

# First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 18 Issue 3

March 2020



Give blood.  
Save a life.

**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!  
Register online @ [fumccommerce.org](http://fumccommerce.org)!

## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Family Game Days

We will host our first 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Family Game Day on March 29. Sunday school will be at 9am, one worship service at 10am, and the family game day will begin at 11am.

All ages are invited to come and bring your favorite games! We will have card games, board games, and dominoes as well. Come learn a new game or teach others your favorite game!

Our Youth will provide a light lunch to enjoy while we play games. Donations given will cover the lunch cost and proceeds will help them go to church camp this summer.



Mark your calendar for the other 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of 2020:

May 31 (Confirmation/Pentecost Sunday)

August 30

November 29

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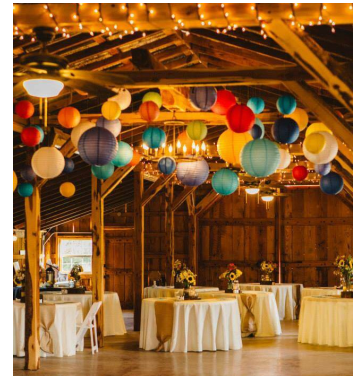
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FUMC-Commerce invites you to begin Holy Week with your church family... **Palm Sunday Potluck Luncheon & Easter Egg Hunt** Sunday, April 5 12:30pm at Under the Oaks



Bob and Julie McLeroy's Barn (directions below)

**Please Bring:**

- A picnic side dish to share (The Connect/Grow Team will provide the meat and beverages.)
- Games to play (e.g., crochet, bag toss, horseshoes)
- Kites to fly

**Activities for all:**

- The official FUMC-C Easter Egg Hunt
- Hayride



**Directions to Under the Oaks:**

Take Highway 11 East towards Sulphur Springs. After passing A.C. Williams Elementary, the house is approximately 1.5 miles on the left. You will see a black pipe fence. Turn left in the drive. The house is white with red trim. The barns are located behind the house. Bob will direct the parking as members arrive.



Shuttles will run between the church and the McLeroy's.

**HOLY WEEK AT FUMC COMMERCE:**

**EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 12**



A Service of Palms **Sunday, April 5** Worship in the Chapel at 8:45am

**Sunrise Service at 6:30am** led by FUMC youth



and at 10:50am in the Sanctuary

**Early Service at 8:45am** in the Chapel



A Service of the Lord's Supper **Thursday, April 9** at 6pm in the Chapel

**Late Service at 10:50am** in the Sanctuary

Bring a breakfast treat to share! Fellowship and hospitality will be ongoing in the Family Ministries Center throughout the morning. Come fellowship and worship!

A Service led by WCM **Friday, April 10** at 6pm in the Chapel



## Pastors Bible Study

### Pastor's Bible Study

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.*

**connect grow**  
**Connect Grow**  
**Monday, March 2**  
**@ 6pm**

## Worship

*Sunday, March 1*

*Sunday, March 8*  
*Scout Sunday*

*Sunday, March 15*

*Sunday, March 22*

*Sunday, March 29*  
*5th Sunday-One Service*

*8:45am ~ Chapel*  
*10:50am ~ Sanctuary*

**Altar Flowers**

If you are interested in giving  
flowers for the Altar on May 3,  
August 2, August 23, October 4,  
or October 25, please contact  
Luann Huffman  
at 903-886-3368 or  
lhuffman01@cumbytel.com.

## 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



### 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.



**Men's Breakfast**  
**Monday, March 30**  
**@ 7am**

**at Omega's Restaurant!**

*Come and have breakfast  
with Pastor Sam, talk about "stuff" and enjoy  
fellowship and good food together!*

**FIRST  
THURSDAY**

**Potluck  
Luncheon**  
**March 5**  
**@ 12pm**

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, March 23 by 9:00am\*\***



Join us in Children's Sunday School as we begin our spring curriculum. This month's Bible verse is "If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other's feet." (john 13:14)

We hope you can join us at 9:45-10:40 each Sunday!



Children's Place at the Altar on Scout Sunday, February 9



Easter Egg Hunt  
Sunday, April 5  
@ Palm Sunday at the McLeroy's



### Children's Choir Tuesdays 3:30-5pm

Children's Choir continues on Tuesdays from 3:30-5pm for children in grades 3rd-5th. We are preparing to sing and play hand bells in the 10:50am on Palm Sunday April 5.

\*\*Special thanks to the Prayer Shawl ladies for providing 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!

### Candy for Children's Easter Egg Hunt

Individually wrapped candy is needed for our Easter Egg Hunt. Please bring all donations to the church office by 12pm Wednesday, April 1.





\* Little Ark celebrated Valentine's Day with parties in both preschool and Pre-K. Our amazing parents showed us love by providing lunch for all

of the teachers.

