



The Springs

Rev. Don Tabberer

September 14, 2011



Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. (Isaiah 5:20, NIV)

Values are faithfully applied to the facts before us, while ideology overrides whatever facts call theory into question. (Anonymous)

Isaiah warns the Israelites against unethical behavior. Persons who twist their situation to their own advantage are those who mistake ideology for values. The other quote above attempts to show the difference between real values and ideologies. I am reminded of the Church that rejected the teachings of Galileo when they threatened the established theories of the Church. Clearly the Church was mistaken, but their ideology won out over the facts presented. Galileo's fate might have been different if the Church had sought to discern the value of God's Creation rather than the self-serving ideology the Church had created.

I am deeply troubled by the mean spirit that seems so prevalent in our culture. It doesn't seem to make much difference if we are talking politics or sports; religion or patriotism; poverty or war; the conversations have taken a turn for the mean-spirited and intolerant. We seem to be far less interested in another's point of view than we are in being right and winning every argument. We seem much less concerned about what is good for the community or the country than we are concerned about what's good for me and what makes me happy. We are more about winning at all cost than we are about playing fair and letting the best person win the day. We are, in general, a mean and self-centered bunch of people in today's world.

Isaiah wrote during a time when the people believed that God was active in their everyday life; God is still active today in our lives. Isaiah wrote to people in the midst of trouble and unrest in the political and social circumstances in which they lived. We continue to face difficult political and social circumstances in our time. Isaiah

warned that trouble the people faced was a symptom of the troubled relationship they had with God. I believe we can see the same warning today. The unrest in our political and social environments is a symptom of the trouble in our relationship with God. We have stopped listening to the lessons God is teaching and we pay too much attention to the lessons our culture shoves down our throats. This, I believe, is the real difference between values and ideology. God offers us a set of values that, if applied to our lives, will lead us to a close personal relationship with God and ultimately to our eternal life in God's presence. Ideology, on the other hand, leads down a path to destruction and eternal separation from God. Being in a right relationship with God means being in right relationships with other human beings and with ourselves. It means naming good as good and evil as evil. It means leaving the darkness to walk in the light. It means faithfully applying our true moral values to every decision we make and really trying to discern what God wants us to do in every situation we face. It means rejecting extreme ideologies that cause us to ignore the opinions of others and demonize those who disagree with us. It means recognizing that we do not have all the answers and we need the help of our fellow human beings and God. It means admitting that we frequently make mistakes, act with bad judgment, and always need the grace and mercy of God to pick us up when we fail. Ideologies cause us to forget that the answer to almost every question lies somewhere in the middle, between the two extremes. Finding ways to live with one another in the midst of our sin and need for forgiveness is what binds us together as children of God and helps us to build God's kingdom. Values lead us to love one another, care for one another, and lift one another up when we fall. Values lead us to follow the path Jesus blazed for us. Values help us to realize that, even though we fall short of the glory of God, God values all of us as His good creation. Amen.

*God bless,
Pastor Don*



AN EVENING OF FALL FASHIONS!

*United Methodist
Women Present:*

The UMW Evening of Fall Fashions

*With Fashions, Food,
Fellowship & Fun*

*Fashions by:
Mary Ruby Apparel*

*October 4th, 2011
6:00 P.M.*

*Sand Springs United
Methodist*

*Family Life Center
101 W 38th Street
Sand Springs, OK*

Dinner & Door Prizes

Tickets: \$8.00

KidZone News

The children began their study of Joshua this past Sunday. They will continue to study about him for the next 4 weeks!

Sunday School rooms have to be interesting to engage children. And our children's team has certainly done a good job using materials that were already on hand to re-organize and re-decorate the rooms in the children's area. The Sunbeam room will feature an ocean theme, the new craft room has a Shake It Up! Café theme and the new computer room features a space theme. Take a moment to stop by if you haven't seen what the ladies have done. And all for free!

On Sunday, September 25, Ms. Marty and Ms. Debbie will have children's church at the main campus from 9am until after church is out. This will be offered on a once a month basis until we are back at our main campus. More info about future dates for children's church will follow.

Don't forget that Sunday is National Back to Church Sunday. So invite a friend!!

See you Sunday!



Ladies Bible Study

The ladies Bible study, Living Beyond Yourself, will begin September 19 at 6pm. We will be meeting at the church. If you think you might be interested in the study, please join us! It's not too late to get involved.

Trunk or Treat

It's hard to believe, but Trunk or Treat is just around the corner! So mark your calendars for Monday, October 31. Boxes will be out in the narthex and at the Family Life Center for candy donations. We usually have 800 or so kids come through our parking lot so it takes a lot of candy. We do this in order to give the children in our community a safe alternative to door to door trick or treating.

