

Back to School

BLOWOUT

Saturday, August 11



Little Ark Meet the Teacher

10:30-11:00am

Meet your child's teacher for the 2018-19 school year and find out what's in store for the school year.

Back to School Blowout

11:00am-1:00pm

(Lunch will be provided)

Little Ark, Our Church, and the Community

Waterslide / Bounce House / Face Painting / Snowcones

Food / Fun / Fellowship / PLUS! Cabo The Goat

Let's celebrate our Little Ark and Commerce ISD students and teachers by inviting them to join us as we celebrate a new school year! The **WHOLE** community is welcome!

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THE LIGHT

FUMC COMMERCE

Contemporary Service
Sundays @ 6pm
in the Family Ministry Center

August 5: First Sunday Potluck, featuring Sloppy Joes. Bring a side or dessert, bring your appetite, and bring a friend! Meal begins at 5:00.

August 12: Blessing of the Backpacks. Students and teachers are invited to bring their school bags and receive a blessing for the new school year.

August 19: Ask the Pastor. Submit your biblical and theological questions--whatever you've always wanted to know--and get an answer!

- Please join us for Children's Sunday School every Sunday morning from **9:45-10:40am**.
- Our Sunday School Bible Verse for August is: "I have given you an example: just as I have done, you must do." John 13:15



From Your Finance Committee

A big THANKS to those who have contributed to the special giving request. We have received \$9,250 which puts us well on our way to making up the deficit we face. The FUMCC membership seems to always come through when needed. However, more is needed. If you haven't contributed, please prayerfully consider making a contribution. Your church needs your support.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

More good news: June results show a positive cash flow for the first time this year. Hopefully this is the start of a new trend.

Again, your Finance Committee thanks you for your continued financial support!

You are cordially invited to join the History Book Discussion Group in the study of the REFORMATION in 2018/2019 starting on August 27th. The group meets from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. on alternating Monday nights in the Friendship Room. Dr. Harry Wade leads the discussion. The four books for the fall are:

- Peter Marshall "The Reformation: A Very Short Introduction"
- John Bossy "Christianity in the West, 1400 -1700"
- Lyndal Roper "Martin Luther: Renegade and Prophet"
- Tracy, Miller, & Macardle "Erasmus & Luther: The Battle Over Free Will"



For further information please contact Gene Lockhart genelockhart41@gmail.com



Upcoming Worship

Sunday, August 5
Sunday, August 12
Sunday, August 19
Sunday, August 26

8:45am ~ Chapel
10:50am ~ Sanctuary
*6:00pm ~ Family
 Ministry Center*

FUMC-Commerce would like to send children back to school with a bag tag and a blessing!

All children are invited to bring their backpacks to church on Sunday, August 12, 2018 so both they and their backpack can be blessed in any of our three worship services.

These backpacks are our children's constant companions as they go about their school days, so the pastors of FUMC-Commerce would like to bless them. After the blessing they will give each child a tag to put on their backpack to remind them that God is with them in their daily life and that their church family will be praying for them throughout the year.

Don't have any students at home? All are invited to be a blessing to other less fortunate children by purchasing a new backpack and bringing in to the church on Sunday, August 12. The new backpacks will be blessed, tagged, and distributed to Commerce ISD.

We would also like anyone involved in education (all teachers, principals, custodians, secretaries, etc.) to join us in this blessing. You make such an impact on our children each and everyday and you need a blessing too!

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ad Council Chair:

Mike Roberts (903) 886-2142

Lay Leader:

Carole Walker (903) 886-4450

SPPRC Chair:

Mitzi Parker (903) 886-7364

Trustees Chair:

Gene Lockhart (903) 886-3498

Finance Chair:

Jim Brown (903) 886-7439

FUMC Foundation President:

Ann Underhill (903) 886-3922

Connect Team Chair:

Rev. Sam Caldwell

Grow Team Chair:

Craig Jensen (903) 886-8713

Serve Team Chair:

Amy Stark (903) 246-1487

Lay Member:

Gene Lockhart (903) 886-3498

**FIRST
THURSDAY**

Potluck Luncheon
August 2 @ 12pm

**Luigi's Gives
Back Sunday
August 19**

The First United Methodist Newsletter is the official publication of FUMC Commerce. The newsletter is published at the end of the month. Inputs may be submitted to the Church office to Bonnie Smith, Communications Specialist, at communications@fumccommerce.org, or call the office at 903-886-3220. Questions may be addressed to the Church office.

