



September 20, 2021



# Thank You Sand Springs UMC!

I'd like switch things up this month, and instead of the usual devotional article I'd like to take a moment to say, "Thank you," to you all! As many of you are aware, I will be ordained as an Elder in the United Methodist Church on October 8th, in just a few short weeks! This is not something I could have achieved on my own. We all stand on the shoulders of giants, do we not?

The author of Hebrews in chapter 11 reminds us that our faith is informed by the faith of those who came before us. I know my faith is informed by not only those who came before me, but by my contemporaries who have supported me and encouraged me.

You, the congregation that I have the pleasure of serving, have been foremost among my supporters. Thank you so much for your love and encouragement. It means more to me than I have the ability to express in words. The path to ordination in the United Methodist Church is a difficult one, and one I'm not sure I could have walked without people who care about me cheering me on.

Now you may be asking, "What does Stephen's ordination mean for our church? Does this mean Stephen might move? What will be the difference?" Well, in truth, it won't be much of a difference for our everyday life together! My ordination has no bearing on whether I will or won't move (although I anticipate that I will NOT move any time soon). The most noticeable difference is that I will be able to wear a stole as part of my vestments in the traditional service. There are other important differences, too, but mostly related to some behind-thescenes stuff.

In any case, I wanted to take a moment to say how much I appreciate you all. It is such a privilege to be your pastor. The last year and a half or so have been a strange time to serve in ministry, but I have been very blessed to be able to weather the storm with kind and generous people like you.

## **Reminder: Donate to the Building Fund**

Did you know our Family Life Center, "The Well" is known in our community as a great gathering place. We host birthday parties, anniversary gatherings, ball practices, cheer practices, Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts, Karate, and our own Youth meet there on Wednesday nights. Countless family reunions have met there and we've even hosted a roller derby group! The list is endless. It is an outreach to our neighbors in Sand Springs and in order to continue to be the gathering place for our community, we need your help. <u>Please continue or begin donating to the Building Fund.</u> And don't forget to memo a beard style for Pastor Stephen. It's gonna happen!!! You have until the end of September.



# Kidzone News

It Was so good to see our Kidzone Kids this Morning. We Finished our series of Lessons on Joseph. Whatever Joseph Faced, God Was always With Him. Next Week our Lesson Will be about Balaam and his strange occurrence With a donkey. This Bible story is found in NUMbers and We Will Learn How God gives us direction. Each Week after our Bible story, We Will Work on our items for our an-

NUAL CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER FOR STOCKINGS FOR SAND SPRINGS COMMUNITY SERVICES.

Have a WonderFul Week!! MS. Debbie, MS. Susie & MS. Marty

## TO OUR VBS VOLUNTEERS

Many thanks for all your help during Bible School- we could not do it without you!! Looking forward to working with you next year too.

Ms. Debbie & Ms. Marty

#### Nursery

September 26 9:00 a.m.—Susie & Amanda 10:00 a.m.—Jami & Hallye 11:00 a.m.—Susie & Amanda

October 3 9:00 a.m.—Katherine & Sophie 10:00 a.m.—Lacey & Haylee 11:00 a.m.—Katherine & Sara

October 10 9:00 a.m.—Gerri & Sophie 10:00 a.m.—Katherine & Sara 11:00 a.m.—Marty & Cayleigh

October 17 9:00 a.m.—Jami & Hallye 10:00 a.m.—Jami & Cayleigh 11:00 a.m.—Debbie & Frankie

To my church famíly-Many thanks for your prayers, cards and meals duríng my recent surgery and recovery. I am doing well- glad to be back ín church with all of you! Love and blessings, Marty

#### **Children's Church**

September 26—Jami & Marty October 3-Communion October 10—Jami & Sara October 17—Jami & Katherine

#### **Youth Dinners**

September 22—Priscilla Circle September 29—TNT Class October 6—Faith Circle October 13—Noah Class October 20—CIA/Pathfinders Class

#### Counters

September 26—Sondra & Trena October 3—Howard & Jami October 10—Janie & Kent October 17—Betty & Karen October 24—Sondra & Trena

Prayer Box Includes our<br/>Sick & HomeboundDavid AllenDavid AllenMontie & Betty BoxLeonard BrehmGordonna FisherDick FordMaureen GibsonDonna HopeJuanita JacksonSylvia JohnsonSuzanne & Valerie J.Elsie & Roger Jones

Betty & Linda Lund Vi McAllister Ralph Rand Louise Read Max & Sharon S. Bill Schwartz Betty Smith Bruce Warren Ruth Weaver June Wilborn Joe & Donna W. And Prayer Chains And Unspoken Requests



TRUNK OR TREAT-Sunday, October 31st -5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. We need your <u>trunks and candy</u>!! We will have a sign up sheet and tubs for candy in the narthex. This is a fun time and a great way to reach out to our kids in the community. Ms. Debbie & Ms. Marty





# **Exodus House Thanks You**

The Exodus House staff would like to thank our

congregation for your outpouring of love and support for our fundraiser at our Annual Graduate Fun Day. Because of your generous donations we were able to provide two baskets, pictured above.



# Monday, September 27 Monday, October 25

Community Meals 1st Monday—Lake UMC-7750 W. 14th St. 2nd Monday—Olivet Baptist Church—155 N. 65th W. Ave. 3rd Monday—Grace UMC—514 So. 49th W. Ave. 4th Monday—SSUMC—4th & Main Street

Sand Springs United Methodist Church 319 No. Main St. Sand Springs, OK 74063 Kidzone needs empty Tide pod containers. If you have any, just leave in office.