

First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 11, Issue 9

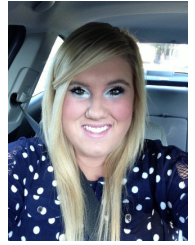
September 2013

Children's Ministry Kicks Off a New Year



Joanna Thrift with the Pre-K Sunday School Class

We introduced a new Sunday School Class for our 3- and 4-year-olds. This class is led by Joanna Thrift and Jessica King and the kids have been having SO much fun!!



Jessica King

Confirmation Class, being led by Craig & Katy Jensen, kicked off the year with a Parent and Student Meeting on Sunday, August 25 during the Sunday School hour.



M&M will begin on Wednesday, October 2nd. We are currently accepting registrations for 1st-6th graders. If you would like more information about M&M or would like to register your child, please contact the church office at office@fumcommerce.org or (903)886-3220.



Incoming Confirmation Class led by Craig and Katy Jensen



We have WiFi in the sanctuary!

To log in...
ID: FUMC3S (all upper case)
Passphrase: fumc2013
(all lower case)

Children's & Middle School Music Returns on Mondays!

Beginning Monday, September 9th



For more information, contact Michelle Corazao at michelle@fumcommerce.org or (903) 886-2684.

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Page	pg. 2	Little Ark & Noah's Nursery	pg. 3
WCM News	pg. 4	Daily Scriptures, Announcements	pg. 5
Attendance, Finances	pg. 5	Prayer List	pg. 6

Dear FUMC Friends:

For everything there is a season. . .

So says the preacher in the book of Ecclesiastes. It is indeed the season for starting things up again! Teachers and administrators are preparing for a new school year, university students are filtering back onto campus, and as I write this, the marching band is practicing behind Whitley Hall (they sound good, too!).



Activities are cranking up here in our faith community as well. **Disciple I bible study** begins in early September (see Wyman Williams for more info about that), and a short-term study on **10 Spiritual Practices of a Vital Faith** begins on September 8 in the Parlor during the Sunday school hour. Confirmation class for our 6th graders starts up as well, and Children's choirs and M&M are all poised to usher in a new year of growth and learning for our kids.

Two things I especially want to highlight are the relaunch of our 9:45 worship service on a different day of the week. Beginning September 11, we will offer a midweek contemplative service with the Eucharist in the Chapel at 5:30. The "homeless Episcopalians" in our community are homeless no more, thanks to the openness and hospitality of this congregation. Those who helped launch this 9:45 worship service are seeking to become more integrated into the life of this faith community, and also desire to reach out more to the community by offering a worship opportunity during the week. It is our hope that some of our Wesleyan students and others on campus and in the community will find this an attractive option in the midst of their busy schedules.

Second, the leadership of our church will be participating in the Healthy Church Initiative, a program in our conference which seeks to equip and revitalize congregations to better carry out their ministries in their respective mission fields. A group of 8 – 12 persons from all areas of this congregation is being assembled to meet once a month with groups from other UM congregations to explore best practices and learn more about what it means to be the people of God in a changing world. If you are interested in more information about the HCI, please call me at the church office or send me an email – I'd love to share more about it with you.

As our schedules shift from busy to busier, let us take a few moments to remember who we are and Who has called us to work in the corner of the Kingdom that is Commerce. Take a deep breath – and let us begin a new school year!

God's peace be with you –

Valarie

You are cordially invited to join an informal group studying "China Since 1750."

The discussion will be led by Harry Wade in the Friendship Room from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. on alternating Mondays during the fall semester. The initial class will meet at 7:30 on Tuesday, August 27th. If you have questions please contact Harry or Gene Lockhart for details.