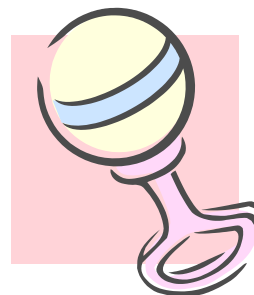
Sunday, September 18

RALLY DAY!

2:30 p.m.-C.O.M.

4:00 p.m.-Church Council

5:00 p.m.-Youth Small Grps.



Baby Shower for Destinee Tackett

Baby girl Paislee
will be here soon!
We will welcome

Destinee to

Motherhood with a Baby Shower on
Saturday, September 17th at 3 p.m. at
the home of Barbara McClintock.

Destinee is registered at Target,

Wal-Mart & Babies R Us.

Circle Meetings

Ruth Esther Circle meets in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, September 22nd at 1:00 p.m.

Faith Circle meets in the Parlor upstairs on Thursday, September 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

Priscilla Circle is at the home of Elaine Bird on Tuesday, September 27th at 7 p.m.

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers September 18

Welcome Center

 Noah Class

Head Ushers

 Timothy Alex

Lay Reader

 Jonathan Dobbs

Young Disciples Lesson

 Jami Warkentin

Children's Church

 No Children's Church

Counters

 Janie Moore & Kent Warkentin

Youth Dinner for Wednesday, *September 14*

 Faith Circle

Sunday Volunteers September 25

Welcome Center

 Noah Class

Head Usher

 Bruce Warren

Lay Reader

 Gary Dobbs

Young Disciples Lesson

 Amy Miller

Children's Church

 No Children's Church

Counters

 Diana Pond & Jack Vest

Youth Dinner for Wednesday, *September 21*

 Priscilla Circle

Please Keep In Prayer

Walter Speed, Don Baldrige, Wilbur Williams, Mel & Norma Jones, Ryder Herring, Thelma Bradshaw, Gene Watson, Virginia Vice, Ruth Weaver, Jo Nan Allen, Jim Bostwick, Jewel & Wilbur Williams, Martha Scudder, Max Schuermann, Jennifer Nerren, Jan Dickerson Family, BW Proft, June Horn, Cheek family, Hueste Family

Acknowledgements & Information

We Offer Our Sympathy...

To the family & friends of Irene Hueste who passed away September 9th-You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

Thank You!

Thank you for the cards and prayers after my surgery. I'm making good progress and expect to be out and about before too long.

Karen Wilder

Thank you for the cards, food, visits, and support you gave us during Harold's illness, and to me after his death. This church is very special with it's love and support for all. Harold loved this church for 5 years as I have for 56 years!

Janie Moore

A note from Ryder and his family is posted on my office door. Please stop by and read it.

Tracey Ginn

Crumbs From The Cracker

News:

Busy September 18th coming up real quick!!!! There will be a Tulsa District Youth Counsel. Any youth that are interested in being on committees for the Tulsa District and want to plan, prep, and help facilitate future Tulsa District events, camps, or missions please come to this meeting. Amy Miller has volunteered to drive any youth that are wanting to step into some of these student leader positions. We already have two students planning on attending. Don't miss out on this great opportunity! The meeting is at Boston Avenue from 2pm-3:30pm. Please let me know ASAP if you are interested in coming! Thanks!

Youth Parent Info Night!!!! October 6th Please come and join us for a fun, exciting, and informative meeting at the Caleb House @ 6:30-8:00pm to find out what the rest of the year and future year holds for our youth! We would like to have at least one parent for each family attend! The more the merrier! Thanks!

Are you in a Sunday school class or UMW Circle? Have you made a meal for our students for Wednesday nights or youth events? Well our youth would like to show you their appreciation on October 9th! Come to church HUNGRY!!!! Skip breakfast on this morning because our youth will be coming to every Sunday school class during the (9am-10am) window to say THANK YOU for all of the great meals and bring you a great meal! Pancakes on us! Mark your calendar and look forward to a delicious breakfast!

Weekly Youth Topics:

Our "Seeds Trees Fruits" series is coming to a close this week with our closing message on "Figs or Thorns". We will be having a one week stand alone message on welcoming Wednesday September 21st to help our youth to reach out to their peers and bring them to church.

FREE Christian MUSIC!!!!!!!

Follow steps below:

Go to air1.com or klove.com or Both
Click Music
Click Free Song
Follow steps to download from i-tunes
Worship and Enjoy!
Thank Jesus!

