



The Springs

Rev. Dennis Adlof

January 5, 2011

From Dennis the Minis-ter:

The month of January is named after the Roman god Janus, who was pictured as a man with two faces, one looking backward and the other forward. New Year's provides a valuable time to ponder the work of God in the past while anticipating the future.

One thing to ponder about the past is the blessings of God through the success of our 2010 Giving Campaign. This campaign has enabled us to move forward in paying our apportionments as well as completing our current facility, the Family Life Center. We are grateful to report that we will be able to pay most of our Conference and District Apportionments. Thank you for your generosity and sacrifice.

And now for a couple of tremendous news items to help us anticipate the future: A couple of weeks ago we received a check for \$47,000 from the estate of Ruby Fullum. As she stipulated these funds are to be used to complete the kitchen at the Family Life Center. We are deeply grateful for Ruby's generosity and thoughtfulness. The building committee can move full speed ahead to see that the kitchen is fully operational. Also, we are just about to close the selling of the 41st Street property with the Springs, Inc. They are anxious to get started on their own building project: a new group home. This closing should happen very soon. As you can see we have much to anticipate early in 2011.

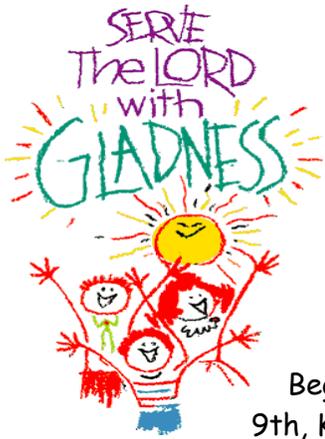
Looking ahead to the next couple of Sundays we anticipate hearing from new people in our worship services.

Sunday, January 9th, Graeme Collett will give his first sermon before the congregation since becoming our youth director. He will speak on baptism. I will be present to lead us through our baptism reaffirmation liturgy. Yes, I will have the buckets here. All persons who have been baptized are invited to renew their vows, as we remember our baptism and are thankful. If any one desires that day to be baptized for the first and only time, please let the church office know.

Sunday, January 16th, Chase and Marissa Henninger will be sharing their China missionary experience in our worship hour. They are good friends of Graeme Collett. The Henningers are graduates from Oklahoma State University. Before being called to serve Christ in China, they were missionaries to Africa and Dubai. Since being in China they have been able to disciple short term teams to the area as well as being the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus to thousands of college students, musicians, pastors, and teachers in China. The Henningers are expecting their first baby in China this next summer and plan on making it their home for as long as the Lord provides.

Again God has been good to us and there is much to be thankful for in the past. With the Lord as our guide, there are great things to anticipate for the future. Come and worship with us as we celebrate the goodness of our God.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."



From the KidZone...

The Sunbeams' classroom has moved (to the classroom closest to the Nursery) - come and see your new room this Sunday.

Beginning this Sunday, January 9th, Kidzone will begin studying Bible heroes and making a scrapbook of their stories. Be sure and bring your Bible each week so we can show you where to read about the Bible heroes.

Just a reminder from Miss Cathy that we will be singing in the worship service on January 16th - we will be practicing this Sunday.

Happy New Year to all of you- See you Sunday!!

emdoodles by Chris Hambrecht

GOD'S PATH



HAS SOME OFF ROAD SECTIONS!!
www.emdoodle.com 04/22/10



Wedding News:

As many of you know, Jetonne and I will soon be getting married. On January 22nd, we will be getting married outside of Tulsa. It is going to be a very small family/friend wedding, so we are going to be having a reception at the Family Life Center so our whole church family can join us in our celebration. We will be having the reception on February 5th at 2pm. Please come and join us on that date to celebrate this new journey that we will share together! Hope to see ya February 5th at 2pm.



A Little Reminder...

The Local Church Leadership Workshop for the Tulsa District is Saturday, January 22 at Boston Avenue UMC.

Besides time with Bishop Hayes, there are learning and training opportunities for Trustees, Safe Sanctuaries, Seniors, Care Giving, Teens, Internet Marketing, Youth Ministry, Finance, VBS preview, Missions, Discipleship, Evangelism, Risk Management, Being a Welcoming church and so many many more.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. with opening worship at 8:30 a.m. See Dick Ford for more information and to get signed up. If your area of interest was not listed above, don't worry; there is something for you. Session one has 17 classes as does session two. There really is something for everyone!

