfortunately, it did not take long for social media and other outlets to fire up, seeking to place blame for these events on any number of people/things. Some said it's the result of a lack of gun control. Others blamed violent video games.

Political figures, including the President and Congress, were and are in the cross-hairs. I've seen the words "White," "Supremacy," and "Nationalist" used over and over in reports of the shootings.

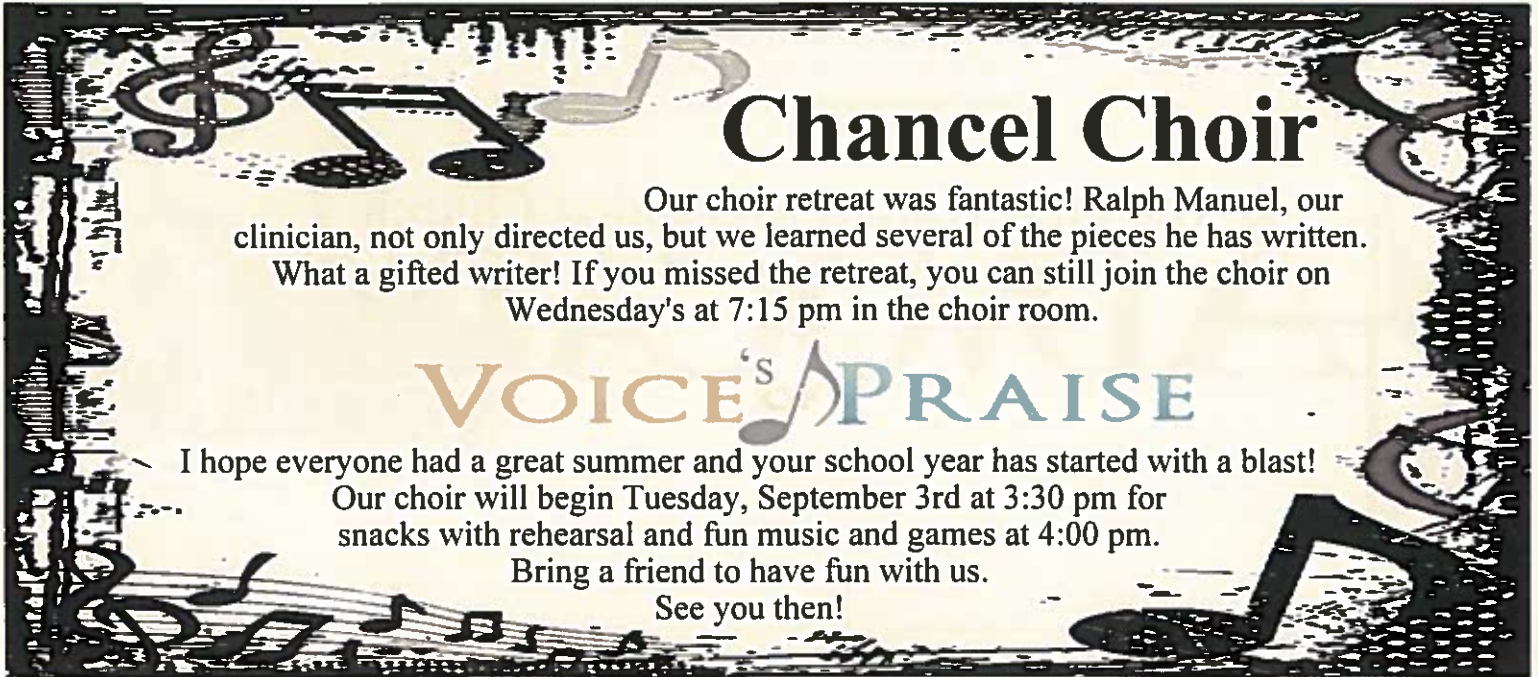
As best I can tell, the blame game centers around one key issue: making sense of the event. If we can determine blame, then we will know WHY this happened. If we can determine blame, perhaps we can prevent similar tragedies. This line of thinking is unfortunate because, in my opinion, you can never make sense of the senseless.

Our society doesn't deal well with this reality. We like to logically, rationally, or scientifically explain everything. We are very much an A+B=C society. But that doesn't work here. You cannot make sense of the senseless. I regularly utter these words when people struggle to understand the thoughts of others, usually in an attempt to change their mind: you cannot remove with logic that which was not obtained through logic. This is where we are in the aftermath of these shootings: you cannot make sense of the senseless. No matter how hard you try. No matter how much you want to. No matter the difference it would make if we only could. You cannot make sense of the senseless.

