

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer

September 12, 2012

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Pictorial Directory
Don't forget to call
Tracey and schedule
a time to get your
pictures taken!



"As Moses went into the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and stay at the entrance. While the Lord spoke with Moses...The Lord would speak to Moses

face to face, as a man speaks with a friend." (Exodus 33:7-11)

Can you imagine what it must have been like for Moses to speak to God face-to-face, as a man speaks with a friend? Do you long for that same kind of intimate relationship with God? This is the relationship that God desires to have with us as he coaxes us toward him. This is the kind of relationship for which Jesus prayed in John 17:21-22: *"Father, just as you are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us."*

Intimacy with God is something we value and it is the kind of relationship that must be cultivated. We cannot simply say that because we are Christians we have an intimate relationship with God; it doesn't work that way. We need to recognize what stands in the way of this intimacy and work to overcome those obstacles.

1. Superficiality. Richard Foster calls this "the curse of our age." Too often we go through life at a very superficial level. We fail to look deeply at what we claim to believe in and the values we say we embrace. We are satisfied with a surface-level view of things without realizing that there is much more to be discovered beneath the surface – think of an iceberg here. We must invest time to deepen our relationship with God. Some of God's best truths, like priceless treasures, are hidden in depths most people never take the time to search out. Do you know God superficially or deeply?

2. Failure to prioritize. Busy people often com-

plain that the "tyranny of the urgent" manages their schedule. This leaves us feeling frustrated, impatient, occasionally resentful, and even empty. Intimacy with God must be as necessary for us as the air we breathe or the water we drink. We must prioritize our relationship with God with the same sense of urgency that leads us to breathe and drink. Do you hunger and thirst for time alone with God?

3. Focus on information instead of intimacy. We live in a time where information is power and it seems that all information is at our fingertips. You can know a great deal ABOUT God without really KNOWING God. You can know a lot about godliness without much real knowledge of God. The practice of spiritual disciplines will bring us closer to God because it focuses us on God and not simply facts or knowledge ABOUT God. Do you practice spiritual disciplines daily?

Intimacy with God is a choice and a commitment. The choice is yours: cultivate a rich, fruitful inner life with the Lord or let it remain stagnant and barren. To develop this deep, abiding fellowship with Christ, you need only to have the heart and the desire to share your whole self with your Savior. As you commit yourself to come closer to God, God will come closer to you and your intimacy will deepen.

God has already decided to work towards this intimate relationship with you. The question now is: will you do the work needed to truly become best friends with God? It really is your choice.

Shalom,
Pastor Don

[Acknowledgement: Transformational Leadership Forum, *Christian to the Core: Eight Core Values of the Most Effective Christians.*]

Back to Church Sunday

Have you gotten out of the habit of going to church? Do you have friends or neighbors you've wanted to invite to church? This Sunday, September 16, is National Back to Church Sunday. It will be the perfect day to get back to church or invite friends to come see what SSUMC is all about.

We will have a sweet rolls and coffee after first service and a potluck luncheon after the 11am service. The church will provide chicken. We're just asking the congregation to bring a side or a dessert to share. Whatever you bring is what we will eat!

If you'd like to help with this fun day we'll have a couple of ways you can serve. We will have a church "spruce up day" on Saturday, September 15 at 10am. We should be finished by 12 noon.

Then on 9/16 after Sunday School we will need people to help set up for the potluck lunch. We will be serving food upstairs and in fellowship hall. So we'll need lots of help to get things ready. Please consider how you can help.

Sunday,

September 16

*Invite a Friend to
Church! Brunch after
first service. Lunch after
second service.*

See you there!!

Seniors in Action!

NOTICE!!! CHANGE OF TIME!!!

On Wednesday, September 19th, we will go to Gilcrease Museum to see the "Discover George Washington" Exhibit. Reliable sources say this is a most interesting display! Please meet at the church at 12:30 p.m. for carpooling to lunch at Spaghetti Warehouse. Then we will head over to Gilcrease Museum after lunch. You might enjoy going to the internet site:

<DiscoverGeorgeWashington.org> to learn about the exhibit. Sign up with Max or Sharon Schuermann at church or call, 918-246-9169.

Kingdom Kids Parents & Grandparents

The children's Choir has been asked to sing with the Chancel Choir on "Back to Church Sunday," September 16. This would be a really special event for both choirs and the congregation. As the Chancel Choir sings at the second service, this would cause a change of schedule for some of you. I hope that you will be able to attend this service. We will rehearse with the Chancel Choir on Wednesday, September 12 at 7 p.m. We have been practicing at church and I have also sent song sheets home so the children can practice on their own. I am told that there is also a performance of the song on Youtube. The name of the song is "Look at the World" by John Rutter. Hope to see you on the 12th. In His Service, Cathy Gifford

SSUMC Lunch Bunch

We will meet in Mannford at the Steer Inn on Sunday, October 7 at 12:45 pm. If you plan to attend, an RSVP would be helpful in setting up the seating. Call Linda or Woody Woodard at 918-245-2935. The Sandite Grill & Billiards doesn't open on Sunday's until 3 p.m. so if enough are interested, we could pick another day/time to go there. Eleven gathered in the parking lot to Go West last time, but the restaurant had no electricity. We convoyed in the rain to Sapulpa's Café USA. 'Twas a good choice for a successful evening. Another attempt to eat at GW will come up next month.



