

First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 15, Issue 6

June 2017



VBS 2017: Hero Central

Mon, June 26- Fri, June 30
9am-12pm

Serving Pre-K through 5th grade

Monday - wear blue

Tuesday - wear green

Wednesday - wear yellow

Thursday - wear orange

Friday - wear red



****Snacks served each day! ****
****First 50 registrants get a CD. ****

We need:

- blue, rectangular, plastic table cloths
- snack and drink donations
- volunteers to be shepherds for each age group
- volunteer to be in charge of technology (dvd, music, slide show)

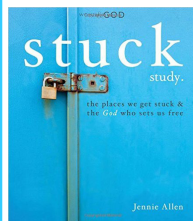
Congratulations to our 2017 Scholarship Recipients!

*Claire Dobbs was awarded the Kibler Family Scholarship.
Luke Hooten was awarded the Mary & Leland Casey Scholarship.
Cameron Oats, Rachel Scarcelli, Kassady Todhunter, and Teddy
Walker were each awarded the Orpa & Eunice Dennis
Endowment Scholarship.*



FIRST THURSDAY

Potluck Luncheon
June 1 @ 12pm



8-Week Women's Summer Bible Study

Thursday evenings @ 7-8:30pm ~ Beginning June 15th

Study: *Stuck* by Jennie Allen

Childcare available

Contact Vickie McMurray to register: vickie@fumcommerce.org

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Page	pg. 2	Upcoming Worship, The Light	pg. 3
Little Library, Service Spotlight, Seniors	pg. 4	Boys & Girls Club, Longest Day	pg. 5
Children's Ministry, Committee Chairs, Ann.	pg. 6	Memorials, Attendance	pg. 7
Finances, Scriptures	pg. 7	Prayer List	pg. 8

Styles of Worship

By: Dr. Gregory S. Neal



In last month's newsletter article we took a look at the history of the different forms of worship, about what they all contain, and about the practice of what is usually called "traditional" as outlined in the United Methodist Church's *Hymnal* and *Book of Worship*. As was stated, our 10:50am Sunday morning service follows this Basic Pattern for Worship rather closely, with only occasional variations. Indeed, even within the Basic Pattern there is plenty of room for multiple structural and stylistic variations, and we have a few of them in our liturgical service. In this article we will consider vestments and certain liturgical gestures that can be seen in traditional worship.

The use of robes and other kinds of worship vestments is nothing new to Methodists in general, or FUMCC in particular: photographs of the consecration service for the 1968 Sanctuary show the participating clergy vested in black robes. Indeed, the wearing of robes by pastors while conducting worship has been common within American Methodism for the better part of a century, and in the South it has been fairly common since the 1950s.

A more recent innovation in liturgical worship attire amongst Protestants has been the adoption of the alb. The alb is a white or flax-colored, lightweight garment worn in Christian worship by participating ministers dating all the way back to the first century AD. It fell out of use by Protestants during the Reformation and only began to be recovered in the middle of the 20th Century. In the 1980s and 1990s United Methodist clergy began wearing the alb, particularly for communion services and during the hot summer months because it is so much lighter and cooler than the black robe. Indeed, the *Book of Worship* recommends the white alb as the principle worship attire for clergy in traditional, liturgical services. Personally, I like the alb because it is much lighter and cooler than the black robe.

In addition to the black robe and the alb, most United Methodist clergy will wear several symbols of the ministerial offices they hold: crosses, stoles, and chasubles are most commonly seen. The stole is the symbol of the order of Elders, of which both Brian and I are members. The colors of the stoles coordinate to the season of the church year as well as to the theme or character of the service (i.e., white is worn for weddings and funerals). Also sometimes seen is the chasuble, which is a "poncho-like" garment that may be worn over the alb and stole by Elders in worship services where they are presiding at Holy Communion. It is usually made of elegant materials and color-coordinated to the liturgical season of the year. Roman Catholics, many Lutherans and Episcopalians, and a small but growing number of United Methodist clergy wear it for services where Communion is to be celebrated.

In addition to various kinds of worship-wear, occasional questions have been asked regarding certain body postures and gestures that I, and others, sometimes make in worship. For instance, when I approach the altar I usually pause and either nod my head or make a short bow: this is a sign of respect for the sacred space, and for God, that the altar and the cross in our sanctuary represent. Similarly, at certain points in the service I will occasionally make the sign of the cross; for instance, while consecrating the elements during Holy Communion and anytime I say the Trinitarian formula ("in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit"), it is fairly common for me to make the sign of the cross. These practices are appropriate and the *Book of Worship* suggests several of them at various points in the service. Not all UM clergy are comfortable with such gestures, and so they are not always seen, but they are nevertheless not unknown among Methodists.

