



San Saba

First United Methodist Church

January 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.....



*In hope we were saved.
 Now hope that is seen is not hope.
 For who hopes for what is seen?
 But if we hope for what we do not see,
 we wait for it with patience.*

Romans 8:24-25

*For through the Spirit,
 by faith, we eagerly wait
 for the hope of righteousness.*

Galatians 5:5

As we begin a new calendar year, I invite you to consider our hope eternal. If we read our New Testament carefully we will always be looking forward to the future. In fact, what we hope for in the future shapes the way we live our lives today. If this were not the case, why would Jesus have commanded us to pray continually, "Your will be done on earth as in heaven"?

Our hope in heaven-on-earth is not just wishful thinking, and neither are we deluding ourselves by praying for it. It is our firm conviction that God is in charge, in spite of all the evil we witness in the world around us. We believe that, in the end, the triumph of God will be complete, that all creation will be redeemed, and that we will have a share in heaven's glory. Until that day, the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church is charged by God to live so that others can see our hope, and be drawn to it themselves. As far as we are able, we are to love the world just as "God so loved the world."

Living out our hope eternal helps us to avoid two dangerous extremes: dreading the future as a time of terror, at one extreme, and at the other extreme, yearning so much for a better future that we make the present seem oppressive. Our hope eternal protects us from being seduced by fear or escapism. Our hope eternal is founded on the rock of divine goodness and produces in us a faithfulness to care deeply for this temporary world, while looking forward to unending life in the presence of God in the resurrection.

As we begin this new year, pray with me for our eternal hope:

Gracious and loving God,
 grant to me and all my brothers and sisters in Christ
 such a strong sense of your ever-present love,
 that we might reveal to others
 both our firm hope in a future with you
 and a way of living in the present
 that draws them to Christ,
 our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor John

Be a part of FUMC's directory, coming next month! Lifetouch will be visiting First United Methodist Church on January 24 from 2pm until 9pm to take portraits for our new directory. We want YOU to be a part of this! You will get a free 8x10 of the portrait of your choice, and a free directory.

You can sign up online using this link: <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/9e916kge/> (start by selecting the number in the party). An additional date of February 5 is available, but we must fill January 24 time slots first!

We will also have a sign up sheet at the church on Sunday mornings.



Before the repairs to our church



After the repairs were done



Looks very good!!!!

Thank You

A big Thank You to each and everyone of you for the impact you had on my life this year. Especially for all the encouraging phone calls, cards and hug. The ladies from Thinking of You Group especially Carolyn McDowell best card picker in San Saba, Kim Kirk's young girls group, our Sunday school class and Pastor John. I feel blessed to have such supporting loving faithful friends.

Dear God, help us to remember everything that you have done for us. We trust you to be our comfort in the future time.

Thank you Sisters and Brothers for all your prayers and love shown to me.

With all my heart forever grateful.

Vickie Stevenson.



Amazing what a fresh coat of paint does!!!!

Prayer Concerns

Family of Raymond Barrier
Kaye Clancey (health concerns)
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)
Barbara Gilger (health concerns)

Linda Parks (surgery)
Peter Hald
Lisa Wise, sister-in-law of Mark Wise; health
Shannon Hampu (health concerns)
Our Military Men, Women & Families
Our Country
Bettye McLaughlin



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



Pictures from December FUMC Activities

Our Church Family

Several of our family members have been dealing with health problems. I am happy to report that Randy Baxter has completed his radiation and is feeling better than he has in several years. Vickie Stevenson certainly got a good report at her last doctor appointment. She is cancer free and will just be going back now for check ups. Please read her thank you on page 2 Of the newsletter. She really appreciated all the prayers said on her behalf. Lisa Wise is also very thankful that she is doing good. She is busy working and running after her kids. Lisa had surgery on her colon several months ago for colon cancer and is doing treatments. It was certainly good to have Pat Reavis Watson's husband worship with us two Sunday this month. Our sympathy goes out to George and Margaret Kidd on the loss of their nephew. They traveled out of state in bad weather in order to attend the funeral. Butch and Cindy Hamer moved into their new house. They are just thrilled to be pretty settled into their new home. Now if they can just get all the boxes unpacked! A special thanks to Lee Murray and his trusty ladder. Lee used that ladder to work on the lights here at the church. Most people probably know that Larry Lafferty and Henry Warren graduated from Richland Springs High. So of course, they had to attend the six man football division one state championship game when Richland Springs played Balmorhea at AT&T Stadium in Arlington. Henry took Trish to the game. Trish seems to enjoy the game too and really gets into it. She can do a pretty good imitation of a coyote howling. Ask her to do a howl for you. Mike and Carolyn McDowell also attended the game with her sister and brother-in-law and then ate breakfast with their son Jess the following morning. Congratulations goes out to Chelsea Snyder, daughter of Scott & Abby Synder on her recent marriage to Danny. The pictures I saw certainly showed off a beautiful bride and wedding. The newlyweds were in for the choir cantata to hear Abby and Scott sing and do some visiting before they left on their honeymoon. What a good way to end up the year! After spending Christmas in Chillicothe Texas with some of Bud's family, Celia and Jantzen Bell are headed out on a cruise. It sure was good to see Jantzen during his break from classes at Univ. of Houston-Victoria. It is just Murphy's Law. It almost always happens when you have company. What am I talking about? Why plumbing problems, of course. Trish and Henry's company hadn't been at their house very long and it was about 11 p.m. when it started. Nothing like having a toilet that won't work. The next day they were out in the yard trying to get the line unstopped. Most of us can remember a time when they same thing happened to us. Ri sien Shahan represented SSMS well bringing home 1st place in Maps, Graphs, and Charts, 1st place in Modern Oratory, 5th place in Science and 3rd place in History. Gracen Shahan placed 1st in number sense and 1st on the number sense team. Madison Shahan also participated in the UIL competition for SSMS. She received the following awards: 1st number sense team, 1st mathematics, 2nd listening skills, 2nd maps, charts & graphs, 2nd ready writing, 3rd editorial writing, 5th modern oratory, and 2nd art smart team. Harrison Hamer traveled out of town to see his son for Christmas. The Saint family is headed out for some camping and hiking in Big Bend National Park. I know they will enjoy their time away. Carol Littlefield has a possum story she would love to tell you. Look for Linda Parks and her grandson out strolling down Wallace Street on sunny days.



These talented students (Raney Wilson, Abigail Jimenez, Courtney Cash, Johnny Meador & Sarah Saint) provided the offertory music on Dec. 18th.

Church Finances

November Income	\$12,689.00
November Expenses	\$13,055.19
Difference	-\$366.19
Ending Balance	\$10,474.40