

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer

November 12, 2018



The Gentle Draw of Worship

by Bishop Jimmy Nunn
(Contact, November 2, 2018)

It was one of the most unique worship spaces I have experienced. The back porch extended about twenty feet from the back of the modest home. There was a roof overhead and a deck served as the floor. The back of the house served as one wall. Two other walls were mostly unfinished. There was no back wall.

Words to the songs were projected on the wall of the house. The lyrics were framed by a small bathroom window, a washing machine, and the hot water heater. About thirty folding chairs were on the deck and about that many more in the yard. There was a modest cross on a table, a key board, a couple of guitars, and a few music stands.

Laity led the music and the owner of the house gave his testimony. His story began with the words, "Jesus and the church saved my life." He had battled alcohol and drugs, was a threat to himself and his family, and was in his words, dying.

But he encountered Jesus Christ through a friend who belonged to the United Methodist Church in the city several miles away. He became part of a discipleship group and heard God's call on his life. He had little formal education and lived in one of the poorest sections of the country, along the border of Texas and Mexico.

Now he was telling a group of people that included several United Methodist Bishops his story. God had called him to use his home as a place for people to come and worship. He was building a place for his neighbors to worship, one plank of wood at a time. His wife and son also shared how thankful they were to God that their husband and father was still alive and had given himself to God. The son said that he had heard a call to ministry in the very place we had gathered to worship.

Testimony time continued when the neighbor from across the street stood to speak. She began her conversation saying that she did not like all the noise that was coming from this house. She had called police when the music got too

loud. She had determined to do everything possible to shut down the gathering. She did not believe in God and described herself as a closed-minded atheist.

But her neighbors began to invite her to come to eat. She and her family lacked enough food, so she would come. She would not stay for worship; instead, she had begun to tolerate the noise. And then one night, she did stay for worship and her life was changed. Now she is one of the leaders.

After worship, the little church fed everyone who was there. The poor were feeding their neighbors, including the rich!

God is still at work in the world and in the United Methodist Church. It does not take a lot of money, but it does take an open heart. How might God impact your community today?

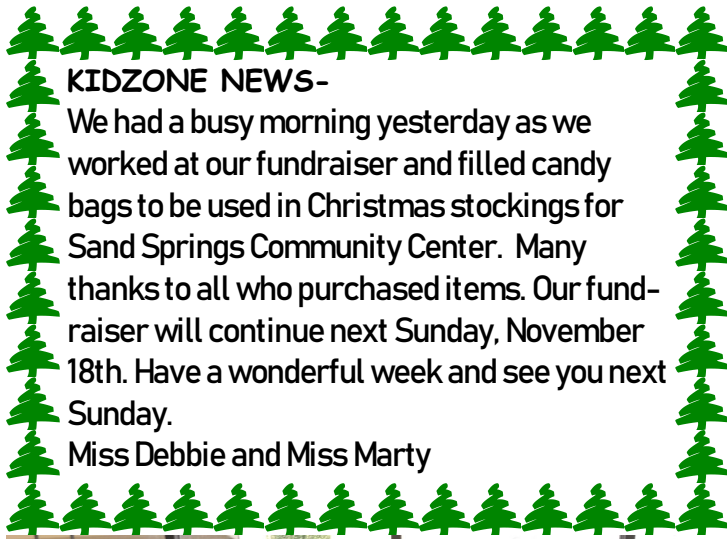
#####

While our situation is very different from this, the ideas in this story merit our consideration. We have been trying, with limited success, to expand our reach to include families who do not now have a church home, and those who have little interest in church. We are working to establish our identity on the southside at "The Well" and we are hearing these lyrics from a Casting Crowns song:

And all who thirst will thirst no more,
And all who search will find what their souls long for,
The world will try, but it can never fill,
So leave it all behind, and **come to The Well**

I believe our biggest obstacle to reaching those who thirst, and search is our own inability to see beyond our status quo. We can't imagine that we might be able to start something totally different from what we have and that something might actually be what people need and are seeking. We seem to lack faith in God's ability to work through unlikely people to accomplish great things. Please, move past this obstacle and help us reach new people from both our locations.