What you can do is offer prayer and tangible support to those suffering. Speak openly to those under your influence about being accepting and loving of God's children, especially those who look, act, or think differently than you. Fight the tendency to pile on the blame game. Hug your children, and other people's children. These are just a few of the things I can (and will) do in the wake of these acts. Won't you join me?

Jesus is Lord,

Pastor Brian Matthews



# Chancel Choir

Our choir retreat was fantastic! Ralph Manuel, our clinician, not only directed us, but we learned several of the pieces he has written. What a gifted writer! If you missed the retreat, you can still join the choir on Wednesday's at 7:15 pm in the choir room.

## VOICE'S PRAISE

I hope everyone had a great summer and your school year has started with a blast! Our choir will begin Tuesday, September 3rd at 3:30 pm for snacks with rehearsal and fun music and games at 4:00 pm. Bring a friend to have fun with us. See you then!

### Memorials

#### Jane Muntz

By: Katherine Roberts  
Charles & Sharon Butler  
Jack and Jenna Rahm  
Wayne & Elizabeth McMullin

Dick & Gail Danielson  
James & Joan Hunter  
Marrian & Donnel Gwin  
Jan Harris

Roy & Aggie Allen  
Elaine McKnight  
Elaine Bearden  
Loyleta Cacy

Mary Beth Myers  
Todd & Stephanie Boone  
Carol Hayden  
Richard & Suzanna Mayhue

#### Carol Bennett

By: Fellowship Sunday School Class

#### Jim Steven

By: Mary Ann Briggs  
Fellowship Sunday School Class

#### Janice Herndon

By: Carol Hayden  
Pud & Letha Wood  
Wayne & Elizabeth McMullin

#### Letia & Llyod Butler, Sue & Elvin Jaquess

By: Charles & Sharon Butler

#### Doc Bowen, Mel Hutt, Marty Skinner, Randy Johnson, Anna Faye Nanny, Mary Elizabeth Clement

By: Wayne & Elizabeth McMullin

### Honorarium

#### Gloria Muse

By: Carol Hayden

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ADA FOUNDATION, INC.

### RECEIPTS FOR QUARTER:

Cash Gifts	\$12,550
Memberships	\$1,025
Memorials	\$3,465
Interest and Dividends	\$15,200
Oil Royalties	\$2,293

### EXPENDITURES FOR QUARTER:

Grants Paid- Undesignated Funds	\$25,096
Payment to Designated Funds	\$13,374
Securities Purchased	\$7,401

### FAIR MARKET VALUE OF CASH AND SECURITIES:

July 31st, 2019	\$1,394,029
May 1st, 2019	\$1,384,662

# Notes From The

By Clay and  
Leslie Carley

**July 21st, 2019**

Whew! It was over 100° while we served! But even in this heat, a warm meal can bring comfort and hope. We were able to serve from 3 lines again today, thanks to our volunteers! We also were able to give out bags of toiletries, including soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine products, and toilet paper. We also had more clothing to share. We are frequently asked what we do with any leftover clothing...we like to share with the Salvation Army, Compassionate Outreach, or the Goodwill. We hope to be able to share with another outreach group outside of Ada in the future.

**July 28th, 2019**

Another hot Sunday afternoon! One thing we realize is that hunger does not go away just because the temperature rises! We do try to offer a balanced meal each week, including chicken, green beans, a starch (usually macaroni and cheese, or potatoes, or corn), a bread or biscuit, and dessert. We serve until we run out of food. We never know how many people to expect, so we try to bring as much food as we can safely handle. This week, we provided close to 800 meals at the park. While we were there, we were asked if we could provide food during the week... We do not live in Ada, but we do try to provide food when we learn of a family unable to get food in an emergency. Thank you to all who donated items for the yard sale, and especially thank you to Nina, Fran, Clay, and Colin (all sporting fresh sunburns today after being out in the yard selling! Our next project will be at PEC Day in September, where we will be selling Christmas ornaments and other items made by our volunteers.

