

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



"No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us." (1 John 4:12, NIV)

This past Sunday in our message we once again encountered the question, "Who is Jesus?" We talked about how important the answer to that question really is in each person's life. How you answer that question affects everything else about you and your life of faith. We also talked about why Jesus had to come to earth and what difference that makes in our understanding of God and our relationship with God. If you answer the "Who is Jesus?" question – he is the Son of God, the Messiah, then today's devotion makes much more sense. During our conversation on Sunday, someone made the point that Jesus coming to earth made God accessible to all of us. Jesus brought the presence of God into our world and then, when he returned to heaven, he left the Holy Spirit behind to maintain God's presence in our world.

In John's first letter we are reminded that none of us have ever seen God face to face. However, the first Disciples were able to see God in the face of Jesus while he was with them. Jesus' presence in the world allowed human beings to actually see God face to face and talk with him and walk with him, reminiscent of the old hymn, "In the Garden".

My devotional for today (from *Jesus Calling*) challenges us to rest in Jesus' presence because the world in which we live "seems to spin faster and faster, till everything is a blur." Jesus offers us stability at the center of this swirling storm every day. It is at this "soothing center" that we can be re-fueled with all the promises Christ made before he left. Remember in the Gospel of John, Jesus told the disciples that he would not leave them as "orphans"; he promised to send the Holy Spirit to live with us, guide us, and teach us to love. (John 14:15-21). In Galatians 5:22, Paul wrote, "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, good-

ness, faithfulness." So, as we rest in the soothing center of Jesus presence' we are filled again with all these wonderful, refreshing gifts promised by Jesus to come to us through the Holy Spirit.

I think that sometimes we feel so overwhelmed by our circumstances and get a little lost in the whirlwind. It's easy to seek solutions to our problems from people and things of this world. We feel comfortable commiserating with others who feel as we do and who share some of the same problems we have. "Misery loves company," the old saying goes, and we may seek to alleviate our suffering by looking for those who are more miserable than we are. We may even seek to drown our misery in a sea of alcohol or prescription drugs. It's interesting how we sometimes seek to fix our own problems only to discover that they just keep getting worse under our expedient care.

"The world is a needy place; do not go there for sustenance," writes Sarah Young, author of *Jesus Calling*. "Learn to depend on Me alone, and your weakness will become saturated with My Power. When you find your completeness in Me, you can help other people without using them to meet your own needs. Live in the Light of My Presence, and your light will shine brightly into the lives of others."

We talked on Sunday about how it is vital that Christianity be lived-out in community. We support one another; we pray with and for one another. We do these things in the power of Jesus, not in our own power. It is God's presence with and in us that makes this community possible. Rest in the radiant presence of Jesus; find peace and strength there. Christianity is unique because God is truly present with us because of Jesus Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Because of Jesus God's love is made complete in us.

Resting with Jesus,
Pastor Don



CHILI COOK-OFF
SATURDAY, March 14 at
5:30 p.m. - FAMILY LIFE
CENTER

Please join us for an evening of fellowship & delicious food! Sign-up sheets are in the nar-

tex. You can sign up to bring chili and/or desserts as well as set up and clean up help. All donations will be used to purchase supplies for our **Restore Hope Missions Projects**.

BEREAVEMENT TEAM UPDATES

We will be updating our Bereavement Team lists soon. Please let Virginia know if you would like to be added to our rotation list to provide a dish, or would be available to assist with set up and/or cleanup. Our Bereavement lunches provide a loving atmosphere with nutritious (and delicious) food that is so appreciated by the families. Our teams are typically asked to provide a lunch only 2 or 3 times a year. Also, if you are on a list and feel the need to be removed at this time, please let Virginia know that also. Call 918-245-9248 or email dvbaldridge@cox.net. If you would like more information - please ask.

Lenten Lunch Series

Once again this year churches in Sand Springs will host "Tuesdays in Lent," a series of worship celebrations and lunches for the whole community. We will gather at various churches on Tuesdays during Lent at 12:00 NOON for a brief worship celebration and then we will gather for a lunch, hosted by the church. The idea is to have you back to work on time after lunch. Please plan to join us during Lent as we celebrate and break bread with our friends across Sand Springs.

2015 Lent Lunch Schedule

- February 24 First Presbyterian Church
- March 3 St. Patrick's Catholic Church
- March 10 St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
- March 17 Sand Springs United Methodist Church
- March 24 Dillon Legacy Chapel
- March 31 St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

UMW NEWS

Get your calendars out ladies! March is very busy!!

- March 12**, 5:30 p.m.-UMW Executive Meeting
- March 26**, 7 p.m.-Faith Circle-Marty has the program.
- March 24** at 7 p.m.-Priscilla Circle meets at the home of Susan Edwards. Marybeth has the program.
- March 26** at 1 p.m. Ruth Esther Circle meets in the F. Hall and Jay & Judy have the program. The topic will be: Why do 6 million children die every day from water related diseases?

March 23 is UMW 150th Anniversary-Legacy Giving Day. Call Leesa Hairgrove or Trish House for more information.

March 28 at 9:30 a.m. is District Spiritual Day Apart at Christ UMC. We will carpool from the church. Call Judy Bullard if you want to go.

