

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer

May 8, 2013

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"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." (Acts 2:42)

This is such a great time of year. In spite of the erratic nature of our recent weather, this is generally when we begin to think seriously about summer. We're planning vacations and landscaping projects; swim suits are coming out of the cupboard; you may be dusting off the boat or opening up the swimming pool. There are plenty of things to do to get ready for the hot weather season. Oh, I forgot to mention sports, grilling, and block parties. All summer long there will be camps for the kids for soccer, tennis, band, and football. There may even be summer school for some folks. Then, of course, we have to leave time for all the extra sleep we'll need to recuperate from all this activity. It really is an exciting time, isn't it?

It's different at church. After Easter we settle in to what might be called the summer doldrums. School's out so maybe we shouldn't plan so many activities for the students. People are so busy with all their fun stuff maybe we shouldn't plan any challenging sermons or expect too many people to be in church on Sunday. In fact, these thoughts are based on the reality of past experience. Churches all over America empty out for the summer as if it was time to take a vacation from God. I wonder why we don't consider including God in our vacation plans. Does Jesus water ski too?

In Sunday's message I mentioned that Dr. Biggs is retiring from Boston Avenue UMC this year. In a recent interview he said that the biggest challenge churches face today is that too many people think that if they attend

church once a month they are active members. This contrasts with previous generations who didn't even consider whether or not to attend; it was a foregone conclusion that they were in church on Sunday morning.

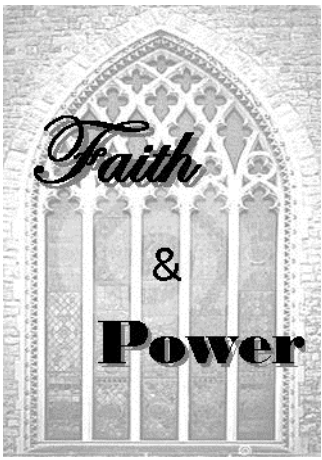
We tend to make allowances and excuses during the summer months to rationalize low attendance. Everyone is so busy; when they're on vacation they attend church someplace at least; the kids have three summer camps to go to for sports. What we forget is that summer is not the only time people don't show up for church on Sunday morning.

This summer I want to place a challenge out there for all of us. Instead of using the summer as an excuse to skip church, use it as a reason to come to church more often. Let Sunday morning be the beginning of a really exciting week every week this summer. Put it in your mind that a week that doesn't begin on your knees in front of Jesus is just a really bad week.

I challenge our students and parents to consider church camp as being more important than some of the other camping experiences being offered to you this year. Think of the youth mission trip as the best way to spend a few days serving God's people.

They say it only takes 21 days to make a habit. If you make it a habit to get up and come to worship every Sunday for 3 weeks it will be a habit that is hard to break. You will begin to realize how different you feel on Monday and every other day simply because you spent the first day of the week in the presence of God. Try it – I promise you will be surprised.

***May Jesus surprise you this week,
Pastor Don***



**BIBLE STUDY GROUP
BEGINS JUNE 3**
Mondays at 6:30pm and/or
Wednesdays at 10:00am
**"CHRISTIAN FAITH AND
POWER"**

Power is part of human life. We speak of military, police, and economic power. We speak of power in relationships between husbands and wives, and between parents

and children. Religious people may speak of being overcome by a spiritual power. The use of the word *power* is quite fluid. It is related to varied social interactions such as force, influence, authority, control, domination, and even violence. When we speak of power as it relates to the Christian faith, we seek to interrelate our experience and our use of power with that which concerns us ultimately: our faith in Jesus Christ. We seek to gain an understanding of power that is in harmony with the Christian message. This study will lead us to discover that the Christian faith transfigures our understanding, as well as our use, of power. Aspects of the Jesus story invite us to understand power as the power of love, and these aspects help us to distinguish between the power of weakness and the weakness of power.

