



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

**April 12, 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!

## TAA Food Store

Tulsa Adventist Academy's food store offers canned and frozen vegetarian food products. If you would like to purchase something from the store, come to the TAA office during school hours and the secretary will assist you, or contact Rowland Knight (918-381-9708) and make an appointment. All store profits benefit TAA.



## Pray for Okla. Constituency Session

Please keep the Oklahoma Conference Constituency Session (**April 27**) in your prayers as this is when the Conference leaders are chosen, among other things. This year a new Conference President and Executive Secretary will be among the new Conf. leaders.



## 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*

*April 12, 2025*

*10:45 a.m.*

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## **Musical Meditation**

Bruce Carrico

## **Welcome and Announcements**

Pastor Samson Sembeba

## **Worship Through Giving**

Hope Channel International (GC)

## **Children's Story**

Abby Duffy

## **Invocation**

Pastor Samson Sembeba

## **Scripture Call to Worship**

*1 Corinthians 15* (by memory) | Levi Pontiflet

## **Songs of Praise**

*Showers of Blessing*, Hymn 195

*Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*

*All Hail the Power of Jesus Name*, Hymn 229

Lem Bach, Gary Dies, Hillary McGehee-Weems

## **Altar Prayer**

Daniel Duffy

## **Song of Consecration**

*10,000 Reasons*

## **Sermon**

Sermon Series | *Wrestling With Love*

Pastor Samson Sembeba

## **Song of Response**

*It Is Well With My Soul*, Hymn 530

## **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.

### 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.



### Ceiling Tiles Need Replacement

You have probably noticed that the tiles in our church's aged dropped ceilings are very much in need of replacement.



- As part of the church's 3-phase building improvement plan, the ceiling tiles in the church hallways are being replaced, which will cost **\$5,500. Amount raised so far is \$2,090.**
- Your donations are needed to purchase the new longer-lasting, high quality polyethylene tiles, hopefully by **June 1** when a church work bee is scheduled.
- Please mark your donations for the new ceiling tiles "**Building Fund**" or "**Ceiling Tiles**".  
*Thank you for supporting this important project!*

### Ageless Wonders Senior Meeting

Our next meeting will be **April 13. At 12:00**, in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite food item. Please come and enjoy.

— *Carma Fox*



### Leadership Workshop Date Change

The date for this month's Leadership Development Workshop led by Pastor Samson Sembeba has been changed to Tuesday, **April 22, 5:00-7:00 pm**. Everyone is welcome to come and learn leadership skills for the home, church, workplace and community.

### Help Pathfinders Go to Michigan



Our church's **Dreamcatchers Pathfinder Club** has earned the privilege of participating in the SDA North American Division (NAD) *Pathfinder Bible Experience* (PBE) by achieving 1st place scores at the previous 3 levels of PBE testing. The NAD Bible Experience will be held in Battle Creek, Michigan **April 25-26, 2025**, and our **Pathfinders need your help in funding their trip to Michigan**. Please mark your donations "**Pathfinders**". Thank you for your support!

## Communion Sabbath April 26

Our church will celebrate Communion on Sabbath, **April 26, 10:45 am**. Plan to attend and receive a special blessing as you participate in The Lord's Supper.



## Health and Prophecy Seminar

*New Beginnings Health and Prophecy Seminar*



will be **April 20 - 26, 7:00 pm**, at the Tulsa Community Service Center located at 2015 Lakewood Ave., Tulsa OK 74112. Everyone

is invited to support the seminar with your attendance and especially with your prayers.

## Register Kids Now for VBS

Registration is now open for our church's 2025 Vacation Bible School coming **June 23 - 28, 6:00-8:30 pm** for kids ages 3-12. VBS registration is available on our church's Facebook page and also at our church's website [tulsasda.org](http://tulsasda.org). This year's VBS theme is called "Mountain of Miracles". The children will love learning more about Jesus through Bible stories about Elijah along with songs, crafts, games, and more!