*Upcoming
Worship*

September 1
Luke 14:1, 7-14
"Bad Manners"

September 8
Worship led by
WCM Students

September 15
Theme: "With a Grateful Heart"

September 22
Theme: "With a Grateful Heart"

September 29
Call Sunday

8:45am ~ Chapel
9:45am ~ Chapel
11:00am ~ FMC

Committee Chairs

Leadership Team Chair

Jim Patton
(903) 886-4612

Lay Leader:

Gene Lockhart
(903) 886-3498

Personnel Chair:

Linda King
(903) 886-3734

Property Chair:

Jim Brown
(903) 886-7439

Stewardship Team Chair:

Mike Roberts
(903) 886-2142

Foundation Chair:

Dan Shepherd
(903) 886-6883

C-G-S Team Co-Chairs:

Teresa Heatherly
(903) 886-7070
Angela Roberts
(903) 886-2142

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, September 16 by 9:00am****

New Changes to Little Ark and Noah’s Nursery for the 2013-2014 School Year:

If you have been down the Children’s hallway lately, you may have noticed that we’ve had a lot going on this summer! Little Ark is making some changes in order to better serve our families, and - more importantly – better prepare our budding scholars for the paths ahead of them in Kindergarten and beyond.



Preschool teachers:
Kathi Shepherd & JenAnne Shumway

We have restructured the Little Ark Preschool and Pre-kindergarten to include 2 full-week classes. Our Preschool Class (also known as the 3-year-old Class) will be taught by Ms. Kathi Shepherd and will welcome Ms. JenAnne Shumway as our new Assistant Teacher. Kathi (known around here as “Miss Mammie”) has boundless energy and enthusiasm and an amazing gift for Early Childhood Education. She was a long time Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten teacher at Commerce Elementary and has served as our Little Ark teacher for the past 2 years.

Pre-kindergarten Class (4-year-old Class) will be taught by veteran Little Ark teacher, Mrs. Shelly Oats. Shelly, another truly gifted teacher, taught Kindergarten for many years at Commerce Elementary and we are thrilled to have her back to work with our kiddos! Assisting Shelly in the Pre-kindergarten class will be Mrs. Mandy Swinson. Mandy has been with us since we opened the doors for Noah’s Nursery and has been an integral part of the success of the program.



Pre-K Teachers:
Shelly Oats & Mandy Swinson with Little Ark/Noah’s Nursery Director, Jennifer Knight (center)

All of our Noah’s Nursery classrooms have had a “facelift”, too! Our super-talented teacher, Ms. Christina Canzoneri (who has her undergraduate degree in Art) has painted amazing Dr. Seuss-themed murals in both of our Toddler classrooms and lovely, whimsical designs in the new Infant Nursery. If you haven’t had a chance to do so yet, you really should swing by and check out her work!



Christina Canzoneri

Our 9:45 service is now our Midweek Eucharist service!

Beginning September 11, a weekly contemplative service with communion will be held

each Wednesday in the Chapel at 5:30. All in the congregation and the community are invited to take a break from busy schedules and receive spiritual nourishment through communion. Come, and invite a



The following information sessions will be held in the Family Ministry Center on "Our Financial Path Forward":

- Tuesday, August 27 6:00PM
- Tuesday, September 3 6:00PM
- Tuesday, September 10 6:00PM



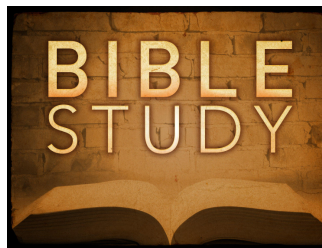
Everyone's input is needed - all are welcome to attend.

DISCIPLE

BECOMING DISCIPLES
THROUGH BIBLE STUDY

Disciple 1 bible study, led by Wyman Williams, begins **September 8 at 7:00pm**. This 34-week study offers a wonderful

opportunity for deep study of the scriptures from a United Methodist perspective. Please see Wyman or call the church office if you'd like additional information.



"Practice Makes Perfect" study begins on September 8 at 9:45 am in the Parlor. Come join Pastor Valarie as we look at 10 spiritual practices that give rise to and nurture a vital faith.

For more information, call the church office or email valarie@fumccommerce.org.

