

March 20, 2020

# The Springs

## Flier Edition



Dear friends,



It is no secret that I have a deep love of the classic fantasy novel, *The Lord of the Rings*. If you aren't familiar with the story, it is about a group of unlikely heroes who must go on a great adventure through many perils to destroy a magic ring. The ring is an evil thing, created by the villain of the story. If the ring is destroyed, the villain is destroyed with it.

At a certain point, towards the beginning of the story, the person who is tasked with carrying the ring, Frodo, has doubts about his quest. He seeks wisdom from the wizard, Gandalf, and he laments that he should be the one to carry out the quest.

*"I wish [the discovery of the ring] need not have happened in my time," said Frodo. "So do I," said Gandalf, "and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us."*

The author of *The Lord of the Rings*, J.R.R. Tolkien, was no stranger to difficult times. He himself fought in the first World War, where he contracted trench fever and nearly died. I imagine that he also had the thought, sitting in a cold, muddy trench, that he wished that the war hadn't happened in his time. But such wishes do not make war go away, and they had no power to change his situation. What did have power in Tolkien's situation was his unshakable Christian faith. Tolkien believed that God would be victorious, no matter what, and because of that he carried optimism and hope with him wherever he went. That is why when he wrote *The Lord of the Rings*, he made hope in the face of tremendous adversity the main theme of the book.

Friends, I wish that coronavirus need not have happened in our time. I am sure that I am not alone in that sentiment. But that is not for us to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us. I have decided to rely on God, and to trust in the hope that I have in him. I hope that you will do the same.

Let us continue to meet and worship together by whatever means that we can. Let us stay connected to one another in this time of being physically separated. Most of all, let us trust in the hope of Jesus Christ.

*Sand Springs United Methodist Church  
319 North Main Street  
Sand Springs, Oklahoma  
74063*



## KIDZONE NEWS

Hey kids-

What an awesome job you did on Sunday, March 15th as we put together and delivered 70 Easter

baskets for Sand Springs Community Services. Many thanks to Sara, Cayleigh, Amanda, Jamie, Jennifer & Jared, Kat & Tim. We all enjoyed a pizza party before delivering the baskets. Sand Springs Community Services has already begun to hand out the baskets. Everyone appreciates what you have done for them.

Hope you are enjoying your Spring break! We know this is a challenging time for all of us. We will miss seeing you in Kidzone for the next few weeks. Remember that God loves us and is in control of all things.

Blessings-

Ms. Debbie & Ms. Marty

### Cancelations due to coronavirus

- The Noon Lenten Devotions/Lunches are all canceled.
- The 4th Monday Dinner (3/23) is Canceled.
- There is no in-person Youth scheduled for now.
- Services are canceled thru March but will stream live on Facebook at 11 a.m. and will be uploaded to YouTube afterwards.
- Priscilla, Ruth Esther, and Faith Circles are canceled for March.
- Carrie McNeer's baby shower is postponed until further notice.
- Offices are closed next week and we will see if the CDC updates after that.

Everyday at 12:30 p.m., Pastor Stephen is leading us all in prayer live on Facebook. Prayer is one thing that gives up hope and we can all share together even when we are apart. Let's work together to make sure everyone is informed.

### How Can you Still Give?

The best way to give is through online giving. Just go to:

<https://sandspringsumc.org/>

Click on the "Giving" link in the top right hand corner and fill out the information and click "Continue."

You can also mail your checks to :

Sand Springs UMC

319 N. Main St.

Sand Springs, OK 74063

*Reminder, the PO Box is no longer active.*

It is important to continue to support the church and it's ministries because as we know, the building is not the church—YOU ARE!

We are still answering your calls, e-mails, texts... And we are returning calls as well. This is all temporary and we will be reunited again very soon.

### Easter Events

We will keep you posted on Events for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. We have a **Church Easter Brunch Potluck and Easter Egg Hunt** scheduled for April 11 from 10 a.m. to noon at The Well. We will post any cancelations.

Be sure to check facebook for any cancelations and keep your church friends up-to-date on cancelations as well.

### "The Prayer Box"

Philip Comer, Sylvia Johnson, Ralph & Roberta Rand, June Brown, Shelley Adams, Lori Halzler, Martha Scudder, Betty & Linda Lund, Wava Burt, Ralph Ward, Bob & Cathy Hula, Gordonna Fisher, Bill Caldwell, Jim & Vi McAllister, Barbara McClintock, Montie & Betty Box, Bruce Warren, Maureen Gibson, and Last Week's Prayer Chains & Unspoken Requests

### Bored? Make Play-Doh for yourself, the kids, or a neighbors kiddos!!

**(Also a great squishy stress reliever!)**

- 1 Cup Flour
- 2 tsp Cream of Tartar
- 1/2 Cup Salt
- 1 Tbsp Cooking Oil
- 1 Cup Water

Mix dry ingredients in a mixing bowl.

Add Water and Oil to a pot. *(if you are making one color, add the food coloring to the oil and water.)* Add dry ingredients and mix well. Cook and stir over Medium heat until it forms a ball. If it is too dry, just add a bit more oil. Let cool. If you have not already colored it, pinch off sections and color with food coloring. It is best to put the sections in Ziploc baggies or use rubber gloves to color with less mess! Enjoy!