



Prayer Lists

Newly Added:

Joy for Janet Skauge's test results!

Continued Prayers for Church Family

Dustan and Joanna Thrift	Bart Green
Gary Kibler	Clay Yeager
Gavin Rodden	Helen Dickson
Jan Vowell	Jack Roberts
Bill Terrell	Jean Ward
Robert Seay	

Jessie Helton and Metroplex mission team on their trip to Juarez

Continued Prayers Family & Friends

John Kenney Smith
 David Kidd (Judy Rudoff's brother)
 Leah Rudoff Basden
 Deborah Brown (Diane McDowell's friend)
 Skylee Smith (Charlie Smith's granddaughter)
 James Rogers
 Dick Jackel
 Kay Webber
 Doris Sanders (Susan Bruton's friend)
 Pat McClung (Chris & Donna White's friend)
 Deidre Hildebrand
 David Crenshaw
 Kathryn Scott
 Becca Smith (Mike Smith's mother)
 Bill Cole (Judy Anderson's father)
 George O'Kelley-hospice care
 Chance Thornton
 Sam Duckworth (Jessica Duckworth's young son)

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.

Sgt. Jason Schmidlen (Iraq)-Jim and Debby Heitholt's son)
 Jim Hunsicker (Afghanistan)-Carolyn Miller's brother
 Travis Miller-Lena Faulkner's great-grandson
 Alex Dech (Afghanistan)-Pastor Ron Dech's son
 Captain Daniel Robnett-Clyde and Wanda Robnett's grandson
 Nathan Grove
 David Wheat- Edna O'Quinn's nephew
 Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith
 Lt. Col. Peter Bailey
 Lt. Col. Richard Bailey
 Lt. Col. Keith Williams
 Keith L. Boone-former Associate Pastor
 Terry & Robert Starkey-brothers of Wanda Beane
 Lt. Dan Barton
 Kris Yoder-son-in-law of John & Rebecca Sneed
 Staff Sgt. Geoff Abbe & Sgt. Eric Abbe-cousins of Ladonna & Chris Patterson
 Garrett Johnson

Note: The church office will be closed Mon. Dec. 27, open Tues. Dec 28 thru Thurs. Dec. 30 from 9:00am to 12:00pm, and closed Friday, Dec. 31 for the holiday!

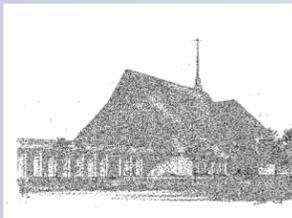


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First United Methodist Church Commerce

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December 22, 2010

FUMC-C Welcomes New Associate Pastor, Rev. Marc Corazao

FUMC Commerce is proud to announce the appointment of Rev. Marc Corazao as Associate Pastor and Campus Minister to the TAMU-Commerce Wesley Foundation.

Marc was born the youngest of three brothers in Lima, Peru. His family moved to the United States while he was very young, and Marc lived the majority of his childhood in Houston, Texas. After completing his Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Southwestern University in 1996, Marc moved to the Dallas area and transferred to the North Texas Conference. In May of 2004, he graduated magna cum laude from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University.



Marc has been serving churches in the North Texas Conference for the past fourteen years in various capacities and ministry positions, particularly serving in leadership with youth and their families. In addition to his ministry with youth, Marc has a passion for the worship life of the church and how we may connect with God in new and creative ways. Marc also possesses a passion for the outreach of the church in mission and evangelism.



Married to Michelle in July of 1997, Marc and his wife have been partners in ministry and in life. Completing her Master of Sacred Music from Perkins, Michelle has served as a music educator in the public school system and has served several churches in music ministry with people of all ages. Marc and Michelle are excitedly expecting their first child this coming May. Their family is also blessed and complicated by two Siamese cats – Theophilus and Vaquero.

In his down time, Marc likes to spend time and ride bikes with Michelle, read voraciously, play volleyball (when he can find a pick-up game somewhere), play guitar, sing, write, and cook. And eat. Marc really enjoys eating.

Alternative Gift Market

The Alternative Gift Market has raised \$1234 for local and international cause. You can still honor a friend or loved one by purchasing from the Alternative Gift Market. Whether you choose standardized dress item for a CISD student, a bible sent to Cameroon or a water buffalo for Heifer international, you are assured your gift provides not only joy to the recipient but urgently needed resources to people and communities most in need.



Angel Tree Update



Due to your generosity, over 100 gifts were delivered to the children of 25 families on behalf of parents who are incarcerated.



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Dear FUMC Friends:

In worship this past Sunday, many of you “met” Hairy – the little potted pine tree that served as our family Christmas tree for the past few years. My husband so-named the tree because of the varied pattern of its needles – some are short, and some are very long. It’s a very humble, somewhat scraggly-looking little tree; very much like the little evergreen in “A Charlie Brown Christmas.” This year, Hairy has taken up residence on the front porch of the parsonage, sporting a strand of white lights.



