



July 2, 2014

# The Springs

Rev. Don Tabberer



*"I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through*

*faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love."* (Ephesians 3:16-17, NRSV)

The Letter to the Ephesians includes encouragement for new believers who are just beginning to realize what it means to be transformed by the gospel message. The readers of this letter are reminded that because they now live in Christ they are no longer aliens or strangers from God. Because of their response to the gospel, these readers are experiencing a radical transformation of their personal and social identity. They are being re-socialized into God's purposes and family. I urge you to read the entire letter.

This is a beautiful section of the Bible where we see how wonderful it is to have the Holy Spirit present with us; we see how inspired and motivated we can be when we recognize this spirit of love inside us. It is empowering to think that we receive spiritual strength as we grow and develop in our relationship with God. The prayers we read here give thanks to God for the unbelievable power and love God shows us in Jesus Christ. We see that God gives and gives and then gives some more to those who follow Christ. God's Spirit strengthens us as this spiritual nurturing takes place and we are led to know God better and better.

It is important that you read the entire letter because Ephesians is not simply encouraging; it is intended to influence the thought and conduct of the reader. It was written to build up the church and to tell readers how they should act. I don't think we should be surprised by this message. After all, the gospel message is supposed to transform us; it is intended to change our behavior. Oh my gosh...There's that frightening word – "**change**"!

We don't much care for change; we resist it with all our strength. We like change even less when it isn't our idea. Maybe that's why following Christ is such a challenge for us – Christ calls us to change the way we think and the way we behave and we're happy just the way we are. We must realize that the reason Jesus came was because the way things were was not acceptable to God and the people needed to change; Jesus came

to reconcile the people back to God – to show them a new way to change their behavior. Jesus came to unite all people into God's family for God's purposes.

We are now beginning our 4<sup>th</sup> year together as pastor and congregation. As I review the work we have done together I see many wonderful things done in the Name of Jesus for this church and our community. I thank God for your faithfulness. I also see the potential for so many other things that would lead us into better relationships with God, with each other, and with our neighbors. In our committee meetings and small groups there is a lot of discussion about what our next steps should be and how we might better serve the community. I hear many good ideas and I see plans to nurture those ideas into ministry. What seems to be in shorter supply is the commitment to actually begin the work of clearing the field, planting, fertilizing, and harvesting these ideas. The spirit seems willing, but the flesh appears weak when it comes right down to saying, "Yes, I will help with this project or that ministry; yes, I will teach Sunday school; yes, I will go on a mission trip; yes, I will volunteer my time; **yes, I will be an active participant in my church.**"

I need your help; your church needs your help. Each one of us has something to contribute. Every contribution of time and energy helps us to realize new opportunities for ministry that bring more people into a relationship with Jesus. That is, above all else, why we are the church in Sand Springs: "**To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**" Please prayerfully consider how you fit into the ministry of your church. You may volunteer at any time to serve in the area that most interests you. However, we are not going to wait for you; we are going to come and "recruit" you. Please be ready to say "YES" when one of our church leaders asks you to be an active participant in the ministry of our church. Remember what Helen Keller said: "*I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. And because I cannot do everything I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.*"

**God bless,  
Pastor Don**

## **NEWSLETTER MASS MAILING ENDS**

**That's the headline, but it's all good news.** As we told you last month, this newsletter will be the last one that we mail out *en masse* as has been our tradition for many years. The cost of printing and postage continues to rise. At the same time we hear more and more people tell us they simply do not read this type of mailing anymore. We made the decision last month to discontinue the traditional newsletter in favor of one that more closely meets the needs of our readers and fits the mission of the church. Beginning July 14, the **primary distribution** method for the newsletter will be electronic.

- We will send the newsletter to your email address – **IF you give us your email address.** Remember, we can only work with the information you give us. Please be sure that the church office has your current email address and that you keep us up-to-date if it changes. You may send an email to: [tginn@sandsspringsumc.org](mailto:tginn@sandsspringsumc.org) to be added to the email distribution list.
- We will publish the newsletter to our new website: [www.sandsspringsumc.org](http://www.sandsspringsumc.org). Inside this newsletter you will find a booklet called: **"Website for Dummies"**. Please do not take offense to the title, we are simply taking a cue from the popular series of do-it-yourself books and we want to stress how easy it will be for you to get information from our website. Not only will our regular newsletter be available there, you will also find sermon archives, the complete Church Calendar, and many other things of interest to you. In the future we will be offering ways to give electronically and to sign up for Bible study groups, mission trips, camps, and so forth simply by visiting the website.

