

FIRST NEWS



**San Saba
First United Methodist Church**

November 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**

I am writing this on Tuesday October 30th, 2012. As I write this article, my heart is heavy with the news of all the folks on the east coast who are being hit by hurricane Sandy. I am praying for over seven million people who are without power in what the news is calling "New York's worst storm ever." I know that you have been praying too. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers.**



Looking Back

Time goes by so quickly when you're having fun... and this week is our eighteenth week in San Saba! Each week I have the joyful work of preparing and preaching a sermon.

Here is a list of the sermons I have preached so far at FUMC:

July 1st – "Best Gifts" (Romans 12:3-8) We were given the "best gift" in Jesus.

July 8th – "20 / 20" (Exodus 33:18-34) We see God's presence in our lives so clearly in hindsight.

July 15th – "What I learned at VBS" No matter what, you can trust God!

July 22nd – "Cool Clear Water" (John 7:38) Living water flows *from* the heart of the believer.

July 29th – "Older Brothers Blues" (Luke 15:11-32) This was the first in a threeweek series on the parables of Jesus. The prodigal son story with

the focus on the older brother outside the "welcome home" party.

August 5th – "Love is something... when you give it away" (Luke 10:25-37) Story of the prodigal son and being a good neighbor.

August 12th – "Start Small" (Matthew 13:31-35) Why does Jesus keep talking about the mustard seed?

August 19th - "A meal to Remember" (Luke 22:19) First in a two part series on "Sacraments" On the meaning and significance of Holy Communion

August 26th – "Welcome to the Family" (Matthew 28:16-20) On the meaning and significance of Holy Baptism

September 2nd – "Work of the People" (James 1:17-27) Part one of a five part series on the book of James. Faith and works must go together

September 9th – Sam Murray preached (James 2:1-17)

September 16th - "Be careful what you say..." (James 3:1-12) The tongue is powerful!

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COMMUNITY PRAYER VIGIL FOR OUR NATION

Monday,
NOVEMBER 5th

7 p.m.

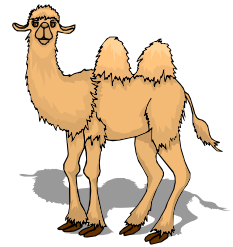
SAN SABA
COURTHOUSE LAWN

Upcoming Events

November 18 Thanksgiving Supper with First Baptist Church and Music Program (Dan will be playing), 6 p.m.. Meat and dressing will be furnished. Bring a side dish or dessert and join the fellowship. **Remember to add a head count 1st Baptist needs this so they can prepare enough for everyone.**



December 9 The youth will present their Christmas program, Camel lot during the morning worship service.



December 16
First Choir presents their Christmas Cantata "Silent Night, Holy Night"



Continued from page one.

September 23rd – "What kind of wisdom?" (James 3:13-18) James speaks of Godly wisdom

September 30th – "In your prayers" (James 5:13-20) On the importance of talking and listening to God.

October 7th – "The One Thing" (Mark 10:17-31) The sad story of the rich man who couldn't let go of his possessions and follow Jesus

October 14th – Chris Cloyd preached on helping others in the world provide basic essentials. FUMC supported her mission by purchasing over \$1000 in the H.O.P.E. store!

October 21st – "Good 'ol Zebodee Boys" (Mark 10:35-45) Jesus teaches about "greatness"

October 28th – "Take Courage / Tharsai" (Mark 10:46-52) The healing of blind Bartimeaus

Looking forward

This week I am preparing for "All Saints Sunday." On Sunday, our church along with many other churches, will celebrate the folks who have, as one of my favorite professors would smile and say, "transferred their membership to the Church Triumphant." They are alive in our hearts and we are forever blessed by their faith and enduring love.

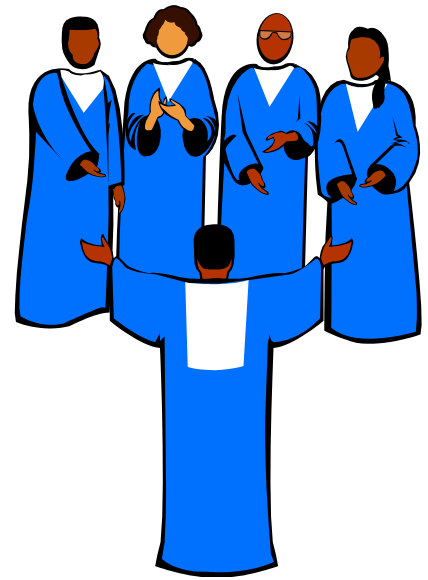
This month we are looking forward to joining the folks at First Baptist on Nov. 18th at the civic center for a memorable "Thanksgiving with our neighbors" an evening of songs, food and fellowship.

