

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer

August 29, 2012

In This Edition of the SPRINGS

- Someone's Praying
- Rally Day
- Shawn Cole/Exodus House
- Furniture available
- Color Page-back to school
- Seniors In Action
- Pictorial Directory
- The Awakening
- KidZoine
- Sunday Lists
- Prayer List
- Acknowledgements
- Wedding Shower



“Jesus said to him, ‘You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.’ When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth. Jesus looked at him and said, ‘How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.’” (Luke 18:22-25)

As we enter that time of year when church committees begin to think about budgets; preparations are underway for our Annual Charge Conference; and the inevitable stewardship sermons are being written; thoughts naturally turn to what Jesus has to say about money. Over the next couple months you will hear about our plans for the coming year and how those plans need to be funded. You will be challenged to take a fresh look at the way we do church and what really makes sense in the future. You will be asked to examine your own life and decide what enough is and what is too much. We will all face the question asked by the rich young ruler in Jesus’ parable: “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” When you hear the answer, will you walk away sad because Jesus is asking too much of you?

Many of you recently received a letter from our Finance Chair, Kent Warkentin. In it Kent outlined where our church is and where we need to be. It is clear that we are not doing everything we need to be doing to ensure the continued mission and ministry of the church. We are not fulfilling our connectional obligation through faithful payment of apportionments. It appears we are doing the minimum necessary to get by. More importantly, the financial message is not the end of the story. Stewardship is about many things.

While our attendance is growing nearly every week because of the addition of visitors and new members, many of you seem to have gotten out of the habit of attending church each week. We miss you and hope that you will soon return to join us as we worship God and do ministry in Jesus’ name. The move to two worship services earlier this year was in response to your comments and suggestions. Faithful stewardship of our time includes regular worship attendance to praise and thank God for the great blessings in our lives. This is part of the community of the faithful.

Serving God’s community is another element of stewardship where we seem to be falling short. Yesterday in worship many of you heard Dick Ford talk about stepping up to be leaders in the church. This is a follow-up to our recent spiritual gifts inventory and our call to action in terms of fulfilling the many leadership roles in our church for the coming year. This is also part of our stewardship obligation – to use God’s gifts to serve God’s people. Will you walk away sad because Jesus is asking too much of you?

Friends, we have proven that this church is capable of answering God’s call. We recently allowed God to lead us in a mission that I believe will forever change this congregation for the better. We do a lot, but we can do so much more. I pray that our church will step out in faith and walk boldly into the future...Give more; worship more; be present more; witness more; and love more. I believe our church is called to move from where we are and to take our place as a bold witness in a new facility that is equipped for real mission and ministry. God is saying to us: “Now!” What are we waiting for? Will we really walk away sad because Jesus expects too much from us?

*Shalom,
Pastor Don*

**Sunday,
September 16th**



**SSUMC
Rally Day!**

**You're Invited
Back!**

SOMEONE'S PRAYING, LORD.....

We must begin with a great big hug and thanks to God for the wonderful gift of rain we have been receiving.

With the beginning of school, let's also remember to give Thanks for our children and youth, as well as those teachers and leaders (both in school and in church) who have chosen to help mold their lives into all that God wants them to be. Let's remember them in our prayers daily that God will protect them and guide them during another school year.

Also, we must always remember those in our church and outside who are hurting physically and emotionally. We wonder sometimes how we can pray continually for so many needs. I believe as God opens our eyes and our hearts to those needs, a prayer is lifted. God knows before we even ask. Let's keep praying. Virginia

Back to Church Sunday

Have you gotten out of the habit of going to church? Do you have friends or neighbors you've wanted to invite to church? Sunday, September 16, is National Back to Church Sunday. It will be the perfect day to get back to church or invite friends to come see what SSUMC is all about.

We will have a potluck luncheon after the 11am service. The church will provide chicken. We're just asking the congregation to bring a side or a dessert to share. Whatever you bring is what we will eat!

If you'd like to help with this fun day we'll have a couple of ways you can serve. We will have a church "spruce up day" on Saturday, September 15 at 10am. The more folks we have the faster we can get things done. So bring your cleaning supplies and join us that day.

Then on 9/16 after Sunday School we will need people to help set up for the potluck lunch. We will be serving food upstairs and in fellowship hall. So we'll need lots of help to get things ready. Please consider how you can help.

Congratulations Shawn Cole

We are pleased to announce that our very own Shawn Cole, Exodus House resident, will be successful in completing the Exodus program. She is graduating on September 18th at St. Luke's Church located at 183 N. Boston in Tulsa— time to be announced. We are encouraging all to attend to show our support to Shawn, and to the Exodus House program. If you would like to attend, please notify Olivia Tackett at 918-241-5440 or olivia.tackett@yahoo.com.

Do You know of a Wildfire Victim in Need of Furniture?

