

*The Springs*



Rev. Don Tabberer



*"I do not count my life of any value to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the good news of God's*

*grace."* (Acts 20:24)

Good ol' Oswald Chambers does it again! In his devotional for March 5, he reminds us of these words from Luke and then challenges us to answer this question: *"Is He really Lord in your life?"*

I needed to read over this several times before I was able to be honest enough to work through what Chambers says. He begins with, *"Joy means the perfect fulfillment of that for which I was created and regenerated, not the successful doing of things."* The implications of that single sentence are awesome. First, "joy" must never be confused for happiness, satisfaction, or success. Joy is preceded by the self-awareness of what you were created for, in the first place, and what God intended for you when you accepted your salvation from Jesus Christ. After this self-awareness, true joy is only possible as we follow God's leadership (hear "Lordship") and fulfill our true purpose.

When Jesus was sending out his disciples, he told them, *"As my Father has sent me, so I am sending you."* In the same way and with the same purpose and expectations, we are sent out into a ministry chosen for us by God. It is our duty to be loyal to that calling and count our lives precious only for the fulfillment of that ministry. It is not always easy to discern the particular ministry God has in store for you. Parent, spouse, doctor, accountant, preacher – these are just some of the infinite possibilities where God places people so that they may be witnesses to God's Good News. To find our particular place, we must listen for God to guide us and allow God to aid us in our decision-making. It is a spiritual exercise to determine the route our temporal lives will travel. But imagine the true joy of

hearing Jesus say to you, *"Well done, good and faithful servant;"* knowing that you have done what God sent you to do. I don't think we can count on that joy unless we make Jesus the true *"Lord"* of our lives; therein lies the tough part.

We are pushed and pulled in so many directions and we are bombarded with so many opinions and so much advice. Everyone seems to think they know best what you should do and how you should behave. (I guess they forgot that 2X4 in their own eye!) In the midst of all this, we must make room for God's voice to break through. Otherwise, we may be fooled into believing that we're doing all the right things because people seem to like what we're doing. That was one thing Jesus didn't care about – whether or not other people liked what he was doing; only God's opinion mattered.

Jesus showed us and told us what we needed to do if we loved him, if we believed he was "Lord." He told us to feed, clothe, welcome, care for, love the least and the lost and the lonely. There does not seem to be a choice to serve; I only hear a commission from the Lord himself. The need around us is not the call; the need is our opportunity to serve our Lord and move toward true joy.

Chambers points out that, the reason we must discern the direction God has in mind for us is because we need to be able to follow God's voice in all our work. That means that we must also be able to avoid wandering away from God's lead by trying to do everything for everyone. There will always be more demand than you can handle, but there will also always be ministers of God who are called to handle the need that you can't. Pray for all of God's ministers to hear their calling and answer. And remember that we are talking about *"the ministry of all believers."* We are all in this together, no matter where God has placed us.

*In His service,  
Pastor Don*



## KidZone

Hey Kids— Wow!! You were awesome yesterday as you filled and delivered 65 Easter baskets for Sand Springs Community Services. Thanks to Lisa, Amanda, Sara and Amy for helping us.

Also thanks to our church friends for donations of candy and basket bags.

Be sure and come next Sunday. We will begin our Easter lessons and practice our song for Palm Sunday.

Have a GREAT week!

Miss Debbie and Miss Marty



## Cathy's Notes

Kingdom Kids, you did a fantastic job in both services back on February 18! We are now busy preparing our song for Palm Sunday, March 25. We will sing "Prepare the Way for Jesus" at the beginning of both services. Last week we got the little bells out and enjoyed playing along with some of our songs.

The Chancel Choir is also busy practicing. On Good Friday evening, we will present the cantata "Come Touch the Robe," which follows Jesus's ministry through His garments. There will be solos, drama and a moving message through songs. Please plan to be there.

For those who love our pipe organ, it has been repaired and tuned. Your gifts help to make this possible. Thank you for giving.

Singing His Praise,  
Cathy



## UMW News

Happy March Birthday to Greta Green, Kristen Henry, Judy Bullard and Marybeth Arnold.

