



San Saba First United Methodist Church

November 2008 Newsletter



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

Robin Pearcy, 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
Worship Leader:
Tracey Thomas
Accompanist:
Ashley Stewart
Choir Director:
Tracey Thomas
Church Secretary:
Debbie Uli
Custodian:
Mario Mendiola

Greetings In Christ!

I would like to thank all the members of our Congregation, who participated in our study of the book *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, written by Bishop Robert Schnase of the Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church. Our study group engaged in free-flowing discussion each Monday evening from September 22 through October 27, 2008. Hopefully, we shall have more members participate in the context of small group studies of specific “practices” delineated in this text in the very near future.



Within Bishop Schnase’s chapter, which is titled *The Practice of Risk - Taking Mission and Service*, the reader is ‘challenged’ with the following sentence: “Vibrant, fruitful, growing congregations practice Risk-Taking Mission and Service.” Responding to this significant statement, I refer each of you to the “Nothing But Nets Campaign”, which is endorsed by The United Methodist Church: “*Nothing But Nets* is a global, grassroots campaign to save lives by preventing malaria, a leading killer of children in Africa. The people of The United Methodist Church, along with *Sports Illustrated*, NBA Cares, the United Nations Foundation and several other groups, are raising funds to purchase bed nets to end malaria. You can join the cause and contribute money for bed nets that will keep children safe. Every year, more than a million children die from this disease. Malaria is a preventable disease.”

According to an article displayed on the UMC.org website, we are requested to: “Lead a fundraising campaign to fight malaria. Send a net. Save a life. Bed nets work in two ways: They stop mosquitoes from biting during the night and spreading the disease, and the insecticide on the net kills mosquitoes when they land on it. Adopt the *Nothing But Nets* campaign as a mission project.” If you would like to contribute to this life-saving mission, please make a ten-dollar (\$10.00) donation through our Church and designate **Advance Special 982015** on your check. There is additional information about this mission and service opportunity available online at **NothingButNets.net**.

**Grace and Peace,
Pastor Robin**



Prayer List



Johnnie Thornton (Cristy Thornton's Dad)
Lesa Schulze
Nick Stripling (Pat's Reavis Grandson)
Pat Belk,
Tom Thomas (Back in hospital)
Peter Hald
Jeannette Toole
Pat and James Reavis
Polly Friemel
Dolly Hudgins and Family
Mitchell, Johna and Matthew Moss
Pat Lensch and Family
Donald and Bettye McLaughlin
Wesley Hooker
E.L. Byrd
Anne Parker
Thelma Millican
Sharon Clawson
David McPherson
Dr. John Bannister
Jeanette Harris
Brad Bryan
Mark Owens
Dr. Tobey and Natalie Yu
Kolby Reavis
Roy and Polly Waterhouse
In our Military :
Eric Booker,
Ross Johnson,
Todd Daniels
and Matthew Barrier
Our College Students
Our Politicians
Rain, Rain



First Ladies News:

Our own First Ladies have kept busy the month of October. Nettie Oma, Suzanne and Pat traveled to New Fountain UMC one Saturday for the District Annual Meeting and were blessed. October's programs dealt with "Offering Hospitality to the Sojourner", and leaders Trish Warren and Suzanne Walters led the Morning and Evening groups respectively. The evening group study segued well into the church book study afterward, "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations" where we have been reminded of the need to show radical hospitality to all. In November, our First Ladies will be blessed by Cherry Kay Lange and Loise Cook, who will be leading the programs "Giving Thanks for Good News". All ladies of the church are invited to come and be a part!!! Don't forget to bring your World Thank Offering....also pledges need to be turned in as soon as possible.

Choir News:

First Choir is gearing up for a new Christmas Cantata to be presented on December 14th. It is difficult, beautiful, majestic, challenging, joyful and bombastic!! We do NOT do auditions, preferring all those who love to sing God's good news and share in the MAIN EVENT of Christmas joy in song. This year's music is about a morning star shining brightly in the heavens....a star brighter than all the rest drawing us in the night of our winter to the love of God's own Son....born in a manger to become our hope, joy and salvation. If you feel a tug on your heart to come and join us, PLEASE COME WEDNESDAYS FROM 7:00-8:00 in the choir loft. We welcome you!! When you look up at the stars in the night, remember the star over the manger. Thank God for His grace and mercy...let your heart sing for joy!! See you on Wednesday!!

Jennifer Reeves is playing Maria in The Sound of Music. The performances are December 4-7 and December 11-14. There are 10 performances in all.