Sue Wiedemann is moving to Broken Arrow. Due to a consolidation of furnishings, she will have some furniture available. I would like to donate this to some fire victims, if that is the best avenue for this. On the other hand, if there is someone in our own SSUMC, that would be wonderful too.

I will not have a complete inventory for a week or so, but at least a queen bed, and some bedroom furniture, some living room easy chairs, and probably a lamp or two and a desk. God Bless us All Everyone! Sue

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL KIDS!

HAVE A WONDERFUL

AND SAFE YEAR!



Seniors in Action!

On Wednesday, September 19th, we will go to Gilcrease Museum to see the "Discover George Washington" Exhibit. Reliable sources say this is a most interesting display! Lunch destination will be announced later. Please meet at the church at 9:30 a.m. for carpooling to the museum. You might enjoy going to the internet site <DiscoverGeorgeWashington.org> to learn about the exhibit. Sign up with Max or Sharon Schuermann at church or call, 918-246-9169.

Pictorial Directory

It is so easy to sign up for this directory! You can call me, Tracey, in the office and I will take care of everything for you including mailing you a reminder post-

card. OR, you can get online at <cc.artisanlife.com> and follow the 6 very easy steps. Either way, we want you in the directory. Not a member of SSUMC? Attend regularly? You are church family and we consider you an important part of our congregation. Please know you belong in our directory. If you know someone who has not been here in a while, invite them to Rally Day and while you are at it, invite them to set up an appointment to have their picture taken. Remember, everyone gets a free 8x10. If you are going to be out of town, please make every effort to get a picture taken with Artisan at their studio in the Promenade Mall. This is discouraged for everyone who will be in town and can make an appointment while they are present at our church.

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers September 2

Visitors Center & Coffee-Up Rising Young Adults
Head Usher-8:30 a.m.-Frank Johnston
Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
Lay Reader-8:30 a.m.
Lay Reader-11:00 a.m.
Young Disciples Lesson-8:30 a.m.-Kristen Henry
Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Kristen Henry
Child. Church-8:30 a.m.-Kingdom Kids 11:00 a.m.-
Kristen & Julia Henry

Counters-Sheree Buttler & Jami Warkentin
Youth Dinner for Wednesday-August 29-SIA

Sunday Volunteers September 9

Visitors Center & Coffee-Up Rising Young Adults
Head Usher-8:30 a.m.-Frank Johnston
Head Usher-11:00 a.m.-Eddy David
Lay Reader-8:30 a.m.
Lay Reader-11:00 a.m.
Young Disciples Lesson-8:30 a.m.-Marty David
Young Disciples Lesson-11:00 a.m.-Marty David
8:30 a.m. Children's Church-Kingdom Kids 11 a.m.-
Marty David

Counters-Janie Moore & Ken Warkentin
Youth Dinner for Wednesday-September 5-Harmony

Please Keep In Prayer

Walter Speed, Wilbur & Jewel Williams, Mel Jones, Ryder Herring, Ruth Weaver, Jo Nan Allen, Virginia Vice, Martha Scudder, Don Baldrige, Earl Cervantez, Donna Woodruff, Bishop Hayes, Phil Cearley, Linda McCormick, Jan Dickerson, Buster Hall, Cathy Hula, Wildfire Victims, and all un-spoken requests

Acknowledgements

Thank You... for the prayers. They have been answered. I am much better. I really appreciated the cards and rides! Continued prayers as I change Doctors. Morene Baker

Thank You... Thanks for keeping me on your prayer list. I keep up with things in SS through Janie Moore. I am still hanging in there and still dealing with that cancer bug! I truly miss so many of you and appreciate the newsletter. Thinking of you, Ruth Weaver

Thank You... We would like to thank the church for the wonderful meal you provided during our sad time. It meant so much to daddy and he was so pleased to see his church family at mom's service. God Bless! Kay Cervantez-Cartner and Earl Cervantez and family



Wedding Shower

Carrie McNeer and Ryan Bulmer shower is Saturday, September 15th from 2-4 p.m. in the church parlor. Carrie is registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond, Macy's and Target.

Please RSVP by September 8th to
Sondra Bogert at 269-5354 or Betty Smith, 245-7140.

The Awakening-Youth

New "the Awakening" Graphic:

Have you noticed that sweet new graphic "the Awakening" has unveiled? One of our previous youth, Megan Chism has designed an amazing piece of work for our youth to call their own! Thank you Megan! Pick up one of your new brochures at the welcome desk and check out all the exciting things going on in the next 6 months for our youth! Also we will be selling new t-shirts in the **Narthex Sunday for \$15** so come and get an AWESOME new t-shirt!

the Awakening Vision Cast:

Youth- you do not want to miss this awesome night! We will be having a **Vision Cast** night for the youth ministry of SSUMC! This will be a great time for us to refresh ourselves with our purpose and mission of our ministry! Join us August 29th @ 6:30pm! Hope to see ya! **First 15 youth who arrive will be given a NEW "Awakening" t-shirt!!! (They are really awesome!)**

Youth Worship Service!

