



IN THIS TEMPLE  
AS IN THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE  
TO MAINTAIN THE UNION  
THE MEMORY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

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



Presidents Day | February 17, 2025

**February 15, 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 Sembeba 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.



## Connection Cards Available for You

One way to communicate with Pastor Sembeba is with Connection Cards which are available on the tables near the doors at the back of the church Sanctuary. If you have a Prayer Request, would like a Pastoral Visit, want to join our church, or have something else on your mind, you can fill out a card and place it in one of the offering boxes at the back of the Sanctuary.



## 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 15, 2025*  
*10:45 a.m.*

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**Musical Meditation**

Bruce Carrico

**Welcome and Announcements**

Pastor Samson Sembeba

**Worship Through Giving**

Local Church Budget

**Children's Story**

Ruth Vargas

**Invocation**

Pastor Samson Sembeba

**Scripture Call to Worship**

*Psalm 7:17; 8:1* ESV | Lauren Fraser

**Songs of Praise**

*Here I Am to Worship*

*Morning Has Broken*, Hymn 44

*Amazing Grace*, Hymn 108

Lem Bach, Lauren Fraser, and Sara Zimmer

**Altar Prayer**

Lauren Fraser

**Song of Consecration**

*We Gather Together*, Hymn 8

**Sermon**

Sermon Series | *Uncomfortably Close*

Pastor Samson Sembeba

**Song of Response**

*Oh, How He Loves You and Me*

**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.

### Oklahoma Men's Retreat

All men are invited to gather at Wewoka Woods Adventist Center for a 24-hour Men's Retreat **February 22 - 23**, beginning at **4:00** on Sabbath afternoon. The retreat is an opportunity for men to get together to strengthen one another and take a break from life's hectic demands. To attend, you must register ahead of time at [okadventist.org](http://okadventist.org). **Today, February 15 is the last day you can register for the retreat.** Cost for the retreat is \$20 per person which includes 3 meals and lodging. More information is available at [okadventist.org](http://okadventist.org).

### VBS Volunteers Needed

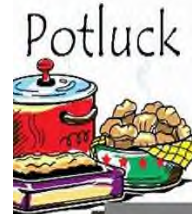
Vacation Bible School, coming **June 23 - 28, 2025**, is one of our church's most important outreach activities. Many volunteers are needed to make VBS happen, so please sign up to help by scanning the QR code in this announcement or contact VBS Leader Abby Duffy (918-998-3418) for more information.



### Church Potluck Next Sabbath

Our church family along with visitors are invited to enjoy a Church Potluck Lunch together next Sabbath, **February 22**,

hosted by the Anthony Hospitality Team. **The theme of the lunch is African American Cuisine**



(with collard greens, cornbread, rice & peas, and barbecue tofu provided by the Anthony Team). **Church members are asked to bring the following dishes:**

- Favorite Salads —
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Potato Salad
- Desserts
- Vegetable Salad
- Fruit Salad

### Relationship Workshop & Banquet

Experience "The Wisdom of Love" workshop tomorrow, **February 16** at the Tulsa First



Seventh-day Adventist Church. Featuring guest speakers Pastor Robert Quintana and his wife Heather who will be highlighting clever and practical relationship insights from the book of Proverbs. **Invite friends!**

- There will be **two engaging sessions** from 3:00 - 4:45 PM, followed by an **elegant banquet** from 5:00 - 6:00 PM.
- **Cost: \$5 per person**, due at the door.
- **Childcare** will be provided.
- **Limited spots** available.
- **SIGN UP** today on our church Facebook page or on our church website!

