

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



"Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry." (Luke 4:1-2)

Dear Friends in Christ,

Ash Wednesday, March 1st marks the beginning of the forty-day period known as Lent. The traditions surrounding the Lenten Season have evolved slowly over the centuries since the time of the first Christians. In the early Church, baptism and penance were key Lenten themes. During Lent, candidates prepared for Easter baptism and people did public penance for serious sins. In later years, Lent became a time of private penance, seeking forgiveness and reconciliation with God. During the Middle Ages, strict 40-day fasts were obligatory for all Christians. Gradually, these practices became less rigid. Today, the emphasis has shifted from long periods of fasting to prayer, meditation, and reflection on the meaning of Easter. The focus of Lent continues to be **repentance** and **reconciliation**.

Last month placed a challenge before our church for 2017; that challenge is a renewed **Call to Prayer**. Our observance of Lent is one step toward meeting that challenge. Prayer is communication with God and it is a two-way conversation. Begin this Lent with a careful **self-examination**. Set aside time to pray and meditate on God's word; examine and evaluate your life as a Christian. Spiritual renewal is only possible if you are willing to repent of your sins and change your life for God. Read 2 Corinthians 5:20; Paul tells us that achieving inner change is the responsibility of every Christian and of the Church. Seek reconciliation with God through prayer and scripture study.

Thanks to the efforts of **Virginia Baldridge**, our Prayer Room is once again available for you to use for prayer, meditation, or study. The room is located at the end of the hallway on the east side of the Sanctuary.

Consider fasting during Lent. For Christians, fasting has a special meaning: it recalls the time Christ suffered and died to redeem humanity. *"The days will come when the bride-*

groom is taken away from them, and they will fast." (Matthew 9:15) Fasting can be a way to cleanse the body and mind; it imposes self-discipline; it encourages meditation and reflection. Give up one big meal a week and donate the value of that meal to Restore Hope. Choose simpler, healthier meals. Do without between-meal snacks. Abstain from your favorite food or drink during Lent. There are many options to consider...The important thing is to think of something that will help you focus on Christ's sacrifice and on your responsibility as a Christian disciple and witness. You should also think of any self-denial as a **positive act**. Don't think of how you are putting yourself out to give something up for Lent. Rather, think of what you are accomplishing in terms of strengthening your spirit, giving of yourself to others, or becoming a more faithful disciple.

Self-denial might also include missing your favorite television program or sporting event. This type of re-committing our time enables us to spend more time in prayer and reflection, more time helping people in need, more time visiting shut-ins or nursing home residents, or more time changing old behavior patterns. Consider Lent an opportunity for discipleship. *"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."* (Matthew 16:24)

Finally, make plans to participate fully in the life of our church during Lent. We will have a special **worship service at 6:30 p.m. on Ash Wednesday** to begin our Lenten observance. Each Sunday during Lent we will focus on Christ's final words from the cross. During Holy Week, April 10-16, we will have special services marking Holy Thursday, and Good Friday. Our Easter celebration will begin with Sunrise Service at 7:00a.m., preceded by breakfast at the Family Life Center; then our regular services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Lent is a time for renewal and preparation. What we do during Lent will determine how well we experience the true joy of Easter. This is the season that truly brings our faith to life – the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen! Alleluia!
Pastor Don



UMW NEWS

Upcoming Activities for February & March...

Circle News

Faith Circle – February 23rd, 6:30 pm in the Parlor. Sondra Allen is Hostess.

Priscilla Circle – Feb. 28th at Norma Jones's House, Trish House co-host, Sharon Schuermann-Program.

Ruth Esther Circle – February 23rd, in FH at 1:00. Barbara Fisher- Hostess, Devotion is Wava Burt and Program is Mary Beth Arnold-UMCOR.

☛ March 2- UMW Executive Meeting – 5:30 in CIA/Pathfinders Classroom

☛ March 4 – CWU at Boston Ave. UMC- 9:30 followed by Leadership Training with Presidents and Membership at Centenary UMC at noon. Bring your own lunch.

☛ March 6 – Day at the Legislature – OKC

☛ March 11 – UMW Unit Meeting – 9:30 in the FH. Speaker –Brenda Gill with Pearl's Hope. Each Circle brings egg casserole, fruit, bread. Individuals bring items for Client's of Pearl's Hope. Contact Leesa Hairgrove for more information.

Mission Stitch needs ladies who can sew and embroider. Contact Cynthia Alex or Judy Bullard.



Cathy's Notes,

It's cantata time again and we are working on the Easter cantata, "What Love Is This?" It focuses on Jesus' amazing and powerful love throughout the Holy Week and how it continues to transform lives.

If you would like to join us for the Good Friday presentation, rehearsals on the cantata begin around 8 PM on Wednesday nights. Nick Nerren will be playing the prelude on our newly repaired organ on March 12. You won't want to miss his performance.

The Kingdom Kids are currently working on a "cool" piece called "Cool Under Fire," about Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. We rehearse every Sunday morning at 9 am.

As always, it is a blessing to work with such dedicated and talented choir and musicians which with God has blessed this church.

Singing His Praise, Cathy Gifford

Mission to Stitch

February: Red Caps with no Poms.

These hats are for LITTLE HATS, BIG HEARTS by the American Heart Association.

