

# FIRST NEWS



**San Saba  
First United Methodist Church**

**August 2010**

**San Saba  
First United Methodist  
Church  
204 W. Brown  
325-372-3120  
www.sansabafirstumc.com**

**Debby Lake, Pastor**

**We bid you welcome  
In the name of  
Our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Pray with us,  
Sing with us, rejoice  
with us**

**Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
First Worship 10:00 a.m.**



**Ministers:**

**Entire Congregation  
Worship Leader:  
Tracey Thomas**

**Pianist/Organist:  
Nettie Oma Carpenter**

**Choir Director:  
Tracey Thomas**

**Church Secretary:  
Debbie Uli**

**Custodian:  
Mario Mendiola**

## From the Pastor's Study.....



If there is one area of life where we could use some Divine wisdom, it is our relationships. We can use some help because people problems can be our biggest problems.

When our relationships are rotten, life stinks! Difficult, frustrating people can make life miserable, and this reality motivates us to find some helpful insights on how to relate to others wisely.

**James 3:13-18** is a passage I find filled with a wealth of wisdom on how to relate wisely to others. James' key concept is summarized in verse 18: *"And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of goodness."* What James is saying is that every day, in every relationship, we plant seeds – seeds of strife, conflict, jealousy, insecurity, or seeds of affirmation, confidence, help, and blessing. Our relational world will reap a bumper crop based on the seeds we have sown. But is the fruit of our garden covered with blight, and the crops withered and sick from rust or mildew? Or is our crop healthy, prolific, fruitful from tender care?

James writes, *"Who is wise and understanding among you? By his life let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. (James 3:13)* In verse 17, James points out five types of good seed which, when enacted in our lives, will help us have positive, enriching relationships. The first is pure gentleness. The word *pure* means authentic, real. Real, authentic gentleness is often described in the New Testament as humility.

Humble people don't often find themselves at odds with others because they aren't snobbish braggers – which James warns us against in verses 14 and 15. He writes, *"But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This wisdom is not such as comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish."* Humility is an important relational key.

The second key to positive relationships is being peaceable. Peaceable people are not troublemakers. They aren't people looking for a fight; they are not angry.

When we foolishly lose our temper, we become relationally ineffective. People are hard pressed to take us seriously when we are angry. Our anger can also cause damage physically and emotionally for others. How many of us have said and done things in anger that we wish we could take back or undo? Wise, peaceable people work at maintaining harmony in their relationships.

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## Prayer Concerns

James Reavis  
Katie Andreas (Trish Warren's cousin)  
Thelma Millican (nursing home)  
Gordan Hall (prostrate cancer)  
Missy King and Family  
Stephanie Mills  
Roy Caviness  
Kathren Wolfe (Martha Schanhals)  
Klela Waldie and Family  
Sue, Elizabeth and J.T. Moody and Family  
Kaye Clancey (waiting for transplant)  
F.L. and Linda Kalmus  
Mrs. McDowell (Mike's Mom)  
Doris Bryant (nursing home)  
Margaret Ann Seiders (Celia Bell's Mom)  
John Bannister (nursing home)  
Doug and Kaye Clancey and Family  
Sam Jones (Lewis Jones Brother)  
Landon Yarbrough  
Peter Hald  
Daniel Smith  
Connie Raesner Perry  
Michael Pullen and Family  
Jeannette Toole  
Pete and Sue Hemenway (friends of Trish Warren)  
Mark Owens (safety)  
Elaine and John Lansford (Nancy and John Bannister's friends)  
Nick Stripling (Pat Reavis Grandson)  
Mitchell, Johna, Madison and Matthew Moss  
*In Our Military*  
*Alex Dove, Eric Booker, Cory Clendennen, Headed to Afghanistan Matthew Barrier, Ralph Kintzen, Jay Huggins, Matthew Phinnery, Andy Smith. Please Pray for Our Troops, All Our Military Men and Women Our City, Our Nation, Our Church.*

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY!!

