



San Saba First United Methodist Church March 2015 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
Worship Leader:**
Tracey Thomas
Accompanist:
Nettie Oma Carpenter
Choir Director:
Tracey Thomas
Church Secretary

Custodian:
Mario Mendiola

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

From the Pastor's Desk.....

That Your Joy May be Complete



I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete

John 15:11

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
Philippians 4:4

In January and February we began considering the themes set forth in Galatians 5:22, the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. This month let's consider joy.

One of the first things I remember learning in Sunday School was this acrostic:

Jesus first.
Others next.
Yourself last.



I have often wondered, although it is appropriate for children, if it might not be too simplistic for grown-ups? Without a doubt it is the opposite of what our culture teaches us, namely to "look out for Number One." I'm sure you can guess who that is. Even in the church this advice is given out freely, especially to busy laity and clergy who devote their lives to serving others in the name of Jesus. I myself have counseled others to "take time out for yourself, or you will get burned out." Imagine saying that to Mother Teresa. What do you think her response would have been?

This month I invite you to spend time wrestling with answers to these questions:

- What is the source of the deepest and most lasting joy I know?
- How does this joy compare to the items and activities our culture tells us are the sources of true happiness?
- What does it mean to be able to "rejoice in the Lord always," when life is full of confusion, distress, and grief?

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When I read this acrostic I have to remind myself that it does not say “don’t think of yourself,” it just teaches us that joy comes from serving Jesus and others, before doing things that benefit ourselves alone. Perhaps the best time we can reserve for ourselves is our prayer time; our time of talking to God, listening to God, and contemplating Holy Scripture. I wonder if what we call “burn-out” is really just the result of not spending enough time in contemplation and conversation with the divine. If we seek to help others through our own strength and wisdom we’ll soon run out of energy.

As you contemplate the nature of joy this month, I invite you to pray this prayer with me:

Author of grace and our Eternal Guide:
happy are those whose strength is in you,
those who cause springs to well up in the barren valleys of life.
The highways to your kingdom are in their hearts.

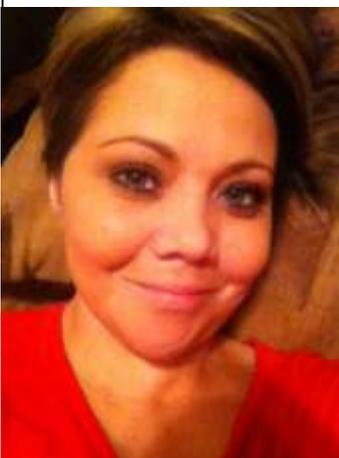
Count us among them, Lord, and abide with us.
Grant us, now and forever, the joy of living in your presence,
ever singing your praise. Amen.

Grace and peace,
Pastor John

First Choir News: NO CHOIR ON WEDNESDAY MARCH 11.
(spring break) We will be in California that week visiting
Lindsay, Derek and Emily. Emily will be baptized on March
8th.



TRUTHSEEKERS Sunday School class has been steadily working through and studying the Gospel of Luke. Sometimes the verses that come up on a Sunday lead into a good bit of discussion as we seek what treasures God would have us take from His word each week. We are only on Chapter 4, so if this is something that you would be interested in please come!! There are always more chairs around the table, and plenty of room for more questions and thoughts.



Meet Kristy Owens, Our New Church Secretary

Kristy was born & raised in Colorado City, Texas. She, her husband Mark along with their 3 children moved to San Saba 8 years ago. Mark is the state trooper for Mills County. They love spending time with our children at the Ranch in the Bend swimming, fishing, hunting, and cooking out. Kristy spends her spare time watching Jaden my 11 year old play basketball or Shea, her 17 year old play softball. She also likes to go shopping or visiting my parents in Colorado City. She loves Storm's burgers, steak & salad and all kinds of fruit. Last but not least she has 4 dogs that she takes care of. She begins her job March 16th.

The Easter Story

Performed by The FUMC KIDS

Sunday March 29th

10:00 a.m.

Directed by Celia Bell & Lesa Schulze



Logan Hunter Reeves, son of Brad & Jennifer Reeves, was baptized on February 8th during the worship service. Lots of family attended the special service.



Boy Scout Sunday was Sunday February 8th. Several members of the troop that 1st Church sponsors came and participated in the service. The troop is under the direction of Randall Hawkins.

Prayer Concerns

Amanda Jackson health
 Elsie Millican health
 Angela Scott health
 Mike & Tracey Thomas Loss of Tracey's Brother
 Brad Reeves (safety)
 Mark Owens (safety)

Travis & Kathy Gage (in Houston for physical therapy)
 David & Barbara Gilger (David is recovering from heart surgery)
 Our Military Men, Women & Families
 Our Church, Our Town & Our Nation

MYF Spring Schedule

Mar 1 Barbara Gilger
 Mar 8 No MYF Spring Break
 Mar 15. No MYF Spring Break
 Mar 22 Lesa Schulze
 Mar 29 No MYF Palm Sunday
 April 5. No MYF Easter
 April 12
 April 19 Mike & Carolyn McDowell
 April 26 Kim Kirk
 May 3
May 10 No MYF Mother's Day
 May 17
 May 24 No MYF Memorial Day



Clara June Murray, daughter of Lee & Kelly Murray, was honored with a baby shower and covered dish luncheon on February 15th. Kristi Addington, Lee's sister and Laina Murray, Lee's mother were just some of the special guests that day.

Our Church Family

Several members of our church family have been in the local news. Tracey Thomas took some students to Austin for a PALS state conference. They performed a skit while there and placed 1st. How about that? It was a very nice honor. Their picture was in the newspaper. San Saba Middle School Honor Roll students included: Jaycie Everett, Risien Shahan for "A" honor roll and on the "A and B" honor roll were J.T. Moody, Austin Smith, Sarah Saint and Audrey Nagle. San Saba High School students on the honor roll were Read Saint, Raley Kirk, Brooke Nagle, Ian Saint, Hollee Ragsdale and Jantzen Bell. Ian Saint's picture was in the newspaper when he received his letter jacket. Raley Kirk has been busy with basketball. Her team finished the season 28-4 and District, Bi-district and area champions. The Mathis Clan made it to area basketball champion game and several of our church family enjoyed seeing them. Madison Shahan and Libby Mays both had work they had done at school selected as winners in the San Saba Literacy Project. Madison's entry was an essay entitled the "The Wonderful Journey" and Libby's was an essay and drawing entitled "My Snowman". It was good to see Brad Everett in church. Brad is still recovering from foot surgery. It was also good to see Mark & Kathy McEwin in church. John Walter Barker spent the night with his great grandparents, Owen & Linda Parks as his mom Michelle was sick. Linda also had J.D. Barker and Michelle's parents staying at her house while Michelle recovered from her bug. Vickie Stevenson and her daughter Janice are off to Nevada to see Vickie's son. That leaves C.K. batching and the other daughter Stacy coming to check on C.K. during the weekend. Stan & Millie Burnham missed church one Sunday as Stan had a bad cough. Millie seemed to think we wouldn't be able to hear John preaching as Stan had a really loud cough. Cristy Thornton and Jackson are where lots of us would like to be. They are soaking up the sun on a 5 day cruise for Jackson's birthday. What a nice present!!!! I think several of us would have given up cold icy weather for some warm-sunshine.



Above: Basketball game at MYF
Upper Right: The supper line at MYF
Lower Right: During the Murray Baby Shower