

FIRST NEWS



San Saba

First United Methodist Church

November, 2009

**San Saba
First United Methodist
Church
204 W. Brown
325-372-3120
[http://www.gbgm-umc.org/
fumcss/](http://www.gbgm-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.
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!

Thanks for all the calls, cards, food, and prayers, which have helped me tremendously to recover from whatever form of the flu I contracted. Also, I appreciate your warm welcome, and the hospitality extended to Rev. Don Graham on October 25, 2009.

We shall be participating again this year in "Home for Christmas", which will include a Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service. The Southwest Texas Conference Igniting Ministry Campaign has compiled a 'workbook', which we shall follow to some extent this year to maximize the number of first-time visitors to our Church on Christmas Eve. The following is an edited version of the invitation process:

"I hope you will pray daily for this evangelistic outreach. Our "Home for Christmas" outreach is part of a coordinated effort by United Methodists across Southwest Texas. That puts our commitment to make disciples of Christ into action as we invite unchurched people to worship on Christmas Eve."

"Research shows that unchurched people are more willing to visit a church for the first time on Christmas Eve than at any other time of the year. That makes Christmas Eve one of our best opportunities to influence people toward making a spiritual connection with the Christ of Christmas."

"We're asking you to supply the names and addresses of three households you know that don't regularly attend church. Don't include our inactive members on your list. We know where they live. Don't be concerned about these people finding out who gave us their names. We won't use your name in any way when we mail the invitation Christmas cards."

"Think of family members – spouse, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, in-laws, nephews, and nieces. Think of neighbors – next-door neighbors, elderly people in the neighborhood, and new families on the block. Think of people you know through sports or hobbies – people with whom you play golf, play tennis or attend craft classes – or parents of players on your children's sports teams."

"Think especially of people who are undergoing personal life stresses of some kind. Those individuals often find helpful answers to their problems from within the Christian faith – people who are recently divorced, families with new babies, families that have experienced a recent death, families where someone has lost a job or suffered painful business reversals."



Prayer
Concerns



Midge Love
 Bettye McLaughlin & Fam.
 Nettie Oma Carpenter & Family
 Lee Ragsdale & Family
 John Bannister
 David Gilger
 Mary Frances Seghers (Kaye Clancey's Mother)
 Kaye & Doug Clancey & Family
 Anita Felts
 Barbara Norris (Pastor Robin's Mother)
 Landon Yarbrough
 Lyle Yarbrough & Family
 Trish & Henry Warren
 Alfreda Whitley
 Peter Hald
 Elodie Steger
 Shirley Hardy
 Lisa Brown (Pat Belk's friend)
 Daniel Smith
 Connie Raesner Perry
 Kolby Reavis
 Howard & Sherry Ruddock
 Michael Pullen & Family
 Jeannette Toole
 Johnnie Thornton
 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
Jean Miller (Pat Belk's friend)
 Nick Stripling (Pat Reavis Grandson)
 Mitchell, Johna, Madison and Matthew Moss
(John and Nancy Bannister's nephew)
 Verette Family
Kim Kirk's Methodist Youth Fellowship Program
 Faith Weaver Friends
Cindy Hawkin's (FPU Dave Ramsey's class)
 Guenevere & Eli Johnston & Family (Pat Belk's family)

Finance Committee Plans Consecration Sunday

The Finance Committee has set Sunday, November 8 to be **Consecration Sunday**. That is the Sunday when we have the opportunity to declare our plans for giving to the church for the year 2010. We will be filling out a Giving Plan Form that you will find in the bulletin that Sunday. You will have the opportunity to fold it and place it in a special basket at the altar during or after the worship service. We urge you to prayerfully consider your giving decision for 2010 before that day. This will help the Finance Committee to finalize the budget for 2010.

You may indicate the amount that you want to pledge on the first line or the amount you hope to be able to give on the second line if you do not wish to make a pledge. . Remember this is for the General Fund (Operating Fund.)

Should you be unable to attend worship on November 8, you may place your giving plan form in the offering plate on the next Sunday or mail it to the church office. (P. O. Box 487). There will be a supply of forms on the table next to the front door.



Millie Burnham
 Finance Committee

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

GENERAL FUND 2009
 MONTHLY RECORD OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENSES
 GENERAL FUND

MONTH	INCOME	EXPENSES	DIFFERENCE
January	11,295	10,303	+ 992
February	10,063	9,935	+ 128
March	12,356	10,315	+2041
April	12,400	10,937	+1463
May	9,121	10,149	-1028
June	8,733	11,889	-3156
July	9,089	12,554	-3465
August	10,940	11,119	- 179
September	8,616	10,529	-1913
	92,613	97,730	- 5117



The General Fund Balance 9-30-09 was
 \$19,371.40

A big THANK YOU to the Meals on Wheels Volunteers:

- Lynn Blankenship
- Jerry Blankenship
- Thelma Millican
- Lesa Schulze
- Trish Warren
- Bettye McLaughlin
- Wahnee Stallings
- Pat Belk
- Suzanne Walters
- Nelda Weatherby
- Nettie Oma Carpenter
- Kim Kirk
- John Carpenter
- Vickie Stevenson
- C.K. Stevenson
- Cherry Kay Lange
- Zolly Jones
- Jeanine Thornton
- Margie Osbourn
- Madison Shahan
- Monica Shahan
- Gene Dufner
- Elsie Millican

No delivery on December 24 & 25. Our next time to deliver is December 14-18 and December 21-23.

