

FIRST NEWS



**San Saba
First United Methodist Church**

February 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.....

One of the great ongoing challenges in our lives is keeping our balance when under pressure and keeping ourselves from making mountains out of molehills. The writer of the eighth Psalm found help in looking at the stars as he wrote, *"When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?"* The psalmist looked at the stars, re-framed his feelings, got things back in balance by reminding himself that in the vastness of the universe, he was cared for in a special way. This realization lifted him and renewed his spirit. Have you ever walked along the beach on a dark night and looked at the starry sky? Suddenly you knew how trivial were all your angers, the frustrations of the day's doings, the moments of resentment, and that hour of bitterness. We all need moments of perspective in our lives, moments when we can put the daily experiences into a larger frame of reference. Life is too short to be small. Isn't it interesting how we can *muddle through* the big things of life, but so often allow the little things to get us down? If there is a big decision to be made or a major obstacle to surmount, we usually are able to collect our resources together and handle it. But the little things, the irritations, have a way of getting to us. How important it is to keep our perspective! Too often we can become preoccupied with our irritations rather than our inspirations, and our human nature can become the product of our anxieties rather than our aptitudes. We can be governed by our fears rather than our faith. We can't avoid every frustration that comes along. Many happen just because we are at the wrong place at the wrong time, but we can learn more constructive ways of dealing with them when they arise. It is essential that we separate facts from feelings. Anything that is serious enough to describe as a frustration has two major components: the facts of the situation and the feelings they produce. While the feelings are important because they communicate our reaction to the frustration, facts provide a basis for solutions and answers. If we can look at a problem from a distance, we can often resolve it. But looking at the same problem out of hurt and anger may prevent us from seeing the issue clearly enough to solve it. In Jesus' *Sermon on the Mount* there are some beautiful and helpful lines that assist me in keeping my perspective. In the sixth chapter of Matthew, Jesus is telling his followers not to be anxious about life, but to place their trust in the providence of God whose care is broad enough to be reflected in the lilies of the field and the birds of the air, and to trust in God who gives the gift of each new day to be lived fully without the limitations of fear and frustration. Perhaps a walk on the beach on a dark starry night is in order for all of us.



*In His Spirit,
Debby*



Prayer Concerns

Family of E. W. Prater
Wahnee Stallings (aunt's death)
Amanda Jackson
Lewis and Zolly Jones (moving)
Kaye Clancey (Chemo treatments/
transplant)&Fam
Bettye McLaughlin
Dr. Sharon Horowitz (recovery)
F.L. Kalmus and Fam.
Lee, Deborah and Hollee Ragsdale
and Fam.
John Bannister (health) and Nancy
Bernard Goss (Surgery)
Mike Millican and Fam.
Abe Galloway's Fam.
Clayton Anderson
Debbie Pullen's Son and Fam.
Kathleen Turner (Bettye's sister)
James Reavis
Katie Andreas (Trish Warren's
cousin)
Thelma Millican (nursing home)
Gordan Hall (prostrate cancer)
Roy Caviness
Kathren Wolfe (Martha Schanhals)
Margaret Ann Seiders (Celia Bell's
Mom)
Sam Jones (Lewis Jones' Brother)
Landon Yarbrough
Peter Hald
Daniel Smith
Connie Raesner Perry
Jeannette Toole
Pete and Sue Hemenway (friends of
Trish Warren)
Mark Owens (safety)
James and Pat Reavis
Nick Stripling (Pat Reavis Grand-
son)
Mitchell, Johna, Madison and Mat-
thew Moss
In Our Military
Alex Dove,
Eric Booker,
In Afghanistan
Matthew Barrier,
Ralph Kintzen,
Jay Huggins,
Matthew Phinney,
Andy Smith,
Andrew Reynolds,
Cory Clendennen,
Our City, Our Nation, Our Church.

First Babies

Remembering that the **SAFETY** of our babies at FUMC is a priority, the worship committee is asking that we all, as a family, remember to do the following regarding our nursery:

We need a cut-off age to ensure that our nursery workers can take proper and loving care of these little children. Therefore we ask that only children under age 4 be left in the nursery.