- Finally, we will continue to mail a printed copy of the newsletter to anyone who asks for it. Our goal is to save money and be more responsive; we do not intend to cut off communication or place a hardship on anyone. We understand that some of you have no access to the Internet and no desire to get involved with that technology now. Not a problem – **simply let us know and we will keep sending it to you through snail mail.**
- There will also be some **printed copies available** in the Church Lobby, on the table under the TV monitor. You may pick up one of these for yourself or for someone you know when you are at church. Contd.

*The Springs* newsletter is a wonderful way for us to keep in touch and let you know what is going on at your church. Our decision simply reflects current technology and the reality of modern life. We hope that you will embrace this change and continue to stay informed by visiting our website: [www.sandsspringsumc.org](http://www.sandsspringsumc.org).

## **Driver Safety Program**

Many of you have been asking when the next Driver Safety Program will be. Elsie Jones called to let us know there will be one at the Sand Springs Senior Citizen Center, next to the Fire Station. It is Saturday, July 12th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call Elsie Jones with your questions or to sign up, 918-241-6665.

## **Youth Dinner List**

It has come to our attention we are going to need to re-vamp the list for who serves dinner to the youth on Wednesday evenings. If you are the leader of a Sunday school class or UMW Circle or SIA, please watch your mail for a new list and mark your calendars. If you are unable to serve dinner on your date, we will provide a list with phone numbers of who you can call to ask to substitute or trade you dates. Thank you for your patience.



## **SOMEONE'S PRAYING, LORD.....**

A lot of people are working to make our church a more effective tool for Christ. Many are concerned about our future and are searching for God's Holy Spirit to guide us in the right path. We want to pray daily for Don and Linda as well as all of our wonderful staff. We also lift up those leaders who are charged with making tough decisions. We want to pray daily for God's continued direction and that we will continue to be open to the work He has for us to do.

I ran across a couple of prayer thoughts that I want to share today:

"The power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not the one who says it. Our prayers do make a difference!" Max Lucado And from Love Unlimited: "Dear Loved One, I'm working on all your problems. Please stay out of the way! Your Friend, God"

Let's keep praying! Virginia

## **Life Line Screening Results**

So many of you have participated in the Life Line Screenings over the years. We last hosted them on April 1st and here are the results:

Carotid Artery Disease: 30 Screened  
10 Normal, 18 Moderate, 2 possibilities of significance, 0 required immediate follow up

Peripheral Arterial Disease: 28 Screened  
25 Normal, 1 Abnormal, 2 Unable to compress, 0 critical

Lipid Panel-Total Cholesterol Test: 11 Screened  
8 Desirable, 3 Borderline High, 0 High

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm: 24 Screened  
24 NO Aneurysm

Atrial Fibrillation: 27 Screened  
26 No Atrial Fibrillation, 1 Atrial Fibrillation, 0 Critical

Glucose-11 Screened  
7 Normal, 4 Pre-Diabetes, 0 Immediate follow-up

Watch and listen for up-coming screenings.

## **July Calendar Events**

July 10-Stewardship Meeting-7:00 p.m.  
July 12-Helping Hands-7:00 a.m. (F. Hall)  
July 13-2nd Sunday Mission-10:00 a.m.  
July 13-Trustee Meeting-2:00 p.m.  
July 14-2nd Monday Book Club  
July 19-Youth Float Trip  
July 20-6:15-8:30-Vacation Bible School  
July 21-10:00 a.m.-Vision Disability Support Group-Sr. Citizen Ctr.  
July 21-6:15-8:30-Vacation Bible School  
July 22-6:15-8:30-Vacation Bible School  
July 23-6:15-8:30-Vacation Bible School  
July 24-6:15 p.m.-VBS Program-FLC  
July 27-Finance Meeting-1:15 p.m.  
July 27-Church Council-2:30 p.m.

Staff out of office:

Tracey-July 3-12:00 p.m.

