

FIRST NEWS



**San Saba
First United Methodist Church**

August 2012

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

**Pianist/Organist:
Nettie Oma Carpenter**

**Choir Director:
Tracey Thomas**

**Church Secretary:
Debbie Uli**

**Custodian:
Mario Mendiola**

The New List

A month or so before we moved to San Saba, I was a little down about leaving Austin because there were many things we loved about the city. Although we trusted God with the move, and believed we were going to a good place, we were very familiar with Austin and really liked it there. My friend Paul suggested that we make a list. "Put as many things as you can on it," he said, "all the things you treasure... all the things you are grateful for. When you get where you're going, make a new list!" The suggestion of honoring all the things that we loved in Austin, and then starting over with a new list, helped transform the feeling of loss into one of deep gratitude. So begins the new list in San Saba...



The People

You, dear reader, are at the top of my list. The people we have met here are some of the most genuine and loving folks in the world. We can't thank you enough for all your love and support in our time of transition. It means more to our family than you will ever know. Because of you, our family is very much at home.

Study and Worship

I love to see folks gather in fellowship and Bible study. It's so much fun to play banjo and guitar with the praise team and sing hymns with the congregation. We have the only choir in town?! It is a good and joyful thing to celebrate Holy Communion. Learning, praying, singing, eating, praising God, and being together... I would hate for anyone to miss out on that!

Children's Ministry

I love the way our church welcomes children. We are blessed with such gifted teachers and dedicated caregivers who create a space for learning and encouragement. There is so much joy in passing the faith to the younger generation as we watch them grow physically and spiritually right before our eyes.

The Church

When I went upstairs and saw the sanctuary for the first time, I had a strange, yet familiar feeling that I couldn't really describe. I think what I said was "WHOO HOO!" "ALRIGHT!" and "PRAISE GOD!" I meant every word. This ninety-eight year old marble treasure was built with love and built to last. Our amazing trustees have plenty to keep them busy. Sometimes I come to the sanctuary late at night. The floor creaks in the darkness when I walk through. I stop for a moment and pray in silence. I ask God for guidance as we move forward, and I thank God for the past, present, and future saints that live, move, and have their being in Christ Jesus.

Continued from page one.....**The New List**

The Parsonage

We are so grateful for such a wonderful place to live. We are blessed beyond measure and we don't take any of it for granted. There is food in the fridge and children laughing and running through. There is cold AC and music in the air. FUMC folks have recently dedicated time, energy, and resources to make the house and office just right for us and we are profoundly grateful.

San Saba

When Kerrville District Superintendent Bill Henderson called and asked, "Will you go to FUMC San Saba?" I said, "Sure, where is San Saba?" We are still getting adjusted to small town life, but we love it. It seems like everywhere we go in town we run into someone we know, and we have only been here a month! It is a beautiful area and we are looking forward to many good times by the river, playing music, eating pecan pie, and cheering for the 'dillos!

Room to Grow

I love the spirit of openness to new ideas at FUMC. I look forward to praying, studying, and growing with you as we discern God's vision for our church. Where is the Holy Spirit leading us in San Saba and in the world?

My family and I are looking forward to ministry with you in San Saba. The list of things we are grateful for grows longer every day.

Grace and Peace,
Dan

My Church Camp Experience

By: JT Mathis

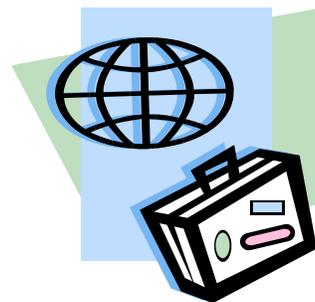
Ahh good ole Mount Wesley. This years church camp experience was sensational. It was one of the best times of my life. I had the entertainment of Mark Swayze. The amazing word giving by Ryan Barnett and I was just able to be in the presence of such godly people for a whole week. In the week I was there I made many friends and



many memories. And if there was one thing I learned from camp it was that no matter what you do, whether it's right or wrong, just accept it and move on. It's the only way you'll ever get passed it. Every year I come back from camp and I just want to continue the amazing worship that was there, so every year I try and pick up guitar. Every year though I get distracted or lose interest until I was blessed with an amazing guitar "coach" Dan Harrington. So I just wanted to thank him for taking time out of his week to teach me how to play.

Mario will be on vacation from July 30 to August 12.