**August 4th, 2019**

Another beautiful sunny day at the park! At first it seemed as though there were very few people to be served, but once the tables were set up, people arrived and in the end, we served around 700 meals. We also had clothing to share, and thanks to a very generous member of the community, we have been able to provide fans for many families who do not have air conditioning. Thank you to Woodmen Life chapter 1228. They came to help us serve today, and gave a donation to the Park Fund. We have recently learned of a young woman expecting a baby (boy) in November. If anyone has any baby items to share, she would really appreciate the help. She has nothing for her baby at this time.

**August 11th, 2019**

Another extremely hot afternoon at the park, but we were able to serve dinner to all who were able to come. It was 100°! Thank you to our crew, Nina, Fran, Cathy, Crystal, Jim, David, Tim, and Colin. They carried on when some of us could not stay! We passed out more fans today, next, we will be focusing on back to school shoes, coats, and then blankets. We hope to be able to supply shoes for as many children as possible.

Thank you all for your prayers and support, and we hope to see you again next week, for dinner at the park.

**August 18th, 2019**

Recently, I introduced you to many of our volunteers. One very special thing about most of them is that they do not only give their time serving at the park, but they can also be found helping the community in other ways. Today, Cathy was not able to join us, because earlier in the day, she was donating blood! Three lives will be made better because of her willingness to donate! It was another hot day at the park, but we did have a wonderful crew serving, including two Elders from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Landyn, and several children who decided that helping was more fun than playing in the water at the park. We also welcomed Jeremy back at the park, he had moved from the area, but recently returned. As always, thank you to KFC, Amber's Sweet Shoppe, and Daylight Donuts for their generosity, members of the First United Methodist Church of Ada, and the members of many local churches who help each week, and thank you to our crew who show up each week, ready to serve to community. Thank you all for your prayers and support, and we hope to see you again next week, for dinner at the park.

We are all a community of caring people, we are blessed!

## SAVE THE DATE!!

**Sunday, September 22nd & Monday, September 23rd**

\*Muntz/Myers Lectures led by Dr. Amy Oden at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

**Monday, September 23rd**

\*UMW Brunch with Amy Oden at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall

\*Great Lakes District Preachers Meeting at 12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday, September 10th**

\*Evangelism Committee Meeting at 6:00 pm in the Library

# SEPTEMBER 2019

## ROUTINE WEEKLY ACTIVITIES (Check Calendar For Any Changes)

**SUNDAYS**  
 8:30 am: Worship Service (Chapel)  
 9:30 am: Sunday School  
 10:45 am: Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
 3:30 pm: Park Ministry (Glenwood Park)

**MONDAYS**  
 5:15 pm: Exercise Group (Fellowship Hall)  
 6:00 pm: Sharing Group (Parlor)  
 8:00 pm: ECU Wesley Fusion Worship (ECU Wesley Building)

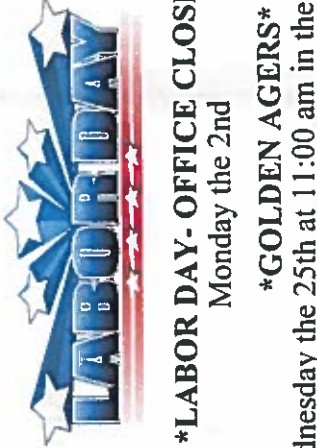
**TUESDAYS**  
 10:00 am: Talmidim Bible Study (Library)  
 11:00 am: Prayer Warriors (Sanctuary- Prayer Room)

**WEDNESDAYS**  
 10:00 am: Rebekah Bible Study (Library)  
 12:00 pm: Men's Bible Study (Library)  
 4:00 pm: Sharing Group (Parlor)  
 6:00 pm: Youth Group (Youth Room)  
 4:00 pm: J.A.M  
 5:00 pm: Mosaic Meal  
 6:00 pm: Mosaic Classes  
 6:00 pm: Bible Adventure  
 6:00 pm: Chancel Ringers Practice  
 7:15 pm: Chancel Choir Practice

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



**OFFICE CLOSED**



7:15 pm: Troop 13 Scouts (Scout Room)

10:45 am: (during service) 3rd Grade Bible Presentation

**\*VOICES OF PRAISE STARTS BACK\***  
 Tuesday the 3rd at 3:30 pm

**\*3RD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION\***  
 Sunday the 29th at 10:45 am during service

**\*UMW BRUNCH WITH AMY ODEN\***  
 Monday 23rd at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall

**\*LECTURES MEAL AND LECTURESHIP WITH AMY ODEN\***  
 Sunday the 22nd & Monday the 23rd (Meal at 6:00 pm & Lectureship at 7:00 pm)

