

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



"For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve..." (Mark 10:45a, NRSV)

Dear friends in Christ,

As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to do as Jesus did; we are called to be of service in the name of God. I recently came across an article that I want to share with you. It may help us

decide if we are a thriving church and, if not, why not? Does our community know we are here? Do they care?

"If Your Church Closed Today"

by The Rev. Lovett Weems, Jr.

During hard times, churches can easily forget their purpose and heritage. Year-end budget drives, especially when the economy is down, can often convey unfortunate messages. The message that too often comes through indirectly - and sometimes fairly directly - is members are being asked "to do something for the church." What a strange message this is to communicate in churches of the Wesleyan tradition.

No one ever established a church as something to be served. Forgetting our original mission can easily happen under the pressure to survive. The message those who worship in our churches should hear is, "We exist to serve you - and to give you an opportunity together in the name of Christ to meet the needs of a hurting world."

Mission Integrity Audit

Churches conduct a financial audit each year. What if your church also conducted an annual mission audit to assess its faithfulness to the Wesleyan tradition of serving others? You only need to ask one question in this audit. I first learned it from a United Methodist pastor, the Rev. Don Haynes: **If your church closed today, who would miss it other than your members?**

Think about that for a moment. Make a list of the people and groups in your community outside your membership who would miss your church. What would they miss? Repeat the exercise a year later. Is the list longer or shorter?

Through the answer, we may discover clues about the

current state of our church. We may come to see some of the reasons for our strength or weakness as a faithful community of fruitful disciples.

Thriving Through Serving

A lesson for leadership in the Wesleyan tradition is, "If you want to thrive, serve." Despite shortcomings and limitations, the Wesleyan movement produced social reform and service of massive proportions. The spirit of revival sparked fires of change and service.

The late historian Albert Outler describes evangelism in the Wesleyan spirit as Wesley teaching his followers to be a "band of martyrs and servants," emptying themselves as servants, giving themselves freely for others. For the early Methodist movement, there was a close connection between what happened in the pew and what happened in the jails. What happened in the class meetings connected directly with what happened in the homes of the widows and orphans.

A Legacy of Serving

The Wesleyan movement began not for itself but for others. Thriving and serving were indeed linked. The growth of the Wesleyan enterprise is directly related to its identification with the needs of all God's children.

Is this happening today? Are people saying that because our church is in the community, there are no hungry people? Are people saying that because of our church's presence in the community, there is no bigotry or discrimination? Are they saying because we are in the community, there is no one homeless? Such questions continue to be the test for heirs of the Wesleyan spirit.

--The Rev. Lovett H. Weems Jr., author and distinguished professor of church leadership and director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C. His books include John Wesley's Message Today and Leadership in the Wesleyan Spirit, published by Abingdon Press.

With these thoughts and questions in mind, let us move forward seeking new and better ways to serve the people of God as the church - called to serve and not be served in the name of Jesus Christ.

*Still asking questions,
Pastor Don*



Recycle for Youth!!

If you have any aluminum cans to donate, my dad and I will be taking them to the recycling center as needed.

Please bag the cans and leave them near the dumpsters by the

fellowship hall door.

Proceeds will go to our youths ministry.

Thanks! Sophia Comer

Sapulpa Historical Museum Lori's Sweet Sensations-Lunch

Hey Seniors! Don't forget to let Max and Sharon know you are planning to go to the Sapulpa Historical Museum on Wednesday, February 15th. You will enjoy a museum tour along with a catered lunch from Lori's Sweet Sensations. The museum is free—but donations are always welcome. The lunch is \$11 per person.

Meet at the **Family Life Center** at 11 a.m. to car-pool.



UMW NEWS

Faith-February 23—
Thursday, 6:30 pm-Parlor-
Program - Sondra Allen
Priscilla- Feb. 28th ,
7:00 at Glenna Stock-
ards—Co-Hostess-Trish
House, Program Sharon

Schuermann

Ruth Esther- Feb. 23, 1:00 in FH—Hostess- Barbara
Fisher, Devotion-Wava Burt, Program- Judy Bullard

March 11 - Membership Brunch- be sure to discuss who is bringing what foods and let Leesa Hairgrove know. Brenda Gill from Pear's Hope is our speaker. Bring items for that Mission outreach.

Have a blessed month and share God's love with those around you.



It's Here!

This Sunday, 5 p.m.
at the Family Life
Center.

The **Golden Spoon**
will
be awarded to the
best pot of chili!

Bring chili, toppings, dessert, yourself...
Whatever you want to bring and ENJOY!!



KIDZONE—We had a great time in Kidzone yesterday as we created Valentine cards and picture frames for our shut-ins. This was our mission for February of

sharing God's love with others. Thanks to the Encounter class for their help. We continue our "Cave Quest" adventure . We are having great fun as we search in our sand pit each week. This week we discovered frogs in our sand. Have a great week and see you all next 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 12

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-Bob Barnes & Jami Warkentin
 Youth Dinner-2/8-CIA/Pathfinders

Sunday Volunteers—February 19

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-Janie Moore & Kent Warkentin
 Youth Dinner-2/15-Faith Circle

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, SSUMC & Unspoken Requests



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

February 20	June 12
March 6	June 26
March 20	July 10
April 3	July 24
April 17	August 7
May 1	August 21
May 15	September 4?
May 29 ?	September 18
	October 2
	October 16
	October 30
	November 13
	November 27
	December 11
	January 8, 2018



Here is some of your
2017 Youth Dinner Schedule

February 8-CIA/Pathfinders
 February 15-Faith Circle
 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

Offices are Closed-Monday, February 20
President's Day
 Newsletter will go out a day late-articles still due
 Monday, February 20 by 11 a.m.

Mission to Stitch

February: Red Caps with no Poms. These hats are for LITTLE HATS, BIG HEARTS by the American Heart Association.
 See Tracey for Pattern
 Next meeting is March 15-1:30 p.m.-Parlor
 See Judy Bullard or Cynthia Alex for more info.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

Monday, February 6

10:00am-District Mission Strategy Mtg.-FLC/Parlor
7:00pm-Boy Scouts-FLC

Tuesday, February 7

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

Wednesday, February 8

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

Thursday, February 9

*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

Friday, February 10

*4:00pm-Adventures In Learning-F. Hall

Saturday, February 11

No Activities

Sunday, February 12

8:30am-Contemporary Worship
9:45am-Communion Service
10:00am-Sunday School
11:00am-Traditional Worship
5:00pm-Annual Chili Cook-Off-FLC

Monday, February 13

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-Family Life Center

Tuesday, February 14

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

Wednesday, February 15

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café
11:00am-SIA Carpool to Sapulpa Historical Museum
6:30pm-The Awakening
7:00pm-Chancel Choir

Thursday, February 16

*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

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

