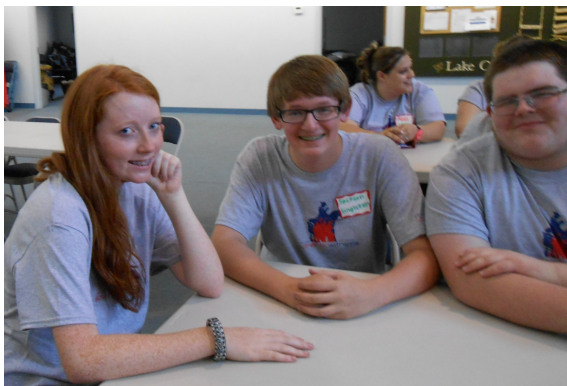


First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 11, Issue 8

August 2013

UM Army 2013 Edition



Campbell, Jackson, Sammy

Lake Dallas Our Youth in Mission



Zane and Mikey waiting for Client Dinner



First night Jackson, Sammy, Mike, Mikey, Aaron, Sarah



Sarah after a day of painting



Pastor Valarie at the beginning of the week



Zane, Jackson, Mikey participating in evening recreation—a big game of sheet volleyball



Zane at break time with volunteer from Lake Cities UMC

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Dear FUMC Friends:

What a story-producing summer it has been! We have witnessed a successful Vacation Bible School; sent our Senior High youth to a UM Army camp in Lake Dallas; and have welcomed 111 UM Army campers to our facility as they performed home repairs and built relationships in our community. In addition to this, we are worshipping each Sunday during the 11:00 hour in the Family Ministries Center while the air conditioning in the sanctuary is being replaced.

All of these happenings are story-generators: events in which God is moving, pulling us ever deeper into God's work here in Commerce. As you experience these events, what stories can you tell about them? How has your faith walk been enriched or deepened by them? Perhaps most important – who will you share your stories with?

We are people of God's story – let us tell it!

God's peace,
Valarie



Upcoming
Worship

August 4

Theme: "The Story"

Acts 10:34-43
"A Beginning, a Middle,
and an End"

August 11

Theme: "Come Home"

Pastor Marc
Hosea 1:2-10

August 18

Theme: "Come Home"

Hosea 1:1-11
"God's Heart"

August 25

8:45am ~ Chapel

9:45am ~ Chapel

11:00am ~ FMC



Green Team E with Commerce homeowner Wynona Vail



Fun Loving Youth cleaning up after for Sunday's welcome dinner



U.M. ARMY filled not one but two dumpsters



Jim Patton with Wolfe City homeowner Sheila Solis and team where they built a ramp for her son

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, August 19 by 9:00am****

UM ARMY: Living Like That



110 senior high and adult volunteers from around Texas were in Commerce for one week in July as part of the U.M. ARMY (United Methodist Action Reach-out Mission by Youth). Their mission was to build relationships and work on home improvement and maintenance projects for low-income, elderly, or disabled homeowners in our community. They “camped out” by eating, sleeping, and worshiping in our church.

The volunteers were divided into fifteen teams and worked on 23 homes in Commerce and 1 home in Wolfe City. They also worked on the Pentecostal Church of the Lord Jesus Christ in the Norris Community. Examples of their projects included digging a trench for a sewer line, building wheelchair ramps, installing safety railing, replacing siding, repairing roofs, and painting. Their plan was to work 5 full days. Many volunteered to work the morning of their departure to complete projects delayed by Friday afternoon rains.

The motto for the camp was “Authentic Witness”. During the Thursday evening worship service where volunteers and clients came together after sharing dinner, camp director Scott Atnip explained that being an authentic witness requires self-sacrificial love, a love that puts the needs of others ahead of our own.

Examples of this self-sacrificial love during the week were plentiful. U.M. ARMY volunteers gave up a week of summer vacation, comfortable beds by sleeping on the church floor, and conveniences such as their smart phones. Homeowners sacrificed some of their privacy and pride when they agreed to allow these teenagers to work on their property. Members of our congregation gave up personal time to support the program by preparing food, shopping for supplies, referring clients, assisting on projects, and much more. (See sidebar for special thanks.)

