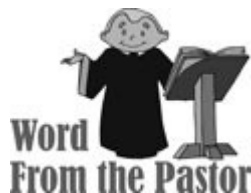


The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



"These are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name." (John 20:31)

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Easter celebration is over. Christ has been raised and our redemption is complete. So, what happens now? What difference does Easter really make in your life each day? Jesus spent his life showing us ways to live more closely to the way God intended. He showed us how to care for one another; how to love unconditionally; how to give ourselves generously. All that Jesus said and did was about helping us become the people God intended so that we might have life more fully in His name. Yet, I wonder *what happens now*.

Easter morning was a great day for our church. We welcomed large crowds into our sanctuary, we sang wonderful worship songs, and we rejoiced as hundreds of tissue-paper butterflies were released into the air. There was good food and fellowship. Now, we've cleaned up the butterflies, sent the lilies home to be planted, and the crowds are thinning out again. Did Easter make any difference at all?

Imagine sitting vigil at the bedside of your spouse, your child, or a sibling. All the signs are bad and the doctors have told you to be prepared to say goodbye. You understand, but you also know you will miss this person terribly. Then the signs change and your loved one revives and recovers from whatever had threatened their life. Would you not rejoice? Would you not want to spend every possible moment with them?

We watched with the Disciples as Jesus suffered and died. Then we rejoiced at his resurrection. Should we not now want to spend as much time as possible with Jesus? The more time we spend with him, the more we realize who we are meant to be. We discover that the life he asks us to live is challenging; we also begin to understand that this life will improve the lives of others and we will be so much happier as a result.

Jesus did not establish a church with doctrinal standards, confessions of faith, and rules for order and discipline. Jesus started a movement driven by love for God and love for others. We cannot fully embrace this movement unless and until

we are willing to love without judgment or fear.

John Wesley famously wrote: *"Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike? May we not be of one heart, though we are not of one opinion? Without all doubt, we may. Herein all the children of God may unite, notwithstanding these smaller differences."*

I believe that Easter should make a big difference in the way we live each day. It should help us realize what is truly important in life and what is just noise. It should empower us to think differently about other people because they are as much children of God as we are. It should help us see beyond the pain and struggle we face in this world, into the promise of eternity in the presence of Jesus. Easter is about healing and wholeness, redemption and love. It is a celebration that should last all year long. If you believe that you have the right to enjoy this celebration, then you must also believe that every other human being has the same right.

It seems to me that many people argue over a wide variety of issues simply because they are not listening to the person they are arguing with. They are not listening because they do not respect the other's opinions. They do not respect the other's opinions because they do not respect the other as a loved child of God. We have forgotten that we are all in this world together and we allow division to grow out of differences of opinion over details that often do not matter; at least, details that do not matter to God. Bishop Karen Olivetto recently said this: *"I believe this is what John Wesley meant when he said, 'In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.' He wove into the very fabric of the Methodist movement a vigorous tension of difference that enlivens unity, not detracts from it."*

We may never agree with everyone, we can, however, love them and expect love from them, if we treat everyone as Easter People. We must stop focusing on the petty details that divide us and generously accept that which unites us. God loves all of Creation, whether we do or not. Maybe we should learn a lesson about love from God. (John 3:16)

Pastor Don

The Praise Team's Singin' Your Songs...

The praise team will be singing your favorite songs this Summer. All you have to do is let us know your favorites! You can fill out the pink post card or call Tracey in the office (918.245.5955) and we will work in as many as we can.

1st Quarter Giving Statements

Your first quarter giving statements are ready. They are available on the Welcome Center table. Please be sure to pick yours up as they will not be mailed out.

UMW Says—THANKS!

