

# The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer

June 5, 2013



*"I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the LORD; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope." (Jeremiah 29:11)*

First, it is my pleasure to formally confirm that Bishop

Hayes did indeed re-appoint me to Sand Springs UMC for another year. Linda and I are very happy to be returning. Annual Conference in Oklahoma City was held last week and many exciting things were reported about the work of the church and I am pleased to be here for another year as we work together to be everything God wants us to be as a local United Methodist congregation.

Second, I want to congratulate the **Reeves Family**. After a very long journey, **Sandra Reeves Shepherd** was ordained as an Elder in Full Connection on Wednesday evening at St. Luke's UMC. She will be re-locating this year to serve the churches of Grandfield and Randlett in southwest Oklahoma.

The best things about Annual Conference are the many opportunities to be inspired by the ministries being done across our state and by the many people doing this work. We were also blessed this year to hear Bishop Peter Weaver from the New England Annual Conference preach for the memorial service honoring our colleagues who passed away over the last year. He challenged us to remember the past in order to remember that the future has hope. We should always remember and honor our past, but we cannot live in the past. God's plan for us is *"to give you a future filled with hope."*

As we are now preparing to celebrate 100 years of Methodism in Sand Springs, I find Bishop Weaver's comments challenging. We will spend a lot of time and effort to research and honor the past accomplishments of two local congregations over the past 100 years. This often leads to nostalgia and a longing for *"the good old days"* when times were better and the church was bigger. It can also open old wounds we thought were healed and stir up

hard feelings we thought had softened. There may be a tendency to think, *"If we'd just go back to doing things the way we did back then our problems would be solved."* That would be misjudging history and ignoring our present reality. We can indeed honor our past because it has contributed to who we are now. We cannot, however, go back to re-live the past or attempt to live today as we did *"back then."*

God's plan for all of us and for this church is all about the future. It is about remembering our past only so that we can remember the future is filled with hope. I suggest that a major part of our celebration should be about what God has in store for us in the **next 100 years**. What would it look like if God planted our church today with an eye to the future of Methodism in Sand Springs? What would we do differently if we were a brand new congregation just starting out? How would we relate to our community? What would our facilities look like?

We are right to celebrate the legacy these two churches have provided us; we are wrong if we look at that legacy and believe our best years are behind us. I believe that God has placed each one of us here at this time for a specific purpose. I believe God has already planned what our church will be in the next 100 years. I believe that we are now responsible to discern God's plan and follow it through. This means prayerfully considering what our next steps should be. It means putting aside personal agendas and selfish motives. It means realizing that this church is not about you; it is about God's kingdom and our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

***May God bless you today,  
Pastor Don***

## **Mission Morsels**

There will be many exciting opportunities for you to get involved with missions projects this summer. So, get ready to give back!

From June 16-22, our church will be hosting the youth mission team from Central Texas Conference Youth Mission. Please come and greet the team when they arrive, signup to wash towels, bake a dessert, come visit at the hamburger fry Friday night, or help prepare and serve breakfast at the farewell send off on Saturday, June 22.

Our church will be helping with Project Transformation again from June 24-27. Kristin Johnston is coordinating our involvement. Please consider helping with this very important project of improving literacy for local school aged children. You can sign up to read books to the children or help ensure meals and/or snacks are available for the college-aged workers.

Do you know someone who could use some helping hands? We would like to start a "Helping Hands" ministry by meeting local needs and providing help with small household jobs to those who cannot complete the jobs themselves. If you or someone you know could use help with some non-skilled household jobs such a mowing lawns, hanging pictures, yard clean up, changing light bulbs, rearranging furniture, etc., please contact our church. Also, if you could provide help with these types of jobs, we need you! We'd like to have several teams who could go out and meet these needs once a month as a Saturday morning mission and have fun while doing so. It will be key to this ministry to have LOTS of helping hands, not just two or three! We'll have sign up sheets in the Narthex if you think you could help us with this ministry.

Our church is looking at partnering with the church conference Volunteers In Mission for Disaster Recovery to help with projects related to the Creek County Wildfires this summer. We also have a Presbyterian church in Tulsa who would like to partner with us in these projects. More information to come on this as we learn about the needs through the coordinator. But, please start considering how you might be able to get plugged-in and help our neighbors to the west. We also plan to organize two Saturday mornings this summer to serve at the food bank and help Restore Hope box up school supplies. Be on the lookout for dates in future newsletters.

