

FIRST NEWS



San Saba

First United Methodist Church

August 2011

**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.....

When you hear the word *poise*, what do you think? Someone once defined poise as raising one's eyebrows instead of the roof.

Actually, poise is hard to define. It has something to do with inner stability. I think it comes close to being defined in a tribute that a journalist gave to one of his colleagues when he said, "No matter what happens to him, he always comes out a little more like himself."

I like that. The capacity to face the seasons of our lives – the highs and the lows, the mountain tops and the valleys, and through it all, being able to come out a little more like ourselves.

I believe a Biblical passage that comes close to defining poise for me is Isaiah 30:15: "*For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, 'In returning and rest you shall be safe; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.'*" This is the image – in quietness and confidence will be your strength. Inner strength, emotional balance, and a quiet confidence – these are all spiritual qualities. These are all a part of what we call life's indispensable intangibles.

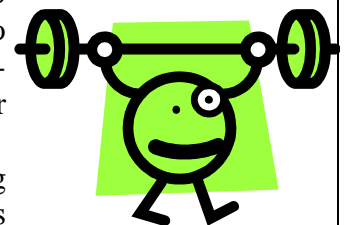
When I think of people in the Bible who have that quality of poise, my mind goes to Paul. His life was full of interruptions and detours and problems, but through it all he came out a little more like himself. In his second letter to the Corinthians, Paul wrote, "*No wonder we do not lose heart. Though our humanity is in decay, yet day by day we are inwardly renewed. Meanwhile our eyes are fixed not on the things that are seen, but on the things that are unseen. Things that are seen are transient; the things that are unseen are eternal.*" I like the images created in this passage.

As the seasons of our life move on, our bodies go through changes and into decay. We can all relate to this in one way or another. Some of us develop tendonitis of the shoulder, or arthritis, or some other sign of bodily changes.

Through our faith there can be inward renewal during this whole process. Life's indispensable intangibles have a way of keeping us alive and vital, and these are the qualities that bring poise and strength to our lives. "*In quietness and confidence shall be your strength.*"

Here are a couple of things that help achieve this quality we call poise. The first is a sense of perspective. By perspective I mean the capacity to see the present moment and immediate events against the background of a large frame of reference. It is easy at times to get so close to the current problem or situation that we develop tunnel vision, and we can't see through it, under it, or around it. This happens to all of us, doesn't it?

Continued on the next page.....



Prayer Concerns

Rain, Rain, Rain
Everyone in the disaster hit areas
Elsie Millican
Mike Millican and Family
Cody and Haley Turner's infant son Casen
F.L. Kalmus
Bettye McLaughlin's sister Jane (recovery/treatment)
Ron Moss (traveling mercies/selected for a experimental drug program)
Nancy Bannister and Family
Kaye Clancey (recovery)& Family
Zolly Jones
David and Barbara Gilger
George and Margaret Kidd
Rode White
Linda Mixon and Family
Betty Smith (Daniel Smith's Mother)
Michael Ogden(Kim Kirk's friend w/ cancer)
James and Pat Reavis
Katie Andreas (continuing prayer)
Thelma Millican (nursing home)
Gordan Hall (prostrate cancer)
Roy Caviness
Kathren Wolfe (Martha Schanhals)
Mrs. McDowell (Mike's Mom)
Margaret Ann Seiders (Celia Bell's Mom)
Landon Yarbrough (procedures)
Connie Raesner Perry
Jeff and Jeannette Toole & Family
Pete and Sue Hemenway (friends of Trish Warren)
Mark Owens (safety)
Mitchell, Johna, Madison and Matthew Moss
Our City, Our Nation, Our Church
In Our Military
Alex Dove, Eric Booker, Matthew Barrier, Ralph Kintzen(home), Cory Clendenen Jay Huggins (home), Matthew Phinney (home), Andy Smith, Andrew Reynolds, John Paul Dretke, Jay Dewitt Matthew Dennis

Continued from page one.....

I believe it's during these moments that we need to take a step back and gain that larger view. Doing so, we'll realize there are more resources than we may have realized. What a difference per-spective makes! And this is what faith does.



It gives us a larger view, a broader perspective.

There is another quality related to poise, and that is the capacity to let go, to release things.

Several years ago, there was a man named William Quayle who was Bishop of the United Methodist Church in the Kansas area. Bishop Quayle suffered from an ailment not uncommon among clergy. We call it the "Messiah Complex."

