

FIRST NEWS



**San Saba
First United Methodist Church**

July 2010

**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**

Dear Ones,

Words cannot express how much I appreciate the warm, gracious welcome I have received since arriving in San Saba. Everyone has gone out of their way to be helpful and kind. You truly give meaning to the term "Welcoming Congregation."

As I begin ministry with you, I have no agenda ... I appreciate and respect the good ministry that has preceded me. The reality is that no pastor walks into a situation of a clean slate to create some kind of masterpiece through his or her efforts alone. It is a matter of **building** on the ministry that has *already taken place*. I don't presume to have a new, better way of doing **anything** ... I see my role as bringing my unique piece to the puzzle. If each one of your pastors brought the very same piece, the picture would never fully develop and become the full picture that God has in mind for us.

During the last frantic few weeks, my thoughts have been scattered ... scattered across 200 miles ... scattered between saying goodbye to folks who have become my family, and preparing to say hello to a new home where new bonds and relationships will be formed. With a myriad of emotions, both congregations **and** pastors experience this cycle of goodbye and hello.

I look forward to getting to know you ... to sharing in your joys and concerns; to hearing your stories of God's activity and blessings in your life; to working side by side with you as we live out God's claim on our lives; to growing in our faith together as we encourage and strengthen one another.

Over time you will come to know me ... my hopes and dreams in ministry; my energy and enthusiasm for joint ministry whereby we are privileged to participate in ushering in God's kingdom on earth, in this time and this place; my spiritual depth, which translates into practical application of the Word of the **Living** God; my dry wit and ability to laugh at myself; my fierce, walk-through-fire love for my children and grandchildren; and my love of fishing and chocolate. I'm not terribly complicated; just dedicated. Others have described me as "down-to-earth and a very **real** person."

As we begin our hellos with one another, may it be with this one certainty: God has a purpose and a plan for our coming together. It is my sincere prayer that through our prayers, worship, fellowship, and service we live out that purpose and plan ... and give God the glory for the great things he *has* done, *is doing*, and *will continue to do* in our lives. Together, rooted in Christ, may we grow in our love and knowledge of the God who held us in the palm of his hand, breathed life into us, and said, "You are my child, you are a holy place, and I love you beyond anything you can imagine."

In His Spirit,
Debby

Prayer Concerns

Missy King and Family
Stephanie Mills
Kathren Wolfe (Martha Schanhals)
Gordan Hall (Bettye's friend)
Klela Waldie and Family
Sue, Elizabeth and J.T. Moody and Family
Family of Midge Love
Wahnee Stallings
Jantzen Bell
James Reavis
Kaye Clancey (cancer/prayer for transplant)
Betty Wilson (Praise the Lord cancer Free)
F.L. and Linda Kalmus
Dixie Hewitt
Mrs. McDowell (Mike's Mom)
Doris Bryant (Nursing Home)
Margaret Seiders (Celia Bell's Mom)
John Bannister
Doug and Kaye Clancey & Fam.
Sam Jones (Lewis Jones Brother)
Carl and Jane Carter & Fam. (loss of Grandson)
Landon Yarbrough
Peter Hald
Daniel Smith
Connie Raesner Perry
Michael Pullen and Family
Jeannette Toole
Pete and Sue Hemenway (friends of Trish Warren)
Mark Owens (safety)
Elaine and John Lansford (Nancy and John Bannister's friends)
James and Pat Reavis
Nick Stripling (Pat Reavis Grandson)
Mitchell, Johna, Madison and Matthew Moss
In Our Military
Alex Dove, Eric Booker, Cory Clendennen, Heated to Afghanistan Matthew Barrier, Ralph Kintzen, Jay Huggins, Matthew Phinnery, Andy Smith. Please Pray for Our Troops, All Our Military Men and Women Our City, Our Nation, Our Church.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY!!

Help needed!!!

