



# San Saba First United Methodist Church

## November 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  
Accompanist:  
Nettie Oma Carpenter  
Choir Director:  
Tracey Thomas  
Church Secretary  
Kristi Owens  
Church Treasurer  
Kevin Shahan  
Custodian:  
Mario Mendiola**

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

### From the Pastor's Desk.....



*Search me, O God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my thoughts.  
See if there is any wicked way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting.*  
Psalm 139:23-24

*I am the one who searches minds and hearts.*  
Revelation 2:23

Last month we finished our consideration of the fruit of the Spirit. Starting next month we will begin an examination of the Beatitudes, but before moving on, it would be appropriate to spend some time in reflection and self-examination. These are important disciplines for any who seek to follow Christ.

Keeping in mind the fruit of the Spirit, begin to ask yourself these questions, and allow time for honest answers. When you find that you are not satisfied with your answers, ask God for the strength and wisdom to improve.

- What have I done in the past week (month, year) to help others:
  - to comfort the afflicted
  - to assist the helpless,
  - to guide the lost?
- What have I done to lessen the larger causes of human suffering:
  - to seek justice and humane treatment of all persons
  - to overcome the oppression and exploitation of the marginal-ized
  - to speak up in defense of those who are misrepresented or mis-treated?
- Have I participated in the weekly praise and worship with the congregation?
- Have I received the Lord's Supper?
  - How has it been for me a sign of the presence and power of the risen Lord in our midst?
- How faithful have I been in daily devotion,
  - what benefits have I received from these
  - how have they strengthened me for service to others?
- In devotional time, have I remembered those named in our joys and concerns during worship?
- To what extent do these questions lead me to the need for an extended period of prayer, meditation, and self-examination? Should I plan a time of fasting to explore my soul even more deeply?

Even if you are not able to set aside time for prayer and meditation each and every day, I encourage you to find some quiet time to reflect on these questions each month. Prayer and meditation are important spiritual disciplines, filling and deepening our relationship with God, but

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# September Treasurer's Report

Income in September  
\$21,369.86

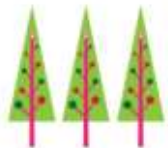
Expenses in September  
\$12,094.63

Ending Balance  
\$13,902.57



Submitted by Kevin Shahan

The Junior High youth used a chemistry lesson to demonstrate how we should be indicators for Christ just as red cabbage is an indicator for acids and bases. Alexis and Monica took the students to the Shahan's kitchen for a science-based Sunday School lesson on October 11th.



Anyone wanting to organize the children's  
Christmas float needs to call the church office  
325-372-3120



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without self-examination we can get stuck. The Christian life is a journey of growth and change. Spending time searching our own soul gives God a perfect opportunity to illuminate the areas of our life that we need to improve. Pray that God will lead you to become ever more like Christ.

Creator and Lord of all:  
By your wisdom and guidance, shape the path of my life.  
Where I have failed to live up to the call you have placed on my life,  
forgive me,  
and where I have served you well,  
strengthen me further.  
Save me from self-satisfaction  
and smugness over my spiritual successes  
as much as from despair  
and guilt over my spiritual failures.  
Give to me an ever increasing measure of your Holy Spirit,  
that I may grow in love and grace  
praising you day by day  
not only with my lips,  
but more importantly,  
with my life.  
through Christ our strength, our teacher, and our example.  
Amen.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor John

## The TOY Group

The TOY (Thinking of You) group met October 21 at the home of Trish Warren. Those attending brought canned good and household items for a pounding. Other projects that the group is doing including sending CARE packages to freshman college students from our congregation and Travis Murdock's overseas Navy unit. Travis is Kelly Murray's brother. Cards were also signed and mailed to people who had have sick, have health problems, lost a lost one, etc. All women of the church are invited to the next meeting November 18th, 10 a.m. at Celia Bell's home.



The Godly Play kids sang a song during the worship service about the Fruits of the Spirits that they had been learning about. Good job, kids!!!!

## Prayer Concerns

The Family of Debbie Pullen  
 Amanda Jackson (Pecan Valley Nursing Home & Rehab)  
 Potosi UMC (fire burned their building)  
 Brad Reeves & Mark Owns (safety)  
 Shannon Hampu (spiritual strength & death of her brother)  
 Travis Murdock (Kelly Murray's brother in service)  
 Rain—thanks for another good rain  
 Zolly Jones (former member now in Windcrest Nursing Home)

Glen & Noma Fitzgerald (Glen is in rehab following successful surgery)  
 Travis & Kathy Gage (thanksgiving for another good check up for Travis)  
 Wanda Davenport  
 George Kidd  
 Our Military Men, Women & Families  
 Our Church, Our Town & Our Nation



## Choir News:

Our choir, plus a few friends from other churches in town have been working on this year's Christmas cantata. The music is touching and joyful, a combination of familiar carols and contemporary pieces such as the one Amy Grant wrote, the title piece, "Breath of Heaven". This cantata is the story of the birth of the Christ as told from the perspective of Joseph and Mary.