One night, as Bishop Quayle lay in bed, he felt the weight of his entire conference on his shoulders. His mind raced. He thought about the problems of some of the ministers and some of the churches. He tossed and turned for what seemed like hours. Finally, he could stand it no longer. "Something has to happen, Father!"

"All right, Quayle," he seemed to hear, "You go to sleep now. I'll sit up the rest of the night."

At times it is helpful to realize that the world can turn without us. At times we need to let go.

Over the years, I have become more and more convinced, through my own personal experience and the experiences of others, that there is nothing that can put steadiness into our steps and quietness into our souls more than the assurance that we are standing on solid ground, and standing thus, there is nothing that can defeat us.

In His Spirit,
Debby

First Choir:



Before too long, the choir will start back up again! I don't have an exact date yet but please be watching the Sunday bulletin to see when we will practice. We have new music to work on, as well as a Christmas cantata idea that I am thinking of ordering. Even if you haven't sung with us before, please consider whether or not you feel a heart nudge for this. We need more voices, and we practice hard sometimes, but we do believe in PRAISING THE LORD and HAVING FUN doing it!!!

Submitted by Tracey Thomas

Our Church Family

The hot days of summer of here. They have not slowed our church family from going here or there. We have missed seeing some of our members while they took a few days off or brought some of their family to church with them. Ashley, fiancée of Tyler Hawkins, was here 4th of July week-end and then was back again for a bridal shower in her honor in the home of Linda Parks. What a nice collection of gifts to start them out. Our church family certainly turned out for it and there was lots of visiting going in. Linda Parks was enjoyed showing off her new bathroom. Barbara Gilger had even made her some beautiful black and white print curtains to add the finishing touch to the bathroom. Lesa & Ronnie Schultze took their vacation in San Antonio and ate 2 delicious meals there, saw a movie and did some shopping there. Sounds like a fun time. The Easterwood family headed to Galveston. I bet they spent some time on the **beach and the girls had a great time. Hope they didn't get sunburned too bad. Celia Bell, Jantzen Bell and Mindy Cantu decided this year's vacation would be a trip to New Orleans. Sounds like everyone got** to do something they really wanted to. A cooking school, a bus trip around the town, lots of food, etc. were just some of the fun things they got to do. Bo & Margaret Rice have been to San Antonio for a family reunion and had Jeck, a grandson visit them for a week. They are also spending lot of time watering just like the rest of us. Linda & Owen Parks had a busy week-end serving meals to their grandson J.D. and his wife Michelle as they moved into the house across the street from them. J.D. & Michelle will both be teaching for San Saba ISD this fall. Raley Kirk has been busy this summer with camps. First there was the strength and conditioning camp here in San Saba. Then there was cheer camp, tennis and basketball camp. Debbie Lake headed to Schlitterbahn with her daughter and granddaughter for a fun day of **water, sun and food. I don't know how she did it as her nose was not even red. David Butler was enjoying** another week-end visit with his daughter, son-in-law and grandson. Tracey Thomas is back on the road again. Back from a vacation seeing Lindsey & Derek Pugh in California, she headed to Paris, France for **5 days. The trip will prepare her to be a tour guide for a group of San Saba ISD's Spanish students. She barely got back before she and Mike headed to South Texas for Mike's class reunion. Bruce & Martha** Schandals have bought a new house. It belongs to the dentist in town. Does anybody know whose house that is? I am happy to report that Peter Hald got a good report from his doctor. Cindy Prater has been busy writing contracts on houses. Three contracts for houses is a good week, huh Cindy. Nancy **Bannister has been going out to the ranch on Friday's. The Mathis family has a new family pet, a dog.** Only trouble is the new dog and the other pet, a cat, are not getting along. The dog had to go to the vet after he got scratched by the cat. Our coaches are back at work and attended coaching school in the metroplex this week. Nicole Sears had her appendix out. She did some rest and relaxation after the surgery at the Sears House. Bettye McLaughlin made a trip to check on her sister who has been having some health problems. Daylon Smith had some big news last Sunday. He is going to be a big brother in about 7 months. It certainly was good to see Amanda Jackson and her family back in church. Amanda **hasn't been feeling well. It sure was good to have you back, Amanda. Elise Millican has also been out.** Elsie spent about a week in the Lampasas Hospital. Not the best place for a vacation and definitely expensive. Elsie is now at home and we hope she will soon be back worshipping with us. Bob & Debbie Millican celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary by heading to Granbury for the week-end. Last but not least, please start making plans to attend the back to school blessing on August 21st. Linda Parks is heading this up so please see her if you would like to help.