March 29 and April 1 is Screening of the movie from the book *Half the Sky*. A program on the needs of women and human trafficking. It starts at 12 noon or 12:30 p.m. Box lunches are available. The schedule is on the screen in the Foyer. This event happens at Boston Ave. UMC.

Our church sponsors the luncheon after the Lenten Service on **March 17th**. We will need your soups, chili, desserts by 11:45 a.m. We expect around 8- to 100 people so we need lots of food. Sign up sheets are on the table in the Foyer. Set up and Clean up helpers are also needed.

Thank You—Judy Bullard

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Thanks to Pam Winn (See Matthew 4:6)

03-18-2005

THINGS EASED UP ON GUARDIAN ANGELS AFTER AIR BAGS WERE INVENTED



THE AWAKENING

Upcoming Events

March 18 – Movie Night (FLC @ 6:30)

March 25 – Youth at Green Tree (meet at FLC @5:30pm)

Now that the weather has turned warmer and the streets are clear again, I hope to see all of the youth and volunteers back this Wednesday night. Last time we met we had around 12 youth show up and I would like to see at least that many show up this week.

Next week over spring break we will take a little break from the normal Wednesday night activities and have a movie night. We'll start the movie a little after 6:30 pm so don't be late!

If you hadn't heard, our Valentine's party last month at Green Tree was amazing. Approximately 20 residents (a record number, I believe) came to play bingo with us and enjoy the Valentine's treats that we brought. The boxes that our children made for them were a huge hit, also. Thanks so much for all of the support from everyone who helped make this happen.

Our next outing to Green Tree is scheduled on March 25th so I hope the youth will be ready to party with them after having some time off over spring break. It should be another fun night where we can reflect the love of Jesus on the Green Tree residents.

Finally, I'd like to give a big "Thank You" to all of the volunteers that help make Wednesday nights run smoothly and who take time out of their schedules to show our youth that we care about them. Those people include not only the youth group volunteers but also all of the church groups that serve us by providing meals each Wednesday night. Thank you for all that you do!!

Kent

Thank You... Thank you so much for the prayers, cards and phone calls during and after my surgery. I appreciate your thoughtfulness and look forward to seeing you again soon.

Karen Wilder



KidZone

On Sunday the children will be learning the Bible story of Jesus healing a blind man as they continue working on their Life of Jesus books.

The children are still hard at work on the musical, The Legend of the Three Trees, in Kingdom Kids. We will be excited that they will perform it for the congregation this spring.

Have a fun and safe spring break! See you Sunday!

Please Keep In Prayer

Martha Scudder, Tristan Schwartz, Darryl Muse, Jack Brown, Ruth Weaver, Paul Waldschmidt, Destinee Tackett, Billie Schmidt, Irene Stogsdill, Owen Johnston, Clare Caldwell, Craig Cooper, Jan Dickerson, Mary Lea Forsythe, and Unspoken Requests

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers—March 15

Visitors Center & Coffee-Discovery
Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
Young Disciples Lesson-8:30a.m.-Jami Warkentin
Young Disciples Lesson-11:00a.m.-Jami Warkentin
Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids
Child. Church-11:00 a.m.-Lisa & Caleb Massey
Counters-Diana Pond & Jack Vest

Sunday Volunteers—March 22

Visitors Center & Coffee-Discovery
Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
Young Disciples Lesson-8:30a.m.-Jami Warkentin
Young Disciples Lesson-11:00a.m.-Jami Warkentin
Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids
Child. Church-11:00 a.m.-Katherine Reeves
Counters-Karen Wilder & Betty or Howard Smith

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 11

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

Thursday, March 12

5:30 p.m.-UMW Executive Meeting
5:30 p.m.-FLC in use
7:00 p.m.-*Karate-FLC

Friday, March 13

5:30 p.m.-FLC in use

Saturday, March 14

9:00 a.m.-Helping Hands-SSCS
5:30 p.m.-Chili Cook Off-FLC

Sunday, March 15

8:30 a.m.-Modern Worship; 11:00 a.m.-Classic Worship
9:45 a.m.-Communion Service
10:00 a.m.-Sunday School
10:00 a.m.-Confirmation Class-F. Hall
2:30 p.m.-Church Council
4:00 p.m.-Stewardship
5:00 p.m.-Praying Backwards-Parlor

Monday, March 16

10:00 a.m.-Funeral/Family Lunch
5:30 p.m.-FLC in use
7:00 p.m.-Boy Scouts-FLC

Tuesday, March 17

11:00 a.m.-NO Intercessory Prayer
12:00 p.m.-Lenten Lunch-SSUMC
1:00 p.m.-Staff Meeting
6:30 p.m.-Cub Scouts-FLC
7:00 p.m.-Praise Team
7:00 p.m.-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, March 18

7:30 a.m.-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café
6:00 p.m.-Chancel Ringers
6:30 p.m.-Youth Movie Night-FLC
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 19

1:00 p.m.-Ruth Esther Circle-F. Hall
5:30 p.m.-FLC in use
7:00 p.m.-Faith Circle-Parlor
7:00 p.m.-*Karate-FLC

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