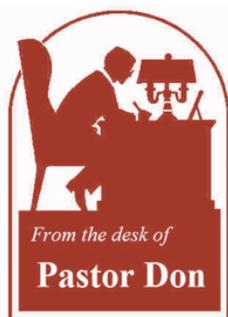


# The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



*"But when God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son in me..." (Galatians 1:15-16a)*

Dear friends in Christ,  
Last week I attended the Meeting of Orders of Elders and Deacons and the Fellowship of Local Pas-

tors. That's just a fancy way of saying that all the preachers got together to talk too much, eat too much, and listen to the Bishop. We do this twice each year to help maintain our connection and to learn from gifted speakers who come in to present on topics of interest.

The speaker at this particular gathering was Tom Albin, a United Methodist Elder from Oklahoma who is appointed to serve as Dean of the Upper Room Ministries Chapel in Nashville. Tom's topic for the day was prayer and he offered some wonderful suggestions on how we could enrich our prayer lives. Bishop Hayes also spoke to us in one of what will be many opportunities for him to "pass the mantle", much as Elijah did to Elisha, before his retirement in September.

There was a point during the day when Tom's message about prayer being less about us talking and more about listening to what God has to say, intersected with the Bishop's plan to leave room for God to lead him into retirement and they both seemed to echo Paul's words to the Galatians. **"...when it pleased God..."**

Today's entry in *My Utmost for His Highest* is titled: **"Leave Room for God"**. The fact that all of these things have come into alignment at the same time seems to be a testimony to the need for us to do just that – leave room for God to tell us what to do and what to say. It is a daunting task, but I believe it is one worth pursuing. Oswald Chambers says this: *"...we have to learn to make room for God – to give God 'elbow room.' We calculate and estimate, and say*

*that this and that will happen, and we forget to make room for God to come in as He chooses."*

For example, we are in the habit of praying as if we knew what we were doing. We should remember that the only thing the Disciples asked Jesus to teach them was how to pray. **"Lord, teach us to pray,"** should still be on our lips. We should realize that our words are never adequate and that the Spirit will give us prayers when we are quiet and listen for them. We need to leave room in our prayers for God to speak to us so that we might turn God's thoughts into our prayers.

As Bishop Hayes talked about getting ready for retirement he mentioned that many people have asked him what his plans are. After careful consideration he says that he is not making too many plans; he is leaving room in the margins for God to nudge him toward the things that God has planned for his retirement.

Oswald Chambers wants us to think about what might happen if we were to expect God to come in whatever way God choose to appear. If we are too calculating we may miss the element of surprise and miss the suddenness with which God may be pleased to get involved with us.

*"Keep your life so constant with God,"* Chambers says, *"that His surprising power may break out on the right hand and on the left. Always be in a state of expectancy, and see that you leave room for God to come in as He likes."*

My friends, I must confess that I am too often guilty of over-planning for what I think is right, failing to leave room for God to enter into the conversation and steer things toward His design. I suspect that many of you encounter the same issue from time to time. This year let us all do better at listening for God to tell us what to do and what to say and when to do both.

*Leaving room for God,  
Pastor Don*



## Cathy's Notes...

Can you believe it's time for the choir to begin rehearsing Easter music!? Easter is March 27th—in musical terms, that is about 10 rehearsals. This year's musical presentation is "Lamentations of

the Lamb," a Tenebrae Service for Good Friday, march 25th.

If you would like to sing with us, we will begin rehearsals January 27th. The choir will rehearse Sunday's anthems first, then from 8:00-8:30 we will work on the cantata. The choir and I would love to have any interested singers join us. Hope to see some new singers this week!

Singing His Praise,  
Cathy



## Hey Kids!

We continue our lessons on Paul and how he shared the love of Jesus.

Next week the kids will learn of the letters Paul wrote to the early churches. These letters were written to encourage them and to share the

love of Jesus with others.

## Upcoming Events

On March 6th we will do Easter Baskets for Sand Springs Community Services.

Easter Sunday, March 27-Annual Easter Breakfast-serving breakfast burritos and more for the kids in Kidzone and their families.

there. We always have a great turnout for this event and last week was no exception. The kids all do a wonderful job of showing up and spending quality time with the residents. Two of the kids will be in charge of passing out snacks and refreshments, two others will help call the numbers, and the rest will scatter across the room and sit down with the residents. This gives the kids the perfect opportunity to talk with them and hear some of their stories. The best part about the event is seeing the kids take a strong interest in what they are saying and the residents recognizing that. I always thought when I was younger that it would be boring to do something like this, but the youth here enjoy every minute of it. I know that there might be some residents who unfortunately might not get very many visitors and at times feel lonely. This event gives us the opportunity to show that there are people who care about them and want to get to know them. If for that one short hour we are there we are able to help a resident or two feel like that then we have accomplished something awesome. After that we all go to dinner and spend some quality time just laughing and hanging out. It is always nice to break away from the traditional Wednesday night and do something different. It was a great time! Also we look forward to next Weekend taking your orders for Subs on Super Bowl Sunday. This is a great event to raise some money for the kid's funds and the busy summer months fast approaching with camps and mission trips. We always appreciate your generosity and look forward to serving you! I hope you all have a wonderful week and take time to appreciate the beauty of creation and spread the love of Christ. Peace and love to you all!



