

# FIRST NEWS



**San Saba  
First United Methodist Church**

**December 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**

## Looking forward...

### "Camelot" A Christmas Musical

Sunday December 9<sup>th</sup> at 10AM and 5PM

For many weeks now the FUMC students have been rehearsing for the musical "Camelot". This Camelot is not about King Arthur and the round table... it's about a busy camel salesman in Bethlehem who is in danger of missing out on what is really important... the King born in a manger. The songs are catchy and fun and there are lots of lines to remember. Everyone has worked so hard to learn songs, dances, lines, and costumes... but the real success has been in the joy of weekly rehearsing together. Please invite your friends and neighbors to the "Camel lot" on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> for a Christmas musical to remember.



### Silent Night! Holy Night! Christmas Cantata

Sunday December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6PM

Our FUMC choir, directed by Tracy Thomas, has joined voices with the Cherokee Baptist Church choir and others to worship God and sing songs of Christmas joy. We are looking forward to a delightful evening of choral music as the choir lifts their voices in songs of praise.

### Phil and Debi Jones in Concert

Sunday January 20<sup>th</sup> covered dish at 5:30

Concert at 6:30

Two gifted and versatile singer-songwriters who love the Lord and each other with all their hearts, Phil and Debi Jones offer a joyful and genuine ministry of music and comedy that ministers to heart, mind, and soul. Phil's life has been radically changed by the healing power of God, and he now provides a powerful testimony to God's grace and love. Debi is a friendly, funny, outgoing breath of fresh air whose excellent comic skills and timing make her a great partner for Phil. Together this experienced, dedicated, and dynamic couple present God's goodness in a way that is both profound and enjoyable.

### Introduction to Godly Play with Nancy McDougal

Saturday Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> - all day workshop

Godly Play is Jerome Berryman's Montessori-based faith instruction that allows children to *experience* God in a worshipful setting- not just learn about God. Godly Play is based upon the recognition that children have an innate sense of the presence of God. All they lack is the

Continued on page 3.....

## One Last Reminder . . .

The Christmas cantata, Silent Night! Holy Night!, will be presented in Cherokee on Dec 2 at 6:00 pm and again in our church on Dec 16 at 6:00 pm. This is a special Christmas message in song offered as a gift of the season by all those who have given up time to practice and work together on Wednesday nights since September. It is truly a gift of grace that we all hope will honor Jesus as the true STAR of this busy season. The presentation should last just under an hour, followed by fellowship time in the basement for cookies and hugs! It would be our pleasure and honor to see many of you as well as others you may invite to share our Christmas joy by taking time out of your very busy schedule to sit in His presence and hear the GOOD NEWS of the birth of the MESSIAH. May the message be fresh and alive in all our hearts once again!

Schedule for calendar:

Dec 12--Choir Practice 6:30

Dec 16--Silent Night! Holy Night! 6:00 pm

Dec 19--Christmas caroling--5:00 pm  
(no choir practice until Jan 9)

Dec 24--Candlelight Christmas Eve Service  
5 p.m. sanctuary



## Practice Scenes from Camelot



Taken  
By  
Maria  
Harrington



Continued from page one.....

appropriate language to help them identify and express it so it can be explored and strengthened. The Godly Play approach teaches classical Christian language in a way that enhances the child's authentic experience of God so it can contribute to the creative life of the child and the world. In a place filled with quality materials, children learn parables, sacred stories, liturgical worship, and the role of silence as they participate in community. By responding to "wondering questions" about Bible stories, children discover God's mystery and presence in their lives. In this workshop, we will experience at least three stories and learn how to begin implementing this way of experiencing God. Please contact Pastor Dan if you would like more information.

## **STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

<b>General Fund Income for November</b>	<b>\$ 9,575</b>
<b>General Fund Expenses for November</b>	<b>\$11,705</b>
<b>General Fund Balance on 11-30-2012</b>	<b>\$13,196</b>

**(Our balance on Jan. 1, 2012 was \$24, 238)**

**Our UMCOR offering for Hurricane Sandy was \$687. We can be proud of that.**

**Twenty families have turned in their "Statement of Giving Plan" for next year. Have you turned in yours? Can you increase the amount? Only six of those statements already turned in indicated an increase in giving.**

**Please note from the figures above that it is essential that we increase our income. There is almost no way to reduce our budget any more. We are missing the families who have moved away in the last two years.**

**Millie Burnham**



## ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

Chair: Charlie Peeler

Pastor: (No vote) Dan Harrington      Lay Leader: (No vote) Cindy Hawkins

Church Council Chair (Vote) Owen Parks      Trustee Chair (Vote) Travis Gage

Finance Chair (Vote) Lee Murray

Members: Charlie Peeler 2013      Bob Millican      2014      Raymond Barrier      2015

Ann McElroy 2013      C.K. Stevenson 2014      Dell Sears      2015

## PROGRAM COMMITTEES

### WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair: Cindy Prater      Pastor: Dan Harrington

Music: Tracy Thomas      Lay Leader: Cindy Hawkins

Communion Stewards: C. K. and Vickie Stevenson

Members: Melanie Mathis      Trish Warren      Mike Thomas      Mark McEwin

### CHURCH LIFE COMMITTEE

Chair: Linda Parks      Pastor: Dan Harrington

Members: Barbara Gilger      Mike McDowell      Kathy Gage      Amy Shaw

Klela Waldie      Carolyn McDowell      Cherry Kay Lange      Danny Shaw

Lesla Schulze      Owen Parks      Andrea Robinson

Purpose: To plan and coordinate the fellowship activities for the church family.

