

TACKLE



HUNGER

## Stew/Chili/Soup Dinner

Saturday, Feb 1st | 5 – 7pm

*Cafeteria of CISD Admin Building*

*3315 Washington Street in Commerce*

### Soups, Desserts and Beverages Provided by

Bread of Life Church of the Nazarene • Chicken Express •  
Commerce Church of Christ • First Baptist Church •  
First Christian Church/Primera Iglesia Cristiana •  
First Presbyterian Church • First United Methodist Church •  
Fix & Feed Commerce Hardware • Mt. Moriah Temple Baptist Church •  
St. Joseph Catholic Church • Trinity Lutheran Church

**Admission: Financial Donation**

**All Proceeds Benefit**

**Bread of Life Food Pantry**  
**Commerce Food Pantry**

**WE #TACKLEHUNGER. JOIN US.**



**Shrove Tuesday  
Pancake Supper  
Tuesday,  
February 25**

On February 25, dinner is ready!  
Come and get it!

Join us in the Family Ministry Center for a hot meal of pancakes and sausage on Shrove Tuesday, which is also called Fat Tuesday. It is the last day before the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday.

This all-you-can-eat pancake supper is brought to you by Youth Parents. All donations will go toward summer camp costs for youth.

**You are invited to  
fast after supper on Tuesday  
and come to the  
Ash Wednesday Service  
Wednesday, February 26  
@ 6:00pm  
in the Chapel**

Followed by a potluck soup supper  
to share in breaking the fast.



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## Pastor's Bible Study for Lent 2020

Beginning on **Wednesday, February 5th, at 12 noon and 6 p.m.**, we'll get a head start on Lenten Bible Study! Gathering a crowd each Wednesday at Noon and 6:00 pm in the Friendship Classroom, I will preview the Pastor's Bible Study that we will do during Lent. Our theme will be: ***"Reflections Bible Study: What We See and Don't See"***. *We will use the scriptures that I will preach on for the next Sunday. So you have a preview and you will get to influence the direction of our sermon meditation for Sunday worship!*



You will have some influence in what we teach and learn and also whet your appetite for our living into these texts. We don't just "go to church"! Worship is not just something we "go to" but something we actively do! Worship is a verb! Declaring the "worth-ship" of God is definitely the work of the people. So come join us and help carve our worship and preaching!

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## Pastor's Heartbeat on the UM News

None of us agree on everything. We should not expect to do so. But over and beyond our disagreement, we ***shall expect to be loving and welcoming of all people without judgment. God is the judge. Jesus welcomed all sinners (all of us!) and did not make distinctions of who was welcome at the table.***

The United Methodist connection is made up of a large and diverse worldwide collection of people who are servants and disciples of the Master. We should never expect to all agree on everything. However we can love each other and even worship together beyond our differences. During our Wednesday study time we will also take a smaller portion of our time to talk about how we welcome all people to faith, to discipleship of Jesus Christ, and to this congregation.

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## "Safe and Secure from All Alarms"

*(extra points if you can name the hymn this quote is from)*

Our Trustees are working on our plans for safety and security in First UMC buildings and perimeters. It is challenging to balance the need for security with the need for openness. One key to Hospitality is that everyone who comes through one of the open doors into our buildings shall be greeted and welcomed.

That means something wonderful; it also means they know that eyes are on them. Our Connect Team is working on signs that would help to direct people to appropriate entrances. We will need teams of greeters to welcome guests and members at the doors. Contact the pastor's office if you would like to participate in these efforts to help control risks and grow our hospitality! [sam@fumccommerce.org](mailto:sam@fumccommerce.org)

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## Stewardship of Our Influence

Let us grow our congregation in numbers and in spiritual depth. We need to grow deeper in our stewardship of all our resources--***prayers, presence, giving, serving, and witness of faith.*** *Although we can never outgive God, our financial generosity must grow in 2020.*

And we shall increase the numbers of people in the congregation and membership! Who can you invite to worship? Sit with them; Give them a tour; introduce them! Smile with them! We need to think of cultivating our ***STEWARDSHIP AND OUR INFLUENCE*** year-round as a response to God's gifts we celebrate every Sunday in worship



Rev. Sam Caldwell, Pastor

# THE LIGHT

The Light is back! Come to the Wesleyan (1504 Lee St.) every Sunday at 6pm for dinner and 6:30pm for worship. This contemporary service is for everyone No, it's Not just for college students, everyone is welcome.

