

# The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer

July 4, 2012

## In This Edition of the SPRINGS

- Seniors In Action
- Vacation Bible School
- Someone's Praying
- Schedules
- Prayer List
- Acknowledgements

This is a shorter newsletter due to so many being out of town for the holiday and kids on the mission trip. Speaking of July 4th and Mission Trip—let's remember to pray for the youth and for everyone traveling and for safety with fireworks and the heat of the outdoors.



*"And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have beheld his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of*

*grace and truth."* (John 1:14)

This morning I returned to the office after a few days off and began to work on my upcoming responsibilities for Tulsa District Camp the middle of July. The theme for camp this year is, **"Jesus is here."** It is an exciting theme because it grows out of the concept that God is present with us through Jesus and what that presence implies for us. It is about being in relationship with the Living God; it is about realizing God's grace and mercy in our lives; it is about speaking a radical truth to our young people that will help them understand who God is and what God has planned for each one of them.

My task during camp will be to help the students discover ways into discipleship and ministry through the use of drama in worship. We will be exploring ways to tell God's story creatively and equipping the students with tools they can take back to their churches and be participants in ministry wherever they are. "Jesus is here" is a powerful message for all of us and it is one that needs to be told through every means at our disposal.

**"Jesus is here."** Think about that for a minute. What does this reality mean to you personally? How do you visualize God stepping into your life in the person of Jesus of Nazareth? What difference does this presence make to you? How does the reality of God present in the flesh change the way you think, the way you behave, and the way you live? What do you do differently simply because Jesus is alive and walking beside you every day?

God is present with us through grace. Because

of God's presence we hear the truth – the truth of our own sin, the truth of our need for salvation, and the truth that we are all called to a transformed life as followers of Jesus. We relate to God through our relationship with Jesus. We relate to Jesus through our relationships with one another. In the parable of the sheep and the goats found in Matthew 25:31-46 (read the whole story in your Bible), Jesus says: *"whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."* To me, this has always meant that God is present in all of us and that truth must affect how we treat each other.

When you see a stranger, do you also see Jesus? When you think about how you will react to someone who needs your help, do you also think about Jesus? When you consider your response to someone who disagrees with you, do you also consider your response to Jesus? Our thoughts, ideas, and plans are not God's and it is not uncommon for us to disagree. Does God's very real presence in your life have any effect on how you deal with those times when you and God do not see eye-to-eye?

Jesus **IS** here. Everything that God intended for humanity is realized in Jesus. This morning I heard Pastor Deron Spoo of Tulsa First Baptist Church talk about the difference between knowing God "on paper," through Bible study, and knowing God through a true relationship with Jesus Christ. It is the difference between reading someone's résumé and meeting them face-to-face. It is the difference between looking at pictures from a mission trip and actually participating in the mission work. Relationships require personal encounter and real effort to develop. We cannot read about God to be in a relationship with God; we must encounter the Living God and make the effort to walk with Jesus wherever God wants us to go.

*Shalom,  
Pastor Don*

## Vacation Bible School



It's gonna be fun!  
Don't forget to sign up soon!

### SENIORS IN ACTION!

It's HOT out there! Let's have a COOL & FRIENDLY potluck meal together in the Church Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, July 18th at 11:30 a.m. We all enjoyed hearing Rev. Jeff Jaynes, director of Restore Hope, speak to us at church recently. We've asked him to come back and give us a "nuts & bolts" talk about how Restore Hope works.

Sloppy joes & drinks will be provided. Please bring a dessert or side dish. A donation of \$2 apiece for expenses would be appreciated. Talk to Max or Sharon Schuermann if you have a question. See you there!

It's almost here. **OPERATION OVERBOARD VBS** is just around the corner! The dates are July 22-26 and we begin at 6:15pm. Invite your friends, family and neighbors to join in the fun. We'll have a table with registration forms set up on Sunday. Or you can find a link to register online at the church's website, [www.sandspringsumc.org](http://www.sandspringsumc.org).

We are in desperate need of 3 more crew leaders for VBS. There's nothing for you to prepare and you do not teach. You just take the children to their classrooms, assist the teacher if needed, and help the kids follow directions. Please contact Amy Miller if you're willing to help.



On Sunday we were happy to welcome Ms. Cathy back from vacation. We missed her! The children continue to take a travel journey through the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm.

Our favorite gorilla, CoCo, is back! Did you see him in the narthex? He's sporting his favorite beach attire because he is excited about SSUMC's VBS which starts July 22 at 6:15pm. Please invite your friends, family and neighbors. It's going to be a great week.

