

*The Springs*



Rev. Don Tabberer



***"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction." (Proverbs 1:7)***

Every day I receive a Bible verse in my e-mail box. It's interesting that, more often than not, these verses speak directly to me about a question I am wrestling with, or a problem I need to confront. Funny how God finds a way for the Word to be meaningful to all people in all places. How does God do that? Imagine all the people who subscribe to the same email "Verse of the Day" list that I do. Each person reads the same verse and each person hears it speak to them in particular. It is a wondrous thing, this Bible of ours. We call it a "living document" because it continues to actively engage new generations of people throughout history. As a living document, the Bible is valid as it speaks to all peoples. It offers knowledge and wisdom that made sense thousands of years ago, and will continue to do so for thousands of years into the future.

All of this is to frame the email I received this morning: Proverbs 1:7 – "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction." First, understand that "fear of the Lord" is not the same as being frightened. It means to respect the Lord because of the love he shows to you and the loving response you owe to God. Think of it as the kind of fear a child has of one's parent. In this case, our fear should lead us to want to know more and more about the God who created the universe. We ought to want to understand God better and try to figure out how God would like for us to live our lives in community with one another.

That's where the second half of this verse comes into play. "Fools" do not understand wisdom, therefore, they do not desire it. Fools refuse to learn from God, from their own mistakes, or the mistakes of others. Fools simply go along, doing whatever they please, without thinking about the consequences of their actions or their words. Unfortunately, the world in which we live has its share of fools who "despise wisdom and instruction." They believe in their own intellectual power and believe they have nothing to learn, from God or from other people. Learning requires study, reading, and reflective thought. Without this effort, "fools despise wisdom..."

As a Christian, I long for the days when wisdom, knowledge, and morality were integral to the political arena and world affairs. So many in our world today seem to have lost sight of the fact that God created the entire universe and God is still in charge. The problem is that we simply will not get out of God's way.

In Sunday's message, I spoke about the fact that God does not mandate the separation of church and state. Likewise, God does not advocate for theocracy, a government of priest as rulers. What God seems to tell us is that our faith must, however, inform our politics. That the Church must speak out on matters of moral and social justice. That allowing earthly government to act in contradiction to God's will is to fail to give to God what belongs to God. We pray, *"Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."* Do we mean it?

Seeking wisdom and instruction,  
***Pastor Don***



## Hey Kids

Hey Kids-

What a wonderful time we had last week during Vacation Bible School. Each night we had singing, Bible stories, crafts, science, games and of course snacks. We learned that life with God is an adventure full of wonder and surprise, and that we can trust God to be with us through anything. Remember our Bible verse- "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you." Isaiah 43:2. It was fun to share closing night with your family and friends at the FLC. Everyone enjoyed your singing and then we ate hot dogs and s'mores and of course the great time on the water slides.

In Kidzone next Sunday we will continue with our "SonRise National Park" series. Have a great week!  
Miss Debbie & Miss Marty

**Thank You...**MANY THANKS to all who helped with VBS last week. We appreciate all of you-could not do it without you!!  
Debbie & Marty

## UMW News

Happy August Birthdays to Betty Box, Sheree Butler, Trish House, Joyce Hawk, Charlene Reeves, Sondra Allen, Carole Ashton and Janie Moore.

UMW potluck Supper will be on August 9 @ 6 pm in Fellowship Hall. Bring a main dish, side dish, and/or dessert. We have a guest speaker who will talk to us about General Assembly held in May. Also a small amount of business, food and drinks. Make plans to be there.

Check your yearbook for August Circle Meetings.  
Cynthia Alex-UMW President

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## The Well – previously called The Family Life Center

Firstly, the Mission Strategy Team wants to thank the entire church for their prayers and support. We also appreciate the response we received regarding the name and logo for the "new thing" we're trying to do on the south side of the river. Naming it "**The Well**," grows out of an organic process where many people contributed thoughts and prayers that evolved into that name. It expresses everyone's need to draw for the well of hope, grace, and mercy that is offered

by God. It speaks to the refreshing waters that we use so often in our symbology. The Well captures what we want to offer to our neighbors.

At our most recent meeting on Sunday afternoon, the Team made a couple of important decisions regarding the way we plan to move forward. First, since we need to establish and identity that our neighbors will remember, we want to begin using "**The Well**" to designate that facility for all events that take place there. It is not unusual for churches to name such facilities something other than "Family Life Center." Asbury, for example, has a facility called "The Venue." The primary sign located on the corner of 38<sup>th</sup> Street and 113<sup>th</sup> Street will remain in place, designating the building as the Sand Springs United Methodist Church Family Life Center." We believe it is important for continuity to maintain some visibility of what most people know. Another sign will be placed next to the existing sign that uses **The Well** logo. Also, the sign on the south end of the building needs to be replaced since it is falling apart. The intention is to replace that sign with **The Well** logo. We believe that we can create an identity that will be recognizable, understandable, and one the will let everyone know that we have not sold our building to another church.

