

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



Jesus said to Thomas, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." (John 20:29)

Word From the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

We recently completed a series discussing *"The Seven Last Words of Christ."* We sought to better understand what Jesus was saying from the cross in his last hours of life and what message we might take from those words. This was to prepare us to once again celebrate the glorious resurrection of Jesus on Easter. So, we did; we had a wonderful Holy Week with worship on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday that reminded us of the sacrifice. Then we gathered at sunrise on Sunday morning to stand in awe again at the idea of the empty tomb. Finally, we had two wonderful worship services in our sanctuary that added drama to the morning and encouraged us to smile with the release of butterflies in the sanctuary. *Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed, alleluia!*

All those festivities are what we expect each spring when Easter rolls around. Our expectations have become traditions and traditions sometimes become routine and less noticed. We may even forget why we do certain things at particular times of the year. Most importantly, we may forget the significance of the original events that we remember. I could go on, but I think you get the point here: we need to be careful not to rarefy our traditions, letting them become so routine that they no longer matter as important parts of our faith journey. If we allow the major celebrations of the church to lose their significance, the day-to-day routine of following Jesus hasn't got a chance.

So, what happens now that Easter is over? We slip back into our normal mode, the lilies wilt, the bright banners go back in the closet, and we wait for the next big celebration season – Pentecost on June 4th; one big day of fired-up music and exciting words about the birth of the church. Then we slip back to normal again and wait patiently for Advent to start in November. I must wonder how to keep the excitement going all year long instead of waiting for a few holidays to light the fire.

When Jesus spoke to Thomas in the passage above, he was foreshadowing what could be a danger of the growing Chris-

tian movement. As we get further and further away from the actual events, it gets harder to appreciate and understand them as meaningful to our lives. We tend to think of biblical stories as ancient history that have no bearing on our lives. We forget that these were real people whose experiences may be in a different context from ours, but whose lives actually mirror our own in many ways.

I understand how we might get to a point where it is harder to believe everything we read in the Bible; it's hard to imagine how Jesus has anything to do with us. We live in a world where technology is solving many of our problems and science is finding new ways to keep us healthy and alive. For the most part, our lives are good. It isn't hard to imagine that all these wonderful things would still be part of our lives whether we attend church or not. What does believing in God have to do with technology or scientific advances? I can live a perfectly wonderful life, enjoy this world to the full, and never profess belief in God. I can have everything I want right now and never go to church.

Maybe that is why Jesus told Thomas: *"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."* Those of us who are so far removed from the original stories and who still come to believe in Jesus Christ as God and Savior, are blessed beyond whatever this world has to offer. Maybe it is possible to enjoy the wonders of this world without having any relationship with Jesus. However, I believe that such a relationship would be shallow and unfulfilling. I think that it would be lonely and so much less than what is possible when we include God in our lives and receive the blessings that Jesus' life brings.

We owe our very lives to Jesus. That is what we emphasize on Easter Sunday. That is what the Gospel does for us. It lifts us out of our chains and slavery to sin and places us fully secure into the grasp of God's salvation. Jesus has won for us life forever because of His resurrection.

I need to hear that every single Sunday, to sing that every single Sunday, and to believe that every single day. I need a little Easter every Sunday and every day.

Pastor Don

Mission To Stitch

We are meeting in the parlor Wednesday, April 19th at 1:30 p.m. We will hand out yarn from the donation we received so you can continue to work on your projects. Hope to see you all there.

and price items that morning. Let Karen Wilder know if you can work on Saturday. I think there are slots open in the afternoon.

Mission to Stitch will meet on April 19 at 1:30 pm in the Parlor.

Flowers for Memorial Day... We still need volunteers to wash plastic vases. Check with Trish House to get some to wash at home. God bless you one and all!



UMW

Don't forget, the Herbal Affair is this Saturday, April 22. Set-up begins at 7:00am but the Herbal

Affair does not actually begin until 9:00am but we always have early shoppers. Clean-up must be completed by 5:00pm. We've got plenty of people to help with set-up but if you can help take down the tents and take any leftover goodies to the church, I would appreciate it. We will be making cinnamon rolls on Thursday at the Family Life Center and if you would like to help weigh and package, that should start by 10am or so. Please have all other goodies to the Family Life Center by 9:00am on Friday so they can be packaged, labeled, weighed and priced. Be sure to let Tracey know if you're making something new this year so she can make labels. Thanks in advance for your participation. Karen



Hey Kids!

What a great time we had yesterday as we celebrated Easter together. We ate lots of breakfast burritos and other things. It was great fun to welcome back and visit with our "Kidzone alumni".

Be sure and come next Sunday as we begin another "Cave Quest" lesson on how Jesus gives us power. Have a great week and remember to share the love of Jesus with others. Ms. Debbie and Ms. Marty



The tradition continues with a family breakfast on Easter morning.

Jayce showing his goofy side! Looks like everyone agrees that Paislee looks better in a Easter bonnet!



UMW News

Circle April Schedule:

Faith Circle – April 27th, 6:30 pm in the Parlor. Norma Jones is in charge.

