

FIRST NEWS



San Saba
First United Methodist Church

May 2009

San Saba
First United Methodist
Church
204 W. Brown
325-372-3120
<http://www.gbmg-umc.org/fumcss/>

Robin Percy, 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
Ashley Stewart
Organist:
Nettie Oma Carpenter
Choir Director:
Tracey Thomas
Church Secretary:
Debbie Uli
Custodian:
Mario Mendiola

Greetings In Christ!

Reverend Bob Allen, Kerrville District Superintendent, wrote an excellent article for *United Methodist Witness – Southwest Texas Conference* (April 24, 2009 - Volume 155, 51), which he titled “Don’t Settle for Mere Happiness; Seek Joy”. The message is so important for all disciples of Jesus Christ, I wanted to share Bob’s article:

“I hope that you know joy today. Please note that I did not say I hope that you are happy. There appears to be an endless pursuit of what and of whom can be the right agent to make us happy. A lot of money is squandered in the pursuit of happiness. Some people go in and out of relationships in the pursuit of the one who can make them perfectly “happy.” Quite often the pursuit of happiness ends up in a sea of unhappiness and disappointments.”

“Happy depends on the good that pops its head up in your garden of life. Joy is what we have in spite of the bad or good that surrounds the very ground that we walk upon. I suggest that there is a great difference between happy and joy! We don’t have to settle for the evaporative happy. We can get caught in a vicious cycle of happy, sad, happy, sad, happy, sad and so forth and so on. One day you’re up and the next day you are down. I wonder what can bring me true happiness today? Where can I go to make this cycle go away?”

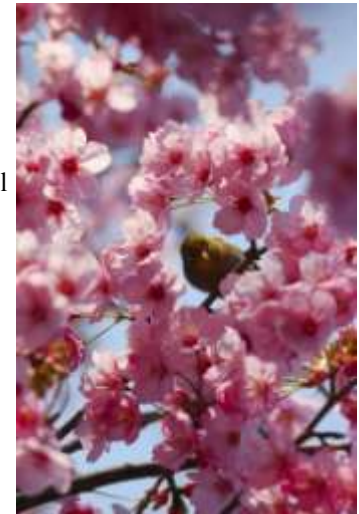
“As followers of Jesus Christ, we know that Jesus died and rose again. It is our mantra. It is what we say and do as believers. Through him we have eternal life, and that itself brings joy. He died not only for our sins but that we might have life and live it abundantly right here and now! Are you living abundantly? When the Spirit of God fills my life, I have a JOY that permeates every fiber of my being. That joy leads to the abundant life and that abundant life leads to a joy that far exceeds any quality that limited happiness can bring to any one life.”

“We celebrated the greatest day in all of history almost two weeks ago. We proclaimed together, “Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!” When the stone was rolled away, Jesus broke on through to the other side. You and I are living on the other side of Easter. As Christians we live on the other side of happiness. Don’t settle for mere happiness. We live on the side of joy. We know joy. We live in joy, so enjoy!”

I shall close my Pastor’s Church Newsletter article by quoting from the Gospel of John - chapter fifteen, verse eleven:

**“I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you,
and that your joy may be complete.”**

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Robin



Prayer Concerns



Kolby Reavis

Kaye and Doug Clancey & Family,

Avery Elizabeth Turner (Bettye **McLaughlin's granddaughter**),

Ann and Al Allison,

Jeck White,

Charlotte Millican,

Peter Hald,

Kent Kepler's sister Alice

Elaine Lansford & husband

John,

Dr. John & Pamela Bannister,

Natalie Yu and Family,

James & Pat Reavis,

Jean Miller,

Pete and Sue Hemenway,

Mark Owens (safety),

Michael Pullen,

Mary Cummings,

Donald & Bettye McLaughlin,

Patrick Francis Gates,

Nick Stripling,

Johnnie Thornton,

Mitchell, Johna and Matthew

Moss, Jeannette Toole,

Sharon Clawson,

(In Our Military)

Alex Dove,

Eric Booker,

Matthew Barrier,

Cory Clendennen,

Andy Smith

Please Remember to Pray for Our Troops, All Our Military Men and Women, Our Nation, Our Church. Thank You Lord for the Rain!!



