

# First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 17, Issue 1

January 2019



*Monday, December 24 - Christmas Eve*

*“A Holy Christmas: Communion, Carols,  
and Candlelight”*

*Family Friendly @ 5:00pm*

*Silent Night, Holy Night @ 7:00pm*

## THE LIGHT FUMC COMMERCE

### Ignite The Light

The Light Contemporary Worship will (re)Ignite Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, to coincide with the start of the TAMU-C's Spring semester. Every Sun-



day during the school year, we will gather together at the Wesleyan for a snack supper at 5:30pm and worship at 6pm. The free suppers are called Kin-dom Dinners: through table fellowship, we will learn to know and treat each other like kin/family. Over dinner we will discuss the upcoming sermon topic, which will be based on current issues in the news and social media. The Kin-dom Dinners and sermon series will follow the classic method of preaching with a newspaper in one hand and the Bible in the other. However, now a days it looks more like this:



## Worldly Messages and THE Message

The Kin-dom Dinner concept is based on the People's Supper movement which aims to build bridges between folks of different political and world views. Student leaders will pick the current issues they are passionate about to discuss over dinner and discern through worship how the Word of God would have us faithfully respond.

ALL are welcome! In fact, having experienced FUMC members participate will help college students expand their world view and learn how to be guided by God's Word in their everyday lives. We hope you can join us Sunday evenings at the Wesleyan for dinner and fellowship at 5:30pm and worship at 6pm.

A HUGE Thank You to the Foundation for making this ministry possible by funding the Worship Leader position for the year!

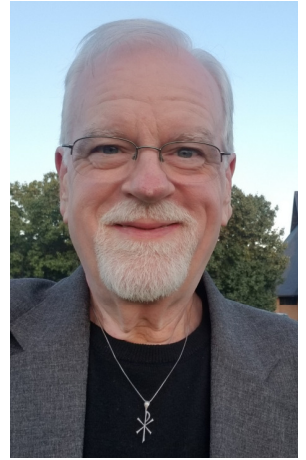
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## Behold I Make all things New

'... And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new. To the thirsty, I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of Life. Those who conquer will inherit these things and I will be their God and they will be my children."

This comforting passage from The Book of Revelation, chapter 21, gives us hope for the future. It is promised that we are not alone and that we have a future with God. ...and that God promises to care for his children! So WE ARE ALL children--let us walk together, learn and grow together. It begins in worship and awe--so let us WORSHIP TOGETHER--every Sunday! And invite our friends and those we meet. Here the cue...



***"I'd like to invite you to come WORSHIP with us at First UMC!"***  
And wait for a response!

Then designate a place in the courtyard and meet them there. Sit with them and introduce them to the pastor and others. This is how we grow. It might feel awkward at first but you will get used to it! Together we can grow our influence! And the influence of faith and following the Lord.

You can't grow younger but you can be made new! And you can relish the fact that you (and *all the people around you*) are *God's precious children!* Love them and welcome them as God does! And walk beside them as we follow together!

Proud to be your Pastor,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Sam".

Sam Caldwell

*Merry Christmas*

*The highest calling we have is to love God and to love each other. It's how we remember best that we are loved by God.*

MATTHEW 22:37-40

### Pastor's Bible Study

Tuesdays @ 4pm  
at The Lion's Den  
Wednesdays @ 12pm & 6pm  
in the Friendship Room

We will pray together and  
establish a covenant for each  
segment! No costs except time.  
Open to anyone.  
Childcare available by request.



#### Segment 2: Greening and Growing in Winter 2019 (Bearing the Fruit of the Spirit)

- January 2 (holiday)
- January 9 Bearing Fruit--Love
- January 16 Bearing Fruit--Joy
- January 23 Bearing Fruit--Peace
- January 30 Bearing Fruit--Patience
- February 6 Bearing Fruit--Kindness
- February 13 Bearing Fruit--Goodness
- February 20 Bearing Fruit--Faithfulness
- February 27 Bearing Fruit--Gentleness

### Worship

Sunday, January 6  
*Epiphany of the Lord*

Sunday, January 13  
*Baptism of the Lord*

Sunday, January 20\*

Sunday, January 27\*

8:45am ~ Chapel  
10:50am ~ Sanctuary  
\*6:00pm ~ Wesleyan  
Campus Ministry

### 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

### Holiday Office Schedule

The church office will be closed  
Monday, Dec. 24 through Wednesday,  
Dec. 26 for Christmas  
\*Tuesday, Jan. 1 and  
Wednesday, Jan. 2 for New Year's.



**Connect Grow**  
**Monday, January 14**  
**@ 6pm**

**FIRST  
THURSDAY**

**Potluck  
Luncheon**  
**January 3**  
**@ 12pm**



**Luigi's Gives Back  
Sunday, January 20**  
If you take your bulletin  
after church, Luigi's will  
send us 10%. Help support our church by  
eating some good food!