*Believing in our mission,
Pastor Don*



KIDZONE NEWS-

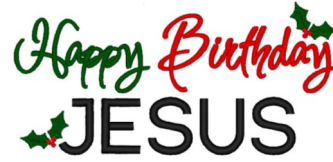
We had a busy morning yesterday as we worked at our fundraiser and filled candy bags to be used in Christmas stockings for Sand Springs Community Center. Many thanks to all who purchased items. Our fundraiser will continue next Sunday, November 18th. Have a wonderful week and see you next Sunday.

Miss Debbie and Miss Marty



PARENTS' AFTERNOON OUT

Parents! Get some shopping done without the children on December 9 from 1-4 at The Well. There is no charge to the parents! A Christmas movie, snacks, games and crafts will be provided for the children. Ages of the children should be between 4 and 12. Call the church at 918-245-5955, leave a message or email the church at office@sandspringsumc.org to reserve a spot for your children or if you can volunteer to help.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

This year's Christmas concert will be on December 16 at 6PM. The choir, children, bell choir and other specials will be presented. A birthday party for Jesus will follow the program. Please bring some Christmas goodies to share.

Joining Together for Worship

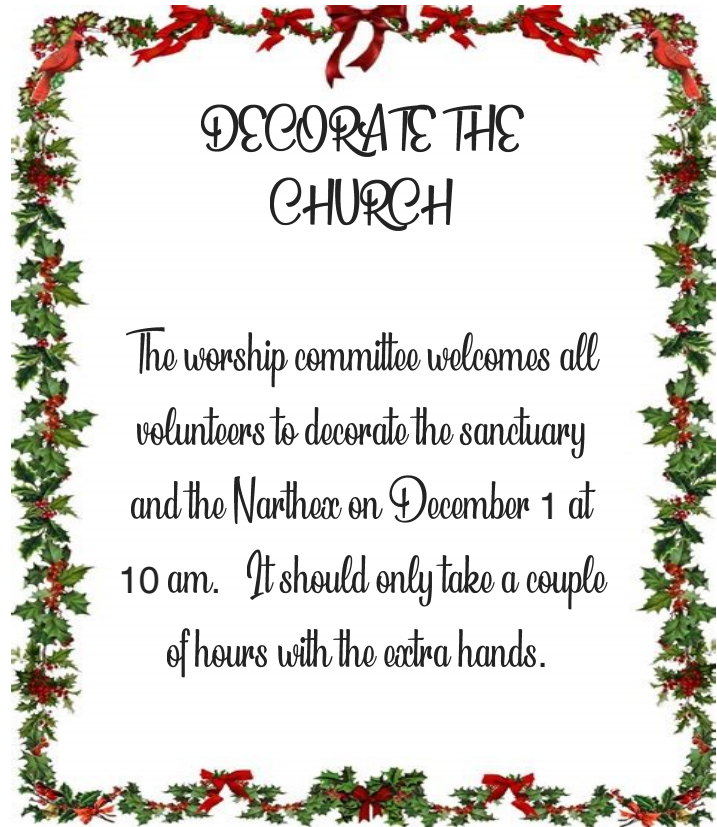
Sometimes when a church has multiple worship services people begin to lose touch with others who attend a different service from theirs. We have noticed that this seems to be happening here at SSUMC. We frequently hear comments and questions that indicate a need to gather together more often to stay in touch. With that in mind, we are going to try an experiment to see if we can bring our church closer together.

On Sunday, **November 25th** and Sunday, **December 30th**, we will have only one worship service – at **11:00 AM**. We will include music from both Traditional and Contemporary settings and we will enjoy being together for our post-holiday worship. Then, beginning on Sunday, January 6th, we will gather as a congregation to celebrate Holy Communion together in a combined 11:00 AM worship service. We will try this on the First Sunday of each month for a few months and see how it goes. We will re-evaluate as we go along and decide if this is something we want to do in the long-term.

