

August 7, 2017

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer

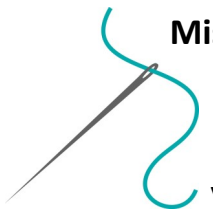


"Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter." (Isaiah 5:20, NIV)

"Values are faithfully applied to the facts before us, while ideology overrides whatever facts call theory into question." (Anonymous) Isaiah warns the Israelites against unethical behavior. Persons who twist their situation to their own advantage are those who mistake ideology for values. The other quote above attempts to show the difference between real values and ideologies. I am reminded of the Church that rejected the teachings of Galileo when they threatened the established theories of the Church. Clearly the Church was mistaken, but their ideology won out over the facts presented. Galileo's fate might have been different if the Church had sought to discern the value of God's Creation rather than the self-serving ideology the Church had created. I am deeply troubled by the mean spirit that seems so prevalent in our culture. It doesn't seem to make much difference if we are talking politics or sports; religion or patriotism; poverty or war; the conversations have taken a turn for the mean-spirited and intolerant. We seem to be far less interested in another's point of view than we are in being right and winning every argument. We seem much less concerned about what is good for the community or the country than we are concerned about what's good for me and what makes me happy. We are more about winning at all cost than we are about playing fair and letting the best person win the day. We are, in general, a mean and self-centered bunch of people in today's world. Isaiah wrote during a time when the people believed that God was active in their everyday life; God is still active today in our lives. Isaiah wrote to people in the midst of trouble and unrest in the political and social circumstances in which they lived. We continue to face difficult political and social circumstances in our time. Isaiah warned

that the trouble the people faced was a symptom of the troubled relationship they had with God. I believe we can see the same warning today. The unrest in our political and social environments is a symptom of the trouble in our relationship with God. We have stopped listening to the lessons God is teaching and we pay too much attention to the lessons our culture shoves down our throats. This, I believe, is the real difference between values and ideology. God offers us a set of values that, if applied to our lives, will lead us to a close personal relationship with God and ultimately to our eternal life in God's presence. Ideology, on the other hand, leads down a path to destruction and eternal separation from God. Being in a right relationship with God means being in right relationships with other human beings and with ourselves. It means naming good as good and evil as evil. It means leaving the darkness to walk in the light. It means faithfully applying our true moral values to every decision we make and really trying to discern what God wants us to do in every situation we face. It means rejecting extreme ideologies that cause us to ignore the opinions of others and demonize those who disagree with us. It means recognizing that we do not have all the answers and we need the help of our fellow human beings and God. It means admitting that we frequently make mistakes, act with bad judgment, and always need the grace and mercy of God to pick us up when we fail. Ideologies cause us to forget that the answer to almost every question lies somewhere in the middle, between the two extremes. Finding ways to live with one another in the midst of our sin and need for forgiveness is what binds us together as children of God and helps us to build God's kingdom. Values lead us to love one another, care for one another, and lift one another up when we fall. Values lead us to follow the path Jesus blazed for us. Values help us to realize that, even though we fall short of the glory of God, God values all of us as His good creation. Amen.

God bless,
Pastor Don



Mission To Stitch

If you have told me you would do something for Mission to Stitch, please contact me and let me know if you are still interested—[918-865-3645](tel:918-865-3645).

At the next meeting I will be teaching a class on making burial gowns. So please bring some worsted weight yarn and a size J hook. I will begin at 1:30 on August 16, 2017. Thank you for all your help. Cynthia Alex



Join Me For Lunch

Join us for "Lunch After Worship" on the 2nd Sunday of every month, **beginning August**

13th. We will be serving a delicious meal in our Fellowship Hall

after both worship services. Your financial donation to this meal will be used to help pay our Conference Apportionments. This is a great opportunity to help fund our mission, enjoy a good home-cooked meal, and spend time in fellowship with church members. Mark your calendar now!



UMW News

Ladies, it is time for our fall gathering and potluck Mark your calendars for August 10th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All Circle mem-

bers and ladies of the Church are invited to this gathering. Teens are welcome too. Cynthia and Tim Alex will be sharing what they learned at Mission U at OCU this summer. I understand that the Methodist Missionary Conferences and Covenant Community were real eye openers and very informative. Bring a dish to share and be ready for a great time! See you on the 10th.



Here are your	September 4?
2017 Newsletter	September 18
weeks. Please	October 2
remember-articles are	October 16
due by 11 a.m. on this	October 30
date. Please, mark	November 13
your calendars.	November 27
August 7	December 11
August 21	January 8, 2018



Hey Kids

Hope you had a good week-we missed you on Sunday. Be sure and come this Sunday as we finish our sto-

ry on the "Midnight Knocker"-the Bible story about the man who needed bread for his visitors. It was late at night but he went to his neighbor for some bread. The good neighbor gave the man what he asked for because the man did not give up. The man had to knock several times before he got the bread. Jesus encourages us to be brave and don't give up and to "Get Praying." Have a great week!
Miss Debbie and Miss Marty



