

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer



I've been thinking a lot lately about how our country and our world got to where we are today, and what, if anything, we might be able to do to make

things better. I'm talking about the way in which otherwise intelligent, compassionate human beings seem to treat one another so badly and how people can be so aggressive and non-Christian in their language and social discourse.

Almost every day we see public and private examples of people, often who claim to be Christian, speak to other people with venom and cruelty. People deride one another for their political viewpoints, their religious beliefs, and the color of their skin. People can be pretty hateful whenever religion, sex, or politics is the topic of conversation. It amazes me that so many of the people spouting hate speech and intolerance of different points of view, are the same people who say they are followers of Jesus. They attend their church regularly, they give to the church, they claim to read their Bibles once in a while. Yet, they do not seem to know who Jesus really is.

Jesus is the guy who told us to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind; and love your neighbor as yourself. When asked who our neighbor is, Jesus answered that, essentially, everyone is our neighbor. Every single human being on the planet is deserving of our love, because all those folks are God's creation, just like we are. That certainly does not mean that everyone is perfect and blameless; fact is, nobody is perfect and blameless, except Jesus.

We have no right to criticize, judge, or condemn another human being for anything they might do. We have no right to condemn any person because they disagree with us, or worship differently from us, or look different. We have no rights here, because we are just as guilty as everyone else.

We may not like their behavior, but we cannot judge or condemn them; it is simply not our job. Our job is clearly defined by Jesus: "Love God. Love Others." That's it, that's the whole thing, that is our primary purpose. When we show our love for God by indiscriminately loving other people, we help to point others toward the God who saves them, heals them, and gives them hope. We are obligated to love other people enough to share the blessings we have received so that they might find their blessings through Jesus Christ.

Everything else: the judging, the condemning, the healing, the saving, that's all God's job. We need to get out of the way and let God do God's job without our interference. Amen.

Seeking to love more,
Pastor Don



Mark your calendars!! Boo on Broadway is Sunday, October 28th, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in downtown Sand Springs. The event

is sponsored by the Sand Springs Ministerial Alliance. Businesses, churches, and community organizations are invited to set up a booth and be part of this fun day in our city. There will also be a Trunk or Treat area for those interested. Last year's event was a huge success and SSUMC will once again be participating. We need YOUR help! Like last year, we'll have a booth with a craft and a game and we'll need volunteers. You can volunteer for the entire afternoon or just an hour or so. This year we've taken on the additional responsibility of staffing one of the information tables. We will need 5-6 people to work the table with at least a couple of them being men who can walk around the event to check on things and help with candy distribution. It's a fun afternoon and we hope you'll join us! Look for sign up sheets in the narthex on Sunday.



Hey Kids!

What fun to see everyone yesterday and spend time together. During Kingdom Kids Miss Cathy answered your questions about pianos and talked about our church organ. She

plans to take you in the sanctuary and show you the organ and how it works. Thank you Miss Cathy! Our lesson was how Jesus shows His love for us. In Mark 15, Jesus talks with his followers of what His True Love looks like: a good shepherd who cares for his sheep. Jesus cares for all of you. Congratulations to Maddie on being student of the week!

Have a great week and see you next week.
Miss Debbie and Miss Marty

Letter to all Oklahoma UM Congregations September 13, 2018

Dear United Methodist Ministry Partners, The Wesley Foundation at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater wants to thank you for your years of support. Every congregation has supported us through their apportionments, but we also know that many of you have prayed for us, encouraged your students to stop by, or given in other ways as individuals. Thank you all very much. United Methodist Campus Ministries cannot survive without all of these kinds of support.

We have been working hard to promote all of the great things going on at the OSU Wesley including our new building (which opened in August) and our new Campus Minister/Director, Rev. James Hunt. You may also be aware that our ministry is in the midst of some challenges. Our previous director was placed on leave in November 2017 and surrendered his credentials as an Elder in the United Methodist Church, at the request of the Bishop.