Upcoming Dates:

- September 14th "Seeds Trees Fruits" Wk 6 "Figs and Thorns"
- September 17th Mission Project @ Food Bank 9am-12pm
- September 18th Rally Day!!! Youth please plan on attending to promote our youth group!
- September 18th District Youth Council Meeting Boston Avenue 2:00pm-3:30pm (Any youth interested in working on future committees to plan and execute district events please plan on attending.)
- September 18th Small Group Service Project! (Meet at Church @ 5:45pm) Bring money for Cherry Berry after service project! (Parents please pick up your students at Cherry Berry @ 8pm)
- September 21st Stand Alone Message "Everyone Is Welcome!"
- September 28th See You At The Pole Prayer (7:45am)
- September 28th Saw You At The Pole Evening Service!
- October 5th Metro Worship!!!
- October 6th Parent Info Night 6:30pm-8pm
- October 9th Pancake Sunday!!!!

(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)



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Rally Day is September 18!

Rally Day/Bring a Friend Sunday this Sunday

This is the day everyone in the congregation is encouraged to invite someone new to church. You can also make contact with someone you haven't seen in a while and tell them you miss them.

It can be a little intimidating to invite someone to church. Pastor Don says one easy way is to tell that person you'd like to invite them to church, tell them what time you'll be picking them up and to plan to go out to lunch afterward.

The evangelism committee chose September 18 as Rally Day because it is also National Back to Church Sunday. About 10,000 churches all across the country, including SSUMC, have committed to set apart this day as a day of church services specifically for serving and encouraging people who aren't regularly attending church. Research shows that less than one in five Americans attends church regularly. Even more alarming is the fact that each year almost 8 million people—150,000 per week—leave church and never go back.

So...let's do our part at SSUMC. Invite new friends to church, contact friends you haven't seen in a while and encourage them to give church a try.

SOMEONE'S PRAYING, LORD.....

Our Prayer Chain receives prayer concerns, many from out-of-town or even other states. Our prayer warriors are well known for taking their time to lift these concerns into the loving arms of God. Recently, we have seen several of our beloved church members being welcomed into His arms. Our prayers for their ultimate healing have been answered. Let us never forget that God hears and answers our daily prayers, no matter how large or small. We have a God who is much bigger than any of our concerns. Let us continue to pray and trust in His will for our healing and well being.

Let's remember to say a special prayer for our church, our pastor, staff and leaders as we move forward in reaching out to bring others into the body of Christ.

Mission Morsels

Our next church mission project is set for this Saturday, September 17th from 9:00 to noon at the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. We will be sorting and repackaging food. Also, kids ages 8 and up can help with this project so come and bring your child or grandchild and show them what a thrill it can be to serve others. Each volunteer is to fill out some paperwork for this project. If you'd like to volunteer, please join us at the mission meeting on Thursday, September 15th at 6:30 at the church to fill out your paperwork. If you can't make the meeting, please contact me at gopokes93@gmail.com or 918.246.0359 and I can coordinate filling out paperwork with you. We promise you will be blessed by being a blessing!

Jami Warkentin and the Mission Committee

Newsletter Schedule

September 12, 26

October 10, 24

November 7, 21

December 5, 19

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CP=Childcare Provide ~ FLC-Family Life Center

Wednesday, September 14

7:30 a.m.-Men's Breakfast—Crescent Café
10:00 a.m.-Women's Chamber using F. Hall
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
6:00 p.m.-JH Youth
7:00 p.m.-Dinner/Praise & Worship
8:00 p.m.-SH Youth
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Thursday, September 15

4:15 & 5:30 p.m.-Weight Watchers
7:00 p.m.-Building Committee Meeting
6:30 p.m.-Cub Scouts Troop 601-Caleb House

Friday, September 16

12:00 p.m.-Weight Watchers

Saturday, September 17

Mission Project at Community Food Bank
3:00 p.m.-Baby Shower for Destinee Tackett-Home of Barbara
McClintock-4207 S. Summit Place

Sunday, September 18-RALLY DAY!

9:00 a.m.-Sunday School
10:30 p.m.-Blended Worship-FLC
11:45 a.m.-Praise Team Practice
2:30 p.m.-Council On Ministries
4:00 p.m.-Church Council

Monday, September 19

10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
7:00 p.m.-Boy Scouts 101-FLC

Tuesday, September 20

7:00 p.m.-Al Anon-Upstairs

Sand Springs UMC

319 N. Main Street/PO Box 336

Sand Springs, OK 74063

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www.SandSpringsumc.org

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