A Little Help Please

When the worship service is over and you are gathering your things to leave, please remember to pick up your bulletin and recycle it at the front door. Also, if you have cups, tissues, papers... please be sure and take care of those things as well. We want to be sure our Sanctuary is always clean. Thanks for your help!

Crumbs From The Cracker

News:

It was great to see the youth this past Wednesday after our week off for Christmas. The Youth of the Tulsa District will be having a lock-in at our Family Life Center on January 14th. This is going to be a great opportunity for our youth to interact and make friends with other youth in the Tulsa district. The evening will start at 7pm Friday night, and will conclude at 7am Saturday morning. The cost is \$10, because half-way through the night the youth have the Sand Springs Skating rink rented for the kids to skate. This event is open to both Jr. High and Sr. High. We are looking for some volunteers to come and hang out with the kids and be chaperons for the evening. Please let me know ASAP if you would like to take part in this event. Also if you are a youth let me know ASAP if you are planning on attending because we need to give a head count for District. Thanks!!!

My Email:

gcollett@sandspringsumc.org

Weekly Youth Lessons:

The New Year is here, and with the New Year the youth are starting a few new lessons. This past Sunday the youth started a new book in Sunday school called "Scary, Gross, and Weird Stories of the Bible." This book is going to be very fun and interactive. The youth are going to have a guest speaker come this Wednesday night and share with them about missions. The following week the youth will begin their "Slave" series, with our opening: "Slave to Anger". The New Year brings great potential for our youth to be impacted by these new lessons.



Weekly Verse:

Proverbs 21:31

“The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.”

Continued on next page

With us entering into the New Year with all of our New Year's resolutions and decisions to change or reevaluate our lives, this scripture comes to the forefront as we begin to enter the battle. Sure we can buy the new workout clothes, or start the new diet, and be ready for the battle that we are facing, but it is the Lord who is the ONE who will give victory to you! So in this New Year as we start to face new challenges and believe that we have what it takes to claim the gates of Hell for Christ, let us not forget that the VICTORY belongs to our Father in Heaven and it is Him who we need to focus on as we enter in the battle. One of the most famous stories of the Bible is about David and Goliath. We can see this one verse come into play in 1 Samuel 17. You see, in this story the Israelites were faced with a giant and they showed their focus on his strength and his might where as David decided to focus on God's strength and God's might! The Israelites were ready and all set for battle, but they forgot to realize that it was their God who was going to give them victory. And as David declared that victory for the Lord, the giant went down with a big boom! The Lord had delivered victory! So next time you want to overcome your battles or make changes in your life, remember that you can be fit and ready for battle, but it is the Lord who will bring victory!

Upcoming Events:

- *January 5th Guest Mission Speaker to Youth*
 - *January 12th "Slave" series begins*
 - *January 14th Youth Tulsa District Lock-In @ the FLC 7pm-7am \$10 per person (Need to know who is coming ASAP)*
 - *January 16th Safe Sanctuaries Training 3:30pm (Optional whichever fits your schedule)*
 - *January 18th Safe Sanctuaries Training 7pm (Optional whichever fits your schedule)*
 - *February 6th Super Bowl Sub-Sunday (Youth Fundraiser)*
- February 28th "Cyber Parent Night" Monday 6:30pm*

(If you are interested in being apart of any of these upcoming events please do not hesitate to call me at 918-245-5955, or email me at gcollett@sandspringsumc.org)

Fun Fact: "A donkey will sink in quicksand but a mule won't."

Evangelism Committee Meeting

Evangelism Committee Meeting is at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 13th in the Parlor. Our main topic will be the New Member Appreciation Chili/Soup Supper. All members are encouraged to attend as well as anyone who wants to "Help SSUMC Grow the Harvest." All are welcome!