Submitted by Zolly Jones



Help Wanted

Methodist Youth Fellowship are in need snacks for the month of Nov. on Wednesdays afternoons. If you are willing to provide, please contact Linda Parks at 372-3611.

Opportunities for Giving at FUMC

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, but we are running slightly behind on our anticipated income for the first three quarters of 2009. Your Finance Committee worked on the proposed budget for the **General Fund** at its recent meeting. It looks like we will need to budget about \$133,000 for operating expenses in 2010, an increase of \$3000. There are other expenses, such as insurance premiums that may also increase so we hope everyone will increase their giving plan for 2010 just a little bit.

In addition to the regular planned contributions to the **General Fund**, there have been regular gifts to the **St. Stephens Fund** through the altar rail offering on Communion Sunday for local mission ministries. Gifts to the **Youth Fund** have been received in support of Faith Weaver Friends and Camp Scholarships. Of course there are also occasional contributions to the **Memorial and Endowment Funds**. Most of the activity in the **Capital Improvement Fund** has been the completion of the Video Projection System and the purchase of banners to beautify the sanctuary as a result of a gift for that purpose.

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

First Ladies

The evening group met this month with a program led by Tracey Thomas. We learned about the traditional "love feast" by hearing about how John Wesley asked Christian to meet regularly to share food and, more importantly, to share a witness with one another. Our ladies gathered around a small table and shared snacks of



fruit, nuts and chocolates and each shared how they had experienced the grace of God recently. It was very moving and encouraging to hear each other tell how God had met their needs in varying ways. After the program, we all gathered around a larger table and shared a light supper provided by Wahnee Stallings as we continued to tell stories, laugh and break bread together. On November 9th, the morning group ladies will meet at 9:30 in the parlor with a program led by Barbara Gilger. Evening group will be led at 6:30 pm by Pat Belk. Both groups will celebrate gratitude by collecting the traditional World Thank Offering. Many ladies collect pocket change all year to donate in November in honor of our many blessings. As always, any and all ladies are invited.

First Music

The choir has begun work on its Christmas cantata. "Jesus, There's Something About That Name" is full of familiar music this year and the choir members are enjoying working on the songs. There is a simple drama with 3 parts (Joseph, Mary and the Innkeeper's wife). Tracey would love to have someone put this together....if someone would love to help out but not feeling the urge to sing, please let her know! All voices are welcome on Weds night at 7:30-8:00. The cantata will be presented on Dec. 13th.



PICTURES TAKEN AT THE FAITH WEAVERS FRIENDS DINNER



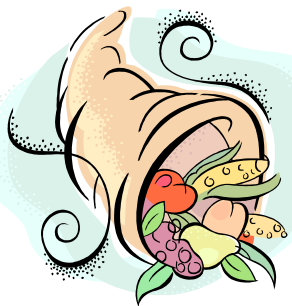
Have you noticed the new kitchen Floor? Doesn't it look nice? Check it out.

At the San Saba Powder Puff Football Game, two of our members had big roles. Can you tell which is Casey and which is J.T.?