### Help needed!!!

Here are some areas the worship team has pinpointed that need someone to agree to help fill in. PLEASE PRAY about your vow of service to our church family and see if one of these areas stands out to you:

**ELEVATOR AND BACK DOOR GREETER**—Peter Hald is often there to help the ones needing assistance through the door and into the elevator. However, there needs to be a back up person for him...one who is willing to stand at the door watching and waiting for 15-20 minutes before service. Opening doors, helping folks into the elevator and making sure they get inside the sanctuary would be a ministry of great value. In addition, checking on folks as they leave to see if they need more help would be a wonderful gift to those who don't move so easily.

**ACOLYTE ASSISTANCE**—The children tend to look to Melanie for help getting the lighters lit and to tell them when to go, but Melanie has other responsibilities at the same time which is sometimes difficult. If someone (or two) could take on this responsibility, it would be a fantastic way to encourage our children to participate in worship. Helping them get started during the prelude and when they return to the back of the sanctuary before worship and again at the end of the service would be a give opportunities for growing our children into spiritual, reverent servants to the Lord and His people. What a blessing!

**MAIN ENTRANCE GREETERS**—Cherry Kay has a beautiful uplifting smile and greets folks coming into our church almost every Sunday. Others have helped at times. If you love just helping people get situated with a bulletin and welcoming them into our church family worship time, you may be one to stand at the front east entrance to open the door and say Hi! while offering a bulletin. When Cherry Kay is out, someone needs to be willing to fill in at the main entrance. What a great way to get to know people coming to our house of worship!

Debby would also love to know of any folks who have a heart for **reading scripture or doing children's' sermons**. If you have ideas and would be interested in being on her rotation list, please let her know.

Please contact Debby or Tracey and volunteer to serve! You will be so blessed

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Gordon Hall, Bettye's cousin, is undergoing cancer treatment at the Loma Linda Medical Center in Southern California.

Submitted by Bettye McLaughlin



(continued from page 1)

Third, *James 3:17-18* encourages us to be considerate and courteous toward others. *“But the wisdom from above is pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insecurity. And the harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.”* We should always show respect to others. How easy it is to discount and ignore the needs and feelings of those around us. We get so wrapped up in ourselves, in our needs and wants, that the desires and feelings of others are overlooked.

A fourth key to relating wisely to others is to be reasonable when things are discussed. A reasonable person is one who is open and non-defensive. He/she has a *listen and learn* approach, especially when the discussion contains some constructive criticism or advice. Unreasonable people say, “Don’t confuse me with the facts; I have already made up my mind!” James says being unreasonable in a discussion is just plain dumb. Solomon says the same thing in *Proverbs 12:15* when he writes, *“The way of the fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.”*

And finally a wise person is gracious and sincere. Being gracious and sincere means being a person who makes room for people’s human tendency to make mistakes. Gracious people do not emphasize the mistakes of others. Like Jesus has done for all of us, instead of giving others what they deserve, gracious people give them what they need.

Graciousness and sincerity go together. James is saying that wise people can freely admit that they are prone to mistakes and that they have weaknesses and need for mercy and grace from others. This is a mark of a sincere person – not a person trying to hide his/her failures, mistakes, and missed opportunities from others.

What kind of relational harvest do we want to reap in life? It is determined by the type of seed we sow. Jesus was right. *We will reap what we sow!* So, go, and sow good seed!

In His Spirit,  
Debby

## Q & A with .....Debbie Uli



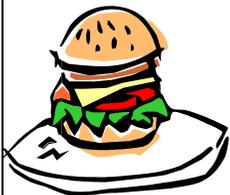
What / who is your favorite:

1. Pastime/ scrapbooking and birdwatching
2. Hymn/ Old Rugged Cross
3. Scripture/ Isaiah 40: 28 - 31
4. Type of music/ Contemporary Christian
5. Book (other than Bible)/ Breaking the Power by Liberty Savard/ and Psalms 91 by Peggy Joyce Ruth.
6. Meal/ Pizza
7. Dessert/ Pie,Pie,Pie
8. Hero/ My husband Tim (sounds corny, huh), but he would do anything for anyone anytime, and always takes time for me. More than that he is a man of faith and has a special walk with the Lord and that is AWESOME!
9. Movie/ Kindergarten Cop
10. Group activity/ Fellowship with my friends as we play games.
11. Childhood memory/ Family get togethers, having my Maw Maw there.
12. Sports team/ New Orleans Saints

If you were given 24 hours of your very own, how would you use them? I would go to Kerrville and spend time with my family giving them each one on one time. There really is never enough time to let your family know how much you love them or how much they mean to you.