The wearing of robes, albs, stoles, and various postures and gestures can all be part of building an atmosphere or "style" that is conducive to the traditional, liturgical form of worship. Bowing the head for prayer and closing one's eyes to pray are probably among the most commonly known and experienced posture-practices that invoke reverence for God, but they are not the only ones.

To watch or listen to Dr. Neal's sermons on the internet, go to:
www.revneal.org * www.youtube.com/revneal * www.facebook.com/RevNealVideo

THE LIGHT

Let your light shine!

That's been our goal throughout this process of launching The Light service. As I say often (when folks ask me about the service), God has said 'yes' to this process, and we are going to do our best to Shine HIS Light!

The First Sunday of each month is now Potluck Sunday. Our next potluck is June 4th. Please join us at 5pm!!

For the month of May, we have been collecting donations for the Women in Need Shelter to honor mothers. Thank you to all who have donated!

Our service is super casual with many showing up in shorts and jeans. This is FABULOUS- we don't want any reason to keep you from our service. We offer childcare and Sunday School!

We now have a mini-coffee bar thanks to Jennifer Knight and Gabe & Alicia Wittkopf. Join us and know you have tea or coffee at your convenience!

Thank you to all who are working behind the scenes to help make this service a success! I have met some new musicians and am excited about the summer ahead. We have some special guest musicians coming in June, July, and August. You will hear more about that in the coming months.

Please join us for the Stuck Bible Study. If you have never participated in a study before - no worries - you don't need to know the bible. Just come as you are, and enjoy the fellowship and a little Jesus! The cost is \$15 (due by June 10th). We begin Thursday evenings on June 15th. High School Girls on up are welcome. I have 2 scholarships for ladies who may not have the \$15 at this time. Please let myself or Mariann know and we will get you signed up.

We have plans for the fall and want you to be involved. More info coming soon!

Change the World!
Vickie
Worship Leader

Worship

Sunday, June 4
Day of Pentecost

Sunday, June 11
Trinity Sunday

Sunday, June 18
Father's Day

Sunday, June 25

8:45am ~ Chapel
10:50am ~ Sanctuary
6:00pm ~ Family
Ministry Center

Mid-Month Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, June 14
5:30 pm in the Chapel
This is a special service of prayer, contemplation, and Communion conducted in the Anglican Tradition.
All are welcome!



THE LIGHT

A Contemporary Service

Email: vickie@fumccommerce.org

Follow us on Twitter: @TheLightWorship

Instagram: @TheLightWorship

Join our Facebook page: The Light - Contemporary Service @ FUMC Commerce

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



Worship Assistants Needed

The 10:50 service needs children, youth, and adults who are willing to serve as Acolytes! We also need men, women, and youth who are interested in serving as Ushers and as Greeters! Please contact the church office if you would like to serve.

United Way of Hunt County – Little Libraries- #22 on Methodist Drive

Our “Little Library” program places small wooden structures in neighborhoods where children might not have access to the public library. Families may have limited transportation or parents may be working during library hours. United Way stocks these libraries with “Family Friendly” books so that a family can have access anytime and usually within walking distance of their home. The sign on the little library reads “Take a Book * Leave a Book.” If children love the book so much that it ends up in their home to stay, that’s ok! We also hope that people will share books their families have out grown. If you have books that you want to donate we would love to share them! If it is just a few, place them in one of the 22 little libraries around Hunt County. See our website for locations – www.unitedwayofhuntcounty.org. If it is a large donation call the office and we can make arrangements. Our main goal is to get books in the hands of young people and encourage reading!



Little Library #22 will soon be just off Methodist Drive in Commerce, Texas! The Libraries are built by the Golden K Kiwanis group and most supplies are paid for by donors. The one going in at the church is donated by Ralph and Jeanette Moser in memory of a child of a friend. Their desire was to have books available to students at Texas A&M - Commerce, who have young families.



Service Spotlight: Maggie Robinson Accepts the Challenge!

What a joy for the 10:50 church congregation to see soon-to-be high school sophomore, Maggie Robinson, step up to the pulpit and read the scripture. She has accepted the responsibility of reader for the entire month of May. This is a great obligation for anyone, but a high school student is very impressive excepting a calling carrying this amount of importance during the service.

There are other opportunities for congregational members prior to and during each worship service throughout the year. You may contact Mary Lou Heatherly or Mariann Andrews in the church office for information. Each acceptance of the opportunity to be of service increases the viability of our Methodist purpose of making Disciples of Jesus Christ by connecting, growing, and serving.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATING SENIORS!

