

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." (Romans 8:37, NIV)

Once again this morning, Oswald Chambers (*My Utmost for His Highest*) seems to be listening in on SSUMC. Today's devotion is titled, **"Undaunted Radiance"** and

grows out of this verse from Paul's Letter to the Romans. Paul is talking about the many things that *seem* to separate or drive a wedge in between the love of God and the believer. That is the overarching theme of our Journey of Stones this Lenten Season. There are so many things that get in the way of our relationship with God and we must constantly be aware of removing those obstacles. That is why I have taken the time to use the symbolism of stones being picked up and then laid down at the foot of the cross. The stones we use in worship each week represent our sins, our missteps, our greed, our selfishness, our impatience, and all the many other things that stand between us and a faithful relationship with Jesus. Paul's reassurance is that none of these things are more powerful than the love of God. Listen as he continues to write:

"For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39, NRSV).

What that really means is that not even the depths of alcoholism or drug addiction can be so dark that Christ cannot see in and pull you out. There is no condition of substance abuse where God cannot

be present to walk with and heal the addict. That also means that there is no addiction that should prevent us from reaching out to offer hope and love for the addict.

Paul tells us that job loss or the fear of job loss is no match for the assurance that Jesus can and will stand beside you in the midst of it. Worries about the economic doom and gloom we hear about every day are the stuff that stones are made from and they need to be left at the foot of the cross. Paul assures us that our selfishness, our lack of forgiveness, our tendency to gossip, our turning away from people in need, our pride, our aggression, and our constant battles against temptation are no match for the love of God in Christ Jesus. Nothing, not even our own mighty efforts, can destroy us if we will rest in the loving arms of Christ and let go of the stones that weigh us down.

Believe me when I say that I am painfully aware of how difficult it can be to let go of things that get in the way. It is an ongoing effort to identify these stones and then lay them at the cross; and the stones just keep coming. Hear these words as Dr. Chambers closes today's devotion:

"Undaunted radiance is not built on anything passing, but on the love of God that nothing can alter. The experiences of life, terrible or monotonous, are impotent to touch the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Undaunted radiance = unshrinking brilliance – the Light of Christ in and through us.

*I am loved,
Pastor Don*



HERBAL AFFAIR NEWS

The Herbal Affair isn't until April 16 but there are some major changes you need to know about. For the first time, all bake sale items will need to be prepared in the kitchen at the Family Life Center. We have a couple of options on how to go about this: (1) each of you bring the ingredients for your own recipe and you mix them up and bake them there; or (2) make a cash donation and the necessary items will be purchased in bulk to be mixed and baked at the FLC. If we buy in bulk, we will limit our baking to cookies and brownies. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to list your bake sale items and whether or not you will be providing the ingredients or making a cash donation. The tentative plan is to do our baking on April 13-15. A schedule of baking times will be coming soon. Items baked at the FLC will also be packaged at the FLC. Please remember that we need your help with baking and/or packaging. The health inspector will be present at some point on any or all of our baking days and will need to know what we plan to make so the inspector on the day of the Herbal Affair will know what to look for. If you have questions, please e-mail me at kwilder1229@wildblue.net or give me a call at 918-241-3259.



UMW NEWS

A BIG THANK YOU goes out to all those who brought food, set-up, served and cleaned up for the Lenten Luncheon last week. Everyone enjoyed the event thanks to you.

We had almost 30 at the UMW Ladies Brunch last week. Shelly Owen shared information regarding the work of deaconess' in our church. It is a great way for lay women to serve Jesus in our communities.

Thanks to all who brought food, set up and cleaned up. Thanks for organizing it all, Betty Smith. Great job!

March 10 – UMW Executive Meeting-5:30 pm.
Circles meet on the 4th Tuesday and Thursday except for Faith which will meet on the 5th Thursday because of the Maundy Thursday Services on the 24th. Spiritual Growth Retreats are scheduled in April:
April 2nd 9:30-2:00 at Sapulpa UMC. Lunch costs \$5.00. We are to bring snack items for backpacks for kids.

April 29th – May 1 State Meeting at Camp Egan.

Theme: What are you trying to tell me God?

Let Judy Bullard know if you are interested and we will get the registration forms to you.