Deadline for  
September  
Church Newsletter:  
September 29th  
(last Wednesday in month)  
!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Don't forget its "Time to Ring the Bell " with blessings for our teachers and students. There will be a time of blessing for the teachers and students during service and a hamburger luncheon to follow after church for everyone! You will be contacted if you need to bring a dessert.



Minutes of the Meeting of United Methodist Women  
June 12, 2010

United Methodist Women of First United Methodist Church met June 12, 2010 in the church parlor. Those present were Cherry Kay Lange, Millie Burnham, Bettye McLaughlin, Zollie Jones, Carol Littlefield, Elsie Millican, Pat Belk, Suzanne Walters, Flovell Thomas, Tracey Thomas, Nettie Oma Carpenter, Ann McElroy, Wahnee Stallings, and new pastor Debby Lake.

Pastor Debby opened the meeting with a prayer, and President Nettie Oma Carpenter opened the meeting. Wahnee Stallings gave the secretary's report, followed by Carol Littlefield's treasurer's report. Part of the special pledge will be used for a lunch Friday at 11:30 at Pepperbellys for Henry Warren, who has a broken leg.

Nettie Oma read a letter from Schatzie Norris about prayer shawls and asking us to be host church for the annual meeting Sept. 10, 2011. It was noted that Zollie's nieces will not be able to come in Sept. to do the program, so Shirley Davis will do the program on her trip to Greece.



Tracey Thomas gave the very interesting program Mission Studies: Building and Experiencing Community followed by prayer and the song Blest Be the Tie That Binds, and the meeting was adjourned.

The ladies all enjoyed the refreshments and fellowship that followed. It was noted that there will not be a meeting in July and we will meet again in August.

Submitted by Wahnee Stallings



Camp participants in the above picture are: Kassidy Ellis, Hollee Ragsdale, Raley Kirk, & Brooke Nagle. We attended Camp Zephyr in Sandia, TX, July 11th thru the 14th. We had a great time and would like to say Thank You! to FUMC for paying our registration fees.

