

First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 14, Issue 9

October 2016

Hunt County Shared Ministries (Fish)

Invites you to enjoy the Ultimate Hunt County Combo Plate at

"Best of the Best" BBQ

Friday, September 30th

Lunch 11:00 - 1:00 Dinner 5:30 - 7:30

Wesley United Methodist Church
5302 Hwy 69 South

Also serving lunch at L-3 Mission Integration

Raffle & Door Prizes!



Sponsored by



Mission Integration

Brisket • Sausage • Pulled Pork • Ribs
Beans • Cole Slaw
Potato Salad • Banana Pudding
ALL for only \$15

LUNCH DELIVERY
for orders of 10+
Call 903-455-0545



FUMC-Commerce Children's Music Program 3rd - 5th grade

Fall Semester Dates:

Every Wednesday
October 5-December 14
3:30-5:00
(snack provided)

You can register at the church office
or call 903-886-3220 to
add your child to the list.

We will have an informational meeting
for parents on Wednesday,
September 28 at 5:30 in the Family
Ministries Center. You can fill out
paperwork and ask questions
at this time.

Children will perform a Christmas
Musical during the 10:50 worship
service on Sunday, December 18th.

We will provide transportation from
ACW to the church but space will be
limited so sign-up early.

Contact:
Jelisa Baker at
Jelisabaker21@gmail.com or
Shelly Oats at oats@peoplescom.net

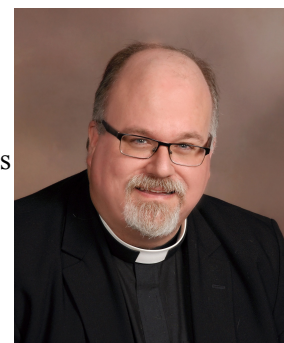
The Pastor's Bible Study meets **Tuesdays** from **1-2:30pm**. Dr. Neal is leading "The Pastor's Bible Study," a weekly study dealing with the book of Acts.

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“Prepared and Cross-Checked!”

By: Dr. Gregory S. Neal



Several years ago I was flying to Chicago to teach a course at one of our United Methodist Colleges and experienced the rare luxury of being upgraded into first class. This put me up near the front of the aircraft, close enough to be able to follow the operational prater of the flight attendants. Just after the gate agent had closed the plane’s door, the senior flight attendant announced: “forward cabin and galley doors prepared and cross checked!” Almost immediately thereafter another flight attendant echoed over the plane’s com-system: “tail galley door prepared and cross-checked!”

I chuckled and, making the sign of the cross, I said: “Passenger, prepared and cross-checked!” The flight attendant who would be doing the seatbelt-buckle and oxygen mask routine saw me do this and began laughing. Similarly, the passenger seated in the window seat to my right saw me do it, grinned, crossed himself as well, and then repeated my words. Suddenly, I heard other passengers do it to my left and behind me. Indeed, the words “Passenger, prepared and cross-checked” echoed down the rows of the plane, accompanied by laughter and a sudden lessening of tensions. I grinned and winked at the flight attendant and her own smile became as wide as her face.

“Passenger, prepared and cross-checked!” **That’s us!** We’re called to prepare for this life, and for the next, by checking ourselves with the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord. Apart from Jesus – apart from the love of God which Christ exemplified for us in his life, death, and resurrection – we cannot possibly be “prepared” for this life, or for the next. As Christians we are called to continually check ourselves *into* the love of God; we’re called to turn to and depend upon the gracious self-sacrifice of our Lord and Savior, who gave himself up for us that we might never fear sin and death. In other words, every element in our lives is supposed to be “cross checked.”

