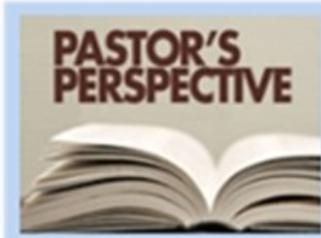


The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer

May 22, 2013



"Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were

being saved."

(Acts 2:46-47)

Like the Methodist Church, the Sunday school movement has its roots in the 18th Century Anglican Church of Great Britain. Originally the intent was to provide basic education for children who could not afford to attend costly private schools. As public education became more available, Sunday schools began to focus more exclusively on religious instruction. Many denominations rallied around the concept and by the mid-19th century, Sunday school attendance was a near universal aspect of childhood. Even parents who did not regularly attend church themselves generally insisted that their children go to Sunday school. Many parents believed that regular Sunday school attendance was an essential part of childhood. As children went to Sunday school, many adults also attended and many churches saw gains in adult Bible study groups. *"The trend for permissive parenting in the 1960s, however, meant that a widespread culture of insisting that children go to Sunday school whether they want to or not (especially when the parents were not themselves going to church) was abandoned."* [Timothy Larsen, Wheaton College] Attendance by adults in Sunday school classes declined exponentially as children dropped out.

Some might read this and sigh, *"Oh those were the good old days."* Others might read this and hear a challenge. The concept of religious education is still valid and essential to our growth as Christians. Whether you are a child, a teen, a young adult, or a mature adult – religious education is vital to your walk with Jesus. The question for us is: What does religious education look like today?

Our church has a vital and growing Sunday school program and I would never suggest that we should do anything to jeopardize that. Our congregation is served well through the many classes we offer on Sunday morning. However, there is

a large portion of our congregation who is not being served in the traditional way. How can we do better? What might we offer that would not only provide education, but would also invite and encourage new people to come to our church because of something new that we're doing?

I'm sure that each of us knows someone who is not connected to any Sunday school group or Bible study. What if we were to reach out to these people and begin to develop new study groups that would meet in private homes at a time other than Sunday morning? What if these groups were to include new people who do not now attend church here or anywhere? What if these small groups became a whole new way to teach and fellowship together? What if these groups helped more and more people develop a closer relationship with God? What if our church was able to reach more people and younger people and make and nurture disciples for Jesus Christ? What if...?

This is certainly not a new idea and it is not my idea. This idea is working in churches all over America right now. Sunday morning I talked about meeting God on holy ground and then setting out on whatever mission God sets before you. At lunch after church my fortune cookie said, *"Now is the time to try something new."* While I hold no stock in fortune cookies, I do believe that God has placed a challenge before our church. We are called to make disciples and grow; we are called to **be** the church in Sand Springs; we are called to move forward, never backward. Maybe God is leading you to lead a group, participate in a group, or simply offer your home as a space to meet. Please consider hosting a group like this in your home. Maybe this is the miracle mission that God has in mind for you as you step onto Holy Ground. Every tool you need to make this work is available to you from the church; you just need to say **"yes"**. Oswald Chambers says: *"We have to take ourselves by the scruff of the neck and shake ourselves, and we will find that we can do what we said we could not. The curse with most of us is that we won't."*

**Say yes to Jesus this week,
Pastor Don**

What is \$1 a day?



or \$7 towards apportionments

A percentage of our apportionment money goes to **Restore Hope Ministries**. They seek ways to meet physical, spiritual and social needs of thousands of individuals and families each year by giving food and clothing, and through spiritual counsel, prayer and regular worship experiences. They do it in the name of Jesus, the Christ, and on behalf of the United Methodists of Oklahoma. Restore Hope ministers to more than 8,000 each year through its Chapel Ministries program.



TIME IS RUNNING OUT - you still have through May 31st to donate items for Day Spring Villa's human trafficking victims. Please look for the marked donation box in the Narthex.

Items suggested: summer weight pants & shirts, jeans and shorts, flip flops, new underwear and socks, hair-brushes, combs, full size bottles of shampoo, conditioner, African American hair products, deodorant, razors, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soaps, lotion, nail file & nail clippers, feminine hygiene products, chap stick, bottled water, snack crackers, Kleenex, etc. This is a joint project for Faith Circle and SSUMC. Questions? Call Leesa 918-519-4946.

Memorial Day Flowers

The women of Sand Springs United Methodist Church and First Christian Church have joined forces to sell Memorial Day Flowers to raise money for missions and church projects. Please see us at 5th and Main in Sand Springs at First Christian Church. Lots of beautiful flowers to choose from!

Hours:

Thursday 5/23/13 10 am to 7 pm

Friday 5/24/13 10 am to 7 pm

Saturday 5/25/13 9 am to 3 pm

Questions ? Call Leesa at 918-519-4946.

