

FIRST NEWS



San Saba

First United Methodist Church

September, 2009

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

“Our Wesleyan Theological Heritage”

I encourage anyone interested in our Wesleyan Heritage and United Methodist Beliefs and Doctrine to purchase *The Book Of Discipline Of The United Methodist Church 2008*, (Nashville: The United Methodist Publishing House), or peruse our Denomination’s website: www.umc.org. One may spend many hours reading the *Book of Discipline*, or the various interesting and very informative articles, which are posted on the website.



For example, there are short introductions to a summary of “Our Wesleyan Theological Heritage” titled “Distinctive Emphases” and “Grace” on the website:

“Distinctive Emphases”

“Wesley and the early Methodists were particularly concerned about inviting people to experience God’s grace and to grow in their knowledge and love of God through disciplined Christian living. They placed primary emphasis on Christian living, on putting faith and love into action. The emphasis on what Wesley referred to as “practical divinity” has continued to be a hallmark of United Methodism today.”

“The distinctive shape of our theological heritage can be seen not only in this emphasis on Christian living, but also in Wesley’s distinctive understanding of God’s saving grace. Although Wesley shared with many other Christians a belief in salvation by grace, he combined them in a powerful way to create distinctive emphases for living the full Christian life.”

“Grace”

“Grace is central to our understanding of Christian faith and life. Grace can be defined as the love and mercy given to us by God because God wants us to have it, not because of anything we have done to earn it. We read in the Letter to the Ephesians: “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not you own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast” (NRSV - Ephesians 2: 8 – 9).”

I PRAY THAT YOU WILL ENJOY READING ABOUT OUR HERITAGE!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Robin

Prayer Concerns



Nettie Oma Carpenter and Family,
F.L. Kalmus (Deborah Ragsdale's Father),
Lee Ragsdale and Family,
Barbara Norris (Pastor Robin' Mom),
John Bannister,
David Gilger,
Stan Burnham.
Mary Frances Seghers (Kaye Clancey's Mother)
Kaye and Doug Clancey and Family,
Anita Felts,
Landon Yarbrough & Family,
The Verette Family,
Donna Whitaker Kaye Clancey's friend),

All the New Programs starting this Fall,

Rev. Richard and Susan Selke, daughter Allison, son-in-law David.



Welcome to Our Newest Member



Flovella or Flo Thomas is the newest member of 1st Church. Flo resides at Riverview Terrace and is 94 years young. She joined our church the same day as her birthday (well, maybe it was just the same week). She has 2 daughters. Linda lives here in San Saba and Jerri lives in San Marcus. Welcome!

Methodist Youth Fellowship is Coming to First Church

A Methodist Youth Fellowship is coming on Wednesday, September 9th 5:45 to 7 p.m. to our church. This fellowship for fifth thru eighth grades will do a bible study and have a meal each Wednesday night. They will also be doing a community service project, a fund raiser and take a youth trip this spring. Anyone interested in providing a meal can get in touch with Kim Kirk or Linda Parks, group sponsors. They would like very simple things like sandwiches, pizza, etc. for the meals. Call Kim Kirk if you would like to volunteer to do a meal.



Blessings on Students & Teachers



A large crowd attended the special service on August 23rd recognizing our teachers, students and other employees of school districts. A special thanks goes to Linda Parks for organizing it and all those who assisted her.



Wanted: You

Want the most fulfilling job in the world? Work with the children on Sunday mornings and other youth activity events! We need volunteers to teach, aide and shepherd for the fall through spring school year. If you are interested or have questions, contact Monica Shahan or Kim Kirk.



Saying on church sign:

Sin is like a soft bed.
It is easy to get in
But hard to get out.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

People are funny;
they want the front
Of the bus, the middle of the road, and
The back of the church.



Congratulations Tyler

Tyler Hawkins graduated from Texas Tech University in August. Celebrating with him on graduation day are his parents, Roland & Cindy Hawkins, his brother, Travis Hawkins, his paternal grandparents, Imogene & Wallace Hawkins and his maternal grandparents, Noma & Glenn Fitzgerald.

