



First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 9, Issue 17

October 12, 2011



This Sunday October 16

2nd Annual Ushers' Stew

Enjoy homemade beef and chicken stew with family-recipe cornbread and desserts after 10:50am service in the Family Ministry Center



L to R: Bob Mills, Joe Milligan, Matt Wolcott, Jim Latham, and Rick Englert



Fellowship with members of Alliance of Ministry churches

Monetary donations benefit local food assistance programs:
Emergency Food Pantry ♦ Meals on Wheels
FISH – Hunt County Shared Ministries
Commerce Food Distribution/Manna Movers

Last year, the event raised \$900 for the area food programs.



Sunday, October 16 The University Chorale will perform at the 10:50am service

The University Chorale is the premiere choral ensemble selected by audition from both graduate and undergraduate students in the Music Department and the campus at large. The Chorale sings a wide range of substantive literature from all musical periods. In addition to a full schedule of on campus performances the Chorale has appeared in convention concerts, workshops presentations and choral festivals as well as tours within the United States and Europe.

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"I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you... Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother – especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord."

Philemon 1:10-12, 15-16



Worship

October 16, 2011

Please join us
this Sunday when
Rev. Marc Corazao
preaches on
Philippians 2:8-9
and the
University Chorale
performs

8:45am ~ Chapel

9:45am ~ Chapel

10:50am ~ Sanctuary

What happens in a slave-society when a slave runs away from his "master"? Well, I guess it depends on the society, but "nothing good" is probably a safe answer. So, how cruel would someone have to be to send a slave back to this master from whom he had run? Oh, how I wish I could sit down with Paul to challenge him to stand up in the face of societal opinion and rail against human possession and trafficking. If he would have been more clear about the evil present in slavery, could we have avoided centuries of tragic practice, especially when ethnicity and skin color were later thrown into the mix?

And yet... I just can't bring myself to get too angry with Paul on this one. I mean, look what he does in this letter to Philemon. He sends back a runaway slave, yes, but he sends Onesimus in a new form, with new titles that surpass any labels he has been given before... Son... Brother. Paul says, "I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you," and then gives Divine purpose to this time of separation – Philemon, you lost a slave, but look what you are getting back – a brother!

The troubling thought in my mind is that we don't get to read any corresponding letter from Philemon. We don't get to hear any stories about what happened when Onesimus showed up on his doorstep with this note in his hand. What would it take for someone like Philemon to completely change how he saw "his" slave – in fact all slaves – from now on?

Metanoia is a Greek word that often gets translated in the New Testament as repent. Really, it goes deeper than admitting I was wrong about something. *Metanoia* involves a change, a transformation of mind, based on a new understanding or awakening in the soul. In the time I have spent working and serving among those in poverty, I have looked into the faces of countless strangers and been confronted with the harsh reality that I have previously been content to leave them as strangers, even annoyances, in my mind. But what happens when God sends this same person back to me and says, "This is my son, my daughter, my own heart, I am sending to you so that you may call them beloved brother, precious sister"?

Committee Chairs

Leadership Team Chair

Harriet Williams
(903) 886-2206

Lay Leader:

Jim Patton
(903) 886-2206

Personnel Chair:

Chester Robinson
(903) 886-8220

Property Chair:

Bob Mills
(903) 886-6792

Stewardship Team Chair:

Hal Langford
(903) 886-8334

Foundation Chair:

Dan Shepherd
(903) 886-6883

Connect Team Chair:

Ladonna Patterson
(903) 886-4630

Grow Team Chair:

Teresa Heatherly
(903) 886-7070

Serve Team Chair:

Angela Roberts
(903) 886-2142



Jose Luis Portillo of
Proyecto Abrigo will be in our
10:50am worship service on
October 23 to bring us
up-to-date on that mission
Please join us!

The First United Methodist Newsletter is the official publication of FUMC Commerce. The newsletter is published on alternate Wednesdays. 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. All inputs are due by 9:00am on the Monday of the publication week. Questions may be addressed to the Church office.

****The next deadline is Monday, October 24 by 9:00am****

THANK YOU!