Recently several people have asked about why I make the sign of the cross at various points in our worship services. To put it simply, I usually make the sign of the cross at the following points in worship, and for the following reasons:

- When presiding at Holy Communion I will make the sign of the cross over the elements as I pray: “Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.” Making the sign of the cross at this point is an ancient practice in the Church, going back to the very early 200s A.D.; it reminds us that through partaking of the consecrated elements we receive the Real Presence of Jesus and the spiritual benefits of his death upon the cross. John Wesley, in his revisions to the rituals which he gave to the Methodists in America, advised his ministers to continue making the sign of the cross at Baptisms and in the Lord’s Supper for this very purpose.
- In the Confession of Sin and Pardon, I’ll make the sign of the cross at the invocation of the name of Jesus as I pray: “Almighty God have mercy upon you, forgive all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ” Here we are reminded that we have been forgiven was through Jesus’ atoning sacrifice upon the cross.
- Following my sermons, and also during the benediction at the end of the worship service, I’ll make the sign of the cross when I invoke the Holy Trinity: “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” This is one of the most ancient practices of the Church: when the Holy Trinity is called upon, the sign of the cross is appropriate because it reminds us that the Father’s love for us, in and through Jesus, was manifested on the cross and then conveyed to us through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit.

I also make the sign of the cross in my own personal spirituality. For instance, I will often cross myself after receiving Communion. I also cross myself at the beginning and at the end of my private, personal prayers as a reminder that, no matter where I may go, Jesus is always with me.

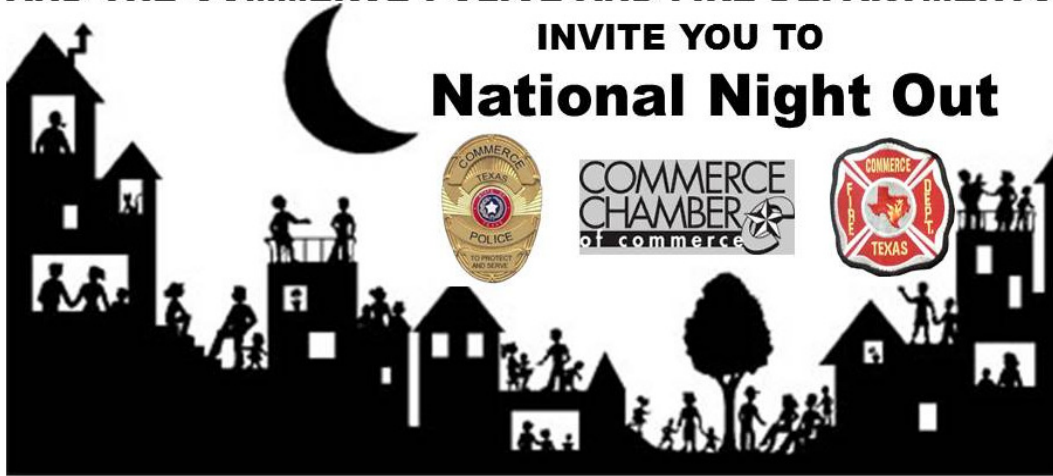
The sign of the cross is a matter of personal faith and practice. If you feel comfortable making the sign of the cross, or desire to do so, please feel free to do so. Please, don’t allow statements like “Methodists don’t do that” cause you to pause; if you feel like you want or need to do so, cross yourself. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, did.

And remember, always be “prepared and cross-checked” with Jesus before leaving Earth.

COMMERCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE COMMERCE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS

INVITE YOU TO

National Night Out



OCTOBER 4TH 6PM TO 9PM
At the Commerce Public Safety Building
1103 SYCAMORE

**** FREE FOOD FUN AND GAMES ****
(tours of police and fire station, bounce house, games, food, shows, and more)

Meals on Wheels Volunteer Needed:

A one-time volunteer to deliver food to 5 homes on **Wednesday, October 19th**. It usually takes about an hour from pickup to finishing the last delivery. If you can help, please contact Jan Helton at (903) 450-7335 or email: jheltons@hotmail.com



Adult Confirmation

Congregation-Wide Confirmation has started. It is held during the Sunday School Hour on the dates listed below. EVERYBODY is invited to join us. The Confirmation books are available to be picked up.

Class dates: Oct. 23, Nov. 13, Dec. 11, Jan. 22, Feb. 26, *Mar. 26, *Apr. 30, *May 21 (*tentative/open to adjustment).

