

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOUNDATION COMMERCE, TEXAS



## FOUNDATION REPORT 2009-2013



CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP  
THROUGH  
FINANCIAL SUPPORT

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## FOUNDATION

WHO WE ARE.....	1
MISSION.....	2

HONOR ROLL OF CHURCH ENDOWMENT GIVERS.....	3
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## FINANCIALS

OVERVIEW OF FOUNDATION GIVING 2009-2013.....	4
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION.....	5
2009-2013 EXPENDITURES COMPARISON.....	6

## A WORD FROM THE RECIPIENTS

WESLEYAN CAMPUS MINISTRIES.....	7
OTHER RECIPIENTS.....	8

SUMMARY.....	9
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HOW YOU CAN MAKE A LASTING GIFT TO THE FOUNDATION.....	9
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MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.....	BACK COVER
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“EVERYONE TO WHOM MUCH IS GIVEN, OF THEM WILL MUCH BE REQUIRED . . . ”

LUKE 12:48

# WHO WE ARE

## THE LORD WORKS IN WONDROUS WAYS . . .



Through the 133 years of our church's ministry of God's word, members have been generous with gifts for special purposes as well as to the annual budget. Special gifts have been used to help build a new church and purchase parsonages, buy the sanctuary organ, add an educational wing, build a chapel and a new family life center, and to meet the non-budget needs of the church and its ministries.

In November, 1961, an unusual event took place that would greatly affect the future of our church in ways that only God could foresee. Pastor G.C. Randolph received a letter from George Knight, a member living in Dallas, stating that he was leaving his estate to the church in Commerce. He wanted the church to know that his will, dated in 1956, was located in a Dallas bank vault and was to be opened on his death. Through the years, he was visited by pastors of the church. In May, 1981, Pastor Wilson Canafax visited Mr. Knight, where Mr. Knight specified that his estate was given to honor his mother, Mrs. Ola Thompson Knight.

After Mr. Knight's death in 1983, the church received a substantial gift of various investments. Mr. Knight requested that his estate accumulate interest for four years after his death. After that, only the interest could be used for church needs with the principal remaining intact.

In the following months and years, other members demonstrated their love for the church in an unprecedented number of bequests. W. Y. and Ruth Goff, the Weldon & Annie Kibler family, Orpa and Eunice Dennis, Louise Skelton, and Lizzie Opper gave the church over \$1 million in additional gifts, some for specific uses, others unrestricted. These members willed that their gifts continue to work for their church after their earthly death.

Mr. George Knight, in memory of his mother, Ola Thompson Knight, gave approximately \$240,000, specifying that only interest was to be used. These gifts helped purchase a church van, computer system, and telephone system, teaching aids, VCR and television, the Roland property, some capital improvements and a mission gift to the Citizen's General Hospital of Commerce.

Interest from the W.Y. Goff fund of \$25,000 was to be used solely for maintenance of both parsonages.

The Louise Skelton estate consisted of \$54,000 plus one-fourth interest in a house. The house was given to Habitat for Humanity.

The Orpa and Eunice Dennis estate included approximately \$900,000 plus their home and its contents. There were no use restrictions on this gift.



As these bequests were made, the Board of Trustees, with approval of the Administrative Board, administered the gifts. The trustees invested in financial institutions offering the best returns. This money management became a burden on the trustees, and at the suggestion of various church members and a special committee, the new pastor, Dennis Wilkinson, proposed that a church foundation be formed.

In a letter dated March 5, 1992, each church member was asked for ideas. The pastor said, "Our church has received bequests from several estates in the last few years. He further explained that these members, through their wills, have expressed love for their church by leaving gifts for Christian discipleship. Our opportunities and responsibilities are to use these gifts in a way that will reflect the dedication of generous donors.

*"As a church family, we are in a rare position of great opportunity and responsibility as we carry out our church mission and serve Christ in a continued administration of these gifts."*

After prayerful consideration and by action of the Church Conference on October 24, 1992, the proposal for a church foundation was approved and was named First United Methodist Church Foundation, Commerce, Texas. A Foundation Board was created in accordance with the Methodist Book of Discipline. Members are to be elected by the Church Conference for terms of six years. The Board was charged to be custodian of the Foundation assets. It utilizes the advice and services of professional money managers and the Texas Methodist Foundation in Austin. Since 1992, a number of other gifts have been received by the Foundation from generous donors.

