

# FIRST NEWS



**San Saba**

**First United Methodist Church**

**September 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..... *Are we who we claim to be?*

I have yet to meet a person who could argue effectively against the traditional Christian conviction that our basic human condition is that of alienation and estrangement from God and one another. We were created for relationship with God and one another, yet because of sin we experience brokenness, separation and division.

Through His life, ministry, death, resurrection, and sending of His Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ not only showed us how to be fully human, He also created a Community whose mission is to gather together God's people in order that we might be transformed into His image and likeness. Thus, the goal of the Christian life is to grow in our likeness to Christ: to love God and one another as Christ has shown us and commissioned us.

It is for the transformation of lives that the Church exists. So how is that transformation best fostered? The basic Christian conviction has always been that it is in community that this spiritual transformation that Christ intends actually occurs. For it is in community relationships that we experience the connectedness for which we were created. It is in community relationships that we experience the integration that our compartmentalized lives desire. And it is in relationships that the sanctification of our entire lives takes place.

As anyone who has ever been in a study, task, support, covenant or nurture group can attest, it is in the Small Group that we experience the love of God at the deepest level possible. It is the Small Group that provides the optimal environment for the life changing experience that Christ intends for every believer. For it is in the intimacy of study, sharing, working, crying and rejoicing together that we experience the transforming love and work of God most profoundly.

The Small Group has the added benefit of holding us accountable. It is so very important to have people in our lives who hold us accountable ... who won't let us skate by and live on the surface when they know that it is within our depths that we have true meaning and purpose ... who, once we've declared our intentions for our lives, ie. clean up our act, get more organized, be more patient, or whatever, hold us accountable to those intentions ... and with loving concern tell us when we seem off course. It has nothing to do with "reporting in" or criticizing ... it has to do with having persons who challenge us to be the best we can be. So much of our lives are lived superficially, it is imperative that we have those people who share our inner being and with whom we feel safe to do so.

I encourage you to become part of an Emmaus reunion group, a Bible Study group, a Sunday School class, a prayer group, or any other small group that will serve to spiritually nurture you, as well as to hold you accountable.

May we all be, or at least become, who we claim to be.

In His Spirit,  
Debby

## Prayer Concerns

Layla Wagner,  
 Debbie Pullen's son and Family, The  
 Spears Family,  
 Andy Broyles and Family,  
 Mike Millican & Millican Family,  
 Clayton Anderson,  
 James Reavis  
 Katie Andreas (Trish Warren's cousin)  
 Thelma Millican (nursing home)  
 Gordan Hall (prostrate cancer)  
 Missy King and Family  
 Stephanie Mills  
 Roy Caviness  
 Kathren Wolfe (Martha Schanhals)  
 Klela Waldie and Family  
 Sue, Elizabeth and J.T. Moody and  
 Family  
 Kaye Clancey (waiting for transplant)  
 F.L. and Linda Kalmus  
 Mrs. McDowell (Mike's Mom)  
 Doris Bryant (nursing home)  
 Margaret Ann Seiders (Celia Bell's  
 Mom)  
 John Bannister (nursing home)  
 Doug & Kaye Clancey & 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)  
 Nick Stripling (Pat Reavis Grandson)  
 Mitchell, Johna, Madison and Mat-  
 thew Moss  
*In Our Military*  
*Alex Dove, Eric Booker, Cory*  
*Clendennen, Headed to Apha-*  
*nastan Matthew Barrier, Ralph*  
*Kintzen, Jay Huggins, Mat-*  
*thew Phinnery, Andy Smith.*  
*Please Pray for Our Troops, All*  
*Our Military Men and Women*  
*Our City, Our Nation, Our*  
*Church.*



### The Sr. High youth recently escaped the heat of summer with some indoor fun!

The group traveled to Marble Falls for an afternoon of bowling, pool, and video games. The evening ended with dinner at Storms in Kingsland. Pictured are: JT Mathis, Kevin Shahan, Luke Cox, Ryan Guidroz, Elizabeth Bryant, & Gennie Hamilton.



### Sr. High Youth Make Plans for Movie Night

On Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, at 4pm, the FUMC Sr. High Youth invite all school-aged kids to enjoy "dinner and a movie" in the church parlor. We will be watching 101 Dalmatians, eating pupperoni pizza, cruella cream dessert, and drinking Horace and Jasper punch. We will also learn what color dalmation puppies are at birth! Come join the fun!



### Acolyte Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Candle</u>	<u>Candle</u>	<u>Bible</u>
September 5 <sup>th</sup>	Hollee	Raley	JT
September 12 <sup>th</sup>	Risien	Ryan	Madison
September 19 <sup>th</sup>	Casey	Jaycie	Addy
September 26 <sup>th</sup>	JT	Hollee	Jaycie



## **Faith Weaver Friends**

Where Faith, Fun & Friends Come Together!

**Who:** children!! Ages 4 years—4th grade

**What:** singing, games, crafts, Snaks, bible fun!!

**When:** Wednesdays starting September 8th

Drop off at 3:45 p.m. in the fellowship Hall

**Where:** First United Methodist church

**Cost:** \$15...scholarships are available

We look forward to seeing you!!1

All parents must register their child.

