

*First United Methodist Church*

**Commerce**

Volume 17, Issue 8

August 2019

# Back to School CELEBRATION

Sunday, August 11

**10:50am: Worship & Blessing of the Backpacks**

**12pm: Food & Fun on the lawn**

**Waterslide / Bounce House / Hamburgers**

**Snowcones / Fun / Fellowship**

Join us as we celebrate all of our students and teachers  
and welcome the start of a new school year!

**The WHOLE community is welcome!**

**Come in swim clothes, bring a towel, & be ready for fun!**

*Inside this issue:*

|                                    |       |                             |       |
|------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|
| Pastor's Article, Announcements    | pg. 2 | Back to School & VBS Sunday | pg. 3 |
| Upcoming Worship, Committee Chairs | pg. 3 | Children's, VBS, LA, Youth  | pg. 4 |
| Wesleyan Campus Ministry           | pg. 5 | The Light                   | pg. 6 |
| Memorials, Numbers, Scriptures     | pg. 7 | Prayer List                 | pg. 8 |

## Music Sings in Us

*Little Red Reservation, Saskatchewan*

Music claims us! Many years ago I traveled to churches and Indian reservations in Canada with a spiritual music group called "The Spirit of Life". We sang to them and then they sang to us! We played original Christian music, written mostly by my friend Mike McElroy who now is a Baptist Pastor at Grace Family Church in Alberta, Canada.

Christian people have always sung our journey of faith. From the rocking of a baby's cradle to the great hymns of the church... from the lakeshores of Chautauqua Institution in Western New York... to Grandmother's kitchen and the teenagers' car speakers. Music takes hold and claims us! It also molds and shapes us. I believe we should be very choosy about what we listen to! With music, we make words into prayers and God listens.

No music at a memorial service? No way. Let us say our prayers and **sing** our faith. We can even sing our prayers! We sing along with the great traditional hymns and more modern music which moves us in new ways. We do not all have to like every hymn. But I know you do have your favorites! In Summertime last year we did a hymn survey and I preached on some of your favorite hymn texts. It was a good way to get to know my new church family!

We **sing** our faith! You may not think you have a great musical voice but you can still **make a joyful noise**. Singing is good for the soul; it strengthens our breathing and forms our prayers. Music is the rhythm of our poetry and tunes of our praise.

Get by yourself with God and sing **YOUR** prayers; hum them, chant them, cry them! Let them pour out your hurt, your confession, your disappointment, your joy, your fear, your gratitude. And I believe God will sing with you the rest of the way to confidence and grace.

Let us sing together!

Rev. Samuel Caldwell

**FIRST  
THURSDAY**

**Potluck Luncheon  
August 1 @ 12pm**



**Connect/Grow  
Team Meeting  
Monday, August 5  
@ 6pm**

*Our Year of Jubilee:*

**Re-Member  
the Future**

**Sunday, October 20, 2019**



First United Methodist Church Commerce will celebrate 50 years in this building in October. To help the church "re-member the future," we are asking each member of our church family, young and old to write down one precious memory you have of FUMC-C and to think ahead to what you think this church might be 50 years from now. Jot down those memories and your hopes and dreams for the future of this church over the next few weeks and put them in the large envelope that is located on the Administrative Board bulletin board in the Education Wing hallway entrance.

Your memories and aspirations of this church will be compiled used to help us celebrate "Our Year of Jubilee!"

Volunteers are needed for fundraising, publicity, history, special events, worship, and communications! How do you want to help?

**Contact Pat Skauge @ 903-259-9875| pats61@icloud.com**



### Upcoming Worship

*Sunday, August 4*

*Sunday, August 11  
Back to School &  
VBS Sunday*

*Sunday, August 18*

*Sunday, August 25*

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

Join us Sunday, August 11 for our Back to School and VBS festivities!

Our VBS kids will be back Sunday morning to sing a song or two they learned at VBS this year.

FUMC-Commerce would like to send children back to school with a pencil, bag tag, and a blessing!

All children, youth, college students, educators, and administrators are invited to bring their backpacks, bags, briefcases to church on Sunday, August 11 so both they and their backpack can be blessed in the 10:50am worship service.