Here are some areas the worship team has pinpointed that need someone to agree to help fill in. PLEASE PRAY about your vow of service to our church family and see if one of these areas stands out to you:

ELEVATOR AND BACK DOOR GREETER—Peter Hald is often there to help the ones needing assistance through the door and into the elevator. However, there needs to be a back up person for him...one who is willing to stand at the door watching and waiting for 15-20 minutes before service. Opening doors, helping folks into the elevator and making sure they get inside the sanctuary would be a ministry of great value. In addition, checking on folks as they leave to see if they need more help would be a wonderful gift to those who don't move so easily.

ACOLYTE ASSISTANCE—The children tend to look to Melanie for help getting the lighters lit and to tell them when to go, but Melanie has other responsibilities at the same time which is sometimes difficult. If someone (or two) could take on this responsibility, it would be a fantastic way to encourage our children to participate in worship. Helping them get started during the prelude and when they return to the back of the sanctuary before worship and again at the end of the service would be a give opportunities for growing our children into spiritual, reverent servants to the Lord and His people. What a blessing!

MAIN ENTRANCE GREETERS—Cherry Kay has a beautiful uplifting smile and greets folks coming into our church almost every Sunday. Others have helped at times. If you love just helping people get situated with a bulletin and welcoming them into our church family worship time, you may be one to stand at the front east entrance to open the door and say Hi! while offering a bulletin. When Cherry Kay is out, someone needs to be willing to fill in at the main entrance. What a great way to get to know people coming to our house of worship!

Debby would also love to know of any folks who have a heart for **reading scripture or doing children's' sermons**. If you have ideas and would be interested in being on her rotation list, please let her know.

Please contact Debby or Tracey and volunteer to serve! You will be so blessed!!



Tri-County Fish Fry Pictures submitted by Richard Jackson

First Ladies:

Our United Methodist Ladies met on June 14th. Nettie Oma led the business meeting, followed by Tracey Thomas leading the program on Missions. One visitor, Taylor Richardson (Tracey's great niece), enjoyed visiting with all the ladies and adding to the discussion. Ann McElroy and Tracey (with Taylor's help) were hostesses after the meeting for a light supper of spinach salad, Texas quiche and fruit pizza.

We will not meet in July but will resume in August.

First Choir:

Due to family reunions and other summer travel plans, the choir will be on summer break until sometime in August. This would be a wonderful time for individuals or groups to plan to offer a solo, duet, or instrumental music to minister to our family in worship. Please talk to Debby or Tracey if you have any musical offering ideas

The Yarbrough Twins

Trish & Henry were blessed with a near 2 week visit from son, Lyle, & twin grandsons, Landon & Justin Yarbrough. Your prayers are working as the last couple of procedures (one just before coming to Texas) have been very easy on Landon & the cysts seem to be becoming easier for doctors to handle. This grandma was bushed after the 3 mile trek to visit Gorman Falls. The kids thoroughly enjoyed its beauty.



To: The "Can Do Girls" known as the San Saba United Methodist Women

Ref: Pepperbelly's Party June 18, 2010, et al



Thank you for caring. Your thoughtfulness and hospitality have been truly awesome. Patricia and I were thoroughly entertained at the lunch at Pepperbelly's with an original song, fun table decorations including, among other unique additions, the cow patty cakes. The spotted cow apron & t-shirt will certainly add to my cooking attire. All this added up to a time of great fellowship.

In addition to this day, thanks also for the prayers, cards, calls & wonderful food many of you have provided since this has happened. We are truly blessed to be part of this church family. Thank you! Henry Warren

A special "Thanks" to our Meals on Wheels volunteers:

Pat Belk, Suzanne Walters, Nelda Weatherby, Cherry Kay Lange, Vicki Stevenson, C.K. Stevenson, Carol Littlefield, Bettye McLaughlin, Wahnee Stallings, Nettie Oma Carpenter, John Carpenter, Lynn Blankenship, Austin Blankenship, Aiden Blankenship, Barbara Gilger, Anita Felts, Patricia Warren, Nancy Bannister, Thelma Millican

Our next time to deliver will be August 23-27 and August 30-September 3.

