

THE FLAME



March 10, 2025



Monday, March 10

Stephen Ministry Meeting 9
Chancel Bells 1
Weight Loss Group 3:30
Carillion Handbells 6
Scouts 6:30
FPC Bible Study 7

JAM 3:30
Wednesday Night Live 5:30
Youth Ministry 5:30
Choir 7

Tuesday, March 11

Coryell Cupboard 8
Men's Coffee Group 8:30
Intercessory Prayer 9:00
Coryell Cupboard 4
Trustees 6

Thursday, March 13

Women's Bible Study 10
FPC Building round and Finance 1:30
Widow's Group--Frazier's 6:30

Friday March 14

Lenten Small Group Study 10
UWF Sandwiches 2

Wednesday, March 12

Bible Study Via Christi 10
P/T Zoom 12

Sunday, March 16

Pastor Mark Southard Preaching
Sunday School 9
Church 10
Finance Committee 11:30



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Rob Fry, beloved husband of Carla. Rob did not survive a heart attack Saturday, leaving a void in Carla's heart that will be deeply felt. We extend our deepest condolences to Carla, Kaylee and Trent at this difficult time. May the Lord's comfort and the loving embrace of our church family support them with peace and strength. Rob's memorial service will be Thursday afternoon at 2 in the Sanctuary.

March 17, 2025—Second Sunday in Lent



- Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
- Psalm 27
- Philippians 3:17-4:1
- Luke 13:31-35
- Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

Monday Night Bible Study is beginning a new study:

Psalms Book 1 (Psalms 1-41) you are invited to come join us as we read through and study this first set of the Bible's Hymn book. The psalms challenge and comfort us - they speak to the heart.

This book has blessed the hearts of many down through the ages. Ambrose, one of the great saints of the church, said, "The Psalms are the voices of the church." Augustine said, "They are the epitome of the whole Scripture." Martin Luther said, "They are a little book for all saints." John Calvin said, "They are the anatomy of all parts of the soul."

You are welcome to join us in person in the 4th floor conference room or by Zoom. We meet Monday evenings at 7 p.m. Just click on the link below. It will work from most any laptop, tablet or smartphone.

Hope to see you there, Mark

Join Bible Study Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82796429487?pwd=SY2db8EOfKWerFLYSbbY1pPEyNvRN6.1>

Meeting ID: 827 9642 9487 Passcode: 494966



Author Highlight

Max Lucado



Max Lucado is a pastor, speaker, and best-selling author who, in his own words, "writes books for people who don't read books." He serves the people of Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas, and his message is for the hurting, the guilty, the lonely, and the discouraged: God loves you; let him.

As a writer, Max is known for combining poetic storytelling and homespun humor with the heart of a pastor. All of his trade books began as sermon series at Oak Hills Church, and his sermons all begin with Max asking himself this question: "What can I say on Sunday that will still matter on Monday?" He's been dubbed "America's Pastor" by *Christianity Today*, and "The Best Preacher in America" by *Reader's Digest*.

Max's books have sold more than 150 million copies in over 50 languages worldwide. He published *On the Anvil*, his first trade book, in 1985. His 46th trade book, *What Happens Next*, was released in August 2024. Max's books regularly appear on bestseller lists, including *The New York Times*. His writing has also been featured in Bible studies, Bible commentaries, songs, greeting cards, and even plush toys. He is the recipient of many book awards and received the 2021 ECPA Pinnacle Award for his outstanding contribution to the publishing industry.

Max (age 71) and his wife, Denalyn now live in San Antonio, Texas. They have three grown daughters, three sons-in-law, and four grandchildren.

Members can find Lucado's books to check out in the Mobile Library in the Welcome Center during the month of March. Just follow the instructions on the hanging packet to check out the books.

March 12

5:30

Rev. Marla Lobo
“Project Transformation”



Fundraiser-Dinner by Donation!

Troop 501
Spaghetti & Bread
Dessert

First United Methodist Church 200 S 6th Ponca City 580-762-1681
Where First Presbyterians & First United Methodist Worship Together

You can change your life by
changing your heart. ~Max Lucado

Scenes from Sunday...

SCOUT TROOP 501



The Trustees honored Troop 501 with a Squirrel Savior Award for capturing and releasing our squirrel! We appreciate their efforts in humanely releasing the squirrel into the wild. Thanks girls! You're our heroes.



The JAM choirs sang Sunday. It was a real treat! They were the sound of pure innocence and they blessed us with their beautiful voices.

Tired of Talking to Your Houseplants? Join Our Tuesday Prayer Posse!

Let's be honest, folks. We've all been there. You've poured your heart out to your ficus, begged your spider plant for financial advice, and even tried to explain the complexities of your love life to a succulent. And while they're great listeners (mostly because they can't move), they're not exactly...effective.

That's where the **Tuesday Intercessory Prayer Hour (and a bit)** comes in!

Yes, you read that right. Every Tuesday at 10 AM, in the serene (and mercifully ficus-free) chapel, a group of us gather to unleash the power of prayer. We're talking about the kind of prayer that moves mountains, calms chaos, and maybe even finds your missing sock.



