

The Springs



Rev. Don Tabberer

February 15, 2012

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"Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with

mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishment." (Joel 2:12-13)

On Wednesday, February 22 at 6:30 PM we will officially begin our observance of the Season of Lent. I hope that you will join us for our Ash Wednesday worship service that evening.

The observance of Lent is a tradition of the church that dates back over a thousand years and represents our observance of the forty days leading up to the passion, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. It is a time when we are reminded of the great mercy, love, and forgiveness shown to us by God through the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. It is a time when we seek ways to restore our relationship with God and with one another. It is a time when we recognize our need for the renewal of our faith.

This year the theme of our Lenten journey is: ***"Journey to Hope."*** We will examine our relationships, our struggles, our challenges, our disappointments, our gifts, our opportunities, and our blessings. We will seek the One who leads us on this journey toward the door that opens onto the only real hope for the world in which we live. We will walk this path together and help one another along a road where pot holes

are common and detours are tempting.

Lent is about becoming closer to God and becoming better representatives of God in the world. It isn't about giving up chocolates or soda pop for six weeks. Instead of giving something up for Lent, I have advocated for the past several years that we *"take something up"* for Lent and turn it into a habit. For example: start a new bible study program, volunteer for a new ministry team, get involved in something at church you are not already doing. If you take up something new for God and keep doing it for six weeks it may become a habit that you won't want to stop once the season is over. I believe this is how we can make Lent into a transformative experience instead of just a dusty old church tradition. If we truly are a Resurrection people then something new and exciting ought to be happening in us and through us by the time Easter Sunday arrives in April.

The mood and the colors of Lent can be distressing for some; there is an inherent darkness surrounding this time of reflection, repentance, and challenge. Many people want to jump ahead and rush to Easter so they can celebrate our Risen Lord. While understand this desire for joy, I am reminded that we cannot get to the Resurrection without first going through the Cross. Suffering and sadness precede the joy; it's part of the deal. We must remember the sacrifice so that we can celebrate the triumph. Please join me on this difficult journey to Calvary and beyond.

May God's word today truly disturb us,
Pastor Don

Ash Wednesday



Ash Wednesday service is Wednesday, February 22nd at 6:30 p.m.

The Worship Team Needs Your Help

The Worship Ministry Team is looking for individuals who would be willing to serve as Communion Stewards each month. This important ministry involves getting the bread for each communion service and preparing the juice cups. These elements need to be ready for the first Sunday of each month and are generally prepared the day before. Since we are adding a second service soon, the Communion Stewards will be responsible for two services each month. Please prayerfully consider if this is a ministry you would like to participate in and contact the Church Office. Thank you.

Estate Planning Thoughts

If you are a stockholder in a closely-held corporation, consider having the corporation make a gift to your church. Like individuals, corporations qualify for tax deductions for charitable gifts.

The 2nd Sunday Dinners 4 8 +

Mark your calendars for March 11th at 12:45 p.m. We will dine at Beck's Fresh Mediterranean Cuisine. It is located in Copper Mountain Shopping Center at 6808 S. Memorial Drive (NW corner of 71st & Memorial next to Windsor Market.) **Please RSVP**-call Linda Woodard by noon on Thursday, March 8th. Linda will reserve a table for as many RSVPs and will ask for some flexibility for any extras who decide to join us. All are welcome!

Book Review

In the book *A Monk in the Inner City*,

Sister Mary Lou Kownacki describes

a monk as one who wakes up in the morning with God on his mind wondering what God wants him/her to do that day.

Sister Mary Lou recounts many stories of her experiences working with the poor in soup kitchens, with after school programs and art classes for latch key kids. The teenage boys especially liked a flower arranging class. One of the boys said that it was a thrill to take his arrangement home. It was the first time he could remember ever having live flowers in his home.

She shares insights from the writings of Thomas Merton, Daniel Barrigan, Ghandi and Bob Dylan.

Sister Mary Lou participated in "Sit-ins" to demonstrate against war and nuclear bombs that landed her in jail. She walked over 100 miles to experience how the refugees felt that were running from the violence of war.

She points out that the world and its possessions belong to everyone. Are you hoarding yours?

This book will help you to think about the love that Jesus came to share with us and that we are to share with others. A great read. (Book in Spiritual Growth section of the UMW books.)