## MISSION

### CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP THROUGH FINANCIAL SUPPORT . . .

The purpose of the First United Methodist Foundation, through gifts, grants or loans, is to support the Christian ministry of the church. Gifts, estates, property, insurance policies, etc., given to the Foundation create permanent funds. Interest from these funds, may be used for general benevolent purposes, including but not limited to: Christian ministry, missions, health and welfare, music, education, scholarships, senior citizen support, church facilities and grounds and other worthy ministries approved by the Foundation Board.



According to the Foundation Policies, gifts may be given as designated or undesignated, with or without special conditions on the use of the principal. An important category of current funds is unrestricted and permanent. The principal of these gifts remains intact as a permanent endowment and only the interest is used. As stated in the Policies, the Foundation Board will retain a minimum of ten percent of income from investments to be reinvested into the permanent funds, so that the principal of all gifts will continue to grow. If a donor specifically requests that a gift be spent in its entirety, the board will follow stated wishes. Gifts may be unrestricted or they may be designated for specific purposes (such as music, parsonage upkeep, etc.).

If a gift is designated for a specific purpose, the Foundation Board requests that the gift be a minimum of \$5,000, so that the income will be sufficient to carry out the wishes of the donor. Detailed records are kept by the Foundation on all gifts, their income and distribution.

Each donor's request will be acknowledged by letter, and persons or families honored by gifts will be informed that a gift has been given in their name(s). Donors' wishes to remain anonymous will be honored.

Gifts to the church and to the Foundation are tax deductible for income, estate and gift tax purposes. The local Foundation Board works with the Texas Methodist Foundation and other professional money managers on investments and advice on managing gifts. Contributions to the Foundation, or special gifts to the church, are intended for permanent benefit of the church and are not considered a part of the church budget. Budget giving is the main source of financial support for the church and is a part of the Christian's obligation.

Any person or organization in the church or community may request a grant to support purposes within the Foundation's mission. These requests must be made in writing and can be presented personally to the Foundation Board, which meets monthly at the church. The board will carefully consider each request and either grant or take no action. If the request is granted, money will be given immediately; a report should be made to the Foundation Board when the project for which a grant has been given is completed. Advance notice that a request is to be made to the Foundation Board should be made to the Board chairman.

Complete copies of the Foundation by-laws and operating policies are available for review in the church office. Current Foundation reports are available in the church office.



**HONOR ROLL OF CHURCH  
ENDOWMENT GIVERS**

*Charles Edgar Stem  
Vivian Drake Mayes  
Jannie Greer Yarbro  
Frances Knight Chaney  
George Herman Snyder  
Debbie Barrett  
Ola Thompson Knight  
W. Y. and Ruth Goff  
Louise Skelton  
Orpa and Eunice Dennis  
Elizabeth, Betty and Ernest Oppel  
Weldon and Annie Kibler Family Scholarship  
J. D. and Evelyn Sikes  
Anonymous (Talbot Scholarship)  
Naomi Knight  
Charlie and Naoma Freeman  
Hazelwood King  
Lona Knight  
Leland and Mary Casey Family Scholarship*

# FINANCIALS

## OVERVIEW OF FOUNDATION GIVING 2009-2013

During the five years 2009-2013, the FUMC Foundation Commerce gave over \$246,000 in support of our church and community.

- The Foundation gave more than \$65,000 to replace the major HVAC system which heats and cools the sanctuary and to replace/repair other air conditioning and heating units.
- Parsonage improvements accounted for over \$29,000 in Foundation grants.
- The church music program received almost \$17,000 from the Foundation, principally for expenses related to our fine pipe organ.
- In 2013 the Foundation gave \$3600 for a youth intern to serve in our church's mission to support programs for children and youth.
- The Wesley Campus Ministry received \$3750 for the spiritual pilgrimage to Taizé, France, in 2013.
- In 2010 Noah's Nursery received almost \$4500 from the Foundation.
- In support of youth, the Weldon and Annie Kibler Family Scholarship gave a total of \$2500 in scholarships (2009-2013). The Leland and Mary Casey Scholarship gave over \$2200 in scholarships during the same time period.

Other recipients of Foundation funds in at least one year in the years 2009-2013 were: Kiwanis Lil' Angels, City-Wide Ministry, Clothe-A-Child, Commerce Literacy Program, Drug and Alcohol Program, EPIC Program, Minority Care International, Rachel's Challenge, Save the Library, and Silver Ring Thing.

On the following pages are a Statement of Financial Position of the Foundation and a listing by year of grants made by the Foundation.