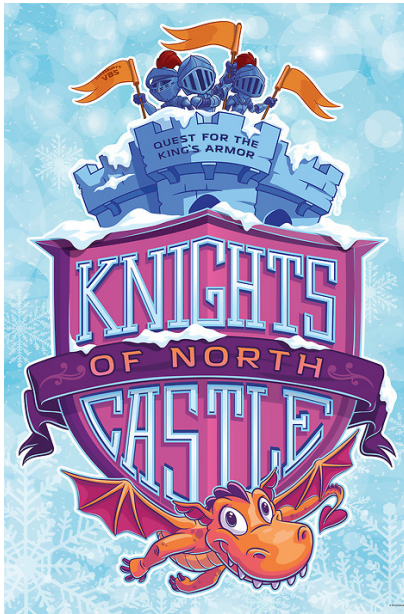
\* The Little Ark Center will be closed on Friday, March 13 for Spring Break.



Little Ark Pre-K Class Valentine's Day Party



*On Sunday, February 16  
Pastor Sam baptized cousins  
Bentley Kate Wallace and  
Waylon Blake McDaniel  
in the 10:50am service.*



## VBS 2020: Knights of North Castle

Wednesdays  
July 15 ~ July 22 ~ July 29 ~ August 5  
5pm-8pm

Vacation Bible School is coming up quickly! We will have VBS once a week for a month from 5-8 each evening with a light supper served.

We need volunteers for stations, as shepherds, and groups to provide meals and drinks for each evening. For more information, please contact Amy at [amy@fumccommerce.org](mailto:amy@fumccommerce.org) or Bonnie at [communications@fumccommerce.org](mailto:communications@fumccommerce.org)

At Knights of North Castle VBS, your students will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they go on a quest in search of the King's Armor. They will become Knights and discover how to serve God and God's mission for their lives. Children will expand on what they've discovered by participating in a variety of activities: making their own art projects at the Craft Station, singing new songs at the Music Station, exploring wonders at the Science Station, playing games at the Recreation Station, and enjoying tasty treats at the Snack Station.



### Youth Sunday School

We meet at 9:45am in the Youth Room and are continuing our lessons on reading the Bible.

### UMYF March Calendar

March 22  
Outdoor Game Day from 2-4

March 29  
Bridgeport Fundraiser: UMYF will provide lunch for a donation during the FUMC 5th Sunday Family Game Day.



## UMYF ice skating at the Galleria Mall on February 9



### *2020 Missions of the Month*

Below are the 2020 missions of the month. All \$1 bills and designated gifts placed in the offering plate during each month will benefit the named mission. In addition, your Serve Team seeks ways to put our faith in action each month. Look for service opportunities throughout the year!

- **January:** Pastor's Discretionary Fund
- **February:** Commerce Food Pantry at First Presbyterian Church and Bread of Life Food Pantry at Church of the Nazarene in Commerce
- **March:** Lenten Offering for Proyecto Abrigo with summer Mission trip
- **April:** Raffa Clinic
- **May:** UMARMY
- **June:** Boys & Girls Club- Commerce
- **July:** Commerce ISD Family Services (Stuff the Bus school supplies)
- **August:** Wesleyan Campus Ministry (Work Day at WCM)
- **September:** Hunger Action Month- North Texas Food Bank
- **October:** Commerce Clothe-a-Child
- **November:** Community Thanksgiving Day meal
- **December:** Proyecto Abrigo

## 2020 Lenten Offering: Let's Build a House

**The Serve team issues a 40-day Lenten Challenge to raise \$3,200 to build a house with Proyecto Abrigo (Project Shelter) in Juárez, Mexico.**



For God's children Proyecto Abrigo was founded. In 1992, after graduating from John Wesley Seminary in Monterrey, México, Rev. José Luís Portillo invited volunteers from the US to come help construct his church building where he would serve his first pastoral assignment back in Juárez. The volunteers asked how they could help the families they saw living in cardboard shacks, so in 1996, Rev. José Luís founded the ecumenical organization he named Proyecto Abrigo, a home-building mission to provide permanent housing for families. He turned to his United Methodist friends in the US for volunteer help and financial assistance to construct 12'X24' cinderblock houses. Several thousand houses, five churches, a medical clinic, a vocational school, and community center have been built since that time. To qualify for a new home, the family must provide proof of ownership of the land and at least one adult in the family be employed full-time.



**The goal is to raise the funds this Lent and send a mission team to build a house this summer. Please prayerfully consider joining the mission team.**

Volunteer teams drive the distance to Juárez together. They sleep in dormitory bunks at the mission compound and work hard every day shoveling sand, mixing mortar, and "buttering" cinder blocks with the wet mortar until the home is built. Once completed, the home blessing takes place. Every team does it a little differently. The teams from this church have traditionally made a trip to the local Soriano's store (similar to Walmart) and pooled their resources for a "blessing basket" for the family. On the day of the blessing, the family gathers inside their new house along with the home-building team. José Luís prays for the family and the team and then administers Holy Communion, the first meal in the new home. It is an incomparable gift to be present at this holy time.