**Sermon Series: Seeing the Bible in 2020...Why is This Still a Thing?**

Examples of Topics include; Racism, Stigma of Mental Illness, Abuse of Creation, Xenophobia, Gun Violence...

Come for free dinner with table fellowship at 6p and stay for contemporary worship music and passionate preaching that confronts today's issues through the liberating message of The Gospel.

May we join hands in the ministry of building the Kin-dom of God in our community,

Pastor Brian and the Wesleyan Campus Ministry

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

## Worship

*Sunday, February 2*

*Sunday, February 9  
Scout Sunday*

*Sunday, February 16*

*Sunday, February 23*

*Wednesday, February 26*

*Ash Wednesday*

*8:45am ~ Chapel*

*10:50am ~ Sanctuary*

## Committee Chairs

**Ad Council Chair:**

Chester Robinson  
(903) 366-2125

**Lay Leader:**

Bill Heitholt  
(903) 886-6819

**SPPRC Chair:**

David Giles  
(817) 366-2026

**Trustees Chair:**

Gene Lockhart  
(903) 513-8676

**Finance Chair:**

Jim Brown  
(903) 886-7439

**FUMC Foundation Pres.:**

Tammy Naizer  
(903) 886-1961

**Worship Chair:**

Nancy Doughty  
(903) 886-6328

**Connect/Grow Chair:**

Bonnie Smith  
(903) 782-5312

**Serve Team Chair:**

Amy Stark  
(903) 246-1487



**Administrative Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 4**  
**@ 6:30pm**  
Friendship Room

**FIRST THURSDAY**

**Potluck Luncheon**  
**February 6**  
**@ 12pm**



**connect grow**  
**Connect Grow**  
**Monday, February 3**  
**@ 6pm**

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 Monday, February 17 by 9:00am\*\***

# Children's Ministry

This month in Sunday School our Bible verse is "He did what was right in the Lord's eyes." (2 Kings 22:2). Each lesson in February is about leaders from Bible times.

On **February 2**, we will read Judges 4:4-16 and learn about **Deborah** being a very important woman in the Bible as she was a prophet and the only woman judge in Israel's history!

On **February 9**, we will read 1 Samuel 16:1-23 and learn about **David** being chosen as king when he was only a teenager!

On **February 16**, we will read 2 Kings 5:1-19 and learn about **the servant girl** playing an important role by encouraging Naaman to follow Elisha's instructions to be healed.

On **February 23**, we will stay in Kings by reading 2Kings 22:1-23:23. We will learn about **Josiah** becoming king when he was just 8 years old!

We hope you can join us for some or all of our lessons this month!

Special thank you to our Sunday School teachers: Kristen Poe, Tonda Barton, Janet Latham, Francis Sartwell, Jan Helton, Laura Milligan, Harriet Williams!

## children's choir

Children's Choir will begin Tuesday, February 4th for the spring semester. We will be preparing for an Easter performance in April.

\*\*Special thanks to Prayer Shawl ladies for helping out with choir snacks this semester.\*\*

### Summer Camp

Registration for Summer Camp at Bridgeport is now open! The dates for camp this year are (based on grade completed):

- **Children (3-5th grades) – June 22-26**
- **Junior High (6-8<sup>th</sup> grade) – June 15-19**



To register and pay the deposit, parents can go to [www.bridgeportcamp.org](http://www.bridgeportcamp.org). We will be working on fundraisers to help offset the remaining cost. Camp is a formative experience for so many young Christians seeking to deepen their faith, and it's a lot of fun too! Don't wait—register now!



Our Preschool and Pre-K will have their Valentine's Day parties on Friday, February 14.

## united methodist youth fellowship

Sunday school every Sunday at 9:45 continues...using Group curriculum! If you'd like to volunteer to teach a class, please let Mandy or Jennifer know.

UMYF is going ice skating at the Galleria Mall on February 9th. We will load up and leave FUMC at 1:00 and head back to Commerce at 4:30. The cost is \$15/person.