First Ladies' News

Our First United Methodist Ladies met in April for the annual Quiet Day Service. This service is a call to prayer for all ladies of the church, reminding us of the many needs ranging from here in San Saba to places all around the world. The morning group met and Cherry Kay Lange led the program. Evening group ladies were led by Suzanne Walters. The next scheduled meetings are on May 11th where we will be led by Wanda Davenport in the morning and Loise Cook in the evening group. Times are 9:30 am and 6:30 pm. Looking ahead to June is when we will have a unit meeting where all the First Ladies will meet at 6:30 pm for a covered dish dinner. We will welcome our Shepherdess Suzan Garner, a delightful lady from Mullin. All ladies are welcome at any of our meetings!!!

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Giving is a wonderful way to honor the memory of someone. We want to handle these contributions in accordance with the donor's wishes so designate which fund should receive your contribution. If a Fund is not designated on the memorandum line of the check, it will be placed in the Memorial Fund.



Memorial Gifts to the CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND will help with the expenses of keeping our building and grounds beautiful. Recently it has funded the renovations of our stained glass windows.

Memorial Gifts to the ST. STEPHENS FUND will help the church reach out to the community and assist those who are in need. We contribute to the Ministerial Alliance for the food pantry and to the Senior Center each month from this fund as well as helping individuals on occasion.

Memorial Gifts to the PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND will help to fund special needs or ministries of this church in future years as the fund grows and generates income.

Gifts to the MEMORIAL FUND are used for special projects or needs of the church upon action of your Church Council. The most recent use was a \$500 donation to last summer's Mission San Saba, the renovation of a home.

FUMC HELPS EMS

Many of our members had a part in supplying the refreshments for the EMS Open House held on March 26. This was a wonderful way for us to help these members of our community who donate so much of their time to provide us all with emergency medical services.



Thanks to the following who provided sandwiches, cookies, chips, dips, salads, and pies: Pat Belk, Millie Burnham, Nettie Oma Carpenter, Zolly Jones, Cherry Kay Lange, Carol Littlefield, Bettye McLaughlin, Elsie Millican, Ted Red, Vickie Stevenson, Klela Waldie, Suzanne Walters, Trish Warren and Nelda Weatherby.



Meals on Wheels

Thanks to everyone who delivered Meals.

Lynn & Jerry Blankenship

Nelda Weatherby

Wanda Davenport

Gladys Ann Conner

Thelma Millican

Vickie Stevenson

Cherry Kaye Lange

Nettie Oma Carpenter

Loise Cook

Bettye McLaughlin

Wahnee Stallings

Tom & Sue Moody

Barbara Gilger

Zolly Jones

Linda Parks

Elsie Millican

If you would like to add your name to our list of volunteers, call Zolly @ 372-3113 or Elsie @ 372-3446.

Our next time to deliver is: June 29- July 2 and July 6-10.

Zolly



Easter 2009



Calling all 3rd-12th Graders!!

It's time to register for summer camp! Camp information posters are located on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall and at the front door. You can also find information and registration forms online at the conference website:

www.umcswtx.org. The Conference Council on Children's Ministries offers a total of 5 camps for children entering 3rd-6th grades at Mount Wesley Retreat Center this summer. Choose the camp according to the grade that you will be entering in the fall. All camps begin at 4:00 pm the first day and end at 11:00 am the last day. Camp activities include bible fun, hands-on activities, swimming & making new friends. 6th-12th graders can



find more information and registration forms through the conference site: www.reachingyouth.org. Scholarships are available. Please contact the church office for more information.

