

FIRST NEWS



**San Saba
First United Methodist Church**

October 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**

Be Still

Be still and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in all the earth. Psalm 46:10 I am writing this early in the morning on Sept. 26th 2012. The season is changing and fall is in the air. The air is cool and clear at 6AM when I unlock the church. I am greeted by the creaks of the old floor in the darkness as I make my way to the lights by my office. Sleep has a strong call, but on Wednesday mornings I am wide awake and clear headed. I get some bread and grape juice ready. I light a candle, play some soft worship music through the church speakers, and offer the time to God in prayer.



A few "early risers" join me in prayer in the sanctuary at 6:30. They spread out and sit at different places to pray. I find it difficult to quiet my thoughts because my mind wonders and I often have trouble sitting still. "I am not good at this" I catch myself thinking. Then something in my spirit says, "Hey you're ok... just be still. You don't need to be good at it, you just need to do it." I pay attention to my breathing for a few minutes and focus on just being present. I focus on just being in the moment.

After a while I catch myself thinking about the list of things I must do this week. The district meeting, the other meeting, the sermon planning, the thing with the kids, the newsletter article that's due today, folks I need to call... and the list goes on. I notice that my thoughts have wandered so I deliberately return my attention to the prayer. After what feels like a "long time", I check the clock... only 5 minutes have passed. I try to be still, and I am still for a few moments. I look around and wonder how the others are doing. They look still and focused. They look like they are deep in prayer and I gain strength from them.

James 5:16 reminds us to "...confess our sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed." James goes on to say "The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." Chapter five is all about prayer strengthening the community of faith. My prayers turn to all the folks I know in this community that are dealing with health issues. I hold their faces tenderly in my mind and ask God to be especially present for them in healing process.

I read a Psalm or two and check the clock again. It's 6:50 so I turn down the music and read the morning devotion from the "Book of Common Prayer". I pray the "Great Thanksgiving" to consecrate Holy Communion and we break bread together. We circle up and chat for a few moments as the first rays of sun light beam through the stain glass windows. It is a beautiful morning, perhaps no different than any other morning, the only difference is, today I notice it.

You are invited to join us for prayer and Holy Communion at 6:30AM every Wednesday morning. It is always a "good and joyful thing".

First Choir:

Mark your calendars! Together with our friends from around the community, we will be hosting the Christmas cantata "Silent Night, Holy Night" on the evening of December 16th. Once again Kristy Perry will be leading the choir in Cherokee on Dec 9th for the same cantata at their church, and we will host all of our singing friends here at FUMC on the 16th. If you have ever thought about joining us, just talk to me so I can get you a book and a CD. Or better yet, show up on Weds at 7:00. Probably in November we will begin choir at 6:30 so allow us time to work on both music for church and the Christmas music. All that is required to sing with us is a love for God, a love for each other and a love of music that glorifies His Holy Name! ~Tracey



