

# FIRST NEWS



**San Saba  
First United Methodist Church**

**October, 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 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!**

San Saba First United Methodist Church has been awarded certification as an official "Welcoming Congregation" by the Office of United Methodist Communications for the third year. I have received a letter from Sheila Harrison, Certification Coordinator of the Igniting Ministry Program, which states the following:



"Visit (the website) Find-a-church.org. to see the special welcoming designation on your church profile and update your profile with worship and ministry opportunities you provide. The enclosed welcoming certification worksheet is also available on our website [welcoming.rethinkchurch.org](http://welcoming.rethinkchurch.org). We encourage you to renew next year by submitting the worksheet and the Year 4 addendum sheet with proper documentation, and any new ideas you might be doing."

"As Igniting Ministry transitions to Rethink Church, we hope we are providing you with the tools and resources to enrich your ministry. Please visit [www.rethinkchurch.org](http://www.rethinkchurch.org) for more information. On behalf of the entire Igniting Ministry team, congratulations on renewing this great effort and thank you for the time you've taken to do so. Churches like yours make us very proud!"

"Welcoming Congregations" are a select group of United Methodist congregations nationwide that meets criteria including embracing newcomers and providing opportunities for discipleship. The recognition program is part of a larger effort launched in late 2000 by United Methodist Communications, the denomination's communications agency, to use modern technology and the common language of television (radio and the Internet) to spread the Good News of Christ to a world in need."

Please visit the agency's Web site at [www.rethinkchurch.org](http://www.rethinkchurch.org) for online training opportunities, which will enable you to enhance our Church's reputation, as a Welcoming Congregation!

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Robin

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 & Family  
 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)**

**You are Invited  
 To The  
 Faith Weavers Friends  
 Dinner**



**Wednesday October 28th  
 6:00 p.m  
 In the Parlor  
 Of 1st United Methodist Church**



We Look Forward to seeing you there!!!

**Acolyte Schedule**

	Candle	Candle	Bible
October 4th	Casey	Grace	Hollee
October 11th	Risien	Ryan	Raley
October 18th	Hollee	Raley	Jaycie
October 25th	Casey	Grace	JT Moody

## First Music News:



The choir has just begun to look at the Christmas music for our cantata. Anyone interested in singing with us is welcome to come to practice on Weds. at 7:00. Even if you only want to sing with us for the Christmas music, please come! We will be singing "Jesus, There's Something About That Name". The music is not too hard and has plenty of familiar carols to enjoy. We plan to offer this cantata to our community on Dec 20th.

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Debbie Uli, our church secretary, will be having carpal tunnel surgery on her other hand on October 7th. She will be on vacation till October 19th. Please keep her on your prayer list as she recovers.



### Movie Night at 1st Church

The Sr. High Sunday School Class hosted a Dinner & a Movie for the youth of our church. Farmer Kevin Shahan, Farmer JT Mathis, and Farmer Ryan Guidroz (complete in farmer attire) prepared a wonderful evening for ten youth including: Risien & Madison Shahan, Ryan Mathis, Raley Kirk, Kassidy Ellis, Hollee Ragsdale, Logan Guidroz, and Jaycie Everett. The youth gathered in the parlor that had been turned into a quaint chicken farm. The movie was set up in the chicken coop while the dinner was enjoyed in the feedlot. The farmers created a delightful dinner of Mrs. Tweedy's chicken pie, chicken nuggets, farm fresh vegetables, and dirt and worms. A pre-show chicken trivia quiz ended with some lively discussion! After the movie, the kids discussed several spiritual themes in Chicken Run. They talked about freedom, telling the truth, and getting your friends to like you. Lots of football, basketball, swinging, and running around the backyard topped off a fantastic evening. The Sr. High Youth would like to extend a special thank you to Mike & Carolyn McDowell for the use of the projector system for the movie.

### Door-opener

The book of Acts (see 16:25-26) reports that Paul and Silas sang in the Philippian jail at midnight, it doesn't record whether they were basses or tenors. It doesn't even report if they sang on key. It simply says they sang. And as they sang, there was an earthquake and the prison doors were opened. Many of life's doors open more easily when we sing. So why not open some doors by joining the choir?



## 1st Ladies

Twelve UMW members and two guests met in the church parlor September 14th for their annual Harvest Day Dinner. Following the meal President Nettie Oma Carpenter called the meeting to order.