You don't want to miss church Sunday, **September 2nd**! The youth will be helping lead worship!!! Come join and support our youth as they share their gifts with you, the church! Hear the vision that God has put on our hearts.

Re-scheduled Parent Info Night:

Hey! Are you a parent of a student in the youth ministry @ SSUMC? We would love to have you join us for a parent info night! Due to the conflict with the Meet the Sandites, we re-scheduled our meeting. This event is going to be fun and very informative for what we have planned for the coming fall semester! Mark your calendars for **September 6th @7pm @ FLC**.

District Youth Council Meeting!

SSUMC Youth hosted the Tulsa District Youth Council this past Sunday and we had over 30 students attend our first meeting from surrounding churches in the Tulsa District. Churches represented were... Sand Springs, Memorial Drive, Heritage, Faith, New Haven, Boston Avenue, St. Stephens, Verdigris, and Jenks! We also elected the Tulsa District Youth Officers, and our very own Julie Ferguson was elected as our Vice-Chair for Tulsa District Youth Officers!!! Congrats Julie! The Youth Council plans 3 events for the Calendar year for students in the Tulsa District to attend! Thank you to our amazing parents and volunteers who helped served drinks and snacks at our meeting!!! Thank you, thank you, Amy Miller, Kristen Henry, Winnie Mansfield, and Carrol Hamner!

Special Thanks!

Jana Cheek has been a huge part in making the Youth Vision Cast Night an incredible experience with her artistic and decorative skills! Thanks for helping us make this experience for our students special and memorable.

Upcoming Youth Series "Family Feud"

Upcoming Dates:

- **August 29th- Vision Cast Night! Don't Miss It! 6:30pm-**

8:30pm

- **September 2nd- Youth Service Sunday!**
- **September 5th- Vision Execution Planning Meeting**
- **September 6th- Re-scheduled Parent Info Night 7pm @ FLC**
- **September 12th- Start "Family Feud" Series Wk1: Jealousy/Sibling Rivalry**
- **September 19th- "Family Feud" Wk 2 "R.E.S.P.E.C.T" 6:30pm-8:30pm**
- **September 26th- See you at the pole!**

(If you are interested in being apart of any of these upcoming events please do not hesitate to call me at 918-245-5955, or email me at gcollett@sandspringsumc.org)

Fun Fact: "Whaling is illegal in the state of Oklahoma."



Kidzone

Didn't the kids do a great job singing "I Depend on You" in both services? It's a great song and one of their favorites from VBS. We all need to learn to depend on God more, don't we?

On Sunday we shopped. While shopping, the children made

God's Eyes. Austin and Arianna are the latest two who have learned all the books of the Bible. We will continue with the lesson series on the 23rd Psalm for the next few weeks.

SAVE THESE DATES: Invite friends to Back to Church Sunday on Sept. 16th. And on Saturday, October 6 we will be making barbecue sauce for sale on Sunday, October 7th. This will be a fund raiser for Operation Christmas Child.

See you Sunday!!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FLC-Family Life Center

Wednesday, August 29

7:30 a.m.-Men's Breakfast—Crescent Café
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
6:30 p.m.-The Awakening-Youth
6:00 p.m.-Praise Team Practice
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Thursday, August 30

4:15 & 5:30 p.m.-Weight Watchers— F. Hall

Friday, August 31

12:00 p.m.-Weight Watchers-F. Hall

Saturday, September 1

No Activities

Sunday, September 2-Youth Service-Both Services

8:30 a.m.-Modern Worship
10:00 a.m.-Sunday School
11:00 a.m.-Classic Worship
12:45 p.m.-Dinners for 8 + to Freddies in Mannford

Monday, September 3-Offices Closed

10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
7:00 p.m.-Boy Scouts 101-FLC

Tuesday, September 4

6:00 p.m.-Chancel Bells Practice
6:00 p.m.-Girl Scout Leader Meeting-F. Hall
7:00 p.m.-Nominations Meeting
7:00 p.m.-Al-Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, September 5

7:30 p.m.-Men's & Women's Breakfast-Crescent Café
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
6:30 p.m.-The Awakening-Youth
6:00 p.m.-Praise Team Practice
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Thursday, September 6

4:15 & 5:30 p.m.-Weight Watchers— F. Hall
5:30 p.m.-UMW Executive Meeting
7:00 p.m.-Youth Parent Information night-FLC

Sand Springs UMC

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Estate Planning

Consider making a gift to your church to fund an endowment in memory of a family member or special friend. Feel free to discuss with your pastor or other appropriate church leader any special programs or projects you would like to be supported by this endowment.

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