Herbal Affair: we will participate but our bake goods have to be cooked at the FLC due to Health Regulations. Watch for the schedule. Let Karen Wilder know what you want to bake this year.

Thank you , Ladies. Keep up the good work.

Judy



Cathy's Notes

The choir has been working very hard on the Good Friday cantata, "Lamentations of the Lamb." It is full of beautiful melodies that chronicle the Last Supper, Christ's betrayal and trial and His crucifixion. How can such horrendous events be sung with beautiful melodies? We know that Jesus went through it all for you and me because of His immeasurable love for us. That is beautiful. The Kingdom Kids will be singing in the second service Palm Sunday. They will join our Chancel Choir for a special prelude.

These last two weeks, our pipe organ has been tuned, voiced and cleaned. I can definitely hear the difference. The work is not over. The expression pedals and half of the foot pedals do not work. In order to get this done, we are starting an organ fund, which I mentioned earlier this year. If you would like to give to this fund, please write your check to the church and put "organ fund" in the memo. May God bless you this Lenten season.

Cathy



Kidzone

What a great time the kids had filling Easter baskets for Sand Springs Community Services. We did 54 baskets!

Thanks to the youth, Tris-

tan, Ms. Susie and her class for helping. This Sunday, we will continue with our Easter lessons. We are practicing the song "Hosanna" which we will sing on Palm Sunday with the adult choir. Don't forget our "Easter burrito breakfast" on March 27th during Kidzone. Parents and grandparents are invited to come. We know that you are all excited about Spring break coming up. Have a great week and see you on Sunday!

SENIORS IN ACTION!

Ahoy, there!! Our March activity will be a trip to the Port of Catoosa's Maritime Education Center! We'll learn about the port's history, and the importance of being Oklahoma's only land-locked seaport. A tugboat is on static display on the grounds, which will be interesting. I am waiting for a return call as I write this, and we will be handing out flyers with specific details this coming Sunday. We plan on a morning tour, leaving about 9:30, and eating lunch together in the Catoosa area before coming home. Please plan on joining us for this event! Questions? . . . see Max or Sharon Schuermann or call 918.246.9159.



NEWSFLASH SIA

The date is Friday, March 18th and we will carpool from the church at 9:00 a.m. sharp.

March 19

9:00 a.m.

11th & Main Street

FLOWERBED CLEAN UP

Come Join us in getting the lawn

Easter Ready!



Missions Update

We are calling a work day for Saturday March 19th to clean and prepare the church and grounds for Passion Week which begins with Palm Sunday March 20th. Meet at the church at 9:00.

Several members met at Exodus House on Saturday March 5th to clean and do minor fix-ups for our sponsored apartment. The report I received is it is spic and span! We need to have another day to finalize it before our next resident is ready to move in. Thank you to all who worked!

I was unable to help at Exodus House as I was attending Lay Servant training at St. Mark's UMC. Allow me a moment to comment about what I observed. There were 18 students in the Basic class, including me, and 16 in the Advanced class. At SSUMC we tell people about our emphasis on missions, but I saw that St. Mark's, whose Sunday attendance is about one-third of our attendance, had six people in the Basic class! Leonard UMC, who has a very small membership, had three people, as did Verdigris UMC. I was the only one from SSUMC. I witnessed people working together and I felt a reassurance in our faith and even a future. One of my classmates, who is a resident of Sand Springs but attends elsewhere, wasn't very religious until she began working in a Methodist church. A year later, she is a church member and on her way to becoming a Lay Servant. By the way, she said she would check out our 4th Monday Meal with her children later this month.

Your brother in Christ

Buster hall



Hello everybody! I hope you all are enjoying this beautiful weather that makes it feel like spring is right around the corner. As soon as I say that knowing Oklahoma we will be coming down with a deep freeze this weekend. I want to apologize for these past couple of newsletters not having an up-

date. It's not fair for you all not knowing what is going on in the youth department. I have been a tad bit irresponsible in that department and have now set an alarm system to notify me of the deadline. I have my areas of weakness that I need to continue to work on. As we travel through this adventure of lent together that is one thing we can all reflect on. Not just our sins, but also our weaknesses that we can work on. Lent is a wonderful time, because instead of us looking at other people's faults and weaknesses we take this time to pay attention to ours. I have been teaching my kids the importance of trying our best. Each and every day we wake up in the morning we have an opportunity to be an example of Christ's love to everybody we come in contact with. There will be days that we will come up short and that may look like having a bad attitude, not paying attention to those opportunities, or choosing to not love our enemies. We are human and those days will come, but I have tried to let my kids know it is important to reflect back on those days and wonder what we could have done better in those opportunities. We must always try our best in each and every day. My dad always taught me that as long as I tried my best in any area of life that at the end of the day you cant be mad at that. God asks us to love everybody we come in contact with and to also try our best. That's what I ask all of us to do this week. Try our best each and every day to be the shining light of Christ to the darkness in this world.

"Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear."

Ephesians 4:29

Help Wanted

We are seeking nursery attendants to start immediately. Please contact the Church Office.

PLEASE NOTE

Personal events scheduled at the Family Life Center will now require a filled out form to be filed with the front office. See Tracey for a form.

Upcoming Meetings

March 10-UMW Executive Meeting
March 20-Finance Meeting
March 20-Church Council Meeting

If you know someone who would like to get the newsletter, please let the front office know.



Don't forget to set all of your clocks one hour ahead!

THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 13

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers—March 13

Visitors Center & Coffee-Discovery
 Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
 Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids
 Teaching: Jami Warkentin
 Child. Church-11:00 a.m.-Katherine Reeves
 Counters-Sondra Allen & Dick Ford

Sunday Volunteers—March 20

Visitors Center & Coffee-Discovery
 Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
 Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids
 Teaching: Jami Warkentin
 Child. Church-11:00 a.m.-Kat Katzung
 Counters-Sheree Buttler & Jami Warkentin

8:30 a.m. Worship Songs 3/13 & 3/20

You Are Holy
Here Is Our King
This I Believe
Ancient Words
Holy Spirit
I Lift My Eyes Up

Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)
Marvelous Light
Everlasting God
Hosanna
Shout to the Lord
The King of All of Me



12:00 p.m.

Mark Your Calendars and Join Us

3/8-First Presbyterian Church
 222 N. Adams Road

3/15-St. Patrick's Catholic Church
 204 E. 4th

3/22-St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
 601 Lake Drive

Please Keep In Prayer



*Martha Scudder, Don Baldrige,
 Bob & Cathy Hula, BW Proft, Clare
 Caldwell, Darryl Muse, Jack &
 Jewell Brown, Owen Johnston,
 Ruth Weaver, Tristan Schwartz,
 Delbert Sloan, Leonard Whisen-
 hunt, Darin Grayson, Chris Bor-
 delon, Mark, Jim McCormick, Aa-
 ron (Dustin Dinsmore's friend),*

*Pauline Hanigar, Morene Baker, Barbara
 McClintock, SSUMC & Unspoken Requests*



Here are your
2016 Newsletter
 weeks. Please
 remember-articles are
 due by 11 a.m. on this
 date. Please, mark
 your calendars.

June 27	March 21
July 11	April 4
July 25	April 18
August 8	May 2
August 22	May 16
September 5	May 30
September 19	June 13
October 3	
October 17	
October 31	
November 14	
November 28	
December 12	
January 9, 2017	



Here is some of your **2016 Youth Dinner Schedule**

3/9-Last time for Crossroads/Discovery
 3/16-No Youth
 3/23-Noah/Searchers
 3/30-Harmony

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

Tuesday, March 8

12:00pm-Lenten Devotion-1st Presbyterian
5:30pm-Cub Scouts-FLC
7:00pm-Praise Team Practice
7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, March 9

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

Thursday, March 10

5:30pm-UMW Executive Meeting
*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

Friday, March 11

No Activities

Saturday, March 12

9:00am-Flowerbed Clean up-4th Street
12-4-FLC in use

Sunday, March 13

8:30am-Contemporary Worship
9:45am-Communion Service
10:00am-Sunday School
11:00am-Traditional Worship
1:30pm-Boy Scout Leadership Training-FLC

Monday, March 14

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-Family Life Center

Tuesday, March 15

12:00pm-Lenten Devotion-St. Patrick's Catholic Church
5:30pm-Cub Scouts-FLC
7:00pm-Praise Team Rehearsal
7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

NOTE:

FLC-Family Life Center

**-Not sponsored by SSUMC but welcome*

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

***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***