Form more information or to register:

Call the First United Methodist Church Office at 372-3120

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The Blessing of Students and Teachers was done during the August 22nd Worship Service. Stan Burnham's bell was used. An excellent video clip had all the 1st Church students on it telling what they were looking forward to in the coming school year. A delicious hamburger lunch was served to 80 members. The lunch was coordinated by Linda Parks and Klela Waldie with help from cooks Joe Pete Smith and Regan Kirk. Lots of other people brought desserts. Thanks to everyone who helped.



**Deadline for  
October  
Church Newsletter:  
September 29th  
(last Wednesday in month)  
!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**First Choir**



Soon we will begin work on our Christmas music!! Be thinking about joining the choir either full time or just for Christmas practices. Normal practice is on Weds at 7:00 pm. Watch for times for Christmas music in the next newsletter.



**MYF**

The MYF group will be meeting weekly starting Sept. 8th from 4:00 until 5:30 in Cindy Hawkins classroom. They will be doing the Grapple Curriculum. All 5th thru 8th graders are encouraged

The Children & Youth Ministries Committee would like to try a new teaching schedule for the fall. Individuals are being asked to teach Sunday School for one month. Thanks to those of you who have generously committed to teach this fall. If you are interested in taking a class, please contact Monica Shahan at 372-4668! Debbie, Cindy, and Carolyn are getting to take a very well-deserved break! So far, the calendar looks like this:

**September**  
PreK: Lesa Schulze  
Kinder-2<sup>nd</sup>: Kim Kirk  
3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>: Linda Parks  
High School: Kevin Shahan  
Young Adults: Monica Shahan

**October**  
PreK: Misty Everett  
Kinder-2<sup>nd</sup>: Melanie Mathis  
3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>: Brandi Easterwood  
High School: Kevin Shahan  
Young Adults: Monica Shahan

**November**  
PreK: LewAnn Turner  
Kinder-2<sup>nd</sup>: Cindy Prater  
3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_  
High School: Kevin Shahan  
Young Adults: David & Alesha Rogers

**December**  
PreK: Tracey Thomas  
K-2<sup>nd</sup>: Cindy Prater (possibly)  
3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_  
High School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Young Adults: Celia Bell

**January**  
PreK: \_\_\_\_\_  
K-2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_  
3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_  
High School: Laina Murray  
Young Adults: Celia Bell

The children's classes all use the FaithWeaver curriculum by Group. It's good stuff! Sunday School begins at 9am and ends at 9:45am. Sunday School is a dynamic ministry that reaches each individual. Please prayerfully consider your role in participating, sharing your faith, and enjoying the blessing that comes from spending time with our children!

**First Ladies**

Coming up!! Harvest Day Dinner on Sept 13<sup>th</sup>. It will be covered dish and we will have visitors from the Llano area to tell us about a trip one of them made to Greece. Want to stretch out a bit?? Go to your cookbooks and/or [www.allrecipes.com](http://www.allrecipes.com) or [www.food.com](http://www.food.com) and search out Greek recipes to share. Some hints: Greek salads usually involve cucumber, tomato, olives, feta cheese and some greens with a light vinaigrette dressing. Someone might try to make some "baklava". Or perhaps someone could try a Greek Couscous dish. It will be fun to get in the spirit, so if you are willing to create something different for our meal that night, go for it!! Otherwise, make whatever you are comfortable with and come join us!! Hostesses are Barbara Gilger and Trish Warren. Meeting begins at 4:30. ALL ladies are invited.