We also plan to begin using **The Well** as the designation for all events scheduled in that building. If we want to create an identity, we need to be consistent in how we refer to the facility. This will take a lot of practice. We've been calling it the FLC for so long, changing our habit will be a challenge. You will begin to see **The Well** on our calendar items, on slides, and other materials as soon as it is ready. We are responding to a couple comments on the logo that we believe will make it better. Once the final product is ready, you will start to see it more and more. Please start using the name **The Well** amongst ourselves so we can make a new habit. Finally, we realized that we were not following our own advice. We have talked many times about "relational evangelism." That means, developing relationships with people and allowing the relationship to lead naturally into more serious discussions of spirituality. We need to do more to build relationships with our neighbors before we try to start a new worship service. Therefore, we are going to concentrate on events that attract lots of people, so we can get to know them, make friends with them, and seek to know what they need and **if** we can offer them more than just a fun event. The answers will be different for each individual. Nonetheless, all the people we get to know will always be welcome, whether they end up in our church or not. Relational evangelism is about people and what they need; it's about sharing with the community; it *sometimes* leads to conversion, but not always.

Again, thank you for your support!  
The Mission Strategy Team

## What's Going On?

### Head Ushers

8:45am-Amanda Honeycutt

11:00am-Eddie David

### Children's Church

8:45am-Kingdom Kids

11:00am-Jami Warkentin

6/17-Amy Miller

6/24-Kat Katzung

7/1-Communion

7/8-Jo Fritts

### Sunday Counters

July 29-Janie Moore & Kent Warkentin

August 5-Diana Pond & Jack Vest

August 12-Betty or Howard & Karen Wilder

August 19-Sondra Allen & Dick Ford

August 26-Bob Barnes & Jami Warkentin

### Youth Dinners, Served 6:30, Wednesdays

July 25-Faith Circle

August 1-TNT

August 8-Ruth Esther Circle

August 15-Seniors In Action

August 22-Priscilla Circle

August 29-Noah/Searchers

### Welcome Center

January & May & September-CIA/Pathfinders

February & June & October-Harmony

March & July & November-Discovery

April & August & December-TNT

### Fourth Monday Community Dinner

7/23-5:30pm-Fellowship Hall

8/27-5:30pm-Fellowship Hall

9/24-5:30pm-Fellowship Hall

10/22-5:30pm-Fellowship Hall

11/26-5:30pm-Fellowship Hall

12/24-5:30pm-Fellowship Hall

### All Church Mission Strategy Team Event

7/27 at 5:00pm

Worship Encounter-7/29-FLC-6:00pm

8/24 at 5:00pm

Worship Encounter-8/26-FLC-6:00pm

9/28 at 5:00pm

Worship Encounter-9/30-FLC-6:00pm

10/26 at 5:00pm

Worship Encounter-10/28-FLC-6:00pm

### Prayer List

*Leonard Whisenhunt, Jim & Vi McAllister, Martha Scudder, Linda Tabberer, Andrew Walczak, Charlene Reeves, June Brown, Mary Lea Forsythe, Kevin Harris, BW Proft, Sue Shaw, Michael Bostwick, Greta Green, Bob & Cathy Hula, Bill & Clare Caldwell, John & Sylvia Johnson, Barbara McClintock, Montie Box, Owen Johnston, Ruth Weaver, Last Week's Prayer Chains, Unspoken Requests*

*If someone needs to be added to the prayer list or someone was taken off too soon, please contact Tracey in the front office to update prayer list.*

*Please join us for a  
WEDDING SHOWER*

*honoring*

*Haylee Massey*

*&*

*Alex Stockard*

*Sunday, July 29, 2018*

*2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.*

*Haylee and Alex are registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond, Amazon, and Walmart*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

### Monday, July 23

10:00am-Al-Anon-Upstairs

5:30pm-4th Monday Community Dinner-F. Hall

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-The Well

### Tuesday, July 24

7:00pm-Praise Team Practice

### Wednesday, July 25

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café

5:45pm-Y4Y

6:30pm-Youth-The Well

7:00pm-NO Chancel Choir

### Thursday, July 26

7:00pm-\*NO Collins Karate-The Well

### Friday, July 27

5:00pm-4th Friday Food Trucks & Fellowship-The Well

### Saturday, July 28

1:00pm-The Well in use

### Sunday, July 29

8:45am-Contemporary Worship

9:45am-Communion Service

10:00pm-Sunday School

11:00am-Traditional Worship

2:30pm-Wedding Shower-Details inside

6:00pm-MST Worship Encounter-The Well

### Monday, July 30

10am-Al-Anon-Upstairs

7:00pm-Boy Scouts-The Well

### Tuesday, July 31

7:00pm-Praise Team

### Wednesday, August 1

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café

5:45pm-Y4Y

6:30pm-Youth-The Well

7:00pm-Chancel Choir

The Well-SSUMC Family Life Center...Not sponsored by SSUMC but welcome

### ***Sand Springs United Methodist Church***

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*319 N. Main—Delivery*

*Sand Springs, OK*

*74063*

### **WHAT A BARGAIN!!**

**The blue UMW Cookbooks  
are now \$10. Buy them for  
wedding gifts, birthday gifts,  
even Christmas gifts.**

**Buy one to welcome a new  
neighbor or just to have an  
extra one on hand for  
someone special.**

**Do Not Miss This Bargain!!!**

**Sand Springs, Oklahoma**