Nettie Oma read the scripture, Ephesians 3:1-14, and Suzanne Walters led the opening prayer. Secretary Wahnee Stallings read the minutes for the last meeting, which were approved as read, and read the correspondence. She also gave the treasurer's report in the absence of the treasurer Millie Burnham.

On a motion made by Pat Belk, seconded by Cherry Kay Lange, the members voted to add \$50 to the pledge to help Indians.

Georgia Harris presented a program on the Dove Project and raising money to help others, then her assistant Adella Young related her story of going from a homeless shelter with her children to coming here and getting a job.

The UMW donated \$200 to the Dove Project and \$209 for school supplies.

Food & Faith Study was held in Goldthwaite September 26 led by the man who gave the study at Lampasas. Nettie Oma Carpenter, Zollie Jones, and Suzanne Walters attended.

The UMW membership voted to combine the morning and evening groups into one Unit starting in 2010.



Methodist  
Youth  
Group

Nine youth are participating in the MYF Bible Study held on Wednesday nights. They are Brooke Nagle, Raley Kirk, Kassidy Ellis, Shea Scott, Jantzen Bell (not pictured), Jennifer Correa, Bailie Santeufemia, Hollee Ragsdale, Elizabeth Bryant. They are studying the Old Testament with stick figuring. We study, read and draw our lesson each week. We would like to thank Barbara Gilger, Deborah Ragsdale for our meals this past month. Please contact Kim Kirk if you would like to provide heavy refreshments one night for the group.



2009  
Faith Weavers Friends  
Group

WOW !!!! Thirty three kids are participating in this year's Faith Weavers Friends. Linda Parks and crew served hamburgers with all the trimmings to the kids, their parents and church family members on September 30th. They almost ran out of food. That's a nice problem to have. Thanks goes to all who helped.

## Our Church Family

The youth are really involved in school activities now that school is back in session. Our very own Jantzen Bell is very busy running cross county and is the 7th grade football team manager. Gracen & Madison Shahan were helping their mother do meals on wheels on day. Elizabeth Bryant participated in the last Richland Springs Play Day. Results were not known at press time but she was a contender for the big prize. J.T. Mathis is busy playing on the J.V. football team. J.T. Moody has settled into kindergarten and will be visiting his mother on the next 2 week-ends. Nicole Sears is a San Saba High School cheerleader so her Friday nights are busy. Lee Murray had a birthday. His family including Sam & Laina and wife Kelly planned a trip to Strawn to Mary's Café for a chicken fried steak birthday meal. The café is well known for their chicken fried steak. Bet they had a great time.

There is lots of church members going and coming. Maybe it is the cooler weather. Cherry Kay Lange made a trip to the State Fair to watch her grandchildren show their goats. She is also planning a trip to see the fall foliage later this month. Debbie & Bob Millican are off Columbus Day week-end to see their daughter and son-in-law's new house in Tyler Texas. Congratulations Nicole and Darren. From there they will head east and probably check out some fall foliage. Klela and Richard Waldie and Alesha and David Rogers had a day of fun kayaking down the Colorado River. They reported the river was up pretty good. George Kidd is getting ready for a hunting trip with his brother. Hope they get a couple of creatures!!

Hey, have you been down to the Senior Center. It's Homecoming Month down there. You might recognize some of our church family pictures on the bulletin board. But then you might not. There are pictures of of Elsie & Winston Millican, C.K. & Vickie Stevenson, Charles & Pat Belk, Bettye McLaughlin etc. Debbie Pullen sure had the whole place smelling wonderful with something she was cooking for lunch. Bo & Margaret Rice went to Cleburne recently so Bo could attend his class reunion. They had a good time. Ann & Don McElroy have been to New England for some R&R and to see the fall foliage. Mike & Tracey Thomas went to Dallas to see their daughter and son-in-law Lindsey & Derek Pugh. Pat Reavis and her daughter had a day trip to Brownwood. Have you seen their newly remodeled bathroom. It is beautiful. Mindy Cantu had cupcakes to make to reward the students who got the most baskets during a contest held in Physical Education Classes.

Bettye McLaughlin was treated to lunch in Lampasas by two of her friends. Brandi Easterwood reported that her school year was off to a good start. Suzanne Walters was happy that her niece, Nila and her husband are now both living in Austin. She will be able to see them more often.