We have a lot to look forward to! Dan

!First Choir:

We are practicing hard for our Christmas cantata "Silent Night!, Holy Night!" which will be presented in Cherokee at First Baptist Church on Dec 2 and in our own sanctuary on Dec 16.

Some new members joining us have been adding joy to Wednesday nights in the choir loft. We WILL NOT practice on Weds Nov 21, but WE WILL practice, for those who are able to be here, on Tues Nov 20. In preparation for the cantata presentation in Cherokee, Kristy Perry will be leading practice in our loft on Nov 28. There are still a few songbooks left, so let me know if you would enjoy singing with us!! I can give you a CD to help you get familiar with the songs. Please pray for God's blessing and that we would be used by HIM to minister to His people to the TRUE message and meaning of Christmas.



~Peace and Joy, Tracey



Care packages for the Family

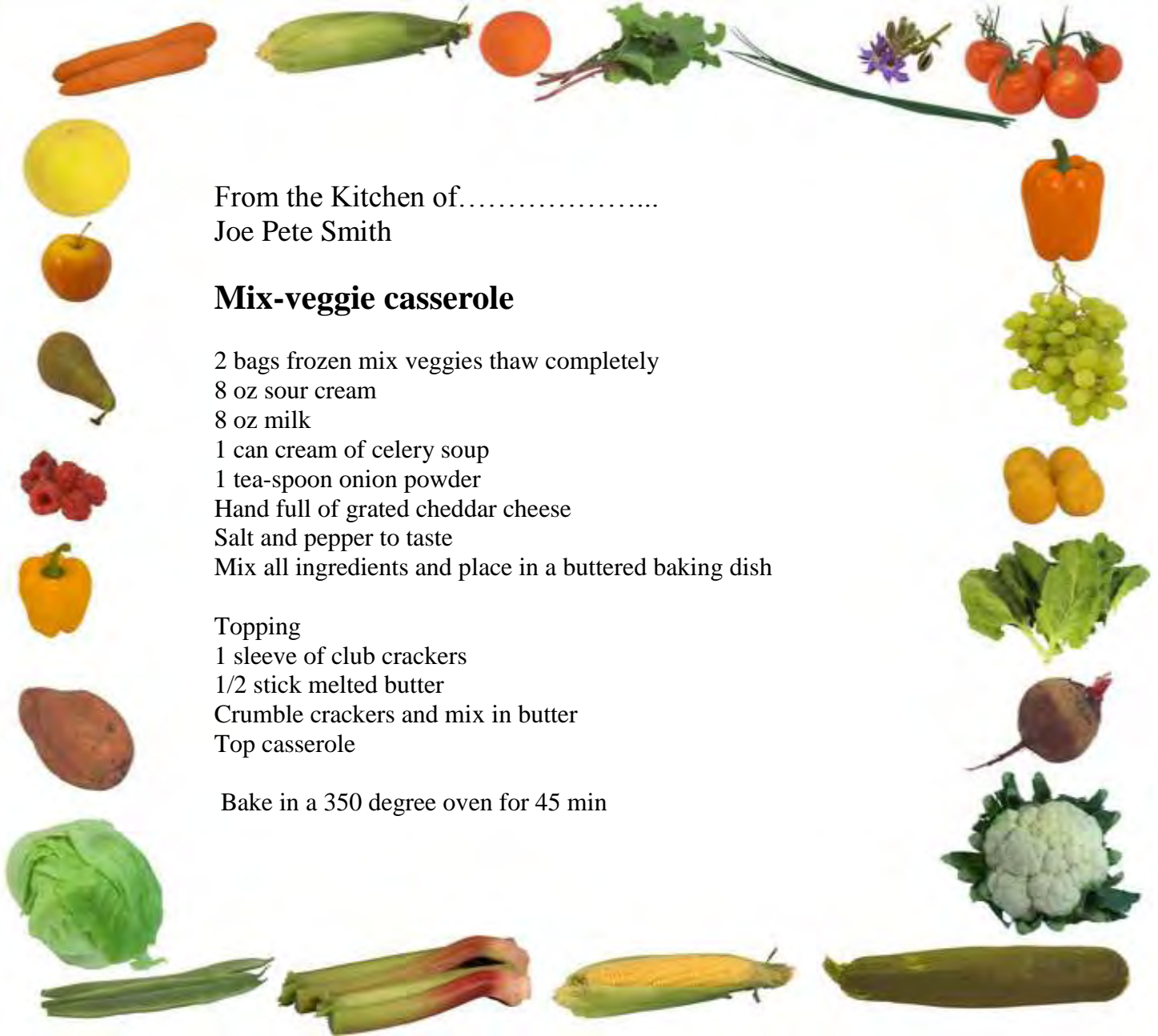


Pastor Appreciation Month



At Charge Conference with the DS





From the Kitchen of.....
Joe Pete Smith

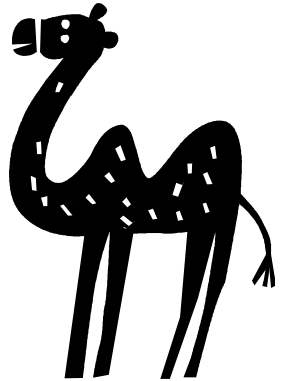
Mix-veggie casserole

2 bags frozen mix veggies thaw completely
8 oz sour cream
8 oz milk
1 can cream of celery soup
1 tea-spoon onion powder
Hand full of grated cheddar cheese
Salt and pepper to taste
Mix all ingredients and place in a buttered baking dish