It is not too late to join us. Our numbers are down a bit this year, due to the involvement of some in a Christmas production at First Baptist being planned for the same night. We could ESPECIALLY use any extra bass singers, but would welcome any other parts. The music is not too complicated, but is beautiful and will be a timely reminder of the true meaning of the Christmas story. "Breath of Heaven" will be presented at our church on December 6th at 6:00 pm and in Cherokee First Baptist Church on December 13th at 6:00 pm. Come Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm to prepare with us!! Submitted by Tracey Thomas

The FUMC prayer chain is being updated. If you would like to be on the prayer chain, please return the following form to Carol Littlefield or the church office. Prayer requests should be called in to the church office Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. or to Carol Littlefield at carollee@centex.net or 325-372-3883.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive the prayer chain by:

1. Text to \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone Number.

2. Email to \_\_\_\_\_ Email address.

3. Phone Call \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone Number

## **FUMC's Thanksgiving Dinner**

**Sunday, November 22nd**

**Following the Worship Service**



**Thank You, LORD!**

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



You Are Invited to the  
Community Thanksgiving Dinner  
Thursday November 26  
12 noon-2 p.m.

The Father's House  
Take out or Eat In



Help (Servers, Desserts, Meal Delivery  
& Kitchen Help)  
is needed to provide this Meal at No Cost  
Sign Up to Help in the Church Office  
by Monday November 16th.



The FUMC hosted 5th Quarter following the October 23rd home football game. Fifty high school students and 6 adults attended. Thanks to all who donated food, money, or their help make the event a big success!!



THE FUMC CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS ARE ON  
SALE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE. COST OF THESE  
SPECIAL ORNAMENTS ARE \$10.00.



Ian Saint & Raley Kirk were inducted into the  
NHS recently. Congratulations!!!!

## Our Church Family

I am sorry to report that Shannon Hampu lost her brother recently. She flew to be with her mother. You are in our thoughts and prayers, Shannon. **Travis & Kathy Gage spent the weekend in Fredericksburg recently with the rest of Travis' family.** Frank Gage did the BBQing and the rest of the family did lots of eating. After the get together, Travis & Kathy went on to Houston where Travis had another checkup. I am happy to report that Travis got another good report. Raymond Barrier reported that Paula has fallen and is now using a walker. **Richard Jackson is assisting with the running the sound board for the Choir's Christmas Cantata.** It is not too late to offer help to Tracey for the cantata. **Owen & Linda Parks had their yard named as the San Saba Garden Club's YARD OF THE MONTH.** That is quite an honor. It was a very interesting write-up in the local newspaper. Linda mows a certain part of the yard while Owen does the rest. Pat Reavis is sporting a new piece of jewelry on her left hand ring finger. She and Jim, AKA Comanche Blue, are engaged and are planning on tying the knot the first of the year. It was good to have Ted and Klela visiting with us one Sunday. Wahnee Stallings has been very busy. She has new carpet in her house. It has caused her to clean out some closets. I bet the house is now ready for some holiday company. CK and Vickie Stevenson traveled south to Corpus Christi for the Texas Soil & Water Conservation Meeting. I wonder if they ate any seafood while they were there. Work continues on the house that Scott & Abby Snyder bought on Storey Street. The remodeling is coming along nicely and they hope to be in it by Christmas. Celia Bell reports that Jantzen is settling in nicely to college life. He has even been to the beach a couple of times. Mike and Pat Johnson enjoyed a visit from his cousin and wife one week-end. We enjoyed having all of them at church one Sunday. I wonder if they watched the UT football game. Suzanne Walters had eye surgery. Hope you are doing well, Suzanne. Ian Saint may be sorry that the San Saba high School football season is almost over. He has made three touchdowns during recent football games. Risien Shahan is also making some great plays on the SS 7th grade football Team. Harrison Hamer enjoyed having a niece visit him recently. Carol Littlefield has lined up volunteers one more time to do Meals on Wheels. We have been missing Nelda Weatherby at church. Hope she is feeling better and able to join us again soon at **worship!!! Nelda Weatherby's daughter Gail went with her to see the eye doctor.** On the way home they stopped in to visit Wanda Davenport. They reported Wanda was doing great. Her address is: Windcrest Nursing & Rehab; Room 105; 210 Windcrest; Fredericksburg TX 78624.

### Piano Pounder

After serving the church for more than 20 years as our temporary replacement pianist, Nettie Oma Carpenter has asked that a permanent pianist be found. The Pastor Parish Relations Committee along with the Worship Committee is asking that any member that has the skills and calling to play for our church please contact Pastor Saint or Mike Thomas, chair of PPRC. We appreciate Nettie Oma's willingness to continue to play for us as we search for the right person to fill the bench.