What to Expect:

- **Real People, Real Prayers:** Forget the stuffy, formal prayers of yesteryear. We're a down-to-earth bunch who understand that life throws curveballs, spilled coffee, and the occasional existential crisis.
- **A Judgment-Free Zone:** Whether you're a seasoned prayer warrior or you're still figuring out how to fold your hands properly, you're welcome here. We've all had those moments where we prayed for a parking spot...and got it! (Don't judge us.)
- **Miracle Potential:** We're not promising instant lottery wins (though, hey, we'll pray for it!), but we've seen some pretty amazing things happen. From healing to provision to just plain ol' peace of mind, the power of collective prayer is no joke.
- **Coffee (Maybe):** Look, we're a prayer group, not a cafe. But if someone remembers to bring the coffee, we're not complaining.
- **Guaranteed Laughter:** Prayer doesn't have to be somber. We believe God has a sense of humor, and we're not afraid to share a chuckle or two.

Who Should Join?

- Anyone who's ever wondered if their prayers are actually reaching anyone.
- People who are tired of talking to their houseplants.
- Anyone who needs a little boost of faith and fellowship.
- People who like Tuesdays.
- Anyone who wants to pray for the world, or for their neighbor's cat that keeps getting into their trash.



Why Tuesday at 10 AM?

Because it's the perfect time to break up the monotony of the week, and because we figured most of the soap operas are over by then.

So, ditch the houseplants and join us! We promise, we're better listeners.

Tuesday Intercessory Prayer Group:

- **When:** Tuesdays at 10 am
- **Where:** The Chapel (the one without the chatty ferns)
- **Bring:** An open heart, and maybe a prayer request (and if you remember, coffee?)

A season of suffering is a small assignment when compared to the reward. Rather than begrudge your problem, explore it. And most of all use it to the Glory of God. ~ Max Lucado

Beautiful one of a kind Crosses



United Women in Faith created these beautiful crosses. Made from old fencing and no longer used decorations, they are wonderfully earth friendly & each one is unique.

These are located on the office window shelve and are for sale by donation (\$10 minimum?).

The crosses would make a lovely Easter gift or just a thinking of you gift. ♡

These crosses can be found on the ledge in the Welcome Center outside Brenda's office. Help support United Women in Faith's Mission Projects!

*Need a little something
maybe a Thank you, A Just Because,
Thinking of You, Congratulations.....
United Women in Faith have just the thing!
Crosses and more made from Olive Wood in
Bethlehem.*



\$5

These are available in the office.

\$5

As always, Profits go to missions!



*Great
Easter
Gifts*



First United Methodist Church
200 S 6th Ponca City 580-762-1681

The Bethlehem grown olive tree crosses and other goodies are outside Brenda's office on the ledge. All olivewood items at \$5. If you don't see what you like, dig in the basket—there's more to choose from!

Have Yard Work to do????

Our Youth are looking for a few good yards for their service project!

Call the office and get yours on the list.



First United Methodist Church 200 S 6th Ponca City 580-762-1681
Where First United Methodists & First Presbyterians Worship Together!
Suncay Shool 9am Worship 10am

April 9 is the dessert auction for the youth! If you want to contribute something sweet, contact [Bill \(fumcpc.students@gmail.com\)](mailto:fumcpc.students@gmail.com) and get your name on the list!

If you would like to attend the Circle of Care annual Fundraiser Dinner, please contact the church office. If there is enough interest, we will take a bus and all go together. Individual tickets are \$85 each or the group can go together and become a sponsor.



You're invited

crescendo

Oklahoma City University
Bass School of Music

Friday, May 2, 2025
2501 Blackwelder Ave



CIRCLE OF CARE
Help, Healing, and Hope since 1917

Providing Christian help, healing, and hope to children and families in crisis to ensure a safe, healthy, and spiritual future.

Crescendo 2025 Tickets & Sponsorships



INDIVIDUAL TICKETS - \$85

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES *All sponsorship packages include recognition in the event program, on social media and website, in Lifeline magazine, and on event signage*

SUPPORTER	\$500	2 TICKETS, RESERVED SEATS
BELIEVER	\$1,200	8 TICKETS, RESERVED TABLE
SUSTAINER	\$5,000	LIVE MUSIC SPONSOR, 8 TICKETS, RESERVED TABLE
ADVOCATE	\$10,000	FOOD & BEVERAGE SPONSOR, 8 TICKETS, PRIME TABLE
BENEFACTOR	\$15,000	LIVE ART AUCTION SPONSOR, 8 TICKETS, PRIME TABLE, RECOGNITION BY EVENT SPEAKERS

For more detailed information or questions about sponsorships, contact our office at (405) 530-2078 to speak directly with a Circle of Care team member.

Doors Open | 5:30 p.m.
Program & Dinner | 6:00-8:00 p.m.



Scan the code or visit circleofcare.org/crescendo/ to register online

Mary Herrin, a long-time devoted member of the FUMC congregation, passed away on November 19, 2024. A service honoring her memory will be held March 22nd at 1:00 p.m. in the FUMC sanctuary. All are welcome and invited to attend.

A cookie reception will follow the service



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