NEWS FROM THE WESLEYAN

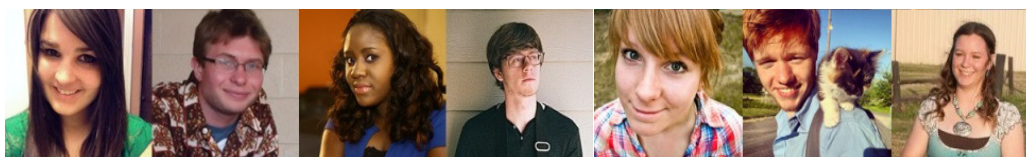
Your source for Wesleyan Campus Ministry Updates



A Sunday Full of Wesleyan (Sunday, September 8)

Join us on September 8 as we celebrate the rich partnership between the Wesleyan and FUMC Commerce through worship, commissioning, and blessing!

- **Worship:** Come on Sunday morning and hear stories of faith and ministry together as the Wesleyan students lead us in worship.
- **Commissioning of the Core:** During the 11:00 worship service, the church will have the opportunity to commission and send the new Wesleyan Core to serve God on campus this year.
- **Blessing of the Wesley Houses:** Come out at 1:30 pm to 1507 Bois D'Arc Street, and witness a historic blessing of the first "New Monastic" houses in Commerce – two houses of students dedicated to living the way of Christ and serving their community this year.



The Wesleyan Network is Calling for You!

What was life like for you when you were in college? What did you remember enjoying about college life? What was most challenging to you? What were you looking for? What were you hoping for? Now that you live in the "adult world", what do you hope for these students at this time in their lives?

The Wesleyan Advisory Board asks these same questions that may be on your mind as well. It is our hope and prayer that we, as followers in the way of Christ, can join together in ministry alongside students, learning and growing with one another, as we listen and live for God's call on us. That is what the Wesleyan Network is all about!

What do you think? Can you picture yourself as an integral part of campus ministry?

Visit us at WesleyanNetwork.webs.com to learn more and get involved!

THE WESLEYAN NETWORK Partners in the Wesleyan Campus Ministry of The United Methodist Church

What was life like for you when you were in college? What did you remember enjoying about college life? What was most challenging to you? What were you looking for? What were you hoping for? Now that you live in the "adult world", what do you hope for these students at this time in their lives?

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UMW will meet **Tuesday, August 20** at 10:00am. The program will be brought by Mary Lou Heatherly. Our September project is collecting food pantry items. **All women are invited to join us!**

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



In memory of...

Ray Sandifer

By: Roger & Jean Arnold

Becca Smith

By: Curt & Cindy Grenz
Mike & Bonnie Smith

Mary Casey

By: Edna O'Quinn
Mary Carolyn Dye
Alta Fay Peden
Margaret Floyd
Dough Rollins SS Class
Lucy Potts
Shirley Erb
Lena Faulkner
Jayne Williams
Vanessa Garner
Ruby VanderVelde
Jim & Anne Stahl
George & Priscilla McFarland
Shane, Amanda, Carson, Regan, & Hollyn Hadaway
Kyle, Loutina & Jaxon White
Nole, Kristina, & Kambree Hadaway

MEMORIALS



Carla McCarty
Glenna Julian
Al & Rose Stapleton
Steve Siebenhausen
Charlie & Sharon Smith
Lori Van Hoozer
Damian Barrett
Gary Elander
Susan King
George & Dell Davis
Dr. George & Betty Bryant
Ann & Ted Johnson
Lewis & Faye Jackson
The Pecos Sisters
Jimmy & Dorothy Green

In honor of...