The exact nature and extent of the problems surrounding his departure are still under review, but we as the Board of Directors want to assure you our supporters of two important things:

First, we are actively looking into the problem. Our Board of Directors and the Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry have submitted the Wesley Foundation's financial records to an accounting firm to do a thorough audit. If wrongdoing is found, the results of this audit will be turned over to appropriate law enforcement officials to determine what if any action will be taken. Second, at the end of 2017, as soon as we discovered the potential mismanagement, we partnered with the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits to improve the way we handle our finances. The Center's mission is to help nonprofit organizations achieve their goals by operating according to best practices. They reviewed all of our financial procedures, identified some concerns and made several recommendations for improvement. We officially adopted all of their suggestions on February 1, 2018. Going forward, you can be sure that the OSU Wesley is committed to accountability, transparency and responsibility. In closing, we would like to give you two pieces of good news and an invitation. Our Grand Opening and Building Dedication were held on September

8th. The Bishop and the President of OSU were here to celebrate your ministry at work on this campus. Second, our Fall semester programming is off to a great start. Over 100 people have joined us for worship and new faces keep coming in every week. Finally, we are hosting a Fall Gala on December 7th at 7:00pm. We hope you'll make a reservation to join us for dinner in the beautiful new worship room, entertainment provided by the students and a celebration of all those who made this new facility possible. This is a challenging time for our organization, but it is a very exciting time for the ministry. Students are enthusiastic about new things at the Wesley. We hope you'll join us as we pray that God would give our staff and student leaders the grace they need to offer the love of Jesus to everyone they meet on the campus of Oklahoma State University.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors, Wesley Foundation at Stillwater

Head Ushers

8:45am-Amanda Honeycutt
11:00am-Eddie David

Children's Church

8:45am-Kingdom Kids
11:00am-Jami Warkentin
8/26-Becky Barnes
9/2-Communion
9/9-Debbie Schmidt
9/16-Amanda Honeycutt
9/23-Marty David
9/30-Amy Miller

Sunday Counters

9/23-Sondra Allen & Dick Ford
9/30-Bob Barnes & Jami Warkentin
10/7-Janie Moore & Kent Warkentin

Youth Dinners, Served 6:30, Wednesdays

9/19-No Youth
9/26-Tnt
10/3-ruth Esther Circle
10/10-Senions In Action

Welcome Center

January & May & September-CIA/Pathfinders
February & June & October-Harmony
March & July & November-Discovery
April & August & December-TNT

Fourth Monday Community Dinner

5:30-9/24-Fellowship Hall
5:30-10/22-Fellowship Hall
5:30-11/26-Fellowship Hall
5:30-12/24-Fellowship Hall

All Church Mission Strategy Team (MST) Event

9/28 at 5:00pm-The Well
10/19 at 5:00pm-The Well
11/16 at 5:00pm-The well
12/28 at 5:00pm-The Well

Prayer List

Leonard Whisenhunt, Jim & Vi McAllister, Martha Scudder, Charlene Reeves, June Brown, Mary McGowan, Mary Lea Forsythe, Kevin Harris, BW Proft, Sue Shaw, Michael Bostwick, Greta Green, Bob & Cathy Hula, Bill & Clare Caldwell, Betty & Linda Lund, John & Sylvia Johnson, Barbara McClintock, Montie Box, Owen Johnston, Ruth Weaver, Darin Grayson, Pauline Hanigar, Frank Slane, David Allen, Bruce & Mona Warren, 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.

Fourth Monday
COMMUNITY MEAL
4th Monday of the Month
Fellowship Hall • 5:30-7:00 p.m.
September 24

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

***-Not sponsored by SSUMC but welcome**

Monday, September 17

10:00am-Al-Anon-Upstairs
6:30pm-Bible Study
7:00pm-Boy Scouts-The Well

Tuesday, September 18

6:00pm-MST Meeting-Parlor
7:00pm-Praise Team Practice

Wednesday, September 19

7:30am-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café
1:30pm-Mission to Stitch-Parlor
5:45pm-Y4Y
6:30pm-NO Youth-The Well
7:00pm-Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, September 20

6:30pm-Nominations Committee Meeting
*7:00pm-Collins Karate-The Well

Friday, September 21

No Activities

Saturday, September 22

No Activities

Sunday, September 23

8:45am-Contemporary Worship
9:45am-Communion Service
10:00am-Sunday School
11:00am-Traditional Worship

Monday, September 24

10:00am-Al-Anon-Upstairs
5:30pm-4th Monday Community Dinner-F. Hall
6:30pm-Bible Study
7:00pm-Boy Scouts-The Well

Tuesday, September 25

7:00pm-Praise Team
7:00pm-Priscilla Circle-Becky B.

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

Sand Springs United Methodist Church

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