****The next deadline is Tuesday, August 21 by 9:00am****

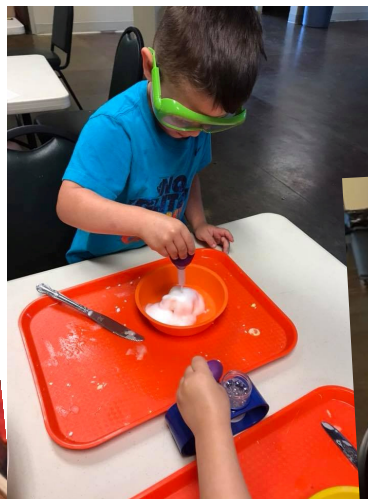
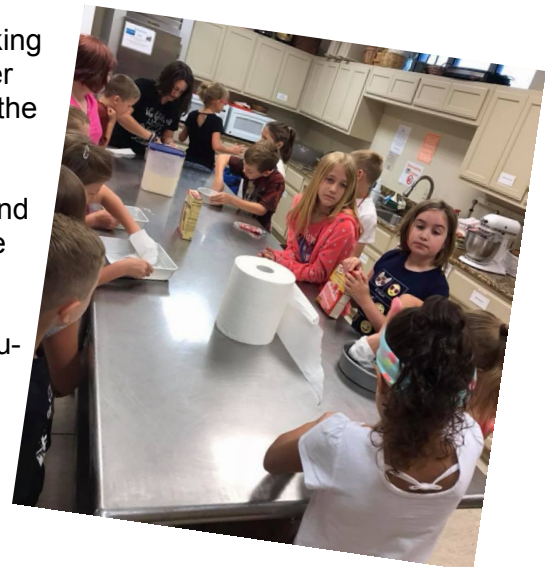
Little Ark Summer 2018

Little Ark hosted a few summer camps this year. Tiffany Harrison was gracious enough to donate her time and talents and taught 14 kids how to cook. The class learned how to make eggs, pizza from scratch, chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, and more. They ended the camp with a Cake Bake-Off.



Our Art Camp was led by the amazing Joanna Thrift. Joanna focused on an artist a day and then led the 10 kids who attended in the process of making pieces inspired by those artists. Her assistants learned just as much as the kids!!

Mandy Swinson led Space Camp and Science Camp, and will wrap up the summer with a an End of Summer Camp. It has been so wonderful to have so many of our Little Ark graduates join us for these summer camps.





FUMC COMMERCE YOUTH AUGUST 2018 CALENDAR

Sunday, August 5: Middle School Movie Matinee (12:30-3:00 pm)

Youth who will be starting sixth, seventh, and eighth grade in a few weeks are invited to stay after the 10:50 service on Sunday, August 5 for a Movie Matinee! We'll watch a movie in the Youth Room with all-you-can-eat popcorn and snacks.

Friday, August 10: Service & Sun (all day)

Our last event of the summer! We'll leave the church at 7:30 am and travel to North Texas Food Bank in Dallas where we'll volunteer from 9:00 to 11:30 helping to sort, bag, and box food for hungry North Texans in their warehouse. After lunch, we'll spend the rest of the afternoon relaxing and playing at Hawaiian Falls water park in Garland. Everyone who volunteers in the morning at NTFB will get free entry into the water park. Youth will need to have a waiver for NTFB signed by a parent; these will be available on Sunday, August 5, or by emailing Nevin. Youth will also need to wear comfortable clothes suitable for working in a warehouse for our volunteer shift, **including closed-toe shoes**. When we get to Hawaiian Falls, there will be locker rooms to change into swimwear. The church will pay for lunch and provide snacks for inside the park; students only need to bring money with them if they plan to buy their own food or souvenirs at the park.