At press time, James Reavis was settling in to Eventide Nursing Home following a stroke. He will be doing physical therapy. Peter Hald was been good to visit with James and Pat. John Bannister is in Austin Hospital and is recovering from surgery. He is anxious to get home but may need another stint. Please keep these church members and their families in your prayers.

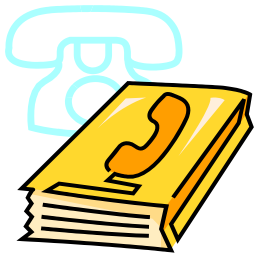
Juliet Belle Yarbrough joined her proud parents, Taylor & Natalie, at 7:15 p.m., Thursday, Sept.3. She weighs 6lb1oz & reached 19 1/4" - not too bad for being 3 weeks ahead of schedule. Thru modern technology (Skype video), I got to see her just after she was cleaned up. She has a great pair of lungs & a full head of hair! One could see the relief after going through that terrible ordeal of receiving her first bath.



Gracen Shahan on the tea cart after the Faith Weaver Friends Meal! I bet some other people were ready for a nap too.

## Look What God is Doing!

Our FaithWeaver Friends Dinner was a huge success! We would like to extend a Super Thank You to all the volunteers who created a wonderful meal for our church family, FaithWeaver Friends family, and MYF families!! These volunteers included: Owen & Linda Parks, Bob & Debbie Millican, David & Barbara Gilger, Joe Pete & Danna Smith, Richard & Klela Waldie, Lee & Deborah Ragsdale, Ann McElroy, Margaret Rice, Mike McDowell and many others who brought desserts, cut up tomatoes, put away table decorations, folded tablecloths, and washed dishes! Over 120 people came into our church just to see what God was doing. Thirty-three FaithWeaver kids quoted scripture, sang songs and praised the Lord! Families ate together and were blessed due to the generous spirit of this congregation. Did you look at what God is doing all through this church? Did you see the spirit moving? Feel His mighty hand? Glory Hallelujah! Mark your calendars for our next dinner on October 28th at 5:20pm.



## The Church Directory is Coming

Deadline to turn in pictures or get your picture made is **Tuesday October 13th.**

The directory should be ready about the 1st of November!!!!

## FaithWeaver Friends

FaithWeaver Friends is off to a great start! 31 Kids have teamed up with 18 adult volunteers to laugh, play, sing, & study God's word. We have been studying Moses and through the book of Exodus, we've learned to trust God when we're afraid, discovering what God gives us, being thankful for God's patience & putting God first...all very worthwhile Bible Points for all of us to learn!



A special **thank you** goes to our FaithWeaver Friends Volunteers:

Circle Leaders: Carol Littlefield, Melanie Mathis, Nettie Oma Carpenter, Hollee Ragsdale, and Tracey Thomas

Journaling: Monica Shahan, & Trish Warren

Games: Misty Everett

Surprise Station: Lee & Kelly Murray

Snacks: Brandi Easterwood & Ann McElroy

FaithWeaver Friends Dinner Coordinator: Linda Parks

Also: Pastor Robin, Suzanne Walters, LewAnn Turner, Elizabeth Bryant, Cherry Kay Lange & Debbie Millican.

**Donald Dean McLaughlin**, 86, of San Saba, passed away on Saturday, September 5, 2009 in San Saba, TX. He was born June 11, 1923 in Independence, MO, the son of Charles McLaughlin and Linda Graber McLaughlin. Donald Dean McLaughlin and Bettye Anderson were married in Dallas. He worked as a salesman and he was active in the First United Methodist Church, San Saba Museum, P.O.A. and in community work.



He is survived by his wife Bettye McLaughlin of San Saba; his son, Randy McLaughlin of Oklahoma City, OK; his daughters, Donna McLaughlin of Oklahoma City, OK, Vicki Vogel Smith and her husband Douglas of Richardson; his grandson, Scott Smith and his wife Jennifer and his great granddaughter, Maren Smith.

He is preceded in death by his parents, and one brother Clare Loraine McLaughlin.

A memorial service was held Thursday, September 10, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. First United Methodist Church with Rev. Robin Percy officiating.

The family request that memorials be made to medical research or to the Alzheimer's Foundation