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOUNDATION  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
DECEMBER 31, 2013**

**CURRENT ASSETS**

Permanent Unrestricted Funds

TMF # 2683 - 3.00% - matures 7/31/15	\$205,279.35
TMF # 2648 - 2.55% - matures 7/31/16	\$297,503.82
TMF # 2691 - 3.20% - matures 7/31/16	\$205,279.35
TMF # 2654 - 2.35% - matures 7/31/18	\$215,279.35
TMF # 2667 - 2.55% - matures 7/31/14	\$205,279.35
TMF # 1658 - 0.80% - Backs Church Loan	\$231,775.53
<b>Total Permanent Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>\$1,360,396.75</b>

Available Unrestricted Funds

Cypress Bank	\$1,700.00
TMF # 1659 - 0.8% Interest Holding Fund	\$12,565.92
Naomi Knight Investment Fund	\$42,533.97
Ist Global Knight-Dennis Investments	\$258,735.04
<b>Total Available Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>\$315,534.93</b>

Permanent Restricted Funds

Goff Oppenheimer Parsonage Permanent Fund	\$25,000.00
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Available Restricted Funds

Goff Oppenheimer Parsonage Available	\$2,286.19
TMF # 7369 0.8% - Dennis HVAC Fund	\$111.23
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<b>\$27,397.42</b>

Scholarship Funds

TMF # 2330 - 0.8% -Kibler Family Scholarship Fund	\$30,371.58
TMF # 2724 - 0.8% -Casey Scholarship Fund	\$32,789.06
<b>Total Scholarship Funds</b>	<b>\$63,160.64</b>

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<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,766,489.74</b>
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**2009-2013**  
**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOUNDATION**  
**EXPENDITURES COMPARISON**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>Total</b>
Kiwanis Lil' Angels	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$12,500.00
City-Wide Ministry	-	-	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$9,500.00
Clothe-a-Child	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00	-	-	-	\$2,500.00
Commerce Literacy Program	\$5,000.00	\$3,000.00	-	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$14,000.00
Drug and Alcohol Program	-	-	-	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$4,500.00
EPIC Program	-	-	-	-	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
HVAC New/Repairs	\$57,000.00	-	-	-	\$8,654.16	\$65,654.16
Minority Care Int'l	-	\$5,000.00	-	-	-	\$5,000.00
Noah's Nursery	-	-	-	\$4,479.00	-	\$4,479.00
Organ Expense	\$1,395.00	\$3,899.65	\$3,873.50	-	\$7,746.79	\$16,914.94
Parsonage Expense	-	\$10,209.34	\$2,725.00	\$15,177.16	\$1,071.73	\$29,183.23
Rachel's Challenge	\$6,600.00	\$6,600.00	-	-	-	\$13,200.00
Repairs & Maintenance	-	-	-	\$983.74	-	\$983.74
Save the Library	-	\$28,500.00	-	-	-	\$28,500.00
Silver Ring Thing	-	-	-	\$2,197.64	-	\$2,197.64
Wesley Foundation Program	\$3,750.00	-	-	-	-	\$3,750.00
Youth Ministry Intern	\$3,600.00	-	-	-	-	\$3,600.00
Scholarships - Casey	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$281.87	\$2,281.87
Scholarships - Kibler	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$2,500.00
Scholarships - Talbot to University	\$4,167.34	-	-	-	-	\$4,167.34
Accounting & Legal Fees	\$4,200.00	\$3,300.00	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00	\$3,300.00	\$18,000.00
Business Expenses & Fees	\$390.40	\$363.76	\$226.47	\$14.00	\$28.00	\$1,022.63
Supplies & Printing	-	-	-	\$95.95	\$480.08	\$576.03
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$91,102.74</b>	<b>\$65,372.75</b>	<b>\$16,424.97</b>	<b>\$36,951.54</b>	<b>\$36,582.55</b>	<b>\$246,434.55</b>



## A WORD FROM THE RECIPIENTS

### THERE AND BACK AGAIN: Reflections from the Wesleyan Spiritual Pilgrimage to Taizé, France

After two long plane trips, a wonderful jet-lagged day in Paris, a quick trip on the super-fast TGV train, and a beautiful ride past country villages and lush, green hills of France, our group of thirteen from the Wesleyan stepped off our bus into the little community of Taizé. Home to eighty monastic brothers, Taizé welcomes thousands of young-adult pilgrims each year – living, praying, and breathing this “parable of community” of global faith and peace.