Topping
1 sleeve of club crackers
1/2 stick melted butter
Crumble crackers and mix in butter
Top casserole

Bake in a 350 degree oven for 45 min

The children of the church are practicing every Sunday afternoon from 4 to 5:30 for their Christmas program, Camel Lot. There is lots of laughter, song and fellowship as they learn their parts. The excitement is building. All are welcome and it is not too late to help or join.



Prayer Concerns

Travis and Kathy Gage
Debbie Millican
All the East Coast
Zolly Jones
Klela Waldie
Sylvia & Forrest McGregor
&Family
Stephanie Conner (Nettie
Oma's family)
Eddie Campbell & Family
Llano Methodist Church
Bettye McLaughlin
Elsie Millican
Edgar Gaddison
Mark Owens (safety)
Jennifer Davis
Debbie Pullen
Katie Andreas (in hospital,
continuing prayer)
Joe Mack Tilson
David Gilger
Bettye McLaughlin's sister
Jane
Ray Forrester (Grace Hollis'
Husband)
Jeannette and Jeff Toole and
Family
John & Joycelyn McRorery
Lylah (Stephanie and
Chase's daughter)
Layton Sanford
James & Pat Reavis
Gordan Hall (prostate can-
cer)
Kathren Wolfe (Martha
Schanhals)
Margaret Ann Seiders (Celia
Bell's Mom)
Landon Yarbrough
(procedures)
Pete and Sue Hemenway
(friends of Trish Warren)
Mitchell, Johna, Madison
and Matthew Moss
*Our City, Our Nation, Our
Church
Please Pray for Our
Troops, All Our Military
Men and Women*