Please adjust your plans accordingly.



SKY VBS

Submitted by Monica Shahan



SKY Vacation Bible School was a soaring success this year thanks to the many, many volunteers who contributed their time, talents, gifts and service!

Thank you to the following station leaders: Sing & Play: Monica Shahan, Flash SkyRunner: Dan Harrington, Movie & Missions: Brandi Easterwood, All Star Games, Misty Everett, Sky Dive Diner, Kim Kirk, Kathy Gage, & Minnie Hooker, Imagination Station: Melanie Mathis, Wild Blue Bible Adventures: Tracey Thomas & Linda Parks.

Nicole Sears & Lica DeGuili were the photographers who put together our Spotlight VBS slideshow each day. Mike Thomas & Melanie Mathis put their talents to work in the sound/media booth. Brandi Easterwood & Misty Everett coordinated the registration booth every morning. Mindy Cantu & Melanie Mathis transported loads of children to and from VBS each morning...thank you ladies! Lesa Schulze, together with the talents of Tracy Graves from Goldthwaite FUMC, created the stunning atmosphere of SKY VBS. Others helping with the decorating included Kelly Thompson, Mandy Patrick, Kevin Shahan, Misty Everett, Mindy Cantu, Melanie & Scott Mathis, Brandi Easterwood, Cindy Hawkins, Kim & Raley Kirk, and Debbie Millican.

Crew leaders this year included, Raley Kirk, Mikayla Cisneroz, TR Jones, Morgan Jimenez, Mykah McKinnerney, Shea Scott, Jantzen Bell, Alexa Maxcey, Karlee Cromer, Gunnar Hibler, TJ Hibler, Daniel Calderon, AJ Paredez, Joy Trujillo, Kennedy Guerrero, Hollee Ragsdale, McKenzie Hibler, Kayla Kutin, Jacey Martinez, Mindy Cantu, Allison Christian, JT Mathis, Kimery Moore, Cristy Thornton and Bailey Williams.

I would also like to extend a special thank you to the following who helped with tear down after VBS was over: Ken Prater, Cindy Hawkins, Mike & Carolyn McDowell, Bob & Debbie Millican, Cherry Kay Lange, Misty Everett, Mike & Tracey Thomas, Owen Parks, Kevin Shahan, & Trish Warren. Special thanks also goes to Don and Ann McElroy. As you can see, it takes many hands, many hearts, and many hours to pull off VBS, but the impact is eternal! Through the giving hearts of the people and volunteers of the First United Methodist Church and friends, we were able to reach over 93 preschool and elementary aged kids and 23 jr. high and high school kids and share with them that everything is possible with God! Touching lives, changing hearts, and drawing kids (and adults) closer to Christ....what a spectacular, sky-high week it was!





From the Murray Shower

Church Calendar

August 1st & 8th No choir

August 10th Happy Birthday Pastor Dan

August 11 Happy Birthday Jonan Harrington

August 13th Happy Birthday Lyla Harrington

August 16-18 Bend Camp meeting starts 7:30 every evening with Harlene Sadler as the Evangelist.

August 19 an 11:00am service with dinner on the grounds to follow.



Back to School Blessings on Teachers, Students, Etc.

Sunday August 26th (note date change)

Covered Dish Luncheon

Immediately after the Worship Service



Prayers Concerns

Barbara Gilger
Bettye McLaughlin
Mindy Cantu
Elsie Millican
Mark Owens (safety)
Jennifer Davis (Debbie Pullen's daughter)
Debbie Pullen
Zolly Jones
Katie Andreas (in hospital, continuing prayer)
Joe Mack Tilson
David Gilger
Thelma Millican
Bettye McLaughlin's sister Jane
Ray Forrester (Grace Hollis' Husband)
Jeannette and Jeff Toole and Family
John and Joycelyn McRorery
Lylah (Stephanie and Chase's daughter)
Layton Sanford
James and Pat Reavis
Gordan Hall (prostate cancer)
Kathren Wolfe (Martha Schanhals)
Margaret Seiders (Celia Bell's Mom)
Landon Yarbrough (procedures)
Connie Raesner Perry
Pete and Sue Hemenway (friends of Trish Warren)
Mitchell, Johna, Madison and Matthew Moss
Our City, Our Nation, Our Church
In Our Military
Alex Dove, Eric Booker, Jay Dewitt, Ralph Kintzen(home), Cory Clendennen(home), Jay Huggins (home), Matthew Phinney (home), Andrew Reynolds, John Paul Dretke

