

# First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 16, Issue 7

July 2018



# VBS & CAMP EDITION



## Inside this issue:

Reception, The Light, Worship,  
Children's: VBS  
Youth: Summer Schedule  
Memorials, Numbers, Scriptures

pg. 3  
pg. 4-5  
pg. 8  
pg. 11

Pastor's Article, Announcement  
Committee Chairs, Announcements  
Children's & Youth: Camp  
Little Ark Summer Camp  
Prayer List

pg. 2  
pg. 3  
pg. 6-7  
pg. 8  
pg. 10

## Face into the Wind and Lean Forward

Rev. Samuel Caldwell, Pastor (as of July 1, 2018)



Sam and Cathy Caldwell

Did you ever get going too fast walking or riding down a hill? It's a little unsettling. It makes you want to put on the brakes--pull back on the reins--call out "**Whoa!**" Such hills have been finding me lately. I would really rather go UP the hill. If you go uphill, at least you get to lean forward and be a little closer to the ground!

Moving is never easy no matter how eager you may be about getting to the new place. In our new ministry together, I am looking for the uphill parts where we face into the wind and do something unprecedented. Something we have wanted forever but never quite accomplished.

But going with God's will is often different. God's will has a **gravity** to it. Like going downhill. I don't like that sense of being "out of control". But that unsettled feeling of going just a little faster than you intended can be quite a thrill! Accomplishing something you didn't know (for sure) that you could do is exhilarating. It's a little like trusting

God. We can't see God or even see where the pathway is. We just have to trust. And there, the journey begins!

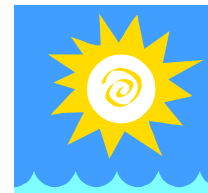
I don't know yet where God is calling First Commerce as a congregation. Over time, we will discern that together! But I know it is a calling toward God's kingdom--the **REIGN of God**-- where **God is in charge** and **we are the workers**. I know that God is lovingly concerned for the least, the last, and the lost... for those who have been misunderstood or drifted away. For our students. And their young families. For overgrown teenagers who are away from home and searching for community and accountability. And a cause. Let them know they can find it here!

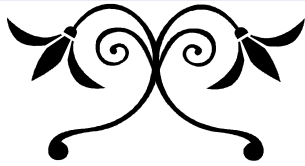
As we seek to be in ministry to the people of these streets, this campus, and beyond, let us seek God's leading through prayer and promise. As a church family, we have something to offer--a community of faith who seeks God. And seeks to draw people--older and younger--toward God. If not us then who? And if not now, then when? It may be downhill! We may get going too fast and feel out of control!

I can hardly wait to meet you, to shake your hand, and smile with you, and say together to God, "Let's go!"



As you travel and take vacations this summer,  
don't take a break from your giving.  
We are grateful for your faithfulness!





The SPPRC Committee

Invites you to a

Welcome Reception

Sunday, July 1

in honor of

Pastor Sam & Cathy Caldwell

Come & Go during the Sunday School Hour

In the Family Ministries Center

WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE

Upcoming  
Worship

Sunday, July 1

Sunday, July 8

Sunday, July 15

Sunday, July 22

Sunday, July 29

8:45am ~ Chapel

10:50am ~ Sanctuary

6:00pm ~ Family

Ministry Center



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

THE LIGHT

FUMC COMMERCE

Contemporary Service

Sundays @ 6pm

in the Family Ministry Center

First Sunday Potluck - July 1 at 5pm

FIRST THURSDAY

Potluck Luncheon  
July 5 @ 12pm



Luigi's Gives  
Back Sunday  
July 15

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](mailto:communications@fumccommerce.org), or call the office at 903-886-3220. Questions may be addressed to the Church office.

\*\*The next deadline is Tuesday, July 24 by 9:00am\*\*



We had a wonderful week “experiencing the ride of a lifetime with God” at the Rolling River Ram-

page! “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.” Isaiah 43:2

This week would not have been possible without EVERYONE involved. Whether you were here every night in a station, lead students, helped with registration, served and cleaned up supper each night, worked from home to organize volunteers, donated food, money, baked goods, supplies, time, ideas (and the list goes on), you were a huge part of Rolling River Rampage’s success.

