

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



Jesus said to them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come.'" (Luke 11:2-3, NIV)

Bishop Hayes recently

asked us to read the book, *Kingdom Come* by Reggie McNeal. Dr. McNeal was the featured speaker at an event hosted by our Bishop in OKC this month. His book is worth reading, though it comes with many challenges to our conventional thinking and convictions about how we really manifest Jesus Christ through the lives we live. I recommend the book to you and I ask that you read it with an open heart.

As we examine Jesus' own words in Luke's gospel, we must be careful to understand what Jesus is saying and not give in to the temptation to think we already know because we have repeated the words of his prayer so often in our lives. The prayer begins with us calling to God and recognizing that even to utter God's name is a holy action. God's name is "hallowed"; it is holy and sacred. We should be reverent and cautious when we call God's name and we must never call it out in vain slang or cursing that seeks to bring God's name down to our level. Exclaiming God's name when we stub a toe, burn a finger, or wish harm upon another only cheapens God's name and shows our own ignorance of God's ultimate authority over everything. It is the supreme insult to the God, who created us, redeems us, forgives us, and loves us more than we can possibly imagine.

Next, Jesus taught us to pray for God's kingdom to come and take its place in this world. That is a powerful prayer that many of us fail to understand. We must hear that Jesus did **not** pray, "Your church come," or "your denomination come," or even, "your religion come." No, Jesus prayed, "**your kingdom come.**" Dr. McNeal suggests: "*The church is not the point of the Kingdom; the Kingdom is the point of the*

church. By definition, most of what God does happens outside the church. The church has a vital role to play, but the church is not the center of the action." What he is talking about here is that, for too long, churches have been centered on, "*activities among church people on church property for church purposes.*" This is not to say that gathering as the local church is a bad thing to do. On the contrary, the church as a community is vital to building up, training, inspiring, and empowering believers to become active disciples who understand that we have not only been saved **from** something, we have been saved **for** something...That "**something**" is the work of God's Kingdom.

There is much discussion about how churches are declining and people are staying away in droves. There is truth in this dilemma and it speaks to what many perceive as a threat to the "kingdom". The truth is that, the "church" may be in decline and may be threatened, but the "kingdom" is not in any danger. You see, the Kingdom of God was, is, and always will be the ultimate winner; no threat of decline can change the outcome of God's kingdom work. If the church wants to continue to be part of that work, we need to better understand God's kingdom and where we fit into God's work in the kingdom. God wants us to be involved in the work that God has already begun in the kingdom. The church is not forever; the Kingdom is. The Kingdom is about **life** – abundant life – and that life is for everyone. Our mission is to help others experience life where everyone has opportunity, food, clothing, shelter, and – most of all – love.

Love God...Love Others...Change the World!

*Seeking God's kingdom,
Pastor Don*

Calling All Communion Servers



Do you ever feel a tug at your heart on the first Sunday of the month? It might be the Holy Spirit settling in and wanting you to sign up to be a Communion Servant. We do Communion monthly at our church and I

always call or email a few days ahead to ask for your assistance in this part of the worship. If interested please email me at datbatcat@gmail.com or call me at 918-932-0172. Once I get the list of the new servants in place (I'm calling on you) I will have a meeting to show you how to serve Communion.

Thank you, Linda Tabberer

Library Books Up for Grabs!

There are a lot of curriculum books in the library that will be recycled or donated if they are not picked up by the end of the month. If you are teaching a small group or a circle meeting or Sunday school class..... The library is full of curriculum that has been used once or twice and then it sits on the shelves. The stories have not changed..... Just the teachers. Come grab your favorites up before they are all gone.



UMW News

September brings the beginning of our fall Circle Meetings. Faith Circle – 9/24, 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor Karen Wilder and Carole Ashton

have the devotion and program, Tara Carter has refreshments.