Please let Nevin know that you will be attending by Wednesday, August 8:

Email: nevin@fumccommerce.org

Phone: 903.461.9752

Sunday, August 12: UMYF Preview 4-5pm

Monday, August 13: First Day of School

Sunday, August 19: First UMYF 4-6pm

FOR MORE INFO:

Contact Nevin Jackson at nevin@fumccommerce.org



School is starting again, and so is UMYF! The Youth Ministry is relaunching a weekly United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF) program this month, with time for games and fellowship, snacks, worship, bible study, and small groups. UMYF will meet every Sunday from 4:00 to 6:00 pm and is open to any student who is in sixth grade through high school.

Our theme for 2018-2019 will be **FEED (ALL) MY SHEEP**. We will explore the gospel of Luke and discover what it means to carry out Jesus' mandate to proclaim the gospel to everyone everywhere, including the most vulnerable members of our society. We will be embarking on short- and long-term mission projects

through the year and learning how we can feed our own souls so that we can answer the call to feed others.



On Sunday, August 12, parents and youth are invited for a **UMYF Preview** from 4:00 to 5:00. During this time, you'll hear more about our theme, get an idea of what our weekly program will be like, and take a first look at activities and events scheduled throughout the school year. The first regular UMYF meeting of the school year will be Sunday, August 19.



A dozen youth had a great time at a pool party at the home of Jim and Susan Patton on Friday, June 29. In addition to playing in the pool, jumping off the board, and relaxing, students enjoyed hamburgers and watermelon. Big thanks to Jim and Susan



for hosting us—we hope to come back soon!



Middle School youth also had a board game day after church on Sunday, July 15. They ate pizza and spent the afternoon playing ping pong, Twister, Monopoly, and other games.



WCM Work Day Saturday, August 25 9am - 12pm

Please come help get our place ready to greet the new semester! Let's make the Wesleyan property look clean and inviting. Brian will have specific tasks to assign. Thanks for your support!

MISSION of the MONTH

Mission of the Month

Drop a Dollar during August goes to the Wesleyan Campus Ministry. "Making disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world, by offering students an inclusive and welcoming faith community where ALL God's diverse Children; Belong, Believe, Become!"

The Wesleyan Campus Ministry (WCM) serves the town of Commerce, Texas, Texas A&M University – Commerce (TAMUC), and the surrounding communities by providing a place where all of God's diverse children can belong, believe, and become. We strive to achieve this by promoting an environment of education, cultural awareness, and interfaith connections along with providing a safe space for students and community members. As part of our diverse ministry there are several student organizations that meet at and participate with the WCM. Those include the New Beginnings Gospel Choir, the Mane Swing Society, Queer People of Color (QPOC), Uniquely Bynded Praise Dance and Mime ministry, and the Pride Alliance of TAMUC. In addition to those organizations the WCM's own ministries include Love Group (in conjunction with QPOC and Pride Alliance), Möbius coffee house, free lunches, Bible studies, a Taizé worship, a contemporary worship (in conjunction with FUMC Commerce), and community service events both locally and further away.



The WCM has also hosted and instigated a variety of major events such as interfaith conferences with a Buddhist monk and the East Texas Islamic Society, Q&A cookouts titled "Grill the Pastor" where TAMUC students ask Pastor Brian Dierolf the hard questions, a Transgender inclusivity day (in conjunction with TAMUC), and most notable of which was the Mental Health Awareness Day during April of 2018 in which the entire TAMUC campus was united in a day of awareness surrounding mental health and suicide prevention. Different departments on campus offered resources and education, such as the Gatekeeper QPR Program which trained individuals in detecting signs of suicide and the proper procedures on how to try get someone help and getting Kevin Hines, one the few people to ever survive a suicide attempt off the Golden Gate Bridge, to come speak. To put this event in perspective, there were over 1,000 students, faculty, and staff in attendance for just the speaker, with even more participating throughout the campus.