These backpacks are our children's constant companions as they go about their school days, so Pastor Sam would like to bless them. After the blessing, each child will receive a tag to put on their backpack to remind them that God is with them in their daily life and that their church family will be praying for them throughout the year.

Don't have any students at home? All are invited to be a blessing to other less fortunate children by purchasing a new backpack and bringing it to the church on Sunday, August 11. The new backpacks will be blessed, tagged, and distributed to Commerce ISD.

We would also like anyone involved in education (all teachers, principals, custodians, secretaries, etc.) to join us in this blessing. You make such an impact on our children each and everyday and you need a blessing too!

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Ad Council Chair:**

Pat Skauge (903) 259-9875

**Lay Leader:**

Carole Walker (903) 886-4450

**SPPRC Chair:**

Mitzi Parker (903) 886-7364

**Trustees Chair:**

Gene Lockhart (903) 886-3498

**Finance Chair:**

Jim Brown (903) 886-7439

**FUMC Foundation President:**

Ann Underhill (903) 886-3922

**Worship & Connect Chair:**

Pastor Sam (214) 842-9252

**Grow Team Chair:**

Craig Jensen (903) 886-8713

**Serve Team Chair:**

Amy Stark (903) 246-1487

**Lay Member:**

Gene Lockhart (903) 886-3498

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](mailto:communications@fumccommerce.org), or call the office at 903-886-3220. Questions may be addressed to the Church office.

**\*\*The next deadline is Tuesday, August 20 by 9:00am\*\***



# VBS 2019: TO MARS AND BEYOND

Wednesdays @ 5pm-8pm  
Children entering K-6<sup>th</sup> grade

Register online at [www.fumcccommerce.org](http://www.fumcccommerce.org)

Thank you to all who helped with our first two VBS evenings!

**July 17:** We had 50 children! Thank you to Dough Rollins Sunday School class for the yummy dinner!

**July 24:** We had 45 children! Thank you to the Prayer Shawl Ministry for the delicious dinner!

Thanks to Bogata FUMC for sharing their VBS decorations with us!

Looking forward to the second half VBS on July 31 and August 7 at 5pm!



Sunday School for children PK-5th grade meets each Sunday morning from 9:45-10:30 in the Pre-K room in the children's wing. Everyone is invited to join in the fun!



We are looking for **volunteers** to teach the specials to pre-k. We need 3 teachers or 1 person could teach

more than one day.

- **Tuesday:** Art teacher from 11-11:30
- **Wednesday:** Music teacher from 11-11:30
- **Thursday:** PE teacher from 11-11:30
- Times/subjects can be changed to accommodate the volunteers. LA has or will get the art, music, and PE supplies that are needed.
- If you are interested, please contact Jennifer Knight or Shelly Oats.

**September 6th** is our Griddlecakes with Grandparents event. We would love church members to join us.

## FUMC-C YOUTH CORNER

### Youth Week (Tentative Schedule):

**Monday, July 29:** Water activity

**Tuesday, July 30:** Lion King Movie

**Wednesday, July 31:** Mission of the Week: helping at the Back to School Bash hosted by CISD.

**Thursday, August 1:** Bowling

**Friday, August 2:** Roller Skating

**Sunday, August 4:** Youth Sunday School Starts

**Sunday, August 11:** Back to School Celebration

**Tuesday, August 13:** First Day of School

**Wednesday, September 4:** First UMYF 3:30-5pm

For more information, please contact Jennifer Knight and Mandy Swinson at [fumcccommerceyouth@gmail.com](mailto:fumcccommerceyouth@gmail.com).



# MISSION of the MONTH

## Mission of the Month

Drop a Dollar funds for the month of August will go to support the Wesleyan Campus Ministry. "Making disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world, by offering students an inclusive and welcoming faith community where ALL God's diverse Children; Belong, Believe, Become!"



WESLEYAN CAMPUS MINISTRY  
TEXAS A&M COMMERCE



**Pastor Sam with Pastor Brian and Lauren Dierolf on June 30 Brian's last Sunday as Associate Pastor.**

The college students' Fall Semester is about to start. Here are some ways you can support the Wesleyan Campus Ministry in its first semester as a full-time appointment and an autonomous UMC:

- Become a monthly financial donor,
- Have your Sunday School or small group sponsor a free Wednesday lunch,
- Volunteer at the Workday: Saturday 8/24 10a,
- Come to the Light Worship and bring a dish to the potluck, starting Sunday 9/8 6p.