**\*ACOLYTE COMMISSIONING\***  
 Sunday the 8th at 10:45 am during service

**\*CHILDRENS MINISTRY SWIM PARTY\***  
 Sunday the 8th at 2:30 pm at Lisa Elliotts Home

**\*PASTORAL LUNCHEON WITH AMY ODEN\***  
 Monday the 23rd at 12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall)

\*WEDNESDAY the 25th at 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall

\*GOLDEN AGERS\*

\*LABOR DAY- OFFICE CLOSED

Monday the 2nd

\*WEDNESDAY the 25th at 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall



## Pastor Roberto Escamilla to Retire!

Dear brothers and sisters,

Following a time of consultation and prayer, I've decided to retire again effective September 30th. My journey with this ministry at First United Methodist Church has been a absolute blessing! I have enjoyed working with all the Lead Pastors throughout the years. I must say that working with Brian has been like the "icing on the cake". Brian is not only a great preacher but now an author also. He has a great heart and my life has been richly blessed with his incredible intellect and compassionate spirit. The other minister, Bob and Don are great friends and the rest of the staff are magnificent. Donna Jamar and Amber Keiser deserve much more than words can say but a huge thank you to these two. Also a special thank you to our two hard working custodians, Stephen Harris and Jason Parker. Thank you to both of you as well! Donna Gault and the Evangelism committee have helped me do my work, and in a thousand ways blessed me. I plan to stick around and continue to serve as a volunteer and assume several responsibilities. I hope to keep my office and work as a volunteer and do some writing. Thanks for your love and prayers for me and for Dorothy, who has been a great source of support always.

Grace and Love, Pastor Roberto Escamilla

P.S. after nearly 20 years as your Minister of Evangelism it seems like only one day. Thank you!

## PASTOR ROBERTO'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

By Donna Gault, Evangelism Committee Chairman

1. The record of the new members has been from 20-30 new members per year as an average.
2. He has initiated the Muntz/Myers Lectureships.
3. He has secured outstanding Lecturers every year and worked out logistics.
4. He initiated the Prayer Ministry.
5. He initiated the Healing Ministry in our church.
6. He assisted in funeral and memorial services.
7. He has filled the pulpit in the absence of the Lead Pastor.
8. He has counseled persons in their needs in all kinds of situations.
10. He has taught Mosaic Classes and Sunday School Classes.
11. He has organized and led the Evangelism Committee for years.
12. He initiated and implemented the Home for Christmas Program and supervised the multiple aspects of the program.
13. He has contacted every visitor on a weekly basis.
14. He has visited persons in the hospital and nursing homes.
15. He has coordinated Mosaic for the last three years.

**The Evangelism Committee intends to continue the rich legacy that our Minister of Evangelism has established.**



## From The Youth Director, Brent Adrian

community with each other and, Lord Willing, community with Jesus. But now, rested and refocused, it's time we get back to the serious business of having a great time. On the evening of August 28th Mosaic begins afresh, and with it the Youth Group will be back in full swing. Here's an outline of what our program will look like this fall:

**\*Friday Nights** - Friday night youth events are close to my heart. They are what drew me in the church doors oh so many years ago. My recipe for Friday nights is 95% fun, 5% message of the gospel. Be it murder mysteries, karaoke or the infamous mustache night, we always seem to have a good time. Friday's are the night it's easiest for kids to invite their friends. Like last year, I will be encouraging the kids to attend home games during football season and then come to the church for Fifth Quarter shenanigans from 10 until Midnight. When there is no home game, our events typically run from 7 till 10.

**\*Wednesday Nights** - Our Wednesday night youth church takes our youth several steps deeper into the bible. Following the dinner in the Fellowship Hall, we gather in the youth room at 6:00pm for announcements and prayer before breaking into several small groups. Some study books of the bibles, others do more topical discussions, but all of our groups provide a venue in which students can learn about and discuss their faith. The kids who come have all different levels of faith, belief and disbelief. When our discussions wrap up we pray, and then head to the gym to play games and hang out until 8:00 pm.