There is no cost for this study. We will be using hand-out materials and no text book. All you need is your Bible. Also, due to several scheduling conflicts during the summer, this group will meet in an interrupted schedule so it is important that you attend the introductory session to get a detailed schedule for the group. The same lesson is discussed each Monday and Wednesday so you can come to either session.

What's coming up...

"Faith and the Spirits of Politics"

September 9 – October 16

"Kingdom of God"

November 4 – December 18

"Unselfish Prayer"

February 3 – March 12



Prayer Vigil

The Day of Pentecost is known as the "Birthday of the Church" because, according to Acts 2, that is when our apostles received the power of the Holy Spirit. Peter preached his first bold sermon and 3,000 people accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior. We know about the hardships and persecution that our early Christians suffered so that we might know Christ and have the Holy Spirit within us today.

Pastor Don has challenged us to participate in a 50-Hour Prayer Vigil leading up to Pentecost Sunday, May 19. We are covering a four-day period so that everyone can find a time that will work for them. This is a ministry that will cost you nothing but 30-minutes or an hour of your time and the results can be very powerful.

Let us pray together that we will see the Holy Spirit working through us. Our church can be more than we ever imagined if we pray together for God's direction and be open to His Will in our lives and the life of SSUMC. Call the church office today to see what times will work for you. Or, call Virginia (918-245-9248) for more information.

Times of the Prayer Vigil are:

7:00 am to 7:00 pm - Wednesday, May 15

7:00 am to 7:00 pm - Thursday, May 16

7:00 am to 7:00 pm - Friday, May 17

7:00 am to 9:00 pm - Saturday, May 18

Kingdom Kids Singing

Bring the kids Sunday, May 12 to join the Kingdom Kids singing in both services. If it's been a while since they have attended, bring them anyway. As Cathy tells the kids, (and I personally know a couple of kids who have done it!) they can just sing "watermelon" the whole time and no one will ever know! Please come for first service, go to Sunday school then hang around for them to sing in second service as well. It will be a great way to usher in Mother's Day!

UMW to be Selling Memorial Day Flowers

The UMW have been working with their fellow ladies from First Christian Church to make refurbished Memorial Day Flower arrangements for graves. They will be available for sell soon-watch the newsletter, flyers, facebook... for further details and announcements. The flowers arrangements will be for sell at the First Christian Church soon.

Guest Speaker for Visually Impaired

City Manager, Rocky Rogers will be here on Monday, May 20 at 10 a.m. in the F. Hall to speak to our Visually Impaired Support Group. Anyone interested in attending are welcome and will hear about the issues our city of Sand Springs has for the visually impaired folks of our community. Mark your calendar to attend.

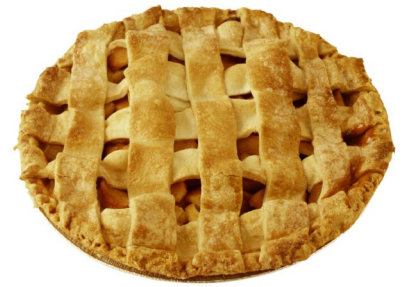
If you are a parent of a child with special needs or you are interested in learning more about children with special needs mark your calendars for May 18th @ 10am. We will meet with Janet Parker in the choir room to discuss and hopefully learn ways we can be more effective in our ministry to these children and their families. As most of you may know, Janet is a teacher at Memorial High School who works with special needs students.

We hope you will join us!

Pie Auction Results

Did you bake a pie?
Buy a pie? Did you
bake a dessert? Buy a
dessert? Well, if you
did, we thank you!
Because of you, we
raised \$1,864. Wow—
a great big THANK YOU

for everyone involved. Our youth will be spreading the gospel through prayers and action in Cincinnati this summer and you have made it possible.



UMW Thank You!

The UMW wish to thank everyone for all they did to make this another successful fundraiser. To all who baked goods-thank you for putting your skills to great use! Also, to all who showed up to weigh the goodies, package them and price them- we thank you all. To all who showed up at The Herbal Affair and bought goodies and to all who worked shifts that day to sell goodies—Thank You!

