

# The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you."*

(Matthew 28:19-20a)

The job of every Christian is, to the best of your ability, to follow the instructions of Jesus to his disciples. We are to make disciples; we are to teach. Doing that in our contemporary culture can be a real challenge for us. We are very busy; we have many responsibilities. When and how are **we** going to become evangelists, running around converting people and planning baptisms? Does Jesus really mean that **we** – the people of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century church – are supposed to teach the gospel and help people develop a relationship with him? Isn't that why we have clergy persons? Don't we pay **them** to do this hard stuff so we don't have to? The answers to these questions, in order, are: always, in all ways; yes; no; and no.

Now, the way to wrap your head around this is to realize that, in many ways, **you are already doing this work**. To make this point clear, I want to take my time this week to remind you of what you are doing around here.

It is the beginning of another year. It is the time when many people who serve on the various committees and boards change jobs or agree to continue. We also welcome new people into various jobs. Sometimes we think of all this "committee stuff" as just something we must do to satisfy Conference requirements. It becomes a chore that somebody must do, so we force ourselves to fill the committee spots. After that, we forget what the real work of these committees is and how it relates to The Great Commission of Jesus Christ. The first thing I want to do today is say **"THANK YOU!"** to all those who have been serving for the past year and to those who will continue to serve this year.

Next, I want you to remember how important your roles are to the life of the church. Begin with our **Church Council**. This group is made up of representatives from every ministry area in the church. I use the word "ministry" because everything you do here is ministry; I am not the only minister, simply because I have credentials on my wall. You are all ministers of Christ. The Church Council hears from every area of ministry about

plans, needs, and accomplishment. The idea is to be sure that everyone stays in touch with what's going on and seeks ways to help each other accomplish the work. This is the group that lays out the vision and plans for our future as a church.

Then we have the **Board of Trustees**. This often-misunderstood group is charged with managing all the physical assets of the congregation. Buildings, vehicles, and investments are all under their purview; they are not our personal repair people.

The **Finance Committee** is another group we often misunderstand. This group is formed by the leaders of other administrative groups. They are responsible to oversee the financial records of the church and offer advice to the Church Council about how to best raise funds and manage expenses. This group develops the annual budget. The Finance Committee does **not** spend money; in fact, this group has no authority – they only supervise and advise.

Then we have the **Staff Parish Relations Committee** who acts as our human resources department. All their work is confidential, as it should be. The **Nominations Committee** serves a similar function with regards volunteers. This committee recruits members to serve as volunteers on all the administrative and service groups in the church.

Finally, we have groups who do the work of children's ministry, mission and outreach, congregational care, prayer, adult education, and youth ministry. There are also many folks involved in United Methodist Women, the Community Thanksgiving Dinner project, and other things that come up throughout the year.

Each one of you who participate as a committee member or a volunteer in any of these areas is working on The Great Commission. You are making disciples by showing other people the love of Jesus Christ. You are helping the church find those who want to know more about Jesus. You participate in every baptism as you affirm your promises and welcome every new member into the congregation. **WOW!** When you look at it that way, maybe you begin to see how important our committees really are **AND** how much you are already doing as a minister of Christ. Thank you and keep up the good work!

*Walking with you in ministry,  
Pastor Don*



## UMW News 2017

Happy New Year and welcome to another great year of Fellowship, Spiritual Growth, and doing Mission as we are called into the

Community to serve our Lord.

Our Circles will begin their meetings in the 4th week of the month:

- Faith Circle – Jan. 26th. They meet in the Parlor at 6:30 pm. Maureen Gibson is in charge. For more information contact Rita Randle, Chairperson, at 918-224-8482.
- Priscilla Circle– Jan. 24, 7:00 pm at Becky Barnes', 3200 Bahama Dr.. Co-host – Susan Edwards. Program – Virginia Baldrige/Trish House. For more information contact Virginia Baldrige, Chairperson, 918-245-9248.
- Ruth Esther Circle – Jan. 26 at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Hostess – Joanna Wilson, Devotion- Barbara Fisher, Program Joyce McFall. For more information contact Wava Burt, Chairperson at 918-242-3962.

Program Books should be out by our first meeting. Come join the fun

**The Offices Will Be Closed  
Monday, January 16  
In Observance of  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**



## KidZone News

We just finished our lessons on The Birth of Jesus. We had such a great time Sunday learning about the arrival and departure of the Wise Men. We also got to try some great star and heart shaped homemade bread and we made luminaries with star shapes to remind us of the Wise men's traveling to worship the baby Jesus and giving of their gifts. Join us next week as we begin our new series called **Cave Quest**, where we will learn Jesus is the Light through fun "cave exploration". We also learn to be grounded in the rock-solid foundation of God's love; a love which takes us through dark times. This week's bible memory verse is "O Lord, you alone are my hope." (Psalm 71:5).