Priscilla Circle – Sept. 22 – 7:00 p.m. You will meet at Sharon Schuermann's. Trish House has refreshments. Norma Jones and Louise Read have the devotion and program

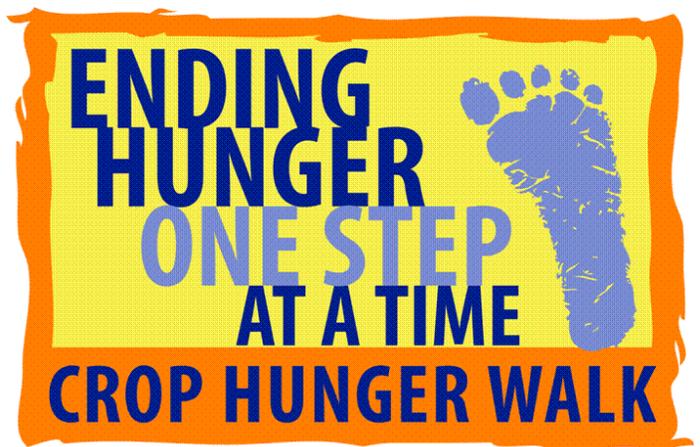
Ruth Esther Circle –Sept. 24 in Fellowship Hall at 1:00

p.m. Wava Burt and Barbara Fisher have the devotion and program. Mona Warren has refreshments.

Six from our Unit attended the District Meeting on 9/12 at 1st UMC in Broken Arrow. Great food, fellowship and program. We even saw some finished Plastic Mats for the Homeless. The instructions can be found on the website or in Tracey's office and there is yarn and bags in the library closet. We need more people who can do a single crochet stitch to put our Parn (plastic yarn) together.

Tracey also has the registration forms for the Conference Meeting in Woodward on Oct. 2-3 and the form for Toole Tyme November 13-15. Let Judy Bullard know if you want to go so we can combine motel rooms. There are funds to help pay for the Annual Meeting.

Registration deadline for the Conference Meeting is 9/25. They would like to have at least 2 members from each Unit to attend. Bishop Hayes will install all the new district officers. It is his last term too. It is time to gear up and FROG.



2015 Tulsa Area CROP Hunger Walk

CROP Hunger Walks work to end hunger in our own community and all around the world through local agencies: Manna Meals, Restore Hope Ministries and Western Neighbors.

The CROP Walk is this Sunday, September 27 at Boston Avenue UMC-1301 S. Boston Ave. Sign in is at 1:15 p.m. and the walk is at 2:00 p.m. Call Jami Warrentin for more information. If you are unable to participate in the CROP Walk, consider donating money to help end hunger.



Trunk or Treat

It's that time again!

WE NEED CANDY AND TRUNKS!!

There will be a drop off for candy in the narthex by Sunday and a sign up sheet soon. Please bring candy that is individually wrapped.

Let's fill the parking lot this year!

More information to come.

4th Monday Community Dinner

Have you tried the Fourth Monday Community Dinner?

On the fourth Monday of the month, Sand Springs United Methodist Church welcomes the community into the Fellowship Hall for dinner. We provide good hot food for a small donation. Damien Jacobs is our main cook. If you haven't come to try his cooking, you are missing out. He makes brown beans and white beans every month but each month there is also another pot of red beans & rice or chicken & hominy soup or deer chili or potato soup - and something new this month. And we also usually have some good homemade chicken and noodles made by Susie Honeycutt!

It's not just a dinner for our church, it's a community dinner. You are welcome to bring a soup or stew but we really need cornbread and desserts. So come and eat dinner with a member of our church neighborhood.

The next Fourth Monday dinner is coming up September 28th. It's from

5:30 to 7:00. We need all the food to the church before 5:30.

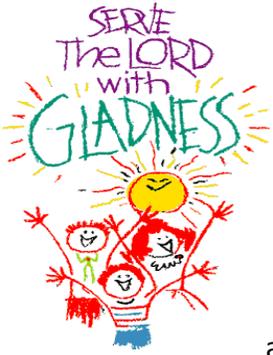
Church Photo Directory



SAY "CHEEEEEEESE!"