Sisters Too

By: Mike & Bonnie Smith

Our Church Staff

By: Mike & Bonnie Smith

Attendance

	<u>Early</u>	<u>9:45</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>SS</u>
Aug 4	25	9	106	71
Aug 11	23	8	96	71
Aug 18	38	8	113	74
Aug 25	28	10	126	93



Financial Update

General Operating Fund

<u>as of July 31, 2013</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	
Income:	\$ 33,352	\$224,145
Expenses:	\$ 37,990	\$233,137
	-\$ 4,638	-\$ 8,992



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, Sept 1	Luke 14:1, 7-14
Monday, Sept 2	Jeremiah 18:1-4
Tuesday, Sept 3	Jeremiah 18:5-11
Wednesday, Sept 4	Psalms 139:1-6
Thursday, Sept 5	Psalms 139:13-18
Friday, Sept 6	Luke 14:25-27
Saturday, Sept 7	Luke 14:28-33
Sunday, Sept 8	Philemon 1-21
Monday, Sept 9	Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22
Tuesday, Sept 10	Psalms 14
Wednesday, Sept 11	Jeremiah 4:23-28
Thursday, Sept 12	Luke 15:1-7
Friday, Sept 13	Luke 15:8-10
Saturday, Sept 14	1 Timothy 1:12-15
Sunday, Sept 15	1 Timothy 1:12-17
Monday, Sept 16	Luke 16:1-13
Tuesday, Sept 17	Jeremiah 8:18-9:1
Wednesday, Sept 18	Psalms 79:1-9
Thursday, Sept 19	1 Timothy 2:1-7
Friday, Sept 20	Jeremiah 8:18-9:1
Saturday, Sept 21	1 Timothy 2:1-7
Sunday, Sept 22	Psalms 4
Monday, Sept 23	Jeremiah 32:1-3a
Tuesday, Sept 24	Jeremiah 32:6-15
Wednesday, Sept 25	Psalms 91:1-6
Thursday, Sept 26	Psalms 91:14-16
Friday, Sept 27	1 Timothy 6:6-16
Saturday, Sept 28	1 Timothy 6:17-19
Sunday, Sept 29	Luke 16:19-31
Monday, Sept 30	Lamentations 1:1-6



Prayer Lists

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

Irvin Patterson (Ladonna Patterson's father), Lewis and Faye Jackson, Sally Grove, Lynn Stone, Bob Grove, Judy Rudoff, Mendy Wilson, Neal Estes, Jr. (Janet Peek's brother), Tom Klinck (Ryan Klinck's father), Jaron and Tiffany Peek (Jim Peek's son and daughter-in-law), Amy Cryon (Wyman and Harriet Williams' friend), Gene Casselberry, Pat Skauge, Sue Taylor, Wyatt Bourcy (Bob & Sally Grove's friend's grandson), Cindy Klingbeil, Anaya Phillips (Bonnie Smith's mother), Glenda Helton (Jeff Helton's sister-in-law), Lois Cranford, Betty Morton, Robert Seay, Amy Sallstrom Smith (Bill Heitholt's cousin), Chris Sterzik (Shelley Jackson's son-in-law), Kay Webber, Jessie Short

Others to Remember in Prayer...

Draughn's/Country Home Estate: Ahtrell Dalton, Helen Dickson, Dorothy Ingram, Lucy Potts, and Pete Robinson

Briarcliff: Mary Jo Leslie and Glenna Siebenhausen

*"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 Col. Peter Bailey
Lt. Col. Richard Bailey Lt. Col. Keith Williams
Lt. Dan Barton Nathan Grove
Garrett Johnson
Lt. Col. Jeremy Quatacker-Mark and Frances Sartwell's son-in-law
Tyler Craig (Afghanistan)-Brad and Vickie Boynton's son-in-law
Jason Timmons-seriously injured, recovering
Ensign Terry Starkey-Wanda Beane's brother & Tom Starkey's son
Chief Robert Starkey-Wanda Beane's brother & Tom Starkey's son
Christopher Kendrick-Navy (Helen Rowe's friend)
Jim Hunsicker (Afghanistan)-Carolyn Miller's brother
Alex Dech (Afghanistan)-Pastor Ron Dech's son
Captain Daniel Robnett-Clyde and Wanda Robnett's grandson
Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith
Keith L. Boone-former Associate Pastor
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, September 16 by 9:00am

Place Label Here

First United Methodist Church
1709 Highway 24
Commerce, TX 75428
Senior Pastor - Rev. Valarie Englert