"Many thanks to all who participated in the Herbal Affair whether it was baking, selling or buying. A big shout out to Cynthia Edelman and Trish House for stepping up and making the cinnamon rolls this year. Great job ladies! The money raised will enable the UMW to support local missions including Project Transformation, VBS, youth missions, SS Community Services and Restore Hope to name a few. We couldn't do the things we do without your support. Thank you, Karen"

Hey kids



Have you started your countdown for how many school days left? Miss Marty has -after today I have 8 days left! What fun we had yesterday as we dressed in Biblical

costumes and reenacted the times Jesus met with his friends and disciples after his resurrection. He shared his love for them and promised to always be with them. Next week we will continue our "Cave Quest" lesson-Jesus gives us power. Have a great week and see you next Sunday.
Miss Debbie & Miss Marty

Mother's Day—May 14
Father's Day—June 18



UMW News

Thank you to all the bakers, salesclerks and those who helped set up and take down for the Herbal Affair. Especially a BIG THANK YOU to

Karen Wilder for putting it all together. God bless you!

May Activities

May 4th, Thursday – UMW Executive Meeting at 5:30 pm in the CIA/Pathfinders Classroom

Faith Circle - May 18th – Ladies' Night Out at Ron's Hamburgers- 6:30 pm.

Priscilla Circle – No Meeting

Ruth Esther Circle -May 25th – 1:00 in Fellowship Hall. JoAnn Nelson – Refreshments, Barbara Fisher - Devotion, Joyce Stewart – Program.

Flower preparation – May - Monday and Thursday AM - 9:30 at FLC Check your e-mail for further information.

Flower Sakes – Work sign-up sheets will be in the Narthex on Sunday, May 7th.

Mission to Stitch – May 17th in Parlor at 1:30 pm. Have a blessed and healthy month.

Youth Pie/Dessert Auction

Get out your favorite dessert recipes... the youth will be auctioning off yummy treats on

SUNDAY, MAY 21

9:45AM-Narthex

Bring a treat for the auction and your giving spirit. Youth Mission Trips change lives!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Church Picnic

June 4

3:00pm to 6:00pm

Family Life Center

More information coming soon!

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers—May 7

Visitors Center & Coffee: CIA/Pathfinders
 Head Usher-8:30am: Amanda Honeycutt
 Head Usher-11:00am: Eddy David
 Child. Church: 8:30am: Kingdom Kids
 Teaching: Jami Warkentin
 Children's Church: Communion
 Counters: Diana Pond & Jack Vest

Sunday Volunteers—May 14

Visitors Center & Coffee: CIA/Pathfinders
 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: Betty or Howard Smith & Karen Wilder

In case you were wondering...

There are still UMW Blue Cookbooks available. Here is a sample of a yummy recipe that was submitted by Cloeta Mullins. How I miss her and her volunteer spirit. She was a true sweetie!

Seven-Can Soup

3 cans Ranch-Style Beans 1 lb. ground beef
 3 cans minestrone soup 1 c. onions, chopped
 1 can Ro-Tel tomatoes/jalapeno peppers [I'm sure you can get it without the peppers!]

Brown meat. Add onion. Cook until tender. Add soups and cook until the flavors mix. Serve with cornbread.

Gosh-That sounds yummy!!

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday—8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
 Closed 1:40 to 2:40 p.m. (temporarily)

Please remember, push the door bell button before using your key. The front door is unlocked with the key but magnet locked for us to buzz you in. If you use your key, you will not be able to get in as it will actually lock the door. If no one clicks you in, go ahead and use your key.

Please Keep In Prayer



Please remember these in your prayers:

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

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.



Here are your 2017 Newsletter weeks. Please remember-articles are due by 11 a.m. on this date. Please, mark your calendars.

May 1	July 24
May 15	August 7
May 29 ?	August 21
June 12	September 4?
June 26	September 18
July 10	October 2
	October 16
	October 30
	November 13
	November 27
	December 11
	January 8, 2018



Here is some of your 2017 Youth Dinner Schedule

May 3-TNT
 May 10-Ruth Esther Circle
 May 17-Seniors In Action
 May 24-Priscilla Circle
 May 31-Noah/Searchers



All churches in the Oklahoma Annual Conference now have access to the Real Discipleship Survey online. This system, designed by Phil Maynard, offers a way for churches to survey their maturity on six dimensions of the discipleship journey. This service is offered to all OKUMC churches free of charge. The survey measures: a life of worship, a life of hospitality, a life open to Jesus, a life of obeying Jesus, a life of service, and a life of generosity. Upon taking the survey, participants discover if they are exploring, beginning, growing, or maturing in each of those categories.

