

# The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



*“After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.” (Acts 1:3, NRSV)*

In this week’s issue of **Contact**, the Oklahoma UMC newspaper, Bishop Hayes talks about this time in the church year that sits between Easter and The Ascension. It is a season of 40 days when we focus on the various appearances of Jesus after his resurrection; it follows the last few weeks of Jesus’ ministry on earth and ends as we watch him rise out of sight into the heavens.

Bishop Hayes ponders the question of why there are 40 days in this period of time. “But why 40? Why not seven, or 12, or 30? Was there some unfinished work or incomplete training that required 40 days for Jesus to accomplish before he went to heaven? There are captivating reasons for that length of time that I want to know about in these weeks right after Easter. I think Jesus lingered with his disciples so there could be no doubt about his resurrection! If Jesus had appeared to them for only a day or two, some would have quickly doubted and rejected God’s triumph over death. They easily could have claimed, ‘*We were stressed and not in our right senses*’ or ‘*it was a figment of our imagination.*’ But Jesus lingered, proving beyond doubt that indeed he was alive! He was seen by Mary, Peter, James, two disciples headed to Emmaus, 10 disciples together,

and 11 disciples at another time. On one occasion 500 people were gathered, and they all saw him, that same Jesus they had seen die on a cross. ***It couldn’t be — but yet it was!***

We have the same 40 days to watch as Jesus reveals himself over and over again before finally returning to his heavenly throne. What will we do with this time? What difference will these 40 days make in the way we live our lives and make our way in the world around us? Will we take this time to learn as much as we can about the things that Jesus taught? That really does seem to be one of the key reasons for Jesus to hang around so long – he wanted to be sure that the disciples finally understood his mission and that they were ready to carry on without him.

Jesus said that the greatest commandments were to love God and to love one another. In the end, he sent the disciples out into the world to change it. Sounds a lot like our mission statement: ***Love God. Love others. Change the world.*** What we learn from Jesus’ life is that we should not be content with a status quo that helps the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. We must seek justice for those who cannot seek it for themselves; we must show mercy to those who are rejected by our culture; we must show God’s love to every human being – whether we agree with them or not. During these 40 days Jesus wants to reveal himself to us again and again; we must be open to the revelation.

*With eyes wide open,*  
**Pastor Don**



### KidZone

We had a great time in Kidzone recreating the days of God's creation. Join us next Sunday in PandaMania as we learn

about Elijah and how God listened to Elijah and how God will listen to you too. Kingdom Kids will sing *God's Not Dead* in both services. Have a great week and remember God is wild about you!



What a GREAT looking bunch of Kidzone Kids!

### PRISCILLA CIRCLE SPECIAL GUEST

Robyn Coney and her mom, Brooke, will be our special guests at Priscilla on Tuesday, May 26. Robyn will share some stories and personal experiences while in India this past year. All ladies who would like to hear Robyn and share in our fellowship are invited to come to the home of Betty Smith's at 607 W. 37th Place, at 7:00 p.m. For more information, you may call Virginia Baldrige at 918-245-9248, or Betty at 918-245-7140.



**A BIG thank you** to everyone who helped with the Herbal Affair this year -- from baking to packaging to setting up and taking down

and for your generous monetary donations. This year was a bit of a challenge but with prayer and determination, we had a very successful bake sale. The money raised at the Herbal Affair (and the Memorial

Day flower sales) goes to support several local missions including Circle of Care, Project Transformation, Methodist Manor, New Day Camp, Youth Missions, Restore Hope, Sand Springs Community Services, Volunteers in Mission, VBS and the Wesley Foundation to name a few. The women (and men) of our church are the best. Thank you! Karen

### Cathy's Notes

The music of the church has experienced many transformations- from Gregorian chants to Handel oratorios, from Southern gospel and African American spirituals to the



Top Ten on Christian radio. The kind of music a service uses has become a deciding factor in which a person or family chooses a service to attend. Our second service is considered the more traditional with the use of hymns for singing. The United Methodist Church has a rich history of hymns, beginning with its first authorized tune book (words only) in 1821, to our current hymnal published in 1989. The words of hymns, much like scripture, are written on the hearts of many Methodists, and are a source of comfort and praise.

Following the preface of our hymnal, which is interesting in itself, John Wesley has given the Directions for Singing. Some of them are quite humorous, as he instructs us to "Sing modestly. Do not bawl", and yet "Sing lustily and with a good courage."

I encourage you to read the preface and all of the directions, but Direction VII is included here as it is appropriate for whatever kind of worship music you prefer.

"Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to do this attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve here, and reward you when he cometh in the clouds of heaven."