Our Newest Addition

Wiley Hudson Murray

Born September 26, 2012

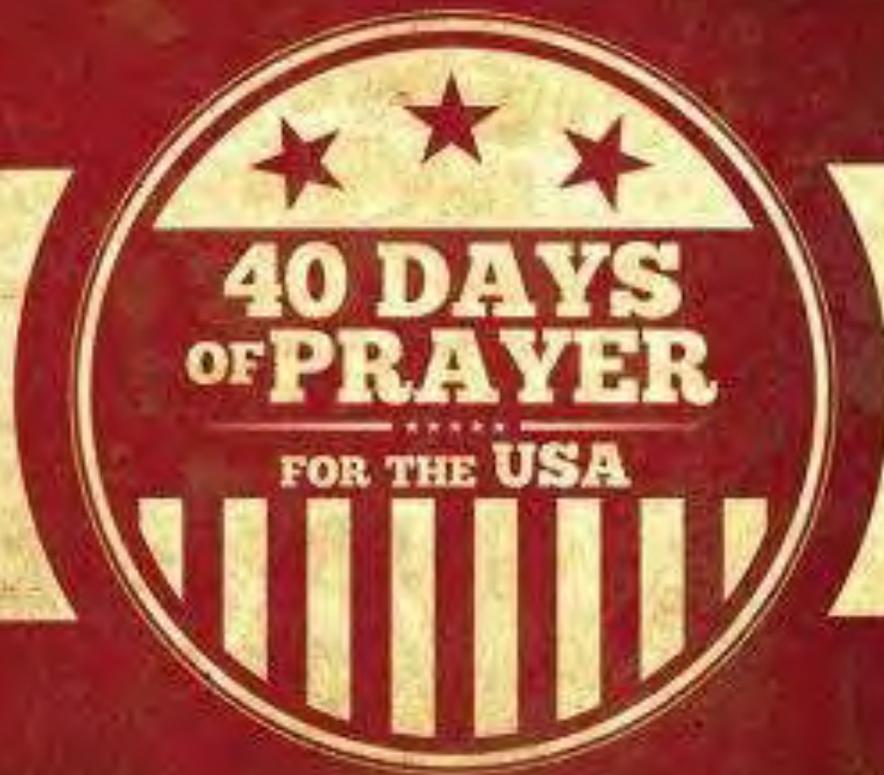
Parents: Lee & Kelly Murray

Grandparents: Sam & Laina Murry

Weight: 6lb. 6 oz.



Dr. Michael Thomas Davenport is a member of the 63rd graduating class at the University of Washington School of Medicine. Michael received his doctoral hood June 2, 2012 in Seattle, Washington. He began a six-year residency in urologic surgery at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. Michael is a graduate of St. Augustine High School in Laredo, Texas and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Princeton University. He is the son of Dick and Isabel Davenport of Laredo. Michael is the grandson of Wanda Davenport and the late T.A. Davenport of San Saba.



40 DAYS OF PRAYER FOR THE USA

September 28-November 6, 2012

Dear Heavenly Father,

You have given us this promise: "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." (2 Chronicles 7:14)

So, we pray to you. We turn from evil and look to you, our God. Please:

Unite us
Strengthen us
Appoint and anoint our next president

*In the name of Christ we pray,
Amen*

Only God can unite us. Let's ask Him to do just that.

Will you commit to pray daily for the 40 days leading up to the
2012 presidential election, September 28-November 6?

If so, go to maxlucado.com/election to register.

Up Coming Events.

Sunday October 7th, 6 p.m. is Charge Conference. The District Superintendent, Bill Henderson, will be here to conduct the Charge Conference. A light meal will be served immediately following.

Sunday afternoons beginning October 7th, 5 p.m. children & youth meeting to practice Christmas play. As that is charge Conference Sunday, time may be adjusted slightly. Actual Youth Christmas Program will be December 2nd. All children and youth are encouraged to participate.

Thanksgiving Dinner, or maybe your first Thanksgiving Dinner, will once again be at our church on Sunday November 18th immediately following the worship service. Mark your calendar and plan to be there.



Best Grape Salad

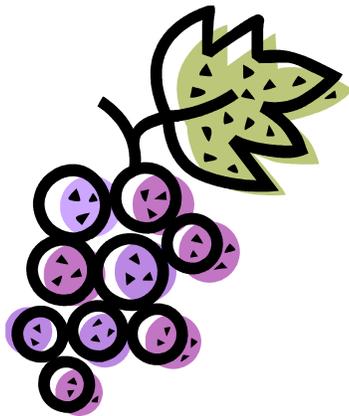
2 lbs green seedless grapes
2 lbs red seedless grapes
8 ounces sour cream
8 ounces cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract, to taste

Topping Ingredients

1 cup brown sugar, packed, to taste
1 cup crushed pecans, to taste

Directions:

- 1 Wash and stem grapes.
- 2 Set aside.
- 3 Mix sour cream, cream cheese, white sugar and vanilla by hand until blended.
- 4 Stir grapes into mixture, and pour in large serving bowl.
- 5 For topping: Combine brown sugar, and crushed pecans.
- 6 Sprinkle over top of grapes to cover completely.
- 7 Chill overnight.



Word Of Thanks

To our loving church family,
We have been humbled by your acts of kindness and love shown to our family the past few weeks. Thank you for the cards, phone calls, visits, food, words of encouragement but especially your prayers of healing and peace. You have been a blessing to us and we love you dearly.

In His Love and ours,

Bob & Debbie

Prayers Concerns

Debbie Millican
Eddie Campbell and Family
Llano Methodist Church
Bettye McLaughlin
Elsie Millican
Edgar Gaddison
Mark Owens (safety)
Jennifer Davis
Debbie Pullen
Zolly Jones
Katie Andreas (in hospital,
continuing prayer)
Joe Mack Tilson
David Gilger
Thelma Millican
Bettye McLaughlin's sister
Jane
Ray Forrester (Grace Hollis'
Husband)
Jeannette and Jeff Toole and
Fam.
Sam Tisdale
John and Joycelyn McRorery
Lylah (Stephanie and
Chase's daughter)
Layton Sanford
James and Pat Reavis
Gordan Hall (prostate can-
cer)
Kathren Wolfe (Martha
Schanhals)
Mrs. McDowell (Mike's
Mom)
Margaret Ann Seiders (Celia
Bell's Mom)
Landon Yarbrough
(procedures)
Connie Raesner Perry
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