IMAGINE YOURSELF DEBT FREE

Dave Ramsey's **Financial Peace UNIVERSITY**

Financial Peace University is a 13-week, video-based small group study that teaches families how to beat debt, build wealth, and give like never before.

daveramsey.com

Free Preview
Sunday, August 30, 2009
1st United Methodist Church
204 W Brown, San Saba 4pm

Class Begins
Sunday, September 13, 2009
4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Call For More Information **372-3120**



FPU is a 13-week life-changing program that empowers and teaches you how to make the right money decisions to achieve your financial goals and God's plan for your life. The course includes practical lessons on eliminating debt, building wealth, giving like never before, and much, much more!

Join us on Sunday, August 30, at 4 p.m. for a preview of Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. The first class will begin on Sunday, September 13, from 4-6 p.m. For more information call the church office at 372-3120 or Cindy Hawkins at 372-5946.

Faith Weaver Friends

If your calendar is like ours, it's packed! Church meetings; school programs; community events; our jobs—we're all super busy! FaithWeaver Friends is an exciting elementary midweek program here at FUMC, and it's worth adding to your calendar!



Here's why....

At Friends kids connect their Christian faith with real life. The children will be journaling, making crafts, playing games, and working on projects. Each week the children **will be applying what's being learned by completing Daily Challenges.** These challenges are often service projects to be completed at home, so the children will learn to serve others in a practical way.

Thank you to the many volunteers who have agreed to add FaithWeaver Friends to their weekly calendars! If you are still prayerfully considering your role at FaithWeaver Friends, **don't hesitate to give Monica (372-4668) a call** to see how you can share your gifts with the children!

Everyone who volunteers at Friends has a special job to do, but there are a few things *everyone* can do. **Even if you are unable to serve each week this semester, here's what you can do: Pray, pray, and pray some more. Ask for God's blessings on this program, the kids we'll serve, their families, and the volunteers.** Also, you can join us for the FaithWeaver Friends Dinners to be held at 5:30pm on September 30th , October 28st , and December 2nd .

A Look Ahead at FaithWeaver Friends:

September 9th 3:45-5:30pm **Trust God When You're Afraid**

September 16th 3:45-5:30pm **Let's Discover What God Gives Us**

September 23rd 3:45-5:30pm **Be Thankful for God's Patience**

September 30th 3:45-5:30pm **Put God First**

September 30th 5:30pm **FaithWeaver Friends Dinner for everyone! Join us!**

October 7th 3:45-5:30pm **Respect Others God's Way**

October 14th 3:45-5:30pm **Worship God**

October 21st 3:45-5:30pm **Work Together for God**

October 28th 3:45-5:30pm **Stand up for God**

October 28th 5:30pm **FaithWeaver Friends Dinner for everyone! Join us!**

November 4th 3:45-5:30pm **Hear God**

November 11th 3:45-5:30pm **We Can Make a Difference for God**

November 18th 3:45-5:30pm **Believing in God Changes Your Life**

December 2nd 5:30pm **FaithWeaver Friends Dinner & Celebration for Everyone! Join us!**