Our Church Family

The last part of the summer is always a busy time. Our church family is trying to squeeze in a few more activities before the seasons change and children and grandchildren go back to school. C.K and Vickie enjoyed a visit from their daughters one week-end. I bet they had a good time and got all caught up with what was going on. Tyler and Ashley Hawkins, son and daughter-in-law of Cindy & Roland Hawkins have moved back to San Saba. Tyler is working for his father-in-law on a ranch and Ashley is working at the Wedding Oak Winery. Did you hear the good news? Linda & Owen Parks are going to be great grandparents! Justin and Hanna Barker are the soon-to-be parents. The Charley Belks went to San Antonio for 4th of July for a big celebration. Lots of family members came including the son from California. Regan and Bonnie came. They all Went to a ski ranch in New Braunfels. They all skied and wake boarded. Our very own Pat had the honor of being the oldest person to ski there. Her family wanted to increase her celebrity status by putting her picture on the internet. I believe she talked them out of it. Max and Elodie Steger went to Waco to the dentist. Not the most fun but very necessary. Celia Bell, Jantzen Bell and Mindy Cantu planned a fun camping trip. It didn't turn out to be fun when Mindy hurt her ankle and ended on going to the doctor. She came home and went to bed with cast on. Not the best way to end your vacation. Thanks to Cathy Gage and Linda Parks' niece for keeping the nursery last week. Cindy & Ken Prater's granddaughter gave birth to a boy. Wahnee Stallings' granddaughter is playing in state championship game. Nicole & Darren Grant and family decided to come spend the week-end with her parents, Bob & Debbie Millican. Maria & Dan Harrington have enjoyed some company. Maria's sister and mom have been here to visit. Josh & Megan Thomas and family have been here to visit with Mike & Tracey Thomas. Casey Mathis and the rest of the Junior Lady Dillos competed in their final two tourneys of the year. The first one was in Belton and they got second place. The second one was played in Austin. They got first place in that one by beating teams from Liberty Hill and Austin. They ended their season with a record of 34-8. J.T. went to church camp. Scott Mathis and Shay Easterwood are getting ready for 2012 football season. They went back to work on the July 23rd. Raley Kirk has had a busy summer. She went to TABC Basketball camp in Georgetown and the San Saba Basketball Camp. She competed in the Summer Basketball League and her team won First Place. She took a trip to Port Royale with her Grandmother Kirk. She and her fellow Middle School cheerleaders marched in rodeo parade, then worked a Saturday at Sonic as a fund raiser.

Cottage Meetings

The festivities continue! To help us get better acquainted with Pastor Dan and his sweet family, don't you think a "Cottage Party" is a great idea?!?

And what is a "Cottage Party"? An individual or family of San Saba's FUMC would host a dinner for the Harringtons, inviting a few other families to attend as well. The socials will help everyone get to know each other in a smaller, more intimate setting. The number of people is strictly up to the host, whatever feels comfortable. Dress it up, dress it down, grill out, order pizza, have a luau (I know where you can get a pig)! Have fun!



If you would like to host a social:

- Call Carol Littlefield (372-3883) to see if the date you would like to host is available. We would like to keep them to one a week, preferably Thursdays & Fridays.
- Call The Harrington's to see if they are free that date.
- If yes, call Carol to confirm the date and let her know who will be attending. Carol will keep a list.

Please feel free to simply invite them over for supper or an outing with you and/or your family. No hard and fast rules here; just opportunities for feasting and fellowship.

Getting to know a pastor can be a difficult process. We can have a pastor for a couple of years and still feel like we don't know anything about him/her. It is my hope that we find opportunities in whatever form they take to share our lives (ourselves, even) in the hopes that he is able to share his life with us. Can you just imagine what we (Not us, but Christ in us!) can accomplish! "Oh, the places we will go! Oh, the people we will meet!" Dr. Seuss

Submitted by Cindy Hawkins

Love meeting new people? How about following up with visitors and people we haven't seen at church in a while. If you would like to be a part of our new **Visitation Team**, there will be a meeting on **Thursday, Aug. 2nd at 5:30** at Pastor Dan's round table. What was your "visitor" experience like at San Saba's FUMC the first time you came? I'll bet you have a few ideas you can share!

Submitted by Cindy Hawkins