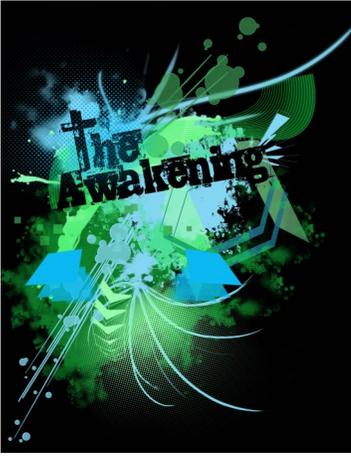
Don & Mark-July 10-14-Day Spring Camp

Alan-July 15-29

## **100-Year Medallion**

Have you bought your medallion? If not, why? It is a beautiful heavy weight medallion that displays our commitment to Sand Springs decorated with pride. Pride for 100 years of Methodism in Sand Springs, Oklahoma. These will make wonderful gifts to your children who grew up in the Methodist Church in Sand Springs but have since moved away. They also make a wonderful gift to parents and grandparents who have also moved on. (You can also hang them on your Christmas Tree!)

See Howard or Betty Smith for details or to purchase SOME for only \$10 each. They are worth it!



## The Awakening

*The Awakening exists to...  
"Teach students to  
genuinely honor Christ  
through service, reaching  
out to those around them,  
and building up a  
community based on love  
for one another."*

### Upcoming Events

- July 10th-14th-Dayspring Camp
- July 16th-The Awakening @ Green Tree
- July 19th-Float Trip
- July 20th-25th-Vacation Bible School

### Update

I pray that you are doing well and that your summer is going well and you are enjoying it.

Thank you all for your prayers as we were on our mission trip. The students that went enjoyed their time and God taught them a lot about service and loving others.

This last week, we went to Rockets Over Rhe-ma and had a great time hanging out with one another and watching some very cool fireworks.

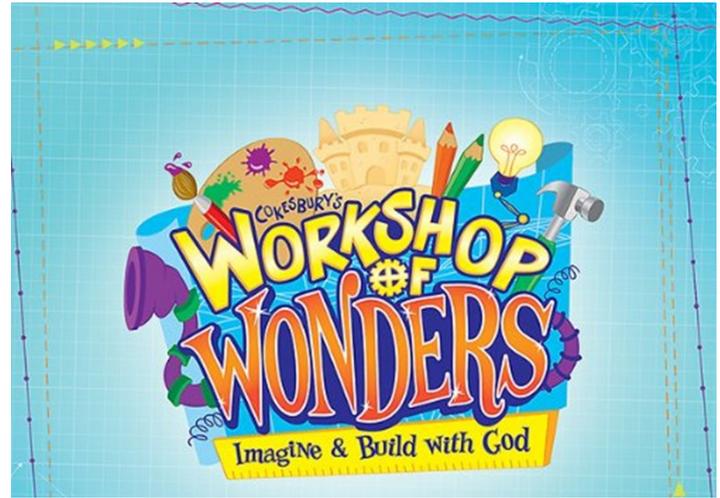
This next week, we will be taking 4 students to our Senior High Camp. Please join me in praying for them that it is a truly life changing week. My prayer is that they each walk away with a new love and joy for Christ that continues with them after camp.

On July 16th, we will be taking the student to Green Tree. That same week, on July 19th, we will be taking the students on a Float Trip. More details will come to your students, but be sure to mark your calendars for that weekend.

Vacation Bible School is right around the corner and we will be looking for students to help with games and various other things within VBS.

I pray that God continues to show you His love and presence in your life.

Your Fellow Servant,  
Mark



**VBS IS COMING...July 20-24! MARK  
YOUR CALENDARS! INVITE YOUR  
FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!  
IT'S GOING TO BE A LOT OF FUN!!!!**

VBS is a very important out-reach at SSUMC. Please consider becoming involved!

We are still in need of nuts, bolts and screws for VBS. If you have any of these around your house that you can spare please bring them to Caleb House when you can.

We also have a challenge for the congregation. Get together with a group, your children or grandchildren and make a robot using ONLY things you would normally throw away or recycle. Robots will be put on display during VBS. It's a great way to spend some family time with your kids. We can't wait to see everyone's creations.

Thanks to Caleb and Lisa Massey for helping Ms. Debbie on Sunday while Ms. Marty is out of town. We appreciate your willingness to serve!!

See you Sunday!



