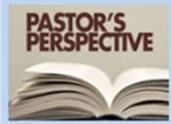


The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer

September 10, 2013



When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

many Christian churches. In Christian worship candles always in some way point to Christ. It is not the candles that are important, but what they represent. This will vary to a certain extent depending on the season of the Church Year.

Jesus came to reveal God to the world. Jesus said, *"I am the light of the world, he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have this light of life."* Christ's light points us to God who is the source of all good.

As we travel through this present existence the light of God encourages us to persevere in the faith. The expression, *"A light at the end of the tunnel,"* is a common metaphor for hope. This world is a dark place, but we move toward the light ahead. In the last book of the Bible John was granted a vision of that light, the New Jerusalem. He wrote, *"And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light shall the nations walk; and the kings of the earth shall bring their glory into it, and its gates shall never be shut by day – and there shall be no night there; they shall bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean shall enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life."* (Rev. 21:22-27)

We use candles and light in different ways throughout the year. At times this use of light helps to set a mood for worship, but always there is an overarching point to using candles in church. The candles in worship remind us of that greater Light, which encourages us to push ahead for there is a Light at the end.

***Go to the light in Jesus' Name,
Pastor Don***

In liturgical worship particular symbolism is very important. Symbols such as candles have a definite use and purpose in our worship of God. In many churches symbolic communication has been lost or neglected. The few symbols that remain have become unintelligible and meaningless.

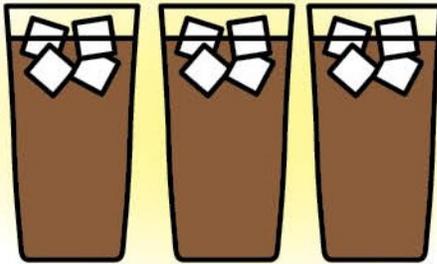
Commenting on the significance of symbolism Dr. Robert Webber writes, *"...when we consider the function of symbols as a means of understanding and communicating the Christian faith, we must not treat them as merely psychological creations but as images of an ultimate reality. A symbol in the natural world corresponds to a reality of the supernatural world."* (God Still Speaks, p. 144) The objects we call symbols are not in the building just to make it look pretty. Dr. Webber goes on to speak of the necessity of symbolic communication. *"The nature of faith itself demands the transformation of supernatural concepts into visible images and symbols. Because no finite language can fully and completely express supernatural truth adequately, biblical religion and the church in history has always relied on symbolism as a means of communicating that which transcends the realm of the finite. The language of faith has always, therefore, been a language of symbols."*

In our faith, lights – whether lamps or candles – are a common symbol. Christian worship has its roots in Judaism. In the book of Exodus God gave specific instructions about the construction of the tabernacle. Among the items God said should be in the tabernacle was the Golden Candlestick with its seven prongs. This impressive lamp was to be always burning in the place of worship. Even today the observance of the Sabbath begins with the lighting of candles in a Jewish home.

Likewise, the lighting of candles precedes services in

What is \$1 a day?

Restaurant Beverages



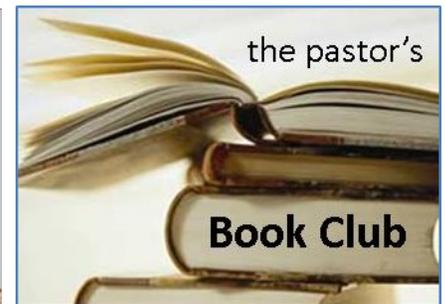
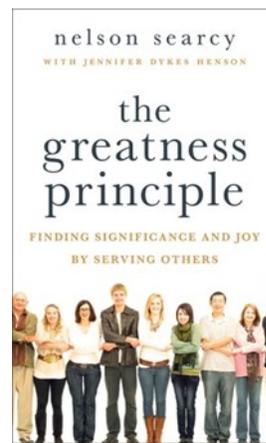
or \$7 towards apportionments

A percentage of apportionment money goes to the **General Administration Fund** which provides at the general (national) church level the same types of services that the Conference Administration Fund does at the annual conference level. In addition, the General Administration Fund pays for the cost of the General Conference, which meets once every four years, with representatives from all over the world.



SAVE YOUR CANS AND COINS!

Bring your aluminum cans the next two weeks to the church so the money can be added to our Cans and Coins Collection. They can be placed in plastic bags and put by our trash cans next to the Fellowship Hall door. Also, empty your pockets, piggy banks and fruit jars of all the coins we seem to accumulate, and put them in our coin (and dollar) jar that is in the Narthex. These coins and dollars will be brought forward by our children to place before the altar on our Thanks for Giving Sunday. It will be exciting to see how your small change adds up.



NEW IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY

"We all want to matter."

Deep inside each of us is a longing, a yearning, for greatness. We want to know the world is different because we have lived. We want to leave our mark. We want to be remembered for something beyond average, something great. When I read this book I was inspired to share it with you because it talks about how we can learn from the example of Jesus and live our lives with purpose; lives that are filled with greatness because we are living as Jesus taught us to live. This book will encourage you to take a step on your journey to a rich, full life. You will be challenged to serve others in ways you never imagined possible or even relevant. You will find tools in this book to connect you to the purpose God has laid out for you. You can be great. You can matter. I encourage you to borrow this book from our library and find out how.



