



San Saba First United Methodist Church March 2014 Newsletter

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.
Worship 10:00 a.m.



Ministers:
Entire Congregation
Worship Leader:
Tracey Thomas
Accompanist:
Nettie Oma Carpenter
Choir Director:
Tracey Thomas
Church Secretary
Karen Alexander
Custodian:
Mario Mendiola

From the Pastor's Desk.....

Bishop's Convocation

On Feb 24th and 25th I attended the Bishop's annual Convocation training event. This year the speaker was Missouri Bishop Robert Schnase. He spoke about prying loose the many 'stuck' places in our connectional system, so that the church structure supports positive movement. He said that "...meaningful, sustainable, significant change in the Church must start at the top, with our Bishops, District Superintendents, and Conferences." Bishop Schnase spoke from experience, and offered seven strategies to get things moving again. The teaching was helpful, the worship was meaningful, and the fellowship was delightful, but the highlight of the whole convocation was the closing sermon by Dist. Superintendent Terrence Hayes inspiring the preachers to "fearlessly preach more Jesus!!"



New Children's Choir

Jennifer Reeves and I are excited to begin a Childrens Choir that will sing on the first Sunday of every month. Jennifer is a former elementary music teacher and has lots of ideas for the choir. We will practice in the sanctuary during the 9AM Sunday School hour on the first Sunday of the month beginning March 2nd. We are looking forward to making a joyful noise and praising God in song!

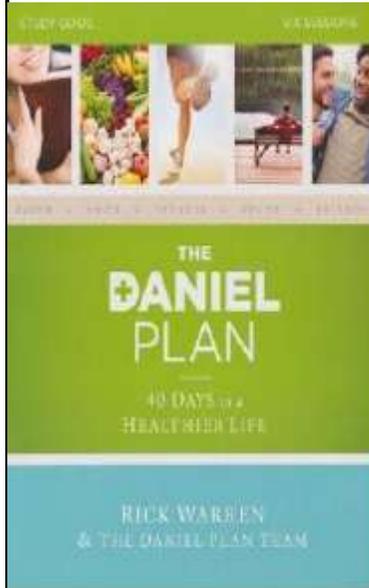
Confirmation

We are excited to begin a new confirmation class every Sunday Evening beginning in March from 6-7: The new curriculum is called "Interrogo" from the Greek word that means to ask, question, or inquire. Please pray for the youth of our church as they embark on this time of confirming their faith.

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Madison Shahan, daughter of Kevin & Monica Shahan, played “Everything is Beautiful” during the worship service recently. It was one of her recital pieces. She was escorted to the piano by Daylon Smith, son of Joe Pete & Danna Smith. Her sister, Gracen Shahan also played in the recital. Both girls are piano students of Arlene Stratton. The recital was held at our Church.



This 6 session video based, small group Bible study offers an innovative approach to creating a healthy lifestyle—rooted and framed by 5 life areas:
faith ♥ food ♥ fitness ♥ focus ♥ friends

The Daniel Plan focuses on an abundance of healthy choices giving you the encouragement and inspiration needed to succeed. Transform yourself in the most head-turning way imaginable—from the inside out.

Grab your tennis shoes and join your church family for this engaging study.

6 Sundays beginning March 9

3 – 3:30 – Mill Pond Park track – kids too!

4 – 5:00 – FUMC parlor for study

Let us know if you need child care during the study time.

Please contact the church office ASAP to sign up and order a study guide.

“God has given you a mission in life, and only you can fulfill it. Are you going to let your health stand in the way?”

The Daniel Plan, Rick Warren

Stewardship Report

Beginning Balance: January 1, 2014	\$11,361.32
General Fund Income for February	\$ 9,950.75
General Fund Expense for February	\$11,250.40
Ending Balance: February 28, 2014	\$ 5,980.70

Millie Burnham, Treasurer



Recently Dallas Chapter One Worthy Matron, Linda Drennan, and Worthy patron, Robert Drennan visited the Texas Masonic Retirement center. Upon arrival they were kindly greeted by TMRC staff and their newly adopted sister, Suzanne Adair Walters of San Saba Chapter

#191. Suzanne entered TMRC on July 9, 2013 and has been very happy with her new home ever since. She has been a proud member of the Order of Eastern Star for 55 years. She has served as Worthy Matron of her home Chapter several times and is now a member of the TMRC’s Daylight Chapter #1145.