**\*Sundays** - Sunday morning our Sunday school meets in the youth room at 9:45. It is an open, genuine discussion of the bible and faith. I love this time of the week. The students who come range from raucous to reticent, but they all share a willingness and desire to learn more about the bible. As always I have a deal with the students: Following Sunday School if you come with me to second service, I will take you out to lunch.

**\* Lunches** - There are a number of lunchtime events during the week that will be going on this fall. For the first time in my 2 years here MOST of the youth group will be in High School and thus free to leave school grounds during the lunch hour. We will continue to host basketball on Wednesday and Fridays. In addition, we're starting a book club!

**Help!** - This is not a weekly event but rather an honest plea. In spite of my best efforts, a large number of my volunteers graduated university last spring. I need volunteers ready and willing to build relationships with teenagers from all walks of life. If you know such a person, or are such a person, please come talk to me.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

A new school year has started and your Children's Ministry team has so many exciting things planned this year! We are very happy to see our ECU Wesley helpers back with us! You guys are such a blessing! By the time you are reading this, we hopefully will have had a successful and fun back to school party featuring Extreme

Animals! Our regular fall Wednesday night activities will begin August 28 with JAM from 4 to 5:30 and Bible Adventure from 6 to 7. Children who stay for both sessions will have dinner from 5:30 to 6.

Other important dates to remember in September are:

**Tuesday, September 3rd** - Acolyte Training for all children from 4<sup>th</sup> grade and older who have not yet been trained. This will be held in the Sanctuary at 5pm, immediately following Voices of Praise.

**Sunday, September 8th** - Commissioning of New Acolytes at our 10:45 church service.

**Sunday, September 8th** - Swimming Party at the Elliott's from 2 to 4 pm. The party is in honor of the new acolytes, but all children are invited to come and celebrate with them. Please bring your parents. They won't want to miss out.

**Sunday, September 22nd & Monday, September 23rd** - We will have fun and exciting children's activities during the Fall Lectureship beginning at 7pm both nights.

**Sunday, September 29th** - at 10:45 church service Presentation of 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bibles and of course we have Sunday school classes every Sunday from 9:30 to 10:30! Please join us every week if you can!

-Miss Kim and Miss Lisa

# Opportunities of the Week



# Church Family Prayer List

## \*REMINDER\*

### Monthly Newsletters DATES



<b>Date it will be mailed:</b>	<b>Articles Due by:</b>
September 24th	September 3rd
October 29th	October 7th
November 19th	November 5th
December 17th	December 3rd



Eddie Allen, Roy Allen, Avery Anderson, Elizabeth Ballard, Jane Baltimore, Pat Beasley, Andrea Blackburn, Tammy Brown, Sam Bumpus, Sam Cantrell, Clay Carley, Larry Drennan, Sheila Dunn, Scottie Furimsky, Ann Hamilton, **Jake Hammond**, Maggie Hood, Rob Holloway, Kim Holton, Freddie Hopper, Bruce Johnson, Rufus Jones, Bob Langston, Joe & Lynn Marquis, Johnny Moss, Gloria Muse, Casey Myers, John Nancarrow, Billie and Kristen Rusk, Dina Sachs, Bob Settles, Bonnie Shields, Lindsay and Lynn Snow, **Jodi Standard**, Ronnie Stein, **Betty Thompson**, Charles Thompson, Darrel Thompson, Latrish Train, Bruce VanHorn, LaVelle Walker, Marilyn Waller, Paul Williams, **Monte Winders** (Paula Watkins brother-in-law)

### LONG-TERM:

Cliff Chapman, Floyd Gurley, Jennifer Hood, Mike Manning, Debra Williams

### EXPECTANT MOTHERS:

Kandice Estrada, Celeste Adrian

## ATTENDANCE

<b>July 14th, 2019</b>	
Sunday School	149
Chapel Service	67
Sanctuary Service	122
Online	0
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>189</b>
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<b>July 21st, 2019</b>	
Sunday School	99
Chapel Service	68
Sanctuary Service	131
Online	21
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>220</b>
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<b>July 28th, 2019</b>	
Sunday School	108
Chapel Service	65
Sanctuary Service	141
Online	10
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>216</b>
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<b>August 4th, 2019</b>	
Sunday School	128
Chapel Service	67
Sanctuary Service	145
Online	15
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>227</b>
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*With Deepest  
Sympathy*

*To the family and  
friends of  
Jeanene Stevens on the  
passing of her husband  
Jim Stevens.*