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



Worship

8:45am ~ Chapel
10:50am ~ Sanctuary

Charge Conference
Sunday, Nov. 13

Combined Worship@ 3:00pm
Wesley UMC in Greenville

Committee Chairs

Ad Council Chair:

Mike Roberts (903) 886-2142

Vice Ad Council Chair:

Loretta Kibler (903) 886-7776

Lay Leader:

Carole Walker (903) 886-4450

SPPRC Chair:

Wes Underwood (903) 886-1503

Trustees Chair:

Bill Knutson (903) 456-2487

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) 246-3177

Lay Member:

Carole Walker (903) 886-4450

UMW President:

Mary Lou Heatherly
(903) 886-8381

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 Monday, October 17 by 9:00am****









MISSION
of the
MONTH

October's Mission of the Month is Hunt County Clothe-a-Child. All \$1 bills and designated gifts placed in the offering plate during October will benefit this important program, which can help boost a student's self-confidence. Last year 212 Commerce students referred by teachers and counselors each shopped for \$50 worth of clothing and shoes at our local Wal-Mart. For more information or

to help with shopping days in early December, contact Belinda Miller, Commerce Elementary School counselor, at 903.886.3757.

Registrars Needed!

October is Hunt County Gives Registration Month

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<p>Volunteers are needed to assist neighbors with registration for the Hunt County Gives Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Baskets. This annual assistance is provided by Hunt County Shared Ministries (FISH) in partnership with the Hunt County Coalition.</p> <p>Local residents may register at the Commerce Food Pantry at the First Presbyterian Church or at FUMC-C.</p> <p>Registration is also at FISH in downtown Greenville during regular business hours in Oct.</p> <p>Contact Angela Roberts at 972.765.6547 if you would like to help!</p>				<p>6</p>  <p>Sign Up 2 to 4 pm Commerce Food Pantry</p>		
				<p>13</p>  <p>Sign Up 2 to 4 pm Commerce Food Pantry</p>		
				<p>20</p>  <p>Sign Up 2 to 4 pm Commerce Food Pantry</p>		
<p><i>Thank you for supporting the September Mission of the Month, Hunt County Shared Ministries (FISH) through drop-a-dollar offerings & special gifts. FUMC-C was able to give \$292 to support FISH.</i></p>			<p>26</p>  <p>Sign Up 5 pm to 8 pm FUMC-C</p>	<p>27</p>  <p>Sign Up 2 to 4 pm Commerce Food Pantry</p>	<p>28</p>  <p>Sign Up 11 am to 1 pm FUMC-C</p>	
<p>Pancake breakfast and food basket distribution are Saturday, Nov 19, and Saturday, Dec 17, at FUMC-C. Look for opportunities to flip pancakes, load cars, and fellowship!</p>						



Prayer Shawl hats, scarves and more



All kinds of delectable treats



Cooks making chicken and beef stews from scratch

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MERRY MARKETPLACE & LUNCH FOR MISSIONS
COMMERCE

Merry Marketplace & Lunch
Mission Tradition Continues
December 3, 2016

On Saturday, December 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., we will host our fourth annual Merry Marketplace & Lunch for Missions in the Family Ministry Center. This fundraiser benefits general missions, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, and the Wesleyan Campus Ministry. It's also a wonderful opportunity for neighbors and friends to experience the hospitality of our church family!

The Merry Marketplace will offer beautiful handwork from the Prayer Shawl Ministry as well as your donations of antiques and vintage finds, Christmas decorative items, gifts for giving, and homemade baked goods and treats. Based on the wonderful response from last year, the Merry Market will again be the pick-up location for pre-ordered fresh evergreen wreaths and garlands. And following our strong tradition of alternative gifts, donors can contribute to missions in Commerce and beyond in honor of family and friends.

The Wesleyan Campus Ministry will serve chicken and beef stews to enjoy either at the Merry Marketplace or later in a to-go jar.

New this year is the opportunity to purchase lushly foliated and decorated wreaths in advance of the Merry Marketplace. Look for details coming soon!

As always, we rely on you! We need your help to craft, bake, donate, promote, set up, price, sell, and clean up. Please contact Angela Roberts at 972.765.6547 to get involved. Together, we can make it merry!