Next meeting is March 15-1:30 p.m.-Parlor
See Judy Bullard or Cynthia Alex for more info.



KIDZONE

Greetings from "Kidzone Cave Quest"

We continued our "Cave Quest" adventures as we

learned that Jesus gives us courage. We talked about the Bible story of Jesus and Peter walking on the water. As long as Peter kept his eyes on Jesus, he could walk on the water. When he took his eyes off of Jesus, he began to sink. Peter called out to Jesus and Jesus reached out and caught Peter. Remember Jesus is always with us-He gives us courage-Follow Him!!

Be sure to come next Sunday as we finish our story on Jesus and Peter. Come see what treasure you will find in the sand in our cave. Have a great week!

Miss Debbie and Miss Marty

Mark Your Calendar...

A Baby Shower has been planned for Sara Riker (Schmidt)

Saturday, February 25th
from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Church Narthex.

They are registered at
Target & Babies R Us.

Their nursery theme is rustic,
outdoors, camping, red & black plaid,
lumberjack...
(It's a Boy!)

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers—February 26

Visitors Center & Coffee-Harmony
 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-Diana Pond & Jack Vest
 Youth Dinner-2/22—TNT

Sunday Volunteers—March 5

Visitors Center & Coffee-Discovery
 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-Betty or Howard Smith & Karen Wilder
 Youth Dinner 3/1—Ash Wednesday

February Coffee: Harmony Class

March Coffee-Discovery Class

April Coffee: TNT

Please Keep In Prayer

Please remember these in your prayers:



Martha Scudder, Linda Tabberer, Charlene Reeves, Elsie Jones, Sue Shaw, Bob & Cathy Hula, BW Proft, Bill & Clare Caldwell, Delbert Sloan, Ruth Weaver, Jack & Jewell Brown, Owen Johnston, Tristan Schwartz, Darryl Muse, Mark Hill, Pauline Hanigar, Ruth Weaver, Glenda Paul-Reyna, Barbara McClintock, Angy Krebs-Warden, Montie Box, Albert Kahl's mom & sister in law, Michelle Nelson, Sylvia Johnson, Eldin & Barb's great grandson, Jerry Lund, Linda Lund, Claire LaPorte, SSUMC & Unspoken



Here are your
2017 Newsletter
weeks. Please
remember-articles are
due by 11 a.m. on this
date. Please, mark
your calendars.

June 12	June 26
July 10	July 24
August 7	August 21
September 4?	September 18
October 2	October 16
October 30	November 13
November 27	December 11
January 8, 2018	

February 20
 March 6
 March 20
 April 3
 April 17
 May 1
 May 15
 May 29 ?



Here is some of your
2017 Youth Dinner Schedule

February 22-TNT
 March 1-Ash Wednesday-No Dinner
 March 8-Ruth Esther Circle
 March 15-Spring Break-No Dinner
 March 22-Seniors In Action
 March 29-Priscilla Circle
 April 5-Noah/Searchers
 April 12-Harmony
 April 19-CIA/Pathfinders
 April 26-Faith Circle

A Facility Usage Form must be filled out to use the Fellowship Hall or the Family Life Center. Call the office for a copy of the form.

4th Monday Community Dinner

Monday, February 27

5:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday—8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Closed 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. for Lunch

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

Monday, February 20

Offices Closed-President's Day
7:00pm-Boy Scouts-FLC

Tuesday, February 21

5:45pm-Y4Y
6:00pm-Cub Scouts-FLC
6:30pm-Praise Team
7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, February 22

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

Thursday, February 23

10:00am-Parlor in use
1:00pm-Ruth Esther Circle-F. Hall
6:30pm-Faith Circle-Parlor
*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

Friday, February 24

6:00pm-Boy Scout Overnight Training-FLC

Saturday, February 25

12:00pm-Boy Scouts Training Ends-FLC

Sunday, February 26

8:30am-Contemporary Worship
9:45am-Communion Service
10:00am-Sunday School
11:00am-Traditional Worship
1-5pm-FLC in use

Monday, February 27

5:30pm-4th Monday Community Dinner-F. Hall
7:00pm-Boy Scouts-Family Life Center

Tuesday, February 28

5:45pm-Y4Y-Sanctuary
6:00pm-Cub Scouts-FLC
7:00pm-Praise Team Rehearsal
7:00pm-Priscilla Circle-Norma J.
7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs
7:00pm-Chancel Choir
6:30pm-Ash Wednesday Service

*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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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



March 7-Sand Springs UMC

March 14-St. Andrew Lutheran

March 21-Dillon Chapel at Woodland Memorial Park

March 28-First Presbyterian Church

April 4-St. Patrick's Catholic Church

April 11-St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Attention all United Methodist Women!!

Please join us on Saturday, March 11th, at 9:30 a.m. in our fellowship hall for a delicious brunch. Plan on bringing something yummy to share. This brunch is open to all women in our church --- you do not have to be a member of a UMW circle to join us! Guest speaker this year will be Brenda Gill with Pearl's Hope. Brenda will be talking about how Pearl's Hope gives women HOPE, changes their lives, and ultimately, our communities. We will be collecting laundry pods for Pearl's Hope, so please pick up a box to donate. Brenda says they will really appreciate it. If any questions contact your circle chair, or Leesa @ 918-519-4946 cell or home 918-241-4230. Hope to see you there!