With the continued growth of the WCM we are seeking out new ministries to reach new faces in new spaces around our community. Some of these new ministries include a women's Bible study, a discernment group for those in and pursuing an ordained ministry, and a deep thoughts discussion group which started in the Spring of 2018 that we hope to expand in the Fall. We also open our building Monday-Thursday to allow access to our game room, backyard, prayer room, and community spaces. During the spring the WCM had an average of 130 people attend events weekly. We have rearranged many of our event times for the Fall in hopes of reaching more new people and have been working during the summer to make new connections, conduct renovations and repairs to our building, update décor, and landscape our foliage for increased visibility of our ministries and activities,

Lastly, the WCM continues to make connections with resources and organizations outside of the university. We are a member of the Reconciling Ministries Network, a network of LGBTQIA+ affirming churches. If it was not already obvious the WCM has strong connections to the queer community at TAMUC as we provide an inclusive, welcoming home for their spiritual growth as we hope to break down the walls built by many Christians which have often ostracized that community. In regard to breaking down walls, the WCM also endeavors to provide a welcoming home for immigrant and foreign students as they make up a sizable percentage of TAMUC's student population. We make connections with immigrant and foreign students by providing a place where they can openly express their own faith, ask questions, and fellowship with others from similar backgrounds. The WCM is also committed to strengthening the bond with other ministries and United Methodist churches such as several churches in the East District and UTD's Synergy Wesley Foundation through mission trips and cross-engagement.



Special Conference Event for ALL Laity!

*Listening for "The Way Forward"
for the North Texas Conference*

Saturday, August 18, 2018

9:00am-2:15pm

Aldersgate UMC | 3926 Old Denton Road | Carrollton, TX 75007

Cost \$20 (includes lunch)

This year's timely topic is *Listening for "The Way Forward"*. A special called General Conference will be held February 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis, MO that will address petitions related to the UMC's positions on human sexuality. This event will be an opportunity to learn more about the proposed legislation that will be considered by the General Conference.

Highlights of the program include:

- Opening Worship
- Role of the Laity in the Process
- Overview of Legislation
- Presentation by General Conference Delegation
- Discussion over Lunch
- Opportunity to express hopes, interest and apprehensions
- Closing Worship with Communion

Reservations must be made by Monday, August 13.

To register, visit <https://ntcumc.org/laity-event-form>

or call Susan Anderson at 940-497-2707.

**FUMC-C
PRAYER
CHAIN
Ministry**



Our Prayer Chain is here to pray for your urgent prayer needs. Feel free to call or text your prayer request 8am-8pm or call the

pastor and notification will be forwarded immediately to our prayer partners.

Prayer Lead:

Mary Lou Heatherly 903-456-1412

By the Numbers

Attendance

	<u>Early</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>Light</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>Wed.</u>
Jul 1	42	79	24	78	
Jul 8	40	61	18	59	
Jul 15	26	72	22	35	
Jul 22	32	70	10	39	
Jul 29	26	67	14	35	

Financial Information General Operating Fund

as of June 30, 2018 Year-to-Date

Income:	\$ 30,333	\$163,640
Expenses:	\$ 27,196	\$182,623
	\$ 3,137	-\$18,983

Let us *consider*
our callings,
let us *reflect*
on our
responsibilities, and
let us *follow*
Jesus Christ

Thomas S. Monson



Reading the Bible Daily

As you seek to grow closer to God through daily prayer and Bible study, you may have your own favorite daily readings. If not, you will find Scriptures for each day listed below. We hope you'll read daily and ask yourself: "How will I be different today because of what I just read?" Some other questions you might ask are: What does this text say about who God is?" "What does this text say about who I am/who we are as human beings?" "What does this text say about our relationship with God?" You may want to reflect on paper with a journal or note pad. We hope this will become a part of your daily prayer time.