As U.M. ARMY volunteers and local residents put the needs of others ahead of their own, their faith deepened. The feeling of the week could be described in the camp’s theme song “Live Like That” by the Sidewalk Prophets. The refrain is:

*I want to live like that
And give it all I have
So that everything I say and do
Points to You

If love is who I am
Then this is where I'll stand
Recklessly abandoned
Never holding back*



Special Thanks

- Jim & Susan Patton and Dennis & Judy Anderson stepped up to help with whatever needed to be done. For example, the Andersons delivered ice every morning to camp. Jim filled in last-minute to help Scott Atnip scope projects before camp began and then continued working along-side teams during the week.
- The Fun Loving Youth, Bobby Hill, and a team led by Judy Anderson prepared three evening meals.
- Bob Mills joined a team on-site to dig a trench.
- Steve Wilson and the City of Commerce provided dumpsters and trash removal.
- Rick Rosenstengle opened the Morris Recreation Center to the U.M. ARMY.
- Bob McLeroy for arranging commercial fans to cool the sanctuary.



U.M. ARMY Camp Commerce 2013—Authentic Witness

Dear New Friends at First UMC Commerce,

The weekend before our U.M. ARMY Camp in Commerce, I had the chance to meet many of you during your worship services. At that point, I said, in all sincerity, that I appreciated the hospitality and felt that your church had welcomed us in ways that I had never seen in previous host churches. I wanted to provide this report back post-camp to let you know that it got even better as the week went on!

I want to again thank Angela [Roberts] for her work in coordinating our trip from your end in amazing ways. Jim Patton was a life saver for this first time Director in helping with the sites both before and during the week. Judy [Anderson] and Susan [Patton] went above and beyond in the kitchen and Dennis [Anderson] was always available to help with our sound and technology needs. And of course [Pastor] Valarie deserves thanks for making it all possible. I know there were countless other people who provided meals and cookies, hauled ice and much more, but I just wanted to say thank you to the entire congregation for your passion for missions and for opening your buildings to another U.M. ARMY camp.

Because of your willingness to give, God was glorified in a number of ways during the week. In addition to the spiritual growth of the young people, as evidenced by a powerful prayer walk and many outstanding testimonies of God's movement from our students, God also moved in a number of the homeowners we served, including many who showed up to share dinner, worship and Communion on Client Night. All told, U.M. ARMY missionaries were able to repair 24 homes and 1 church building- numbers that would have been higher if not for the Monday morning and Friday afternoon rainstorms (you are welcome for bringing the rain with us!).

Included among those projects were:

- 4 wheelchair ramps
- 2 new porches
- 3 sets of other handrails
- 3 windows
- 2 doors
- 3 sheetrock projects
- 13 exterior paint jobs (several whole houses)
- 1 interior painting project
- 6 projects involving siding, including completely replacing the siding on a church
- 2 roofs
- 1 project laying tile on a floor
- 8 window screens
- 5 yard work projects
- 1 cleaning project
- 2 trash removal
- 8 "other" projects



God certainly moved in Commerce last week, and I thank you again for your hospitality and willingness to serve.

Blessings upon you all!

Scott Atnip

U.M. ARMY Commerce Camp Director 2013



Worship on Client Night

Go to www.ketr.org to hear Mark Haslett's report on the U.M. ARMY in Commerce, including comments by U.M. ARMY camp director Scott Atnip and inspirational words from camper Emily Hughes.



Meet, Pray, Love

This is what AAR thinks — How about you?

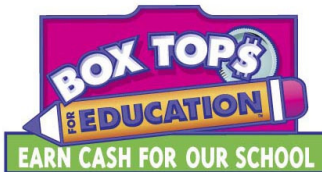
“While we’re not sure whether churchgoing makes you happy or whether happy people tend to be religious, research shows that people who belong to a faith-based community—regardless of religion—and attend services more than once a week live as many as seven years longer than people who don’t. Plus, churchgoers are less likely to engage in risky behaviors such as drugs and alcohol abuse, are satisfied with less money and have less stress and a built-in social network. If you belong to a faith community, you’ll benefit even more if you volunteer. If you don’t belong to one, seek new places of worship that suit your current values and beliefs.”

