

First United Methodist Church

Commerce

Volume 12, Issue 5

May 2014

Old Fashioned Church Picnic

Sunday, May 18

Commerce City Park

immediately following
the 11:00am service

Wear casual clothes to church

~

Leave right after the 11:00am service to go to the City Park

~

Play outdoor games and listen to music

~

Bring a lawn chair, a dish to share, and outdoor games to play

sponsored by the Connect Team

(Rain plan: FUMC-C Family Ministry Center)

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Dear FUMC Friends:

As I sort through books, files, and begin packing boxes, I am mindful of many blessings received during my time here in Commerce. Here are just a few of those – in no certain order:



Ten Things I Will Miss About Commerce

- Walking to work on a beautiful, sunny day
- Dealing with a rush hour that lasts about 15 minutes
- Seeing ducks, geese and the occasional great blue heron on Gee Lake
- Being able to take my pets to the best veterinary hospital ever (a real plus for a pet lover!)
- Watching hummingbirds at the parsonage feeder
- Living among wonderful neighbors in a lovely neighborhood
- Hearing John Burkett’s incomparable organ-playing each Sunday morning
- Serving with and alongside an amazing, gifted staff
- Enjoying the energy and freshness that college students bring to our congregation and community
- Being inspired by a congregation that is deeply committed to making a difference in our community

It has been my honor to serve here with you. My heart is overflowing with gratitude for this congregation.

May the peace that passes all understanding be with you all –
Valarie

May 4
Pastor Marc preaching

May 11
Confirmation Sunday
Proverbs 9:1-6
“Heeding Wisdom’s Call”

May 18
1 Peter 2:2-10
“Called Out of Darkness”

May 25
Memorial Sunday
Acts 17:22-31
“Covering the Bases”

8:45am ~ Chapel
11:00am ~ Sanctuary

Midweek Eucharist
Wednesdays
@ 5:30pm ~ Chapel

Committee Chairs
Leadership Team Chair:
Gene Lockhart
(903) 886-3498
Lay Leader:
John Heatherly
(903) 886-7070
Personnel Chair:
Wes Underwood
(903) 886-1503
Property Chair:
Jim Brown
(903) 886-7439
Stewardship Team Chair:
Mike Roberts
(903) 886-2142
Connect Team Chair:
Melinda Reid
(903) 886-7623
Grow Team Chair:
Sabrina Green
(903) 886-1902
Serve Team Chair:
Angela Roberts
(903) 886-2142
FUMC Foundation President:
Anne Mills
(903) 886-6792
Lay Member:
Carole Walker
(903) 886-4450
UMW President:
Mary Lou Heatherly
(903) 886-8381



MEMORIAL DAY
The Church Office will be closed Monday, May 26th in observance of the Memorial Day holiday!

In an effort to reduce increasing mailing costs, quarterly giving statements will now be mailed out at the end of the second and fourth quarters.



The First United Methodist Newsletter is the official publication of FUMC Commerce. The newsletter is published at the beginning 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 Monday, May 19 by 9:00am****

Confirmation Sunday, May 11 during the 11:00am service

Our confirmands will officially join the United Methodist Church.



VBS is COMING!!!

We are already looking forward to this summer and VBS 2014. Our VBS dates are June 16th-20th. This year's theme is "Workshop of Wonders". The kids will explore how to imagine and build with God!

We've come up with an early list (and I'm sure there will be more to come!) of items that could be helpful as we prepare to set the stage for the fun this summer!

Needs for VBS 2014:

- Construction type items (signs/yellow tape)
- Boxes (cereal, shoe, fruit snack, ect...)
- Pool noodles
- Latex Balloons
- Crepe Paper/Streamers
- 2 liter soda bottles
- Rectangular plastic tablecloths (All colors)
- Volunteers, (get ready to spend a week like no other!)



Bridgeport Summer Camps Scholarships needed

Children's Camp: July 8-12 (grades 3-5) Daily Cost: \$70 /child Weekly Cost: \$350/child

Junior high's Camp: June 23-28 (grades 6-8) Daily Cost: \$75/child Weekly Cost: \$375/child

(Bridgeport insists that we send 1 volunteer per 5 kids. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Joanna Thrift @ 214-803-9964.)





The Kids Music Monday Program wrapped up the year with a recital at Country Estates.



In memory of...