Submitted by: Zolly Jones



Deadline for
August
Church Newsletter
July 28th
(last Wednesday in month)

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



The Choir is
On Vacation
In July

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



Men Working

The elevator is being worked
on July 5-9. If the work is
not completed, the elevator
will not be running on
July 11th.

Q&A withOur New PastorDebbie Lake

1. Pastime (I am assuming this is in my leisure time?) Fishing
2. Hymn - "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"
3. Scripture - Jeremiah 29:11
4. Type of music - C&W and Clas-sical (not at the same time)
5. Book (other than Bible) - any good mystery
6. Meal - seafood, preferably shrimp or crab
7. Dessert - anything chocolate
8. Hero - heroine: my 5th grade teacher
9. Movie - "A Field of Dreams"
10. Group activity - playing cards, mainly bridge
11. Childhood memory - vacations in Florida
12. Sports team - UT Longhorns (football)



If you were given 24 hours of your very own, how would you use them?
I would spend them at my daughter's beach house, with my family, fishing, reading, playing cards, watching UT football, and eating seafood and chocolate. Actually, that's what our Thanksgivings have looked like for the last several years - you can't beat it!

2010 Second Quarter Stewardship Report General Fund

Month	Income	Expenses	Difference
April	11,646	11,157	+489
May	11,309	11,068	+489
June	9,326	11,704	-2,378

Contributions to 6-30-10 \$63,240
Expenses to 6-30-10 \$66,875

Balance on 6-30-10 \$17,509

Submitted by Millie Burnham

Our Church Family

Summer always brings lot of coming and goings for our church family. Bettye McLaughlin reports that she had a great time on her cruise. She had such a great time that she is already planning another cruise for 2011. Klela Waldie has been to Arkansas to visit family and friends. She made a stop in Dallas to visit family there. Laina Murray was off to Austin with a fellow teacher to attend a workshop. Kelly Murray was off to join in a family celebration for her brother's first return to Texas following some overseas duty. David & Alesha Rogers took some of their kids to Six Flags Father's Day week-end. Cherry Kay also reports a good time on her trip to Europe with her traveling buddies. The best shopping took place at the Lavender Festival on the way home. Monica and Kevin Shahan and the kids spent 5 days in San Antonio. The trip combined business and pleasure. Kevin was attending a school board training. Cindy Prater has been off on an archeological hunt. Tracey & Mike Thomas have traveled both north and south. North to see Lindsey & Derek in Dallas one week-end and south to take the cousin's camp group to San Antonio. Guess who they also saw while there. Bet you never would have guessed Josh, Megan & Avery Thomas. Have you heard their good news? There will be a new addition to the family about November 30th. Suzanne Walters is having a mini vacation with her niece Nila. Scott Mathis has been to coaching school in San Angelo. Alesha Rogers is traveling with some of her FCCLA students to Chicago. Stan & Millie Burnham were enjoying their daughter Pat's visit. I bet Diana also enjoyed seeing her sister. Instead of traveling, sometimes your company comes to see you. Don & Ann McElroy were enjoying a visit Memorial Day week-end with her parents. Sue & J.T Moody enjoyed Georgia company. Sue's son and family visited Rodeo week-end. The whole group rode in the rodeo parade. Did you see J.T.'s picture in the paper? He was named best dressed cowboy. Congratulations, J.T!!!! Speaking of the rodeo parade, did you notice that both Sam & Lee Murray were on City National Bank's float? I heard the idea for the parade float came from Lee Murray. Congratulations also go out to David and Barbara Gilger on their 50th wedding anniversary. That is quite an accomplishment. Bo & Margaret Rice attended their granddaughter's dance recital. You will have to ask Bo Rice about his favorite food—fried pickles. Peter Hald is a very faithful runner. Even in this hot 100 degree weather, he is still running. Keep it up, Peter. J. T. Mathis now has his driving license. I felt I needed to warn you to watch out for him. Someone else I need to warn you about is Jantzen Bell. You may not recognize him. He has grown a foot. Ann Fry is enjoying her vacation from Cherokee ISD. Celia Bell is on a permanent vacation. She retired from San Saba IDS. Elsie, Bob & Debbie Millican attended the Oliver Reunion. Nicole Sears is working again this summer at Alamo Pecan & Coffee till it is time for her to leave for Texas Tech. It was nice to have Ronnie Schulze in church. Deborah Ragsdale is recovering from her surgery. In fact, I heard a rumor that she was out



