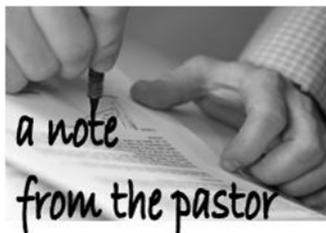


The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it:

'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." (Matthew 22:36-40, NRSV)

Dear friends in Christ,

Since Jesus said these two commandments are the greatest and that all the law and prophets hang on these, I choose to take him at his word. For me, that means using these two commandments as the framework for everything else. That does not mean that I am always successful, but I try to keep these at the center of decision-making and behavior choices. This causes me to wonder what the world might look like if everyone began with these two commandments and worked from there.

My first inclination is to cite examples of how race relations might be different, or how we might have avoided many wars and international conflicts. I could wonder about congressional gridlock and media bias. There are lots of global issues that would surely be different if God was our first love, followed by everyone else. But, those seem to be the "easy targets" and may be better suited to a theological textbook on human behavior or diplomacy. I also think that Jesus has something more personal and attainable in mind here.

I want you to take a few moments to imagine how your life and the lives of those with whom you interact might be different if these two commandments were always at the forefront of your mind.

I wonder, for example, if love for others might cause us to drive less aggressively and be more patient with drivers who may not be as competent as we would like. It might make it possible for us to consider that the clerk, or waiter, or neighbor is not rude; they are simply having a bad day or facing a crisis. It might cause you to reach out to that person with compassion and make their bad day a little better.

Love for God and people might lead you to forego a new tele-

vision this year so you can increase your contribution to the church or some other charitable cause. That is just one example of how these two commands should govern our decision-making process. Buy this or give to that? Another new gadget or extra food for Restore Hope?

I realize that you have heard all this before; you may even be tired of hearing it. The thing is that Jesus said this was the most important thing for us to do: love God and love others. If it's that important, then we should be happy to be reminded.

What I hope we can begin to see that, if we will practice this kind of love in the little things – like driving friendly and not being rude, then maybe we can begin to make a real difference in the global issues. We need to practice what we preach and show the rest of the world what living with the love of God looks like. It is a contagious way of life. Instead of Democrats fighting with Republicans, we might see both sides working together to find solutions to common problems. This same sort of cooperation could infect our personal relationship, business relationships, and international diplomacy. I believe that, when you allow love of God and of others to order your life, then you no longer see things in terms of "what's best for me". Choices become easier because they are less selfish.

In 1967, The Beatles released "All You Need is Love," which became a cultural anthem of the times. The song's lyrics carry a simple message that love is the answer to many of society's problems. Now, The Beatles are certainly not religious scholars, but they were on to something when it came to encouraging people to get along with each other. I don't think Jesus would dislike much of their music.

I think the point is that our culture has become very self-centered and divided along ideological lines. We often make decisions based on what we want or need with little thought to the impact our choices may have on another person. It's as if we are living in a bubble where we don't think our decisions affect others or we just don't care anymore. That attitude is exactly opposite of the two greatest commandments from Jesus.

*Trying to love,
Pastor Don*

Hey Kids-

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/>

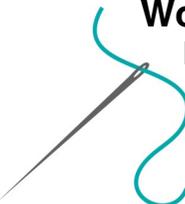
SandSpringsUMC/

Registration forms are also 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.

Wow! Mission To Stitch



If you have items to leave at the church for Cynthia, please leave them in CIA/Pathfinders classroom. I keep a running total on what has been turned in. So far this year we have given 430 caps with 221 being donated, 21 blankets, 23 blanket sets, 11 hankies and 59 gowns. I am so proud of all the work that has gone into this effort! Keep it up!
Cynthia



Cathy's Notes

It's that time of the year when the choir gets a well deserved vacation. For the month of July, anthems during the second service will be provided by members of our choir through solos, the Joyful Noise, our ladies' quartet, and the Nerrin family. I know you will be blessed by all the wonderful music. Regular choir practice will begin again on August 2.

The last few months have been trying for many of us in the choir. We've had surgeries, family illnesses and even some of us have lost loved ones. I would like to thank the choir for being

such a loving and caring group that prays weekly for each other. And as always, we find God is faithful. Any one who has a heart for music and loves fellowship, I encourage to try the choir. We would love to have you.

