



**Weekly UPDATE**  
**First Adventist Church**  
**of Tulsa**

**February 22, 2025**

**Our mission is helping people experience the love of Jesus**

# Opportunities

## Come Grow with Us!

If you are looking for a change, or for a new church, we invite you to join our growing family. Here at First Tulsa we believe that everyone has something special and unique to add to our diverse congregation. We would love to welcome you into our church family! If this is your desire, please turn in a Connection Card (located on the tables at the back of the church sanctuary). Place it in the offering box on the wall by the doors at the rear of the church sanctuary.

## United Prayer Opportunities

### Monday – Friday

- 6:00-6:15 am ● Prayer Conference Call Dial 605-468-8026, Access Code: 1013047#

### Tuesday

- 7:00-8:00 pm ● Oklahoma Prayer Line
- Dial 1-470-480-9256

### Wednesday

- 6:00 pm ● Midweek Prayer Meeting
- In the Chapel

## Prayer Meeting



Prayer Meeting is held on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm in the Chapel. Please join us for this time of prayer, Bible study, and fellowship with your church family. You will be blessed!

## Leadership Development Workshop

Pastor Samson Sembega plans to continue his Leadership Development Workshop on Tuesday, **February 25, 5-7 pm** at the church. Come and learn leadership skills for the home, church, workplace, and community.



## Bill Stanfield's 101st Birthday

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to Bill Stanfield who will be 101 years young on February 29, 2025. May the Lord continue to bless and keep you, Bill!



## Three Ways to Give



### Online

tulsasda.org  
Click on "Online Giving"



### Church

Place your offering in a tithe envelope and put it in the offering box at the back of the Sanctuary



### Mail

First SDA Church of Tulsa  
920 S. New Haven Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74112

*Worship Service*  
*February 22, 2025*  
*10:45 a.m.*

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**Musical Meditation**

Bruce Carrico

**Welcome and Announcements**

Pastor Samson Sembeba

**Worship Through Giving**

Onward Oklahoma 2%

**Children's Story**

Lauretta Pontiflet

**Invocation**

Pastor Samson Sembeba

**Scripture Call to Worship**

*1 Corinthians 13 NKJV* | James Davison

**Songs of Praise**

*Come, Now is the Time to Worship*

*Marching to Zion, Hymn 422*

*Great is Thy Faithfulness, Hymn 100*

Gabriel & Nathan Anthony, Olivia Chuckluck, and James Davison

**Altar Prayer**

Daniel Duffy

**Song of Consecration**

*You Are My All in All*

**Sermon**

Sermon Series | *Uncomfortably Close*

Pastor Samson Sembeba

**Song of Response**

*Step by Step*

**Benediction**

Pastor Samson Sembeba

**Postlude**

Bruce Carrico

## Announcements

### Welcome!

A heartfelt welcome is extended to everyone who has joined us for church services today, whether in person or online. May you receive abundant blessings as we worship our loving Lord together on this Sabbath day.

### Fellowship Lunch Today

Our visitors are invited to join us for lunch in the Fellowship Hall (at the west end of the Tulsa Adventist Academy school building) following today's Worship Service.



Our hosts will be the Anthony Hospitality Team.

### VBS Volunteers Needed



Vacation Bible School, coming **June 23 - 28, 2025**, is one of our church's most important



outreach activities. Many volunteers are needed to make VBS happen, so please sign up to help by scanning the QR Code in this announcement or contact VBS Leader Abby Duffy (918-998-3418) for more information.

### Vespers & Church Business Meeting Next Sabbath Evening!

Come VOTE!



Bring Your Ideas!

Help Plan Our Church's Future!

**EVENT:** Church Business Meeting

**WHEN:** March 1, 2025 • 6:00 pm

**WHERE:** First Adventist Sanctuary

**LEARN IMPORTANT INFORMATION!**

▶ **5-Year Church Strategic Plan**

▶ **3-Phase Church Building Improvement Plan**

## Women's Prayer Board Event

Join us **February 23rd at 12:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall for a *Women's Prayer Board Event*. A gathering for women of faith to pray, connect and set intentions for the year ahead! We will be providing all the supplies, just



**bring a dish for the potluck lunch** and come ready with your prayers and goals for the year!

What are Prayer Boards? Prayer Boards are a great visual display with a collage of pictures, images, words and scriptures. Intended to represent the things a person is praying for and a nice reminder to focus on our prayers, faith and gratitude.



