

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer

January 4, 2012



"For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."

(Jeremiah 29:11, New Living Translation)

As we begin another new year it is so important for us to understand that God has a plan for all of us and His plan is always perfect. This text from the prophet Jeremiah is one of my favorite passages because it constantly reminds me that God is in charge of my life and He is looking out for me. It also reminds me that my ways are not God's ways, my plans are not God's plans, and my timing is not God's timing. It reminds me that no matter what I do, God is in the middle of things – guiding and chiding me, trying hard to coax me toward Him, and offering immeasurable grace to transform my sinfulness. What a great New Year's blessing that is!

As we take down our Christmas trees, put away the tinsel and garland, and take stock of all the gifts we received this Christmas, let us look forward to a new year filled with God's promise to plan for us and lead us into His plan. As individuals, and as the church, we can know that God is working His perfect plan in and through us. Our challenge is to listen for God's leading and to respond faithfully. Our challenge is to daily seek to become the people God wants us to become. So we look forward to this New Year full of God's promise for a future and a hope.

Remember Jeremiah's words in the coming year when Bible Study Groups are being formed; when our Confirmation Class looks for sponsors; when our Ministry Teams seek new volunteers; and when Vacation Bible School asks for help. Recognize God's plans when we talk about such things as faithful stewardship, spiritual gifts, and full participation in the life of your church. Feel God coaxing you to give completely of your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Allow God to lead you

in work on a mission project; there may be a place for you on a Ministry Team or helping with our youth. Know that God's plans are not reserved for any particular age group or gender; God has plans for all of us. We will be seeking to discern God's plan for our church as we move forward into multiple worship services. We will be seeking God's guidance as we work to retire our building debt so we can move ahead with plans for the new campus. We will be seeking God's mercy as we work together on many projects where we need to set aside our egos to find our way into God's will.

There are many opportunities to be involved in the life of our church through service, fellowship, study, and worship. The great thing about these opportunities is that they are gifts of worship offered by us for the glory of God. Worship is our primary purpose as Christians and every time we serve God's people, study God's Word, or gather together in God's name, we worship God as our Creator, Savior, and Comforter. That sounds like a great way to spend the coming year.

Many people make New Year's resolutions at this time of year. Unfortunately, most of those are forgotten by Valentine's Day and we seldom follow-through with our resolve. This year I want to challenge you to make a resolution to seek God's plan for your life and to make the effort to really follow God's leading. To help you remember this resolution, I ask that you cut out the text from Jeremiah 29:11 from the top of this page and put it on your refrigerator or your bathroom mirror or on the dashboard of your car – or maybe all three. The point is to listen to Jeremiah every day as a reminder of your resolve to trust in God's plan and faithfully step into the wondrous journey God has in store for you. Believe me, if you do you will find immeasurable grace and radical transformation in your life.

*Peace be with you,
Pastor Don*

Estate Planning Thoughts

Proper estate planning can reduce administrative time, expense and inconvenience. Careful estate planning can also be one of the best gifts you give your family.

Dinners 4 8+

Next Sunday, the Dine Out location is Lin Cuisine, 1300 E Charles Page Blvd. No RSVP needed... try to arrive by Noon so we can sit together. (Please spread the word to non-computer owners.)



Needlers

Do you know how to sew? Do you wish you did? Come join the ladies every 2nd & 4th Thursday in the Parlor. Bring

a sack lunch and stop by on the 12th of January at 11 a.m. for the fellowship and to see what service project they will be working on next!

Ladies Book Club

Come join the ladies next Monday, January 9th at 6:15 p.m. in the parlor to see what book will be next on the list. Spend time discussing while you read and enjoy the company of fellow readers!

Men's Breakfast

All the men in our church are welcome to sit down and enjoy a time of fellowship and devotions. Breakfast is every Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. at the Crescent Café. All men are welcome!

Women's Breakfast

All women of the church are invited to join the women on the *first Wednesday of the every month* at 7:30 a.m. at the Crescent Café. All are welcome for good fellowship and devotions.

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, January 15, 2:30 p.m. is **Council On Ministries**, followed by **Church Council** at 4 p.m.

At 6:00 p.m. that evening is a Prayer & Healing Service. Anyone in need of prayer—all of us—are welcome to attend. As we all know, healing means something different each of us. Why not start the new year off with prayer and healing for each other?

