

FIRST NEWS



**San Saba
First United Methodist Church**

July 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**

Soft Spoken By Rev. Dan Harrington

When I was a child, and people talked about my granddaddy being “called to preach”, I figured Jesus knew my granddaddy’s number and called him on one of those old phones. I used to think the clouds broke open and Jesus spoke with a loud voice. I know it didn’t happen that way. I believe the voice of God is soft spoken like my granddaddy’s voice was.



My Granddaddy was the son of a grocery store owner, but in the early 1950s when he got “called”, he sold the family business to go to Phiffer College and Duke Divinity School. It was a four-hour drive through North Carolina back-roads every Thursday in order to serve two United Methodist congregations on Sunday morning. He was an ordinary, honest, average man. When he was alone in his study, he had the same integrity that he had in the pulpit on Sunday morning. The man at the Gas pump on Monday morning was the same man on Sunday morning breaking bread. Granddaddy was a simple, small town, family man with two daughters and a beautiful wife. He wrote sermons with a pencil and flannel-graphed Bible stories for children like me. He had a soft voice and he shared a Gospel that was older and deeper than words. Jesus loves you, my child, this I know.

When I grew older, I never figured God would actually speak to me at all. I gave up the idea that a booming heavenly voice had anything to say. No clouds would break open, no flying Jesus, no call on the phone, just my Granddaddy. My tumor scared, bald headed, wig wearing, soft-spoken granddaddy. Battling long term affects of the radiation treatments he got from the removal of a brain tumor and reading the Bible in his old blue chair. My no longer preaching, short-term memory loosing, Andy Griffith watching, nap taking, easy going, granddaddy... eagerly waiting for my afternoon school bus and never complaining. The voice of the Living God never had to say much, because the Spirit of the Living God was softly and tenderly watching and waiting for me to come home.

The voice of the Living God came to me that day in 1992 when my Granddaddy could no longer speak. Although the voice was never specific, in the deepest part of my soul I understood what I have always known, if the voice of the Living God was going to speak, it would be up to me... ordinary, average, me. Far from perfect, bad habit having, loud-mouthed, cigar smoking, fast food eating, rock and roll loving, face-booking, cell phone texting, stuck in traffic... me, preaching from the pulpit, and wearing my Granddaddy’s robe.



The church family honored Christi & Grant Mays with a baby shower on Saturday June 23rd with a baby shower. The Mays will welcome their new little girl soon. Christi, her mom, her step mom and Libby are shown here. Thanks to all who helped with the shower.

First Choir:

The choir will be on summer break for July. No practice until further notice sometime in late August probably. Be thinking about coming to join us in making a joyful noise to the Lord! If this is something you always thought you might want to do, we would love to welcome you to the choir loft on Weds evenings for practice. In the meantime, just be singing and praising the Lord!!

With His love and mine~
Tracey



Annie Oakley says: "Get your newsletter info to me by Wednesday July 25th"or else....

Dear Church Family,

I'd like to take this opportunity to let everyone know how thankful I am for the support I've gotten the last several months when I was so sick. All the cards, visits, and phone calls mean so much. I truly feel blessed to such a warm and caring church family. My God bless each and every one of you for your kindness and compassion.



Sincerely,
Debbie Pullen

Continued from page one.....**Soft Spoken**

Several months ago I had the honor and privilege of eating burritos with one of my sixteen year-old brothers in Christ. I remember asking him, "Do you think Jesus would call you on your cell phone if he wanted to speak to you?" He laughed uncomfortably. He was angry with God because cancer took his mom last year. He had been sneaking out at night and his father was more than a little concerned about him. My voice got a little softer as I said the words, "Your mom loves you and so does God. They love you with the kind of love that is bigger and stronger than death. I think that's important enough to say again, your mom loves you and so does God. They love you with the kind of love that is bigger and stronger than death." I leaned in and looked straight into his tear-filled eyes and whispered, "If God wanted to speak to you and tell you about a love that is stronger than death, *how do you think that would happen?*

I believe God speaks through us when we allow the Holy Spirit (that is in each of us) to speak the truth about the love of God. I believe God speaks through the love in our actions and our words, especially when they are spoken softly.

WOW!