## Black Adventist History Website

February is Black History Month, an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of Blacks in U.S. history. It can also be a time to celebrate the many African American Seventh-day Adventists who have achieved major accomplishments. For fascinating information about prominent Black Adventists in government, medical professions, education, civil rights, church leadership and more throughout the history of the SDA Church, try visiting the Black Adventist History website at [blacksdahistory.org](http://blacksdahistory.org).



*Milton Nebblett*  
Advisor for  
USA  
Department of  
State

## Prayer Requests

**Victoria Klinger**

**Kaysha Richardson**

**Fernando Vasquez**

Church Building Committee

Discover Bible School

Missing Members

America



Native New Day

Church Finances

Tulsa Adventist Academy

### Special Prayer

For special prayer contact Prayer Ministries Associate James Davison at 603-801-7172.

## February Birthdays & Anniversaries

23 Olivia Chuckluck

26 Leon Hembry; Ethan McGehee

28 Moises Reyes; Primrose Murray

29 Bill Stanfield

## Local Church Budget Report

### July 2024 through January 2025

Amount planned for budget

**\$68,565**

Amount received for budget

**\$67,591**

**“The Lord has compassion upon us... and accompanies His commands with promises. He calls upon His people to prove Him, declaring that He will reward obedience with the richest blessings.... He encourages us to give to Him, declaring that the returns He makes to us will be proportionate to our gifts to Him. ‘He which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.’”**

— *Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 90

— Judy Miller, Church Treasurer

*Thank you for giving!*

# Calendar

## Today, February 22

Sabbath School	9:30 am	Offering	Onward Oklahoma 2%
Worship Service	10:45 am	Elder	Daniel Duffy
Fellowship Lunch	12:30 pm	Deacon	Jason Vargas
Sunset	6:11 pm		



## Two Weeks at a Glance | February 23 – March 8, 2025

<b>23</b> • Women's Prayer Board Event 12:00p	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> • Community Services 8:00-11:00a  • Leadership Workshop 5:00-7:00p	<b>26</b> • Prayer Meeting 6:00p	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>   Sunset 6:17p	<b>March 1</b> • Vespers & Church Business Meeting 6:00p  Sunset 6:18p
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> • Community Services 8:00-11:00a	<b>5</b> • Prayer Meeting 6:00p	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>   Sunset 6:23p	<b>8</b>   Sunset 6:24p

## Next Sabbath, March 1

Sabbath School	9:30 am
Worship Service	10:45 am
Vespers & Business Meeting	6:00 pm
Sunset	6:18 pm

<i>Offering</i>	<i>Local Church Budget</i>
<i>Elder</i>	<i>Tom Huff</i>
<i>Deacon</i>	<i>Jason Vargas</i>

## Events

- February 22**  
Church Potluck Lunch
- February 23**  
Women's Prayer Board Event, 12:00 pm
- February 25**  
Leadership Workshop, 5 - 7 pm
- March 1**  
Vespers & Church Business Meeting, 6 pm
- March 22**  
Church Potluck

# Church Music Notes

## Prelude

The Prelude music is arrangements for organ by Alice Jordan and Fred Bock of **What a Friend We Have in Jesus** (words for meditation with Hymn No. 499). The composer of the tune, Charles Converse, was a successful lawyer who in addition to gospel songs, wrote string quartets, cantatas, and chorales. The words of this hymn were written by Joseph Scriven for his mother in Ireland, with the intention of bringing comfort to her at a time of sorrow. When first published in 1865, it was credited to Anonymous. It was not



generally known even to neighbors and friends that he was the author. When questioned about it, he replied, "The Lord and I did it between us." His

own life was one of sorrow, when on two occasions, young women to whom he had been engaged died by accident and illness before the wedding.