Singing His Praise,  
Cathy Singing His Praise  
Cathy

## *Sunday Lists*

### Sunday Volunteers—April 24

Visitors Center & Coffee-TNT  
 Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David  
 Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids  
 Teaching: Jami Warkentin  
 Child. Church-11:00 a.m.-Katherine Reeves  
 Counters-Sheree Buttler & Jami Warkentin

### Sunday Volunteers—May 1

Visitors Center & Coffee-CIA/Pathfinders  
 Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David  
 Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids  
 Teaching: Jami Warkentin  
 Child. Church-11:00 a.m.-Lisa & Caleb Massey  
 Counters-Janie Moore & Kent Warkentin

## *Please Keep In Prayer*



*Martha Scudder, Don & JD  
 Baldridge, Bob & Cathy Hula, BW  
 Proft, Clare Caldwell, Darryl Muse,  
 Jack & Jewell Brown, Owen John-  
 ston, Ruth Weaver, Tristan  
 Schwartz, Delbert Sloan, Darin  
 Grayson, Mark, Jim McCormick,  
 Aaron, Pauline Hanigar, Barbara  
 McClintock, Kenny & Linda Rog-  
 ers, SSUMC & Unspoken Requests*

## *Acknowledgements*

### THANK YOU

Have you noticed a beautiful angel and three concrete benches placed in the FLC Prayer Garden and by the front doors? Have you ever wondered where they came from? They were given by Gerrie Holladay in memory of her mother, Irene Stogsdale. What a beautiful way to add serenity to our prayer garden and a wonderful way to honor her mother. Thank you, Gerrie, for your thoughtfulness. They are being enjoyed by all who enter our Life Center.

## 8:30 a.m. Worship Songs –April 24

*Lord I Lift Your Name On High  
 The Only Name (Yours Will Be)  
 A New Hallelujah  
 At Your Name  
 Your Love Oh Lord*



### Here is some of your **2016 Youth Dinner Schedule**

4/20-TNT  
 4/27-Ruth Esther Circle  
 5/4-SIA  
 5/11-Priscilla Circle  
 5/18-Noah/Searchers  
 5/25-Harmony



Here are your **2016 Newsletter weeks. Please remember-articles are due by 11 a.m. on this date. Please, mark your calendars.**

July 25	April 18
August 8	May 2
August 22	May 16
September 5	May 30
September 19	June 13
October 3	June 27
October 17	July 11
October 31	
November 14	
November 28	
December 12	
January 9, 2017	

### Another Thank You...

SSUMC,  
 Thank you so much for your overwhelming support and encouragement of my ministry. Your prayers and gifts are greatly appreciated and I am so thankful for your partnership in the gospel!

Gratefully—Robyn Coney

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

### Tuesday, April 19

5:30pm-Cub Scouts-FLC  
7:00pm-Praise Team  
7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

### Wednesday, April 20

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café  
6:30pm-The Awakening Youth-FLC  
7:00pm-Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, April 21

\*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

### Friday, April 22

\*FLC is in use

### Saturday, April 23

\*FLC is in use

### Sunday, April 24

8:30am-Contemporary Worship  
9:45am-Communion Service  
10:00am-Sunday School  
11:00am-Traditional Worship

### Monday, April 25

5:30pm-Community Dinner-Fellowship Hall  
7:00pm-Boy Scouts-Family Life Center

### Tuesday, April 26

5:30pm-Cub Scouts-FLC  
7:00pm-Priscilla Circle-Home of Betty S.  
7:00pm-Praise Team Rehearsal  
7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

### Wednesday, April 27

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café  
6:30pm-The Awakening—Youth-FLC  
7:00pm-Chancel Choir

### Thursday, April 28

1:00pm-Ruth Esther Circle-F. Hall  
7:00pm-Faith Circle-Parlor  
\*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

### NOTE:

*FLC-Family Life Center*

*\*-Not sponsored by SSUMC but welcome*

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

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Family Life Center: 918-245-3725  
[www.SandSpringsumc.org](http://www.SandSpringsumc.org)

## Kids Sing Sunday, April 24th

This Sunday in the Contemporary service, Y4Y (Youth 4 Yahweh, our older kids & youth praise team) will be singing in first service.

They will lead the music and the adult praise team will back them up! It will be a great display of God's gifts! You also don't want to miss Kingdom Kids singing, "God's Not Dead" this Sunday. They will sing in first service and if you attend 2nd service, don't worry—Kingdom Kids are singing the prelude. Get here early and find your seat. They will start a little before 11 a.m. I think it is going to be a wonderful Sunday!!!

