



First United Methodist Church Foundation  
Annual Report 2012  
Fiscal year January 1 – December 31, 2012

The Foundation, created by the administrative board of FUMC in March of 1992, is a nonprofit entity that accepts and maintains gifts that are awarded “for any purpose or cause of interest to the First United Methodist Church, Commerce, Texas.” (April 16, 1992, FUMC Foundation Board articles of incorporation) The funds are permanent gifts, benefiting a variety of benevolent activities or considerations, including ministry, missions, health and welfare, music, education, scholarships, senior citizens, facilities, and grounds. More information is available at [fumccommerce.org](http://fumccommerce.org) under the About Us tab.

The permanent funds generated \$ 32,136.92 for 2012. As required by bylaws, 10% of the generated funds were returned to the permanent fund. The grants or awards given during 2012 are reported below.

1. Commerce Clothe-a-Child 1,000.00  
Eligible children receive needed shoes and clothes at a Wal-Mart early-morning Christmas shopping trip prior to the store opening. Children and their parents shop with an adult volunteer. Children’s names are verified by CISD counselors after parents submit an application.
2. Angel Tree 2,500.00  
Children of an incarcerated parent receive Christmas gifts in the name of the parent. Judy Rudoff, a longtime member of FUMC, co-ordinates this ministry each year. Our church members also shop, bake, and wrap presents for the recipients.
3. Commerce Literacy Program 3,000.00  
GED preparation classes as well as basic literacy are provided to adults needing services. This program is affiliated with the Commerce Public Library. It was started by FUMC members Otha and Billie Spencer.
4. Minority Care International 5,000.00  
Former member Leslie Kilgore and her son Joe, members of a UMC in Greenville, requested funds for a mission that provides health care and housing to minority students at the University of Mindanao in the Philippines. Minority Care (MCI) has an exchange program with TAMU-Commerce. Of particular concern to Leslie and Joe were the programs that provided help to students who had no family support because of religious conflict within the family.
5. Organ Expense 3,899.65  
Organ repairs in the amount above were needed at a time when no funds were available in the fund designated for organ repairs. The bill was paid by the church’s general funds and was reimbursed to the church by the foundation.
6. Parsonage Expense 10,209.34  
An accumulation of expenses at both parsonages could not be covered by the designated parsonage fund administered by the foundation as there was insufficient interest generated to pay these bills. The expenses were paid from the general funds of the church and were then reimbursed to the church from the foundation.
7. Rachel’s Challenge 6,600.00  
Rachel’s Challenge is a series of student empowering programs and strategies that equip students and adults to combat bullying and allay feelings of isolation and despair by creating a culture of kindness and compassion. The programs are based on the writings and life of 17 year-old Rachel Scott who was the first student killed at Columbine High School in 1999. Rachel left a legacy of reaching out to those who were different, who were picked on by others, or who were new at her school. The grant provided training for all Commerce High students this past fall. First payment was made in 2012. The next installment of \$6,600 will be listed in the 2013 report.

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| 8.  | Save the Library  | 28,500.00 |
|     | A new air conditioning system for the Commerce Public Library was purchased so the library could be used during hot weather. The new system replaced an antiquated, non-functioning system. The library was able to continue to open in the summer. |           |
| 9.  | Casey Scholarship   | 500.00    |
|     | Awarded by select scholarship committee to CHS student.   |           |
| 10. | Kibler Scholarship  | 500.00    |
|     | Awarded by select scholarship committee to CHS student.   |           |

The funds awarded for 2012: \$61,708.99. Additional expenses included accounting and bank charges (3,663.76).

Respectfully submitted,

Foundation President  
Dan Shepherd

Foundation Treasurer  
Ben Doughty