## *Sunday Lists*

### **Sunday Volunteers—July 6**

Visitors Center & Coffee-CIA/Pathfinders  
Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David  
Young Disciples Lesson-8:30a.m.-Kristen Henry  
Young Disciples Lesson-11:00a.m.-Kristen Henry  
Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids  
Child. Church-11:00 a.m.-Kristen & Julia Henry  
Counters-Janie Moore & Kent Warkentin

### **Sunday Volunteers—July 13**

Visitors Center & Coffee-CIA/Pathfinders  
Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David  
Young Disciples Lesson-8:30a.m.-Marty David  
Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Marty David  
Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids  
Child. Church-11:00a.m.-Susie Honeycutt & Family  
Counters-Diana Pond & Jack Vest

## *Please Keep In Prayer*

Ruth Weaver, Donna Woodruff, Destinee Tackett, Sylvia Johnson, Martha Scudder, Virginia Vice, Marilyn Peil, Michael Bostwick & Kelsey Kennedy, Cathy Hula, Beverly Rousey, Charlotte Cain, Unspoken requests, Darryl Muse, Tristan Schwartz, Jim Wilson, Whitney Roberts, June Shreffler, Billie Schmidt, Irene Stogsdill, Owen Johnston, SSUMC, Lance Day, Susan Edwards, Ryan Bulmer, Ray Wallis, April Camp, Ben Nigh, Raymond Mason, Celia Thompson, Bill Gifford, Georgann Filak, Leonard Whisenhunt, Norma Coble,

## *Acknowledgements*

### **HELP WANTED**

We are currently seeking an individual with skills and experience working in WordPress who is interested in helping the church by volunteering to work with our new website. Please contact Pastor Don at [revdtabbs@sandspringsumc.org](mailto:revdtabbs@sandspringsumc.org)

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

*To Kay Woodward and Jody Seaman for the wonderful dinner for my family. And to Howard & Betty Smith and the Pathfinders Class for their support after my surgery. Also, thank you for all the prayers from our prayer warriors. I felt them so much!*

*Cynthia Alex*

## Sand Springs United Methodist Church

A primer for getting the most from  
your church website



**Step One:** GOTO – [www.sandspringsumc.org](http://www.sandspringsumc.org)

Once you reach our Home Page you should take some time to scroll down and look around at what is there. Depending on your level of experience, much of what you see may be familiar and easy to navigate. This brief guide is designed to help you find information and functions that will help you get the most from our website and offer you opportunities to stay informed and to participate in church ministries.

Across the top of the home page (and most other pages) you will see the Menu Bar; it consists of white lettering on a red field. If you move your mouse along the words you will notice that your pointer changes to a finger pointing at each of the selections. If you click on one of these choices you will be taken to another section of our website. Clicking on the word “HOME” will always return you to this page.

You may also notice that some of the selections on the menu bar include a small downward arrow. If you click on the selection you will be taken to a summary page about that area. If you “hover” over the selection, a drop-down menu will appear and you may select an option from this list. For example, under the selection “About” you will see a drop-down menu with five selections that include: “Message to Visitors” “General Info” “Our Beliefs” “Staff” and “Leadership”. Clicking on one of those options will take you to the appropriate area of the website for further information.

Below the Menu Bar you will find a slideshow of pictures. We are able to quickly change these pictures to present current info.

Scroll down the page and you will find two rows of boxes. Each of these is a link to an important area of our website.

**“Stuff To Do”** – Click here and you will be taken to an area known as our BLOG. Here we will post details of upcoming activities and events. Often there will be a registration form for you to use if you need to sign up for a particular event or activity. For example, new Bible Study offerings will be outlined here and you will be able to sign up and order text books from this site.

**“Locations and Times”** – This is a place where visitors can find out where we are located and how to find us. Our regular worship times are also posted here.

**“Ministries”** – This area describes the ministry areas at our church to help encourage people to get involved with ministries that interest them.

**“Sermon Archive”** – This area offers links to video recordings of sermons from our Sunday worship services. This gives you the chance to see a sermon you missed.

**“Newsletter Archive”** – This area is where you will find our current and previous newsletters. You can read the latest news or go back and check on something of interest to you in a previous newsletter. With this service in place we are no longer providing mass mailing of printed newsletters.

**“Prayer Requests”** – This is where you go to submit a prayer request for yourself or someone you know. Once you fill out this request, your prayers will be sent to our church office for inclusion on the weekly prayer list. It will also be sent to our email and telephone prayer list coordinators so that prayers will begin to be lifted up as quickly as possible by all of our prayer warriors.