Take a moment to look at our Taizé pilgrimage through the eyes of two of our Wesleyan students:



#### Reflections from Elizabeth Kolawole

*I embarked on my trip to France telling people I was going to a monastery to get closer to God and obtain mental peace, but I left with much more. In Taizé I found one place on earth where people look beyond social, religious, cultural, and political lines, a place where people are united by their thirst for a place of trust and a place of peace. Taizé is open to anyone, believers and nonbelievers, seeking peace, clarity, and hope.*

*The daily prayers consist of simple music, scriptures, and silence. No pastors, just direct communion with you and God. An excerpt from my journal gives my response to this unusual service:*

“Silence! Silence! Silence! So much is revealed in the silence. So much knowledge is disclosed. So much is learned when no words are spoken. In the silence I can hear my Lord speak, in the silence his Spirit in me connects to him.”

*This trip changed my life. It allowed me to find one place on earth where there is peace, and allowed me to pack that peace in my heart and take it with me wherever I go. Peace is found in silence, but only after you deal with the issues that are suffocated by sound. Only after you address your deepest fears, because in the silence all is revealed. In the silence you cannot hide behind dialogue or drown out your feelings with noise. In silence you must address your fears because they are screaming for your attention. I suppose they always have been, but we have been too afraid to stop and listen.*

#### Reflections from Ryan Klinck

*Maybe more than anything, I have been divinely humbled through my pilgrimage to Taizé, France. I've realized that what we think we know about faith, about other people, and about love is in fact only a very small part of the whole canvas that God paints. Very rarely do we step back far enough to realize that it takes millions of stories to come together in order for the beauty of God's creation to take shape. Taking this step back requires us to seek unity through care-taking of the soul, something we are not very good at doing back at home. If we begin to seek God in this way, we may very well begin to understand the importance of knowing other people's whole stories as well as our own. For how can I understand the whole if I do not have all the pieces?*



## A WORD FROM THE RECIPIENTS, CONTINUED...

### From Belinda Miller, Commerce Coordinator of Clothe-a-Child

*Clothe-a-Child is a process whereby our community helps the needy children of Commerce by providing a shopping opportunity. Each child selected receives \$50.00 worth of clothing of their choice from our local Wal-Mart. We have volunteers from CHS and our community to help our families shop.*



*Children who are in need of a new coat, a pair of shoes that fit, socks and underwear leave feeling excited about the new items. Families are thankful for the help, leave with a heavy burden lifted just a bit and a smile. It does not matter if it is 30 degrees or 70 degrees, the children return to school wearing their new coat and a beautiful smile.*

*The generous donations of the FUMC foundation have played an important part in funding this project for many years.*

### From Beckey Thompson, coordinator of Kiwanis Lil' Angels (formerly Toys for Tots)



*Commerce Lil' Angels is a program that Commerce Kiwanis Club started more than 25 years ago. This program is designed to ensure that the less fortunate children of Commerce have the opportunity to experience the joys of Christmas. With the help from Commerce ISD, other community organizations and parents, children are identified to be recipients of the Lil' Angel Gift Giving Program. During the past 5 years the average number of children that have benefited from this program is 443 per year. Our largest year was in 2012 when 482 children (total of 227 families) received Christmas gifts.*

*Through the generous donations from FUMC Foundation, local businesses, community members and our fundraising events we have been able to provide Christmas gifts to many children and we continue to try to identify those children in Commerce that would benefit from our program.*

### From Gene Lockhart

*Our Foundation is of inestimable service and value to our church and its mission. It is strategically positioned to receive major gifts and bequests dedicated to the long-term viability of the church and its ministries in perpetuity. As good stewards, it maintains solid investment procedures to guarantee that donor intent will be followed as the church works to meet the dynamic needs of a changing world. Recently the Foundation provided available funds to pay over \$47,000 required to replace the failed heating and air conditioning equipment in the sanctuary. We are deeply indebted to the donors and the Foundation's stewardship for making this possible.*



# SUMMARY

## THE FUTURE IS A CHALLENGE TO “GO INTO ALL THE WORLD . . .”

Jesus said, in Luke 12:48, “Everyone to whom much is given, of them much will be required...” The gifts to the Foundation provide a God-given opportunity for stewardship and ministry to the community. The Foundation’s goal is to support the mission of the church as it leads persons to commit their lives to Jesus Christ. The Foundation Board members commit themselves to witness their own salvation and devotion to God through their lives and to show love for those they encounter daily. Thus, the Foundation is committed to the programs of the church which advance the Great Commission Matthew 28:19-20.

