

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



"Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

(2 Corinthians 9:7, NRSV)

This is traditionally the time of year when churches talk about

faithful stewardship. We are busy making budgets for next year and putting together our annual reports for the "dreaded" Charge Conference. It's the time we are all reminded that there is an inconvenient business component to church that most of us would rather not have to deal with. Church is supposed to be about God and mission and learning; it's about fellowship and pot luck and church camp. Nobody really wants to think about the tedious stuff that makes all the wheels turn.

I must agree that this side of the church can be challenging. We would all rather be doing what God asks us to do, than figuring out how to pay the bills. The reality is that we need to be concerned with this aspect of ministry so we can get to do the fun parts that help other people. We need the things that our money provides to do worship, VBS, Sunday school, mission projects, and so forth. The real blessing is that we have the resources available to us to offer to these activities. Zechariah 8:13 says: *"I will save you that you may become a blessing."* God's people are blessed to bless others. God pours out His grace on us so that we will slop it over on others who are starving and dying without hope. Because God has promised to bless us abundantly, we should be a blessing to others. That is the way I prefer to think about the "business" of the church.

I believe that we have all been blessed with so much bounty in so many ways. The poorest American is still better off than most of the rest of humanity. We are also blessed with educational opportunities that many countries cannot imagine. We live with freedoms many others do not enjoy; freedoms that have been hard-won. I look at what we have in this country and realize how much we have and how much God expects from us. It occurs to me that this concept of *"blessed to be a blessing"* is a privilege, not a duty. It is grace-filled to bless others with what God provides and we are blessed again as we share. It really is a circle of blessing that grows wider as we spread God's love.

So, as we move into our season of stewardship, I hope that we will each consider what God has given and what God is asking us to do with it. Think about what you need and what abundance you have beyond your need. Listen for what God might be telling you, offering you an opportunity to participate in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

Our faithful stewardship is about using the gifts, talents, skills, and financial resources we are blessed with to help others find their way to Jesus. That is the point of being given so much – so that we may be able to help other people realize their own relationship with God. We use what we have to build community within the church and model that community for the rest of the world. Being good stewards of God's blessings is so much more than giving a portion of our finances to keep the light on at church. Being good stewards is about sharing our whole selves with others. As we show the love of Jesus, others will begin to notice and want what we have to offer. We can truly change the world when we make people aware of the possibilities God has in store for them. I hope that our church will continue to reach out to our community, sharing what we have. I am constantly thrilled to see what this congregation does. Caring for the Ninth Grade Center, volunteering at Restore Hope, Fourth Monday meals, disaster relief, Thanksgiving meal delivery; the list is amazing. We also have a group called the Mission Strategy Team who is working to discover new and creative ways to reach our community through the Family Life Center facility. We are examining the gifts and resources we have to figure out the best ways to reach more people in the name of Christ. The promise that God made in the Old Testament remains in place for us: God blesses so we may bless and God promises to provide for us and care for us. We gain so much from our giving, even if that sounds a little backward. The more we give to help others, the more we receive to our spirits. Maybe that's how grace works – what goes around, comes around. We receive more grace as we live a grace-filled life; as we give God's love to others, we feel more loved. It's just a thought.

**God bless,
Pastor Don**

GARAGE SALE

CHURCH-WIDE GARAGE SALE...
...on Friday, October 27 – Saturday, October 28 at the FAMILY LIFE CENTER

Did you have leftovers from this summer's neighborhood garage sale? Is it time to clean out your closets, garage, or storage building? Would you like to turn your "great stuff" into cash to help pay Apportionments?

David and Sondra Allen are spear-heading this project to help us all do our Fall Cleaning around the house AND raise some money for our mission contribution to the global church.

Saturday, October 21 you can bring your donations to the family life center between 9am and 2pm.

(Thanks, David and Sondra!)

So, start now planning to donate your "great stuff" to this worthy cause.

Contact David Allen for more information.