Singing His Praise,
Cathy



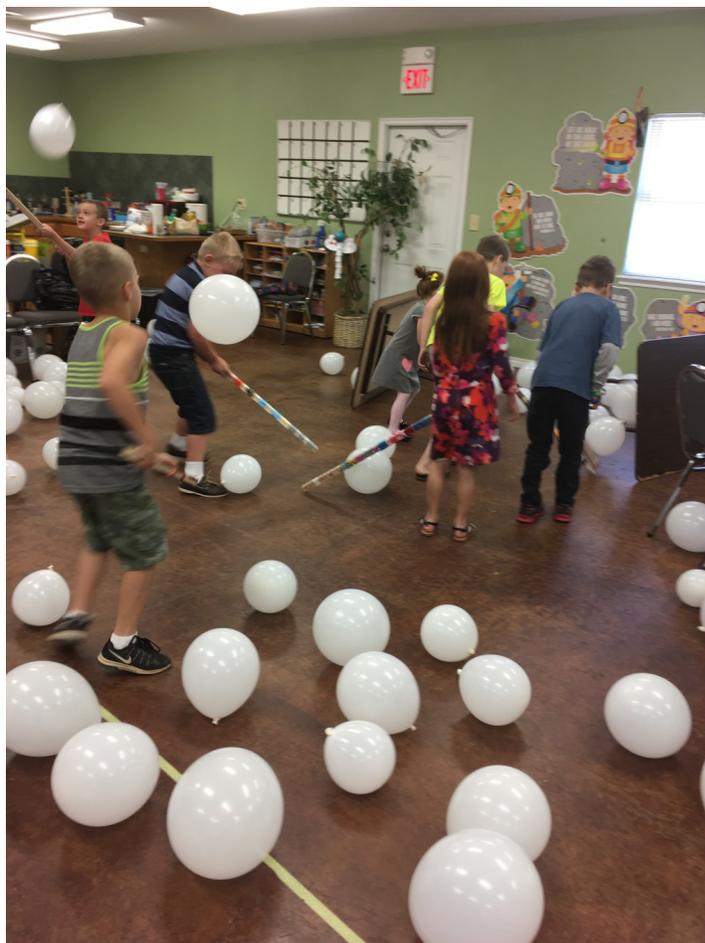
Hey Kids-

What great fun we had yesterday as we finished our story about the Lost Sheep. You were all great shepherds as we got our 100 "balloon sheep" into our

pen. How important to remember that Jesus loves us and wants us all be he His sheep. Next week we will start the story of a good neighbor- The Good Samaritan.

Remember to register for VBS which starts on July 16th. You can register online or use forms that are in the narthex. Have a great week-see you next Sunday! We hope Miss Debbie and her family have a great time in Minnesota this week.

Miss Debbie & Miss Marty



Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers—July 2

Visitors Center & Coffee: Discovery
 Head Usher-8:30am: Amanda Honeycutt
 Head Usher-11:00am: Eddy David
 Child. Church: 8:30am: Kingdom Kids
 Teaching: Jami Warkentin
 Children's Church: Children stay for communion
 Counters: Bob Barnes & Jami Warkentin

Sunday Volunteers—July 9

Visitors Center & Coffee: Discovery
 Head Usher-8:30am: Amanda Honeycutt
 Head Usher-11:00am: Eddy David
 Child. Church-8:30am: Kingdom Kids
 Teaching: Jami Warkentin
 Children's Church: Kat Katzung
 Counters: Janie Moore & Kent Warkentin

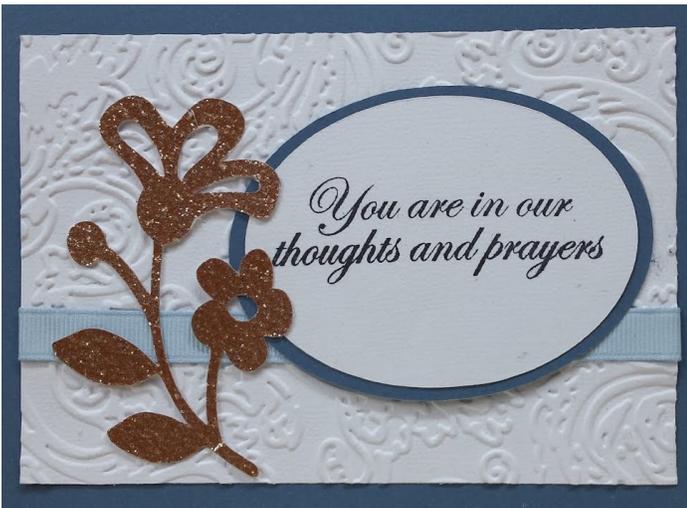
Please Keep In Prayer



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, 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.



We Offer our Prayers & Sympathy to the friends and family of Tim Bordelon.

We especially pray for Allen & Pat for the loss of their son.

Cards can be sent to Allen and Pat at 2458 Acorn Lane in Sand Springs-74063.

Now Available—
 We now have 2 walkers, a mans cane and a wheel chair.
 They are for our church family to borrow for themselves or family members.
 See Marybeth Arnold if you have any questions



Here are your	August 7
2017 Newsletter	August 21
weeks. Please	September 4?
remember-articles are	September 18
due by 11 a.m. on this	October 2
date. Please, mark	October 16
your calendars.	October 30
June 12	November 13
June 26	November 27
July 10	December 11
July 24	January 8, 2018

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

Monday, June 26

5:30pm-4th Monday Community Dinner-f.-F. Hall
7:00pm-Boy Scouts-FLC

Tuesday, June 27

6:30pm-Priscilla Circle Night Out
7:00pm-Praise Team Practice
7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, June 28

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

Thursday, June 29

*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

Friday, June 30

FLC in use

*FLC-Family Life Center
*-Not sponsored by
SSUMC but welcome*

*For more calendar
information, call the
office at 918-245-5955.*

Saturday, July 1

Garage Sale-FLC
(Boy Scout going for Eagle Scout project)

Sunday, July 2

8:30am-Contemporary Worship
9:45am-Sunday School
10:00am-1st Sunday Mission Project
11:00am-Traditional Worship
2-4 pm-FLC in use

Monday, July 3

No Tracey
7:00pm-Boy Scouts-Family Life Center

Tuesday, July 4-Offices Closed

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

Wednesday, July 5

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café
5:45pm-Y4Y
6:30pm-Youth-FLC
7:00pm-NO Chancel Choir

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