UMYF is also hosting the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 25 at 5-6:30pm



## DID YOU KNOW??

### The FUMC Prayer Shawl Ministry started 14 years ago.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry



This ministry was originally formed by several women of faith in our church to serve one of the church's mission areas/goals of devotion and service to our church and entire community. The ministry has grown through the years to include many facets of reaching others in need. The group's devotion is to the belief that the most important thing you can do for someone is to love them and pray for them. Having a healing/caring ministry has always been an important part of our church and the prayer shawl ministry has been dedicated to this for 14 years.

The group members learned how to and started making children's caps for the Hunt Regional Hospital and for Children's Medical Center in Dallas and then discovered a national movement in many churches (called Prayer Shawl Ministry groups) which had found that a tangible item delivered to an individual in need served as reminders to the recipients that someone loves them, is thinking of them, and is praying for them was so effective. So our group members learned how to make shawls and lap robes which would include our prayers for the recipient throughout completion of a 'prayer shawl'. These prayer shawls/lap robes were made and delivered by a group member who felt that wrapping a shawl/lap robe around someone in need is like an embrace that they are loved, thought of, and in our prayers throughout the challenges the recipient is facing. Prayers are said while working on a shawl/lap robe and again during the time of the delivery of the shawl to church and community members who are in need of comfort during an illness, loss, medical procedure, recovery, etc.

Also created by the group now are baby blankets for baptisms and adult caps for the Greenville Hospital Cancer Center (stopped keeping count when the cap count reach 1000 a few years ago).

The caps are displayed in the reception room and patients select from a 'cap tree' made by Al Stapleton and his grandson. The members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry continue to seek ways of serving others in need in our church and community. Just a few examples of this group's activities:

- participating in raising funds for missions at the annual Merry Marketplace;
- sending cards and notes each month and on special holidays to prayer requests from our church and community members;
- providing needs and/services as they occur for the children and youth groups;
- Operation Gratitude - scarves, cards and caps for military personnel, military families, first responders, Wounded Warriors, and More at Christmas Time.

Want to help or become a member of the group??? Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, 9:30 a.m. in the Prayer Shawl Ministry Room. Call Janet Latham (903.456.2058), Laura Milligan (972.742.5566), or the church office. If you know of someone we can serve, please let us know.

# 2019 Mission Dollars in Review

During 2019, we gave our \$1 bills and designated gifts and held the Merry Marketplace & Lunch for Missions to assist financially the missions supported by our church. Our direct giving plus fundraising, rather than a line item in the general operations budget, fund these missions. Your Serve team is responsible for administering these mission funds. Below is a summary of the gifts received and the gifts made in 2019.

Inflow	
2018 Carry Over Balance <i>Includes 2018 Merry Marketplace &amp; Lunch for Missions Proceeds</i>	6,445
Drop-a-Dollar & Designated gifts to Missions of the Month during 2019	6,631
2019 Merry Marketplace & Lunch for Missions Proceeds	4,753
<b>Inflow Total</b>	<b>17,829</b>

Summary	
Inflow	17,829
Less Outflow	12,320
2020 Carry Over Balance	5,509

Merry Marketplace proceeds allow the Serve team to respond to special needs for assistance, supplement Mission of the Month giving and fund mission activities.

2020 Serve team members are:

Amy Stark, Judy Rudoff, Jan Helton, Jill Grove, Janeen Kvanli, Bill Hietholt, Peggy Hanak.



Outflow	
<b>Serving Our World</b>	
Proyecto Abrigo	500
Heifer International Alternative Gifts	290
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>790</b>
<b>Serving Our Region</b>	
UMCOR	500
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>Serving Our Community</b>	
Wesleyan Campus Ministry <i>Merry Marketplace Lunch proceeds &amp; Mission of the Month</i>	1,040
Prayer Shawl Ministry <i>Merry Marketplace proceeds</i>	546
Community Thanksgiving Dinner	757
Community Pancake Breakfast <i>Thanksgiving Holiday Food Distribution</i>	233
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	500
CISD School Based Clinic <i>Lenten Offering</i>	804
Raffa Clinic <i>Lenten Offering</i>	804
Commerce Clothe-a-Child	500
Boys & Girls Club Summer Camp	500
CISD Adopt-a-Tiger	904
Bread of Life Food Pantry at Church of the Nazarene in Commerce <i>Souper Bowl of Caring &amp; Mission of the Month</i>	540
Commerce Food Pantry at First Presbyterian Church of Commerce <i>Souper Bowl of Caring &amp; Mission of the Month</i>	540
Hunt County Shared Ministries- FISH	900
North Texas Food Bank in Dallas	500
Food 4 Kids Fall Break & Spring Break Snacks	645
Helping Hands <i>plumbing and electric repairs for neighbors</i>	817
Senior Center Resources and Public Transit (SCRPT) <i>Nutrition Programs in Commerce</i>	500
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>11,030</b>
<b>Outflow Total</b>	<b>12,320</b>