Judy Bullard

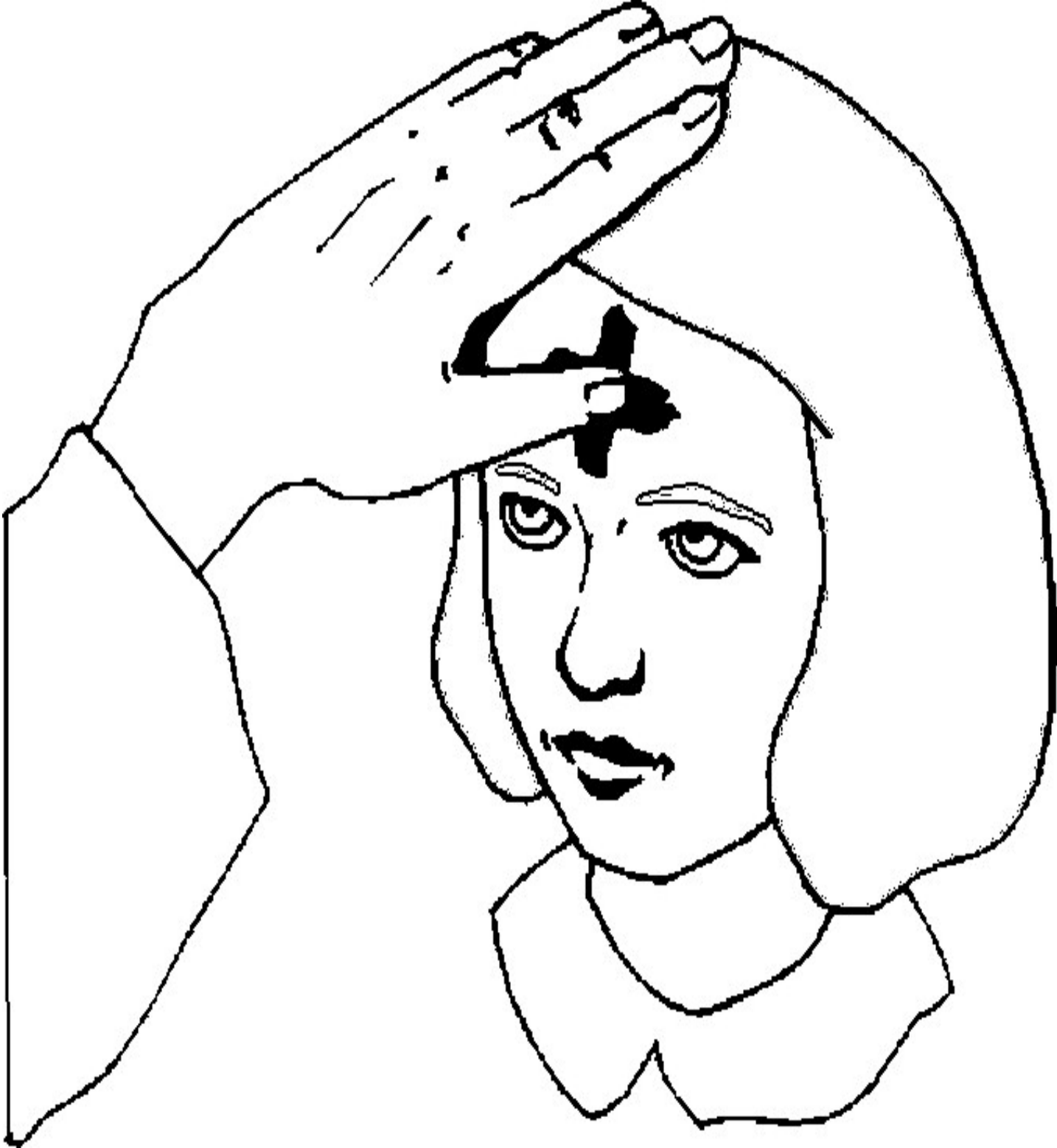


Where's The Church Keys?

If you have church keys you no longer need or use, please return them to the church office.





Ash Wednesday Color Sheet for the Kids



Crumbs From The Cracker

 Follow us on Twitter: theAwakening_

 "Like" – Facebook: "The Awakening" Ssumc youth

 YouTube Channel: SSUMCTheAwakening

News:

Rock and Worship Road show:

Have you ever heard of Mercyme? How about Tenth Avenue North? Well if not, you don't want to miss this awesome event! We will be going to a concert on February 17th @ the Mabee center! Don't miss out. It's only \$10 to see all of these great Christian bands!

Sunday Movie Night!

Are you off on President's Day? Well your kids are! Come and join us for a Family Movie Night @ the Family Life Center February 19th @ 6pm!!! Mark your calendars, and come and support youth missions! Fully stocked concession stand (Nachos, Drinks, Popcorn, Candy)

Weekly Youth Topics: The youth kicked off their new series "Declaration Generation" this past week! This is going to be a great series that empowers our youth to believe in themselves and that God can use them to change the world!

Do you want to support our Youth Mission Team 2012?

If you would like to make a donation or sponsor one of our youth to go on the mission trip, they would be delighted to receive any type of help! Last year, just from our random generous donors we were able to pay for 3 full trips for our students! Let's try for 5 this year!

Upcoming Dates:

February 15th - "Declaration Generation" Wk2 @ FLC

February 16th - Boys B-ball Practice @ 6pm

February 17th - Rock and Worship Road show Concert!!!!!!!!