Race for Cancer

As many of you know, Shauna Stewart recently lost her mom to pancreatic cancer. Her mom was one of my (Tracey's) classmates-young in my book-49 years old and. She was diagnosed in December and passed away in March.

Shauna and her family and friends have become advocates for pancreatic cancer awareness and are participating in a 1 mile walk to raise money for research. If anyone would like to donate money to help her reach her goal or maybe send a card of encouragement, here is her address: 5106 Bahama Avenue in Sand Springs-74063.

Pictorial Directory

You're running out of time! Pictures are next week, September 19-22. We have 62 families signed up so far. We had 117 in our last directory. If you have not signed up, call me in the office this week! We want EVERYONE in the directory. Remember, you get a free 8x10 as well!!! So check your calendars and let's make this the best directory ever!

Someone's Praying, Lord

You Have Direct Access to God

By Rick Warren from "The Purpose Driven Connection" at <connect@newsletter.purposedriven.com>

"You come to him as living stones, a spiritual house that is being built into a holy priesthood." (1 Peter 2:5a)

God says that you are a priest. Depending on your background, that may be scary or confusing. Peter is saying that the two benefits that priests have are now available to everyone who is a believer. In the Old Testament, priests did two things:

1. They had the right, privilege, and responsibility to go directly to God. They could pray and talk to God, worship, and fellowship with God. Everybody else had to go through a priest.
2. The priest had the privilege and responsibility of representing God to the people and ministering to the needs of other people (serving).

Those are the very 2 things that are true of you when you become a believer. You now have direct access to God. You don't have to pray through anybody else. You don't have to confess through anybody else. You don't have to fellowship with God through anybody else. Read your bible, talk with the Lord, and fellowship directly with him. The Bible says that when Jesus died on the cross, there was a veil in the temple that separated the Holy of Holies, where God's Spirit was, from where man was. Only priests could go behind the veil once a year. When Jesus died on the cross God ripped that veil—about 70 feet—from top to bottom, symbolizing that there is no longer a barrier. You have also been gifted for ministry to served other people. Every Christian is a minister—not a pastor, but a minister. Any time you use your talents and gifts to help others, you are ministering. "He saved us and chose us for his holy work, not because we deserved it but because that was his plan long before the world began" (2 Timothy 1:9). Why did God save you? So you could serve him. A non-serving Christian is a contradiction. How do you know what your ministry is? Look at your talents, gifts, and abilities. When you use those talents and gifts to help other people, that's called ministry—nothing fancy or scary about it. It's just helping others. Can you be a priest in a sales office? You bet you can. Can you be a priest as an accountant? Of course. Driving a truck? Sure. Any time you're helping other people in God's name, you're ministering. How are you using your gifts and abilities to serve God and others? How do you take full advantage of your direct access to God?

Virginia Baldrige

Mission Morsels

We are sending an adult (age 18 and over) mission team to Joplin, MO for help with disaster relief efforts. We would love for YOU to join us! There will be jobs for everyone; no experience needed! We plan to leave the evening of Tuesday, October 16th and come back on Saturday, October 20th. Estimated cost per person is \$125-150 depending on the number of people attending. Please call or email Jami Warkentin if you are interested at 918.246.0359 or gopokes93@gmail.com.

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers September 16

Visitors Center & Coffee-Up Rising Young Adults
 Head Usher-8:30 a.m.-Frank Johnston
 Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
 Lay Reader-8:30 a.m.-Pastor Don
 Lay Reader-11:00 a.m.-Pastor Don
 Young Disciples Lesson-8:30 a.m.-Jami Warkentin
 Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Amy Miller
 Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids 11:00 a.m.-
 Amy & Lauren Miller
 Counters-Diana Pond & Jack Vest
 Youth Dinner for Wednesday-Sept. 12-Priscilla Circle

Sunday Volunteers September 23

Visitors Center & Coffee-Up Rising Young Adults
 Head Usher-8:30 a.m.-Frank Johnston
 Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
 Lay Reader-8:30 a.m.-Lisa Comer
 Lay Reader-11:00 a.m.-Gerrie Holladay
 Young Disciples Lesson-8:30 a.m.-Janet Parker
 Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Janet Parker
 8:30 a.m. Children's Church-Kingdom Kids 11 a.m.-
 Katherine Reeves & Julie Ferguson
 Counters-Betty or Howard Smith & Karen Wilder
 Youth Dinner for Wednesday-Sept. 19-Searchers
 Class