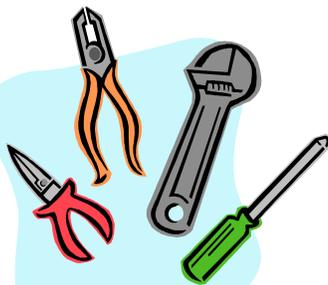
Over the Summer, myself AND two of our students guest preached at other UMCs. Both of them, Mikey Elwell and David Kemp, have also officially started the ordination process!! And David is now entering seminary at Perkins! These are the fruits of your support of the WCM, we are raising up the next generation of pastors!

May God Continue to Bless the WCM through your support!

Pastor Brian

[Wesleyancampuspastor@gmail.com](mailto:Wesleyancampuspastor@gmail.com)

The Wesleyan Campus Ministry is its own entity. To continue your support of the campus ministry, please make checks payable to the Wesleyan Campus Ministry.



## WCM Work Day

**Saturday, August 24 @10am-12pm**  
with lunch

Please come help get our place ready to greet the new semester! Let's make the Wesleyan property look clean and inviting. Brian will have specific tasks to assign. Thanks for your support!

# THE LIGHT

## Welcome Back Home to The Light Worship

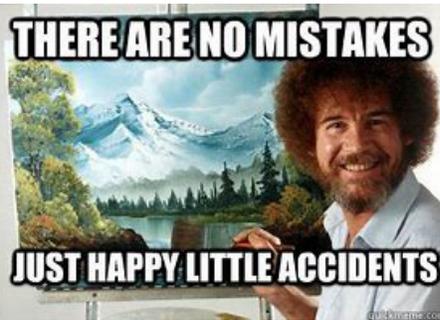
The Light re-Ignites September 8<sup>th</sup> @ the Wesleyan: 6p  
Kin-dom Dinner potluck, 6:30p Worship!

Please come help us 'Welcome Home' students to their faith community by joining us for a potluck dinner, fellowship and passionate worship. We'd love to know if you are coming and if you are able to bring a dish for the potluck dinner, RSVP Brian: [Wesleyancampuspastor@gmail.com](mailto:Wesleyancampuspastor@gmail.com).



The gifted Nevin Jackson will continue to be our worship leader, as he leads the outstanding band in spirited contemporary worship songs. Pastor Brian will be preaching an invitational message, 'Welcome Home' which will focus on the values of the Wesleyan- where ALL God's children: Belong, Believe, Become!

We pray that this first worship of the semester will welcome back current students, welcome in new students, *and* connect all students to the opportunities of the FUMC-C church family. So we need you there to welcome students, not just to Commerce, not just to the WCM, but to FUMC.



The first sermon series of the semester will start the following Sunday 9/15: The Gospel According to Mr. Rogers and Bob Ross. All are invited to deepen the Wesleyan understanding of Grace through reflecting on the teachings of Mr. Rogers and Bob Ross. At the WCM, the ordained Presbyterian pastor, Fred Rogers, and the afro-donning artist, Bob Ross, are beloved by our students for their unique expressions of kindness, humility, creativity and

grace. It is our hope at the WCM that the Light Worship be another additional worship opportunity to FUMC members and WCM supporters.

We hope to see you soon, God Bless,  
Pastor Brian, Nevin, WCM staff and  
the students of our campus ministry



### Give Online

Remember, you can always give your monthly contributions securely online. To set up a recurring contribution, visit the church website at [www.fumccommerce.org](http://www.fumccommerce.org), and click on "Ways to Give" and create a profile if you haven't already.