FUMC of San Saba sure knows how to throw a retirement party! All the special things you did made me feel greatly loved and appreciated – the seaside décor for the sumptuous lunch was the perfect touch that certainly brought a smile to my face; your kind words were humbling and touching; and your generosity towards my “fishing habits” was just overwhelming (I will think of my dear friends in San Saba every time I go fishing, so you know you will be thought of often).

It was a wonderful day and I thank each and every one who made it that way from the bottom of my heart.

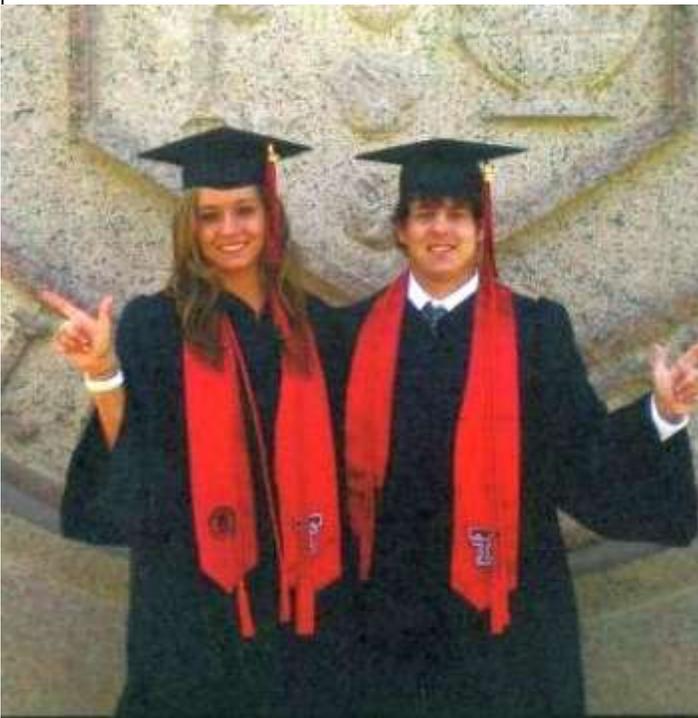


I and the happy traveling dogs and the drugged cat arrived in Ingle-side on the Bay

in record time with no stops and no mishaps. That’s a good way to start out on our new ad-venture.

Again, thank you ever so much and know that y’all will remain in my thoughts and my heart.

With love and gratitude,
Debby



Nicole and Derek Sears, children of Del Sears, are shown here celebrating their graduation from Texas Tech University. Get your guns up!!!!



**Don't forget the
Hamburger/ Ice Cream Supper
Welcoming
Pastor Dan Harrington & Family
Sunday July 1st
6 p.m.
Back Yard of the Church**

Vacation Bible School
July 9th –13th
9am-12noon
Ages 4 years – 6th Grade

register online at:
[www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/
FUMCSanSaba](http://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/FUMCSanSaba)



OUR EXPERIENCES AT CHURCH CAMP

From Ri sien Shahan:

What I liked about camp...

I liked swimming because we got to play and push teachers in the pool like Pastor Bill and Vi vi an. I liked recreation time because we played cool games. I learned how to play tether ball and figured out that I liked it so much that, when I got back to San Saba, I borrowed my Nana's tether ball set and brought it home to my house to play.

What I learned at camp...

The theme was "Call of the Wild" and I learned that we will get called by God sometime in our lives. I also learned that the Holy Bible the most important book ever written and is the way to learn about God.

From Jaden Owens:

Jaden said that she really enjoyed camp and plans to attend every year she also **enjoyed the solar s'mores and swimming!**

From Ryan Mathis:

What I liked about church camp...

I liked camp because of the solar s'mores and gutter sundaes. I really liked the pool because all the boys got to go to the deep end. I even learned how to play Frisbee it is just like football but when you catch the Frisbee you have to stop where you are but the points are worth 1 point. The theme of the camp was "Call Of The Wild" and we learned that God calls us to do many things. Also the verse of the camp was "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. Love your neighbor as yourself." Mark 12: 30-31.



Prayers Concerns

Trudy & Milton Gage & Fam.
Amy & Danny Shaw & Fam.
Danna & Joe Pete Smith & Fam.

Katie Andreas (in hospital, continuing prayer)

Joe Mack Tilson

David Gilger

Thelma Millican

Bettye McLaughlin's sister Jane

Ray Forrester (Grace Hollis' Husband)

Jeannette & Jeff Toole & Fam.