Spiritual Retreat & Renewal

Hosted by Barrett & Barbara Renfro

May 9th

Contact the Church Office for More Information



CHALUPA DINNER BOWL

Prep: 30 min, cook: 6 hrs on high in a slow cooker This pork and bean mixture is versatile. Serve it spooned over cornbread or rolled up burrito style in flour tortillas. Make hearty nachos, quesadillas, or tacos too. It can even be used as a meaty addition to huevos rancheros (fried corn tortillas topped with fried eggs and salsa).

- 1 lb dried pinto beans, rinsed and sorted
- 1 (3-1/2 lb) bone-in pork loin roast (I used boneless tenderloin)
- 2 (4 oz cans) chopped green chilies
- 2 garlic cloves, chopped
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 (32-oz) box chicken broth
- 1 10-oz can diced tomatoes (can use Ro-tel)
- 8 taco salad shells
- 1 small head iceberg lettuce, shredded

Toppings: shredded Monterey Jack cheese, pickled jalapeno slices, chopped fresh tomato, sour cream, chopped avocado

Place in 6-qt slow cooker; add roast and next 6 ingredients. Pour chicken broth evenly over top of roast. Cover and cook on HIGH 6 hours. Remove bones and fat from roast; pull roast into large pieces with two forks. Stir in diced tomatoes and green chilies. Cook, uncovered, on HIGH 1 more hour or until liquid is slightly thickened. Heat taco salad shells; place shredded lettuce evenly into shells. Spoon about 1 cup pork-and-bean mixture into each shell using a slotted spoon. Serve with desired toppings.

From the Kitchen of Betty McLaughlin



The Easter Miracle was performed by the children & youth of our church. Thanks to all who helped especially Kevin & Monica Shahan and Kim Kirk for directing the musical. Participants included: JT Mathis: 14 year old son of Scott & Melanie Mathis, Jantzen Bell: 12 year old son of Bud & Celia Bell, Hollee Ragsdale: 11 year old daughter of Lee & Deborah Ragsdale, Cassidy Ellis: 10 year old daughter of Roger & Loretta Ellis, Raley Kirk: 9 year old daughter of Regan & Kim Kirk, Casey Mathis: 7 year old daughter of Scott & Melanie Mathis, Risien Shahan: 6 year old son of Kevin & Monica Shahan, Ryan Mathis: 6 year old son of Scott & Melanie Mathis, Grace Stewart: 6 year old daughter of Harper & Ashley Stewart, JT Moody: 5 year old grandson of Tom & Sue Moody, Jaycie Everett: 5 year old daughter of Brad & Misty Everett, Madison Shahan: 4 year old daughter of Kevin & Monica Shahan, Addy Easterwood: 4 year old daughter of Shay & Brandie Easterwood, Faith Stewart: 3 year old daughter of Harper & Ashley Stewart, Daylon Smith: 3 year old son of Joe Pete & Danna Smith.

The Easter Miracle

WESLEY NURSE



Kaye Clancy, Wesley Nurse is in her office at the church most every Monday and Thursday. Please call ahead for an appointment.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Thinking of You



The "Thinking of You" Group is on vacation till September.

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**May 31
5th Sunday Singing**