SOMEONE'S PRAYING, LORD....

We didn't have quite 50 hours of prayer on the sign-up sheet for our Pentecost Prayer Vigil - BUT, we had well over 50 people who came to the church to pray (some came more than once) and with all the prayers that were given in homes, we feel it was a great success. I'm confident that those who prayed all felt the power of God's presence during their quiet time.

When I was in the Prayer Room, I read this thought from the book, "Quiet Times with God," which I would like to share with you:

"They were glad because they had quiet and He brought them to their desired haven. Ps. 107:30

When I am quiet, O God - I can hear you thinking your thoughts in my mind and making your way known in my heart. Amen."

We have a wonderful quiet place in the Prayer Room. You are welcome to come by anytime the church is open and give yourself that quiet moment with God. Virginia

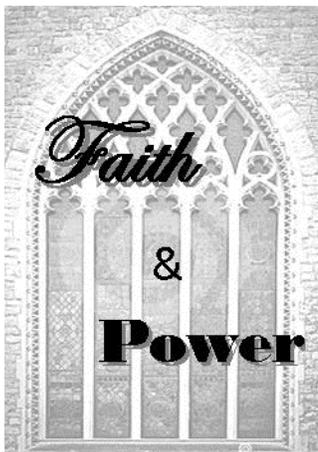
It's All About the Children Style Show & Benefit Luncheon

Wednesday, June 26-12:00 Noon—1:30 p.m.
Tulsa Faith UMC-7431 E. 91st St. In Tulsa, 74133
Cost per person is \$25

All checks made out to: Happy Children's Home
Mail to: Tulsa District UMC-Suite 260, 4815 S. Harvard
in Tulsa, 74135

Margaret Hudson Graduation

Thank you to all that participated in the UMW Margaret Hudson graduation breakfast, an event our church has been hosting for over 20 years. This year we recognized 9 young mothers from the Tulsa chapter that graduated with their high school diplomas. What a great accomplishment this was for them! We had over 40 in attendance at the breakfast which included the girls, their supporting family members, and UMW volunteers. Thank you to all that set up tables, set up or cleaned up after the event, cooked food, donated supplies, supported the girls during the event, handed out Bibles, volunteered as a guest speaker, made baby blankets, bookmarks, personalized hankies, purchased and dedicated Bibles. Without all of you this event would not have been such a great success!



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"	Sept. 9 – Oct. 16
"Kingdom of God"	Nov. 4 – Dec. 18
"Unselfish Prayer"	Feb. 3 – Mar. 12

Family Life Center

The Family Life Center is being used Friday, May 24th for the Youth *School's Out for the Summer* Party. There will most likely be at least 100 to 200 kids out there participating in games and good safe Christian fun. Then there are 2 family reunions during the Memorial Day holiday. It will again be in use on Friday, May 31st and on Sunday, June 2.

It is with your help, giving and donations that all these events can happen. Please continue to grow this Family Life Center. Our community is grateful.

Band Boosters at the Family Life Center?

On Tuesday, May 14th, the Charles Page High School Band Boosters used our Family Life Center for their end of the year Dinner. There were over 200 members and family participating and here is the card we received afterwards:

I just wanted to say thanks for letting us use your awesome facility. We really appreciate people that open their doors to kids and their families. Also a special Thank You to members of your congregation that helped set up and serve-Way above and beyond! We can't sing your praises enough. We are truly grateful!!

Thanks again.

Robin with Band Boosters

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers May 26

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.-Marty David
Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Marty David
Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids
Child. Church-11:00 a.m.-Marty David & Amy Miller
Counters-Betty or Howard Smith & Karen Wilder
Youth Dinner for Wed.-May 22-Searchers Class

Sunday Volunteers June 2

Visitors Center & Coffee-Searchers
Head Usher-8:30 a.m.-Frank Johnston
Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
Young Disciples Lesson-8:30 a.m.-Amy Miller
Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Amy Miller
Children's Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids
Child. Church-11 a.m.-Amy & Lauren Miller
Counters-Sondra Bogert & Dick Ford
Youth Dinner for Wed.-May 29-Discovery/Crossroads

Please Keep In Prayer

PRAYER LIST

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

Acknowledgements

Showers... Showers... Showers...

