



# San Saba First United Methodist Church February 2017 Newsletter

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

**Rev. John Saint, 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.  
Worship 10:00 a.m.**



**Ministers:  
Entire Congregation  
Choir Director:  
Tracey Thomas  
Church Secretary  
Riana Bass  
Church Treasurer:  
Kevin Shahan  
Custodian:  
Alonzo Jimenez  
Newsletter Editors  
Mike & Carolyn McDowell**

**Newsletter deadline is the last  
Wednesday of the month.**

## From the Pastor's Desk.....

### *Thanksgiving*



*Were not ten made clean?  
But the other nine, where are they?  
Was none of them found to return and give praise to God  
except this foreigner?*

Luke 17:17-18

*O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures forever.  
Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord,  
or declare his praise?  
Happy are those who observe justice,  
who do righteousness at all times.*

Psalm 106:1-3

Two spiritual truths I've learned in my life are these: The closer we grow to God, the further it seems we have to go, and the closer we *think* we are to God, the more inclined we are to take God's grace for granted. The nine leprosy men thought they were close to God (Luke 17:11-19), and the foreigner realized just how far he was from the person God intended him to be. Thanklessness is a big part of pride, the most dangerous of the seven deadly sins. That means even the practice of daily devotion can be dangerous if it leads you to be over-confident in your standing with the Almighty. For example, Jesus told a parable to "some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt" (Luke 18:9-14).

Psalm 106 highlights another difficult twist on thanksgiving, that we don't even have the right words! God's goodness is far beyond our ability to imagine, much less describe in words. Our spoken witness is certainly very important, but words alone cannot convey the full goodness of the Lord. What that means is that, in addition to our good words, we must show our thankfulness to God with our good deeds. The one leprosy man not only praised God "with a loud voice," he also "prostrated himself at Jesus' feet." If we praise God but fail to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly (Micah 6:8), our voices sound like "a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal" (1 Corinthians 13:1).

As you consider giving thanks in word and deed, ask yourself these

questions:

What opportunities for giving thanks have I missed?

How have I shown my gratitude to God in both word and deed?

How have I demonstrated my concern for the weak, the oppressed, and those who are suffering?

I invite you to pray this prayer with me, or pray Psalm 103, the inspiration for this prayer:

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

All that is within me: bless God's holy name.

For you, O God, have showered me

with blessings beyond number,

but too often I have overlooked

or taken for granted the bounty you provide.

One more blessing I ask

above everything else you have given me:

A heart filled with unending gratitude. Amen.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor John



## Portraits

On Tuesday, 25 families came in for their photos to be done with Lifetouch for our new directory. There were some beautiful portraits taken and we are excited for everyone to be included! It's not too late to schedule your session for the next and final date, February 5th. If you can't make it in for a new photo, please submit your own by having John or Abby take a photograph of your picture so the directory can include you! If you need to update your address, phone number or email address, let Abby know at 832-262-0786. We can expect the directories to come in in late March!



William Edward Addington

Born: January 19, 2017

Time: 1:32 a.m.

Weight: 8 lbs. 11 oz.

Height: 21 inches

Proud Parents: Luke & Kristie Addington

Proud Grandparents: Sam & Laina Murray

Proud Brother & Sister-in-law:

Lee & Kelly Murray



This Is The Day led by our children.

## Prayer Concerns

Kaye Clancey (needing a liver transplant)  
Amanda Jackson (Pecan Valley Nursing Home & Rehab)  
Brad Reeves, Josh Thomas & Mark Owns (safety)  
Joey Offield (Pat Johnson's family member who was in wreck)  
Spencer Altman (cancer)  
Barbara Gilger (health concerns)

Nancy Bannister (health)  
Linda Parks (recovering from surgery)  
Peter Hald  
Lisa Wise, sister-in-law of Mark Wise (cancer)  
Shannon Hampu (health concerns)  
Our Military Men, Women & Families  
Our Country

## Food Pantry



Our church has recently taken the role of program partner with sponsorship of the Local Mobile Pantry Program. For the past 9 years the program in San Saba has been distributed through the Central Texas Food Bank in Austin. The program will continue to be **available the 2nd and 4th Wednesday's at the San Saba Civic Center from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.** Carol Littlefield will be in charge of organizing the program volunteers. Our church will be hosting a training luncheon for volunteers after the distribution on Wednesday, February 8th. Everyone considering a volunteer role in this important community program are strongly encouraged to attend the luncheon.