Our Church Family

Several of our high school students participated in the UIL competition. **Congratulations to J.T Mathis , Hollee Ragsdale and Janzten Bell on the "one" the band received.** All three judges gave the band ones. That is the highest ratings the band has received all ones since 2004. I am happy to report that Kerry Stevenson is doing well after is surgery. Landon, Trish Warren's grand-son is doing well after his procedure. Martha Schandals' daughter is doing well after her wreck. Misty Everett was gone to a school board training in San Antonio for three days. Brad & Misty are moving the furniture store to the old Golding Motors building. It will be really nice once the remodeling is complete and the flooring, mattresses and furniture are all in the same building. Baby Wiley Hudson made his first appearance at church. Everybody was wanting to hold him again. Nicole and Derek Sears, of course, were in for homecoming. I know they enjoyed seeing lots of their former class mates. Pat & Charlie Belk enjoyed their company recently. Have you met Shannon Hampoo? She works at the San Saba Senior Center and has visited with us several Sundays. Anna and Abby Millican also visited their grandparents Bob & Debbie Millican while their parents went to a wedding. The First Christmas cantata practice was October 7. Our choir will be combining with Cherokee Baptist Church once again. It is always a great performance so be sure and get the date marked on your calendar. Melanie Mathis' mom was here to watch J.T's and Ryan's football games. She is wanting to see as many as possible of J.T's senior football games. Ryan Mathis and Risien Shahan's football team beat Llano. What to go, guys. Miles Dyson celebrated her first birthday with a party. Of course Mindy Cantu and Lesa Schulze attended the outdoor event. Jantzen Bell, member of San Saba High School cross country team will be going to regional meet. Good luck, Jantzen. Colten Ellis , new National Honor Society member, had his proud aunt & uncle, Linda & Owen Parks, watching in the audience. Raley Kirk is on the San Saba Middle School Cross country team. She, her mom and a friend ran the pecan bottom run. Randy & Andrea Robinson were in Dallas for the weekend . Andrea was attending a class. Randy was dutiful husband. Very close to Cotton Bowl but no chance to see the game except on the TV. I am sorry to report that Travis Gage is scheduled for surgery for November 5. He has a tumor in his throat. After about a month he will begin radiation and chemo for 7 weeks. Do you want to send him some encouraging words? His email address is tegage@centex.net. He gets email on his iPhone. It is always good to see Elsie in church . Monica Shahan has 2 day a week Job at San Saba High School . Zolly & Lewis Jones are former members of our church. If you would like to send them a note, card, etc. Their address is 2415 Holly Lane, Temple, TX 76502. Or call them at 254-774-8118. Wanda Davenport was spotted in the local grocery store. She reported that grocery shopping was not her favorite thing to do. Mike & Carolyn McDowell made a quick trip to Arlington to see their son Jess and to do some big city shopping. Tracey & Mike Thomas are going to **make a quick trip to San Antonio to celebrate their granddaughter's birthday.**

Finance Committee Plans Stewardship Sunday

It is that time again—the one time each year that the church asks us to estimate our giving to the General Fund for the next year. Money does matter if a church is doing what it should be doing, if ministries matter to that church. We should give not only to support our church, but also because it's necessary for our own spiritual well-being. The following quote is from an article quoted in the SWTC Treasurer's Newsletter. "It doesn't matter if you only have a bit to give...give as Jesus gave to us, willingly and totally. Give as God gave Jesus, lovingly and completely. The amount is not the important consideration. Giving because you have been given God's grace, the greatest gift of all, is what matters."

The good news is that we are presently meeting all of our obligations and are without debt. The bad news is that our expenses have exceeded our income so far in 2012. The church's fixed expenses have increased by over \$2000 per month.

We have set Sunday, November 18, to be Stewardship Sunday. This is the Sunday that we declare our plans for giving to the church for the next year. A "Giving Plan Form" will be in your bulletin on Sunday, November 11, so that you may take it home with you and prayerfully consider your giving decision for next year. On Stewardship Sunday, November 18, you will have the opportunity to fold it and place it in the offering pl

ate during the worship service. There will be a supply of Giving Plan 2013 forms on the table next to the front door on that Sunday for your convenience.

If you want to make a pledge, indicate the amount that you want to pledge on the first line. If you do not wish to make a pledge, please use the second line to give us an estimate of what you hope to be able to give. If you are unable to attend worship on November 18, you may place your "Giving Plan Form" in the offering plate on the next Sunday or bring or mail it to the church office. (P O Box 487).

Dear 1st Church,

We want to thank you for all the ways you shared your love to our family. Mother loved this Church and you honored her life by the way you showed us your love.

The food was delicious and we appreciated the wonderful meal you provided. Brother Dan's service was a special celebration of her life and everyone showed God's love to us in such a beautiful way. We are truly blessed by your friendship

Love,

Forrest, Sylvia McGregor and Family

Thank you Ted Red, Mike Thomas, Mike McDowell, Joe Pete Smith, Henry Warren, C.K. Stevenson, David Gilger and Owen Parks. We so appreciate your help preparing food, running errands, greeting guests and supporting us as we go about the Lord's work. You are truly precious.

Any of you other men interested? We will sign you up. We welcome Forest McGregor aboard at the next event.

Nancy Bannister

For the Ladies of the Food Committee