### MEMBER CARE AND NURTURE COMMITTEE

Chair: Linda Parks      Pastor: Dan Harrington

Members: Nancy Bannister      Carol Littlefield      Nettie Oma Carpenter

Stan Burnham      Mike McDowell      Pat Reavis

Purpose: To plan and coordinate the activities which provide nurture and care to the church family including bereavement meals, food during illness, phone calls and visits.

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

COORDINATORS: Cindy Hawkins and Lesla Schulze      Pastor: Dan Harrington

Members: Brandi Easterwood      Monica Shahan      Christi Mays      Cindy Prater

Misty Everett      Kristy Owens      Celia Bell      Kim Kirk

Barbara Gilger      Melanie Mathis      Stacy Wise      Maria Harrington

Purpose: To initiate, plan and implement activities for the development and religious education of the children and youth of the church and community.

### TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Mike Thomas      Mike McDowell

Melanie Mathis      Mark McEwin

10-07-12

---

## Prayer Concerns

Michael Pullen (Debbie's son)  
Travis and Kathy Gage  
Debbie and Bob Millican  
All the East Coast  
Lewis Jones  
Zolly Jones  
Klela Waldie  
Sylvia and Forrest McGregor and Family  
Stephanie Conner (Nettie Oma's family)  
Llano Methodist Church  
Bettye McLaughlin  
Elsie Millican  
Edgar Gaddison  
Mark Owens (safety)  
Jennifer Davis  
Katie Andreas (in hospital, continuing prayer)  
Joe Mack Tilson  
David Gilger  
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 Ann Seiders (Celia Bell's Mom)  
Landon Yarbrough (procedures)  
and Sue Hemenway (friends of Trish Warren)  
Mitchell, Johna, Madison and Matthew Moss

*Our City, Our Nation, Our Church  
Please Pray for Our Troops,*

## Our Church Family

David Butler has not been feeling well. I am happy to report that he is feeling better. Lots of church family had company over the Thanksgiving holidays. Kathy & Travis Gage had their sons and their families home for Thanksgiving. The grandkids stayed over and Travis & Kathy took them back to Austin when they went for doctor's appointments. and then her mom and sister were here on Thanksgiving Day. Maria Harrington first had her dad and stepmom come. It was good to have them here for Sunday worship and then be able to attend the First Baptist/First Methodist Thanksgiving Supper at the Civic Center. It was an awesome event. Lots of people in town were talking about it. We had a special guest from Howard Payne University assist with our service. Taylor Matthew helped Dan during the morning worship service by playing the fiddle and then played the trombone during the joint Thanksgiving service. Charlie & Pat Belk had their son here for the holiday. Kim and Raley Kirk went to Junction for Thanksgiving. Raley is certainly getting tall. She and Kim are now the same height. Raley was very proud of the deer that she shot. Mike & Tracey Thomas have been on the road. First it was a trip to help celebrate a very special grandchildren's birthday. Then it was to Megan Thomas' parents house for Thanksgiving and then it was off to a State Farm Meeting in Plano. Linda & Owen Parks had 20 at their table for Thanksgiving. They had some of Linda's family that day. They really enjoyed sitting on the porch and watching the kids play football. C.K. & Vickie Stevenson enjoyed lots of company for C.K. Stevenson's 80th birthday party. They had 91 guest including Monika Frerichs from Frankfurt, Mike Thomas was in charge of the sound board and Justin Farrow from Georgetown on the violin Of course all the children came We are always glad to hear when one of our First Kids has done well. J.T. Moody has been playing on a Llano Soccer team this fall. Guess What!! His team placed first. Congratulations, J.T. The choir gave the congregation a taste of the Christmas Cantata the Sunday after Thanksgiving. It was really nice to have Jantzen Bell, Brandy Easterwood, and Celia Bell singing with the choir for this special treat. Trish Warren has been on the road to see some of her family. I believe it was a 1800 miles trip this time. Lyle and his family were here for an early Thanksgiving. Former members of our church, Walt & Marsha Drews spent Veterans Day week-end with Bob & Debbie Millican. Have you seen Nettie Oma Carpenter recently? You may not have recognized her. She is sporting a very pretty new vehicle. Travis Gage will be starting chemo and radiation on December 3rd. They (he & Kathy) will be staying in Austin during the week for radiation and chemo treatments and the week-ends in San Saba. This will be for 7 weeks. Ted Red and Klela Waldie have been busy working on their chicken house. They are almost finished. The next project will be restoring a '57 Chevy. Melanie & Scott Mathis made the circuit Thanksgiving week-end. First they went to Junction to see Scott's family and then to San Antonio to see Melanie's. Thanks goes out to all who helped decorate the church for Christmas.