UMW Yearbooks

It's that time again! We need to get all the information in as soon as possible. All information needs to be typed or neatly printed and any changes in address, phone, e-mail... need to be included. Also, please be sure to include the birthdate of any new members. The sooner the information is turned in, the quicker we can get our books.

There is a folder marked "2012 UMW Yearbook" on Tracey's desk. You can leave your changes with her anytime.

Just a Reminder

Newsletter articles are due by noon on Monday of the week they go out. *The Springs* is sent out every other week. Send articles to tginn@sandspringsumc.org

A Service of Prayer & Healing

Sunday, Jan. 15
6:00 p.m.

A service, open to
anyone seeking
God's will for pray-
er and
healing!



Hey Kids!

Hope you all had a great Christmas and are ready to get back into the school routine. For our students moving to Northwoods Fine Arts Academy, we hope you have fun at your new school.

Our next lesson series will be Studying the Church Year and It's Seasons. We're starting a new rotation for Children's Church and Children's moment. If anyone is interested in becoming involved with these ministries to chil-

dren, please contact Marty or Debbie.

January 21st is the Local Church Leaders Workshop. There are a couple of good workshop options for children's ministry. It is always a fun day meeting people from other churches. If you would like to attend, it is open to anyone. See Marty or Debbie for more information.

We hope you all have a great new year!
Marty and Debbie

It's a New School Year too!

As we start this new year, remember in prayer all the kids going back to school. Not just college, but from preschool to 12th grade as well! Our little ones at the Central Fine Arts Academy will be going to a new school this week as the old building is now shut down. Northwoods Fine Arts Academy is up and running and for some, it may be a difficult transition so please keep those kids and faculty in your prayers. With all the temptations facing our youth these days, prayer for strength for them and that they will rely on their foundations-built not only by our own church but by the churches each student has chosen to attend. Finally, prayers for all faculty and school workers. It's a new year and a new beginning. Hopefully, it will be a positive 2012 for us all.

Are You Bored?

There is so much going on at the church you may not even be aware of. A month calendar is put out for the staff each month but is also available to you upon request. If you would like a monthly list of events, please e-mail me in the office and I will be glad to

send you one. If you do not have e-mail, give me a call and I will lay one out for you or I can mail one to you. Please let me know each month. Tracey

It's Time to RE-IGNITE!

The Tulsa District Local Church Leaders Workshop is Saturday, January 21st at Boston Avenue UMC. There are opportunities for all church leaders, committee members and church membership. The flier encourages all church members *"who are seeking to enrich their leadership skills and grow in the faith journey"* attend. *"This event provides a forum to share your ideas with other individuals from churches in your district, and also to gain new insights from well-prepared and skilled worship leaders."*

Some of the classes being offered cover Evangelism, Sunday School, VBS, Finance, Children's Programs, UMW, Making Disciples, Social Media, Youth Adults Ministries, Missions, Trustees, Youth, Congregations working with Veterans, Ministry Options to Explore and so much more. Guest Speaker is Rev. Elaine Robinson, currently serving as Academic Dean & Associate Professor of United Methodist Studies and Theology at St. Paul in OK City.

Crumbs From The Cracker

 Follow us on Twitter: theAwakening_

 "Like" – Facebook: "The Awakening" Ssumc youth

 YouTube Channel: SSUMCTheAwakening

News:

Youth Will Meet @ Caleb House:

The youth will be meeting @ the Caleb House for Wednesday nights until we are able to resolve our water problem @ the Family Life Center. Same time different location. Jr. High 6pm- Jr. High and Sr. high eat @ 7pm and Sr. High 8pm.

Fun Stuff The Youth Did In December



Youth Christmas Party



Rhema Bible College



Winterfest Ice Skating

SSUMC Youth Dudes Take The Court:

This spring our very own SSUMC youth boys are participating in our first year joining the MACBA basketball league that is hosted by First Methodist downtown. We have 9 players on our team that consists of 7 members of our church and 2 that we have recruited! We have had two practices and we look forward to representing SSUMC church on the court! We have a great coach that will be helping with the team-none other than our very own Doug Baldrige! As soon as we get the schedule for the B-ball league we will post it up in the office as well as on the church website so if you are interested in watching us compete against some of the local churches, you can come out and get excited and support our boys!

