

Get involved!



Mark the Date!

Join us for the Proyecto Abrigo Dinner & Silent Auction at Suncreek UMC in Allen!

The annual Proyecto Abrigo Dinner and Silent Auction will be held at Suncreek United Methodist Church in Allen on Saturday, March 26, at 6:30 pm. Reverend José Luis Portillo will tell the story of the people being served by Proyecto Abrigo. Here's how to join in the support of a ministry doing such good for so many!

Tickets

The cost is \$20. Because the seating capacity is 200, you are urged to register early online at Eventbrite, which can be accessed from 2011abrigodinner.eventbrite.com, Facebook, or our church website at fumcccommerce.org.

You can also reserve a seat by contacting one of the event hosts, Andy Stoker, at 940-597-7754 or andy@andystoker.com.

Payment

There are three payment options:

1. Pay with credit card online when you register.
2. Pay with check made payable to Proyecto Abrigo and mailed to Andy Stoker, 1001 Live Oak Street, Denton, TX 76209.
3. Pay at the door by check or cash.

Transportation

Contact the church office to reserve your seat on the church van. Pastor Marc is our driver. Meet at the church by 5pm to share a ride.

Silent Auction

If you have an item to donate to the Silent Auction, contact Jan Helton at 903-886-6072 or jeffjan@koyote.com. Gifts made by the people of Tierra Nueva will also be available for purchase at the dinner.

The evening promises good food and a chance to reconnect friendships forged on mission trips all for a great cause. When's the last time you saw **Pastor Dana Coker**? She'll be there! See you March 26 at Suncreek UMC!



**FUMC-COMMERCE
GOALS FOR 2011**

- **Increase giving as a spiritual discipline**
- Increase average worship attendance by 20
- More fully implement Connect-Grow-Serve ministry structure
- Worship + 2

The Spiritual Discipline of Giving

By Hal Langford

FUMC's Leadership Team has set as one of our five goals for 2011 the "Spiritual Discipline of Giving." Giving is often the least understood of the spiritual disciplines. God expects us to give not because we *have to* but because we *want to*! In this tough time of economic insecurity we are all burdened with uncertainty about our future. The idea that God wants us to give from the top and not the bottom is hard to comprehend. At times even the most faithful have doubts, and we do the wise thing from an earthly perspective and do something else with our first fruits. Time after time in the Bible, Jesus tells us that he will take care of us. In Jeremiah 29:11 we are told (NIV) "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." That hope and future keep us going forward even in the toughest times.

As chairman of the Stewardship Committee I return to that verse again and again. FUMC is one of the main sources of outreach in Commerce. From our programs for children, to our concerns for the youth of the community, to the investment we make in college students, to the participation that we have in programs for the less fortunate and our commitment to our aging membership we are indeed a light on the hill here in Commerce. All of these programs, however, require an investment of both time and money. While our staff has been very prudent in expenditures over the last few years and although we have kept the growth of our budget down, we are faced with a declining balance in our operating account. Our income was \$22,000 below our expenditures last year. All of this is on top of several years of near or below break even. In order to continue to work both inside and out of our walls we need to individually pray that God would give us guidance in our giving. Not just our money but our time! As God gave hope to the Israelites in Jeremiah I know he has a great future for us at FUMC.

Over the next few weeks we will be offering opportunities for the congregation to become more informed about our programs, our plans and our budget. I know that as we move forward together we will find solutions to our budget situation! Looking forward to hearing from you.

NEWS FROM THE WESLEYAN

Your source for Wesleyan Campus Ministry Updates

In addition to the ministries happening each week (including *FYI Lunches* and *Regener8 Bible Study*), here are some great opportunities coming up...

Spring Mission Weekend: Serve, build, grow, laugh, eat, play, learn, worship, transform... Come serve with us and experience a new world of community with God's people in poverty. Building house-ramps for those in need, serving & sharing breakfast with low-income and homeless families, and worshipping & learning from New Day communities in Dallas. Friday-Monday, March 11-14. Space is limited, so sign up with Marc today!

Campus Week of Prayer: We're joining together with all Christian organizations and students on campus to pray for our campus and community in a week-long prayer vigil! Worship services will begin and end the event on campus, so come join us! Monday-Friday, March 28 - April 1.

Get Ready For... Dinner that makes you smile... Music that takes you to another place... Dancing like nobody's watching... Diving deeply into life with friends... Drinking deeply from life with God... (What are they talking about??) Come find out on **Wednesday, March 23, 7:30 pm** at The Wesleyan!