*Taylor Miller & Jarek Pritchard
Wedding Shower*

*Sunday, June 2 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Church Narthex*

They are registered at Target

~~~~~  
*Paige Baker & Rusty Vann  
Wedding Shower*

*Saturday, June 8 from 1 p.m. To 3 p.m.  
Church Narthex*

*They are registered at Target, Bed-Bath & Beyond and Dillards*  
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Thank You...

A very big thank you to everyone for your thoughts, cards, food, everything! We appreciate our church family so much. We especially appreciate the prayers during mom's illness and death. God Bless You All!

The family of Jeanne McClaflin

Crumbs From The Cracker

the Awakening Vision:

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

School's Out For Summer Party!

Don't miss an incredible night of FUN!!! On May 24th at 5pm 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 tailgate on the cement parking lot, giant food fight, water-balloon volleyball, 8ft volleyball, and Tron Ultimate Glow Frisbee! Not to mention QT Roller Grill snacks during our movie! Students bring your friends!!! Great give-away's! We will also be supporting Restore Hope! For every Jar of Peanut Butter you bring you will be entered into our raffle! Don't miss it!

Tulsa District News:

Congratulations to one of our youth who was elected at our last Tulsa District Youth Council meeting as the Tulsa District Youth Chair!!! Congrats Julie Ferguson!



Upcoming Dates:

- May 24th School's out for summer Party!! 5pm-12am
- May 29th - Youth Go To Green Tree Meet @ FLC @530pm
- May 31st - June 4th Disciple Camp
- June 5th - No Youth!!!
- June 9th - Send Out Service...For Youth Mission Team!
- June 11th - Last Minute Parent Mission Trip Q & A 6pm In Caleb House
- June 12th - Youth Movie Night @ 6:30pm
- June 15th - June 22nd - Youth Mission Trip To Cincinnati!
- June 19th - No Youth!!!

(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)

Summer Playlist Series:

During the summer our students will be looking at some of their favorite songs in "Pop Culture" through the lenses of scripture, in hopes to have new perspective at the sound of things in their world! We will be starting this series on June 26th! You don't want to miss it!

Music Ministry Musings

If you came to the Centennial Kick-Off Party a few weeks ago you filled out a favorite worship song survey. The purpose of the survey is to help us prepare for an All Music Sunday on July 7th. Pastor Don will be gone that Sunday (he's going to be a leader at senior high camp), so our worship in both services that day will be filled with singing all of your favorite songs.

We want to be sure that everyone has a chance to participate, so if you weren't able to come to the Centennial party you can pick up a song survey from the welcome desk and turn it in to the church office or to me. The surveys will be available through Sunday, June 9th. Don't miss your chance to participate!

While it probably won't be possible to sing every song on everyone's list all on one day, we are planning to have an All Music Sunday a couple of times a year. What we don't get to this time we will get to next time. So be sure you fill out a survey and join us on July 7th as we lift our voices in praise of our Almighty God.

Alan

Kidzone

We continue to work on our lessons on the Disciples and at the end, we will be doing our scrapbooks. Be sure to attend Sunday School-we don't want you to miss anything. Thank you to Janet Parker for our autism workshop on Saturday. 10 people attended.

We are collecting 4.5 oz. empty cans for VBS with labels and lid off. Please be sure to thoroughly clean them out before dropping them off.

Are you ready for VBS? Mark your calendars for July 14-18 mom and dad, grandmas and grandpas, aunts and uncles... all kids are invited. Just as importantly-WE NEED LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS! Please contact Debbie Schmidt or Marty David to volunteer.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FLC-Family Life Center

Wednesday, May 22

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

Thursday, May 23

11:00 a.m.-Needlers
1:00 p.m.-Ruth Esther Circle
7:00 p.m.-Missions Meeting
Set up @ FLC for School's Out Bash

Friday, May 24

5:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m.-School's Out for the Summer Bask-FLC

Saturday, May 25

FLC in use

Sunday, May 26

8:30 a.m.-Modern Worship
10:00 a.m.-Sunday School
11:00 a.m.-Classic Worship
1:00 p.m.-Finance Meeting
6:00 p.m.-Youth Praise Band
FLC in use all day

Monday, May 27-Offices Closed for Memorial Day

10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
12:00 p.m.-FLC in use all day

Tuesday, May 28

7:00 p.m.-Praise Team Practice
7:00 p.m.-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, May 29

7:30 a.m.-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
5:30 p.m.-Youth to Greentree
6:00 p.m.-Chancel Ringers
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 30

No activities

Friday, May 31

6-8 Grades to Disciple Camp
FLC in use all day

Saturday, June 1

6-8 Grades to Disciple Camp

No Tracey in the offices the week of May 27-31

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

DAYSPRING 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

SENIORS IN ACTION! We've had a little break in May to accommodate our busy schedules - now let's get together for a Potluck Lunch on Wednesday, June 26th, in the Fellowship Hall, at 11:30 a.m. The meat and drinks will be furnished.... just bring something to fill out the meal. I am working on getting us an interesting speaker. If that doesn't work out, we'll just have a great visit and tell each other about all the activities that have been keeping us busy! Hope to see you there!

Label Here