

FIRST NEWS



**San Saba
First United Methodist Church**

October 2010

**San Saba
First United Methodist
Church
204 W. Brown
325-372-3120
www.sansabafirstumc.com**

Debby Lake, 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
Worship Leader:
Tracey Thomas**

**Pianist/Organist:
Nettie Oma Carpenter**

**Choir Director:
Tracey Thomas**

**Church Secretary:
Debbie Uli**

**Custodian:
Mario Mendiola**

From the Pastor's Study.....

"For everything there is a season ..." Ecclesiastes 3:1

All my life I have been an avid reader. I recognize that as a real blessing, considering the amount of material a pastor reads. My "personal library" started long before I went into ministry, but it was in my seminary days that my theology/ministry collection began to take shape in earnest. I would buy a book on almost any subject as long as it was in some way connected to Christian ministry, and I would never discard a book once purchased (nor would I decline offered books from pastors who were thinning out their libraries). The result was that I had a massive amount of books!

When I was moving from Cuero I decided that it was time to "lighten the load" by disposing of that portion of my library that I thought was not essential for my ministry. That was no easy task! It meant that I had to have a vision of what my future ministry would be. I found that it is much more comfortable to carry the useless weight of the past than to commit to the future.

There are times when we must make choices. There are times when to move on means we have to leave some things behind, take other things with us into tomorrow, and not to look back. The key is to know as best we can what we must take into the future and what we must leave behind. And to do this means we must know where we want to go and what we want to do when we get there.

The good news is that we are not alone in making our decisions. God is leading us and showing us the way. When Jesus called the fishermen by the Sea of Galilee to come and follow him he had a plan for their lives. He has a plan for our lives as well.

This is true for individuals, families, communities, and churches. As we go into the future we must know what God wants us to do and be. What we take with us and what we leave behind is a question we need to answer to be faithful, successful and fulfilled persons in Christ in the days to come.

**In His Spirit,
Debby**

Prayer Concerns

Linda and F.L. Kalmus
The Moss and Bannister Family
Mike Millican and Family
Clayton Anderson
Debbie Pullen's Son and Family
Family of Steve Spears
Abe Galloway's Family
James Reavis
Katie Andreas (Trish Warren's cousin)
Thelma Millican (nursing home)
Gordan Hall (prostrate cancer)
Stephanie Mills
Roy Caviness
Kathren Wolfe (Martha Schanhals)
Klela Waldie and Family
Sue, Elizabeth and J.T. Moody and Fam.
Kaye Clancey (waiting for transplant)
Mrs. McDowell (Mike's Mom)
Doris Bryant (nursing Home)
Margaret Ann Seiders (Celia Bell's Mom)
John Bannister (nursing home) and Nancy
Doug and Kaye Clancey and Family
Sam Jones (Lewis Jones Brother)
Landon Yarbrough
Peter Hald
Daniel Smith
Connie Raesner Perry
Michael Pullen and Family
Jeannette Toole
Pete and Sue Hemenway (friends of Trish Warren)
Mark Owens (safety)
Elaine and John Lansford
(Nancy and John Bannister's friends)
James and Pat Reavis
Nick Stripling (Pat Reavis Grandson)
Mitchell, Johna, Madison and Matthew Moss
John Bannister
Kevin Keeney

In Our Military

Alex Dove, Eric Booker, Cory Clendennen, Headed to Afghanistan Matthew Barrier, Ralph Kintzen, Jay Huggins, Matthew Phinnery, Andy Smith. Please Pray for Our Troops, All Our Military Men and Women Our City, Our Nation, Our Church.

Taken from Candace Cooksey Fulton's Column
Brownwood Bulletin
August 29, 2010

..... August has been a devastating month in my small world. Its first days had just begun, when word came that Charlotte Millican had suffered a stroke and died.

"No," I remember thinking when I heard Charlotte was gone. "What will we do now? How about Jill, and Mike?"

..... Charlotte had her place in my heart's community. When we'd come to Brownwood eight years ago, the Millicans bonded with my middle son on a church youth mission trip. They hired him after the group got home to do odd jobs around their house on Austin Avenue, paid him well and fed him so well that he seriously considered running away from our home to theirs.

And we all got to know each other, so, regardless of the season, it was rare for me to go more than a week without seeing Charlotte out working in the yard and not be greeted by her warm wave and smile.

Oh, there were other times our paths crossed. Meeting in Walmart turned into 30 minute visits. Church activities and events were all the more pleasant because of our associations with one another. I considered myself blessed to know Charlotte, and doubly fortunate to have the kind relationship with strong and admirable women that didn't require very much of a sacrifice for them, or me.

What fine examples they set, going about the world doing quietly what needed to be done, adding style and grace to every situation and circumstance that got their attention. In our own connections, each of the women flattered me.

