



Prayer Lists

Newly Added:

Family of Donna Cottle
 Family of Mark Sullivan
 Family of Jeanne Latson
 Gary Kibler
 Deborah Brown (Diane McDowell's friend)
 Jessie Helton and Metroplex mission team on their trip to Juarez
 Dec 27-31

Continued Prayers for Church Family

Linnea Smith	Clay Yeager
Mildred Davis	Gavin Rodden
Lewis Jackson	Helen Dickson
Jan Vowell	Janet Skauge
Jack Roberts	Bill Terrell
Jean Ward	Robert Seay

Continued Prayers Family & Friends

Skylee Smith (Charlie Smith's granddaughter)
 John Talley
 Lanny Rainey
 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)
 Jan Hawkins (Kent Holbert's sister)
 George O'Kelley
 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 Schmidden (Iraq)-Jim and Debby Heitholt's son)
 Jim Hunsicker (Afghanistan)-Carolyn Miller's brother
 Matt Skelton-Mariann and Mack Andrews' nephew
 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



Phone: 903-886-3220
 Fax: 903-886-3240
 www.fumccommerce.org
 office@fumccommerce.org

Place Label Here

Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit No. 43
 Commerce, TX 75428

First United Methodist Church
 1709 Highway 50
 Commerce, TX 75428
 Senior Pastor - Rev. Valarie Englert



First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 8, Issue 22

December 8, 2010



Free Holiday Childcare Event
What: MOPS & POPS
Who: for children 6 months through 3rd grade
When: 10:00am-3:00pm on Saturday, December 11th
(Children will need to bring a sack lunch.)
 Please RSVP to 903-886-3220



Alternative Gift Market
 Honor a friend or loved one by choosing to make a donation to a local or international cause. 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.

Share the Love of Christ on Christmas!

This Christmas Day you are invited to share a plate of your Christmas dinner with a person in Commerce. The plates are delivered to Meals on Wheels recipients. However, the regular meal delivery does not happen on Christmas Day. Therefore, you are invited to take a few minutes around noon on Christmas Day to wrap up a plate of food and deliver it to this homebound person. This brief visit provides powerful nourishment for both the bodies and the souls of everyone involved.



Sign up for this opportunity to serve on Sundays in December or by contacting the church office.



"Want to Join FUMC?"

Q&A With Pastor Valarie and Pastor Aleze during the Sunday school hour, **December 12**, in the Parlor. Would you like to join FUMC but have questions? This is your chance to ask!



Holiday Music Spectacular & Potluck
 Sunday, December 12
 Join us for a morning of special seasonal music presented by the Chancel Choir and Children's Hand Bell Choir at the 10:50am service.
 Following is a holiday potluck. Bring your favorite holiday dish and celebrate the season with us!

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVENT 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

Sunday, January 9
 Covenant Sunday and Reaffirmation of Baptism

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Page	pg. 2	Daily Scriptures & Announcements	pg. 3
Announcements	pg. 3	Prayer List	pg. 4

Now Is The Time?

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven." – Ecclesiastes 3:1

Yes, our sermon series for the month is "Now Is The Time", and it is used as a declarative statement as we celebrate this season of Advent. However, as I write this article, I pose it as a question ...NOW IS THE TIME? Friends, I am still in shock and disbelief that the end of my season in Commerce is vastly approaching. Where has the time gone these last 2.5 years? Just in my stirrings, I begin thinking about the time we have shared these few years. Thinking about the times we have joined in of some life's tenderest moments. Or other times, when you have helped me to further develop as a pastor. Just maybe, it was the times you have gracefully handled my "particular" way of eating and being. I do not know where the time has gone, but I am grateful that I have spent it here in Commerce, Texas. I have made some genuine connections, lasting friendships and a long-living love for the people in this place. I have mentioned on several occasions, that Commerce was not on my GPS of life, but it is now forever etched on the map of my being.