AT GAME NIGHT



AT GODLY PLAY



MAKING A STAINED GLASS WINDOW

## Our Church Family

Richard Jackson spent New Year's Day visiting with Debbie Pullen's kids. I bet he really enjoyed that. Larry Lafferty did it again. He won second place in another domino tournament. The Saint family had a great time on vacation to The Big Bend National Park. Jayce Everett, way to go! Her 7th grade girls basketball team placed 1st in the San Saba Tournament. John Thomas and Susan Parks along with Barbara Gilger headed to Austin to check on Linda Parks after her heart surgery. I guess Linda had such a good time in that hospital she decided to check out a San Angelo hospital after being home 4 days. She spent 6 days there before coming home. I bet she was ready to be home. Danna Smith has a crick in her neck. It was kinda hard for her to talk to people as she couldn't turn her neck. I hope the problems have gone away now. Joe Pete Smith prepared the dinner for the buyers at the San Saba Stock Show. I would be willing to bet it was an excellent meal. Sarah & Ian Saint, Jaycie Everett and Daylon Smith all showed at the stock show. Jason Everett entered his favorite cake recipe of Brad's mom and was the overall winner in his age division and category. Jantzen had great time on cruise that he and Celia took right after Christmas. As it was a Disney cruise, he had the chance to talk to Captain America. Kaymon Lange, granddaughter of Cherry Kay Lange, was named to all state volleyball team honorable mention. What a nice honor for Kaymon! Mike Thomas reported that he had talked to Peter Hald on the phone. He said Peter was doing well and in a couple of weeks would be able to leave the facility he is now in. One of his choices to move next could be back to San Saba. Have you checked out CK & Vickie Stevenson's new car? It is a beauty! Carol Littlefield has quite a story to tell about how a possum got in a closet in her house. And who came to her rescue! None other than our very own game warden Brad Reeves! Braylee Reeves celebrated her 6th birthday in January. She enjoyed celebrating with family and even shared one birthday party with her dad. Jennifer Reeves has been busy with rehearsals at the Brownwood Lyric Theatre. She is playing the role of Granny in their upcoming production, The Beverly Hillbillies. The show opens on February 17. Did you happen to read in the San Saba News & Star in the Down Memory Lane 50 years ago that Mike McDowell was in the Lampasas Hospital after he accidentally shot his foot. And guess who ended up in his room the next day? His brother Steve who was needing his appendix out! In the same Down Memory Lane Monica Millican (Shahan now) was playing on the San Saba High School basketball team along with her sister Nicole Millican Grant. Monica scored 10 points in that game while Nicole scored 6. Wahnee Stallings took Nancy Bannister to the doctor in Brownwood. Nancy is still feeling under the weather so please keep her on your prayer list. The pictures below were taken during the Godly Play Sunday School class. Nolan Mays in the lower left picture and Abby and Emily Mays lower right picture were making stain glass windows.

To see more pictures from our January church activities, go to our FB page.



### Church Finances

<b>December Income</b>	<b>\$29,354.00</b>
<b>December Expenses</b>	<b>\$13,106.82</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$16,247.18</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$26,721.58</b>



# San Saba First United Methodist Church February Supplement 2016 Newsletter

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

**Rev. John Saint, 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.  
Worship 10:00 a.m.**



**Ministers:  
Entire Congregation  
Choir Director:  
Tracey Thomas  
Church Secretary  
Riana Bass  
Church Treasurer  
Kevin Shahan  
Custodian:  
Alonzo Jimenez  
Newsletter Editors  
Mike &  
Carolyn McDowell**

**Newsletter deadline is the last  
Wednesday of the month.**



## Welcome Crew

Volunteers are needed to begin a Welcome Crew ministry at FUMC.

People involved in this ministry will call on new residents of San Saba County on Sunday afternoons and invite them to

attend FUMC. A food item and information about the church will be given to the new residents.

Contact Harrison Hamer at 325-372-6039 or Pastor John Saint for more information.