It's Pictorial Directory Time! We love new directories because it allows us to put names with faces and it's easy access to addresses and phone numbers. You say you hate getting your picture taken? Nobody hates it more than I do! Let's do this together. It is so handy to have everyone's faces and information in one place for reference. AND, you get a free 8x10!! So Sign up Sunday in the Narthex with Sarah Trzynka and let's have 100% participation! (It's also fun to see everyone's family photos!)

Tracey G.



KidZone

The kids did a super job during both services on September 13th. We will be starting Joseph lessons next Sunday.

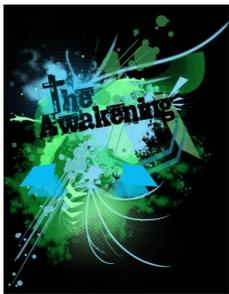
Also, Kingdom Kids will sing in both services on October 4th.

This will be communion Sunday and kids will remain in the sanctu-

ary through the entire service. This will allow kids to celebrate communion with their families.

Have a Great Week!

Marty, Debbie & Cathy and the rest of the gang!

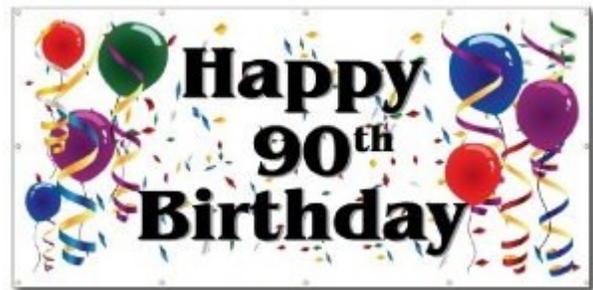


Hey Youth!

Here we are back again after an extended break due to Labor Day. I hope you all enjoyed your extended weekend and are enjoying the transition to fall weather. I will stand by my statement that summer is still my favorite season, but by the time

September rolls around I am ready for some cooler weather. This weather reminds me of football on the big screen, holidays spent with the family, and also playoff baseball. It also reminds me of the Fall retreat we will be having with the youth group scheduled for October 15-17. We are teaming up with the United Methodist church in Broken Arrow and are looking forward to a couple of days spent away from the distractions and worshipping God. These mini fall breaks hold a special place in my heart, because that is where I first encountered Christ and my life would be changed forever. When I would attend the retreats after the first one it would always cause me to sit back and reflect on what God has done and is doing in my life. It has been an incredible journey filled with tears, laughter, anger, but mostly an overwhelming joy to have this gift of life and spend it in relation with the people around me. It is an incredible privilege to serve with you and get to know this congregation. My job presents me with the opportunity to get to know so many new people and participate in life with them. That is what I try to do each and every day. I want to find that person whether it be a friend, family mem-

ber, or a stranger and participate in life with them. Sometimes that might look like a simple conversation over the phone, laughter and smiles shared over a cup of coffee, or shedding tears with that person because you are hurting for them. All these actions are beautiful in their own right and it is what Jesus practiced in the Gospels. We see Jesus Christ fully man and fully divine come down and participate in life with the least of these. That is what I challenge all of us to do this week. Find somebody in our lives or even outside of our lives and participate in life with them. Something so simple can have such an amazing impact. I hope you all keep your eyes and ears open for the opportunities that will present themselves this week and even after that. Peace and love to you all.



Happy Birthday, Morene Baker!!!

Morene Baker turns 90 years old on Tuesday, October 6th. There will be a little celebration with cake Sunday, October 4th after the 2nd worship service in the fellowship hall. If you see her that Sunday, wish her a "Happy 90th Birthday" and join us for cake at noon.

Exodus House Needs

Do you have gently used items that you think would be useful for Exodus House? We now have a place to put them. There is a room downstairs in the fellowship hall for the Exodus House apartment. Bring anything you think they can use. If it is too heavy, call the church and we will arrange to have it picked up.

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers—September 27

Visitors Center & Coffee-CIA/Pathfinders
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.-Jo Fritts
Counters-Sheree Buttler & Jami Warkentin

Sunday Volunteers—October 4

Visitors Center & Coffee-Harmony
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.-Debbie Schmidt
Counters-Janie Moore & Kent Warkentin

Acknowledgements

To all my friends at SSUMC:

I thank you for all your support these past few years. The prayers, financial support, help finding jobs and keeping my car running are greatly appreciated. Helping me move in and out of my apartment is another reason for praise for you. Again, I thank you, please keep up the prayers.