## Prayer Requests

**Victoria Klinger**

**Vargas Family**

**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.



## April Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 12 Ava Burgin
- 13 Mitchell McGehee
- 14 Daniel Duffy
- 15 Robert Childress
- 17 Garth Anthony
- 19 Ubaldina Ortega



## Local Church Budget Report July 2024 through March 2025

**Amount planned for budget** \$88,155

**Amount received for budget** \$85,675

### Where Does My Offering Go?

More than 23% of the funds received for local church budget are sent to TAA to help cover their operating expenses. Fifty percent is used to pay for our church's operating expenses. Ministry and outreach activities receives 16% and 10% is reserved for much-needed or unexpected maintenance and repairs.

— *Judy Miller, Church Treasurer*

*Thank you for giving!*

# Calendar

## Today, April 12

Sabbath School	9:30 am	Offering	Hope Channel International
Worship Service	10:45 am	Elder	Daniel Duffy
Sunset	7:54 pm	Deacon	Austin Paddock



## Two Weeks at a Glance | April 13 – 26, 2025

<b>13</b> • Ageless Wonders Senior Meeting 12:00p	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> • Community Services 8:00-11:00a	<b>16</b> • Prayer Meeting 6:00p	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  Sunset 7:59p	<b>19</b>  Sunset 8:00p
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> • Community Services 8:00-11:00a  • Leadership Workshop 5:00p-7:00p	<b>23</b> • Prayer Meeting 6:00p	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  Sunset 8:05p	<b>26</b> • Communion  • Church Potluck Lunch  Sunset 8:06p

## Next Sabbath, April 19

Sabbath School	9:30 am
Worship Service	10:45 am
Sunset	8:00 pm

Offering  
Elder  
Deacon

Local Church Budget  
Lauren Fraser  
Brian Burgin

## Events

**April 13**  
Ageless Wonders Senior Meeting, 12 pm

**April 22**  
Leadership Workshop, 5:00-7:00 pm

**April 26**  
Communion, 10:45 am  
Church Potluck Lunch

**June 1**  
Church Work Bee

# Church Music Notes

## Songs of Praise

One of our songs of praise today **is *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)***. John Newton wrote the words to this hymn as a personal testimony of God's goodness in transforming him from a slave captain, later captured and held as a slave himself, and finally becoming converted and a Christian minister. On his death bed John Newton said: "My memory is nearly gone, but I remember two things – that I am a great sinner, but that Jesus is a great Savior." The arrangement we sing today adds the refrain by Chris Tomlin, written for a recent feature movie, also named "Amazing Grace." The additional words go: "My chains are gone, I've been set free, my God, my Savior has ransomed me. And like a flood His mercy reigns, unending Love, amazing grace."

Ellen White once wrote about God's grace in *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."*

Another of our songs today is ***All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name***, No. 229. The words of this hymn came from England, and were written by Edward Perronet in 1779. Though

Perronet studied to be a clergyman, he was disturbed by corruption in the Church of England and joined with the Wesley brothers in preaching the gospel, undergoing persecution with them. For example, he is mentioned in Wesley's Journal as being rolled in the mud after preaching in Bolton, Lancashire!



The words of this hymn bring to mind the assembled saved of all the ages, as well as the angel choruses, singing praise to God the Father, Son, and Spirit at the time of the Second Coming

The music of this hymn by Oliver Holden originated in the newly-independent colonies in America in 1792. It is the oldest American tune in modern hymnody to be used continually. Holden was a carpenter and helped rebuild the town of Charlestown, Massachusetts, which had been destroyed in the War of Independence. He was a self-taught musician and conducted singing schools and edited several collections of sacred songs. A member of the Massachusetts State House of Representatives for 15 years, Holden died in Charlestown in 1844, a year which was also very important for Adventists. The introduction to this morning's hymn presents a fanfare by Frederick Swann, a second verse harmonized by Hal Hopson, and the rousing arrangement for the final verse today is composed by Margaret Mueller.

## 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:** [tulasda.org](http://tulasda.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

April 12 • 9:30 a.m.

#### Songs, Scripture, Prayer

*Praise to the Lord, No. 1*  
*Near to the Heart of God, No. 495*  
2 Peter 1:20-21 KJV  
Pontiflet Family

#### Mission Video

*Building Faith, Brick by Brick, Myanmar*

#### Sabbath School Lesson Discussion

*The Genesis Foundation*

**Group Class** | Lem Bach

**Online Class** | David Miller, Pam Fraser,  
Mitch McGehee

## 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)**.



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