This is a fundraiser that takes so many people to make it successful and every year, when we think we've topped ourselves, you make it better!! You truly are a blessing to the church and to the UMW. Thank You!

Welcome and Guest Information Desk

If you enjoy meeting new people then we've got a job for you! The Welcome and Guest Information desk is in need of more volunteers to meet our guests each Sunday and answer questions they might have about the church. We need a couple of people for each shift and the shifts are only about 15-20 minutes long. If you are interested, please see the sign-up sheet at the Welcome/Information desk on Sunday.

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers May 12

Visitors Center & Coffee-TNT
 Head Usher-8:30 a.m.-Frank Johnston
 Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
 Young Disciples Lesson-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids
 Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Kingdom Kids
 Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids
 Child. Church-11:00 a.m.-Debbie Schmidt & Amy Miller
 Counters-Janie Moore & Kent Warkentin
 Youth Dinner for Wed.-May 8-Seniors In Action

Sunday Volunteers May 19

Visitors Center & Coffee-TNT
 Head Usher-8:30 a.m.-Frank Johnston
 Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
 Young Disciples Lesson-8:30 a.m.-Jami Warkentin
 Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Jani Warkentin
 Children's Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids
 Child. Church-11 a.m.-Amy & Lauren Miller
 Counters-Diana Pond & Jack Vest
 Youth Dinner for Wed.-May 15-Priscilla Circle

Please Keep In Prayer

PRAYER LIST

Ruth Weaver, Donna Woodruff, Keith Dickerson, Destinee Tackett, Martha Scudder, Virginia Vice, Margaret Pyeatt, Thelma Bradshaw,

**Submitted Prayer requests will remain on our prayer list for 30 days. Please notify the church office if you would like your request to be included beyond this time. Thank you.*

Acknowledgements

Congratulations...

Kellen David Mattox was born April 4, 2013, at Deaconess Hospital in Oklahoma City. He weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces, and was 19.5 inches long. His parents are Lauren and Josh Mattox of Oklahoma City. The maternal grandparents are Paul and Gerri Waldschmidt of Sand Springs and the paternal grandparents are Mike and Donna Mattox of Moore.



Crumbs From The Cracker

The Awakening Vision: To stretch the church and to the Redeem and the un-Churched all to Glorify God.

Sponsor a Youth!!!

Have you had a chance to sponsor our youth for Summer Camp yet? We have a total of 8 already signed up for camps... we need your help. We have some students who are in need of financial support to go to camp. Sponsor \$50 or \$150 or whatever you can. We would love to have your support for our youth summer camps! Please contact me if you would like to sponsor 1 of our students.
918-245-5955 or e-mail: gcollett@sandspringsumc.org

Pie Auction Success!

Thank you so much SSUMC church family!! For those who baked, for those who bought, and for those who helped with the auction. Thank you, thank you, thank you! Our students raised \$1,864 for our youth mission trip to Cincinnati. This was exactly \$199 more than last years auction! We have met our goal and more! Thank you so much for your generous support!

Graduation Sunday

Are you a Senior graduating this year? We want to honor you. On May 19th we want to honor you at our worship services and a breakfast during our Sunday School time. Here is what we need from you:

- 1) 2 Pictures-1 baby and 1 senior photo
- 2) List of awards or achievements while in High School
- 3) What you plan to do after you graduate

These things can be e-mailed to me:

gcollett@sandspringsumc.org or you can facebook me.
PLEASE BE SURE TO GET THEM TO MY BY MAY 12TH

Dayspring Summer Camp for Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 (Deadline extended to May 20th)

Looking for a life changing moment with Jesus? Don't miss out on our first year attending Daysprings Camp located at Camp W.O.W.! This is going to be a super awesome week at camp! The dates for Dayspring are July 6-July 10. The cost for Dayspring is \$250 and SSUMC will pay half. That means you only pay \$125!! You don't want to miss this camp experience! Deadline to sign up has been extended to May 20th.