## CHURCH CALENDAR:

On the right-hand end of our menu bar at the top of every page is a link to our Church Calendar. This is the **official calendar** for all church activities. If an event does not appear on this calendar then it is not officially scheduled and facilities may not be available for the event. It is vital that all activities be included on this calendar in order to avoid conflicts and over-lapping activities.

You may browse the calendar to see if the meeting you are interested in is already on the schedule or if the date you want is available. To get an event placed on the calendar it must be scheduled.

## HOW TO SCHEDULE AN EVENT:

**To have an event placed on the calendar you must contact the Church Office.** This includes the main Campus and The Family Life Center. There are no exceptions to this rule. You may not simply assume that space is available for your event, committee meeting, etc. You must schedule everything through the Church Office. The preferred method for scheduling is to use the **Calendar Request Form** found on our website at the bottom of the Church Calendar display page. When you fill out this form and click SUBMIT, your request is sent to the Church Office for action. Once your event is confirmed, you will receive a confirmation email.

You may also schedule an event by calling the Church Office at 918-245-5955 if you do not have access to the website. However, the electronic scheduling provides us with a written record of your request to help insure that we take care of everything you need for your meeting or event.

Our website is intended to serve two important purposes:

1. We want to provide our members with up to date information about what is going on at our church and how to stay connected to the community of faith. The site should be easy to navigate and offer our church members all the information they need to fully participate in the life of the church. New information is added regularly and it is important that you check the website frequently to see what may have changed or been added.
2. We also want to provide a portal for visitors and seekers to explore the mission of our church and the ministries in which we are involved. Our website is an evangelism tool and it is very important that we use it effectively to help bring new people into a relationship with Jesus.

To serve both of these functions it is vital that we receive feedback from those who visit our website. Please be sure to contact us and let us know if you notice something missing or mis-stated. Let us know if you find any broken links or proof-reading errors. The online image we portray to the public may be our only opportunity to make a first impression; we need to do our very best to make it a good first impression. We are counting on you to help us.

Please take some time to roam around our new website and look for all the ways it can be of help to you in ministry. Do not hesitate to fill out a Contact Form if you have questions. Feel free to share your ideas for ways to improve our website. You may have seen something at another church website that caught your attention. Let us know what it is and where we can go to look at it as well. When we find new ideas we are always willing to see how they might work for us.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
FLC-Family Life Center**

**Wednesday, July 2**

7:30 a.m.-M/W Breakfast—Crescent Café  
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music  
6:30 p.m.-The Awakening Youth-FLC  
6:00 p.m.-NO Chancel Ringers  
7:00 p.m.-NO Chancel Choir

**Thursday, July 3**

12:00 p.m.-No Tracey  
7:00 p.m.-FLC in use  
Dusk-SS Fireworks-River Park

**Friday, July 4**

Offices Closed

**Saturday, July 5**

FLC in Use

**Sunday, July 6**

8:30 a.m.-Modern Worship; 11:00 a.m.-Classic Worship  
10:00 a.m.-Sunday School  
1:00 p.m.-Youth Mentor Group

**Monday, July 7**

10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC

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

**Tuesday, July 8**

5:30 p.m.-UMW Executive Meeting  
6:30 p.m.-Cub Scouts-FLC  
7:00 p.m.-Praise Team  
7:00 p.m.-Al-Anon-Upstairs

**Wednesday, July 9**

7:30 a.m.-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café  
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC  
6:00 p.m.-NO Chancel Ringers  
6:30 p.m.-The Awakening Youth  
7:00 p.m.-NO Chancel Choir

**Thursday, July 10-Dayspring Camp-Sr. High**

11:00 a.m.-Needlers-Parlor  
7:00 p.m.-Stewardship Meeting  
7:00 p.m.-FLC in use

**Friday, July 11-Daysrings Camp-Sr. High**

5:00 p.m.-Basketball Practice-FLC  
6:00 p.m.-Basketball Practice-FLC

**Saturday, July 12**

7:00 a.m.-Helping Hands

Label Here

Return Service Requested

**Questions about SSUMC Women?**

Priscilla: Trish House-918-245-5508  
Ruth Esther: Barbara Fisher (Mrs. Connel)-918-241-9859  
Faith: Rita Randall: 918-224-8482

*Sand Springs UMC  
319 N. Main Street/PO Box 336  
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918-245-5955 Fax-918-245-2801  
Family Life Center: 918-245-3725  
www.sandspringsumc.org*

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