

First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 15, Issue 5

May 2017

Your futures are as bright as your faith! Congratulations to our Graduating Seniors!

Faith Dixon:

Texas A&M University Commerce

Claire Claire Dobbs

Texas Christian University (History/Pre-Law), Chancellors Scholar
Scholarship, John V Roach Honors College, Valedictorian

Austin Heatherly

Midland College, Golf Scholarship (Marketing or Business)

Luke Hooten

University of Texas - Austin (Film), Top Ten Student

Tara Nicholson:

Sam Houston State University/Pediatric Nursing.

Cameron Oats

Texas A&M University Commerce (Business)

Rachel Scarcelli:

Texas A&M University Commerce, Regents Scholar (Pre-Occupational
Therapy) Texas Women's University for Masters and Doctorate, Salutatorian

Kassady Todhunter

Texas A&M University Commerce, Regents Scholar Program,
Top Ten Student

Teddy Walker

Texas A&M University Commerce (Engineering or Business),
Top Ten Student

Maxwell Wymore

Texas A&M University Commerce (Undecided)

Inside this issue:

Worship, Little Ark, Children's Ministry pg. 3

Mission of the Month, WCM pg. 6

Announcements, Committee Chairs pg. 8

Finances, Daily Scriptures pg. 9

Pastor's Page pg. 2

Serve: FISH, NTFB, BBQ, Pics pg. 4&5

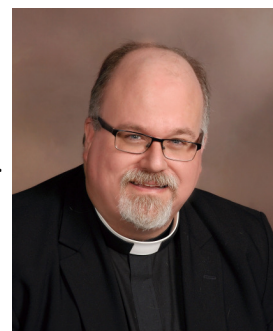
Trustees, BBQ Thanks, eGiving pg. 7

UMW, Memorials, Attendance pg. 9

Prayer List pg. 8

Orders of Worship

By: Dr. Gregory S. Neal



Throughout the long history of Christianity there have been many different ways to worship God. From the currently popular forms of contemporary worship – exemplified by our new Sunday evening service: “The Light” – to the informal style of our 8:45 and the liturgical of our 10:50 Sunday morning traditional services, believers have found a multitude of meaningful approaches to worship.

While some might prefer one style of worship over another, in all of them music is important: through both singing and performance, Christians offer to God our songs of praise, our hymns of faith, and our anthems of joy by “making a joyful noise to the Lord.” Also present in all forms of worship is the proclamation of the Word through the reading of Scripture and, usually, its application through a preached message. What will vary from service to service is its structure and style of presentation – the way each service is put together, how each is conducted, and the precision with which the order of worship is followed. In all forms of worship, however, there *is* an order of worship; that order may be written out for the congregation to see, know, follow, and participate in, or it may be a plan of which only the leadership is aware. There are always parts for the congregation to play in any worship service, but the precision of their involvement and the degree to which that involvement is scripted can vary greatly from service to service. And, the general atmosphere of the service can also vary greatly depending upon the style and approach of the congregation and the worship leadership. These factors are what differentiate our three different Sunday services at First UMC Commerce. Over the next couple of months, in conjunction with our new Worship Committee, we’re going to look at the 10:50 service’s Order of Worship to see why we do some of the things we do in that service, its style, and the theory behind a “liturgical” service.

The 10:50 service follows the Basic Pattern of Worship that you will find outlined in the United Methodist Church’s *Hymnal* and *Book of Worship*. Established by the General Conference for use in the UMC nearly 30 years ago, this order of worship takes the congregation from a gathering and greeting time, through proclamation and response, to thanksgiving and communion, and concluding with a sending forth. In the *Hymnal*, which you will find in the sanctuary pews, that order is outlined on pages 3-5, and with greater detail on pages 6-11. While our 10:50 service has a few minor variations on this Basic Pattern, in large part this is the order of worship that has been in place at First UMC Commerce since mid-2013. Within this Basic Pattern there is plenty of room for variety in structure, and from time to time we have had, and will continue to have, adjustments to the order. This being said, there are some things that will continue to remain as part of this service: particularly important is the use of the traditional sung liturgies of the *Gloria Patri* (“Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost ...”) and the *Doxology* (“Praise God from whom all blessings flow ...”). These two elements have been part of traditional, liturgical Methodist Worship since John Wesley’s time, and are greatly beloved by many. Likewise, singing of Hymns, our amazing Choir, the affirmations of faith, and printed liturgies will also continue as part of this classic form of worship.