School's Out For the Summer

Don't miss an incredible night of FUN! On May 24th at 5 p.m. we will be kicking off our School's Out For Summer Party! Join us! It is going to be a blast! We are going to have a tailgate on the cement parking lot, giant food fight, water-balloon volleyball, 8 ft. volleyball, and Tron Ultimate Glow Frisbee! Not to mention a QT Roller Grill snacks during our movie. Students bring your friends! Great five-aways! We will also be sup-

porting Restore Hope! For every jar of Peanut Butter you bring, you will be entered into our raffle! Don't miss It!!!

Upcoming Dates

- May 8-Youth Movie Night at 6:30 p.m.
- May 15-"The Awakening" Pentecost Prayer at 6:30 p.m. and 4th & Main
- May 16-Parents & Volunteers School's Out for Summer Party! Pre-Meeting at 7 p.m. at FLC
- May 18-Mission Team Family Fellowship from 5-8 p.m.
- May 19-Graduation Recognition Sunday

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

Kidzone

We missed Ms. Marty on Sunday but hope that she enjoyed her visit with her grandchildren in Colorado. A big THANK YOU to Jami Warkentin for helping out in Kidzone on Sunday.

We are currently studying the 12 disciples. We will be making a "scrapbook" of the 12 disciples over the summer.

Kingdom Kids will be singing in both services this Sunday for Mother's Day. The church loves it when the children help lead us in worship through song. We hope to see lots of kiddos participate!

Don't forget...if you are a parent of a special needs child, we have a class taught by Janet Parker on the 18th at 10am. We hope to learn ways to be more effective in ministering to these children and their families.

Soon you'll be hearing about a challenge the children will have for the adult and youth small groups....it involves making a carnival game!! More info to come!!

See you Sunday!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FLC-Family Life Center

Wednesday, May 8

7:30 a.m.-Men's Breakfast—Crescent Café
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
6:30 p.m.-The Awakening
6:00 p.m.-Chancel Ringers
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 9

11:00 a.m.-Needlers
7:00 p.m.-Stewardship

Friday, May 10

No Activities

Saturday, May 11

No Activities
Sandite Graduation

Sunday, May 12-Happy Mother's Day

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

Monday, May 13

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

Tuesday, May 14

9:00 a.m.-Margaret Hudson Breakfast-F. Hall
Sandite Band Boosters using FLC
7:00 p.m.-Praise Team Practice
7:00 p.m.-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, May 15

7:00 a.m.-Prayer Vigil
7:30 a.m.-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
6:30 p.m.-The Awakening-Youth-FLC
6:00 p.m.-Chancel Ringers
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 16-Prayer Vigil 7a-7p

7:00 a.m.-Prayer Vigil
7:00 p.m.-Faith Circle
7:00 p.m.-School's Out for the Summer Meeting with Graeme

Friday, May 17

7:00 a.m.-Prayer Vigil

Saturday, May 18

7:00 a.m.-Prayer Vigil
10:00 a.m.-Class with Janet Parker in Choir Room
1:00 p.m.-Piano Recital with Judy Hopper's students in Sanctuary
5:00 p.m.-Youth Mission meeting

Sand Springs UMC

319 N. Main Street/PO Box 336

Sand Springs, OK 74063

918-245-5955 Fax-918-245-2801

Family Life Center: 918-245-3725

www.SandSpringsumc.org

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Opportunities to Sponsor a Youth...

Sign Up Today

Are you looking for an awesome way to spend your summer?

GRACE

Join us!
As we experience a new understanding of "Grace" @ Dayspring Summer Camp 2013

DAYSRING 2013

July 6th-10th

Ages: Entering 9th Grade to Graduating Seniors

Sign Up Today

Disciple

Summer Camp

2013

May 31st- June 4th

Ages: Entering 6th, 7th, 8th

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