Meetings and Dates to Remember for March:

March 17 is the CO District Spiritual Day Together at Jenks UMC. We will be doing a work project beginning at 10:30, followed by lunch and a program given by our deaconesses in the area. Come and learn of their calling and their work. Reservations for lunch need to be in by the 13th. Call Judy Bullard to reserve your space. We will meet at the FLC to carpool at 9:30am.

**Faith Circle**, March 22 at 6:30pm in the parlor. Winnie Mansfield and Janie Moore are in charge of the hosting it, the devotion, and the program.

**Priscilla Circle**, March 27 at 7:00pm at the home of Glenna Stockard. Patti Pafford is co-hostess and Marybeth Arnold has the program.

**Ruth Esther Circle**, March 22 at 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Chloeen Oney has the refreshments, Joanna Wilson has the devotion and Judy Bullard has the program.

Don't forget about **Mission to Stitch**. March 21 at 1:30 we will start again on crocheting the little gowns for a new hospital in Muskogee. (See article by Olivia Tackett).

A BIG THANK YOU to all those that helped and cooked for the Lenten Luncheon, especially Tim and Cynthia Alex and Jay Bullard who set up tables and chairs. Also, thank you to all those that made the UMW Spring Brunch such a success. Lots of good food and the speakers were great! Thank you Leesa Hairgrove who organized everything!

Finally, get ready for our Bake & Bag day, April 20th and our Bake Sale for the Herbal Affair on Saturday, April 21.

*Remember, little things mean a lot!*  
Judy & Cynthia

**Teacher Appreciation  
Week is Coming!!  
May 7-11**



We will be doing a couple of meals for the teachers so watch for those dates and opportunities to provide food for the them.

We also want to do a small gift for each teacher. To help us with that, we are asking for donations of the following items:

POST-IT-NOTES (3X3 size, any color)

YELLOW HIGHLIGHTERS

BLACK SHARPIE MARKERS

COLORED SHARPIES

DRY ERASE MARKERS (any colors)

RED PENS

BULE PENS

BLACK PENS

#2 PENCILS

MINI CANDY BARS OR HERSHEY KISSES

FULL SIZE CANDY BARS

These items can be dropped off in front of Tracey's desk where the sign is.

As always, if you prefer to donate money, be sure it is designated for  
**TEACHER APPRECIATION.**

**Mission to Stitch Testimony**

Olivia Tackett works as a Registered Nurse in Labor and Delivery. She has delivered items made by UMW for a while and wants us to know how much the items mean to families who experience loss.

... I have experienced many emotions. Being a Registered Nurse in Labor and Delivery is a wonderful opportunity to help a woman who has never experienced the birth of a child before. Helping her overcome her fears and concerns. Then to see the face of her newborn baby! All moms have experienced it. It

is a sign of God's wish for us to carry on, that the future carries hope for the world by His design. Olivia shared the tragedies of loss as well. Finding out a mom is carrying a stillborn baby; the trauma. Just last year, St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa had 4,147 babies born. And of those, 46 were found stillborn prematurely.

Olivia says they are so grateful to the United Methodist Women for their hard work in making and providing 975 infant caps for all delivered babies, no matter the situation. 101 baby blankets were also made to be given as keepsakes to those who have lost. The UMW also provided 140 burial gowns for those babies who did not make it to term. Each family is given one for the baby and an identical one that is placed in a Keepsake Box as a memory.

They also made 33 handkerchiefs for the families who experience the loss of their baby.

Every year, the hospital has a special "Angel Tree Ceremony" in December. Families who experienced the loss of their baby that year can attend to celebrate the life of their child. Some continue to return for the celebration year after year. They are given a special ornament with their child's name on it. Last year, UMW provided 180 angel ornaments.

This year, St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa will branch out to Muskogee Regional Medical Center to assist them with launching a fetal loss program. We know the UMW will help to make this project successful with their continued support.

Thank you for all you do and know that these little items will be held and loved for a lifetime by these families!