If you'd like more information on any of these projects, please contact Jami Warkentin at 918.246.0359. Let's be His hands and feet, SSUMC!

## **Emmaus Gathering**

Our church will be hosting an Emmaus Gathering for those who have been through the walk to Emmaus on Saturday, June 8th. We will be providing dinner to the Emmaus Board, assisting with worship service and communion, and serving snacks. If you would like to help in any way, please contact Jami Warkentin. You don't have to be an Emmaus alumni to help with this! However, we could definitely use some help from our Emmaus alumni who are available that day as well.

## **Visual Support Group**

We will meet on June 17th at 10:00 AM at the Charles Page library (551 E. 4<sup>th</sup>) in the meeting room. The library doesn't open til 10:00 so no need to come early. The Church is booked that week so we will move to the library for June.

Our speaker for June is Mr. Artie Palk, Deputy Emergency Management Director for Sand Springs. Bring your questions regarding being visually limited and responding to emergencies.

Please call Judy at 918-241-6890 or Gerrie at 918-245-4567 if you plan to attend or need transportation.

## **SOMEONE'S PRAYING, LORD....**

We welcome Pastor Don and Linda's return to SSUMC from Annual Conference. As we look forward to our third year under his leadership, we realize there are still many challenges to face. Much prayer is needed for Pastor Don, Linda, Alan, Graeme, Tracey, and the other supportive staff, as well as our church leadership, as they work to lead us in the direction God wants us to go. We all have a very important job and that is to pray daily for God's blessings on the mission and ministries of SSUMC. As we work and pray together, let us be open to the awesome blessings God has in store for us. Virginia

## **MISSIONS \* MISSIONS \* MISSIONS**

You may have heard that our church will host a group of youth from Central Texas while they are on a mission trip to our area. They will arrive here on Sunday, June 16 and depart on Saturday, June 22. While they are here they will use our Main Campus facilities as their housing location. They will live here, eat here, and worship here the entire week. This offers us several opportunities to serve.

**DESSERT MINISTRY:** The team is bringing their own cooking staff to prepare three meals each day. However, we can help by offering to provide desserts each day. Your favorite cookies, pies, cakes...whatever your favorite dessert is would be welcomed as a gift to these wonderful students and their leaders. There is a sign-up sheet at the Narthex Welcome Desk to pick a day to help. We need to feed approximately 80-90 adults and youth each evening Monday through Thursday.

**TOWEL MINISTRY:** The team will be bringing their own towels, but we have no laundry facilities for them to use. We are seeking a few folks who would pick up dirty towels on Tuesday and Thursday evening, launder them, and return them to church the following day. The team will be showering at the end of each day at the High School field house. It's a lot of towels to wash and dry so we need several people to volunteer to take a few. We just need to be sure they are back the following day by noon. There is a sign-up sheet at the Narthex Welcome Desk.

**FRIDAY COOK-OUT:** We want to take some of the workload off the adult cooking team so they can have a little break and get all of their gear packed up and ready for an early departure on Saturday. With that in mind, we want to have a cook-out at our Family Life Center on Friday night, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 PM. **[I KNOW – we also have an all-church luau/pig roast on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>...That's OK, we can do this!]** There is a sign-up sheet at the Narthex Welcome Desk for this too. We need to provide all the food for a fun picnic-style cook-out for all of their folks and us too. We will gather with them for dinner, with us providing all the food. After dinner we can visit and show them our appreciation for the work they've done during the week; then we will worship together at the FLC. It will be a great evening of fun, food, and fellowship. Hamburgers and hot dogs with all the fix-in's...***Let's have a simple fun time!***

**GRAB 'N' GO BREAKFAST:** FINALLY...We need to provide a simple Grab 'n' Go breakfast for the mission team on Saturday morning at 7:00 AM. Breakfast burritos, breakfast sandwiches...something that is easy to grab and take with them on the road. They do not want to have a sit-down breakfast that then requires clean-up afterwards. We just need to give something they can take in the car with them on their way home. Again – Sign up at the Narthex Welcome Desk. **THANK YOU!!!**

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## **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!



### **Kingdom Kids**

The Kingdom Kids will be singing this Sunday, June 9th in both services. Please bring all the kids. Even if they have not been Here in a while. Please come for both services.