Sam Tisdale

John and Joycelyn McRorery
Lylah (Stephanie and Chase's daughter)

Layton Sanford

Zolly Jones

James and Pat Reavis

Gordan Hall (prostate cancer)

Kathren Wolfe (Martha Schan-hals)

Margaret Ann Seiders (Celia Bell's Mom)

Landon Yarbrough
(procedures)

Connie Raesner Perry

Pete and Sue Hemenway
(friends of Trish Warren)

Mark Owens (safety)

Mitchell, Johna, Madison and Matthew Moss

Our City, Our Nation, Our Church

In Our Military

Alex Dove, Eric Booker, Jay Dewitt,

Ralph K Intzen(home),

Cory Clendennen(home),

Jay Huggins (home),

Matthew Phinney (home),

Andrew Reynolds,

John Paul Dretke

Please Pray for Our Troops,

All Our Military Men and Women

Our Church Family

The Mathis family is like a lot of families. The first month of summer has been very busy. Melanie and the kids went to Austin to watch their cousin from Stamford play in the State Baseball Tournament. They got to spend time with Scott's brother and his family. Next they met Scott at his parent's house in Junction for the weekend. Then Monica and Mel took Ryan, Risien, and Jaden to Kerrville to church camp at Mt. Wesley. They had a blast. Mel picked Ryan up and went down to her dad's in Castroville for the evening. From there it was on to **Corpus Christi for Mel's family reunion. On the way home from the reunion, Scott dropped Casey and Mel off at Mel's mom's house. We spent the week with her and my grandmother.** JT Mathis and the rest of the Armadillo basketball team went to a team camp in Georgetown. They learned a lot and showed a lot of improvement. They competed in a short tournament at the end of camp and placed 4th out of 9 teams. Most of the other teams were from 3A, 4A, and 5A schools. Casey Mathis and the rest of Junior Lady Dillos competed in a tournament in Marble Falls and went 2-1. Jantzen Bell also went to a camp in **Marble Falls. He is working some at Mrs. Mindy's Snow Cone Stand.** Thanks to Arleen Stratton and Kevin Shahan for filling in while Debby Lake went to annual conference. Travis and Cathy Gage enjoyed entertaining their grandkids for a week. Lots of church family members attended the retirement party for Coach Schulze. It was good to see some old friends. Gracen Shahan had her end of the year dance recital and several members of her family went to see it. Roland Hawkins will be retiring from the Post Office the end of July. Jerri attended our worship service one Sunday morning with her mom, Flovell. Suzanne Walters had a narrow escape while on her bicycle one morning. We are glad that you are o.k., Suzanne. Ryan Mathis reported some very good news for the Mathis family. Coach Scott has been named the head baseball coach of the San Saba High School baseball team. Congratulations, Coach. Kevin, Monica Shahan and **their family recently attended his brother's wedding.** They were only home a few days before Kevin & Monica left for Hawaii to celebrate a delayed 15th wedding anniversary. **Cindy Prater is hosting the annual cousin's camp following the Brister 4th of July family reunion.** She will be very busy keeping up with all of the **Bris-ter's cousins. The Brad Everett family was off to the Texas coast for vacation.** Jacey & J.B. could hardly wait. Austin & Wyatt Smith were off to visit with grandma for 2 weeks. I bet they have a great time.

**Your Are Invited to
A Baby Shower**

Honoring Kelly & Lee Murray

Saturday July 28th

Think Blue for a Baby Boy



Mark Your Calendar

Monday July 2nd-6th **Meals on Wheels**. No delivery on July 4th.

Wednesday July 4th- The office will be **closed** in observance of July 4th.

Thursday July 5 - **Vacation Bible School Planning Committee Meeting**
10:00 am.

Sunday July 8th **Church Council Meeting** 12 noon Church Parlor.

Monday July 9th to 13th **Vacation Bible School** 9am to 12 noon
"SKY" 4yrs to 6th grade

Sun. July 15th- **Trustees Committee Meeting** 12 noon Church Parlor

Thurs. July 26th - **"Fellowship of Christian Women"** 11:30 here at First
United Methodist Church, treating the 40's with picnic
foods.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

General Fund Income for June 2012	\$ 9,518
General Fund Expenses for June 2012	\$11,975

INCOME FOR YEAR TO DATE	\$65,191
EXPENSES FOR YEAR TO DATE	\$66,977

SUBMITTED BY MILLIE BURNHAM