and about in town. Nicole Grant and Elise, daughter and granddaughter of Bob & Debbie Millican made it in so Elise could attend VBS. It sure was good to see Nancy Bannister at the Get Acquainted Supper for Debbie Lake. Wanda Davenport brought her. Thanks, Wanda. Jaycie Everett has spent some quality time at her grandmother's this summer. The two did a shopping trip and have gone swimming together. Well, maybe it was just Jaycie who went swimming. Jaycie Everett, Jaden Owens, J.T. Mathis, Faith & Grace Stewart, Risien and Madison Shahan, Ryan & Casey Mathis, J. T. Moody, Raley Kirk and Hollee Ragsdale have been playing t-ball, machine pitch, and girls softball. Madison Shahan participated in her first gymnastics recital. She rolled, flipped and car-wheeled as the Millican and Shahan families cheered her on. Those around the church during VBS know how much of a blessing it was. Thanks to everyone who helped.



High Seas Expedition a Splashing Success!

103 kids and forty-three volunteers set sail during our High Seas Vacation Bible School! After weeks of preparation, our church was filled with 32 very energetic preschoolers and 71 elementary kids. Songs of praise filled the sanctuary each morning as the kids gathered for Sing & Play Splash led by Monica Shahan. Cherry Kay Lange, Kim Kirk, Debbie Shahan, & Pastor Debby prepared creative, delicious snacks such as Peter's Jail Mix, Chipwrecks, Surf-n-Snakes, Forgiveness Clouds and Share Kabobs! Misty Everett led the elementary kids through super fun games such as Get-to-Know-You Island, Swab the Deck, and Shark Attack! Brandi Easterwood led the Sail Away Cinema, taught about God Sightings, and helped the children learn their memory verses. Linda Parks and Melanie Mathis created super cool crafts in Clipper ship Crafts & Missions! Real sail boats, comfort pillows, bopper poppers, balancing birds, and blankets are just some of the crafts they made with the elementary kids! During the Bible Voyage, Celia Bell & Lesa Schulze brought the day's Bible story to life! Kids were able to meet the servant girl, Rhoda, load cargo and hoist the sail for a high seas adventure, be surprised when Paul was bitten by a poisonous snake, find out what it's like to be unable to walk, and they discovered what it's like to be kept outside the "inner circle". Tracey Thomas led the preschool group and did an amazing job with thirty-two 3,4, and 5 year olds!!! We simply could not have had such an outstanding VBS without the crew leaders! Our awesome crew leaders included: Gennie Hamilton, Mindy Cantu, Jantzen Bell, Elizabeth Bryant, Carol Littlefield, Alison Christian, Russel Lowe, Karlee Cromer, Jaena Edwards, Johna Reavis, Sean Argote, Katie Ross, Alexa Maxcey, Alesha Rogers, JT Mathis, Candace Saldivar, Kayla Kutin, Hollee Ragsdale, Marlo Red, McKenzie Hibler, Audrey Pierce, Haley Oliver, Katie Ingram, Alexis Saldivar, Stephanie Hibler. We are also so fortunate to have volunteers who transported children to our VBS and back home afterwards. They include: Nettie Oma Carpenter, Melanie Mathis, and Mindy Cantu. Mike Thomas graciously gave of his time to help with the sound system and other small projects. Lesa Schulze along with Misty Everett, Laina, Kristy, Lee & Kelly Murray, and Debbie Millican created the awesome backdrop that made our High Seas adventure come to life! Our church was full of life, full of energy and full of praise! It was truly an exciting expedition!