The Property Committee would like to thank the FUMC Commerce Foundation for providing the funds to replace the sanctuary HVAC unit. Replacement work is underway and work is scheduled to be completed late August/early September. Meanwhile the main service will be held in the Family Life Center. We apologize for this inconvenience and thank you for your understanding and patience during this period. If you would like to help with future HVAC needs, donations are being accepted.




UMW will meet **Tuesday, August 20** at 10:00am. The program will be brought by Jane Sheer, District Social Action Coordinator. Our August project is collecting school supplies. **All women are invited to join us!**

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



Daily Scripture Readings:

Thursday, Aug 1	Psalm 107:1-9, 43
Friday, Aug 2	Colossians 3:1-11
Saturday, Aug 3	Luke 12:13-14
Sunday, Aug 4	Luke 12:15-21
Monday, Aug 5	Isaiah 1:1, 10-17
Tuesday, Aug 6	Isaiah 1:18-20
Wednesday, Aug 7	Psalm 50:1-8
Thursday, Aug 8	Psalm 50:22-23
Friday, Aug 9	Hebrews 11:1-3
Saturday, Aug 10	Hebrews 11:8-16
Sunday, Aug 11	Luke 12:32-40
Monday, Aug 12	Hebrews 12:1-2
Tuesday, Aug 13	11:29-40
Wednesday, Aug 14	Psalms 80:1-2, 8-19
Thursday, Aug 15	Isaiah 5:1-7
Friday, Aug 16	Isaiah 5:7b
Saturday, Aug 17	Luke 12:49-56
Sunday, Aug 18	Luke 12:49-56
Monday, Aug 19	Jeremiah 1:4-5
Tuesday, Aug 20	Jeremiah 1:6-8
Wednesday, Aug 21	Jeremiah 1:9-10
Thursday, Aug 22	Psalm 71:1-6
Friday, Aug 23	Hebrews 12:18-25
Saturday, Aug 24	Hebrews 12:26-29
Sunday, Aug 25	Luke 13:10-17
Monday, Aug 26	Jeremiah 2:4-8
Tuesday, Aug 27	Jeremiah 2:9-13
Wednesday, Aug 28	Psalm 81:1, 10-16
Thursday, Aug 29	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Friday, Aug 30	Luke 14:1, 7-11
Saturday, Aug 31	Luke 14:1, 12-14

Attendance

	Early	9:45	Late	SS
July 7	30	13	66	54
July 14	30	16	85	72
July 21	19	11	93	68
July 28	27	10	81	56



Financial Update General Operating Fund

	as of June 30, 2013	Year-to-Date
Income:	\$ 42,386	\$190,793
Expenses:	\$ 30,918	\$195,147
	\$ 11,468	-\$ 4,354





Prayer Lists

We pray for those who have experienced a loss. Condolences to...

The Family of Becca Smith (Mike Smith's mother)
The Family of Myrtle Harvey (Faye Jackson's sister)
The Family of Christine Bryan (Lewis Jackson's sister)

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

Moena and RJ Burnett (Ruby VanderVelde's sister and brother-in-law), Lewis and Faye Jackson, Sally Grove, Lynn Stone, Bob Grove, Judy Rudoff, Mendy Wilson, 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, Emerson Adams, 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
Harrison House: 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
Lt. Col. Richard Bailey
Lt. Dan Barton
Lt. Col. Jeremy Quatacker (Korea)-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 and Tom Starkey's son
Chief Robert Starkey-Wanda Beane's brother and 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
Garrett Johnson
Col. Peter Bailey
Lt. Col. Keith Williams
Nathan Grove



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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE
NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
Articles for the next newsletter are due
Monday, August 19 by 9:00am

Place Label Here

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1709 Highway 24
Commerce, TX 75428
Senior Pastor - Rev. Valarie Englert