A list will be kept in the nursery with a place for cell phone numbers of parents. We would ask that you keep your cell phone on vibrate, but available in case the nursery worker needs to contact you regarding your child.

Please don't encourage or allow your older children to try to retrieve babies and toddlers from the nursery after worship. It can be an uneasy thing for a nursery worker to watch, and we want to be assured that only the parents, grandparents, or other responsible adult will leave with a small child.

Thank you for helping to keep our **FIRST BABIES** safe!



FaithWeaver Friends



FaithWeaver Friends is back in session!! Kids from across the community have teamed up with FUMC volunteers to laugh, play, sing, & study God's word. This spring we'll be learning about eternal life with Nicodemus & Lazarus, as well as Jesus bringing joy, knowing & talking God, and that God can use us in amazing ways...all very worthwhile Bible Points for all of us to learn! Be sure to mark your calendars and join us for dinner on February 23rd and April 13th at 5:20pm in the fellowship hall!

A special **thank you** goes to our FaithWeaver Friends Volunteers:

Carol Littlefield, Melanie Mathis, Nettie Oma Carpenter, Pat Belk, Tracey Thomas, Monica Shahan, Trish Warren, Misty Everett, Brandi Easterwood, LewAnn Turner, Cherry Kay Lange, Debbie Millican, Mindy Cantu. Also, thank you Lesa Schulze for decorating our set with a special set for our grand opening in January! Another huge thank you to Linda Parks and her crew (including the MYF kids for serving!!!) for coordinating the dinners!



**You are Invited
To A**

**Retirement Reception
Honoring**

George Kidd, DVM

**Saturday February 12th
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
Church Parlor**

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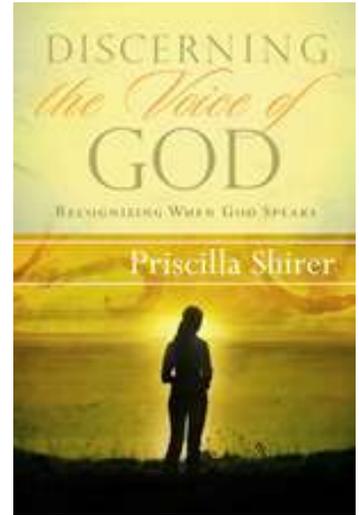
Kerrville District Outstanding
Youth Award

J T Mathis is a freshman in high school but takes on the attitude of an adult in his response to his role at San Saba FUMC. JT is a member of the High School Sunday School Class, has been a youth member of the Administrative Council, is active in Youth Bible Study and helps with the Technologies committee. Congratulations, J.T. from your church family.

First Bible Study

Do you feel that the ability to hear God's voice is for other people and not for you? Is it only for people who lived in biblical times?

Not at all! The God who loved you enough to die for you loves you enough to talk to you. And wherever you are in your spiritual walk, God will find a way to speak to you in a way you will understand. Become acquainted with the Voice that has spoken from a fire and a cloud; with visible signs and an invisible Spirit; through a burning bush and burning hearts. Hear from some very well-known Christians about how God speaks to them--and discover for yourself how you can discern the voice of God.



Please join Trish Warren and Cindy Hawkins as they host this wonderful study by Priscilla Shirer. This 7-week study will be available at two different times each week, one in the morning and one in the evening. Be watching for more information!!

Submitted by Cindy Hawkins

First Ladies News:

First United Methodist Ladies met on January 10 for the annual pledge service and program by Millie Burnham. All the ladies were asked to consider our giving for the new year and remember how many people are helped by our mission giving. Hostesses were Wanda Davenport and Nelda Weatherby.



We agreed to have our meeting in February be an outing to Kerrville for a mission study on John. This will be on February 19th, so anyone interested in this study should contact President Nettie Oma Carpenter for more details.

Submitted by Tracey Thomas

Deadline for
February
Church Newsletter:
February 23rd
(last Wednesday in month)

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Kerrville District
New Ministries Award

Cindy Hawkins has brought to life a new ministry within San Saba FUMC. The Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University has been around for several years but never offered in the San Saba area. Cindy and her husband Roland are avid Ramsey fans and have practiced his financial principals for several years. They continue watching him on TV, and listen to him on the radio.