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, January 22 by 9:00am\*\***



# Children's Ministry

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

Our stories this month are about healing and the miracles Jesus performed when he was on earth. Our Bible verse is "God heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds." Psalm 147:3 and our song this month is "God Heals Hearts".

- On **January 6** we will learn Matthew 2:1-12 (Magi Seek a Healer). The magi followed a star to find the newborn king. We will make a 3-D star craft, take a journey to find baby Jesus by following the star, and enjoy a fun snack in the shape of a star.
- On **January 13** we will read Luke 4:38-44 (Jesus Heals). Jesus cares about us when we are sick, and he wants us to care for others. We will have fun playing "a different race" game, making a first aid craft, and enjoying a pretzel thermometer for snack.
- On **January 20** our class will focus on Mark 5:21-24, 35-43 (Jesus Heals a Young Woman). Jesus wants us to understand and help care for people who are sick and to pray for their healing. We will make heart cards to give to someone who needs encouragement. We will also make and enjoy a special snack and play a fun game.
- On **January 27**, join us as we read Luke 17:11-19 (Jesus Heals Ten Men). We will play a game and decorate "thank you" cupcakes for others who have helped us. Jesus taught us the importance of saying thank you to those who help us and take part in our lives.

We hope that you will join us for a fun-filled month as we learn more about God and grow closer to others.

"Start children off on the way they should go and even when they are old they will turn from it." Proverbs 22:4



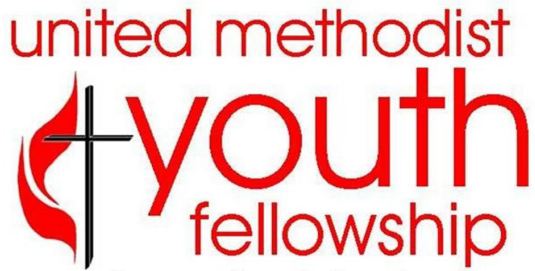
Little Ark collected good for the food pantry during the Advent season. The parents went above and beyond!!



**REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR:** EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO THE BOX BY THE FRONT DESK ON CHRISTMAS EVE WE WILL TAKE IT TO THE FOOD BANK.

*"It is more blessed to give than to receive" —Acts 20:35*

- |                                     |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| December 1 – box of cereal          | December 13 – canned beans         |
| December 2 – peanut butter          | December 14 – box of crackers      |
| December 3 – stuffing mix           | December 15 – package of rice      |
| December 4 – boxed potatoes         | December 16 – package of oatmeal   |
| December 5 – macaroni and cheese    | December 17 – package pasta        |
| December 6 – canned fruit           | December 18 – spaghetti sauce      |
| December 7 – canned tomatoes        | December 19 – chicken noodle soup  |
| December 8 – canned tuna            | December 20 – tomato soup          |
| December 9 – dessert mix            | December 21 – can corn             |
| December 10 – jar of applesauce     | December 22 – can mixed vegetables |
| December 11 – canned sweet potatoes | December 23 – can carrots          |
| December 12 – cranberry sauce       | December 24 – can green beans      |



This month at UMYF we'll be talking about Jesus as the Light of the World. It's a powerful metaphor, but what does it mean? How did Jesus bring light to the world? We'll look at the way Jesus lit up and changed individual lives through healing, teaching, and compassion, and we'll think about how we can be part of that same light in the world today.

United Methodist Youth Fellowship meets every Sunday afternoon from 4:00 to 6:00, beginning January 6, 2019. Each week we have games and fellowship, snacks, worship, Bible study, and small group discussion. If you know any middle school or high school youth, please invite them to come and see what UMYF is about. There is always room for more, and each student is welcome!

### Upcoming Youth Events

- **Midwinter Retreat**
  - Friday, February 8 – Sunday, February 10
  - Bridgeport Camp and Conference Center
  - Registration already completed
- **Bishop's Rally**
  - Sunday, February 17
  - Christ United Methodist Church (Plano)
  - Cost: \$5.00
- **ONE Event**
  - Sunday, April 28
  - First United Methodist Church Rockwall
  - Cost: TBA
- *More events coming soon – stay tuned!*



### Summer Camp

As strange as it seems, it's time to start thinking about Camp at Bridgeport for summer 2019. Registration will open in January, and there are significant discounts for those who register early. The dates for camp this year are:

- **Junior High (2018-19 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders) – June 17-21**
- **Senior High (2018-19 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> graders) – July 1-5**

More information will be announced regarding pricing and registration deadlines as it becomes available. Camp is a formative experience for so many young Christians seeking to deepen their faith, and it's a lot of fun too!