## 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).



**Dr. Robert E. Shurney**  
Award-Winning  
NASA Space  
Travel Scientist

## Prayer Requests

Ida Clark

William Fisher

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

15 David & Evelyn Hold

18 Leatha Hamilton

19 Piper Humble

20 Betsabe Goodwin

22 Lourdes Vasquez



## 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 15

Sabbath School	9:30 am	Offering	Local Church Budget
Worship Service	10:45 am	Elder	Lauren Fraser
Sunset	6:04 pm	Deacon	Jason Vargas



## Two Weeks at a Glance | February 16 – March 1, 2025

<b>16</b> •Relationship Workshop and Banquet 3:00-6:00p	<b>17</b> •Presidents Day	<b>18</b> •Community Services 8:00-11:00a	<b>19</b> •Prayer Meeting 6:00p	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  Sunset 6:10p	<b>22</b> • Church Potluck Lunch  Sunset 6:11p
<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>  Sunset 6:18p

## Next Sabbath, February 22

Sabbath School	9:30 am
Worship Service	10:45 am
Potluck Lunch	12:30 pm
Sunset	6:11 pm

<i>Offering</i>	<i>Onward Oklahoma 2%</i>
<i>Elder</i>	<i>Daniel Duffy</i>
<i>Deacon</i>	<i>Jason Vargas</i>

## Events

**February 16**  
 Relationship Workshop & Banquet, 3 - 6 pm

**February 17**  
 Presidents Day

**February 22**  
 Church Potluck Lunch

**February 23**  
 Women's Prayer Board Event, 12:00 pm

**February 25**  
 Leadership Workshop, 5 - 7 pm

# Church Music Notes

## Prelude

February is Black History Month, and today the Organ Prelude is a musical meditation for organ by Gilbert Martin based on the African-American spiritual **Steal Away to Jesus**. When the storms of life grow too great, the soul who looks to Jesus can “steal away” to refuge in Him, protecting such a one from all that threatens to overwhelm in this life.

## Songs of Praise

Today we will sing **Morning Has Broken**, No. 44 in our hymnal, for one of the Songs of Praise. The tune for this hymn is a Gaelic folk melody, first written on paper by Alexander Fraser after having heard it sung by a wandering Scottish Highlander. It was printed in 1888. The words by Eleanor Farjeon remind us of Gen. 1:3-5, “*And*



*God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And the evening and the morning*

*were the first day;”* and Lam. 3:23 which describes God’s mercies, “*they are new every morning.*” Every morning, the Christian sees, “*God’s re-creation of the new day.*”

Another hymn of Praise is No. 108, **Amazing Grace**. John Newton was captain of a slave ship in the 1700’s. Later in his career, he was captured and held as a slave himself. He eventually was converted and later became a Christian minister, thus learning by personal experience about the transforming power of God. In 1779 he wrote the words of this hymn as a personal testimony of

God’s goodness in his life. On his death bed John Newton humbly said: “*My memory is nearly gone, but I remember two things – that I am a great sinner, and that Jesus is a great Savior.*”



Ellen White wrote in the book *Steps to Christ*, p. 68. “*In the matchless gift of His Son, God has encircled the whole world with an atmosphere of grace as real as the air which circulates around the globe. All who choose to breathe this life-giving atmosphere will live and grow up to the stature of men and women in Christ Jesus.*”

The tune for Amazing Grace, first appeared in 1835 in the early American shaped-note book Southern Harmony. This hymn is undoubtedly one of the most popular sacred songs of all time. Through the years it has inspired many church musicians. This morning we will use different settings by Robert Batastini, Robert MacDonald, and Don Hustad; changing keys several times during the four verses we will sing today.

## Postlude

The Postlude is **Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**, No. 12. Henry van Dyke, noted writer, pastor, and educator (as well as a close personal friend of President Woodrow Wilson), wrote the words in 1907 after meditating on the beauty of the mountains, and specifying that it should be sung to the music of Beethoven’s ‘*Hymn to Joy*, from the final movement of Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony.

## 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 15 • 9:30 a.m.

#### Songs, Scripture, Prayer

*Safely Through Another Week*, No. 384  
*Redeemed*, No. 338  
Philippians 2:14-16 NKJV  
Pontiflet Family

#### Mission Video

*Come N See Cafe*, Taiwan

### Sabbath School Lesson Discussion

*The Problem of Evil*

**Small Group Class** | Lotoya Anthony

**Online Class** | David Miller, Joe Barranco,  
Lauretta Pontiflet

## 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  
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