Mike told me that the Sunday before Charlotte died, she'd threatened to write a letter to the editor denouncing the person who had sent me a hateful anonymous note. But what I loved about Charlotte was how she cared so sweetly for my son, and made me feel so special just because I was his mother.

We who knew this lady, even only in passing, will be sad for a very long time, not just because those passings won't happen again this side of heaven, but because we never imagined living a life where our meetings wouldn't be an integral part of our days.



Casey & Ryan Mathis' Baptism



FaithWeaver Friends is off to a great start! We've created and sent thank you postcards to local firefighters, helped each other put on shoes during a shoe scramble, cleaned windshields, created "I'm sorry" cards, made edible notes of encouragement, tried to pop bubbles, and had a lot of fun doing it!!! We've made new friends, reconnected with old friends, learned new Bible scriptures, and had fun in God's house! Thank you to the many volunteers who help make FaithWeaver Friends possible. Our first dinner was a huge success! The fellowship hall and parlor were full of families and friends enjoying a delicious meal together. FaithWeaver Friends is a huge outreach opportunity for our church. We're making a positive difference in the lives of children and their families all across our community!

First Choir:

We are beginning to work on our Christmas cantata for this year. It is a new one entitled "O Holy Night". Please mark your calendar now for December 12th at 6:00 to be there and listen to the message of Christmas speak to your hearts. We have several of our "regular" friends across town who plan to join us soon for practices, but as always we want to encourage ANYONE in our congregation who loves to sing to join us on Weds nights to sing God's praises together. If you only wish to sing the Christmas music, please see Tracey to find out times. Otherwise, practice is at 7:00 and you are welcome to just **SHOW UP!**



Recipe:

White Chocolate Bread Pudding

(given to Tracey Thomas years ago by Elsie Shero—wife of John Shero)

4 C. cream (I use half & half)

1 can sweetened condensed milk such as Eagle Brand

8 eggs, beaten

1 Tbsp vanilla

6 Tbsp butter

4 cups broken bread (Elsie used French bread—I use leftover biscuits plus whatever other bread needs using up, most often homemade)

16 oz white chocolate (or 1 large pkg white choc chips works fine)



Melt white chocolate in butter in microwave; add beaten eggs, cream, condensed milk and vanilla. Pour over bread, cover and let stand in fridge overnight covered. Bake at 350 degrees until very lightly browned. (around 30 min) Can be served with chocolate sauce, whipped cream, or when almost done, sprinkle with cinnamon/sugar mixture. Turn oven up to 450 deg. For 3-4 min. Enjoy while warm. Refrigerate leftover—good cold as well!

**Thanks to our Meals on
Wheels Volunteers
for September :**

Lisa Schulze
Celia Bell
Nelda Weatherby
Gladys Ann Connor
Lynn Blankenship
Jennifer Saiz
Donna Watson
Carol Littlefield
Cherry Kay Lange
Vicki Stevenson
Nettie Oma Carpenter
Bettye McLaughlin
Pat Belk
Suzanne Walters
Patricia Warren
John Carpenter
Kim Kirk

Our next time to deliver is
November 15-19 & 22-24
No delivery Nov.25-26



Jantzen Bell at the Movie Night

First Ladies:

First ladies met in September for the Harvest Day dinner which was tons of fun! Barbara and Trish had the tables decorated beautifully and Bettye brought Greek music to play while folks were arriving. Six guests from the Llano/Castell area came to join us. One of the ladies from the Castell UMC brought a power point presentation on her trip to Greece and Turkey, showing us several of the towns we read about often in the scriptures; places where Paul took the gospel and the isle of Patmos where John was given the Revelation from God. Her stories and the photos brought these places to life for many of us, and made us want to go ourselves! After the business meeting led by president Nettie Oma and the program led by Shirley Davis, we all enjoyed a dinner of Greek recipes including salads, meatballs and pasta. The desserts may not have been Mediterranean style but they were all good, and no one left hungry. We had a good crowd, wonderful fellowship, and excellent food—spiritual and literal!

Our next meeting will be October 11th when Trish will be bringing a study on the letters of John. Bettye and Wahnee will be hostesses for the afternoon meeting which begins at 4:30. Let's all invite some more ladies to join us! All are welcome!



Dinner & A Movie

The High School Kids hosted the younger kids of the church for a dinner and a movie. They all watched 101 Dalmatians, had a devotional and enjoyed a meal together.