Cindy recognized that in the present economy there are many people that are overwhelmed by credit card and other types of debt. Cindy put together a small group to take the course and now is using that group as a springboard to launch another larger group. As a result of her efforts at least one couple was able to proclaim themselves "DEBT FREE!!!" Cindy hopes to see more folks "live like no one else so they can GIVE like no one else !!! Congratulations Cindy from your church family.

Finance Committee Notes

We want to thank Cherry Kay Lange and David Parker for three years of service on the Finance Committee. That means attending five meetings a year and counting the offering one Sunday each month. We are welcoming to the committee Kathy McEwin and David Rogers who will be beginning their three year term.

We ended the year with total contributions to the General Fund \$132,935 and expenses of \$134,244. The good news is that we have no debt. The bad news is that our expenses for next year will be close to \$140,000.

We will begin the year with the following balances in our accounts:

General Fund	\$20,210	Capital Improvement Fund	46,865
Youth Fund	7,405	St. Stephens Fund	200
Memorial Fund	3,937	Endowment Fund	10,340

Submitted by Millie Burnham

You're invited to the FaithWeaver Friends Dinner

Wednesday, February 23rd
at 5:30pm

in the parlor at
The First United Methodist Church



Bring the family
and join us for dinner.

We look forward to seeing you there!

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair: Millie Burnham

Pastor: Debby Lake

Church Council Chair: Owen Parks

Lay Leader: Mike Thomas

Lay Member: Kevin Shahan

Treasurer: Millie Burnham

Members at Large:

Carol Littlefield 2011 Lee Murray 2012 David Rogers 2013

Ken Prater 2011 Margaret Rice 2012 Kathy McEwin 2013

Wahnee Stallings 2011

Our Church Family

J. T. Mathis has had a birthday. He is 16 and will soon be able to drive. Guess we had better find out what kind of vehicle he drives so we can steer clear. Vickie Stevenson thanked everyone for praying for her grandson. He is doing better. A loose tooth is what Daylon Smith has. I guess the tooth fairy had to come. Wonder what the tooth fairy brings these days? Joe Pete Smith would like everyone to continue praying for his step mom, Sherri Smith. She has had part of her lung taken out. She is at home and doing well but still has some recovery to do. Tyler Hawkins is engaged. Congratulations Tyler. We are very happy for you. District basketball games have started. J.T. Mathis is busy playing and his dad Scott is busy coaching. Cherry Kay Lange's surgery was postponed due to sinus troubles. She is now scheduled for February 8th. In the meantime she is feeling better and headed off to Fort Worth to watch her grandchildren show goats. Tracey Thomas spent Stock Show week-end with her mother while Mike was off in Tennessee doing genealogy and meeting long lost relatives. It was good to have Derek and Nicole Sears home for a visit and attend church with us. The crud has been going around. Casey Mathis was sick one Sunday as was Addy Easterwood. J.T. Moody was in the doctor's office and had missed 2 days of school. Klela Waldie is busy as usual. She is getting some trees cut down. Everyone will be glad to know that Suzanne Walters got a good report from her cardiologist. David Butler is glad he has the last few months behind him. The Alco Store has been up and running for several months and the Christmas season is behind him. He was certainly enjoying having his daughter, son-in-law and grandson spending the week-end with him. Corrie Dyson was also in to visit her parents, Lesa & Ronnie Schulze. It was good to have Butch Theis back to worship with us. Kelly Murray reported that she was almost glad deer season was over with. She and Lee, Laina and Sam have all had lots of company the last 2 months. One of the highlights was when her sister got a deer. We have a celebrity in our midst. George Kidd will be the honored guest at a reception honoring him at his retirement from San Saba Animal Hospital. George said one cold windy Thursday he was really glad he wasn't working. Casey Mathis was one of the winners at the San Saba county LiveStock Show recently. She was certainly proud of her trophies. She brought them to church on the 16th so everyone could see them. But she was not the only one of our family with trophies. Elizabeth Bryant also showed some goats that did well. Other celebrities that week-end were Holly Ragsdale, the overall winner in the food category at the Youth Fair and Madison Shahan with several blue ribbons youth fair entries. Congratulations, gals. Several adults helped make the Youth Fair happen. There were Nettie Oma Carpenter, Celia Bell, Margaret Rice, Debby Lake, Klela Waldie, Carol Littlefield, Vickie Stevenson, Pat Belk, Linda Parks, C.K. Stevenson, David & Alesha



Kerrville District Discipleship Awards

Klela Waldie, a relatively new member of San Saba FUMC, has won the hearts and love of the membership and staff of the church. Klela is a member of the Intergenerational Sunday School class, the Chancel Choir, Family Life committee, the Board of Trustees, a greeter and often can be found doing any other job that needs to be done that no one wants to do.