I use the Ecclesiastes 3:1 passage as a time of reflection about changes that occur; the word 'season' is one that stuck with me. Collectively, we understand 'season' to be the four periods of the year (winter, spring, summer and fall). But as I look at 'season' there is another definition that rings true, "to mature, ripen, or condition by exposure to suitable conditions or treatment." This is a fitting definition for the use of our God-given gifts. There are times when our 'season' in a situation/position/relationship is over and it is time to move on to better opportunities and other possibilities. The more we do not recognize this 'season' of time, it is like a well ripen banana (which if they are not green, I do not eat them); it becomes uneatable and unusable. *"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven"* is how I view my upcoming transition. Friends, I have had the opportunity to mature, ripen and condition through my experiences here as the Associate Pastor and Campus Minister. I consider myself very blessed for this level of exposure to all facets of ministry life. So, the question still remains...NOW IS THE TIME?

Yes, now is the time for the work of First United Methodist-Commerce to continue. This is the time for the congregation to rally around the work of Wesleyan Campus Ministry by providing meals for the ever-growing FYI (for your insides) lunches on Wednesdays and Thursdays, or through serving on the WCM Board. It is also time to get involved with The Bridge, by attending regularly and showing your support for the third service of FUMC-C. I see this as a time for those who have wanted to be involved in the lives of young adults to step up and say, HERE I AM...NOW IS THE TIME!

So, I guess NOW IS THE TIME for me to bid you a fond farewell and say see you later.

Thank You from the bottom of my HEART



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.



Worship

December 12, 2010

Join us
this Sunday
for the
Holiday Music
Spectacular
at the
10:50 service

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:

Anne Mills
(903) 886-6792

Foundation Chair:

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

YOUTH CORNER

Dec 11: Youth are helping with MOPs and POPs

Dec 12: 5:00-8:30pm, Progressive dinner, Chinese gift exchange, and Christmas celebration

Dec 19: NO YOUTH

Dec 26: NO YOUTH

This is a very busy time of year for our youth and their families. We will be doing other activities throughout the holidays. We plan on helping with sorting, wrapping and delivering of gifts for Commerce Angels and participating in other activities to make the holidays wonderful for everyone. Thank you for your support! If you need the youth to assist with an activity, please contact Gabe or Alicia at youth@fumccommerce.org.

Farewell Reception for Pastor Aleze Sunday, December 19 during the Sunday school hour. If you would like to show your appreciation for Pastor Aleze, you can drop a love offering by the office or in the offering plate.



The UMW will meet at 12:00pm **Tuesday, December 21** for our Annual Christmas Luncheon. The program will be carol singing and a "white elephant" gift exchange. Bring a gift that you have enjoyed and would like to share with someone else. All women are welcome—**COME JOIN US!**

ONE SERVICE— December 26

Sunday, December 26th we will have ONE Worship Service beginning at 10:50am. Come as you are and bring the family for the "Blessing of the Toys!"

Financial Update as of November 30, 2010

Income: \$328,806
Expenses: \$377,286
Difference: -\$48,480

Attendance

	Nov 14	Nov 21	Nov 28	Dec 5
Early	44	42	46	42
Late	149	111	136	157
Bridge	35	40	—	35
SS	98	90	75	91

In memory of...

Jeanne Latson

By: Edna O'Quinn
Sue Porter
Robert & Alice Cozart
Alta Fay Peden
Shirley Erb
Mariann & Mack Andrews
Bobby & Kathy Hill
Jim & Janet Latham
Janet & Pat Skauge

Mark Sullivan

By: Sue Porter
Robert & Alice Cozart
Alta Fay Peden
Mariann & Mack Andrews
Bobby & Kathy Hill
Janet & Pat Skauge



Jane Otani

By: Sue Porter

2011 Stewardship Update: The current pledge dollar amount is \$230,528 with 79 cards returned. If you have not already, please return your pledge card to the office so that we can properly plan for 2011.

Daily Scripture Readings:

Sunday, Dec 12	Matthew 11:7-11
Monday, Dec 13	Isaiah 7:10-16
Tuesday, Dec 14	Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19
Wednesday, Dec 15	Romans 1:1-6
Thursday, Dec 16	Romans 1:7
Friday, Dec 17	Matthew 1:19-24
Saturday, Dec 18	Matthew 1:18-21
Sunday, Dec 19	Matthew 1:21-25
Monday, Dec 20	John 1:1-14
	Hebrews 1:1-12
Tuesday, Dec 21	Hebrews 2:10-18
	Titus 2:11-14
Wednesday, Dec 22	Isaiah 9:2-7
Thursday, Dec 23	Psalms 96
Friday, Dec 24	Psalms 98 & 148
Saturday, Dec 25	Luke 2:1-20