Our goal is to bring our congregation closer together and give everyone a better sense of being one church together. Remember: ***“Together We Are More.”***

DECORATE THE CHURCH

The worship committee welcomes all volunteers to decorate the sanctuary and the Narthex on December 1 at 10 am. It should only take a couple of hours with the extra hands.



Charge Conference – QUICK REMINDER

As previously announced – Our Annual Charge Conference and District Meeting will be **Tuesday, November 13th at 6:30PM** at St. James United Methodist Church, 5050, East 11th Street S, (111th Street, just East of Yale, on the South side of the street). The best way to go is to take the Creek Turnpike to Yale, go south on Yale to 111th Street and turn left. The church is on your right. All church members are invited and encouraged to attend.

APPORTIONMENTS

As a reminder, Apportionments are funds that each local church is obligated to pay to the Annual Conference each year to help cover the cost of global missions. It is key to our “connectional system” that we work together with all United Methodist churches to make a difference in the world. Together we accomplish so much more than what any single church can do on its own. We are somewhat behind in our payments for 2018 and need to try hard to make up the difference by year’s end. Please, consider an extra gift this year so we can make our goal of paying 100% of our 2018 Apportionments. We still need to raise \$28,920 to complete our obligation. Thank you for your prayers and your support of the church’s mission in the world.

25th Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Wednesday, Nov. 21 will be filled with the prep work for the Dinner Deliveries. Volunteers can get in touch with Katherine Reeves for times and jobs. Large Deliveries go out early on

Thursday, Nov. 22nd.

The rest of us can show up around 10:30am for delivery assignments.

SUNDAY LISTS

Head Ushers

8:45am-Amanda Honeycutt

11:00am-Eddie David

Children’s Church

8:45am-Kingdom Kids

11:00am-Jami Warkentin

11/18-Marty David

11/25-Amy Miller

12/2-Communion

Sunday Counters

11/18-Diana Pond & Jack Vest

11/25-Howard or Betty Smith & Karen Wilder

12/2-Sondra Allen & Dick Ford

Youth Dinners, Served 6:30, Wednesdays

11/14-Faith Circle

11/21-No Dinner Needed

11/28-TNT

12/5-Ruth Esther Circle

Welcome Center

Harmony-October

Discovery-November

TNT-December

CIA/Pathfinders-January

Fourth Monday Community Dinner

5:30-11/26-Fellowship Hall

5:30-12/24-Fellowship Hall

All Church Mission Strategy Team (MST) Event

12/28 at 5:00pm-The Well

Prayer List

“The Prayer Box”

Jim & Vi McAllister, Martha Scudder, Charlene Reeves, June Brown, Mary McGowan, Mary Lea Forsythe, 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, Darin Grayson, Pauline Hanigar, Frank Slane, David Allen, Bruce & Mona Warren, Last Week’s Prayer Chains & Unspoken Requests

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SAND SPRINGS UMC

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

Monday, November 12

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

Tuesday, November 13

7:00pm-Praise Team Practice

Wednesday, November 14

7:30am-Men’s Breakfast-Crescent Café
5:30pm-Bell Choir
5:45pm-Y4Y-Joining Trunk or Treat
6:30pm-Youth-Joining Trunk or Treat
7:00pm-Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, November 15

1:00pm-Ruth Esther Circle-F. Hall
*7:00pm-Collins Karate-The Well

Friday, November 16

No Activities

Saturday, November 17

No Activities

Sunday, November 18

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

Monday, November 19

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

Tuesday, November 20

9:00am-*The Well in use
7:00pm-Praise Team

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

Sand Springs United Methodist Church

*PO Box 336-Mailing
319 N. Main—Delivery
Sand Springs, OK
74063*

25th Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Dust off those pie recipes!!
Once again this year, we are begging for your pies for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner program. Fully cooked pies need to be at The Well on Wednesday, November 21st.
We’ve never had too many pies!