Let us *consider*  
our callings,  
let us *reflect*  
on our  
responsibilities, and  
let us *follow*  
*Jesus Christ*

Thomas S. Monson

*In memory of...*

**Tom Collier**

By: Susan Lampe

MEMORIALS



**Men's Breakfast**

**Monday, August 26 @ 7am**

**at Omega's Restaurant!**

*Come and have breakfast with Pastor Sam, talk about "stuff" and enjoy fellowship and good food together!*

**By the Numbers**

**Attendance**

|                | <u>Early</u> | <u>Late</u> | <u>SS</u> |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| <b>June 30</b> | 34           | 64          | 33        |
| <b>July 7</b>  | 33           | 60          | 34        |
| <b>July 14</b> | 43           | 59          | 34        |
| <b>July 21</b> | 31           | 62          | 26        |
| <b>July 28</b> | 38           | 52          | 58        |



**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:**

- Thursday, August 1 Psalm 107:1-9
- Friday, August 2 Colossians 3:1-11
- Saturday, August 3 Luke 12:13-21
- Sunday, August 4 Psalm 107:43
- Monday, August 5 Isaiah 1:1, 10-15
- Tuesday, August 6 Isaiah 1:16-20
- Wednesday, August 7 Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
- Thursday, August 8 Hebrews 11:1-3
- Friday, August 9 Hebrews 11:8-16
- Saturday, August 10 Luke 12:32-34
- Sunday, August 11 Luke 12:35-40
- Monday, August 12 Isaiah 5:1-2
- Tuesday, August 13 Isaiah 5:1-7
- Wednesday, August 14 Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
- Thursday, August 15 Hebrews 11:29-40
- Friday, August 16 Hebrews 12:1-2
- Saturday, August 17 Luke 12:49-53
- Sunday, August 18 Luke 12:49-56
- Monday, August 19 Jeremiah 1:4-10
- Tuesday, August 20 Psalm 71:1-3
- Wednesday, August 21 Psalm 71:4-6
- Thursday, August 22 Hebrews 12:18-24
- Friday, August 23 Hebrews 12:25-29
- Saturday, August 24 Luke 13:10-13
- Sunday, August 25 Luke 13:14-17
- Monday, August 26 Luke 14:1, 7-11
- Tuesday, August 27 Psalm 81:1, 10-16
- Wednesday, August 28 Hebrews 13:1-8
- Thursday, August 29 Jeremiah 2:4-13
- Friday, August 30 Luke 14:12-14
- Saturday, August 31 Galatians 6:11-16



## Prayer Lists

**Joy** for Bob and Sally Grove celebrating their 65 wedding anniversary!

### Recent Concerns

Family and friends of Gayle Shumate  
Family of Eddie Haynes  
Gideon Crenshaw's baby in NICU  
Chase (Rev. Tom Dudley's nephew)  
Odeana Stewart

### Continued Prayers (long term)

Our world and country and our leaders, Debra Burton, Gene Casselberry, Pete & Ann Chamberlain, Kenneth & Carol Cline (Tammy Naizer's parents), Harold Coker, Garrett Cramer, Lois Cranford, Bill Ray Ellis (Luanne Huffman's cousin), Jack & Gladys Gray, Sally Grove, Margie Hamlin (Linda King's mother), Colton Hanson, Preston Helton (Jan & Jeff Helton's grandson), Danny House, Robert Jenkins (Tiffany Harrison's father), Zachary Madden, Harold & Priscilla McFarland (Julia Robinson's parents), Betty Morton, Alfredo Muniz, Richard Norton, Mary Ogle-tree (Mimi Dobbs' mother), Billie Patterson, Robert Seay

**Oak Manor:** Helen Cole, Barbara Gish, Euple Walker

**Draughn's/Country Home Estate:** Joe & Mary Louise McMahan, Edna O'Quinn, Gayle Shumate

**Briarcliff:** Mary Lou Heatherly

**Christian Care Center (Mesquite):** Roger & Jean Arnold, Virginia Collier

**Austin:** Ruby Vander Velde



### Remembering those serving in our military...

Lt. Dan Barton  
Daniel Chamberlain  
Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith  
IT2 Patrick Stogner (Janelle Stogner's grandson in Japan)  
Col. Keith Williams  
Kris Yoder-John & Rebecca Sneed's son-in-law

*"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).*

**In case of emergency pastoral care need,  
please call or text Pastor Sam at 214-842-9252.**



Phone: 903-886-3220

Fax: 903-886-3240

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[office@fumccommerce.org](mailto:office@fumccommerce.org)

First United Methodist Church  
1709 Highway 24  
Commerce, TX 75428  
Pastor - Rev. Sam Caldwell

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE  
NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
Articles for the next newsletter are due  
**Tuesday, August 20 by 9:00am**