Congratulations to Jarrett Mathis for being named player of the week for the Ballinger football game. He is also now the quarterback for the Dillos. Ryan Mathis and Risien Shahan have been busy with football too. Their team is now 2-1. Paris Burnham, Stan's brother, has moved here. We enjoyed having him worship with us. Travis Hawkins and his friend, Christine, enjoyed spending Labor Day with his parents, Cindy and Roland Hawkins. The whole family must have gathered as Tyler and Ashley Hawkins also **worshipped with us as well as Roland's mom Imogene Hawkins** was also here. The other big Hawkins news is that Roland is officially retired from the U.S Post Office. He is staying busy and really enjoying working outside for a change. We have enjoyed hearing some new voices in the choir. Jennifer Reeves has been singing with them and also Maria Harrington. Kristi & Luke Addington were here **to visit Kristi's parents, Sam & Laina Murray Labor Day** week-end. Nicole, Grant & Elise Grant were here to visit with Elsie Millican, Bob & Debbie Millican and Monica & Kevin Shahan. Dan & Maria Harrington and family enjoyed a trip to Colorado and cooler temperatures to visit family. Thanks goes to Trish Warren, Barbara Gilger, Sam Murray, Casey Mathis and Owen Parks for filling in for Dan while he was on vacation. Several members of our church have been in the spotlight at the senior center. Pat Belk, Suzanne Walters are the celebrities. Mark & Kathy McEwin **enjoyed having their daughters Sh'Ann & family and Katie &** friend home for the Labor Day week-end. Carol Littlefield's son and daughter-in-law were here for Labor Day. I know Carol enjoyed their visit. Ann & Don McElroy are back in San Saba after being on the road for a while. Kathy & Travis Gage had a wonderful vacation for about 2 weeks. They hooked up to their travel trailer and headed north. They also have a trip to the State Fair of Texas planned as well as a family reunion in Phoenix. There is very familiar face back in the nursery. Mrs. Perez has taken care of a lot of 1st Church little ones down through the years. Stacy Wise has changed jobs and is now working at Brady Home Health. Linda Parks has had a birthday. Wonder what she did to celebrate. Bet it was something fun. Carmen, Maria's sister and her mom, Alicia, were here for a week-end. Tracey Thomas did a great job of filling in for Bob Millican while he and Debbie were gone on vacation. Brad & Jennifer Reeves celebrated a very special anniversary—#10. C.K. & Vickie Stevenson have been in Fort Worth for several days while Kerry Stevenson had surgery.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

(08-31-12)

General Fund Income for August \$10,769
General Fund Expenses for August \$ 13,456

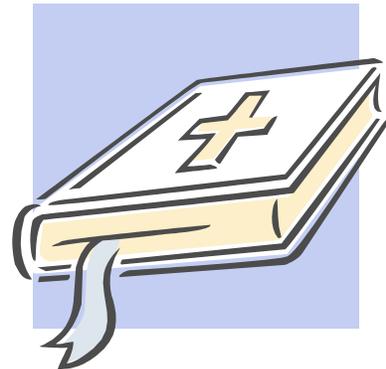
General Fund Income for Year \$90,022
General Fund Expenses for Year \$92,921

General Fund Balance \$21,339
Capital Improvement Fund Balance \$7052
St. Stephens Fund Balance \$2395
Youth Fund Balance \$3416
Memorial Fund Balance \$1471
Endowment Fund Balance \$11,324

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

"James: Mercy Triumphs"

Fourteen ladies are joining Trish Warren for Beth Moore's study of the book of James. Those attending are, Monica Shahan, Lisa Larremore, Lesa Schulze, Bette Wilson, Wahnee Stallings, Cherry Kay Lange, Barbara Gilger, Cathy Ledbetter, Nettie Oma Carpenter, Margaret Haug, Liz Haug, Ann McElroy, Jeanne Owen, and Francis Hibler. We all look forward to our weekly gathering to study and gain wisdom from His Word.



Evening Bible Study

"James- Mercy Triumphs"

Church Parlor

Beginning Monday

Oct. 1st at 5:30

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Thanks to Josiah Gillman

05-02-2007

LEPERS ... I HEAL LEPERS