## Youth News

January 18 the youth are going to Greentree. See Tristan for details.

## Committee News

Sunday, January 15th, the **Finance Committee** will meet at 1:30 p.m. in the Parlor. The Finance Committee is Janie Moore, Pastor Don, Buster Hall, Jay Bullard, Kristen Henry, Gary Dobbs, David Allen, Cynthia Edelman, Diana Pond and Charlene Reeves. Please make every effort to attend.

Sunday, January 15th, the **Church Council** will meet at 2:30 p.m. in the Parlor. The Church Council Committee is Kristen Henry, Jay Bullard, Buster Hall, Pastor Don, Cathy Gifford, Tristan Holt, Cynthia Edelman, Janie Moore, Gary Dobbs, Marty David, Debbie Schmidt, Susie Honeycutt, Max & Sharon Schuermann, Kent Warkentin, Judy Bullard. Please make every effort to attend.

Sunday, January 22nd, the **Trustee Committee** Will meet at 1:30 p.m. in the Parlor. The Trustee Committee is David Allen, Mike Stockard, Jack Vest, Marybeth Arnold, Heide Bostwick, Jared Paschal, Bob Barnes, Maureen Gibson. Please make every effort to attend.

## *Sunday Lists*

### **Sunday Volunteers—January 15**

Visitors Center & Coffee-TNT  
 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

### **Sunday Volunteers—January 22**

Visitors Center & Coffee-TNT  
 Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David  
 Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids  
 Teaching: Jami Warkentin  
 Counters-Diana Pond & Jack Vest

**January Coffee: CIA/Pathfinders Class**

**February Coffee: Harmony Class**

**March Coffee-Discovery Class**



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

January 9, 2017	June 12
January 23	June 26
February 6	July 10
February 20	July 24
March 6	August 7
March 20	August 21
April 3	September 4?
April 17	September 18
May 1	October 2
May 15	October 16
May 29 ?	October 30
	November 13
	November 27
	December 11
	January 8, 2018

## *Please Keep In Prayer*



*Martha Scudder, Linda Tabberer, Charlene Reeves, Sylvia Johnson, Elsie Jones, Sue Shaw, Bob & Cathy Hula, BW Proft, Bill & Clare Caldwell, Darryl Muse, Jack & Jewell Brown, Owen Johnston, Tristan Schwartz, Delbert Sloan, Mark Hill, Pauline Hanigar,*

*Glenda Paul-Reyna, Barbara McClintock, Montie Box, Alberts mom & sister in law, Michelle Nelson, SSUMC & Unspoken Requests*



### Here is some of your **2016/17 Youth Dinner Schedule**

January 11-Seniors In Action  
 January 18-Priscilla Circle  
 January 25-Noah/Searchers

The new schedule will be available before the end of the next dinner is needed.

## *Thank You...*

Lisa and I would like to thank all of you for your generous spirit of giving. We took over the Angel Trees this year as Linda concentrates on getting well. Lisa chose two very deserving and humble families for us from Sand Springs Community Services. They were hesitant but in need. We thank you for giving so unselfishly and so above and beyond. Thank you Tristan and Lauren and youth for getting the gifts to the families! It meant a lot to both families! This church has such a heart for missions and your spirit of giving never ceases to amaze me!

**THANK YOU SO MUCH!!**

**Tracey Ginn & Lisa Massey**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

Monday, January 9

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-FLC

Tuesday, January 10

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

Wednesday, January 11

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

Thursday, January 12

\*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

Friday, January 13

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

Saturday, January 14

No Activities

Sunday, January 15

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

11:00am-Traditional Worship  
1:30pm-Finance Committee Meeting  
2:30 pm-Church Council Meeting

Monday, January 16-Offices Closed  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-Family Life Center

Tuesday, January 17

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

Wednesday, January 18

7:30am-Men’s Breakfast-Crescent Café  
6:30pm-The Awakening to Greentree  
7:00pm-Chancel Choir

Thursday, January 19

\*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

Friday, January 20

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

Saturday, January 21

\*FLC possibly in use

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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Church Family  
Please Read and  
Share...

If you want to schedule the Family Life Center or the Fellowship Hall, a *Facility Usage Form* must be filled out. These can be picked up in the Church Office.