Partnering in Ministry

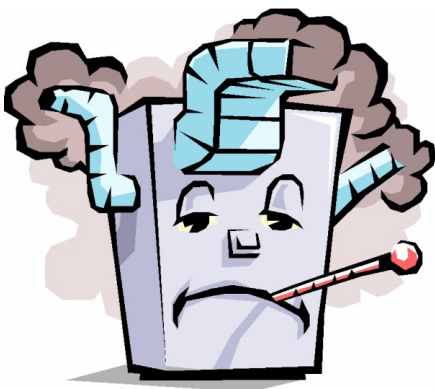
Our campus ministry is forming strong relationships with other student organizations to build community and reach more people in Christ's grace and love. The Wesleyan is known for being a diverse and inclusive faith community, and our on-going and new partnerships strengthen that reputation. For years we have hosted two student organizations; the New Beginnings Gospel Choir and Uniquely Bynded arts and praise group.

Over the last school year and already this semester we have had other student groups active in our ministries. Fraternities and Sororities have sponsored free lunches, volunteered for missions and building projects, and helped spread the word about WCM ministries. We now have on our CORE leadership and student staff members of other student organizations, so they are us and we are them!

Kappa Delta Chi is working on building a community garden in our backyard! These sorority sisters, led by Momo Nicole who is on both groups' leadership teams, are providing this garden for us for free. We plan on selling students lots for \$10/semester and the WCM will invest any profits back into our ministry. Another leader we share in common is WCM's new Marketing Guru Lupe Zapata who is doing a stellar job with social media and fliers!

Omega Delta Phi has been incredibly helpful with all kinds of property projects. They have also joined us for missions and have plans to join us for ministry programs. They are there for us at the drop of a hat! Several of them have become regulars at the Wesleyan. Manny Pasillas is on our leadership and is a big blessing to us.

Thanks to student leaders and student staff, especially Hillary Hawkins, we have forged these vital partnerships with other student organizations! On Labor Day we had a cookout. I honestly wasn't expecting many folks on a day off from classes, but student leaders reached out to other groups we partner with and we had **50 people!**



Some Relief from Recent Tropical Temps in Sunday School Rooms....

The Property Team would like to thank everyone for enduring the recent lack of air conditioning in the Adult Sunday School rooms. Although one outside air compressor has failed and cannot be repaired due to its age, it is part of a larger antiquated system in this hallway that

needs to be evaluated as a whole. This evaluation has been completed. Our plan is to replace 2 old units with 30 ton total capacity in this hallway that draw heat from the old sanctuary boiler to 3 new heat pump units with 20 ton total capacity. These units will be more energy efficient and independent of the sanctuary boiler. We are reviewing costs for these systems and hope to have a vendor selected soon. Our plan is to pay for these systems in the near term with a combination of foundation and church maintenance reserves. Thank you to Jim Patton for time spent working on this issue. Again, thank you everyone for your patience.

The Property Team



First Thursday
Potluck Luncheon
Oct. 6 @ 12pm

COMMERCE CARES



Saturday, Oct. 1
9:00-11:00

At the intersection of
Walnut and
Campbell Streets



UMW will meet **Tuesday, Oct. 18** at 10:00am. Our October 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!

In memory of...

Hans Koch

By: Friendship Class

Glenna Siebenhausen

By: Dough Rollins SS Class

- Lena Faulkner
- Edna O'Quinn
- Alta Fay Peden
- David & Luann Huffman
- Jim & Jan Ainsworth
- Fred & Anna Blohm
- Jerry & Sandy Hutton

- Charlie & Sharon Smith
- Bob & Norma Monday
- Loretta Kibler
- Trezzie & Peggy Pressley
- Roger & Jean Arnold

Lamont Cunningham

By: Alta Fay Peden
Pat & Janet Skauge



Attendance

	<u>Early</u>	<u>5:30</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>SS</u>
Sep 4	30	—	75	54
Sep 11	31	—	86	52
Sep 18	28	—	82	53
Sep 25	26	—	80	64