### News from the Finance Committee

Your Finance Committee is getting ready for 2020 and welcomes new committee members Robert Barton, David Giles, Joel Kvanli, and Mary Lambert Smith. Also a big thanks to Pat Skauge, Carole Walker, Mitzi Parker, and Brian Dierolf who are leaving the committee and Ben Doughty, Amy Stark, Bill Heitholt, Luann Huffman, and Mark Sartwell, who are serving another year.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

The committee asks for your prayers and support as it faces significant challenges in the coming year. The year 2019 had its ups and downs with expenses above income most of the year. This was true even though spending was well below planned and historical levels. Income was just falling short. The deficit was thought to be manageable as late year giving has historically been significantly higher than the rest of the year making up for earlier shortfalls. However in 2019 this didn't happen, leaving a significant deficit for the year.

There is something that needs an explanation. When you look at the financial reports you will think we weren't that far off. However, new tax laws are forcing people to group their giving for tax purposes, doubling one year and skipping the next. We had donors essentially prepay 2020 giving, making 2019 look better, but the church won't be getting that money in 2020. For a realistic look at 2019 we have to take out those donations.

Your Finance committee will be working with other church committees to work around the reduced giving while continuing to serve the needs of the congregation.

Again, pray for your Church, we will get through this.

Save the Date!

*5th Sunday*

FAMILY GAME DAY

*Sunday, March 29*

Sunday School @ 9am | One Service @ 10am

♥ HAPPY  
*Valentine's*  
 DAY ♥

Save the Date!

Palm Sunday  
 Potluck Luncheon  
 & Easter Egg Hunt

April 5 @ 12:30pm  
 at Under the Oaks  
 (The McLeroy's place on Hwy 11)



Dear FUMC Congregation,

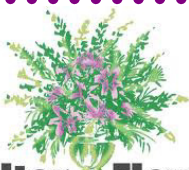
On behalf of the 11 families and 26 children who received gifts from the Angel Tree Ministry, we want to thank you for your ongoing support of this mission. Thanks go to:

1. The church for underwriting the cost of the mail outs.
2. All of you who adopted angels for lovingly—and sometimes painfully—buying their requests. Special kudos to Lisa McGuyer and Jennifer Bunch for purchasing gifts, wrapping and returning gifts within four days of our party for angels who flew in very late.
3. Susan Patton for not only baking but also plating sweets for our party.
4. Amy Stark, Jill Grove, Janeen Kvanli, Joanna Thrift and her helpers, Jenny Dempsey, Jan Helton, and Cathy Caldwell for beautifully wrapping the gifts.
5. Diane and Bill Duffy (Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus) for lovingly interacting with the children and reading the greeting the incarcerated parent had sent to them.
6. Jennifer Knight and Mandy Swinson and the youth who willingly did whatever was asked of them—from greeting families, placing rocking chairs for Mr. and Mrs. Claus, to helping the children with crafts to cleaning up.
7. Rockney Reid for organizing the games and leading the cheering section.
8. Maggie Robinson for reading a Christmas-themed story.
9. Angela Roberts for effortlessly interacting with families and taking their portraits with the Clauses.
10. Melinda Reid for delivering packages to families who could not attend the party.



Thank you to the congregation that made Christmas a little brighter and, we pray, more meaningful for some children and their parents!