OUR CLASS OF 2017 WAS CELEBRATED ON SUNDAY, MAY 21 WITH A RECEPTION AND DURING THE 10:50AM SERVICE.

SPECIAL THANKS TO JULIA ROBINSON, WHO ORGANIZED THE LOVELY RECEPTION.





Great Futures Start Here

The future is getting even brighter for kids and teens in Commerce. The Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Texas, Texas A&M University – Commerce, and Commerce Independent School District are partnering to deliver expanded and improved services this coming school year for the Commerce Club, which is housed at AC Williams Elementary School. According to Jenny Krueger, chief professional officer of the Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Texas, the after-school program will provide certified teachers to assist students with their homework and university student interns to offer development opportunities in a wider array of areas such as music.



Commerce Club members help clean up the AC Williams playground

The Commerce Club is not conducting summer programming this year. The primary reasons for this decision are Commerce ISD’s new calendar (school begins August 7) and the planning underway for the new partnership of supporters in Commerce. Commerce Club members, however, are welcome to participate in the Summer Brain Gain program at the Boys & Girls Club Reecy Davis in Greenville, and transportation is available through The Connection.

The Commerce Club is our June mission of the month. Your dollar bills and designated gifts will help fund programming come August. Look for upcoming announcements about the exciting things happening at the Commerce Club and ways you become involved in this vital program in our community.

The Longest Day

“Rain drops on roses...” What are a few of your favorite things? Bridge? Dominoes? Board games? Knitting? Crocheting? Gardening? Walking?

The Serve Team is hosting an Alzheimer fundraiser 9:30-12 noon on June 21 in the Family Ministry Center. We are inviting people to join us in doing one of their—or one of their loved ones— favorite things and by donating \$10 or more to help raise awareness, fund research, and eventually find a cure for this disease.



Why are we hosting this fundraiser? Below are a few statistics that demonstrate what a threat Alzheimer's is:

- Since 2000, deaths from heart disease have decreased 14% while deaths from Alzheimer’s have increased 89%
- Alzheimer’s is the 6th leading cause of death in the United States
- Every 66 seconds, someone in the US develops Alzheimer’s
- 1 in 3 seniors dies with Alzheimer’s or another dementia

These numbers, of course, don’t tell the whole story. They don’t include the financial cost of caring for an Alzheimer’s victim or the toll it takes on the health of spouses/caregivers. The emotional trauma on friends or family members as they witness the slow descent into oblivion of a once vibrant, intelligent, active, funny, talented loved one is beyond calculation.

Join us on June 21 (the longest day of the year) to do one of our favorite things to honor and remember someone we cherish. Snacks will be served. Bring a friend!

Questions? Call Judy Rudoff at 903-456-2419 or Amy Stark at 903-246-1487.

Children's Ministry



Children 3rd-5th grade will head to Bridgeport Camp June 19-23. Please pray for safe travels and for their hearts to be open and ready to receive the Lord's teachings.

Little Ark Happenings



Open House/PK Graduation was a huge success. It was so fulfilling to see all of their artwork and watch the children perform their songs. Thank you to the church members who came out to support this event and to Pastor Greg for opening with prayer. We would like to wish our PK graduates all the best in their kindergarten experience!

Our first annual Mother's Day Breakfast was amazing!! The mother's couldn't say enough wonderful things about having the opportunity to spend the morning with their children. Special thanks to those that donated breakfast items and helped set up. Vickie McMurray did a great job speaking to our mothers and giving them some book and article ideas to keep them motivated to be the Christian mothers God intended them to be.



Special thanks to those that donated breakfast items and helped set up. Vickie McMurray did a great job speaking to our mothers and giving them some book and article ideas to keep them motivated to be the Christian mothers God intended them to be.



Little Ark has enjoyed Pastor Greg leading our chapel lessons this month.



Committee Chairs

Ad Council Chair:

Mike Roberts (903) 886-2142

Lay Leader:

Carole Walker (903) 886-4450

SPPRC Chair:

Jim Patton (903) 886-4612

Trustees Chair:

Virginia Collier (903) 367-7588

Finance Chair:

Gil Naizer (903) 886-1961

FUMC Foundation President:

Anne Mills (903) 217-2615

Connect Team Chair:

Susan Patton (903) 886-4612

Grow Team Chair:

Craig Jensen (903) 886-8713

Serve Team Chair:

Amy Stark (903) 246-1487

Lay Member:

Gene Lockhart (903) 886-3498

UMW President:

Mary Lou Heatherly
(903) 886-8381



Luigi's Gives Back Sunday June 18

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

e-GIVING 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, and click on 'Ways to Give' and create a profile if you haven't already.