Speaking of VBS, the Lake UMC VBS was a great success. We had 15 children come to enjoy music, science, crafts and worship. On Sunday at 5pm the children enjoyed their closing worship service and dinner together afterward. The folks from Lake wanted to convey their sincere thanks to everyone at SSUMC for helping them do ministry in their neighborhood. We'd like to thank the following folks for helping with VBS...Ms. Cathy, Debbie and Sara Schmidt, Marcene and Tammie (Ms. Debbie's mom and sister), Amy and Lauren Miller, Ronnie and Mike Patterson, Charlene and Katherine Reeves, Michael and Jason Cooper, Lisa Massey, Kelly Hopper, Janie Moore, Jami Warrentin, Don Cole, and Eddy and Marty David.

Have a safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July. We'll see you on Sunday!

### Mark Your Calendars

7/8-2 p.m.-Trustees

7/10-7 p.m.-Stewardship/Evangelism

7/12-5:30 p.m.-UMW Executive Mtg.

7/15-2:30 p.m.-Council On Ministries

7/15-4:00 p.m.-Church Council

7/16-7/20-No Don, Graeme, & Alan

## *Sunday Lists*

### **Sunday Volunteers July 8**

Visitors Center & Coffee-CIA/Pathfinders

Head Usher-8:30 a.m.-Frank Johnston

Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David

Lay Reader-8:30 a.m.-Julie Ferguson

Lay Reader-11:00 a.m.-Sue Wiedemann

Young Disciples Lesson-8:30 a.m.-Marty David

Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Marty David

Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids 11:00 a.m.-  
Susie Honeycutt & Family

Counters-Diana Pond & Jack Verst

Youth Dinner for Wednesday-No youth Dinners-Summer

### **Sunday Volunteers July 15**

Visitors Center & Coffee-CIA/Pathfinders

Head Usher-8:30 a.m.-Frank Johnston

Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David

Lay Reader-8:30 a.m.-Kent Warkentin

Lay Reader-11:00 a.m.-Leesa Hairgrove

Young Disciples Lesson-8:30 a.m.-Jami Warkentin

Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Amy Miller

8:30 a.m. Children's Church-Kingdom Kids 11 a.m.-  
Amy & Lauren Miller

Counters-Betty or Howard & Karen Wilder

Youth Dinner for Wednesday-No youth dinners-Summer

## *Please Keep In Prayer*

Walter Speed, Wilbur & Jewel Williams, Mel Jones, Ryder Herring, Ruth Weaver, Jo Nan Allen, Virginia Vice, Martha Scudder, Don Baldrige, Earl & Lora Cervantez, Donna Woodruff, Bishop Hayes, Pat Cheek, Phil Cearley, Linda McCormick, Jan Dickerson, Buster Hall, Cathy Hula, and all un-spoken requests

## *Acknowledgements*



### ***A Great Big Thank You!***

*A great BIG thank you to all who helped with the Annual Church Picnic! From cooking, cleaning, setting up and tearing down. To organizing games and even participating in games! You all make it wonderful every year! Thank you for making it another wonderful AND successful picnic!*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FLC-Family Life Center

### Wednesday, July 4

7:30 a.m.-M/W Breakfast—Crescent Café  
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC  
6:30 p.m.-NO Youth  
6:00 p.m.-NO Praise Team Practice  
7:00 p.m.-NO Chancel Choir

### Thursday, July 5

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

### Friday, July 6-Welcome Back Youth!

12:00 p.m.-Weight Watchers

### Saturday, July 7

No Activities

### Sunday, July 8-Communion

8:30 a.m.-Modern Worship  
10:00 a.m.-Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.-Classic Worship  
2:00 p.m.-Trustees

### Monday, July 9

10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC  
6:00 p.m.-Youth Praise Team Practice  
7:00 p.m.-Boy Scouts 101-FLC

### Tuesday, July 10

1:30 p.m.-Staff Meeting  
6:00 p.m.-NO Chancel Bell Practice  
7:00 p.m.-Stewardship/Evangelism  
7:00 p.m.-Al Anon-Upstairs

### Wednesday, July 11

7:30 p.m.-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café  
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC  
6:30 p.m.-The Awakening-Youth  
6:00 p.m.-Praise Team Practice  
7:00 p.m.-NO Chancel Choir

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**[www.SandSpringsumc.org](http://www.SandSpringsumc.org)**

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### Estate Planning Thoughts

Life insurance is a way to make a larger gift to your church than you might otherwise be able to afford. Consider naming your church as a beneficiary of any life insurance policy.

**Return Service Requested**

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