Mission Morsels

Saturday, September 14th will be our next Helping Hands mission opportunity. We have a couple of members needing help with yard work. We also will have a crew painting the nursery and possibly a few to help put Caleb House back together after the water damage from the drinking fountain. We would love to have your help. Please contact Buster Hall or Jami Warkentin if you would like to help. We will meet in the fellowship hall at 7:30 a.m. for a light breakfast and then head to our working posts around 8:00 a.m. Thanks!



FLC

Virginia and Kay asked us to write an article on how the FLC has impacted the community. As a Charles Page graduate and a substitute teacher for Sand Springs schools, I have become a lifelong Sandite fan. So when asked to have our church host the Sandite football team for a team breakfast I could never say no. The first year we hosted, we had it in the fellowship hall. We had very little space and the team was literally sitting on each others laps. The following year, we were able to host it at the FLC. It was so nice to be able to put up tables and the boys were able to line up and have room to move around and talk to each other. The breakfast was such a success that one of the boys who plays on the football team asked his mom to call to see if we could host the baseball breakfast before the big Sapulpa/Sand Springs games. We since have become to host of two football homecoming breakfasts, two baseball Sapulpa breakfasts, one boys and girls senior soccer breakfasts and on September 5th of this year, we hosted 100 football players, coaches, and trainers football game dinner. This is all for Sand Springs students who have always been very appreciative that we care enough to make them a meal, pray over the team, and wish them luck on all of the work they put in on their sports. We would not be able to do this ministry without the space and the kitchen we have at the FLC.

Katherine & Charlene Reeves

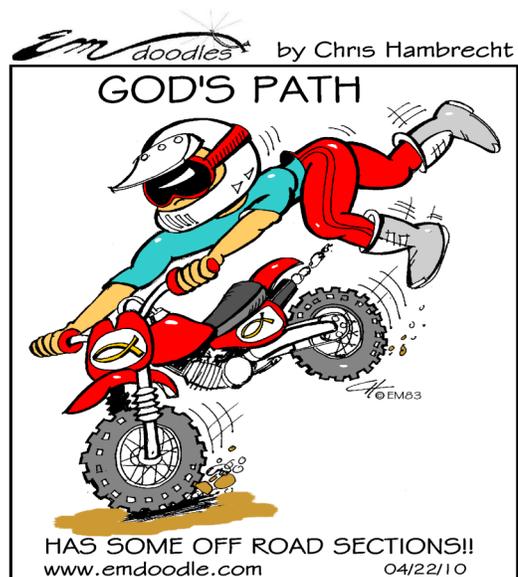
SOMEONE'S PRAYING, LORD.....

When we think of all the people who give so much of their time and hard work to help make our church the wonderful place that it is, it can be overwhelming. Knowing that I can't possibly mention all of them, the servants coming to my mind right now are Jami and

her awesome mission team, those helping to make our youth ministry such a great success, and our Building for Life Volunteers. I want to thank Jami and Graeme for highlighting their ministries in worship the last two Sundays. Kay and I are so appreciative of each of those delivering packets to our church family. We've heard how wonderful the visits have been and how we should continue with this ministry even after our giving campaign ends. Please continue praying with me that God will be our guide and will be at the center of our efforts. Let us be open to God's miracles as we remember that if we do all that we can do, God will do what we can't do. Virginia

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR OUR THANKS FOR GIVING CELEBRATION

Sunday evening, September 29 will be a very special evening. Plan now to bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish to go with our Turkey (or Ham for those who don't like Turkey.) We will eat an awesome meal together. We will hear the report of total pledges turned in for our Building for Life and Spiritual Growth Emphasis. Then we will be entertained by Sunday School or other groups as they share their gifts of "Talent." You won't want to miss out as we come together for Fun, Food, Fellowship - and Laughter!



Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers September 15

Visitors Center & Coffee-Up Rising Young Adults
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
Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids
Child. Church-11:00 a.m.-Debbie Schmidt & Amy Miller
Counters-Sondra Bogert & Dick Ford

Sunday Volunteers September 22

Visitors Center & Coffee-Up Rising Young Adults
Head Usher-8:30 a.m.-Frank Johnston
Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
Young Disciples Lesson-8:30 a.m.-Janet Parker
Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Janet Parker
Children's Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids
Child. Church-11 a.m.-Susie Honeycutt & Family
Counters-Sheree Buttler & Jami Warkentin

Please Keep In Prayer

PRAYER LIST

Ruth Weaver, Donna Woodruff, Keith Dickerson, Destinee Tackett, Sylvia Johnson, Clinton Wilson, Glen Almy, Martha Scudder, Virginia Vice, Margaret Pyeatt, Theresa Rosales, Mary Lea Forsythe, Marilyn Peil, Elsie Jones

Acknowledgements

We Offer Our Prayers & Sympathy to the families & friends of...