For tickets call 325-998-2801 or 325-649-8516 or go to www.brownwoodlyrictheatre.com
There are group rates for 10 or more.



**A
Big
Hand
To.....**



Thanks to everyone who delivered Meals.

Millie & Stan Burnham

Nelda Weatherby

Wanda Davenport

Patricia Warren

Thelma Millican

Kim Kirk

CK. & Vickie Stevenson

Cherry Kaye Lange

Nettie Oma Carpenter

Loise Cook

Betty McLaughlin

Wahnee Stallings

Tom & Sue Moody

Barbara Gilger

Anita Felts

Zolly Jones

Carol Littlefield

Elsie Millican

We do not have another scheduled delivery date for 2008. Twenty-one volunteers! Isn't that great!

**Thinking of You
Tuesday, November 18th
10 a.m.
Nancy Bannister's Home
406 W. Commerce**



**Please bring a dozen cookies.
These will go into gift
packages for shut-ins.**

A Place of Interest

Do you know that the Methodist Church has become a "place of interest" to out of town travelers?

On October 16 members of the Texas Airstream Travelers club toured the church. The Alamo A's Model A Ford Club took the church tour on October 25. There were about 50 people in this group.

Nelda Weatherby has been the guide for both groups with Millie Burnham assisting with the Alamo A's group.

The Signal



Have you noticed the "call to worship" that Ashley Stewart is providing on the piano? What a wonderful signal that it is time for our worship service to begin. Sometimes we get so busy visiting with our friends that we do not realize it is 10 a.m., time for us to find our seats, become quiet and let the music prepare us for worship.



Meet Theo

Have you heard your kids talking about Theo? He is a regular visitor at Faith Weavers Friends and also during Sunday School. Theo a.k.a. Trish Warren.



Daniel Smith

A lot of you may remember Daniel Smith. He attended our church and sang with our choir. We have also prayed for Daniel when he was dealing with cancer. Now Daniel has been hired as our new sound tech. Please welcome him.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X



5th Sunday Singing

November 30th

6 p.m.

1st Church

Finance Committee Plans Consecration Sunday

The finance Committee has set Sunday November 16, to be **Consecration Sunday**. This is the Sunday when we declare our plans for giving to the church for the year 2009. We will be filling out the Giving Plan Form on which you can indicate the amount of your weekly or monthly pledge to the General Fund. You may choose to use the second line with an estimate of your giving if you do not wish to make a pledge this year.

We urge you to prayerfully consider your giving decision for 2009 before that day. The Giving Plan Form will be inserted into the bulletins on November 16th and there will be a special time during the worship service to bring your folded Giving Plan Form to the altar. Should you be unable to attend on November 16, you may place it in the offering plate on the next Sunday or bring it or mail it to the church office (P.O. Box 487). It is very helpful in evaluating next year's budget to know about what our church income is likely to be.

John Cook
Chair, Finance Committee



In his book *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, Bishop Robert Schnase, has this to say in the chapter on "The Practice of Extravagant Generosity." "As people grow in relationship to Christ, they grow also in the practice of extravagant generosity, offering more of themselves for the purposes of Christ and providing the resources that strengthen ministry and that help the church touch the lives of more and more people in the same way their own lives have been transformed by God."

Our church has always been a generous church. Even in these days of increased expenses we are meeting all of our obligations and are without debt. A sound technician and a second nursery worker have been added to our staff, and we have increased the wages for our secretary and nursery staff. In addition to giving to the operating expenses of the church there have been generous gifts this year to the Capital Improvement Fund for the stained glass window renovation and the video projection system. Also there have been regular gifts to the St. Stephens Fund through the altar rail offering on Communion Sunday for local mission ministries, to the Youth Fund in support of Faith Weaver Friends, and to the Memorial and Endowment Funds.

Consecration Sunday gives you a wonderful opportunity to make your own personal giving commitments for next year. You will be indicating your gifts to the General Fund on Consecration Sunday, but please remember these other opportunities for giving during the year.