With the help of 20 youth and 22 adult volunteers from our church and community, 60 kids came through our doors and learned many wonderful lessons and stories from the Bible. Each day we “rafted” through God’s word.



Monday we learned about finding ADVENTURE: Our rafters heard a story about a time when Jesus invited the disciples to go on a new adventure with Him. Even though they only knew how to do regular things like fish and collect taxes, Jesus called them to use their skills in a greater adventure with Him. Amazing!



Tuesday we learned about finding ACCEPTANCE: Through a Bible story about two sisters, Mary and Martha, we learned to find acceptance in others. Although everyone has different talents and abilities, we are all called and accepted by God. Knowing this can help us accept and celebrate each other.



Wednesday we learned about finding JOY: Zacchaeus showed us in today’s Bible story how joyful it feels when Jesus notices us. We can all have joy every day knowing that Jesus sees us and loves us, and will always be our friend. Just like he did for Zacchaeus.



Thursday we learned about finding REST: In today’s Bible story, we heard about the special meal Jesus shared. It was important for Jesus and the disciples to stop, rest, and remember God’s love for them. It’s important for us to stop, rest, and remember this special meal Jesus celebrated, too.



Friday we learned about finding PEACE: Today’s story taught us about Jesus’ promise. His promise really helped the disciples have peace. Jesus promised he would be with them, all the time, everywhere. And he’s with us too!

The mission this VBS was STUFF the BUS! We collected 2 large boxes of school supplies for CISD.

It is awesome to work with these kids alongside such a loving and supportive congregation dedicated to programs such as VBS that lead our kids to know more of God. I am deeply grateful for your support.



Shelly Oats





Nineteen kids/youth from our church spent five days at Bridgeport Camp having fun and learning about the Holy Spirit at Children's and Junior High church camps the weeks of June 11-15 and June 18-22. They joined other kids their ages from North Texas United Methodist churches doing traditional camp activities such as fishing, archery, biking and hiking, and nature studies. Campers also spent at least a couple of hours every day in the pool or playing beach volleyball, basketball, or board games. They had the opportunity twice a day to have in-depth discussions with their peers in Family Groups about the fruit of the Spirit. Each session focused on a different fruit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Through scripture, discussion, and activities, the students considered how to experience and evidence these qualities in their lives. The camp gathered at sundown every evening to worship overlooking the lake. Several of our youth helped with worship by performing in skits based on the sermon scripture. Everyone had a lot of



fun and learned a lot, and they look forward to next summer! We would like to thank our wonderful congregation for all of your support with this mission. We were able to send our children for a fraction of the cost it would have been without your donations. We can't thank you enough for your generosity.







# FUMC COMMERCE YOUTH JULY 2018 CALENDAR

**Sunday, July 8 - Sr. High After The Light 6-8:15 pm**

for high school youth—worship, discussion, games, and fellowship

**Sunday, July 15 - Middle School Game Day 12:30-3:00 pm**

Sixth, seventh, and eighth graders: stick around after the 10:50 worship service for pizza and an afternoon of fun!

**Sunday, July 22 - Sr. High After The Light 6-8:15 pm**

**Sunday, July 29 - Trip to Shenaniganz 12-6 pm\***

After the one worship service, we'll head to Rockwall for an afternoon of bowling, laser tag, and arcade games. Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers are welcome and encouraged to invite a friend!

*\* There will be a small cost to participate in this activity. Actual time of activity is subject to change. More details will be available as the activity gets closer.*

**FOR MORE INFO:**

Contact Nevin Jackson at [nevin@fumcommerce.org](mailto:nevin@fumcommerce.org)

## Little Ark SUMMER 2018

## Summer Camp

### Summer Camps for school age kiddos

Little Ark is hosting a summer full of weekly themed camps for school age children. You can sign your child up for one camp, or all camps. Your child can attend the camp only, or can stay all day if you need child care. Space is limited, so sign up early to make sure your spot is secured!