Arthur Edwards, Jr, father of Kristin Johnston and brother to Diana Pond and Nancy Vest. Arthur passed away on Sunday, September 8th. He was a member of this church since 1951 and leaves behind many friends and memories. His services will be Thursday, September 12 at 11:00 a.m.

Violet Krause passed away on Sunday, September 8th. She is an "adopted granddaughter" of Carrol Hamner who has been by her family's side for so many years. Carrol along with Violet's parents made her short life very meaningful!

Thank You!

I would like to thank the Helping Hands crew who came to my house and painted my bedroom and weeded my flower garden. You were and continue to be such a blessing.

Morene Baker

Thank You!

To Our Methodist Prayer Warriors—"Thank You". This past week Glenn Almy's doctor at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston told him he is officially "Cancer Free"! We are praising the Doctors, the Lord and all of our churches that lifted up so many prayers on his behalf.

Eldin Fisher and Family

Thank You!

Dear Friends, Please allow me to use the church newsletter to thank you for the many cards concerning the loss of my brother, Larry Dean Fisher. He grew up in this church and was very active through High School. Your prayers of concern were a blessing to me and I know they were appreciated by him. He lived 73 years and had a very successful life as son, husband and father, and teacher (25 years as Director of Training for the state of Oklahoma.)

Thank you so very much—Connie Neil Fisher & Family

Crumbs From The Cracker

News:

the Awakening Vision:

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

Tulsa District Kickball Tournament:

Hey students!!! Looking for a way **to show your awesome skills in Kickball?** We have got an event for you!!! On **September 22nd we will be playing in a Kickball tournament** that supports the **Happy Children’s Home in China**. The tournament will **cost \$10 per person**. Make mini teams of 3 with your friends or just come and sign up and we will put you on a team!

Helping Hands:

Students, don’t miss the chance to come and **serve your community and church** on a **local mission project this coming Saturday!!!** Join us in the fellowship **hall at 7:30am on September 14th**! Come ready to serve! We will share a light breakfast beforehand. We will be done at 12pm. Hope you can join us!

See you at the pole:

We are excited to inform you all that we will be **hosting the *Saw You At The Pole* Event this year!!!!** On **September 25th @ 6pm** we will kick off the night with some **ultimate Frisbee and an indoor dance party** to lead us **into worship @ 7pm**. We will be **giving away 4 Lucky Tickets to the Thunder Game** in Tulsa on **October 17th**! You don’t want to miss this event! We will also be meeting at every flagpole in Sand Springs and Sapulpa to cover our schools with prayer the morning of! Be at your flag pole and pray for God to work through you & your school this year!

Upcoming Youth Series:

We have some exciting things going to happen in a couple of weeks within the youth ministry at SSUMC **“The Awakening”**. On **September 11th** we are going to **be launching a 4 week series** based on **“Mentor” relationships** with fellow **brothers & sisters in Christ**. The series is called **“Mini-Me”**. During this **4-week series** we are going to be looking at **“Mentor” relationships in the Bible** and seeing how they apply to us as Christians in the local church. **This is an exciting series for the future of our youth and the future of our church!**



Upcoming Dates:

September 11th - Mini-Me Series Starts @ 6:30pm @ FLC

September 19th - Future Mentor Meeting @ 7pm In The Narthex

September 19th - Volunteer Mentor Info Meeting 7pm In Parlor

September 22nd - Tulsa District Kickball Tourney @ St Stephens UMC @ 3:30pm-7:30pm

September 25th - See You At The Pole @ Family Life Center 6:00pm (Pre-worship fun) 7pm (Worship)

Kidzone

Two weeks ago we saw one of our children put that Sunday’s Young Disciple lesson into action. The lesson was about serving and putting others before ourselves. Spencer Mason took that to heart! He offered to serve snacks during children’s church to all the children and served himself last. Way to be a servant, Spencer!



The children are studying lessons from Philippians and other writings of Paul. They’ve learned about Paul and Silas in prison and this coming week will learn about Lydia.

Kids, if we haven’t seen you in a while we hope you’ll join us soon. We miss you when you aren’t here.

See you Sunday!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FLC-Family Life Center

Wednesday, September 11

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

Thursday, September 12

No Needlers this week
6:30 p.m.-FLC in use
7:00 p.m.-Stewardship Meeting

Friday, September 13

No activities

Saturday, September 14

7:30 a.m.-Helping Hands meet in F. Hall

Sunday, September 15

9:00 a.m.-Sunday School
10:115 a.m.-Worship
2:30 p.m.-Council On Ministries-Parlor
4:00 p.m.-Church Council-Parlor

Monday, September 16

10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
10:00 a.m.-Visual Disability Support Group
7:00 p.m.-Bible Study-F. Hall
7:00 p.m.-Boy Scouts-FLC

Tuesday, September 17

6:30 p.m.-FLC in use
7:00 p.m.-Praise Team
7:00 p.m.-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, September 18

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

Thursday, September 19

FLC in use
7:00 p.m.-Youth Mentor Meeting

Sand Springs UMC
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Sand Springs, OK 74063
918-245-5955 Fax-918-245-2801
Family Life Center: 918-245-3725
www.SandSpringsumc.org

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