Please Keep In Prayer

Walter Speed, Wilbur & Jewel Williams, Mel Jones, Ryder Herring, Ruth Weaver, Jo Nan Allen, Virginia Vice, Martha Scudder, Earl Cervantez, Donna Woodruff, Bishop Hayes, Phil Cearley, Cathy Hula, Wildfire Victims, an unspoken request, Elizabeth Taylor, Clinton Wilson, Oswalt Family, Judy Bullard

Acknowledgements

***Our Prayers & Sympathy...** to Larry Oswalt and Joe Barnard in the loss of Shar, wife and mother. Shar passed away over the weekend. We will continue to pray you through this transition.*

***Thank You...** Our thanks to everyone following my surgery. For the prayers and gifts of good food!
 Rickey Jones*

***Thank You...** A big thanks to the prayer warriors at the Methodist church in Sand Springs. At this time, all is well but I'm sure we can feel free to call on you when necessary!
 Love and Prayers to all of you, Rose Lair (Don & Doug's sister)*

Crumbs From The Cracker

News:

the Awakening Vision:

"To Stretch the Church and to Redeem the un-Churched all to Glorify God"

Youth Worship Service!

I just want to tell our youth how proud I am of them for their awesome worship service that they helped lead. We have got some very talented youth! Great job! God is using you to impact lives around you! Keep up the great work!!!

Re-scheduled Tech Class:

Are you curious on how to create an account on Facebook? Do you want to brush up your skills on the computer to read our newsletter online? How about watching our previous sermons on youtube? Have we got the answer for you! Join our youth on **October 11th @ 6:30pm** in the Sanctuary for a brief presentation and then some hands on experience with Technology!

Youth Volunteer Appreciation Night:

Are you a student who is a part of our youth program? **Are you a parent** of a youth who attends our youth program? **Are you a congregation member** who attends our church? **I am asking anyone** who is grateful and thankful for our **awesome youth volunteer team** to write a nice **note of appreciation** and place it in the persons sack outside my door. Please have all your notes turned in by October 3rd. Our team members are: **Jetonne Collett, Taylor Miller, Devin Crawford, Winnie Mansfield, Carrol Hamner, Jan Dickerson, Don Cole, and Kent Warkentin.**

District Youth Council Meeting!

Our next Tulsa District Youth Council meeting is **September 23rd**

Special Thanks!

Jana Cheek, Raven, and Helen Brumley for their awesome help in transforming our worship space into the set of "Family Feud"! You guys rock!

Upcoming Youth Series: "Family Feud"

Upcoming Dates:

- September 12th - Start "Family Feud" Series Wk1: Sibling Rivalry
- September 15th - Church Clean Up! 10am- 12pm!!!
- September 16th - Back to church Sunday!! Come Hungry.... Literally
- September 19th - "Family Feud" Wk 2 "R.E.S.P.E.C.T" 6:30pm- 8:30pm
- September 23rd - Tulsa District Youth Council Meeting 2:00pm
- September 26th - See you at the pole!

(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: "Big Foot was sighted in Vici, Oklahoma in 1977. Though a search party was sent out, no evidence was found."



Kidzone

Hey kids, Sunday is a big day... it's Back to Church Sunday. Invite friends your friends!! And join us for the potluck lunch after the 11am service. This children will be singing with the adult choir on Sunday. If you have questions please check with Ms. Cathy.

SAVE THE DATES And on Saturday, October 6 we will be making barbecue sauce for sale on Sunday, October 7th. This will be a fund raiser for Operation Christmas Child.

See you Sunday!!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FLC-Family Life Center

Wednesday, September 12

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

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

Women's Chamber using F. Hall

6:30 p.m.-The Awakening-Youth

6:00 p.m.-Praise Team Practice

7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Thursday, September 13

11:00 a.m.-Needlers

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

Friday, September 14

12:00 p.m.-Weight Watchers-F. Hall

Wedding Shower Set up

6:30 p.m.-Grief Support

Saturday, September 15

10:00 a.m.-Church Clean Up

2:00 p.m.-Carrie McNeer & Ryan Bulmer Wedding Shower

Sunday, September 16

8:30 a.m.-Modern Worship

9:45 a.m.-Continental Breakfast

10:00 a.m.-Sunday School

11:00 a.m.-Classic Worship

12:00 p.m.-Potluck Lunch

Monday, September 17

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

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

Tuesday, September 18

6:00 p.m.-Chancel Bells Practice

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

Wednesday, September 19:-PICTURES BEGIN

7:30 p.m.-Men's & Women's Breakfast-Crescent Café

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

12:30 p.m.-SIA to Gilcrease Museum

6:30 p.m.-The Awakening-Youth

6:00 p.m.-Praise Team Practice

7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Thursday, September 20-PICTURES CONTINUE

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

Friday & Saturday, September 21-22-PICTURES CONTINUE

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Estate Planning

Stocks and bonds make excellent gifts to your church. You may be entitled to special tax considerations if you give these securities to the church during your lifetime.

Call Tracey to schedule your pictures! Photos taken Sept. 19-22!!

Tech Class Change of Date

The technology class Graeme is offering has changed to October 11th.

Please make that change on your calendar.

Return Service Requested

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