## Hey Youth

Happy January to all of you! It is the beginning of the week of January 25 and it is almost a month into the New Year. I hope you all are doing well and staying warm throughout this period of cold weather we are experiencing. Last week for our

Wednesday night the youth group went to Green Tree Assisted Living to play Bingo with the residents



**Want to be involved in Missions? Join us Sunday (January 31) for a Missions Meeting from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, (downstairs).**

Please join us for a baby shower to honor

*Katherine & Jared Sposato*

JAN 31<sup>st</sup> 2016

Sand Springs  
United Methodist Church  
**NARTHEX**  
319 N Main St | Sand Springs

2 pm  
to  
4 pm

*The couple is registered at Babies R Us & Amazon*

Hosted by Sondra, Judy, Marty & Gerri

IF CANCELLED BECAUSE OF WEATHER, THE RESCHEDULED DATE WILL BE FEB 7TH



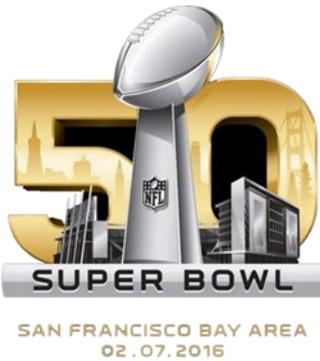
**50th  
Wedding Anniversary  
February 27th**

*Can you tell who it is?*

*You're invited to the party!  
It's from 3-5 p.m. at the  
Family Life Center.*

*Call Paige Pulscher with any questions:  
918-269-7317*

*If you guessed  
Bill & Mary Kay Schwartz, You Are Right!!!*



### **SUPER BOWL SUBS**

It's that time again – Super Bowl Sunday is February 7<sup>th</sup> AND it's the 50<sup>th</sup> Super Bowl! What an exciting game day it will be, even if you aren't happy with who is playing. Our Youth Group is taking orders for Sub Sandwiches to be made fresh to order that

morning so you can pick them up after worship service as you head home to watch the big game. Check out Tristan's column for more info and be sure to pick up an order form this Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>.



Please remember that our Dollar-A-Day giving campaign is ongoing. We will continue to use this program as one more way to fund our apportionment obligation. Simply giving up something small, something that might cost you a dollar each

day – like a cup of coffee or a soda, gives you a little extra money to offer to God for the mission of the church in the world. The main way we support the ministries of the church is through our apportioned funds, a method of giving that proportionally allocates the church-wide budget to conferences and local churches. For United Methodists this method of giving has become a strong, generous tradition. Together, through our connected congregations, we accomplish what no single church, district or annual conference ever could hope to do alone. In this way, each individual, each family, each congregation gives a fair share for the church's work. We combine our prayers, presence, gifts and service to make a significant difference in the lives of God's people. The United Methodist Church is a connectional body and we are obligated to support the mission of the church at the local, conference, and global level as we seek to fulfill The Great Commission to preach the

gospel to the ends of the earth. Paying our apportionments each year must be a top priority for our church. Please be generous in this effort. Thanks!

***Your Stewardship Ministry Team***

### **2016 Committee Chairpersons**

Please be sure you check your mail box in the front office. Occasionally, someone will put a note in your box assuming you check it regularly. Also, mail comes that pertains to your committee that you might find useful. If you do not have a mail box, and feel like you should, please let Tracey know.

### **Sunday Reminders**

Please be sure to park in the parking lots if you do not have mobility issues. The parking spaces across the street from the church on 4th street are for those who have issues with walking distance or have other mobility issues.



There are hearing devices in the cabinet by the sanctuary if you have a need. If you see someone having trouble, please be sure to direct them to a device so that they can better enjoy the service.



Please be sure to turn off cell phones on Sunday morning during worship. As the saying goes, God is calling, but not on your cell phone.



Finally, please be sure to pick and recycle your bulletin or any paper you may have used. Also, be sure to pick up your cups and tissues. Tara Carter comes in on Sunday and refills all the pew pockets and we don't want her to dodge cups and Kleenex!



We will see you Sunday!!