Linda Woodard, Evangelism Chair

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers January 9

Welcome Center

CIA/Pathfinders

Head Usher

Bruce Warren

Lay Reader

Charlene Reeves

Children's Moment

TBA

Children's Church

Amy M., Barbie G., Lauren Miller

Counters

TBA

Visitors Center

Mel & Norma Jones

Youth Dinner for Wednesday, Jan. 12

Searchers

Sunday Volunteers January 16

Welcome Center

CIA/Pathfinders

Head Usher

Bruce Warren

Lay Reader

Cynthia Alex

Children's Moment

TBA

Children's Church

Katherine R., Julie F., Zach M.

Counters

TBA

Visitors Center

Mel & Norma Jones

Youth Dinner for Wednesday, Jan. 19

Discovery

Please Keep In Prayer

Bill & Mary Lea Forsythe, Thelma Bradshaw, Gene Watson & Maureen Gibson, Susan Stafford, Lovell Sharp, Virginia Vice, Vera Nell Boatman, Walter Speed, Ralph Rand, Angela Krause, Leonard Whisenhunt, Linda McCormick, Frank Bogert, Harold Hilgendorf, Unspoken Requests

Recognitions...

Thank You...

SSUMC, Your love, thoughts, and prayers have helped me in more ways during my healing process than you will ever know! I am doing so much better, and it is comforting knowing I have a good support from all of you.

I thank my God every time I remember you!

With love & grace through Jesus Christ!

Destinee Tackett & the Tackett family

Jetonne Graduates!!!!

On December 18, 2010 our very own future Youth Pastors wife Jetonne Krug graduated from the awesome school of Oklahoma State University with a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition with a minor in Child Development. She completed a four-year program in 3.5 years! Congrats to you Jetonne and your achievement! We are all so proud of you!! Jetonne plans to find a job and possibly start nursing school in the fall of 2011.

SOMEONE'S PRAYING, LORD.....

2011 offers us a time of renewing our commitment to "sit at the feet of Jesus and just listen." A great way to do that is to come to the Prayer Room each week for 30 minutes to an hour, and have a quiet time of prayerfully listening to God. The new year will not only bring about changes in our personal lives but also in the life of the church. We need to be in earnest prayer as the Staff Parish Committee works with our D.S. in choosing our new minister when Dennis retires in June. Our prayers are heard, and if we listen, we will hear God speaking to us. The following devotional says it so well. Let's have a wonderful New Year of prayer and devotion.

Too Busy for Jesus? By Jon Walker

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

(This devotional is by Jon Walker, editor of the Daily Hope Devotionals and author of Costly Grace: A Contemporary View of Bonhoeffer's 'The Cost of Discipleship.')

Martha was busy for Jesus, and that left her too busy to be with Jesus. Jesus was sitting in her living room but she was in her kitchen steaming vegetables for God. Don't misunderstand; no doubt Jesus would be blessed by a hot meal served by the best cook in Bethany. But, as Jesus always valued relationships over anything else, his preference might have been a simple cheese and olive pita in exchange for time spent enjoying Martha's company.

Can you think of Jesus simply relaxing among friends, blessed to be with them? It's easy to get so busy for Jesus that we no longer have time for Jesus, and it's easy to get so busy serving at the church that we don't have time for people.

The point here is not to give a free pass for sitting on the sidelines; rather, it's to point you and me toward prioritizing for purpose. First, we seek God (spend time with Jesus), then we do the things he wants us to do. Our objective is to serve others in love without distractions, being all there, focused on them. Sometimes we serve others simply through our presence. There may be things you are doing that God never intended for you to do. Maybe you're doing them out of guilt, maybe because you thought you had to, or maybe because it seems like everyone else is doing them.

Nudge Mary over and sit down next to her at the feet of Jesus, and find out what's on His mind. He'll give you a to-do list of the things he wants you specifically to do because he knows what the Father shaped you to do.

A Couple of Reminders...

Boy Scout Sunday is January 23

We will have more information in the next newsletter (January 17).

2011 Leadership Committee Chairs

Please remember to check your mail box in Tracey's office each week. Please don't let the mail pile up in your box.

I Need Lay Readers

I still need a few more Lay Readers for this year. The sign up is on my office door. Even if you don't think it is an area you feel called to serve, maybe you know someone who would be a great Lay Reader. Please ask them to consider it. Give me a call... 245-5955.

I would like to get the list filled up so I don't have to beg..... *please*.....