Rebecca Leos

By: Edna O'Quinn

Glenda Parks

By: Jim and Susan Patton
Tom and Robbie Ausley

Bob Mills

By: Jeff and Ashley Anderson
Gayle Shumate
Christopher and Terri Watson
Bill and Sue Bonnette
Sue Davis
Mary Nell and Jack Roberts
Dana and John Roberts
Edna O'Quinn
Suzanne & George Carter and Jim Woodley & Matt Woodley
John and Kittye Worrell
Mark and Frances Sartwell
Roger and Jean Arnold
Gilbert and Tammy Naizer
James and Teddie Poston
Robert Sanders
QSC Audio Products
Loretta Kibler
Barry and Eva Green

MEMORIALS



Bob Mills, continued

Dale and Elaine Stotts
Ted and Ellen Oats
Trish and Clark Mulkey
Dennis and Judy Anderson
Richard Sellinger
Jim and Jan Ainsworth
Susan Lampe
Steven and Barbara Shwiff
Mike and Angela Roberts
Joe Helton
Construction Education Foundation
Suzanne and Tom Bailey
Ricky and Mimi Dobbs
Carole Walker
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Hendrix
Plumbing Heating Cooling Contractor
John and Donna Davenport
Bob and Dixie Stachowiak
Wyman and Harriet Williams
Gene and Carolyn Lockhart

Virginia Gibbs

By: Sue Davis
Suzanne & George Carter and Jim Woodley & Matt Woodley

Fred Tarpley

By: Jim and Jan Ainsworth

May Mission of the Month: ZIP Code Project

The Mission of the Month for May is the ZIP Code Project, an ambitious undertaking of the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church to eradicate poverty by 2025 in two ZIP codes that have the greatest need within the conference. All \$1 bills placed in the offering plate and designated gifts during May will support this mission.



The North Texas Conference began the ZIP Code Project in 2013. (This initiative is not unlike the Eliminating Poverty in Commerce – EPIC project.) The two zip codes are 75215, an urban area in south Dallas, and 75426 in rural northeast Texas with Clarksville as its hub. These two zip codes are areas where the situations and needs are very different but still leave them with the greatest poverty as indicated by a wide-ranging group of standards. Bishop Mike McKee is not only a strong proponent of this project but has also been assigned oversight of the program nationally.

Several key phrases drive the ZIP Code Project including “ministry with the poor”, “in and out missions” and “neighbors”. The ZIP Code Project is collaborative and insists that those in the neighborhood must be full partners in the effort beginning with careful listening to their opinions, ideas, and experiences.

Many churches – Methodist and others – strive to meet the urgent needs in the neighborhood by “in and out” missions to cloth, feed, and house (or improve housing). Though important, these efforts are essentially stopgap measures. What is lacking are systemic changes that transform the neighborhood permanently. Instead of giving a man a fish, teaching that person to fish. This is what the ZIP Code Project aims to achieve.

“Neighbors” is the word that is often heard in conjunction with the project. All of us have heard sermons on “Who Is Our Neighbor?” The story of the Good Samaritan comes to mind. With over 300 churches and 160,000 members in the Conference, who is not our neighbor? The United Methodist church is a connectional church, and we at FUMC-Commerce can be good neighbors by listening,



Kibler and Casey Scholarships

The F.W. and Annie Kibler Family Scholarship and the Leland and Mary Casey Scholarship will be awarded May 29th at the CISD Awards Ceremony. These scholarships enable area students to further their education. We as a church are grateful to these families and their vision of education for our young people. What a wonderful tribute!



Turning Your Lenten Offering into Blessings

During the Lenten season, \$2,077.76 was received through special gifts and drop-a-dollar. This Lenten offering will benefit the North Texas Food Bank (NTFB) and enable them to provide 6233 meals to hungry North Texans!

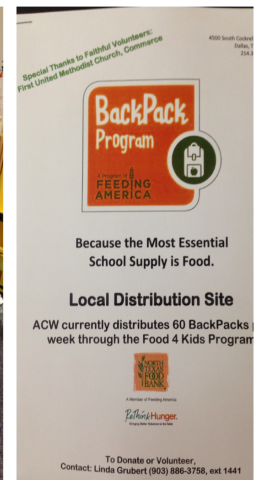
A Member of Feeding America

Know that right here in Commerce, the Food 4 Kids backpacks that go home every Friday with food-insecure elementary school children and the bags of food that the Bread of Life Food Pantry distributes monthly to 150+ families come from the NTFB. Many local residents also receive assistance from FISH – Hunt County Shared Ministries, a NTFB agency.

There are ongoing ways to support the NTFB mission locally. Volunteers are still needed at A.C. Williams Elementary School Thursday mornings in May from 9am to 10am to load Food 4 Kids backpacks with shelf-stable snacks. Slots are available on May 8, 15, 22, and 29. To sign up, contact Angela Roberts 903.886.2142 or AQRoberts@hotmail.com.




Special thanks go to multiple people who have already given their time to support the Food 4 Kid program. Jim Patton, Gene Lockhart, Mike Roberts, and Gabe Wittkopf have made deliveries from the NTFB in South Dallas to the elementary campuses. Judy Rudoff has assisted school counselor Linda Grubert with enrolling A.C. Williams students into the program. Amy Stark along with sons Tucker & Daniel, Angela Roberts, Gayle Shumate, Jan Helton, Judy Anderson, Laura Milligan, Mary Carolyn Dye, Richard Smith, and Susan Patton have all helped load backpacks.



FLY FLY – the youth are off to play Frisbee golf this weekend!

Sunday, May 4 meet at 4:00pm
at the Texas A&M University-Commerce Outdoor Adventure Center
(located between Wal-Mart and Commerce High).
Frisbees will be provided.

 Our FLY youth group is going on a UM Army Mission trip to Lubbock July 20-26.




