

June 12, 2017

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



"But how can people call for help if they don't know who to trust? And how can they know who to trust if they haven't heard of the One who can be trusted? And how can they hear if nobody tells them? And how is anyone going to tell them, unless someone is sent to do it?" (Romans 10:14-15a, MSG)

Dear friends in Christ,

Well, this past Sunday, June 11th, officially marks the beginning of our 7th year serving Sand Springs UMC. Linda and I are very happy to be returning to this parish for another year. Looking back over these past six years, we see so many things that have changed and so much work that has been done. We are truly blessed to be here. Particularly this past year, you have loved and supported us through a very difficult time in our personal lives. Thank you for all you have done and all your prayers during this part of our journey.

Looking forward, there is still much work to be done and change yet to manifest. I believe we must always be looking for new ways to serve God's people and share the love of Christ. We must also be on the lookout for where God chooses to send us and how God intends for us to tell others about Jesus.

On Pentecost Sunday, I quoted Bishop Jimmy Nunn when he said: **"The Holy Spirit is fixin' to grab Oklahoma by the Panhandle and shake things up!"** I must agree with Bishop Nunn. I am convinced that God has big plans for the church in our state and in our community. I believe that God is far from finished with us and is not about to let us be finished with ourselves either. We should be excited about the prospects of what God has in mind. How will we respond to God's call?

The most currently available data suggests that only 14.7% of the people living in our zip code respond that, *"My faith is really important to me."* 18.3% say that, *"It is important to attend religious services."* I could be wrong, but this seems to indicate to me that most of our neighbors in Sand Springs do not attend church, nor do they feel their faith is important. That is a sobering thought!

The awful truth about this research is that approximately

16,000 people in Sand Springs have no meaningful relationship with God. Well, how can they *"call for help if they don't know who to trust? And how can they know who to trust if they haven't heard of the One who can be trusted? And how can they hear if nobody tells them? And how is anyone going to tell them, unless someone is sent to do it?"*

I hope you see where I'm going with this. Each one of you has a particular gift, talent, skill, or passion that God gave you, with the idea that you would use that gift to help other people figure out who they can trust – Jesus. As a congregation, we have pooled our gifts and our resources to offer opportunities for others to encounter Jesus. We have two facilities in this community with different strengths and weaknesses. Each of these has something to offer to people seeking to know more about what it means to follow Jesus. It is our ministry to use what we have to reach more people, in different ways, and show them a trusted Savior.

Studies tell us that we can no longer do church the way we have done it in the past. Church is no longer central in the community; religion is no longer the most important thing for most people; lifestyle choices have placed unrealistic pressure on the time we have available. Church cannot continue to expect people to come to church on Sunday morning, never missing a Sunday. That is not what people think of as being a church member anymore.

We need to be asking, *"How will we reach those in our community who have no relationship with Christ?"* We should not ask, *"How do we get those folks to come to our church?"* We can't focus on helping all those people see things *"our way"*; rather, we need to figure out how to meet them where they are and guide them as they discover Jesus for themselves. That is how and where we are being sent.

This summer I am asking everyone in our congregation to imagine new ways to be the church in Sand Springs. I am praying for the Holy Spirit to inspire us with fresh ideas. I am also challenging all of us to look at everything we are now doing and figure out what is working well, in terms of making and shaping true disciples, and what is just action born of tradition, but not serving the mission of discipleship. Let us discern together what God has in mind for SSUMC.

Pastor Don



Needed...

We have a wheelchair that is available to use when someone in our church family is in need. It is not in perfect shape and Marybeth Arnold is going to get it repaired. We need another wheelchair, a walker, and a couple of walking canes. If you have any of these to donate, please see Marybeth Arnold.



UMW News

Ruth Esther Circle will meet on June 22nd at 1:00 in Fellowship Hall. Joyce McFall has the refreshments, Cynthia Alex will give the devotion and

Wava Burt has the program.

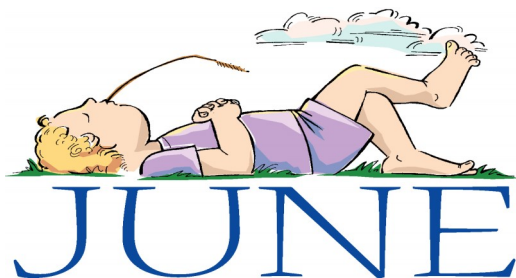
Our Flower Sale went over last year's proceeds. The final count will be done once the costs are figured. Great job Ladies!

Be sure to let Judy Bullard or Wava Burt know if you want to participate in the Mission Study on July 29th and August 5th. We will be doing the Climate Justice study. 2 hours each day – 10 to 12.

Scholarships are available for Mission U. (July 21-23). Contact Susan Edwards or Judy Bullard if you want to go.

THANK YOU to the members of the Sunday School Classes that helped make the Annual Picnic a success on June 4th. The games were fun, the food delicious. We especially want to thank David Allan and Dick Ford who brought the homemade ice cream Yummy. We had about 79 people attend!