**Camp Times:** M-F 8-12

**Camp Prices:** \$70/week Camp Only  
\$100/week for camp+child care

**Ages Welcome:** 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Little Ark will provide drinks and snack daily.

For more information call Little Ark at 903-246-5660 or email [jknight\\_littleark@yahoo.com](mailto:jknight_littleark@yahoo.com)

**July 2-6  
Around the World in 5 Days**

**July 9-13  
Art Week**

**July 16-20  
Storybook Week**

**July 23-27  
Summer Olympics**

**July 30-August 3  
End of Summer Blowout**





**WCM Summer Schedule**

Movie Night: Every Tuesday @ 7p  
Bible Study: Every Wednesday @ 7p (based on movie).

*In memory of...*

Mary Beth Tuck

By: Rheba Icenhower

MEMORIALS



**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:**

- Sunday, Jul 1 Mark 5:21-24, 35-43
- Monday, Jul 2 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
- Tuesday, Jul 3 Psalm 48
- Wednesday, Jul 4 Psalm 48:9-14
- Thursday, Jul 5 Mark 6:1-6a
- Friday, Jul 6 Mark 6:6b-13
- Saturday, Jul 7 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
- Sunday, Jul 8 2 Corinthians 12:7b-10
- Monday, Jul 9 2 Samuel 6:1-5
- Tuesday, Jul 10 2 Samuel 6:12b-19
- Wednesday, Jul 11 Psalm 24:1-2
- Thursday, Jul 12 Psalm 24:3-10
- Friday, Jul 13 Ephesians 1:3-14
- Saturday, Jul 14 Mark 6:14-29
- Sunday, Jul 15 Mark 6:14-29
- Monday, Jul 16 Psalm 89:20-37
- Tuesday, Jul 17 Mark 6:53-56
- Wednesday, Jul 18 2 Samuel 7:1-14a
- Thursday, Jul 19 Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
- Friday, Jul 20 Ephesians 2:11-22
- Saturday, Jul 21 2 Samuel 7:1-14a
- Sunday, Jul 22 Ephesians 2:11-22
- Monday, Jul 23 2 Samuel 11:1-5
- Tuesday, Jul 24 2 Samuel 11:6-15
- Wednesday, Jul 25 Psalm 14
- Thursday, Jul 26 Psalm 14
- Friday, Jul 27 John 6:1-21
- Saturday, Jul 28 Ephesians 3:14-21
- Sunday, Jul 29 Ephesians 3:14-21
- Monday, Jul 30 2 Samuel 11:26 – 12:7a
- Tuesday, Jul 31 2 Samuel 12:7b-13



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>
<b>Jun 3</b>	37	71	13	42	
<b>Jun 10</b>	36	72	17	63	
<b>Jun 17</b>	28	54	—	34	
<b>Jun 24</b>	21	128	12	50	

**Financial Information  
 General Operating Fund**

	<u>as of May 31, 2018</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income:	\$ 29,209	\$133,306
Expenses:	\$ <u>30,117</u>	\$ <u>155,428</u>
	-\$ 908	-\$22,122



## Prayer Lists

### Recent Concerns

Family of Rickie Payne (Linda King's brother)  
Riley Evans (Tiffany Evans' son)  
Mel Fox

Randy Lumpkins (Samantha Means Lumpkins'  
husband)  
Ruby Vander Velde

*Healing and peace for our hurting country and world  
Our world and country's leaders*

### Continued Prayers (long term)

Glenna Anderson (Dennis Anderson's mother), Barry Buchanan, 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), 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, Debbie McCord, Harold & Priscilla McFarland (Julia Robinson's parents), Richard Norton, Mary Ogletree (Mimi Dobbs' mother), Robert Seay, Dana Shelton, Billy Stocker (J.D. Short's uncle)

**Oak Manor:** Barbara Gish and Euple Walker

**Briarcliff:** Allen Martin

**Austin:** Ruby Vander Velde

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



### 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).*

To watch or listen to Dr. Neal's sermons online, go to:  
[www.revneal.org](http://www.revneal.org)  
[www.youtube.com/revneal](http://www.youtube.com/revneal)  
[www.facebook.com/RevNealVideo](http://www.facebook.com/RevNealVideo)



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1709 Highway 24  
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Senior Pastor - Dr. Gregory S. Neal**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE  
NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
Articles for the next newsletter are due  
**Tuesday, July 24 by 9:00am**