1.) Sign Up: Visit: <http://discipleshipsurvey.com/member.html> and enter our conference code:

PEACEJOY

2.) Create Account: In order to take the Real Discipleship Survey online you will need to enter an email address and create a secure password. Choose your District (COUNCIL OAK) and your church from the dropdown lists, fill out the email and password fields and then click the blue "Sign Up" button. Use the click here link on the next screen to continue. You can also access the survey by visiting <http://discipleshipsurvey.com/memberlogin.html> after creating your account.

3.) Log In: Enter the password and email address you provided in step 2 in order to log in.

4.) Choose Your Groups: We have chosen to measure the survey statistics both at the churchwide level and by individual church groups. Use the blue "Edit Profile" button to select the group(s) to which you belong. (ie: Church Council, Teachers/Leaders, etc.) Simply choose YES for those groups to which you belong.

5.) Take Survey: Take the Real Discipleship Survey by clicking the blue "Take Survey" button and then selecting the one box of each color that fits you best. After completing the survey use the blue "Submit Survey" button. Your results will be displayed for you at that time. You may also select to view additional information or have your results sent to your email account. You may use <http://discipleshipsurvey.com/memberlogin.html> to log in and view your results at any time. You will also be able to retake the survey at

a later date in order to measure changes in your discipleship over time.

Thank you so much for participating. If you know someone who may need help completing this survey, please reach out to help them or contact the Church Office for assistance.

SENIORS IN ACTION! We'll meet at **THIS Thursday** evening, May 4th, 6 P.M., at the Sand Springs Museum, for a presentation called 'TOOLS OF THE TRADES'. Tim Hoss of Tim Hoss Antique Tool Collections will give us an interesting guided tour and history of his collection. It's a historical account of tradesmen tools over the past century. This will be of special interest to all you men, but anyone interested in history will enjoy it! Please call Max & Sharon for information about gathering for a meal before the presentation at [918-619-5141](tel:918-619-5141). Sharon will need a head count for the event! Hope you all can come!



Mark Your Calendar Upcoming Events

Mother's Day-May 14
Mission to Stitch-1:30pm-May 17
Faith Circle to Ron's Hamburgers-6:30pm-May 18
UMW Flower Sales-May 20-27
Youth Pie/Dessert Auction-9:45am-May 21
Finance Meeting-1:30pm-May 21
Church Council-2:30pm-May 21
4th Monday Community Dinner-5:30pm-May 22
No Tracey-May 24 & 25
Ruth Esther Circle-1:00pm-May 25
Church Picnic-3-6pm-June 4-Family Life Center
Project Transformation-9-noon-June 12-15
Metropolitan Baptist Church
1228 W. Apache- in Tulsa
Father's Day-June 18
Ruth Esther Circle-1pm-June 22
4th Monday Community Dinner-5:30pm-June 26
VBS-July 16-20
No Tracey July 17-July 20
UMW Climate Justice Mission Study-10am-July 29



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

Monday, May 1

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-FLC

Tuesday, May 2

6:00pm-Cub Scouts-FLC

7:00pm-Praise Team Practice

7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, May 3

7:30am-Men's/Women's Breakfast-Crescent Café

5:45pm-Y4Y

6:30pm-The Awakening—Youth

7:00pm-Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, May 4

5:30pm-UMW Executive Meeting-Parlor

6:00pm-SIA to Sand Springs Museum

*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

Friday, May 5

No Activities

Saturday, May 6

No Activities

Sunday, May 7

8:30am-Contemporary Worship

10:00am-1st Sunday Missions

10:00am-Sunday School

11:00am-Traditional Worship

1:30pm-Boy Scout Leadership Training-FLC

Monday, May 8

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-Family Life Center

Tuesday, May 9

6:00pm-Cub Scouts-FLC

7:00pm-Praise Team Rehearsal

7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, May 10

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café

5:45pm-Y4Y

6:30pm-The Awakening—Youth

7:00pm-Chancel Choir Rehearsal

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

Mother's Day ~ May 14, 2017