Next month we’ll look at questions of style within traditional worship, and at some of the variations and adaptations that are possible in Methodist worship when it comes to subjects like the wearing of robes, certain physical gestures, the use of acolytes, and the history of crucifers.



The Pastor’s Bible Study will wrap up its spring study on May 23rd. We will return in September with a Study on the Book of Genesis. All are welcome!

Worship Assistants Needed

The 10:50 service needs children, youth, and adults who are willing to serve as Acolytes! We also need men, women, and youth who are interested in serving as Ushers and as Greeters! Please contact the church office if you would like to serve.



THE LIGHT

A Contemporary Service

Email: vickie@fumccommerce.org

Follow us on Twitter: @TheLightWorship

Instagram: @TheLightWorship

Join our Facebook page: The Light - Contemporary Service @ FUMC Commerce

Worship

Sunday, May 7

Sunday, May 14

*Sunday, May 21
Senior Sunday*

*Sunday, May 28
Ascension Sunday*

8:45am ~ Chapel

10:50am ~ Sanctuary

*6:00pm ~ Family
Ministry Center*

Mid-Month Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, May 17

5:30 pm in the Chapel

This is a special service of prayer, contemplation, and Communion conducted in the Anglican Tradition. All are welcome!



Children's Ministry

Sunday School News:

- Our bible verse this month in Children's Sunday School is Matthew 16:18.
- We would like thank each and everyone that donated for Children's Church Camp in June. We will continue to take donations but this has really helped several families already and we can't thank you all enough for your generosity!



Children's Choir News:

- Choir performed on Palm Sunday. They did an amazing job! All the children carried in palms and blessed the congregation with their sweet smiles.
- Children's Choir will not meet in May or through the summer but will begin again in September.



Little Ark Happenings

Little Ark News:

- Little Ark loved singing the First Thursday Luncheon in April. We will be back in May!
- Little Ark hunted eggs during Holy Week.
- Little Ark Open House/Graduation is Thursday, April 27 at 6:00. All are welcome to come see what our children have learned this year.
- Little Ark will honor mother's from all classes with a Mother's Day Breakfast. Vickie McMurray will be joining us to give a brief encouragement to all these moms. We will be serving breakfast items and juice. If you would like to provide a breakfast food or just come welcome mothers for this special event, please see Shelly Oats.





Turning Your Lenten Offering into Blessings Now and Tomorrow

During the Lenten season, \$1,158 was received through special gifts and drop-a-dollar giving for Hunt County Shared Ministries - FISH. This offering will not only provide food those most in need in our county but also help with payment of utility bills, rent or mortgage, access to healthcare services, prescriptions, dental and optical needs as well as other assistance if it will help a person get a job or get work.

Big News

Our Lenten offering will furthermore support FISH as it becomes the first rural hub in the North Texas Food Bank's Network Expansion plan. The North Texas Food Bank (NTFB) and FISH officially announced this new partnership on March 31, and FISH shared the following on social media the same day:

In 2015, the North Texas Food Bank launched a 10 year strategic plan to increase their food distribution output from 61 million meals in FY16 to 92 million meals annually by 2025- a near 50% increase. In order to achieve this goal, the NTFB is working to transform their current food distribution network, moving from directly serving some 200 agencies, to a Network Expansion plan where select agencies will serve as Hubs or mini food banks, redistributing food in their region to smaller agencies in the area.