February 18th - Boys Basketball @ 4pm @ First Methodist Tulsa

February 19th - District Youth Council Meeting 2pm

February 19th - Family Movie Night! @ FLC @ 6pm (Support Youth Mission Trip)

February 22nd - Ash Wednesday Service @ Sanctuary (Cherryberry Following)

February 23rd - Boys B-ball Practice @ 6pm

February 25th - Youth Laddies and Moms Scrapbook @ Caleb House 10:30am-12pm

February 25th - Boys Basketball TBA

February 29th - "Declaration Generation" Wk 3

(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: Tug of War was an Olympic event between 1900 and 1920.

Super bowl Sub Sunday!

Thank you to everyone who helped with Super-Bowl Sunday, and everyone who purchased a sandwich! The youth raised over \$400 profit to go toward their mission trip to Quad Cities! Thank you so much!

Top Secret Hint To Our Movie On February 19th

One of the lead characters name is "Blu"

Hey Kids!

Our Kingdom Kids went to Greentree Saturday. They sang 5 songs and handed out valentine boxes with goodies and valentine cards. The residents really seemed to enjoy it and Greentree's activity coordinator asked us to come back. It's a great way for our children to be in ministry in our community. Thanks to our children's ministry leaders for giving up part of their Saturday to help the kids share the love of Jesus with others.



On Sunday the Kids had a good time watching the movie, Dolphin Tale. This Sunday we will be doing a follow up life application Bible lesson with them.

The children's department is also collecting toothpaste and toothbrushes for Operation Christmas Child. If you'd like to help, just place your donations in the box in the Kidzone hallway. Or give them to one of the Kidzone leaders.

Have a great week! We'll see you Sunday.

Sunday Lists

Sunday Volunteers February 19

Visitors Center & Coffee

Harmony

Head Usher

Frank Johnston

Lay Reader

Karen Wilder

Young Disciples Lesson

Jami Warkentin

Children's Church

Debbie & Marty

Counters

Diana Pond & Jack Vest

Youth Dinner for Wednesday, *February 15*

Discovery/Crossroads

Sunday Volunteers February 26

Visitors Center & Coffee

Harmony

Head Usher

Eddy David

Lay Reader

Janet Parker

Young Disciples Lesson

Kingdom Kids

Children's Church

Marty & Debbie

Counters

Betty or Howard Smith & Karen Wilder

Youth Dinner for Wednesday, *February 22*

Ash Wednesday

Please Keep In Prayer

Walter Speed, Wilbur & Jewel Williams, Mel Jones, Ryder Herring, Gene Watson, June Horn, Ruth Weaver, Jo Nan Allen, Virginia Vice, Martha Scudder, Don Baldrige, Earl & Lora Cervantez, Mike Bordelon, and all un-spoken requests

Acknowledgements

Thank You...

Thank you to whoever put a bright light on the porch of the church. It is nice to be able to see the curb at night when the ladies leave their circle meetings.

Norma Jones

Thank You...

We want to thank the church for the lovely card and all the prayers. Keep praying—he's still pretty sick but we know he will be okay. Again—we're so thankful.

Allen & Pat Bordelon

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FLC-Family Life Center

Wednesday, February 15

7:30 a.m.-Men's Breakfast—Crescent Café
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
6:00 p.m.-JH Youth
7:00 p.m.-SH Youth
6:00 p.m.-Chancel Ringers
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

Thursday, February 16-No Don

4:15 & 5:30 p.m.-Weight Watchers— F. Hall
6:00 p.m.-Boys Basketball Practice-FLC
7:00 p.m.-Evangelism Meeting

Friday, February 17

12:00 p.m.-Weight Watchers
Youth to Mabee Center
5:30 p.m.-Mansfield in FLC

Saturday, February 18

4:0 p.m.-Boys Basketball Game-FUMC downtown

Sunday, February 19

9:00 a.m.-Sunday School
10:30 a.m.-Worship
12:00 p.m.-Praise Team Practice
2:00 p.m.-District Youth Council
2:30 p.m.-COM
4:00 p.m.-Church Council
6:00 p.m.-Youth Movie Night-FLC

Monday, February 20-Offices Closed

10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
7:00 p.m.-NO Boy Scouts 101-FLC

Tuesday, February 21

1:30 p.m.-Staff Meeting
8:00 p.m.-Young Adult Meeting-Caleb House
7:00 p.m.-Al Anon-Upstairs

Wednesday, February 22-Ash Wednesday

7:30 p.m.-Men's Breakfast-Crescent Café
10:00 a.m.-Exercise to Music-FLC
6:30 p.m.-Ash Wednesday
Choir & Bells following Ash Wednesday
6:00 p.m.-Chancel Ringers
7:00 p.m.-Chancel Choir

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