## *Sunday Lists*

### **Sunday Volunteers     June 9**

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.-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-Sheree Buttler & Jami Warkentin  
 Youth Dinner for Wed.-June 5-No Youth

### **Sunday Volunteers     June 16**

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.-Jami Warkentin  
 Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Jami Warkentin  
 Children's Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids  
 Child. Church-11 a.m.-Amy & Lauren Miller  
 Counters-Janie Moore & Kent Warkentin  
 Youth Dinner for Wed.-June 12-Movie Night

## *Please Keep In Prayer*

### PRAYER LIST

Ruth Weaver, Donna Woodruff, Keith Dickerson, Destinee Tackett, Martha Scudder, Virginia Vice, Margaret Pyeatt, Thelma Bradshaw, Glen Almy, Phil Cearley, Clinton Wilson, Family of Yvonne Sutterfield, Family of Lori Cheney-Cortez

## *Acknowledgements*

### ***We Offer Our Prayers & Sympathy...***

*To the family and friends of Yvonne Sutterfield who passed away on May 26th. Her services were on Thursday, May 30th.*

***Bridal Shower***  
*You Are Invited to*  
*A Wedding Shower for*  
*Paige Baker & Rusty Vann*  
*Saturday, June 8 at 1:00 p.m. in the*  
*Church Narthex*

*A lite brunch will be served.*  
*They are registered at Target, Bed-Bath & Beyond and Dillards.*





## 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!

First of all, let me say a special thank you to everyone who helped make this event a great success!!!! We could have not done it without you!!! We had so many awesome helpers ranging from event **documenters** to event **feeders** to event **cleaner uppers** to event **crowd controllers**! The students had a great time celebrating another successful year completed in school! We had an awesome turn out with 3 other churches participating in the event as well!!! Thank you... thank you... thank you!!!!

Below are some highlight pictures from the event!



### Mission Trip To Cincinnati, OH:

The trip is getting closer and closer!!! Please be in prayer for our students and leaders traveling! Thanks!

### Upcoming Dates:

**May 31<sup>st</sup> - June 4<sup>th</sup> Disciple Camp**

**June 5<sup>th</sup> - No Youth!!!**

**June 9<sup>th</sup> - Send Out Service...For Youth Mission Team!**

**June 11<sup>th</sup> - Last Minute Parent Mission Trip Q & A 6pm  
In 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@sandspringsumc.org](mailto:gcollett@sandspringsumc.org))**

### Kidzone

We're still learning about the Disciples and we will soon have our big drawing for some fun stuff on June 23rd. The kids got tickets for the drawing for their attendance, bringing a friend, memorizing their scripture verses and bringing their Bibles.

VBS Is quickly approaching. The dates are 7/14-7/18. If you'd like to volunteer or need more information please see Ms. Debbie or Ms. Marty. They are still in need of empty 14.5 oz vegetable cans, tops cut off, labels removed and washed. They will be used for a craft activity.



Our favorite monkey, Rufus, is on a big adventure with one of our children. He got to go on an Alaskan cruise. We can't wait to hear about his adventures and see some pictures from the trip!

Reminder that Kingdom Kids are singing on Sunday, 6/9, in both services.

Have a great week!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### FLC-Family Life Center

#### Wednesday, June 5

7:30 a.m.-Men's/Women's Breakfast—Crescent Café  
10:00 a.m.-Bible Study-Parlor  
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music  
6:30 p.m.-No Youth  
6:00 p.m.-Chancel Ringers  
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

#### Thursday, June 6

No Activities

#### Friday, June 7

No Activities

#### Saturday, June 8

FLC in use  
1:00 p.m.-Paige Baker & Rusty Vann Wedding Shower-Narthex  
3-9 p.m.-Emmaus (Begins in F. Hall & moves upstairs at 7 p.m.)

#### Sunday, June 9

8:30 a.m.-Modern Worship  
10:00 a.m.-Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.-Classic Worship  
Youth Send Off in Prayer

#### Monday, June 10

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

6:30 p.m.-Bible Study-F. Hall

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

#### Tuesday, June 11

6:00 p.m.-Youth *Last Minute Mission Trip* Q & A

7:00 p.m.-Praise Team Practice

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

#### Wednesday, June 12

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

10:00 a.m.-Bible Study-Parlor

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

6:30 p.m.-Youth Movie Night

6:00 p.m.-Chancel Ringers

7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

#### Thursday, June 13

11:00 a.m.-Needlers

6:00 p.m.-Stewardship Meeting

#### Friday, June 14

No Activities

#### Saturday, June 15

Youth leaving on Mission Trip

**Sunday, June 16-Happy Father's Day**

**Monday-Saturday, June 16-22-No Activities in the Main Facility**

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

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