Sound Techs Needed
 Our Sound Tech Team has recently lost a few members. If you are interested in joining our team, please contact the church office at 903-886-3220 or Dennis Anderson at 903-886-7432 or 903-886-3312.



UMW will meet **Tuesday, May 20** at 10:00am. Our May project is items for the nursing home. **All women are invited to join us!**

UMW is still collecting Box Tops for Education and Labels for Education.




Attendance

	<u>Early</u>	<u>5:30</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>SS</u>
Mar 26		14		
Mar 30	39	—	124	88
Apr 2		8		
Apr 6	31	—	109	79
Apr 9		11		
Apr 13	28	—	136	79
Apr 16		12		
Apr 20	37	—	213	86
Apr 23		9		
Apr 27	20	—	70	80

Financial Update
General Operating Fund

as of March 31, 2014	Year-to-Date	
Income:	\$ 34,537	\$93,870
Expenses:	\$ 29,187	\$92,581
	\$ 5,350	\$ 1,289




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:

Thursday, May 1	Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Friday, May 2	Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19
Saturday, May 3	1 Peter 1:17-23
Sunday, May 4	1 Peter 1:22
Monday, May 5	John 10:1-10
Tuesday, May 6	Psalms 23
Wednesday, May 7	1 Peter 2:19-25
Thursday, May 8	John 10:1-6
Friday, May 9	Acts 2:42-47
Saturday, May 10	John 10:7-10
Sunday, May 11	Psalms 23:1-4
Monday, May 12	John 14:1-8
Tuesday, May 13	Psalms 31:1-5
Wednesday, May 14	1 Peter 2:2-10
Thursday, May 15	Acts 7:55-60
Friday, May 16	John 14:6-14
Saturday, May 17	Psalms 31:15-16
Sunday, May 18	John 14:1-14
Monday, May 19	Acts 17:22-28
Tuesday, May 20	Acts 17:29-31
Wednesday, May 21	Psalms 66:8-20
Thursday, May 22	1 Peter 3:13-17
Friday, May 23	1 Peter 3:18-22
Saturday, May 24	John 14:15-17
Sunday, May 25	John 14:18-21
Monday, May 26	Acts 1:6-14
Tuesday, May 27	John 17:1-11
Wednesday, May 28	1 Peter 4:12-14
Thursday, May 29	Luke 24:44-53
Friday, May 30	Luke 24:44-53
Saturday, May 31	1 Peter 5:6-11



Prayer Lists

We pray for those who have experienced a loss.

Condolences to...

The Family of Gary Schaffer (George & Priscilla McFarland's son-in-law)
Those tornado victims and families

We pray for those who have experienced an illness...

Jean Funderburk, Lewis Jackson, Mark Kitchens, Ruth Pope, Nadine Yeager, Ronnie Davidson, Allen Martin, Michelle Bone, Billie Patterson (Chris Patterson's mother), Harlow (Stacey and Blake's child, John and Teresa Heatherly's friend), Warren Dunham, Dorothy Carlton, Wendel Underwood (Wes Underwood's father), Nelda Harrison (Leon Harrison's sister), Cindy Klingbeil, Jean McKinney, Doris Kerbow, Jack Boyd (Julie McLeroy's father), Norma McNew, Clyde Robnett, Clay Yeager, Faye Jackson, Jaron and Tiffany Peek (Jim Peek's son and daughter-in-law), Gene Casselberry, Pat Skauge, Sue Taylor, Lois Cranford, Betty Morton, Robert Seay, Jessie Short

Others to Remember in Prayer...

Draughn's/Country Home Estate: Ahtrell Dalton, Helen Dickson, Dorothy Ingram, Edna O'Quinn, Lucy Potts, Pete Robinson, Ruby Vander Velde, and Euple Walker

Briarcliff: Glenna Siebenhausen

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).



Remembering those serving in our military...

2nd Marine Division Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith
Col. Peter Bailey Garrett Johnson
Lt. Col. Richard Bailey Nathan Grove
Lt. Col. Keith Williams Lt. Dan Barton
Lt. Col. Jeremy Quatacker-Mark and Frances Sartwell's son-in-law
CW2 Courtney Phillips (Afghanistan)-Sharon Smith's cousin
Tyler Craig (Afghanistan)-Brad and Vickie Boynton's son-in-law
Chief Robert Starkey-Wanda Beane's brother and Tom Starkey's son
Ensign Terry Starkey-Wanda Beane's brother and Tom Starkey's son
Jim Hunsicker (Afghanistan)-Carolyn Miller's brother
Alex Dech (Afghanistan)-Pastor Ron Dech's son
Captain Daniel Robnett-Clyde and Wanda Robnett's grandson
Kris Yoder-John & Rebecca Sneed's son-in-law
Staff Sgt. Geoff Abbe & Sgt. Eric Abbe-Ladonna & Chris Patter-son's cousins



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Commerce, TX 75428
Senior Pastor – Rev. Valarie Englert

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Articles for the next newsletter are due
Monday, May 19 by 9:00am