UMW Executive Committee will meet on June 22 at 5:30 in the CIA/Pathfinders classroom. Hopefully it will be a short meeting. Judy



Hey Kids-

What fun we had in Kidzone yesterday. We had the Bible story of the Lost Sheep. There were 100 sheep and 99 had been found. One was lost and the Shepherd searched for the lost sheep until it was found. Jesus is our Good Shepherd and He does not want any of us to be lost. We played a fun game and then we made dragonflies. You all were very creative especially with the glitter. Be sure to come on Sunday as we will be making gifts for Father's Day.

Miss Marty was glad to be back and thank you again for my get well cards. Have an awesome week-see you on Sunday!

Miss Debbie & Miss Marty

Join us for...

...Hero Central VBS!

July 16th - 20th from 6:15-8:30

Family Night: July 20th at Family Life Center

All participants who pre-register by July 15th will receive a free t-shirt.



link to registration:

<http://2017.cokesburyvbs.com/SandSpringsUMC/>
Registration forms will also be available in the Narthex.

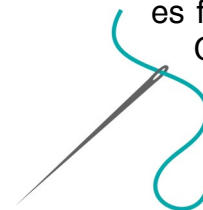
Volunteer workdays to be announced.

We are in need of cardboard boxes in all shapes and sizes. They can be left by door that exits to Caleb House.

Mission To Stitch

Cynthia Alex will be showing you how to cut pieces for the Casey's Crayons quilt block.

Come see what it's all about. If you have sewing questions, crochet, knit, cross stitch... any kind of needle point/work, join Mission to Stitch. If someone can't answer your question—they will find the answer for you!



Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers—June 18

Visitors Center & Coffee: Harmony
Head Usher-8:30am: Amanda Honeycutt
Head Usher-11:00am: Eddy David
Child. Church: 8:30am: Kingdom Kids
Teaching: Jami Warkentin
Children's Church: Marty David
Counters: Betty or Howard Smith & Karen Wilder

Sunday Volunteers—June 25

Visitors Center & Coffee: Harmony
Head Usher-8:30am: Amanda Honeycutt
Head Usher-11:00am: Eddy David
Child. Church-8:30am: Kingdom Kids
Teaching: Jami Warkentin
Children's Church: Amy Miller
Counters: Sondra Allen & Dick Ford

Please Keep In Prayer



Please remember these in your prayers:

Martha Scudder, Linda Tabberer, Charlene Reeves, Bert Woodward, Montie Box, Greta Green, David Allen, Elsie Jones, Sue Shaw, Bob & Cathy Hula, BW Proft, Montie Box, Albert Kahl's mom & sister in law, John & Sylvia Johnson, Bill & Clare Caldwell, Jack & Jewell Brown, Tim Bordelon, Barbara McClintock, Angy Krebs-Warden, Ron Hay, Ruth Weaver,

If someone needs to be added to the prayer list or someone was taken off too soon, please contact Tracey in the front office so the prayer list can be updated.

In case you were wondering...

There are still UMW Blue Cookbooks available.

This sounds like a very delicious recipe from Pat Bordelon. Did you know that every time I get a prayer chain to send out on e-mail, Pat takes that prayer chain and starts it on the phone chains. That is quite a commitment! Thank you, Pat for your dedication to the prayer chain and I know for sure, she prays diligently because if someone in my family is on a prayer chain, she always asks about them!

Sister's Swiss Steak

2 lb. round steak
1 c. flour
1 T. dry mustard
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. pepper
Oil
1 (15 1/2 oz.) can stewed tomatoes
2 carrots, sliced
1 lg. onion, chopped
1 T. brown sugar
2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce

Dredge meat in a mixture of flour, dry mustard, salt and pepper; brown in a skillet with a small amount of oil and place in a casserole dish. Rinse skillet with a small amount of water and pour over steak. Mix tomatoes, carrots, onion, brown sugar and Worcestershire sauce; pour over the meat in the casserole. Cover and bake 2 hours at 325°.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

Monday, June 12

9:00am-Project Transformation
7:00pm-Boy Scouts-FLC

Tuesday, June 13

9:00am-Project Transformation
7:00pm-Praise Team Practice
7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, June 14

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café
9:00am-Project Transformation
5:45pm-Y4Y
6:30pm-The Awakening—Youth
7:00pm-Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, June 15

9:00am-Project Transformation
*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

Friday, June 16

No Activities

Saturday, June 17

No Activities

Sunday, June 18-HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!!!

8:30am-Contemporary Worship
9:45am-Communion Service
9:45am-Sunday School
11:00am-Traditional Worship

Monday, June 19

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-Family Life Center

Tuesday, June 20

7:00pm-Praise Team Rehearsal
7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, June 21

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café
1:30pm-Mission to Stitch-Parlor
5:45pm-Y4Y
6:30pm-Youth-FLC
7:00pm-Chancel Choir

*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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