As part of the announcement, plans were unveiled for a new distribution center building to be constructed adjacent to the existing Hunt County Shared Ministries building on King Street. The new 10,000 sq. ft. building will have large walk-in cooler and freeze storage as well as a large warehouse for non-perishable food storage. A local food pantry will also be housed in the building. It will offer clients a shopping-style experience where they get to take an active role in choosing which nutritious foods they want from a large selection. Greater choice means that less food will go to waste as families get to eat healthy meals they like. A large, covered loading dock area will allow deliveries and pickups. Area food pantries that work with the NTFB in Quinlan, Commerce, Caddo Mills and Wolfe City will be able to order their food from the local hub, saving them a trip into Dallas. The existing FISH building will eventually become administrative offices for both the hub and the agency.

"We are very excited to be chosen as the first rural hub for the North Texas Food Bank," said Wally Jeffers, Executive Director of Hunt County Shared Ministries. "It seemed like great timing to make the announcement at our annual BBQ. We've seen the need in our county grow, and having the opportunity to move toward a goal of providing 3 million pounds of nutritious food is going to be a big challenge. Fortunately, our area food pantries are eager to work with us to make this possible. As we work to create this new hub, the North Texas Food Bank, Hunt County Shared Ministries and all our partners will need public support now, more than ever before. Healthy food donations, monetary donations, volunteer hours and additional corporate partners will be the key to helping those most in need – not only in Hunt County, but all of North Texas."



280 Served at BBQ Lunch in Commerce!

Participation in the BBQ lunch on March 31st benefiting Hunt County Shared Ministries – FISH exceeded expectations. Church members, faith community, City, University, CISD, local businesses and individuals came together to volunteer, savor some amazing food, and learn how FISH is at work right here in Commerce.



Your Serve team designated \$250 in funds raised through the Merry Marketplace and Lunch for Missions to sponsor the BBQ at the Friend of FISH level. This support is in addition to the Lenten offering of \$1,158.



Pictured clockwise from upper left:

Ron Elwell, Jim Patton, and Susan Reeves in the serving line;

emcee Mark Reid presenting Colby Carthel a door prize;

Little Ark director Jennifer Knight and FISH executive assistant Lorie Roberts selling tickets;

and some of the Best of the Best BBQ



MISSION of the MONTH

Why I Support UM ARMY

I'm a big fan of United Methodist Action Reach-out Mission by Youth (UM ARMY)!

My first years in youth ministry I struggled to find a mission organization I felt good about sending youth. I had been let down with camp experiences that included a combination of watered down theology, lack of structure, too much free time, and too expensive. Then I joined a church staff that sent me on my first UM ARMY expedition.

I have now participated with multiple youth groups on several UM ARMY trips, along with helping host camps. And I have a shelf full of t-shirts to prove it! I've had many different leadership roles at various camps over the years. Because of these trips, I can confidently tell you that UM ARMY offers youth and adults an outstanding mission experience that focuses on strengthening the youth's spiritual gifts and leadership skills by building relationships with homeowners. I have witnessed how UM ARMY transforms, not just homes, but communities and lives! There is not enough room in this article to tell even one of these stories. I could fill a book with these transformation stories, but I often include them in sermons.

As a supporter of UM ARMY, I can also attest to how the organization is a good steward of their financial and material resources. Each camp strives to be frugal with their budget, so they can help the most people possible throughout the many camps each year. Commerce has greatly benefited from UM ARMY. When you donate to UM ARMY you can rest assured that your dollar goes directly to: building the Wesleyan's wheelchair ramp, putting in another bathroom at Griffith Chapel, doing lawn work for an elderly church member, putting in a new shower for another church family, building bridges with the Norris community, and impacting the faith life of so many of our youth!

This month Drop a Dollar supports UM ARMY: give generous, restore homes, transform communities, change lives for Christ!

Pastor Brian



WCM Spring in Review

The Spring semester is almost over! Here is a look back at some of the special things that happened this Spring at the Wesleyan.