Thank You!  
Olivia Tackett

**Thank You!!**

Morene Baker asked Leesa Hairgrove to put this in our Newsletter:

She wants to thank everyone for their prayers and cards recently. She really appreciated them and knows they helped her get better. Leesa said she looked great Sunday!! Praise God!





## A Page of Reminders...

### March Meetings this Sunday

#### March 11

1:30pm-Finance Committee Meeting

2:30pm-Church Council Meeting

### Mark Your Calendar

Palm Sunday—March 25

Maundy Thursday—March 29

Good Friday—March 30

### Lenten Lunch Schedule

March 6—Dillon Chapel at  
Woodlawn Memorial Park  
1200 No. Cleveland

March 13—1st Presbyterian  
222 No. Adams Road

March 20—St. Patrick Catholic Church  
204 E. 4th St.

March 27—St. Matthews Episcopal  
601 No. Lake Dr.

***Easter Sunday-April 1, 2018***

### Newsletter Dates:

March 19

April 2-Offices are closed however, articles are still due by 11am on 4/3

April 16

April 30

May 14

May 28-Offices are closed however, articles are still due by 11am on 5/28



**Don't forget to set  
your clocks forward  
an hour before going  
to bed this Saturday,  
March 10th  
Daylight Savings Time  
is Sunday,  
March 11th.**

## Sunday Lists

## Please Keep In Prayer

### Sunday Volunteers—March 11

Visitors Center & Coffee: Discovery  
 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

### Sunday Volunteers—March 18

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



Martha Scudder, Linda Tabberer, Charlene Reeves, June Brown, BW Proft, Sue Shaw, Keri Bostwick, Greta Green, Bob & Cathy Hula, Bill & Clare Caldwell, John & Sylvia Johnson, Jewell Brown, Barbara McClintock, Montie Box, Betty & Linda Lund, Owen Johnston, Albert Kahl's mom & sister in law, Ruth Weaver, Angy Krebs-Warden, Joey Parrish

*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.*



### Youth Dinners

3/7-Priscilla Circle  
 3/14-Noah/Searchers  
 3/21-CIA/Pathfinders  
 3/28-Faith Circle  
 4/4-TNT  
 4/11-Ruth Esther Circle  
 4/18-Seniors In Action  
 4/25-Priscilla Circle  
 5/2-Noah/Searchers Class  
 5/9-CIA/Pathfinders Class  
 5/16-Faith Circle  
 5/23-TNT  
 5/30-Ruth Esther Circle

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### Office Hours

Monday-8:00am-4:00pm

Tuesday-8:00am-4:00pm

Wednesday-8:00am-4:00pm

Thursday-8:00am-4:00pm

Closed Friday

Closed Saturday

Sunday

8:45am-Contemporary Worship

10:00am-Sunday School

11:00am-Traditional Worship

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

### Monday, March 5

10:00am-Al-Anon-Upstairs

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-FLC

### Tuesday, March 6

12:00pm-Lenten Devotional/Lunch-Dillon Chapel

6:00pm-Cub Scouts-FLC

7:00pm-Praise Team Practice

### Wednesday, March 7

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café

4:30pm-Kappa Kappa Iota-F. Hall

5:45pm-Y4Y

6:30pm-The Awakening—Youth-FLC

7:00pm-Chancel Choir Practice

### Thursday, March 8

\*7:00pm-Collins Karate-FLC

### Friday, March 9

No Activities

### Saturday, March 10

No Activities

### Sunday, March 11-Daylight Saving time

8:45am-Contemporary Worship

9:45am-Communion Service

10:00am-Sunday School

11:00am-Traditional Worship

1:30pm-Finance Committee Meeting

2:30pm-Church Council Meeting

### Monday, March 12

10:00am-Al-Anon-Upstairs

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-Family Life Center

### Tuesday, March 13

12:00pm-Lenten Lunch-1st Presbyterian

6:00pm-Cub Scouts-FLC

7:00pm-Praise Team

FLC-Family Life Center

\*-Not sponsored by SSUMC but welcome

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