**Financial Information
General Operating Fund**

	<u>as of August 31, 2016</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income:	\$ 25,667	\$236,898
Expenses:	\$ 27,809	\$241,875
	-\$2,142	-\$4,977

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:

- Saturday, Oct 1 Luke 17:5-10
- Sunday, Oct 2 Luke 17:5-10
- Monday, Oct 3 Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
- Tuesday, Oct 4 Jeremiah 29:7
- Wednesday, Oct 5 2 Timothy 2:8-15
- Thursday, Oct 6 2 Timothy 2:8-15
- Friday, Oct 7 Psalm 66:1-12
- Saturday, Oct 8 Luke 17:11-19
- Sunday, Oct 9 Luke 17:11-19
- Monday, Oct 10 2 Timothy 3:14-17
- Tuesday, Oct 11 Psalm 119:97-104
- Wednesday, Oct 12 Luke 18:1-8
- Thursday, Oct 13 Jeremiah 31:31-34
- Friday, Oct 14 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
- Saturday, Oct 15 Jeremiah 31:27-34
- Sunday, Oct 16 Luke 18:1-8
- Monday, Oct 17 Psalm 65:1-8
- Tuesday, Oct 18 Luke 18:9-14
- Wednesday, Oct 19 Luke 18:9-14
- Thursday, Oct 20 2 Timothy 4:6-8
- Friday, Oct 21 Joel 2:23-32
- Saturday, Oct 22 Psalm 65:9-13
- Sunday, Oct 23 2 Timothy 4:16-18
- Monday, Oct 24 Habakkuk 1:1-4
- Tuesday, Oct 25 Habakkuk 2:1-4
- Wednesday, Oct 26 Psalm 119:137-144
- Thursday, Oct 27 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4
- Friday, Oct 28 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12
- Saturday, Oct 29 Luke 19:1-5
- Sunday, Oct 30 Luke 19:6-10
- Monday, Oct 31 Haggai 1:15b-2:9



Prayer Lists

Newly Added

Glenn Lockhart

Family of Dr. Don Reid (Mark Reid's father)

Continued Prayers

Healing and peace for our hurting country and world, Mission of starting a new contemporary worship to reach new people for Jesus, Loretta Kibler, Harry Icenhower, Gayle Shumate, Preston Helton (Jan & Jeff Helton's grandson), Dave Grimm (Lauren Dierolf's father), Tom Collier, Odeana Stewart, Danny House, Pamela Haskin, Eisley Henderson, Wendell Bryant, Mike Duncan, Rebecca Sneed, Linda Liston, Pete Chamberlain, Jennifer Oats (Jessica Morgan's sister), Mike Coker (Harold Coker's brother), Dr. Mark Godat, Larry Chaloupka, Carolyn Hofer (Becky Coker's sister), Carter James McLeroy, 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:

Ahtrell Dalton, Barbara Gish, Joe and Mary Louise McMahan, Edna O'Quinn, Euple Walker, and Ruth Ann White

Briarcliff: Gladys and Jack Gray

The Haven (San Antonio): Lewis and Faye Jackson

Oak Manor: Carol Peek

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...

2nd Marine Division
Danaycurce Childress
Mike Dempsey
Col. Peter Bailey
Garrett Johnson
Col. Keith Williams
Lt. Dan Barton
Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith
Josh Ham-Nadine & Clay Yeager's grandson-in-law
Tyler Craig (Afghanistan)-Brad & Vickie Boynton's son-in-law
Jim Hunsicker (Afghanistan)-Carolyn Miller's brother
Kris Yoder-John & Rebecca Sneed's son-in-law
Staff Sgt. Geoff Abbe & Sgt. Eric Abbe-Ladonna & Chris Patterson's cousins



Phone: 903-886-3220

Fax: 903-886-3240

www.fumcccommerce.org

office@fumcccommerce.org

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE
NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Articles for the next newsletter are due
Monday, October 17 by 9:00am**

First United Methodist Church
1709 Highway 24
Commerce, TX 75428
Senior Pastor - Dr. Gregory S. Neal