- We hosted three new student groups that now meet at the WCM, bringing in new folks to our community.
- We have new donors and lunch sponsors.
- Key student leaders attended the Conference's Luke 4 Leadership Training and then taught the CORE leaders their new evangelism skills.
- Major repairs were completed on the walls, roof and landscaping! We celebrated with a Spring Fling in our backyard, which brought in more than 60 donors and students.
- Our backyard also hosted all the campus ministries for the opening worship of Rez Week on Palm Sunday. WCM students led FUMC's Good Friday service and volunteered at various mission opportunities.
- When a judgmental, hate-spewing 'Christian evangelist' showed up on campus with his signs and bullhorn, we peacefully protested with Christ's message of love and acceptance.
- Wednesday afternoon's small group study compared and contrasted the Bible and the Koran, to highlight our common ground with our Muslim sisters and brothers.
- Donated books expanded our library in the Prayer room.
- WCM Board approved Assistant Campus Minister David Owsley to begin the ordination process! And three WCM students are beginning to serve FUMC as Youth Ministers: Hillary, Carlos and Manny.



All of these amazing things were able to happen because of all of your support, Thanks!

Church Trustees

I want to thank all the Trustees for all they do for this congregation! They have done a superb job.

The next meeting of the Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, May 2 at 6:30pm. We will meet in the Friendship Classroom. These meetings are open to the congregation and everyone is invited to attend and make comments, express concerns and ask questions of the Trustees.

The Wesleyan Campus Ministry roofing and siding repairs are complete. The building really looks nice. There are still many issues that building faces, and we will be addressing them at the next Trustees meeting.

The air and heating installations for the Education Wing are complete and working well. There are instructions on how to temporarily adjust the heating and cooling temperatures posted next to the thermostats. Please read them before attempting to make any adjustments. If you have questions, please seek out a Trustee and he/she will ensure your question is brought before the next meeting.

Many inside and outside projects were completed during the April workday. I want to thank all of you who participated. You might notice the extremely clean windows in the Gathering Area. We can thank Dennis and Judy Anderson. They took ownership and washed the windows during the workday. There are still projects to be completed and if you have an interest in taking ownership and get the project completed, please tell a Trustee. We will help you complete the project.

Shortly the office carpet will have been taken up and replaced. The carpet in the Sanctuary has been stretched and smoothed out, thus removing a potential stumbling hazard. This is an ongoing effort to make our church as presentable as possible to the general public and to you, the congregation.

The sale of the land behind the church on Live Oak is complete.

There are still many projects that need attention. The Sanctuary roof leaks and has damaged the Chancel furniture. This project is now priority one. We will talk with structural engineers to ascertain how to stabilize the steeple, and work with a roofing contractor to complete the project and eliminate any leaks in that area of the Sanctuary.

First United Methodist Church is blessed to have so many parishioners who are willing to give their time to help maintain the church property. Thank you.

Pat Skauge
First United Methodist Church Trustees

Thank you to everyone who made our 2017 BBQ a big success!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR PRESENTING SPONSOR!



Mission Integration

Also to our event hosts and volunteers who served
Wesley United Methodist Church
First United Methodist Church/Commerce
And to our BBQ Restaurants: Baker's Rib, Rib Crib, Tanner's Smokehouse BBQ and Soulman's Bar-B-Que

AND MANY THANKS TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS



Give Online

Remember, you can always give your monthly contributions securely online.

To set up a recurring contribution, visit the church website at www.fumccommerce.org, and click on "Ways to Give" and create a profile if you haven't already.



VBS 2017: Hero Central Mon, June 26- Fri, June 30 9am-12pm

Vacation Bible School is coming up quickly! This year's VBS theme will be Hero Central!! The date is June 26-30 and will take place from 9-12 each morning. If you would like to be a Super Hero, please contact Shelly Oats. We could use volunteers for stations, as shepherds, and to provide snacks and drinks for each day.