Daily Scripture Readings:

Wed., Aug 1	Psalms 51:1-12
Thur., Aug 2	Ephesians 4:1-6
Fri., Aug 3	Ephesians 4:7-16
Sat., Aug 4	John 6:24-35
Sun., Aug 5	Ephesians 4:15-16
Mon., Aug 6	2 Samuel 18:5-9
Tues., Aug 7	2 Samuel 18:31-33
Wed., Aug 8	Psalms 34:1-8
Thur., Aug 9	Ephesians 4:25-29
Fri., Aug 10	Ephesians 4:30-5:2
Sat., Aug 11	John 6:35, 41-46
Sun., Aug 12	John 6:47-51
Mon., Aug 13	1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-5
Tues., Aug 14	1 Kings 3:3-14
Wed., Aug 15	Psalms 111
Thur., Aug 16	Psalms 111:10
Fri., Aug 17	Ephesians 5:15-17
Sat., Aug 18	Ephesians 5:15-20
Sun., Aug 19	John 6:51-58
Mon., Aug 20	1 Kings 8:1, 6, 10-11, 22-30
Tues., Aug 21	1 Kings 8:41-43
Wed., Aug 22	Psalms 84:1-7
Thur., Aug 23	Psalms 84:8-12
Fri., Aug 24	Ephesians 6:10-20
Sat., Aug 25	John 6:[1-55] 56-59
Sun., Aug 26	John 6:60-69
Mon., Aug 27	James 1:17-27
Tues., Aug 28	James 1:17-21
Wed., Aug 29	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Thur., Aug 30	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Fri., Aug 31	Psalms 45:1-2, 6-9



Prayer Lists

Recent Concerns

Betty Grimm (Lauren Dierolf's grandmother)
Joe Milligan
Edna O'Quinn
Donna Perkins
Caleb Thompson

Continued Prayers (long term)

Healing and peace for our hurting country and world, our world and country's leaders, Glenna Anderson (Dennis Anderson's mother), Debra Burton, Gene Casselberry, Ann Chamberlain (Pete Chamberlain's wife), Martha Clevenger, Kenneth & Carol Cline (Tammy Naizer's parents), Harold Coker, Garrett Cramer, Lois Cranford, Carol Davis, Corky Drinkard, Bill Ray Ellis (Luanne Huffman's cousin), Mel Fox, Jack and Gladys Gray, Sally Grove, Margie Hamlin (Linda King's mother), Preston Helton (Jan & Jeff Helton's grandson), Doris Kerbow, Steve Lawson, Zachary Madden, Allen Martin, Debbie McCord, Harold & Priscilla McFarland (Julia Robinson's parents), Richard Norton, Mary Ogletree (Mimi Dobbs' mother), Robert Seay, Billy Stocker (J.D. Short's uncle). Ron Wensel

Oak Manor: Barbara Gish and Euple Walker

Draughn's/Country Home Estate: Roger and Jean Arnold, Helen Cole, Joe and Mary Louise McMahan, Edna O'Quinn, and Gayle Shumate

Austin: Ruby Vander Velde



Remembering those serving in our military...

Lt. Dan Barton
Daniel Chamberlain
Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith
Col. Keith Williams
Kris Yoder-John & Rebecca Sneed's son-in-law

*"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective."
James 5:16*

Help us hold each other in prayer by contacting the church office with new prayer concerns and updates on existing prayer requests.

If you have someone you would like to add or remove from the prayer list, please let the church office know (903-886-3220).



Phone: 903-886-3220

Fax: 903-886-3240

www.fumccommerce.org

office@fumccommerce.org

First United Methodist Church
1709 Highway 24
Commerce, TX 75428
Senior Pastor - Rev. Sam Caldwell

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE
NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
Articles for the next newsletter are due
Tuesday, August 21 by 9:00am