



Prayer Lists

Newly Added:

Ahtrell Dalton

Continued Prayers for Church Family

Chris Patterson	Sherie Kao
Clay Yeager	Mary Dagenhart
Bart Green	Gary Kibler
Gavin Rodden	Helen Dickson
Jan Vowell	Jean Ward
Robert Seay	

Continued Prayers Family & Friends

Projecto Abrigo and Rev. Jose Luis
 Wade Swinson (Mandy Swinson's husband)
 Colt Miller
 Cleon Flanagan, Sr.
 John Burkett
 Fred Ohsick
 Vicki Davidson (Pastor Valarie's mother)
 Barry Kidder (Sarah Wilkinson's husband)
 Bill Cole (Judy Anderson's father)
 Oma Thomas (Ron Thomas' mother)
 Janet Skauge
 Ethel Stout (Lonnie Plunkett's mother)
 Peggy Aguilar (Otha Spencer's friend)
 Klyne Martin
 Deborah Brown (Diane McDowell's friend)
 Kay Webber
 Doris Sanders (Susan Bruton's friend)
 Pat McClung (Chris & Donna White's friend)
 Becca Smith (Mike Smith's mother)
 George O'Kelley
 David Crenshaw
 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 Schmidlen (Iraq)-Jim and Debby Heitholt's son)
 Jim Hunsicker (Afghanistan)-Carolyn Miller's brother
 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-Wanda Beane's brothers and Tom Starkey's sons
 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



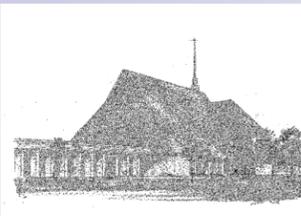
Phone: 903-886-3220
 Fax: 903-886-3240
 www.fumccommerce.org
 office@fumccommerce.org

Place Label Here

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE
 NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
 Articles for the next newsletter are due
 Monday, March 28 by 9:00am

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

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



First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 9, Issue 4

March 2, 2011



FOOD! MUSIC! FUN! FELLOWSHIP!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
 Tuesday, March 8
 5:30-6:30 p.m.



We will begin the season of Lent on Tuesday night March 8, otherwise known as Fat Tuesday or Shrove Tuesday. The tradition behind Fat Tuesday is to rid the house of all "fat" before the fasting on Ash Wednesday. In that spirit, please join us for an all-church, all-you-can-eat Pancake Dinner!

Share a delicious hot meal of pancakes and sausage while listening to Jazz music and visiting with other members of our church family. It's a family-friendly, Big Easy-style event right here in Commerce, Texas!

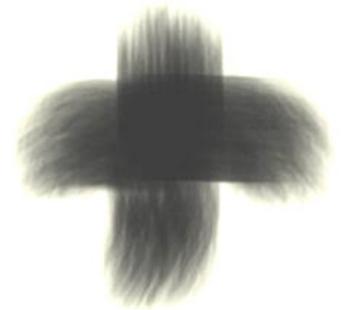


Lenten Bible Study

Pastors Valarie and Marc will be leading a brown-bag Bible Study on Tuesdays at noon at the church beginning **Tuesday, March 15** and continuing through **April 19**.

Ash Wednesday Service
Wednesday, March 9
@ 6:30pm
 in the Sanctuary

A powerful service of repentance, reflection, and imposition of ashes



Lenten Offering

During this Lenten season, our church will share His love with brothers and sisters in Christ who live beyond our community. We will dedicate the special Lenten offering to Projecto Abrigo | Project Shelter in Juárez, Mexico.



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Dear FUMC Friends:

As have many other Americans, I resolved to increase my activity level in 2011 (aka "exercise" – a word that can make me break out in hives!). Over the years I have been an avid walker – more avid at times, less so at other times depending on what's going on in my life. So I have enjoyed walking around Commerce, learning different areas of town, lining out 20-minute, 30-minute and 45-minute loops around town.



Recently, I wanted to see where a 1-hour walk might take me, so I decided to walk Boisd'Arc Street from end to end. Starting at the south end, I walked in beautiful weather, sun shining, with just enough cool breeze to invigorate me. Such days as this always confirm why I love to walk – I notice things I wouldn't notice driving in my car; the progress on a house getting a new roof, that house getting a new paint job, a car in a driveway being repaired, children playing games, a teenager practicing his skateboard licks.

Meeting the neighborhood animals is always an experience, too. I have made friends with a precious black and white corgi, and have "met" a black, long-haired Chihuahua who takes no notice of me when I approach, but as soon as I pass, I hear him (her?) behind me, yapping me out of the territory. There's a bulldog/mastiff mix in a back yard with a fine wrought-iron fence who barks fiercely, but as soon as I speak, she (he?) cocks that doggie head to one side with an inquiring look.