## Song of Praise

We will sing the praise song by Brian Doerksen, **Come, Now is the Time to Worship** as part of our praise time today. Mr. Doerksen relates: "This song began during one of my morning prayer and exercise walks while living in London, England. This song is the way I express a 'call to worship.' I believe God wants us to come and worship just the way we are. But when true worship happens, we don't stay the way we are. When we make that choice, we experience the pleasure of worship, the treasure of being with God." As the words of the song remind us: "Come just as you are before your God, Come.

*One day every tongue will confess You are God,  
One day every knee will bow, Still the greatest  
treasure remains for those, Who gladly choose  
You now."*



Our second Hymn of Worship is No. 422, **Marching to Zion**. It is a rousing tune by Robert Lowry, written to accompany words written 160 years earlier by Isaac Watts. This song calls to mind the pilgrimage of God's people to the Heavenly Canaan and directs our thoughts to God in His beautiful city of Zion, where we will indeed see our Savior and King.

## Postlude

The Postlude is by Marilyn Arison, a majestic setting of the hymn **Great Is Thy Faithfulness**. The words for meditation are with Hymn No. 100 in the SDA Hymnal. The music to this hymn was written in Baldwin, Kansas in 1923 by William Runyan. For many years he was an evangelist for the Methodist church, but was forced by increasing deafness to give up this line of work in the same year this tune was written. In later life he was associated with John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. Mr. Runyan says about composition of the music, "This particular poem [by Thomas Chisholm] held such an appeal that I prayed most earnestly that my tune might carry over its message in a worthy way." God answered his prayer, with the hymn since being used by many Christian groups, most notably the becoming an unofficial theme song for the Moody Bible Institute.

## Contact Us

### Pastor

Samson Sembeba  
(269) 277-6252  
Email: ssembeba@gmail.com

### Head Elder

James Davison  
(603) 801-7172  
Email: 7jame7@gmail.com

### Head Deacon

Jason Vargas  
(817) 357-0867  
Email: jvargas88@gmail.com

### Spanish Ministries Leader

José Camacho  
(918) 398-3572  
Email: juan5.39@hotmail.com

### Church Office

Office Phone: (918) 834-6671

**Church Website:** [tulsasda.org](http://tulsasda.org)

**Church Email:** [tulsafirstadventist@gmail.com](mailto:tulsafirstadventist@gmail.com)

### Community Service Center

Carma Fox: (918) 200-2613

### Tulsa Adventist Academy

(Pre-K — Grade 12)  
Larry Seery, Principal  
900 S. New Haven, Tulsa OK 74112  
School Office: (918) 834-1107  
Website: [tulsaacademy.org](http://tulsaacademy.org)

### TAA Food Store

*Offering canned & frozen vegetarian foods*  
To purchase foods, come to the TAA office during office hours or contact Rowland Knight (918-381-9708) and make an appointment.

## Sabbath School Classes

- Spanish Sabbath School Class is in the Chapel.
- Classes for children, youth, and young adults are held in the church's south hall classrooms.

### Adult Sabbath School Program

February 22 • 9:30 a.m.

#### Songs, Scripture, Prayer

Praise Him! Praise Him!, No. 249  
*O How I Love Jesus*, No. 248  
Romans 15:13 NKJV  
Richard & Yvonne Adams

#### Mission Video

*Happy Butterflies*, Mongolia

#### Sabbath School Lesson Discussion

*Free Will, Love, and Divine Providence*

**Small Group Class** | Richard Adams

**Online Class** | James Davison, Judy Miller,  
Pastor Samson Sembeba

## Church Bulletin Information

The deadline for receiving announcements to be printed in the bulletin is **11 am on Wednesday**. Please text your announcements to the bulletin secretary at 918-640-6540 or email announcements to the following email address:  
**[bruce.carrico@gmail.com](mailto:bruce.carrico@gmail.com)**.



*First Seventh-day Adventist  
Church of Tulsa*

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