*Prayers for our children and youth  
as school starts back.*

## Contact with FUMC Youth Ministry

Join our Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/415260338564559/>


### For Parents:

Sign up to receive SMS updates via text, go to <https://www.remind.com/join> and enter class code **fumccumyf**, or text **@fumccumyf** to **81010**

Contact Youth Minister Nevin Jackson directly: **903.461.9752** or [nevin@fumcccommerce.org](mailto:nevin@fumcccommerce.org)



The Marketplace and Lunch held December 1st raised \$6,500 for general missions, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, the Wesleyan Campus Ministry, and designated missions through alternative gift-giving! The Merry Marketplace Committee extends its appreciation and gratitude to the generous donors, amazing bakers, talented crafters, dedicated volunteers, and merry shoppers who made this a successful event in support of vital ministries. And a special thanks goes to Jim Patton and the WCM members for the delicious made-from-scratch stew.

**A NOTE  
ABOUT YEAR  
END GIVING**

Year end giving, and all giving, is greatly appreciated. For financial gifts to reflect your 2018 giving statement, please submit by January 6th with check date of December 31st and 2018 in the memo line.

*Thank  
you*



Thanks to the members of the Church Staff and the leadership of our congregation and to God for a great year and the unfolding of a new one.



Great work by Karla Roffee! These 70 pairs of mittens handmade by Karla are going to New Mexico and Pennsylvania missions.





*In memory of...*

**Margaret Olson**

By: Jim & Susan Patton

MEMORIALS



**e-GIVING 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**

	Early	Late	Light	SS
<b>Dec 2</b>	49	88	23	38
<b>Dec 9</b>	35	86	10	35
<b>Dec 16</b>	40	64	—	38

**Financial Information  
General Operating Fund**

as of November 30, 2018 Year-to-Date

Income:	\$ 23,529*	\$318,674
Expenses:	\$ 27,486	\$339,206
	-\$ 3,957	-\$ 20,532

\*includes extra giving

**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:**

Tuesday, Jan 1	Matthew 25:31-46
Wednesday, Jan 2	Psalms 72:1-4, 10-14
Thursday, Jan 3	Psalms 72:5-7
Friday, Jan 4	Ephesians 3:1-4
Saturday, Jan 5	Ephesians 3:5-12
Sunday, Jan 6	Matthew 2:1-12
Monday, Jan 7	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Tuesday, Jan 8	Isaiah 43:1-7
Wednesday, Jan 9	Psalms 29
Thursday, Jan 10	Acts 8:14-17
Friday, Jan 11	Isaiah 43:1-7
Saturday, Jan 12	Psalms 29
Sunday, Jan 13	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Monday, Jan 14	Isaiah 62:1-5
Tuesday, Jan 15	Psalms 36:5-10
Wednesday, Jan 16	Psalms 36:5-10
Thursday, Jan 17	1 Corinthians 12:1-11
Friday, Jan 18	John 2:1-11
Saturday, Jan 19	John 2:6-11
Sunday, Jan 20	John 2:11
Monday, Jan 21	Psalms 19:14
Tuesday, Jan 22	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Wednesday, Jan 23	Psalms 19
Thursday, Jan 24	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Friday, Jan 25	Luke 4:14-21
Saturday, Jan 26	1 Corinthians 12:17-20
Sunday, Jan 27	Luke 4:14-21
Monday, Jan 28	Jeremiah 1:4-10
Tuesday, Jan 29	Jeremiah 1:4-10
Wednesday, Jan 30	Luke 4:21-30
Thursday, Jan 31	Psalms 71:1-4



## Prayer Lists

### Recent Concerns

Family of Margaret Olson (Linnea Smith's mother)  
Fred Blohm  
Marietta McClurg  
William Pemberton  
Beverly Becker Wood (Mary Shumway's mother)

### Continued Prayers (long term)

Healing and peace for our hurting country and world, our world and country's leaders, Wayne Bruno, Debra Burton, Kenneth & Carol Cline (Tammy Naizer's parents), Harold Coker, Garrett Cramer, Lois Cranford, Carol Davis, Corky Drinkard, Rev. Tom Dudley, Bill Ray Ellis (Luanne Huffman's cousin), Mel Fox, Jack and Gladys Gray, Betty Grimm (Lauren Dierolf's grandmother), Margie Hamlin (Linda King's mother), Preston Helton (Jan & Jeff Helton's grandson), Rheba Icenhower, Bob Langly, Zachary Madden, Allen Martin, Harold & Priscilla McFarland (Julia Robinson's parents), Richard Norton, Mary Ogletree (Mimi Dobbs' mother), Grayson Prewett (Bill and Sharon Prewett's grandson), Michaella Prussack, Mary Sartin, Robert Seay, Pat Skauge, Billy Stocker (J.D. Short's uncle)

**Oak Manor:** Mary Elizabeth Channon, Helen Cole, Barbara Gish and Euple Walker

**Draughn's/Country Home Estate:** Roger and Jean Arnold, Joe and Mary Louise McMahan, Edna O'Quinn, and Gayle Shumate

**Austin:** Ruby Vander Velde



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

Military separated from family during this holiday season  
Lt. Dan Barton  
Daniel Chamberlain  
Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith  
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

[www.fumcccommerce.org](http://www.fumcccommerce.org)

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

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

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE  
NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
Articles for the next newsletter are due  
**Tuesday, January 22 by 9:00am**