Our Church Family

Our church family is as busy as ever. Bob & Debbie Millican enjoyed their September vacation so much that they decided to take another trip. This time they started Columbus Day Week-end and their first stop was daughter Nicole and son-in-law Darren's new house in Tyler. I bet they spent a little time with Elise too before they started the north leg of their trip to southern Indiana, southern Illinois and northern Kentucky. Then they headed back home to have a family get together and do a little babysitting of the grandkids. Cherry Kay Lange and her sister also have done a little traveling. They flew east to check out the fall foliage. Cherry Kay did some driving once they were in New England. They saw some really pretty scenery and ate at some wonderful places. We have been missing Elsie Millican who is down with her back. Hope you get to feeling better, Elsie. Pastor Robin has also been out with the flu and even missed one Sunday. Our appreciation goes to Don Graham who filled in for him. Grace & Faith Stewart and their parents enjoyed a houseful of company. The special occasion was a family birthday. I believe there was a very special doting aunt who was there. David and Alesha Rogers are busy trying to complete their remodeling projects and make some family birthday parties in the Dallas Fort Worth area. Vickie Stevenson helped Nancy Bannister one day make a trip to Goldthwaite to check on John. Several other people have also helped Nancy go check on John. Charlotte & Mike Millican have been coming in on a regular basis so they can make the Cherokee football games and watch their grandson play. Ann Melton enjoyed having her daughter Maggie Fry attend church with her. A nice ceremony and a planting of a tree in memory of Janet Red was held recently close to the Garden Club. Ted made plenty of his delicious pies to serve as refreshments following the ceremony. Lots of people said it was a nice service. Carol Littlefield reported her grandson was an anchor one night for the TV station he works for in Colorado. Carolyn & Mike McDowell went to Greenville to participate in the All Saints service for her dad at Kavanaugh Methodist Church. Our sympathy goes out to Richard & Klela Waldie on the loss of his mother. Klela and Richard had family here for several days around the funeral. Jennifer Reeves spent one week-end not feeling well. Debbie Pullen missed several days from work as she also did not feel well. Lewann Turner has really been busy at work dealing with paperwork for the Obama stimulus plan. Kelly & Lee Murray had her dad and sister visit one week-end with them. You should have seen Kelly being a spy at Faith Weavers. She certainly was playing the part well. Cindy Prater was off to San Angelo one Sunday. Have you met Bruce & Martha Schanhals? They live and work in Elgin right now but have bought some property on Wallace Creek Road. They visit quiet regularly and hope to evidently build a house on their property. Ann & Don Mc Elroy were in Muleshoe several days taking care of two very special grandchildren. Lewis Jones' brother Sam has been in the hospital. Halloween is Saturday and as the custom, the San Saba 5th and 6th graders go on the parade of costumes. One of the places they stopped was the courthouse. The group was escorted by Celia Bell, Brandi Easterwood, Melanie Mathis and Kim Kirk. It is always amazing to see the costumes. Raley Kirk was absolutely stunning as a soda foundation coke. One of her friends was the popcorn box. Hollee Ragsdale looked cute as a go go dancer. At press time, the latest information on John Bannister was he had been transferred from the Goldthwaite Rehab Center to the Hamilton Hospital with pneumonia. One of the sons was coming. Our thoughts and prayers are with Nancy and John. Trish Warren certainly had great weather to walk to dog. Sam Murray was also spotted going to the ranch.



"Fellowship of Christian Women"

Thursday Nov. 19th

11:30

Parkview Baptist Church

**Treating the 50's with Thanksgiving Casseroles and Cakes
Speakers Dona Stoa (Houston) and Melanie Morrow (Temple)
are Lewis and Zolly Jones' nieces.**

Amen.....

To SCOTT MATHIS for substituting teaching the Kindergarten –2 nd grade class

To LEE & KELLY MURRAY for substituting teaching the Pre-K class and the Kindergarten to 2nd grade class

TRACEY THOMAS & MIKE MCDOWELLI for substitute teaching Bob Millican's Sunday School Class

CAROL LITTLEFIELD for substitute teaching the Pre-K Sunday School Class

To EVERYONE who helped with the Fair Weaver Friends Dinner



No Faith Weavers Friends

Wednesday
November 25

(Day before Thanksgiving)

Next

Faith Weavers
Friends

Meal

December 2nd

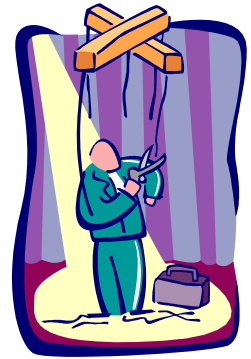
Control

Things we cannot Control:

Someone else's faults
How long we live
Another person's opportunities

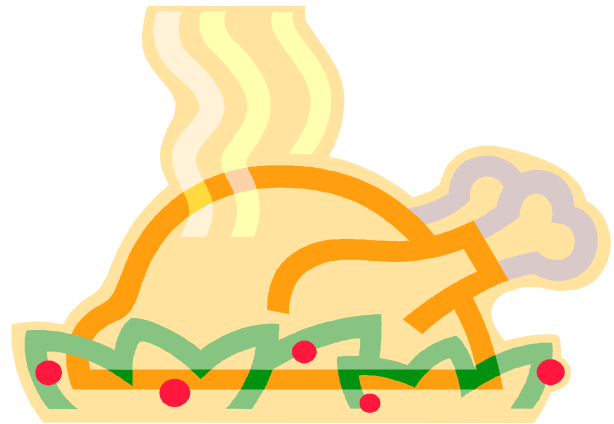
Things we can Control

Our Attitude
The kind of life we live
What we do with our opportunities



Community Thanksgiving Service

6:00pm
FUMC



There are 3 kinds of Giving

1. Grudge Giving says "I have to give".
2. Duty Giving says "I ought to give".
3. Thanksgiving Giving says "I want to give".

The latter comes from a full heart. Thanksgiving is an open gate into the love of God.

Robert N. Rodenmayer



"Thanksgiving was never meant to be shut up in a single day".

Robert Casar Lintner