## *Sunday Lists*

### **Sunday Volunteers—January 31**

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-Betty or Howard Smith & Karen Wilder

### **Sunday Volunteers—February 7**

Visitors Center & Coffee-Harmony  
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.-Kat Katzung  
Counters-Sondra Allen & Dick Ford

## *Please Keep In Prayer*



*Don Baldrige, Bob & Cathy Hula, BW Proft, Clare Caldwell, Darryl Muse, Jack & Jewell Brown, Martha Scudder, Owen Johnston, Ruth Weaver, Tristan Schwartz, Delbert Sloan, Leonard Whisenhunt, Darin Grayson, Chris Bordelon, Mark, Jim McCormick, Aaron (Dustin Dinsmore's friend), Pauline Hanigar, Morene Baker, Barbara McClintock, Glenda Paul-Reyna, Crickett Lashly, Alysha Hancock, SSUMC & Unspoken Requests*

## *Acknowledgements*

### **Thank You...**

*Thank you for the lovely cards, prayers and memorials from our church family. We also thank the Bereavement team for the wonderful lunch served to our family and friends*

*Bob Schmidt & Family*

*Thank you Prayer Warriors for the cards I got while I was sick and during my time of healing. The prayers worked and I am home. Continued prayer that I get to stay home, please.*

*Pauline Hanigar*

*Words alone can hardly express the gratitude we have for all the support we received during Paul's illness. Your kind and loving actions, received through prayers, thoughtful words, and card and food gifts, have been the gentle hugs that uplifted and sustained our family during this difficult time.*

*A special thank you to Don and to all those who participated in Paul's Memorial Service and meal afterward. Please know that your kind efforts meant so much to us, and we feel blessed to be a part of this church family.*

*In God's love,*

*The Waldschmidt, Mattox and Conner families*

## **8:30 a.m. Worship Songs-January 31, 2016**

*Victory Chant*

*Lion of Judah*

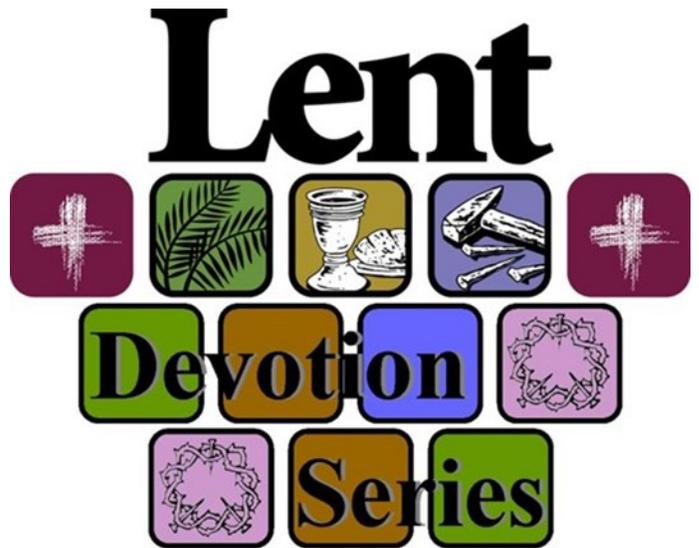
*Jesus Paid It All*

*Revelation Song*

*Whom Shall I Fear*

*Came to My Rescue*

*Close with Lion of Judah*



**12:00 p.m.**

*Mark Your Calendars and Join Us*

*2/16-Dillon Chapel at Woodland Memorial Park  
12th & Cleveland*

*2/23-St. Andrew Lutheran Church  
3201 S. 113th W. Ave.*

*3/1-Sand Springs United Methodist Church  
4th & Main*

*3/8-First Presbyterian Church  
222 N. Adams Road*

*3/15-St. Patrick's Catholic Church  
204 E. 4th*

*3/22-St. Matthew's Episcopal Church  
601 Lake Drive*



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Wednesday, January 27**

7:30 a.m.-Men's Breakfast—Crescent Café  
6:30 p.m.-Youth  
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

**Thursday, January 28**

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

**Friday, January 29**

No Activities

**Saturday, January 30**

No Activities

**Sunday, January 31**

8:30 a.m.-Contemporary Worship  
9:45 a.m.-Communion Service  
10:00 a.m.-Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.-Traditional Worship  
1:30 p.m.-Missions Meeting— F. Hall  
2:00 p.m.-Katherine Sposato Baby Shower-Narhex

**Monday, February 1**

7:00 p.m.-Boy Scouts-FLC

**Tuesday, February 2**

6:30 p.m.-Cub Scouts-FLC  
7:00 p.m.-Praise Team  
7:00 p.m.-Al-Anon-Upstairs

**Wednesday, February 3**

7:30 a.m.-Men's/Women's Breakfast—Crescent Café  
4:00 p.m.-Kappa Kappa Iota-F. Hall\*  
6:30 p.m.-Youth  
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

**Thursday, February 4**

7:00 p.m.-Karate-FLC\*

**Friday, February 5**

Boy Scouts in FLC

**Saturday, February 6**

Boy Scouts in FLC

**Sunday, February 7**

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

FLC—Family Life Center

\*- Unsponsored by SSUMC

*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](http://www.SandSpringsumc.org)