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, or call the office at 903-886-3220. Questions may be addressed to the Church office.

****The next deadline is Tuesday, June 20 by 9:00am****

UMW is still collecting Box Tops for Education and Labels for Education.



In memory of...

Edwina Threlkeld

By: Keith & Darrilyn Harris
Danny & Janet Duncan

Ruth Ann White

By: Pete & Mary L Smith
Loretta Kibler
Mariann Andrews
Tom & Virginia Collier

In honor of...

Carole Walker

By: Judy Rudoff



Attendance

	<u>Early</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>Light</u>	<u>Wed.</u>
Apr 30	27	88	52	46	
May 7	31	76	45	44	
May 14	27	75	35	25	
May 17					11
May 21	19	87	57	—	
May 28	31	62	43	27	



**Financial Information
General Operating Fund**

	<u>as of April 30, 2017</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income:	\$ 31,241	\$ 109,949
Expenses:	\$ 34,038	\$ 117,420
	-\$ 2,797	-\$ 7,471



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:

Thursday, June 1	John 20:19-23
Friday, June 2	John 20:19-23
Saturday, June 3	Acts 2:1-21
Sunday, June 4	Acts 2:1-21
Monday, June 5	Genesis 1:1-30
Tuesday, June 6	Genesis 1:31-2:4a
Wednesday, June 7	Psalms 8
Thursday, June 8	Psalms 8
Friday, June 9	2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Saturday, June 10	Matthew 28:16-20
Sunday, June 11	Matthew 28:16-20
Monday, June 12	Genesis 18:1-15
Tuesday, June 13	Genesis 18:9-15, 21:1-7
Wednesday, June 14	Psalms 100
Thursday, June 15	Romans 5:1-5
Friday, June 16	Romans 5:6-8
Saturday, June 17	Matthew 9:35-38
Sunday, June 18	Matthew 10:1-23
Monday, June 19	Genesis 21:8-21
Tuesday, June 20	Genesis 21:8-21
Wednesday, June 21	Psalms 86:1-10, 16-17
Thursday, June 22	Psalms 86:1-10, 16-17
Friday, June 23	Matthew 10:24-39
Saturday, June 24	Matthew 10:24-39
Sunday, June 25	Romans 6:1b-11
Monday, June 26	Genesis 22:1-7
Tuesday, June 27	Genesis 22:1-14
Wednesday, June 28	Psalms 13
Thursday, June 29	Psalms 13
Friday, June 30	Romans 6:12-14



Prayer Lists

Newly Added
Jessica King

Continued Prayers

Healing and peace for our hurting country and world, Ahtrell Dalton, Joe and Mary Louise McMahan, Pat Skauge, Nell Brown, Dannis Cook, Debra Burton, Debbie Hood (Cathy Giles' sister), Jim Stahl, Lavonne Wells, Jason Smith (Lavonne Wells' grandson), Vanessa Paulin, Jason Jarvis (Gene and Betty Casselberry's family member), Brad Standlee (Gene and Betty Casselberry's friend), Jennifer Oats (Jessica Morgan's sister), Doris Kerbow

Long-term Concerns

Rev. Carolyn Allbritton, Gene Casselberry, Garrett Cramer, Lois Cranford, Rev. Tom Dudley, Sammy Elwell, Preston Helton (Jan & Jeff Helton's grandson), Harry Icenhower, Loretta Kibler, Zachary Madden, Allen Martin, Harold McFarland (Julia Robinson's father), Betty Morton, Gayle Shumate, Robert Seay, Madeline Sullivan, Harriet Williams, Rev. Clay Yeager

Draughn's/Country Home Estate:

Roger & Jean Arnold, Helen Cole, Barbara Gish, Edna O'Quinn, and Euple Walker

The Haven (San Antonio): Faye Jackson

River Point (Kerrville, TX): Lucy Potts

Austin: Ruby Vander Velde

*"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).



Remembering those serving in our military...

Daniel Chamberlain
Mike Dempsey
Col. Keith Williams
Lt. Dan Barton
Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith
Josh Ham-Nadine & Clay Yeager's grandson-in-law
Kris Yoder-John & Rebecca Sneed's son-in-law
Staff Sgt. Geoff Abbe & Sgt. Eric Abbe-Ladonna & Chris Patterson's cousins

To watch or listen to Dr. Neal's sermons online, go to:

www.revneal.org
www.youtube.com/revneal
www.facebook.com/RevNealVideo



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

First United Methodist Church
1709 Highway 24
Commerce, TX 75428
Senior Pastor - Dr. Gregory S. Neal

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE
NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
Articles for the next newsletter are due
Monday, June 20 by 9:00am