Committee Chairs

Ad Council Chair:

Mike Roberts (903) 886-2142

Lay Leader:

Carole Walker (903) 886-4450

SPPRC Chair:

Jim Patton (903) 886-4612

Trustees Chair:

Pat Skauge (903) 259-9875

Finance Chair:

Gil Naizer (903) 886-1961

FUMC Foundation President:

Anne Mills (903) 217-2615

Connect Team Chair:

Susan Patton (903) 886-4612

Grow Team Chair:

Craig Jensen (903) 886-8713

Serve Team Chair:

Amy Stark (903) 246-1487

Lay Member:

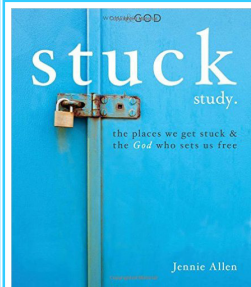
Gene Lockhart (903) 886-3498

UMW President:

Mary Lou Heatherly
(903) 886-8381

FIRST THURSDAY

Potluck Luncheon
May 4 @ 12pm



8-Week Women's Summer Bible Study

Thursday evenings
7-8:30pm

Beginning June 15th
Childcare available

Study: *Stuck* by Jennie Allen

Contact Vickie McMurray to register:
vickie@fumccommerce.org



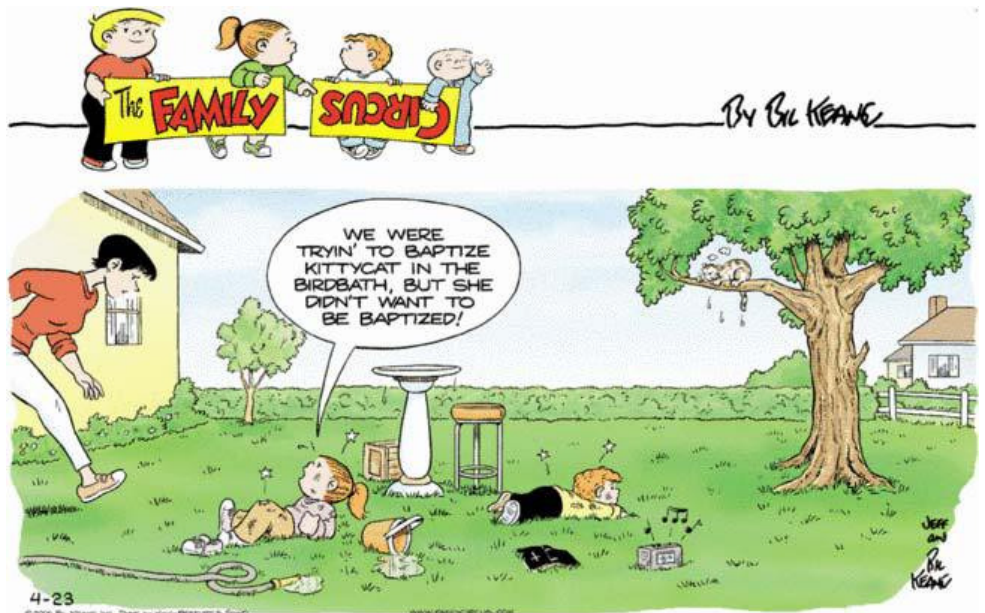
Adult Confirmation

Last Congregation-Wide Confirmation Class
May 28 @ 9:45am



Luigi's Gives Back Sunday May 21

If you take your bulletin after church, Luigi's will send us 10%. Help support our church by eating some good food!



To watch or listen to Dr. Neal's sermons on the internet, go to:
www.revneal.org * www.youtube.com/revneal * www.facebook.com/RevNealVideo

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, May 23 by 9:00am****



UMW will meet **Tuesday, May 16** at 10:00am. Our May project is: Nursing Home Bingo Prizes, sugar free cookies, 6 oz drinks, peanut butter crackers, lotions, shampoos (small).

All women are invited to join us!

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



In memory of...