## Our Church Family

Nancy Bannister enjoyed a visit from her sister Dolly. Owen & Linda Parks also had company, their grandson Justin and Hannah. I think Linda was busy in the kitchen for a couple of days. Risien Shahan celebrated an August birthday with a birthday party. Mindy Cantu said she was ready for school to start. None of the children I talked to were ready. Peter Hald has really been enjoying swimming at Pecan Pool. It would be a much cooler way to get some exercise than running. Thanks to J.T. Mathis for running the projection system on Sunday while his mom was out of town. Did you see Elizabeth Bryant's picture in the paper? She will probably make the paper again as she is the mascot for San Saba High School. She will be the 1st mascot to wear the new costume. Bob & Debbie Millican are still running their feral hog trap. The count is up to 31 I believe. Our sympathy goes out to the family of Charlotte Millican. Please keep them in your prayers. If you haven't been by Dry Street, you might want to swing by there. Owen & Linda Parks was selected to be the "Yard of the Month" by the San Saba Garden Club. What an honor!! Linda all of your hard work has paid off. Cherry Kay Lange is glad to have her granddaughter living in the Brown House on the Lange Ranch this year. Danni is teaching kindergarten at Cherokee ISD this year. Coach Mathis reports that the high school football program is off to a good start this year. They have 65 boys out and everyone is working together well. Ann McElroy also made the paper. She certainly writes interesting public interest stories for the News & Star. Mrs. Davis celebrated her 95th birthday this month. I bet she got lots of birthday cards. Diana Manning was certainly in the limelight last week. She graduated from LVN school. What an accomplishment! Her parents and both of her sons plus their friends attended the ceremony. Congratulations Diana! The UMW group knew that some students would not have the needed school supplies like in years past. They have come through and made a \$200 dollar donation for the students would have what they needed. FROG. Did you know what it stands for? You do if you happen to be in the worship service when Lesa Schultz did the children's sermon. The kids at church that day even got a bracelet to help them to remember to FULLY RELY ON GOD. Have you seen Jantzen Bell? I believe he has grown a foot. It was really good to see him in church. Nicole Sears is off to Texas Tech University to begin classes there. 1st Church has several students starting kindergarten this year. Daylon Smith, Madison Shahan and Addy Easterwood became kindergarten students on August 23rd. Gennie Hamilton and Elizabeth Bryant will both be freshman at San Saba High School. J.T. Moody and Jacey Everett will be 1st graders, Ryan Mathis and Risien Shahan will be 2nd graders, Casey Mathis a 4th grader, Raley Kirk a 6th grader, Hollee Ragsdale a 7th grader and JT Mathis a 10th grader. It sure was good to have Pat Reavis back in church. Kaye Clancey has been approved for a liver donation and is back working. It was good to have Grant & Kristi Mays back visiting with us. Grant works on the Mays Ranch north of Richland Springs and Kristi works at Jordan Cattle Auction. Kristi attended our church as a child with her mom Brenda Rue Overbeck. Suzanne Walters received a blue ribbon on her cross stitch tablecloth that she entered in the district culture arts competition at district extension education camp. Monica Shahan and kids made a last trip before school starts to Tyler, Texas to visit with her sister Nicole Grant. Mike & Tracey Thomas got away for a little vacation cruise before school started. Mike & Carolyn McDowell met Carolyn's sister and brother-in-law at a Ranger game in Arlington. Lesa Schultz and Celia Bell enjoyed a lunch at the new chicken place in town after doing meals on wheels.



Trish Warren was blessed with a safe trip to visit son, Lyle, on his birthday plus have a cool, fun weekend with grandsons, Landon & Justin, at a resort in Vail. Lyle kept them & their grandmamma busy hiking, biking & swimming. The 2nd main purpose of the trip was for dad to purchase used mountain bikes for the boys from a bike rental shop. Grandmamma foresees many miles of mountain trail exploration for the three in the coming year. Reality checked in with 100 degree temperature when they came down the mountain back to Denver. Thank all who had Trish in their prayers for travel mercies.

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT  
GENERAL FUND**

Contributions to 08-24-10	\$82,131.00
Expenses to 08-24-10	\$86,797.00
Balance on 08-24-10	\$16,837.00

At its August 15 meeting, the Finance Committee began working on the General Fund budget for 2011. We decided that we don't have an expense problem. We have an income problem. Each of the 38 expense line items was examined to see if any of them could be reduced. We found that we have very little control over most of them, such as the cost of insurance and utilities. We also realized that each item in the budget affects the ministry of this church, either directly or indirectly. To cut any of our present expenses any more would result in cutting ministries.

We estimated that our income in 2011, based on this year's giving so far, would be about \$125,000. As we totaled the expenses, based on this year's actual expenses, we found that they totaled about \$138,000, so you can see that we do have an income problem. We began the year with a balance of \$20,493, so we have used \$3656 of our reserve. This is a pattern we need to change.

Let's try to correct this decline while we still have a comfortable balance. Most of our expenses won't change, so please consider increasing your giving a little next year. Perhaps you need to do some "catch up" right now if you have fallen behind in your giving. (Remember that if you give on a weekly basis and miss a Sunday, you need to double up the next Sunday in order to reach your yearly total estimate of giving.)

In the October Newsletter I will review our other five Funds. If at any time you have a question about our church's financial matters, please call me. If you have a question related to your giving, call Debbie Uli, our financial secretary, at 372-3120.

Millie Burnham, Treasurer  
372-3123



## Welcome New Members David & Alesha Rogers!!!!

David Rogers works from home as a regional sales manager for CXT out of Hillsboro while Alesha works for San Saba ISD as the Family & Consumer Science teacher. Together they have 6 children: Allyson, Dave, Gennie, Sam, Jacob, and Olivia. David and Alesha enjoy spending time together doing just about anything but especially enjoying riding their new Harley motorcycle, trying new restaurants, traveling, and spending time with family & friends.

David is secretary of the local Rotary Club and an honorary member of SSSHS Band driving their equipment truck for games. Alesha is the sponsor for SSSHS Drill team and FCCLA. They recently purchased a home in San Saba in Westview Terrace. They did live on Sunset Street. Alesha's daughter Gennie lives with them and is a freshman at SSSHS. David's children live in Princeton, Texas and visit regularly throughout the year. They will be celebrating our anniversary on Aug. 30th. We were married in Las Vegas and met in Farmersville, TX at the Dairy Queen. We both sing in the choir and love being a part of 1st Church.