Submitted by Nettie Oma Carpenter

Trustee Work Day



A big thank you goes out to all those involved in working on the back door of the church. Termite damage and rot had taken a toll on the door. Those helping included Al Allison, Roland Hawkins, Mark McEwin, Travis Gage, Mike McDowell, Bob Millican, Kathy Gage, Joe Pete Smith and Carolyn McDowell. Travis Gage headed up the project. Now that the group has learned how to do it on the back door, they will be practicing their skills on the front side door.

**Grant & I would like to thank everyone for their generous gifts of diaper and wipes. There was an abundance and we are very, very grateful. Thank you for your thoughtful gifts to Libby, Nolan and Emily. That meant a lot. We have been blessed by each one of you and we continue to be blessed by your acts of kindness! Thank you so very much!!!
Christi Mays**



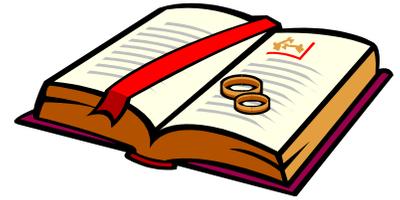
**Molly Ann Mays
9 lbs. 5 oz.
20 inches
Born February 12
11:37 a.m.**



The Boy Scouts hosted their annual Pinewood Derby on Saturday February 22nd. Six Cub Scouts and 3 Boy Scouts participated. Randall Hawkins is the Scout Master. Far left is a picture of everyone who participated. Left is a picture of the track. Our Church serves as their sponsor.

Gideon Bible Study

The Gideon Bible Study led by Trish Warren is half way through their workbook and video series. Those taking the class include: Nettie Oma Carpenter, Millie Burnham, Wahnee Stallings, Kathy Gage, Kathy McEwin, Andrea Robinson, Cherry Kay Lange, Vickie Stevenson, Lesa Schulze, Barbara Gober, Betty Wilson, Carolyn McDowell, Kim Kirk, Pat Butler, Lynn McHenry, Ann McElroy, Jeanne Owen and Frances Hibler.



Our Church Family

Seems like 1st Church has had a lot of people under the weather. Carol Littlefield has had knee replacement surgery in Fredericksburg. After rehab she is now at home and even got to come to church last Sunday. Also at Sunday School was Orlando & Mayra Miller. Orlando has had surgery and is recovering also. Ronnie Schulze's mom has been in the hospital and is now back at the Eventide Nursing Home. The Mathis Family had a stressful week. Scott's dad, Don Mathis, fell off a hunting vehicle and broke his leg and ankle. He is in the Odessa Hospital. Then Melanie's dad had surgery. Lots of people have had the stomach virus that was going around including Libby Mays, Risien & Gracen Shahan. And then due to no rain allergies are bothering lots of people including Owen Parks. Martha Schanhals fell. She ended up having rotator cuff surgery on her shoulder. She did get to return to work after being off 3 weeks. Vickie Stevenson is sporting a new car. It is very pretty. Be sure and check it out. Casey Mathis attended Mid-Winter Retreat at the Mount Welsey Retreat in Kerrville. We have enjoyed having Shirley Sears and Paula Barrier worship with us recently. Nettie Oma Carpenter had a fun weekend in Stephenville visiting family and celebrating a great grandson's birthday. We are sorry to hear that Pat Belk is moving to Hawaii. We will miss you, Pat. The church family had a covered dish and diaper/wipe shower for Grant & Christi Mays. Christi Mays' mom and former member of our church, Brenda Overbeck attended the shower. Raley Kirk is busy with track and preparing for cheerleader tryouts on her birthday. She will be 14. Godly Play is under the direction of Celia Bell and had 8 in the children's Sunday School Class last Sunday. Owen Parks celebrated his birthday by going to Tamale King with his wife Linda, daughter and son-in-law Kelly & Darren Barker and grandson and grand daughter-in-law J.D and Michelle Barker. Suzann Walters is using email now. Her address is: sawtmrc@gmail.com