Thank you all so much for your service.

Tracey

Safe Sanctuary Training for Congregation In Two Weeks

In order to help make our congregation a safer place, our Safe Sanctuaries Committee will be leading training on our safe sanctuaries policy. **All persons in church leadership or who desire to work with children, youth or vulnerable adults will be required to complete one of two identical sessions.** The first offered session is at 3:30 pm on Sunday, January 16. The other at 7 pm Tuesday, January 18.

Both sessions will be held in the sanctuary. On the 16th, the session will come in between Council on Ministries meeting at 2:30 and the Church Council at 4:30.

Come and join us for this important training!

Ushers Needed for Sunday Mornings

We are starting a new year and are needing volunteers to serve as ushers. Both men and women. Bob Horn has done such a great job, but he needs a break. Please consider volunteering. You will enjoy getting acquainted with everyone. There is a sign up sheet on Tracey's office door. When you sign up for a month, you are agreeing to find ushers to help you for the Sundays in that month. If you need help, have questions or would like more information, give me, Bruce Warren a call at 241-8584. I will greatly appreciate your help. THANKS!!

Seniors In Action!

Let's welcome in the New Year by gathering together on Wed. Jan. 19th ! We will meet at church at 10 a.m. for a van ride or car pooling to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church at 12th & Guthrie, downtown Tulsa. Father William Christ will talk to us about the Greek Orthodox history, and the use of icons in their worship services. He is very personable and entertaining, and you will enjoy seeing their beautiful sanctuary. We will then have lunch at a yet undetermined place. Let's take a big group! Sign up with Max and Sharon at church or call 246-9159. Happy New Year !

Sign up Continues for 2011 Youth Confirmation Class: *Claim the Name*

All youth 6th grade and above who desire to join the church are invited to participate in the 2011 Confirmation Class. Confirmation is a time to prepare youth to make the informed decision to claim the name Christian and follow Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. This week letters are being sent to prospective confirmation youth. Youth and parents are asked to contact the church office as soon as possible to enroll. Each youth will need to complete a confirmation registration form.

On Sunday, January 9 an orientation meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. at the church. Youth (Confirmands) are asked to attend with their parents (guardians). The youth will receive their *Claim the Name* student books. They will also be introduced to their mentors, and have the opportunity to get acquainted with them. Pastor Dennis will meet with parents to answer questions and talk about how they can give assistance and encouragement to the youth in this process.

In addition to meeting weekly in a confirmation class during Sunday school and with their adult mentors, here are some of the other activities planned: a tour of a Oklahoma United Methodist mission agency, involvement in a local mission project, Conference Confirmation Retreat at Camp Egan, Interfaith Church Tour, and a special program on death/resurrection with a funeral home and hospice chaplain.

At the conclusion of the confirmation journey, those who are ready to claim the name of Christian and follow Christ will be received into the church on Confirmation Sunday, May 15.

Please contact Pastor Dennis if you have any questions.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CP=Childcare Provide ~ FLC-Family Life Center

Wednesday, January 5

7:30 a.m.-Men's & Women's Breakfast—Crescent Café
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
6:00 p.m.-Junior High Youth
:00 p.m.-Senior High Youth
6:00 p.m.-Chancel Bells
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Thursday, January 6

4:15 & 5:30 p.m.-Weight Watchers

Friday, January 7

12:00 p.m.-Weight Watchers
5:30 p.m.-Grief Support-Parlor

Saturday, January 8

No Activities

Sunday, January 9

9:00 a.m.-Sunday School
10:15 a.m.-Worship
11:45 a.m.-Praise Team Practice
3:00 p.m.-Confirmation Orientation-

Monday, January 10

10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
6:30 p.m.-Disciple 1-3

Tuesday, January 11

1:30 p.m.-Staff Meeting
6:00 p.m.-Staff Parish Meeting
7:00 p.m.-Stewardship Meeting
6:00 p.m.-Girl Scouts
7:00 p.m.-Al Anon

Wednesday, January 12

7:30 a.m.-Men's Breakfast—Crescent Café
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
6:00 p.m.-JH Youth
7:00 p.m.-SH Youth
6:00 p.m.-Chancel Bells
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

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