Klela recently lost her husband, Richard. Upon his passing, Klela designated "Imagine No Malaria" for memorials, raising over \$2000.00 from the San Saba church family and friends. She is an individual that relies on Christ for her strength, living the Word as well as sharing it. Congratulations from your church family, Klela.

Rogers, Gennie Hamilton, Lois Lebow, Jantzen bell, Wade and Cathy Ledbetter. A big thank you to all of you. Alesha Rogers' students have a special project going on right now. They are collecting gently used sweats, flannel and jeans. They will make blankets out of some of it and give some of it to needy people in Austin. What a worthwhile project! If you have any of these items, please give them to her. Coach Easterwood helped host the recent power lifting tournament here in San Saba. It was a big success. The San Saba team placed first. Ted Red is thinking garden on some of these pre-spring days. He says he has put out his onion seeds in November. Melanie Mathis got her certification to be SSISD's Special Olympics coach. She will be coaching track and field and basketball.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL**

2011

Church Council, Chair	Owen Parks
Recording Secretary:	Millie Burnham
Membership Secretary:	Millie Burnham
Lay Leader:	Mike Thomas
Lay Member, Annual Conf.	Kevin Shahan
Alternate Lay Member:	Monica Shahan
Financial Secretary:	Debbie Uli
Treasurer:	Millie Burnham
Nominations, Chair:	Debby Lake, Pastor
Pastor Parish Relations, Chair:	Kevin Shahan
Board of Trustees, Chair:	Elected at 1 st Meeting of the Year
Finance, Chair:	Millie Burnham
Endowment Fund Chair:	Charlie Peeler
Worship, Chair:	Tracey Thomas
Church Life, Chair:	Linda Parks
Member Care and Nurture, Chair	Linda Parks
Children and Youth Ministries Chair:	Monica Shahan
Welcoming Congregation Committee:	Debby Lake, Pastor
Technology Committee:	Mike Thomas
UMW, President	Nettie Oma Carpenter
UMM, President	Mike McDowell
Historian:	Nelda Weatherby
Member-at-Large 2011	To be filled
Member-at-Large 2012	Mike McDowell
Member-at-Large 2013	Danna Smith

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair: Pastor Debby Lake
Lay Leader: Mike Thomas
Peter Hald 2011 Monica Shahan 2012 Stan Burnham 2013
Laina Murray 2011 Barbara Gilger 2012 Owen Parks 2013

PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS

Chair: Kevin Shahan
Pastor: Debby Lake
Lay Leader: Mike Thomas
Lay Member of Annual Conference: Kevin Shahan
Cindy Hawkins 2011 Shay Easterwood 2012 Celia Bell 2013
Sam Murray 2011 Brad Everett 2012 Carol Littlefield 2013

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chair: *Elected at 1st Trustees' Meeting*
Pastor: Debby Lake
Brad Everett 2011 Scott Mathis 2012 Don McElroy 2012 Klela Waldie 2013
Lee Ragsdale 2011 Lesa Schulze 2012 Ted Red 2013
Parsonage Committee: Brad Everett, Linda Parks, Klela Waldie
Elevator Committee: Brad Everett, Cindy Prater, Klela Waldie

PROGRAM COMMITTEES

While the CHAIRS of the following committees are elected annually, MEMBERSHIP on these committees is open to ALL throughout the year.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair: Tracey Thomas
Pastor: Debby Lake
Lay Leader: Mike Thomas
Music: Tracey Thomas, Nettie Oma Carpenter
Communion Steward: C. K. Stevenson

Lesla Schulze, Kim Kirk, Trish Warren, Melanie Mathis, Pat Belk, Kevin Shahan