Our Church Family

Our church family has had a busy month with lots of families going places before school started. Monica, Kevin Shahan and the kids are trying to get in several fun activities before school starts. They took the kids to Schlitterbahn in New Braunfels. Then they headed to Dallas to attend two first year birthday parties for nieces/nephews of Kevin's. The last leg of the trip was Tyler Texas where they visited Nicole and Darren Grant and saw their new home. Richard Waldie was participating in another bow hunt competition. Hope we had a good shoot. Owen & Linda Parks were in Denton for the UNT graduation of their grandson, J.D. Barker. Margaret Rice has been to Stephenville to see her family so Bo was batching it one week-end. Alesha & David Rogers are preparing for a visit from Alesha's mom and dad who live in Farmersville. David Gilger spent several days in the hospital getting 4 stints put in but of course got out in time to attend the Armadillo scrimmage. Their grandson Morgan was playing. It is nice to have Barbara back attending church activities now that her mom Anita is doing better. Anita is doing rehab at home and was glad to be in church last Sunday. John Bannister also has had a visit at Scott & White Hospital. He will be returning to Eventide Nursing Home for a while. Nancy is getting things changed at home so he can go back home. It is certainly good to see Stan Burnham back in church after his back surgery. Mindy Cantu is back at school these days. That means Lesa Schulze is working at Mrs. Mindy's Snow Cone Cottage and being called Mrs. Mindy's mom. Tracey and Mike Thomas and their daughter Lindsey Pugh went to San Antonio to attend Avery Thomas' birthday party. Avery spent 5 days visiting Mike & Tracey Thomas this month. Tracey reports she and Avery made cookies and delivered them to elderly church members. Bob Millican took his son Winston to the doctor after he had a welding accident. Winston is doing fine now. Sherman and Margaret Behrens were spending some time at their ranch at Bend last week-end and came to San Saba on Sunday to attend church with Bettye McLaughlin and have lunch. They said "thanks" to all of you for the wonderful lunch. Bettye's new B&B is limping to the starting line and will soon be open. She has an extended guest using it now. Her name is Valerie Cortinovic, the new County Executive Director in the USDA office. Stop by and welcome her to San Saba. Vickie & C.K. Steven made a trip to Baton Rouge Louisiana and attended a convention and visited with friends. Vickie reported having a great time. Have you been by to see Lee & Kelly Murray's house and yard? I heard it was really looking nice. Carol Littlefield's grandson made Eagle Scout. That's quite an accomplishment! Stacy and Mark Wise have brought their new baby Taylor to church several times. Everyone has enjoyed seeing her. On Thursday/ Friday nights this fall you will see Nicole Sears as a High School cheerleader, J.T. Mathis as a freshman football team member, Scott Mathis as freshman football coach, Alesha Rogers as drill team sponsor, and Shay Easterwood as a coach. Ann Melton is starting another year at Cherokee. Nettie Oma Carpenter's brother, Joe Ragsdale, was taken by ambulance to Llano Hospital on the 28th. They were running tests. Raley Kirk will be a 5th grader this year and will move to a new building. J.T. Moody is starting school as well as Jacey Everett. They were promoted to the K-1 grade class taught by Carolyn McDowell. Risien Shahan celebrated his birthday with a party at Sulphur Springs Camp. Suzanne Walters was pleased to report that her niece Nila and her husband are moving back to Austin. She will have more family in Texas. There will be some new faces at San Saba High School. J. T. Mathis will be a freshman at San Saba High School this year. His principal will be new also. Harper Stewart. Is coming to San Saba after a 2 year stint at Llano H.S. Ann McElroy is getting to be quite the reporter. Look for her articles in the San Saba News & Star. Ann also hosted the Red Hat Ladies at her house. Richard and Klela Waldie have headed north for cooler temperatures and a few days vacation.





Hats off to.....

Melanie Mathis for substitute teaching in the Young Adult Sunday School Class

Ashley Stewart for substitute teaching in the Young Adult Sunday School Class.

Kim Kirk for hosting the Back to School Swim Party for our youth.

The Church Directory is Coming



See Cindy Prater to schedule an appointment if you need a picture taken

See the Debbie Uli to turn in your picture

See Mike McDowell for questions...

Happy Birthday, Debbie Uli
September 8th

Thanks for your many kind deeds you do for our church family!!!



"Saving the Best for Last"

What to Expect When You are Expecting Heaven,

Ladies Praise and Prayer Event

at Cherokee Baptist Church

Starting Oct. 6th

for (4) Tues. evenings

6:30 p.m.

No cost No workbook.

The upcoming event will be with Prayer, Praise and Bible study of Revelations.

Just email CommonGround@centex.net

to let them know you are attending.

For more info call 325-622-4601

The Choir Needs YOU!!!

Practice Wednesday's
At 7 p.m.

Sunday Morning's

10:00 a.m.

Worship Service



Don't Forget

Grandparent's Day

September 13th