Introducing Hairy to you set me to musing about Christmas trees, and trees in general. Scripture often compares the righteous to a fruitful tree with deep roots planted by a stream (Psalm 1) – an encouraging image for a people who lived in a harsh, arid climate. The second chapter of Genesis describes the Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil that were present in the Garden of Eden. The Tree of Life appears again at the end of the Christian Bible in Revelation 22. The Tree of Life is centered in the New Jerusalem, a metaphor for the completion of God’s redemptive work for all creation.

The image of Christ as the Paradise Tree or the Tree of Life began to emerge sometime around the sixteenth century, with different traditions emerging in different locales. There are some early American hymns that sing of Christ as an apple tree. I’ve read that this image of Christ as the Tree of Life was compelling enough to prompt people to bring evergreens into their homes as part of their preparations for his birth.

Considering this bit of history reframes for me the task of putting up a Christmas tree each year. Instead of being onerous, decorating the tree can become a devotional, prayerful exercise. In *From Holidays to Holy Days*, Father Albert Holtz puts it most articulately: “[This] strikes me as a great idea; putting Christ, who came into our midst at Bethlehem, right in the middle of your living room, right where he wishes to be, in the center of your family’s life.”

May Christ’s light and presence shine in the center of your homes, and your hearts –

Merry Christmas!
Valarie



Worship

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight
Service**
December 24, 2010
at 7:00pm
~
**One Worship
Service**
December 26, 2010
at 10:50am

Committee Chairs

**Leadership Team Chair/
Lay Leader:**

Harriet Williams
(903) 886-2206

Personnel Chair:

John Heatherly
(903) 886-7070

Property Chair:

Jim Patton
(903) 886-4612

Stewardship Team Chair:

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Tammy Naizer
(903) 886-1961

Communications:

John Mark Dempsey
(903) 886-7708

Connect Team Chairs:

Ricky Dobbs
(903) 886-8795 &

Hal Langford
(903) 886-8334

Grow Team Chair:

Teresa Heatherly
(903) 886-7070

Serve Team Chair:

Melinda Reid
(903) 886-7623

Distribution of Food for Families through FISH

FUMC-Commerce volunteers distributed 135 Christmas food baskets to Commerce area families last Saturday. FISH (Hunt County Shared Ministries) of Greenville provided these baskets based on donations and purchases from the North Texas Food Bank. Each basket consisted of a frozen turkey, a large grocery bag filled with canned goods and boxed mixes, and frozen strawberries. FUMC-Commerce was one of FISH’s five distribution sites in Hunt county which served 800 plus families.



Look for future opportunities to serve in the New Year as we continue to pursue a hunger-free Commerce.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Friday, December 24

Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols at 7:00 pm
featuring candlelight and communion

Sunday, December 26

“Blessing of the Toys” – Each child is invited to bring their favorite toy and receive a special blessing during Children’s Time
One worship service in the sanctuary at 10:50 am

A Note from Pastor Aleze—I am VERY Blessed to have met such great people that saying good-bye is so difficult! I am going to miss Commerce, Texas. I am eternally grateful for the gift of ministry we have shared together. I want to Thank You for the gifts, cards, well wishes, text messages and love offering. The love you have shown me and Myron is indescribable. May the ministry of this great church continue on...and I will see you in Service!
~Merry Christmas and Happy 2011~

Financial Update as of December 19, 2010

Income:	\$373,989
Expenses:	\$408,117
Difference:	-\$34,128

Attendance	Dec 12	Dec 19
Early	29	49
Late	204	146
Bridge	60	—
SS	103	120

In memory of...

Jeanne Latson

By: Lucy Potts
Ted & Ellen Oats
Ruby VanderVelde
Scoot & Carolyn Chaney
Nita Clark
Roger & Jean Arnold
Mary Casey
Steve & Glenna Siebenhausen
Lena Faulkner

Mark Sullivan

By: Roger & Jean Arnold
Buddy & Patti Gregg
George & Barbara Spence
Gloria Ann Lyon
Jim & Susan Patton

Gwen Dean

By: Lena Faulkner

Donna Cottle

By: Edna O’Quinn
Ruby VanderVelde

Joe Cole

By: Ted & Ellen Oats



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, Dec 26	Matthew 2:13-23
Monday, Dec 27	Psalms 8:1-4
Tuesday, Dec 28	Psalms 8:5-9
Wednesday, Dec 29	Ecclesiastes 3:1-3
Thursday, Dec 30	Matthew 25:31-46
Friday, Dec 31	Matthew 25:31-34,45-46
Saturday, Jan 1	Revelation 21:1-6
Sunday, Jan 2	Matthew 25:31-46
Monday, Jan 3	Psalms 29
Tuesday, Jan 4	Matthew 3:13-15
Wednesday, Jan 5	Matthew 3:16-17
Thursday, Jan 6	Psalms 29
Friday, Jan 7	Isaiah 42:1-9
Saturday, Jan 8	Acts 10:34-38

The First United Methodist Newsletter is the official publication of FUMC Commerce. The newsletter is published on alternate Wednesdays. 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. All inputs are due by 9:00am on the Monday of the publication week. Questions may be addressed to the Church office or Communications Committee Chair, John Mark Dempsey.