Prayer Concerns

Amanda Jackson
Raymond Barrier
Ronnie Schmidt
Pat Belk
Peter Hald
Suzanne Walters
Sue Moody
Carol Littlefield

Elsie Millican
Our Church
Our Town
Our Military, Our Church, Our
Town
Ronnie Pete Smith
Marjorie Ferrel,
(Karen Alexander's Mom)





Sunday, March 2:
Covered Dish @ 5:30pm
The *Balyeat Family*
"Presenting the Gift of Love in Song"
Concert @7 p.m.

This family, from Great Falls Montana, plays & sings Christian, Country, Gospel Western, Bluegrass, Originals, and Praise music. They play many different instruments including the 12 string guitar, bass fiddle, flat-picking guitar, mandolin, banjo, violin and drums. They have written some of their own songs as well.

Everyone is invited... friends, neighbors, and family to attend the concert and the covered dish. Steven & Karen Alexander have heard them and enjoyed having them at their place in Barksdale for a week. What a blessing they were!!!! Karen said once people found out who they were and where they were playing they came as far off as 90+ miles.



Happy Birthday Elsie!!!!

Elsie Millican will be 100 years old on Sunday, March 2nd! Send your love and cards to 403 E. Brown St., San Saba, TX 76877s



Jennifer Reeves was the speaker for the February Fellowship of Christian Women. A good group from our congregation attended.

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Prayer for Lent

This Wednesday, March 5th, is Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is the day we mark on the Christian calendar to begin our forty days of preparing for the mystery of Easter. This is one of my favorite prayers for the season:

Catch Me in My Scurrying by Ted Loder

Catch me in my anxious scurrying, Lord,
and hold me in this Lenten season:
hold my feet to the fire of your grace
and make me attentive to my mortality
that I may begin to die now
to those things that keep me
from living with you
and my neighbors on this earth;
to grudges and indifference,
to certainties that smother possibilities,
to my fascination with false securities,
to my addiction to sweatless dreams
to my arrogant insistence on how it has to be;
to my corrosive fear of dying someday
which eats away the wonder of living this day,
and the adventure of losing my life
in order to find it in you.

Catch me in my aimless scurrying, Lord,
and hold me in this Lenten season:
hold my heart to the beat of your grace
and create in me a resting place,
a kneeling place, a tip-toe place
where I can recover from the dis-ease of my grandiosities
which fill my mind and calendar with busy self-importance,
that I may become vulnerable enough
to dare intimacy with the familiar,
to listen cup-eared for your summons,
and to watch squint-eyed for your crooked finger
in the crying child, in the hunger of the street people
in the fear of the contagion of terrorism in all people,
in the rage of those oppressed because of sex or race,
in the smoldering resentments of exploited third world nations,
in the sullen apathy of the poor and ghetto-strangled people,
in my lonely doubt and limping ambivalence;
and somehow, during this season of sacrifice,

enable me to sacrifice time
and possessions and securities,
to do something...
something about what I see,
something to turn the water of my words
into the wine of will and risk,
into the bread of blood and blisters,
into the blessedness of deed,
of a cross picked up,
a savior followed.

Catch me in my mindless scurrying, Lord,
and hold me in this Lenten season:
hold my spirit to the beacon of your grace
and grant me light enough to walk boldly,
to feel passionately
to love aggressively;
grant me peace enough to want more,
to work for more
and to submit to nothing less,
and to fear only you...

only you!
Bequeath me not becalmed seas,
slack sails and premature benedictions,
but breathe into me a torment,
a storm enough to make within myself
and from myself,
something...
something new,
something saving,
something true,
a gladness of heart,
a pitch for a song in the storm,
a word of praise lived
a gratitude shared,
a cross dared,
a joy received.

Pastor Dan