In Christ,  
Patricia Dempsey and Judy Rudoff

**Altar Flowers**

If you are interested in giving flowers for the Altar on February 23, March 22, April 19, April 26, May 3, August 2, August 23, October 4, or October 25, please contact Luann Huffman at 903-886-3368 or [lhuffman01@cumbytel.com](mailto:lhuffman01@cumbytel.com).

**BLOOD DRIVE**



**Blood Drive**  
**Sunday, March 1**  
**9am-1pm**  
**FUMC-C Parking Lot**  
on Carter Bloodcare Bus

FUMC-C and the Connect Team are hosting a blood drive! Help save lives!

More information coming soon!



*In memory of...*

**Jimmy Cameron**

By: Carole Walker

**Bonnie Jones**

By: Carole Walker



**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.

# By the Numbers

**Attendance**

	<u>Early</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>SS</u>
<b>December 24</b>	71*	78*	—
<b>December 29</b>	—	71**	—
<b>January 5</b>	35	63	43
<b>January 12</b>	23	64	33
<b>January 19</b>	30	80	47
<b>January 26</b>	33	82	48

\* Candlelight Services  
 \*\*One Service @ 10am

**Financial Information  
 General Operating Fund**

	<u>as of December 31, 2019</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income:	\$ 46,657	\$355,976
Expenses:	\$ 23,261	\$358,944
	\$ 23,396	-\$ 2,968

**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:**

Saturday, February 1	Matthew 5:1-12
Sunday, February 2	Matthew 5:1-3
Monday, February 3	Isaiah 58:1-9
Tuesday, February 4	Isaiah 58:6-12
Wednesday, February 5	Psalms 112:1-10
Thursday, February 6	1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Friday, February 7	1 Corinthians 2:6-16
Saturday, February 8	Matthew 5:13-16
Sunday, February 9	Matthew 5:17-20
Monday, February 10	Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Tuesday, February 11	Psalms 119:1-8
Wednesday, February 12	1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Thursday, February 13	Matthew 5:21-37
Friday, February 14	1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Saturday, February 15	Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalms 119:1-8
Sunday, February 16	Matthew 5:21-37
Monday, February 17	Exodus 24:12-18
Tuesday, February 18	Exodus 24:12-18
Wednesday, February 19	Psalms 99
Thursday, February 20	2 Peter 1:16-21
Friday, February 21	2 Peter 1:16-21
Saturday, February 22	Matthew 17:1-9
Sunday, February 23	Matthew 17:1-9
Monday, February 24	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Tuesday, February 25	Psalms 32
Wednesday, February 26	Psalms 51:1-17
Thursday, February 27	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
Friday, February 28	Romans 5:12-19
Saturday, February 29	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

## Prayer Lists

### Recent Concerns

Glenna Anderson (Dennis Anderson's mother); Helen Cole; Barbara Gish; Erin Lafavers (Janeen & Joel Kvanli's daughter), Priscilla McFarland; Betty Roeder (Rheba Icenhower's niece); Sara Trigg (Barton family friend)

**Continued Prayers (long term):** Our world and country and our leaders, Betty Casselberry, Kenneth & Carol Cline (Tammy Naizer's parents), Harold Coker, Virginia Collier, Garrett Cramer, Abby Crawford (Janet Skauge's granddaughter), Rev. Tom Dudley, Jack & Gladys Gray, Sally Grove, Margie Hamlin (Linda King's mother), Colton Hanson, Preston Helton (Jan & Jeff Helton's grandson), Robert Jenkins (Tiffany Harrison's father), Zachary Madden, Harold & Priscilla McFarland (Julia Robinson's parents), Betty Morton, Alfredo Muniz, Richard Norton, Dawn Parker (Jon Parker's mother), Walt Parker, Sara Plemons, (Mimi Dobbs' sister), Robert Seay, Odeana Stewart, Donna Tavener, James and Geneva Teel, Dennis Wilkinson

**Oak Manor:** Helen Cole, Barbara Gish, Nick Heath, Myra Terrell

**Draughn's/Country Home Estate:** Mary Louise McMahan, Edna O'Quinn, Jayne Williams

**Briarcliff:** Gene Casselberry

**Colonial Lodge (Tender Care):** Joe McMahan

**Greenville Health & Rehab:** Mildred Davis

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

**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  
Major Bob Farmer

*"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.**



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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  
**Monday, February 17 by 9:00am**