## Our Church Family

Our church family has been on the go. After all, it is summer and schedules are not as structured. David Rogers III, son of David Rogers, did a great job of preparing the video of Vacation Bible School and running it on Sunday. Alesha Rogers has certainly not had to twiddle her thumbs this summer. She took several of her students to Chicago, Illinois for the National FCCLA convention. One of her teams placed first at national. Congratulations Alesha! Once she was back in town the Rogers family has moved into a new house. C.K. & Vickie Stevenson went to Fort Worth to spend the 4th with her family. Barbara Gilger along with David have also had the welcome mat out. First it was the Fletcher Reunion which is Anita Felt's family. I believe they had about 55 with that group. Then it was the 50 members of the Moore family who arrived and had a great time with the family. Barbara reported that Anita enjoyed the reunion. Taylor Wise had an occasion to celebrate with her family. It was her 1st birthday and she celebrated with family and friends along with her parents, Mark and Stacy Wise. Just in case you haven't figured it out, it is a small world. Stacy Wise, member of 1st Church, helped Marjorie McDowell, Mike's mom with some of her physical therapy on the 5th floor of the Brownwood Hospital. Jackson Thorton really enjoyed the fireworks show put on by Impact 2000. He brought his mom Christy and grandmother Jeaneane Thorton along with other family members to Mill Pond Park with him. Nancy Bannister has enjoyed visits from her sons recently. John wanted to meet our new pastor Debby Lake (did you notice Debby that I spelled your name right this time). So Debby & Nancy went to Goldthwaite and enjoyed eating lunch with John at the nursing home. Mindy Cantu, Celia and Jantzen Bell were off to Las Vegas to enjoy a little fling before school starts. Of course Celia is not going back to school as she retired. Thelma Millican had a little trip to the Llano Hospital and then decided to move to Eventide Nursing Home. Mrs. Bryant is her roommate and word is that they two are enjoying living together. Cherry Kay Lange went with all sorts of her family to Concan, Tx. The vacation seemed to concentrate on floating down the river. Bet there was plenty of food involved too. It was good to see Pat Reavis back in church as well as Henry Warren. Henry has been busy recuperating from an encounter with a cow. Addie Easterwood will probably always remember the summer she swallowed a key. Coaches Easterwood and Mathis are back at work with football camp this week and 2 a days next week. Their wives are still on vacation and I believe they decided summer's last fling should include a trip to the lake. Hollee Ragsdale was one of several members of the MYF Youth group who went off to camp. Be sure and check out the picture on page four. Hollee expressed her appreciation to the whole congregation one Sunday for sending her to church camp. Bob and Debbie Millican attended the wedding of Colt McCoy and Rachel one weekend in Austin recently. Colt attended San Saba schools when his dad was the coach at San Saba High School. Some of you may remember when Pauline Perez was the nursery worker here at the church. She is undergoing a series of shots and I am sure she would appreciate your prayers. The Kevin Shahan family took an out of state vacation to Branson, Missouri. It was good to see Deborah Ragsdale back in church after her surgery. Sam and Laina Murray also enjoyed a summer trip to Hawaii with daughter Kristie Addington and her husband Luke. Bet they had a great time. Genni Hamilton, daughter of Alesha & David Rogers, will be a member of the flag corps this fall and has been involved in practices this summer getting ready. She will be a student this year at SSHA. Klela Waldie, Carol Littlefield and Debby Lake participated in the Red Hatters trip to Llano for lunch one Sunday. Debby Lake then traveled on to Fredericksburg for a get acquainted function to welcome Bishop Jim Dorff. Six of Pat Belk's grand and great-grand children flew into San Antonio on June 24th. Pat and Charlie, along with other extended family members, entertained them on their ranch here in San Saba, in San Antonio and in Austin till July 15th. They did the Tower of Americans and the Mexican Market in San Antonio, Schlitterbahn in New Braunfels, the musical "Annie" and swimming in Zilker Park in Austin. They group all thoroughly enjoyed each other but Charlie and Pat are still trying to catch up with themselves. Don't forget its "Time to Ring the Bell" with blessings for our Teachers and Students. There will be a time of blessing for the Teachers and Students during service and a hamburger luncheon to follow after Church for everyone! You will be contacted if you need to bring a dessert.



## First Ladies:

**August 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:30** will be the next meeting of the UMW since having the hot summer month of July off. Suzanne will be leading the program on “Building and Experiencing Community in New Ways”. Suzanne has surely shown us the meaning of community as she doesn’t let obstacles stand in her way when it comes to being involved. She prays for many of us on a daily basis and I’m sure she will have something good to share with the ladies. Hostesses for this meeting are **Elsie Millican and Carol Littlefield**.



Looking ahead:

**Sept 11<sup>th</sup>:** Kerrville District Annual Meeting at Lake-hills UMC. See Nettie Oma if you can go...this one is close to home!

**Sept 13<sup>th</sup>:** Harvest Day Dinner—We have some ladies from Llano and Castell area who will come share with us in a covered dish meal, so we need all of our ladies to be there! Shirley Davis will be sharing from her experience going to Greece, and showing pictures of some of the most well known areas of Biblical times. Some ladies might enjoy getting into the culture by making their covered dish a Greek dish, so we will be getting easy recipes together for those who are interested in expanding their taste buds!! Hostesses for this meeting are **Barbara Gilger and Trish Warren. Time: 4:30.**

## First Choir:

Choir practice will resume on August 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in the sanctuary. However, we will not have practice on August 11<sup>th</sup>, due to Tracey being out of town. August 18<sup>th</sup> we will be back in the loft as well as the following Sunday. It would be a great time for anyone interested in making a joyful noise to come share in the joy and fellowship. All are welcome. Soon we will be ready to begin on Christmas music (wow!) but not just yet....



## WORSHIP Committee:

Meeting on August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00. If you are on this committee, please be there! Worship is one thing we do to practice for eternity, so don’t underestimate the importance of our efforts!! ☺

### Stewardship Report

Income to 7-28-10	\$72,945.63
Expenses to 7-28-10	\$78,417.27
Account Balances	
General Fund	\$15,168.93
Capitol Improvements	\$ 6,485.49
St. Stephens	\$ 361.69
Youth Fund	\$ 8,446.98
Memorial	\$ 3,650.25
Endowment Fund	\$ 10,011.15