Millie Burnham, Treasurer





Church Newsletter Deadline

**(Last Wednesday of the Month)
November 26th**

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



Thanks

**A big thank you
goes to
Nettie Oma Carpenter
for
Being our
organist/pianist
For Years**

**Your faithful service to
our church will long be
remembered.**

Our Church Family

Katie McEwin was in from college to attend Courtney Van Cleave's funeral and see her family. Our sympathy goes out to the Van Cleave family. Peter Hald is home from the Brownwood Regional Hospital and back at church. We are glad his surgery went well. Ted Red has had carpal tunnel surgery on his left hand. He was at Faith Weavers Friends the next night and at the Senior Center for lunch on Thursday so it doesn't seem like it slowed him down one bit. Corrie Schultz and a friend have been in to check on her mom and to probably help out. Pat Belk has also had surgery. She is also recovering and was at the Senior Center. Al Allison had a little procedure done on his nose. Ann Allison missed a Sunday with the flu that is going around. Did you hear Brad Reeves on Radio Station KBAL? Of course he was taking about deer season. The new joke going around is shopping with your husband is about like hunting with the game warden. E.L. Byrd was seen making his rounds one day and going in Bagley Pecan. The Thomas Family with Derek and Lindsey and Josh and Megan celebrated Mike and Tracey's October birthdays. Megan Thomas has had gall bladder surgery. She is recovering and we hope she is now feeling much better. Lee & Kelly Murray were in to see Laina & Sam Murray. John & Loise Cook had a great time on their 2 week cruise with some family members. Bo & Margaret Rice also took a cruise to see fall foliage in New England and Canada and reported that it was beautiful. Bo & Margaret also attended her college reunion at McMurray in Abilene one week-end recently. Kathy McEwin has been on the road to go with Crystal Amthor to the doctor. The sonogram showed that it is going to be twin boys. I am happy to report that Crystal is finally feeling better and has gained some weight. The Mathis family made a trip to San Antonio. Jennifer Reeves' parents, Ray & Lisa Matthews, spent the week-end with them and worshiped with us on Sunday. David Parker made the San Saba News & Star. He is now with Hoffpauir. Bob and Debbie Millican found time to take a little trip to Tennessee. They did a walking tour. If you take Southern Living Magazine you know that Millican Pecan was written up. Cindy Prater went to see Ken Prater's dad who is having some medical problems. Thanks goes to Nelda Weatherby and Millie Burnham for conducting the tours of the church recently. Roland & Cindy Hawkins traveled to Fort Worth with some family members to attend the Red Stegal Concert. They had a great time. Nicole & Elise Grant visited with Monica & Kevin Shahan and their family one week. The cousins had a great time playing together. Mike & Carolyn McDowell traveled to San Antonio to see the University of Texas Maverick Band and their son Jess. The band was performing at the Alamo Dome at the Bands of America contest. Suzanne Walters had an accident on her bicycle. I am glad to report that she is ok. Nicole Sears was inducted in to National Honor Society on October 13th. Tracey Thomas is the sponsor. Congratulations! Hollee Ragsdale and Raley Kirk have been playing in the San Saba Girls Youth Basketball League. J.T. Mathis' was mentioned several times in the News & Star 8th grade football game write-up. His last game was held on Thursday night. Wesley Gates has been named a color guard for the Boy Scouts.



Welcome Our Newest Members

Brad, Misti, Jaycie and Jason Everett are the newest members of 1st United Methodist Church. Brad and Misti are San Saba natives and graduated from San Saba High School. They both graduated from Angelo State University. Misti, with a degree in Psychology and Brad, in Business Finance. Both have their master degrees in Criminal Justice Administration.

They are the current owners of Everett's Furniture Store & Emporium. Jaycie, who recently turned 5, likes dolls and cheese sticks with ranch dressing. Jason is 9 months old and likes to crawl. Brad's hobbies are hunting and fishing. Misti spends her free time with the kids.

1st Exercise



Why is it Important to be Active

Health benefits of consistent exercise are endless for individuals of all ages. Moderate daily exercise will improve health in the following ways:

- *held control weight
- *reduce risk of premature death from heart disease
- *cope with arthritis
- *reduce risk of diabetes
- *decrease high blood pressure or risk of developing it
- *help older adults gain strength, fight osteoporosis, and enhance ability to be active without fear of falling
- *help maintain proper cholesterol levels

Join the Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning exercise class at 10:30 am at the Church. Ladies and men welcome.

I would like to thank everyone for the cards, calls and visits during my recovery time. It really has meant a lot to me. Lesa



1st Feast

Don't Forget

**November 9th
Church Conference
Potluck Dinner
Immediately After
The Worship Service**

**Mark Your Calendars
" Focus on Marriage"
Seminar**



**By
Beth Moore & Gary Smalley
February 28th
Coggin Baptist Church
8:30 to 3:30**

**Price before November 29
\$49.00
Price before January 16
59.00
Price after January 16
\$69.00**

**To Register
call 325-646-1506
or
the church office
can call for you.
372-3120**