Our Church Family

People are really enjoying the cooler weather. You hear lots of people talking about how nice the cooler mornings are. The cooler weather makes people want to do get out and do more things. Trish Warren was wanting people to come by and get pears off her loaded tree. Bettye McLaughlin enjoyed a visit with her niece and four year old great niece. The four year old never slowed down even for a nap according to Bettye. Addy Easterwood lost one of her front teeth just like most kindergarteners do. John Bannister is back in the Hamilton Hospital. He has a bladder infection. We wish him a speedy recovery. David Parker is busy selling cars. I bet the cooler weather has made people want to get out and shop more. Travis Hawkins was home one week-end and worshipped with his parents, Cindy and Roland Hawkins. Wonder if Travis found time to go bird hunting. Lee Murray, Sam Murray, and Ken Prater all went Labor Day week-end. All had the same line after their bird hunting. They weren't going back till next Labor Day. Pat and Charlie Belk enjoyed a houseful of company Labor Day week-end. Katie McEwin made it in to see her parents, Mark & Cathy McEwin. The Mike Thomas's also had a houseful of company including Josh, Megan & Avery Thomas, Derek & Lindsey Pugh, Megan's parents, etc. The Scott Mathis family also gathered to celebrate a very special occasion. Ryan and Casey Mathis were baptized during the worship service. Please check out the picture in the newsletter. Coach's parents and sister and Melanie's mom were present for the event. Debbie Pullen's birthday happened to fall on Labor Day this year. She reported a good birthday. Our sympathy goes out to the Jackson family on the death of Abe Galloway and to John Reavis and his family on the lost of his mother, Vivian McCall. Please remember to continue to keep these families in your prayers. Bo and Margaret Rice reported a great time in Arkansas. Bob and Debbie Millican headed north to Colorado and points further north for some rest and relaxation. Our pastor Debbie Lake went the opposite direction. She had some fishing on her mind and Ingleside and the family cabin. We hope she will have lots of fishing stories to tell from her vacation. Celia Bell is going to take a little trip. She is really wanting to travel now that she is retired. Her first trip is going to be New England and the beautiful fall foliage. Diana Manning barely got out of nursing school before she was back at work at Llano Memorial Hospital. My face is red. I was having a senior moment and gave Flovell Thomas a new last name when I mentioned her 95th birthday celebration. I will try to do better. We have had some visitors. Grant & Kristi Mays and their children have been visiting. We also had the new manager of Alco, David Butler visit. He is from Colorado. John Rich, a member of Mike Thomas's State Farm Insurance Agency, has also visited. Please make an effort to meet these people and make them feel welcome. Jantzen Bell is an eighth grader this year at San Saba High School. His dad, Bud, is back as one of the Radio Station KBAL announcers for the San Saba High School football games on Friday. Danna & Joe Pete Smith have had quite a month. The washing machine flooded their house and all of the floors had to be replaced. They stayed at Burnham Lodging, her parents' house and then at a friend's cabin before they finally got to move back into their house. Daylon had just started kindergarten, her brother got married and she helped a little with the Richland Springs Play Day Association Banquet. Daylon was one of the award winners. Suzanne Walters had a fall the other day as she was leaving the exercise class. She has a band-aid on her forehead and a busted lip. She made a quick trip to the Llano Hospital but was back in time to make the FaithWeavers Friends Meal. Suzanne, we are glad you are ok. Mike Millican is headed south to Cherokee these days on Friday nights. His grandson Tucker is playing for the Cherokee Indians and of course he has to go cheer the team on. He is also going west on a nine day trip to sunny California. Carol Littlefield had a vacation to Colorado and is still planning birthday parties.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT GENERAL FUND

Contributions to 09-30-10	\$97,650.00
Expenses to 09-30-10	\$100,703.00
Balance on 08-24-10	\$18,382.00

Last month we reported on the **General Fund**, the operating fund of the church, the fund to which your Sunday contributions are credited. This month let me write about three more of our funds.

Capital Improvement Fund This is called the Building Fund in lots of churches. It is the fund used to pay for one time expenses related to our church building, parsonage or scout hut that are more or less permanent in nature. Recent activity in this fund was related to the video projection system, the stained glass window renovation, the banners for the sanctuary and the elevator repair. It is funded by your special contributions, by fundraising events, and, rarely, by gifts from estates. Gifts given for a specific purpose are placed in a restricted account in the Fund.

St. Stephens Fund This fund is for outreach to those in need in our county. We make a contribution of \$50 to the Ministerial Alliance each month and \$100 to The San Saba Senior Center. It is also a fund to be used at the discretion of the pastor for an emergency need by a member of our church or community. It is funded by the offering on the altar rail on Communion Sunday and by occasional larger gifts in the offering plate. A couple of dollars on the altar rail from each of us on Communion Sunday will keep this fund healthy.

Youth Fund This fund pays for all activities of the youth except Sunday school literature. It pays for such things as Vacation Bible School, Faith Weaver Friends, MYF, and occasional outings for the high school group. It is funded by contributions from members each month and by fees from Faith Weavers.

Millie Burnham, Treasurer

Church-Wide Thanksgiving Dinner Sunday

November 21, 2010

After Sunday Worship Service

Make plans to attend

