

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us." (Romans 12:6, NIV)

In Sunday's sermon, we talked about the call of Moses and the challenges we all face when we are called and don't know how

to respond. We were thinking about how we often wonder if we are qualified, capable, or even worthy of serving God. Then, on Monday, I opened the **UPPER ROOM** devotional and found this:

"A few years back I was shopping with my wife. All of a sudden, I got the urge to go to the frozen food section and look at ice cream. I didn't really want any ice cream; I just had a strong desire to go look. When I turned the corner, I saw a small, elderly man standing in front of a freezer door. He seemed very happy to see me and asked, "Can you reach up there and get me that box, please?" I replied, "Sure." I was about halfway back to where my wife was when I stopped dead in my tracks. I felt a strange, yet exhilarating feeling. That had to have been God using me to help somebody, I thought.

I had been struggling with guilt, feeling as if I didn't have any worthwhile talents for serving the Lord. Then I remembered that the Bible says we all have different gifts for ministry. Maybe one of my gifts is my willingness to help out in small ways — serving meals, setting up tables, or grabbing something on a shelf too high for someone else to reach. I believe that God knew that man wanted something he couldn't get himself and, knowing I was willing to help, sent me. We all have abilities with which to serve God; we just don't always know it." (Tyrel Williams, Missouri, USA)

For me, this was confirmation that we were on a topic that needed discussion. So, I thought again about the story of Moses' call and wondered if maybe part of his problem accepting the task was the sheer magnitude of it and the unknown factors that may be fearsome. It makes sense, uprooting his family, heading to Egypt, and confronting Pharaoh was a daunting mission. My guess is that most of us would also run away from a mission of that magnitude. In fact, if the story of Moses is our model, we may not see God's call in the many little things of everyday living. The reading above helps us to make that connection.

Answering God's call is seldom about major life changes like Moses, or going to be a missionary in a foreign country, or even going into full-time ministry. I think it is much more like the story in the **UPPER ROOM**. I think God calls us all the time to ordinary tasks that make small differences in the lives of other people. I also think that is part of our challenge. Sometimes we don't realize how our everyday, ordinary actions serve God's people and the Kingdom.

That causes me to wonder when I may have failed to offer a smile or a warm greeting to a stranger, just because it was inconvenient for me to take the moment required to engage. Certainly, there have been times when I was in a hurry or focused on my own needs that I walked past or ignored someone who could have used a helping hand right then. There have been many opportunities to let someone else go first, to allow people to merge into busy traffic, to avoid honking your horn when someone cuts you off, or dozens of other situations where you react quickly rather than with a Christian attitude.

I know, it sounds like I'm going to lead us all in a chorus of: *"I'd like to teach the world to sing in perfect harmony..."* In a way, I guess that's not such a bad idea. If we treat others well, maybe they will pass that along and the way we all treat each other will improve, one person at a time. That may sound simple, even silly. But, it's amazing how much better you feel after you have said something nice or done something helpful for a complete stranger, with no expectation of reward. In the process, you may have been the nicest person that person will meet all day and you may change their outlook on their circumstances. Try it; you may be surprised.

I want to close with these elements from the **UPPER ROOM** devotional I quoted above.

Thought for the Day:

God can use me, if only I am willing.

Prayer:

Dear Lord, we are your servants. Use us as you see fit for the glory of your kingdom. Amen.

*Answering the Call,
Pastor Don*



UMW News

September 7—5:30pm-**UMW Executive Meeting**

September 20—1:30pm-**Mission to Stitch**

September 26—7:00pm-**Priscilla Circle**-Marybeth Arnold; The co-host is Jo Fritts. For the program, Robyn Coney plans to be our guest and will share some of her recent experiences.

September 28—1:30pm-**Ruth Esther Circle**-Hostess is Barbara Fisher, Devotional is Chloeen Oney and Jo-Ann Nelson is in charge of the Program

September 28-**Faith Circle**-Tara Carter

Sunday School Attendance Sheets

September is the end of the third quarter for Sunday School attendance sheets. Please go through everyone on your list and make any changes before the end of this month and before the new sheets get distributed.



Here are your	September 18
2017 Newsletter	October 2
weeks. Please	October 16
remember-articles are	October 30
due by 11 a.m. on this	November 13
date. Please, mark	November 27
your calendars.	December 11
September 4?	January 8, 2018



Here is some of your 2017 Youth Dinner Schedule

September 6-TNT
 September 13-Ruth Esther Circle
 September 20-Seniors In Action
 September 27-Priscilla Circle
 October 4-Noah/Searchers
 October 11-Youth
 October 18-CIA/Pathfinders
 October 25-Faith Circle

**CALENDAR
CHANGE**

Please note that **Finance Committee and Church Council** are moving to the **2nd Sunday of every month, effective September 10th.**

Upcoming Meetings

Sunday, 9/10:

1:00 PM – SPRC in CIA Classroom
 1:30 PM – Finance in Parlor
 2:30 PM – Church Council in Parlor

Monday, 9/11:

6:30 PM – Stewardship Team in Parlor

Tuesday, 9/12:

6:30 PM – Nominations Committee in Parlor

Sunday, 9/17:

1:30 PM – Worship Design Team in Parlor

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers—September 10

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: Bob Barnes & Jami Warkentin

Sunday Volunteers—September 17

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: Jo Fritts
Counters: Janie Moore & Kent 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, Bill & Mary Kay Schwartz, Jack & Jewell Brown, Barbara McClintock, Montie Box, Betty Lund, Lora Caviness, Albert Kahl's mom & sister in law, Ron Hay, 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, September 25

*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.



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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

Monday, September 4-Offices Closed

6:00pm-Exodus House Reunion
7:00pm-Boy Scouts-FLC

Tuesday, September 5

7:00pm-Praise Team Practice
7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, September 6

7:30am-Men/Women Breakfast-Crescent Café
4:00pm-Kappa Kappa Iota-F. Hall
5:45pm-Y4Y
6:30pm-The Awakening—Youth
7:00pm-Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, September 7

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

Friday, September 8

No Activities

Saturday, September 9

No Activities

Sunday, September 10

8:30am-Contemporary Worship
9:45am-Communion Service
10:00am-Sunday School
11:00am-Traditional Worship
1:00pm-SPRC
1:30pm-Finance Committee Meeting
2:30pm-Church Council Meeting

Monday, September 11

6:30pm-Stewardship Meeting
7:00pm-Boy Scouts-Family Life Center

Tuesday, September 12

6:30pm-Nominations Meeting
7:00pm-Praise Team
7:00pm-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, September 13

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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SEPTEMBER