Shawn Cole

Please Keep In Prayer



Billie Schmidt, Bob & Cathy Hula, BW Proft, Clare Caldwell, Darryl Muse, Jack Brown, Magen Stockard, Martha Scudder, Owen Johnston, Paul Waldschmidt, Ruth Weaver, Sylvia Johnson, Tristan Schwartz, Sami Ward, Delbert Sloan, Darin Grayson, Chris Bordelon, Jim Bentz, Kay Woodward, Jim Aimino, Kerri Copeland, Aaron (Dustin Dinsmore's friend), Unspoken Requests

22nd Annual Tulsa Together Worship

Since 1994 the Christian Minister's Alliance of Tulsa has organized an annual ecumenical worship service intended to promote racial reconciliation. The service was planned for the first Sunday of October – World Communion Sunday – and became known as “*Tulsa Together*”. This year the service will be held at 6:30PM on Sunday, October 4th at Christ the King Catholic Church, 1520 S. Rockford in the Cherry Street neighborhood. Rev. Dr. Anthony L. Scott, First Baptist Church of North Tulsa, will bring the message. Special music will be offered by: First Baptist Church of North Tulsa; South Tulsa Baptist Church; Christ the King Catholic Church; and the *Voices of Unity* from Arrow Heights Baptist Church in Broken Arrow.

This gathering of Christian believers brings us together in unity to praise and worship the God of us all. It is a visible expression of the harmony Jesus prayed for. This event unites people of various cultural, racial, and confessional backgrounds in one assembly to praise one Lord. All churches are invited and encouraged to attend this important worship gathering as we seek racial recognition in our communities and pray for reconciliation in our nation. Please plan to join us on Sunday, October 4th.

First steps lead to lasting impressions

Overcoming your fears can be the hardest part of creating a will.

Many people are intimidated by the prospect of creating a will, but preparing a will is as simple as writing a letter. A well-written will is nothing more and nothing less than a statement of what is important to you. The most complicated part of preparing a will is simply taking the first step – deciding to do it. Whether you are creating a will for the first time or revising it for the fifth time, you should use an attorney. Most attorneys charge relatively little for this service. They are experienced in writing wills and can walk you through the process. The Oklahoma United Methodist Foundation's *A Christian's Guide to Planning Your Will or Trust* can help you with the information needed for your will. Once completed, your will can benefit your family, friends, church and other charitable causes important to you.

Certain states have very specific requirements regarding wills. Many require witnesses and other formalities to make sure your will is authentic and reflects your wishes. Miss one of these requirements and your will may be invalid. If you hire an attorney who regularly drafts wills, he or she can help you with all of these basic requirements and suggest new ideas to make things even easier.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wednesday, September 23

7:30 a.m.-Men's Breakfast—Crescent Café
10:00 a.m.-Bible Study
4:00 p.m.-Ed. Association-F. Hall*
6:00 p.m.-Chancel Ringers
6:30 p.m.-Youth
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Thursday, September 24

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

Friday, September 25

No Activities

Saturday, September 26

No Activities

Sunday, September 27

8:30 a.m.-Contemporary Worship; 11:00 a.m.-Traditional Worship
9:45 a.m.-Communion Service
10:00 a.m.-Sunday School

Monday, September 28

5:30 p.m.-Community Dinner-F. Hall
6:30 p.m.-Bible Study
7:00 p.m.-Boy Scouts-FLC

Tuesday, September 29

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, September 30

7:30 a.m.-Men's Breakfast—Crescent Café
10:00 a.m.-Bible Study
4:00 p.m.-Education Association-F. Hall*
6:00 p.m.-Chancel Ringers
6:30 p.m.-Youth
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Thursday, October 1

6:00 p.m.-SS Homecoming Parade downtown*
7:00 p.m.-Karate-FLC*

FLC—Family Life Center

* - Unsponsored by SSUMC

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