



San Saba

First United Methodist Church

November 2014 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
 Karen Alexander
Custodian:
 Mario Mendiola

From the Pastor's Desk.....

God With Us



The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

[Christ] is the image of the invisible God...

In him all things hold together.

He is the head of the body, the church.

Colossians 1:15, 17b-18a

As Scripture attests, we find in Jesus the most complete and unmistakable revelation of the Eternal God that we humans are capable of experiencing. Christ is God made visible, God in human flesh. Without Jesus our understanding of God would be far less complete and much more open to continued speculation.

Anyone can see that Jesus was a good man, a teacher who instructed his followers in the ways of right and honorable living, who challenged notions of conventional wisdom, and angered the civil and religious authorities. But the church has always insisted that Jesus is much more than this. Jesus is nothing less than God with us in human form: completely God and yet completely human.

Jesus shows us how far God will go to repair the damage done to the divine-human relationship by our sin. Jesus illustrates how vastly different our human priorities are compared to God's priorities; the contrast between the realms of heaven and earth. When we say that Christ died and was resurrected for us, this is what we mean.

The incredible work done for us by Jesus – seeking our lost souls, restoring us to right relationship with God, pardoning our sins, and changing us to conform to God's intended image – could not be replicated by any mere mortal. These things are the work of God for us and in us, and God's work demands our response.

Consider your own response to the work of God in Christ Jesus:

If Jesus had never lived how would you come to know God?

How would your understanding of God be different?

How would your motivation for avoiding evil and doing good be different?

In what ways do you express your gratitude to God for the divine presence in our midst?

To what extent does the work of Christ fill you with joy?

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This month as you ponder your response to God's loving kindness I invite you to pray this prayer with me:

Jesus, our Lord and Savior:

For our benefit you became human and lived among us,
you demonstrated your humility and patience with us
in spite of our sin,

so that we might come to know and understand the ways of your kingdom.

Rather than responding with divine retribution

you went willingly to the cross
and suffered humiliation and death at our hands

so that we might witness the power of your love and forgiveness.

You triumphed over your foes,

conquering death
and setting us free from slavery to sin.

You called us friends.

Lord, expel from our hearts
all ingratitude and carelessness
as we seek your face.

Into our hearts, thus emptied,

pour the fullness of your faithful witness,
that we may show to the world
the grace and power of your eternal love,
which you have and hold within the Trinity
and share graciously with all who seek to follow you.

Amen.

Grace and peace,

Pastor John

Are you missing your favorite bowl, plate, etc? The FUMC kitchen has lots of extra dishes in its cabinets. Please check them and take them home so our cabinets won't be overflowing with your treasures. Thanks.



Stewardship Report

General Fund

Income in October	\$10,163
Expenses in October	\$12,959
Current Balance on 10-28-2014	\$8,097.68



This will be the last monthly report from me as your treasurer. Kevin Shahan will be assuming the duties of church treasurer beginning in November. I have a cyst behind **the retina of my right eye. Since surgery to remove it isn't always successful, I am** putting it off as long as I can, but the vision in that eye is becoming somewhat blurred now so it is time to make this change. Thank you for letting me serve our church in capacity for the last 15 years.

Millie Burnham, Treasurer

Stewardship Sunday to be November 16

Sunday, November 16, will be our annual Stewardship Sunday. That is when we each declare our plans for giving to the church for the next year. It is important for each of us to make a commitment for the support of our church. If a church is doing what it should be doing, if ministries matter to that church, then we need to be intentional about our giving. We should give not only to assure that our church is financially healthy, but also because it is necessary for our own spiritual well-being.

It is important that each of us returns the Giving Plan Form inserted in your bulletin that Sunday. This form gives you the opportunity to indicate your plan for giving in 2015. This helps the finance Committee know about what our income for 2015 is likely to be as we make plans for 2015.

If you wish to pledge, please indicate the amount that you want to pledge on the first line. Please use the second line if you do not wish to pledge to give us an estimate of what you think you will be able to give. On Sunday, November 16, during worship you will have an opportunity to place your form in the offering plate.

If you are unable to attend worship on November 16, please place your Giving Plan Form in the offering plate on the next Sunday or mail it to the church office. (P.O. Box 487). A supply of forms will be placed on the table next to the front door.

Finance Committee

Thanksgiving Lunch Sunday, November 23rd



Immediately After the Worship Service

**A food sign up sheet will be
located at the back of the sanctuary
or see Linda Parks**

Community Choir News:

We are fast approaching the Christmas season. While I am a big believer in not passing by Thanksgiving in our rush toward Christmas, we are in full preparation of our Community Christmas cantata. The date will be Dec. 14 in our church. We will sing "The First Noel", a collection of traditional carols such as "Angels We Have Heard On High" and a little of "The Messiah" music, along with newer music written in adoration of our Lord and Savior born in a manger in Bethlehem. If you have any interest in singing with us, please just show up and try it out—Wednesdays at 7:00. If you just want to listen and take in the music and spirit of the season, then please mark your calendars now!

Blessings of love
and joy,
Tracey Thomas



Our Church Family

It is not everyday that you make the San Saba News & Star newspaper. Gloria & **Mario Mendiola's yard was named the yard of the month by the San Saba Garden Club.** Congratulations to them on this achievement. Jantzen Bell also has an achievement that he is very proud of. He has been accepted to the University of Houston-**Victoria. Vickie & C.K. Stevenson's daughters went to see their brother who is in Spain and had a wonderful time. Peter Hald's daughter and son-in-law had a wonderful vacation in South America. Lesa Schulze took her granddaughter Myles to the Veggie Tales production. Nettie Oma Carpenter enjoyed her daughter and son-in-law's visit to help celebrate her birthday. Ann & Don McElroy have a new grandbaby, Quincy, born on 10-10-14. Randy & Andrea Robinson also have a new grandbaby named Levi born on 10-4-14. It was good to have Raymond and Paula Barrier worshipping with us one Sunday. Mike & Tracey Thomas are headed to San Antonio to go with the grandkids trick or treating and to their Sunday School class party on Saturday. Risien Shahan and Austin Smith have finished their football season, with a 3-4 record. They went to the playoffs as the fourth seed but lost to the strong Lago Vista offense. The team had many injuries throughout the year but fought to the end. David Gilger had a leaky heart valve repaired and a bypass done at the Austin Heart Hospital. He came through the surgery fine and is doing well. Travis Gage continues his radiation and chemo treatments in Houston. Kathy will have back surgery on November 3rd. Travis enjoyed eating some enchiladas recently.**



Dear Church Family,
We are so grateful for all the many blessings you have given us. Meals, prayers, calls, texts, visits, diapers, wipes, clothes and the wonderful shower

for Logan and our family. "Our cup runneth over". Our family is so thankful for being a part of this wonderful church. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Sincerely,
Brad, Jennifer, Braylee & Logan
Reeves



The MYF group did reverse Trick or Treating to some of the church family.



Prayer Concerns

Amanda Jackson health
Elsie Millican health
Angela Scott health
Henry Reeves health
Danny Shaw health
border situation & children
peace in Israel

Travis & Kathy Gage cancer treatments for Travis
His address is 10100 S. Main Street Houston Tx 77025
Nelda Weatherby eye treatments
David & Barbara Gilger (David is recovering from heart surgery)
Samantha (Tracey's niece) & sister wisdom & strength
Our Military Men, Women & Families
Our Church, Our Town & Our Nation,