Ruth Ann White

By: Jim & Susan Patton
Alta Fay Peden
David & Luann Huffman
CHS Class of 1970
Draughn's
Charles & Shirley Ranly
Bobby & Kathy Hill
Edna O'Quinn

Ruth Ann White, continued

Lena Faulkner
Paul & Norma Johnson
Dennis & Judy Anderson



Attendance

	<u>Early</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>Light</u>
Apr 2	25	79	46	
Apr 9	24	134	55	
Apr 16	36	155	56	
Apr 23	26	85	49	96



**Financial Information
General Operating Fund**

	<u>as of March 31, 2017</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income:	\$ 28,165	\$ 78,707
Expenses:	\$ 26,409	\$ 83,577
	\$ 1,756	-\$ 4,870

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:

Monday, May 1	John 10:1-7
Tuesday, May 2	John 10:7-10
Wednesday, May 3	Psalms 23:1-2
Thursday, May 4	Psalms 23:3-4
Friday, May 5	Psalms 23:5-6
Saturday, May 6	1 Peter 2:19-25
Sunday, May 7	Acts 2:42-47
Monday, May 8	Acts 7:55-60
Tuesday, May 9	Acts 7:55-60
Wednesday, May 10	1 Peter 2:2-3
Thursday, May 11	Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16
Friday, May 12	1 Peter 2:2-10
Saturday, May 13	John 14:1-14
Sunday, May 14	John 14:1-14
Monday, May 15	Acts 17:22-28
Tuesday, May 16	Acts 17:29-31
Wednesday, May 17	Psalms 66:8-20
Thursday, May 18	1 Peter 3:13-17
Friday, May 19	1 Peter 3:18-22
Saturday, May 20	John 14:15-17
Sunday, May 21	John 14:18-21
Monday, May 22	John 17:1-5
Tuesday, May 23	John 17:6-11
Wednesday, May 24	Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35
Thursday, May 25	Luke 24:44-53
Friday, May 26	1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11
Saturday, May 27	Ephesians 1:15-23
Sunday, May 28	Acts 1:6-14
Monday, May 29	1 Corinthians 12:12-13
Tuesday, May 30	Psalms 104:24-34, 35b
Wednesday, May 31	1 Corinthians 12:3b-13



Prayer Lists

Continued Prayers

Healing and peace for our hurting country and world
Loretta Kibler, Gayle Shumate, Pat Skauge, Myra Terrell, Harriet Williams, Allen Martin, Rev. Tom Dudley, Preston Helton (Jan & Jeff Helton's grandson), Debbie Hood (Cathy Giles' sister), Rev. Carolyn Allbritton, Edwina Threlkeld, Madeline Sullivan, Marsha Shepherd, Jim Stahl, Gladys and Jack Gray, Ruby Vander Velde, Lavonne Wells, Jason Smith (Lavonne Wells' grandson), Vanessa Paulin, Jason Jarvis (Gene and Betty Casselberry's family member), Zachary Madden, Brad Standlee (Gene and Betty Casselberry's friend), Harry Icenhower, Jennifer Oats (Jessica Morgan's sister), Gene Casselberry, Doris Kerbow, Rev. Clay Yeager, Garrett Cramer, Harold McFarland (Julia Robinson's father), Lois Cranford, Betty Morton, Robert Seay

Draughn's/Country Home Estate:

Roger & Jean Arnold, Ahtrell Dalton, Barbara Gish, Joe and Mary Louise McMahan, Edna O'Quinn, and Euple Walker

Oak Manor:

The Haven (San Antonio): Faye Jackson

River Point (Kerrville, TX): Lucy Potts

Austin: Ruby Vander Velde

*"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).



Remembering those serving in our military...

Daniel Chamberlain
Mike Dempsey
Col. Peter Bailey
Col. Keith Williams
Lt. Dan Barton
Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith
Josh Ham-Nadine & Clay Yeager's grandson-in-law
Kris Yoder-John & Rebecca Sneed's son-in-law
Staff Sgt. Geoff Abbe & Sgt. Eric Abbe-Ladonna & Chris Paterson's cousins

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



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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
Monday, May 23 by 9:00am