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you.”*

The responsibility and opportunity of the Foundation is not solely to give monetary support to worthy projects, but to measure these projects as to how they will contribute to the mission of our First United Methodist Church in the Lord’s Kingdom. We have been given much and much will be required of us.

## HOW YOU CAN MAKE A LASTING GIFT TO THE FOUNDATION

As a living gift, as a memorial, or as part of your estate planning, a gift to the FUMC Foundation Commerce is a gift in support of our church and community.

You can specify whether you want your gift to go into the Permanent Fund, where the principal of the gift will be preserved for generations to come, or whether you want the gift to be used in its entirety. You can also designate the gift for a specific purpose (for example, music program, Bob Mills HVAC Fund, Goff Parsonage Fund, etc), or whether you prefer to give the gift for unrestricted use for the benefit of the church and community.

The Foundation welcomes gifts in the form of real, saleable property and investments, as well as direct contributions. All gifts are tax deductible. For further information please contact current (2015) Foundation Board members:

President:	Anne Mills	903-886-6792
Vice President:	John Heatherly	903-886-7070
Treasurer:	Ben Doughty	903-886-6328
Secretary:	Susan Patton	903-886-4612
Finance Chair:	Ann Underhill	903-886-3922



## MEMBERS OF THE FOUNDATION BOARD 1992 - 2014

<b>Original Foundation Board</b> (March 1, 1992 thru 1993)	1993	Frances Potts, Elaine Thomas, Harold Drake
	1995	Harriet Williams, Ray Johnson, Clarence Jensen
	1997	Dennis Anderson, Kenny King, Jon Parker
<b>1994 Foundation Board</b>	1995	Harriet Williams, Ray Johnson, Clarence Jensen
	1997	Dennis Anderson, Kenny King, Jon Parker
	1999	Ted Oats, Teresa Heatherly, Ahtrell Dalton
<b>1996 Foundation Board</b>	1997	Dennis Anderson, Marilyn Morris, Jon Parker
	1999	Dick Latson, Davia Marlin, Ahtrell Dalton
	2001	Susan Lampe, Suzanne Woodley, L.G. Dickson
<b>1998 Foundation Board</b>	1999	Dick Latson, Otha Spencer, Ahtrell Dalton
	2001	Susan Lampe, Suzanne Woodley, L.G. Dickson
	2003	Glenna Siebenhausen, Sarah Cunningham, Ray Johnson
<b>2000 Foundation Board</b>	2001	Susan Lampe, Sue Porter, L.G. Dickson
	2003	Glenna Siebenhausen, Sarah Cunningham, Ray Johnson
	2005	Dennis Anderson, Edna O'Quinn, Craig Jensen
<b>2002 Foundation Board</b>	2003	Glenna Siebenhausen, Sarah Cunningham, Ray Johnson
	2005	Dennis Anderson, Edna O'Quinn, Craig Jensen
	2007	Kent Holbert, Frances Sartwell, Janet Williams
<b>2004 Foundation Board</b>	2005	Dennis Anderson, Edna O'Quinn, Craig Jensen
	2007	Kent Holbert, Frances Sartwell, Janet Williams
	2009	Ahtrell Dalton, Carole Walker, Steve Siebenhausen
<b>2006 Foundation Board</b>	2007	Kent Holbert, Frances Sartwell, Janet Williams
	2009	Ahtrell Dalton, Carole Walker, Steve Siebenhausen
	2011	Tammy Naizer, Julia Robinson, Bill Shipp
<b>2008 Foundation Board</b>	2009	Ahtrell Dalton, Carole Walker, Steve Siebenhausen
	2011	Tammy Naizer, Julia Robinson, Bill Taggart
	2013	Clarence Jensen, Danny Shepherd, Helen Rowe
<b>2010 Foundation Board</b>	2011	Tammy Naizer, Julia Robinson
	2013	Clarence Jensen, Danny Shepherd, Helen Rowe
	2015	Ben Doughty, John Heatherly, Dianne McDowell
<b>2012 Foundation Board</b>	2013	Clarence Jensen, Danny Sheppard, Jerry Hutton
	2015	Ben Doughty, John Heatherly
	2017	Bob Grove, Anne Mills, Susan Patton
<b>2014 Foundation Board</b>	2015	Ben Doughty, John Heatherly, Jerry Hutton
	2017	Bob Grove, Anne Mills, Susan Patton
	2019	Loretta Kibler, Bob McLeroy, Ann Underhill