I also see some of you on my walks, and some of you see me hoofing it down the street without me noticing. And I see lots of people I do not know. Some smile and give a nod of the head, and others don't seem to pay much attention. I always wonder what a person's life might be like: are they happy? Fulfilled? Do they have people who love and support them? Do they belong to a faith community? If so, where? If not, why not?

This last musing is what makes me wish I had a brightly-colored tee shirt with FUMC COMMERCE in big letters on the front – or at least a hat! Such things can be conversation starters. Talking to people cold turkey about faith is daunting, even for an extrovert. But a tee shirt can do the attention-grabbing thing for me. There have been times I've been in the grocery store and the checker has discovered I'm the pastor of the Methodist Church. The comments are always positive and go something like this: "Your church does so much good here in Commerce," or, "everyone I meet from your church is so nice."

It becomes plainer to me every day that the witness of this congregation to the community is long-standing and runs deep. But even in a small town, we must keep telling our story about how we experience God acting in and through us day in and day out. People in our community will not know about the love and compassion FUMC has to offer unless we tell them, one person at a time.

Tee shirts, anyone?

Hope to see you this Sunday – with a friend!
Valarie



*Daylight Savings
Time begins on
Sunday, March 13.
Don't forget to
set your clocks
forward an hour!*

Worship

March 6, 2011

*This Sunday:
Transfiguration
Sunday with
Holy Communion*

*Please join us
this Sunday!*

*8:45 in the Chapel
10:50 in the Sanctuary*

Committee Chairs

Leadership Team Chair

Harriet Williams
(903) 886-2206

Lay Leader:

Jim Patton
(903) 886-2206

Personnel Chair:

Chester Robinson
(903) 886-8220

Property Chair:

Bob Mills
(903) 886-6792

Stewardship Team Chair:

Hal Langford
(903) 886-8334

Foundation Chair:

Danny Shepherd
(903) 886-6883

Connect Team Chair:

Ladonna Patterson
(903) 886-4630

Grow Team Chair:

Teresa Heatherly
(903) 886-7070

Serve Team Chair:

Angela Roberts
(903) 886-2142



*(The Noon Lenten
Bible Study will
still meet.)*

Our office hours during the week of spring break (Mar. 14-18) will be shortened. The office will be open Monday – Thursday from 9-12 and will be closed Friday.

If for any reason you need to get in touch with the office after these hours, please call and leave a message. We will return you call as soon as possible.

Have a fun and safe break!



Children's Ministry Event

KIDZ4KIDZ Lock-In
Friday, March 25



The Lock-In offers an overnight adventure for kids ages Kindergarten through 6th grade.

The cost is \$25.00 per child.

Dinner, late night snack and breakfast will be served, and the evening will be full of action-packed activity stations including:

- Wii, crafts (that will be sold to raise \$\$ for American Cancer Society),
- group/team games,
- and much more!

All proceeds benefit the M&M kids' Relay For Life team, KIDZ4KIDZ.

For more information about Lock-In or KIDZ4KIDZ/Relay For Life, contact Alison Walker at alison@fumccommerce.org.



Youth Ministry Event

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
Sunday, April 3 @ 5:00pm

Tickets will be on sale soon.
Funds raised are for youth ministry activities and events.

New Worship Service Beginning March 13 @ 9:45am in the Chapel

This new worship opportunity at FUMC-C will be more liturgical in style and offer communion each Sunday. Spread the word! And pray for this new service.

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:

Sunday, Mar 6	Matthew 17:5b-9
Monday, Mar 7	Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7
Tuesday, Mar 8	Psalms 32
Wednesday, Mar 9	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
Thursday, Mar 10	Romans 5:12-14
Friday, Mar 11	Romans 5:15-19
Saturday, Mar 12	Matthew 4:1-7
Sunday, Mar 13	Matthew 4:8-11
Monday, Mar 14	Genesis 12:1-4a
Tuesday, Mar 15	Psalms 121:1-4
Wednesday, Mar 16	Psalms 121:5-8
Thursday, Mar 17	Romans 4:1-5
Friday, Mar 18	Romans 4:13-17
Saturday, Mar 19	John 3:1-10

Financial Update

General Operating Fund as of February 2011

Income: \$59,219
Expenses: \$60,691
Balance: \$-23,503

Attendance

	Feb 20	Feb 27
Early	31	32
Late	145	136
Bridge	12	17
SS	79	100

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.

****Due to Spring Break, the next deadline is Monday, March 28 by 9:00am****