**More Details
Will Be Announced Later**

Our Church Family

Springtime brings lots of happenings. Our church family has had plenty of comings and goings the past month. Brandi Easterwood is attending lots of track meets. Carol Littlefield went to Brady with the Red Hatters and enjoyed a day of eating, visiting and shopping. Carol left the last of April to attend the graduation of her grandson from college in Colorado. By way of New Mexico. Margaret Rice has made some trips to Stephenville to check on her grandson, Jeck White who is still recovering from a serious bout of pneumonia. Easter always brings lots of visitors and this year we had a bumper crop of visitors worshipping with us. Brad & Misti Everett brought Misti's mom with them. Mike & Beth Grimes, relatives of the Millican Family also joined us with some of their children and grandchildren. Charlie & Gray Leigh Wilson had several visitors with them including their daughters. Dana, Joe Pete & Daylon Smith brought Danna's mother with them. Kim Kirk had her mother, sister and niece with her. The Mathis Family had Melanie's mom, her sister and 2 nieces with them. It was nice to see Travis and Tyler Hawkins Easter morning with their parents. Lindsey & Derek Pugh made it in from Dallas to see Mike & Tracey Thomas. Sue & Tom Moody enjoyed having their son with them. Katie McEwin was in to see Mark & Cathy McEwin as well as Derek Sears to see his dad Del and sister Nicole. Corrie Schulze probably helped with the wedding plans when she was home Easter. Everyone enjoyed seeing Chris and Crystal Amthor along with their twin boys Hunter & Heath at church. It has been a while since the Loeber Family has gotten to worship with us. We also enjoyed having them Easter. Wow! What a list. I hope I didn't forget anyone. Linda & Owen Parks are having a busy spring. Both grandson are getting married. Justin, first and then J.D. The weddings are only 2 weeks apart. Congratulations to Kari Reeves on her new job at TDCJ. Don & Ann McElory have made a trip out west to see their new granddaughter. Did you notice in the San Saba News & Star that Stan Burnham's name was mentioned? Several years ago Stan was on the vocational agricultural judging team. Diana Manning was not to be outdone by her father. She also got her picture in the paper when the EMS was presented a check. It was good to have Anita Felts visiting with us one Sunday. On the honor roll this nine weeks are several of our church family. Congratulations to J.T. Mathis, Elizabeth Bryant, Jantzen Bell, and Hollee Ragsdale. Nicole Sears and her partner Tarah Crosby participated in the regional Tennis tournament recently. They won the first match but lost to a very good doubles team in the second match. Way to go Nicole! Cherry Kay Lange reports a great time on her trip with her cousin Gayle and sister Dorothy to South America. She has pictures to share and the group is already planning their next trip. The Schulze Family has certainly been busy with the approaching wedding. Lesa is getting to use her expertise decorating the sanctuary for the upcoming event. Kolby Reavis, grandson of Barbara and David Gilger, will be having surgery the first part of May. Please keep Kolby on your prayer list. You can spot Suzanne Walters on her bicycle around San Saba. She really gets around on it. Charlie Peeler is out making the rounds asking for your vote for City Council. Raley Kirk was really looking forward to going hog hunting with her dad after church one Sunday. Have you caught the weather recently on the week-end? Our very own Danna Smith could be a twin sister to the weather girl. Check it out.

Hats off to.....

Harper Stewart & Kevin Shahan for teaching the Young Adult Sunday School Class.

The Gilgers for hosting the Sunrise Service and Breakfast.

All of those who worked to make The Town Hall for Hope Webcast successful.

Cindy Hawkins for getting the note pads with our church's name on them.



Ester Bible Study

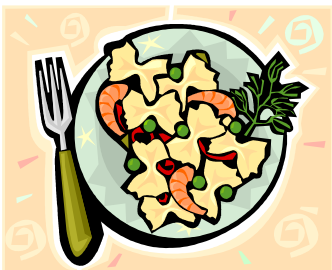
We gathered this week to culminate our study of Esther with the viewing of the movie, "One Night With the King". Those not pictured but in the study were Wanda D., Lesa Schulze & Cathy Ledbetter. We had a great time with Beth & the study of Esther & look forward to getting together for another Bible study in the Fall. Trish Warren

From the Kitchen of Carolyn McDowell

Pasta Salad

3 carrots, cut up into small pieces
1 cup of frozen peas
2 cups of macaroni
1 cup of ham, chopped
1 cup of Velveeta cheese
2/3 cups of mayonnaise
2 Tablespoons Italian Salad Dressing
1 teaspoon of Italian Seasoning

Place pasta in boiling water along with carrots and cook till tender. In a bowl place chopped ham, cheese, peas. Drain pasta and carrots and add to ingredients in bowl. Combine the mayonnaise, Italian Seasoning and salad dressing in a small bowl and stir until creamy. Add to pasta mixture. Chill and serve.



The Lighter Side.....