SSUMC Youth Ladies Scrapbook Party Time:

One of our awesome volunteers, Jan Dickerson, is excited to spend time with our youth ladies and teach them some of the arts of Scrapbooking and help them become professional scrappy's! On January 14th, Jan will have a brief meeting at the Caleb House @ 10:30am to discuss what is needed for this sweet project! Mother's, if you would like to join your daughters with the scrapbook party, feel free to pick yourself up a book and join them! It is going to be a great time! Hope you can make it!

Do you want to support our Youth Mission Team 2012?

If you would like to make a donation or sponsor one of our youth to go on the mission trip, they would be delighted to receive any type of help! Last year, just from our random generous donors, we were able to pay for 3 full trips of our students! Let's try for 5 this year!

Weekly Youth Topics:

Can we talk about "Sex" in church? Is it in the Bible? Well the SSUMC youth will be starting their purity series in the beginning this month. This series will take a Biblical perspective to help our students see what God and the Bible says about this touchy subject. (Parents please do not hesitate to speak with me if you have questions about this series.)

Upcoming Dates:

January 4th - "No Petting" Series Begins Wk 1: "Finding the One"

January 6th - 7th Tulsa District Youth Winter Retreat To Camp Egan! (Be at the church by 5:30pm)

January 7th SSUMC Youth Boys First Basketball Game @ First Methodist

January 11th "No Petting" Wk 2

January 14th SSUMC Youth Ladies Scrapbook Info Meeting (Parents and Youth) @ 10:30am- 11:30am @ Caleb House

(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@sandsspringsumc.org)

Fun Fact: Men who kiss their wives in the morning live five years longer than those who don't.

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers January 8

Visitors Center & Coffee

CIA/Pathfinders

Head Ushers

Eddy David

Lay Reader

Leonard Brehm

Young Disciples Lesson

Marty David

Children's Church

Debbie & Marty

Counters

Janie Moore & Kent Warkentin

Youth Dinner for Wednesday, *January 4*

Youth to Metro

Sunday Volunteers January 15

Visitors Center & Coffee

CIA/Pathfinders Class

Head Usher

Eddy David

Lay Reader

Lisa Comer

Young Disciples Lesson

Jami Warkentin

Children's Church

Marty & Debbie

Counters

Diana Pond & Jack Vest

Youth Dinner for Wednesday, *January 11*

SIA

Please Keep In Prayer

Walter Speed, Francis Joslin, Wilbur & Jewel Williams, Mel Jones, Ryder Herring, Ryan Bulmer, Gene Watson, June Horn, Mary Lea Forsythe, Ruth Weaver, Jo Nan Allen, Jim Bostwick, Virginia Vice, Martha Scudder, Don Baldrige, and all un-spoken requests

Acknowledgements & Information

A Special Thanks...

Thank you for the prayers, cards, and calls during my recent surgery; such a caring church! Peace and blessings in the new year to all!
Love~Daphne Dinsmore

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the cards, phone calls and especially the many prayers for our family. The loss of my precious grandson, Jody Brent, has been devastating for our family, but we've felt your prayers and are so grateful. Thank you, Pastor Don, for the comforting phone call, it meant so very much.

God Bless you All~Imogene Butts and the Jody Brent McCarty Family

Thanks So Much,

You couldn't be nicer, I couldn't be happier, and words couldn't thank you enough!

From so many at Lucile Page Manor (in response to Thanksgiving meals being delivered to them)

Thank You!

Thank you to all that donated to the Exodus House Christmas fund. With your generous donations we were able to purchase everything on the list, with the exception of one thing. If you have a womans black, gently used black coat, size 4x, and would like to donate to Exodus House, it would be greatly appreciated! A tax receipt can be provided. Please see Olivia Tackett for more information.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FLC-Family Life Center

Wednesday, January 4

7:30 a.m.-Men's Breakfast—Crescent Café

10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC

5:30 p.m.-Youth to Metro

6:00 p.m.-NO Chancel Ringers

7:00 p.m.-NO Chancel Choir

Thursday, January 5

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

Friday, January 6

12:00 p.m.-Weight Watchers

5:30 p.m.-Grief Support

Saturday, January 7

No Activities

Sunday, January 8

9:00 a.m.-Sunday School

10:30 a.m.-Worship

12:00 p.m.-Dinners 4 8+

Monday, January 9

10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC

6:15 p.m.-Ladies Book Club

7:00 p.m.-Boy Scouts 101-FLC

Tuesday, January 10

7:0 p.m.-Stewardship Meeting

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

Wednesday, January 11

7:30 p.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 Ringers

7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Sand Springs UMC

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www.SandSpringsumc.org

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