Priscilla Circle – April 25, 6:30 pm at Sharon Schuermann's

home. Kay Woodward is co-hostess, Becky Barnes has the program. This circle does not meet in May so don't miss this one!

Ruth-Esther Circle— April 27, 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Wava Burt has the program, Joyce McFall has the devotion and Barbara Fisher is hostess.

Herbal Affair is April 22. Have your baked goods to the FLC on the 21st by 9:00. Please come and help weigh

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers—April 23

Visitors Center & Coffee—TNT

Head Usher-8:30-Amanda Honeycutt

Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David

Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids

Teaching: Jami Warkentin

Counters-Bob Barnes & Jami Warkentin

Sunday Volunteers—April 30

Visitors Center & Coffee-TNT

Head Usher-8:30-Amanda Honeycutt

Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David

Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids

Teaching: Jami Warkentin

Counters-Janie Moore & Kent Warkentin

In case you were wondering...

There are still UMW Blue Cookbooks available. Here is a sample of a yummy recipe from Leta Brehm.

Leta & Leonard moved a while back ago to
6800 S. Granite Ave. #338—Tulsa—74136.

Drop them a line anytime!

Easy Italian Hamburger

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|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 lb lean ground beef | 1 tsp. salt |
| 2 T. water | 1 c. spaghetti, uncooked |
| 1/2 c. onion-chopped | 1/2 c. cheese, grated |
| 2 c. canned tomatoes | |

Put water into a heavy skillet which has a tight-fitting lid. Bring water to a boil; add ground meat. Cook until meat turns gray, stirring often. Sprinkle the chopped onion over the meat, then the uncooked spaghetti and salt. Pour tomatoes over all; place lid on skillet and turn flame to very low (may place in a 325° oven) for 45 minutes. Stir well; place in a serving dish and sprinkle with grated cheese.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday—8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Closed 1:40 to 2:40 p.m. (temporarily)

Please remember, push the door bell button before using your key. The front door is unlocked with the key but magnet locked for us to buzz you in. If you use your key, you will not be able to get in as it will actually lock the door. If no one clicks you in, go ahead and use your key.

Please Keep In Prayer



Please remember these in your prayers:

Martha Scudder, Linda Tabberer, Charlene Reeves, Bert Woodward, Ron Hay, Elsie Jones, Sue Shaw, Bob & Cathy Hula, BW Proft, Bill & Clare Caldwell, Ruth Weaver, Jack & Jewell Brown, Pauline Hanigar, Barbara McClintock, Angy Krebs-Warden, Montie Box, Albert Kahl's mom & sister in law, John & Sylvia Johnson

If someone needs to be added to the prayer list or someone was taken off too soon, please contact Tracey in the front office so the prayer list can be updated.



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| Here are your | July 24 |
| 2017 Newsletter | August 7 |
| weeks. Please | August 21 |
| remember-articles are | September 4? |
| due by 11 a.m. on this | September 18 |
| date. Please, mark | October 2 |
| your calendars. | October 16 |
| May 1 | October 30 |
| May 15 | November 13 |
| May 29 ? | November 27 |
| June 12 | December 11 |
| June 26 | January 8, 2018 |
| July 10 | |



Here is some of your 2017 Youth Dinner Schedule

April 19-CIA/Pathfinders
April 26-Faith Circle
May 3-TNT
May 10-Ruth Esther Circle
May 17-Seniors In Action
May 24-Priscilla Circle
May 31-Noah/Searchers

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

Monday, April 17

Offices Closed

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-FLC

Tuesday, April 18

6:00pm-Cub Scouts-FLC

7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, April 19

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café

1:30pm-Mission to Stitch-Parlor

5:45pm-Y4Y

6:30pm-The Awakening—Youth

7:00pm-Praise Team Practice

Thursday, April 20

8:00am-UMW Baking Cinnamon Rolls-FLC

*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

Friday, April 21

9:00am-Baked Goods due at FLC

10:00am-UMW prep for Herbal Affair-FLC

Saturday, April 22

Herbal Affair-Downtown Sand Springs

Come support the UMW Pick up a snack at the Bake Sale!

Sunday, April 23

8:30am-Contemporary Worship

9:45am-Communion Service

10:00am-Sunday School

11:00am-Traditional Worship

1:30pm-Finance Committee Meeting

2:30pm-Church Council Committee Meeting

Monday, April 24

9:30am-UMW in FLC Kitchen

5:30pm-4th Monday Community Dinner-F. Hall

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-Family Life Center

Tuesday, April 25

6:00pm-Cub Scouts-FLC

6:30pm-Praise Team Rehearsal

7:00pm-Priscilla Circle-Sharon S.

7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, April 26

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café

5:45pm-Y4Y

6:30pm-The Awakening—Youth

7:00pm-Chancel Choir Rehearsal

FLC-Family Life Center

**-Not sponsored by
SSUMC but welcome*

*For more calendar
information, call the
office at 918-245-5955.*

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

UMW Circles

Priscilla Circle

7:00 pm-April 25

Sharon S.

Ruth Esther Circle

1:00pm-April 27

F. Hall

Faith Circle

6:30pm-April 27

Parlor