A special thank you to John Naizer for the wonderful job you did painting the stripes in the parking lot for your Eagle Scout project!

Children's Music

Are you in 5th Grade, 4th Grade, 3rd Grade, 2nd Grade, 1st Grade, or Kindergarten?

Then...GET READY!

Be watching for newsletter and email information on: Children's Choir, Handbells, and LOTS of FUN!

In memory of...

Bill & Jeanna Latson

By: Robert L. Bentley

Juanita Reeder

By: Gary & Glen Kibler

Charlene Moss

By: Donna & Jim Tavener

Virginia Taylor

By: Jim & Susan Patton

Helen Crook

By: Jim & Susan Patton

Bill Cole

By: Jim & Susan Patton



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, Oct 16	1 Thessalonians 1:4-10
Monday, Oct 17	Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Tuesday, Oct 18	Deuteronomy 34:8-9
Wednesday, Oct 19	Psalms 90:1-6
Thursday, Oct 20	Psalms 90:13-17
Friday, Oct 21	Matthew 22:34-40
Saturday, Oct 22	Matthew 22:41-46
Sunday, Oct 23	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Monday, Oct 24	Joshua 3:7-17
Tuesday, Oct 25	1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Wednesday, Oct 26	Matthew 23:1-12
Thursday, Oct 27	Matthew 23:5-7
Friday, Oct 28	Matthew 23:8-12
Saturday, Oct 29	Matthew 23:2-3

Attendance

	<u>Oct. 2</u>	<u>Oct. 9</u>
Early	31	—
9:45	11	—
Late	123	109
SS	69	78



Financial Update

General Operating Fund

as of September 30, 2011	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	
Income:	\$ 30,543	\$295,374
Expenses:	\$ 39,432	\$293,811
	-\$ 8,889*	\$1,563

Fund Balance: -\$17,797
(includes deficit from 2010)

*September expenses include the tree root removal and replaced concrete for the side walk





Prayer Lists

Newly Added

Julie Wadlow

Continued Prayers for Church Family

Andy Martin
Edna O'Quinn
Lucille Pemberton
Otha Spencer
John Sneed
Jan Vowell
Clay Yeager
Helen Dickson
Pete Robinson
Gary Kibler
Robert Seay

Continued Prayers Family & Friends

Kay Webber
Jennifer Stream (Chris and Dona White's daughter)
Judy Greenwood
Dorothy Ingram
Nell Hughes (Zelda Fisher's niece)
Edna Cannon
Mary Sue Walker (Helen Rowe's sister)
Freda Teel
Laura Cole (Helen Cole's daughter-in-law & Judy Anderson's sister-in-law)
William Durand (Eileen Faulkenberry's father)
George O'Kelley
Deborah Brown (Diane McDowell's friend)
Doris Sanders (Susan Bruton's friend)
Becca Smith (Mike Smith's mother)
David Crenshaw
Pat McClung (Chris & Donna White's friend)
Chance Thornton

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 in Afghanistan
Chief Robert Starkey (Afghanistan)-Wanda Beane's brother and Tom Starkey's son
Sgt. Jason Schmidlen (Iraq)-Jim and Debby Heitholt's son
Jim Hunsicker (Afghanistan)-Carolyn Miller's brother
Travis Miller-Lena Faulkner's great-grandson
Alex Dech (Afghanistan)-Pastor Ron Dech's son
Captain Daniel Robnett-Clyde and Wanda Robnett's grandson
Nathan Grove
David Wheat-Edna O'Quinn's nephew
Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith
Lt. Col. Peter Bailey
Lt. Col. Richard Bailey
Lt. Col. Keith Williams
Keith L. Boone-former Associate Pastor
Terry Starkey-Wanda Beane's brother and Tom Starkey's son
Lt. Dan Barton
Kris Yoder-son-in-law of John & Rebecca Sneed
Staff Sgt. Geoff Abbe & Sgt. Eric Abbe-cousins of Ladonna & Chris Patterson
Garrett Johnson



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

Place Label Here

First United Methodist Church
1709 Highway 50
Commerce, TX 75428
Senior Pastor - Rev. Valarie Englert