(918-638-0565)

Y4Y Taking Over Praise Team Sunday

The Y4Y youth praise team will be replacing our regular praise team in the early service (8:45am) this Sunday, October 8th for Children's Sabbath. Come enjoy the sounds of the kids who have grown up in the church and are now giving back with their talents!



Circle Meetings

Faith Circle meets on Oct. 26th in the Parlor at 6:30 pm. Leesa Hairgrove has the program and refreshments.

Priscilla Circle meets at the home of Norma Jones at 7:00 pm. on Oct. 24th. Patti Pafford has the refreshments and Trish House has the program.

Ruth Esther Circle will meet on Oct. 26th at 1:00 in Fellowship Hall. Joyce McFall has the program, JoAnn Nelson will do the devotion and Morene Baker will bring refreshments.

Oct. 6-7 is the UMW Oklahoma Conference at Boston Ave. UMC. Registration on Friday is at 5:00 pm and on Saturday at 8:00 am. The deadline for the meal registration has closed. Charlotte Morrow, President of the South Central Jurisdiction is the keynote speaker on Saturday. Keep your ears opened for Your Call to community! See you at Circle.



KIDZONE

Yesterday in Kidzone we were busy making items for our annual Christmas fund raiser on Sunday,

November 12th. This year we will be filling Christmas stockings for kids at Sand Springs Community Services. You sounded awesome as you practiced with Miss Cathy getting ready to sing next Sunday, October 8th. This will be a special service for all kids. We will be giving Bibles to our 3rd and 4th graders.

Have a great week- see you next Sunday - meeting at 8:30 a.m.

Miss Debbie & Miss Marty

Fall is Here!

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers—October 8

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: Amanda Honeycutt
Counters: Sondra Allen & Dick Ford

Sunday Volunteers—October 15

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: Bob Barnes & Jami Warkentin

Please Keep In Prayer



Please remember these in your prayers—Updated 7/2017

Martha Scudder, Linda Tabberer, Charlene Reeves, BW Proft, Sue Shaw, Greta Green, Bob & Cathy Hula, Bill & Clare Caldwell, Jack & Jewell Brown, Barbara McClintock, Montie Box, Betty Lund, Lora Caviness, Albert Kahl's mom & sister in law, Ron Hay, John & Sylvia Johnson, Ruth Weaver, Angy Krebs-Warden

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.

HELP NEEDED!!



Volunteer Opportunity

We are in need of someone to fill in on the e-mail prayer chain when I am on vacation. No experience necessary! Must have e-mail and must check it daily.

We also need someone to do the e-mail prayer chain every weekend. All you have to do is send e-mail prayer chains as they come in to your inbox or are called in to you.

See me (Tracey) if you are interested or call,
918-245-5955

Thanks!
Tracey

Fourth Monday **COMMUNITY MEAL**

4th Monday of the Month
Fellowship Hall • 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Monday, October 23rd

*The Newsletter and other
SSUMC information and activities are
always posted on our website at:
www.sandspringsumc.org*

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday—8:00 a.m.-4:00p.m.
Lunch—12-1 p.m.

Front door is lock during office hours at all times.
Ring the bell to be clicked in.
Use your key only after there is no response after ringing the bell.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

Monday, October 2

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-FLC

Tuesday, October 3

6:00pm-Cub Scouts-FLC

7:00pm-Praise Team Practice

7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, October 4

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

*4:00pm-Kappa Kappa Iota-F. Hall

5:45pm-Y4Y

6:30pm-The Awakening—Youth

7:00pm-Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, October 5

*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

Friday, October 6

No Activities

Saturday, October 7

10:00am-Y4Y Practice-Sanctuary

Sunday, October 8-Children's Sabbath

8:30am-Contemporary Worship

9:45am-Communion Service

10:00am-Sunday School

11:00am-Traditional Worship

12:00pm-Y4Y Lunch/Movie-Youth Sunday Sc. Classroom

1:30pm-Finance Committee Meeting

2:30pm-Church Council

Monday, October 9

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-Family Life Center

Tuesday, October 10

6:00pm-Cub Scouts-FLC

7:00pm-Praise Team

7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, October 11

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café

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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