Here is some of your 2017 Youth Dinner Schedule

July 26-Priscilla Circle
August 2-NO YOUTH
August 9-Noah/Searchers
August 16-Youth
August 23-CIA/Pathfinders
August 30-Faith Circle
September 6-TNT
September 13-Ruth Esther Circle
September 20-Seniors In Action
September 27-Priscilla Circle
October 4-Noah/Searchers
October 11-Youth
October 18-CIA/Pathfinders
October 25-Faith Circle

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers—August 13

Visitors Center & Coffee: TNT
Head Usher-8:30am: Amanda Honeycutt
Head Usher-11:00am: Eddy David
Child. Church: 8:30am: Kingdom Kids
Teaching: Jami Warkentin
Children's Church: Marty David
Counters: Janie Moore & Kent Warkentin

Sunday Volunteers—August 20

Visitors Center & Coffee: TNT
Head Usher-8:30am: Amanda Honeycutt
Head Usher-11:00am: Eddy David
Child. Church-8:30am: Kingdom Kids
Teaching: Jami Warkentin
Children's Church: Amy Miller
Counters: Diana Pond & Jack Vest



Volunteer Opportunity

We are in need of someone to fill in on the e-mail prayer chain when I am on vacation. No experience necessary! Must have e-mail and must check it daily.

We also need someone to do the e-mail prayer chain every weekend. All you have to do is send e-mail prayer chains as they come in to your inbox or are called in to you.

See me (Tracey) if you are interested or call,
918-245-5955

Thanks!
Tracey

Please Keep In Prayer



Please remember these in your prayers:

*Martha Scudder, Linda Tabberer,
Charlene Reeves, Montie Box, Greta
Green, Bob & Cathy Hula, Max
Schuermann, David Allen, Elsie Jones,
Sue & Jim Shaw, BW Proft, Albert
Kahl's mom & sister in law, John &
Sylvia Johnson, Bill & Clare Caldwell,
Jack & Jewell Brown, Barbara McClintock, Angy Krebs-
Warden, Ron Hay, Ruth Weaver, Susan Edwards*

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.



**Thank you, church family, for the
outpouring of prayers, cards, food and
expressions of condolences
for the loss of my husband Bill.**

**It was so appreciated by
Lindsay, Paige and I.
God bless you all.**

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday—8:00 a.m.-4:00p.m.
Lunch—12-1 p.m.

Please remember, push the door bell button before using
your key. The front door is unlocked with the key but mag-
net 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.



REAL DISCIPLESHIP SURVEY

All churches in the Oklahoma Annual Conference now have access to the Real Discipleship Survey online. This system, designed by Phil Maynard, offers a way for churches to survey their maturity on six dimensions of the discipleship journey. This service is offered to all OKUMC churches free of charge.

The survey measures: a life of worship, a life of hospitality, a life open to Jesus, a life of obeying Jesus, a life of service, and a life of generosity.

Upon taking the survey, participants discover if they are exploring, beginning, growing, or maturing in each of those categories.

- 1.) Sign Up: Visit: <http://discipleshipsurvey.com/member.html> and enter our conference code: **PEACEJOY**
- 2.) Create Account: In order to take the Real Discipleship Survey online you will need to enter an email address and create a secure password. Choose your District (COUNCIL OAK) and your church from the dropdown lists, fill out the email and password fields and then click the blue “Sign Up” button. Use the click here link on the next screen to continue. You can also access the survey by visiting <http://discipleshipsurvey.com/memberlogin.html> after creating your account.
- 3.) Log In: Enter the password and email address you provided in step 2 in order to log in.
- 4.) Choose Your Groups: We have chosen to measure the survey statistics both at the churchwide level and by individual church groups. Use the blue “Edit Profile” button to select the group(s) to which you belong. (ie: Church Council, Teachers/Leaders, etc.) Simply choose YES for those groups to which you belong.
- 5.) Take Survey: Take the Real Discipleship Survey by clicking the blue “Take Survey” button and then selecting the one box of each color that fits you best. After completing the survey use the blue “Submit Survey” button. Your results will be displayed for you at that time. You may also select to view additional information or have your results sent to your email account. You may use <http://discipleshipsurvey.com/memberlogin.html> to log in and view your results at any time. You will also be able to retake the survey at a later date in order to measure changes in your discipleship over time.

Thank you so much for participating. If you know someone who may need help completing this survey, please reach out to help them or contact the Church Office for assistance.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

Monday, August 7-Newsletter

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-FLC

Tuesday, August 8

7:00pm-Praise Team Practice

7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, August 9

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café

5:45pm-Y4Y

6:30pm-The Awakening—Youth

7:00pm-Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, August 10

6:00pm-UMW Unit Meeting/Potluck-F. Hall

*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

Friday, August 11

No Activities

Saturday, August 12

No Activities

Sunday, August 13

8:30am-Contemporary Worship

9:30am-Lunch After Worship

9:45am-Communion Service

10:00am-Sunday School

11:00am-Traditional Worship

12:00pm-Lunch After Worship

Monday, August 14

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-Family Life Center

Tuesday, August 15

7:00pm-Praise Team

7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, August 16

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café

5:45pm-Y4Y

6:30pm-Youth-FLC

7:00pm-Chancel Choir

*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
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