To learn more feel free to ask those who have been before: Jan and Jeff Helton; Mike, Angela and Oliver Roberts, Derrell Harrison or Mary Lou Heatherly to name a few.

This Lent, let's simplify our lives, grow closer to God and serve others.

The FUMC Administrative Council (AdCo) is taking a more active role this year than in the past. We will undertake some strategic planning – looking forward 3-5 years. Where does the church want to be? To that end, AdCo first will host a brainstorming activity with the congregation. Please prayerfully consider, What do we value? What is important to us as a congregation? What is important to you as a member of the FUMC congregation? In the very near future, AdCo will “kidnap” the congregation for 5-7 minutes immediately after the early and late services for a quick brainstorm.



Just so you're prepared, here are the rules of brainstorming:

- Every idea is considered
- No idea is evaluated (any idea is a GOOD idea)
- No one talks over anyone else.

AdCo has yet to set a date for this groundbreaking activity. In fact, we probably won't warn you. We want EVERYONE to participate. See you soon!

Chester Robinson, AdCo Chair

#### A Word from the Finance Committee



Greetings to our fellow Church members. We are off to a decent start for 2020. At the time this note was written the final results for January were not available but preliminary numbers look like we held our own again.

We don't like to talk about money in the Church but we all know that without proper funding the Church can't provide the services the members deserve. As we go through the year and write those checks or however we contribute, let's think about all the good things the Church is doing. We will talk more about that as the year goes on.

Sometimes we think times are tough and if we skip a month of giving it won't really matter, but in reality, if we skip, we rarely make up that difference. The Church depends on you. We need to give first then do our other spending. The tough times thing doesn't work either. During the Great Depression the average person gave 32% more of their income than they do today.

You may not be at the point of tithing but have you increased your giving along the way as you have been given more? Just taking what you spend on snacks a couple of days a week and giving that to the church would make both you and the Church healthier.

Thanks for your support.

Jim Brown, Finance Chair



*In memory of...*

**Barbara Gish**

By: Carole Walker  
Alta Fay Peden  
Myra Terrell  
Edna O'Quinn



**Bonnie Jones**

By: Mary Lou Heatherly



**Spring Break Office Hours**

The office will be open Monday, March 9 through Thursday, March 12 from 9:00am-12:00pm and will be closed Friday, March 13. Have a fun and safe break!

**By the Numbers**

**Attendance**

	<u>Early</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>SS</u>
<b>Feb 2</b>	30	72	35
<b>Feb 9</b>	30	136	41
<b>Feb 16</b>	30	126	37
<b>Feb 23</b>	29	80	41

**Financial Information  
General Operating Fund**

	<u>as of January 31, 2020</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income:	\$ 31,067	\$ 31,067
Expenses:	\$ 26,738	\$ 26,738
	\$ 4,329	\$ 4,329

**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, March 1	Matthew 4:1-11
Monday, March 2	Genesis 12:1-4a
Tuesday, March 3	Genesis 12:1-4a
Wednesday, March 4	Psalms 121
Thursday, March 5	Psalms 121
Friday, March 6	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
Saturday, March 7	John 3:1-17
Sunday, March 8	John 3:1-17
Monday, March 9	Exodus 17:1-7
Tuesday, March 10	Exodus 17:1-7
Wednesday, March 11	John 4:5-26
Thursday, March 12	Romans 5:1-11
Friday, March 13	Psalms 95
Saturday, March 14	John 4:27-42
Sunday, March 15	Psalms 95
Monday, March 16	Ephesians 5:8-14
Tuesday, March 17	1 Samuel 16:1-13
Wednesday, March 18	1 Samuel 16:1-13
Thursday, March 19	Psalms 23
Friday, March 20	John 9:1-25
Saturday, March 21	John 9:24-41
Sunday, March 22	Ephesians 5:8-14
Monday, March 23	Ezekiel 37:1-3
Tuesday, March 24	Ezekiel 37:4-14
Wednesday, March 25	Psalms 130
Thursday, March 26	Psalms 130
Friday, March 27	Romans 8:6-11
Saturday, March 28	John 11:1-27
Sunday, March 29	John 11:28-45
Monday, March 30	Psalms 118:1-2
Tuesday, March 31	Psalms 118:19-29



## Prayer Lists

### Recent Concerns

Family of Margaret Ferrell, Family of Barbara Gish, Family of William Pemberton, Family of Brenda Verchinski (Gina Sullivan's mother), Debbie Hood (Cathy Giles' sister), Jim Hutton (Jerry Hutton's brother), Cecil Michaels, David Polk, Oscar Starbuck, Brenda Wheeler (Cathy Giles' sister), Tina

### Continued Prayers (long term)

Our world, country, & leaders; Glenna Anderson (Dennis Anderson's mother), Betty Casselberry, Kenneth & Carol Cline (Tammy Naizer's parents), Harold Coker, Virginia Collier, Garrett Cramer, Rev. Tom Dudley, Gladys Gray, Sally Grove, Jim Guidry (Lisa & Monty McGuyer's friend), Margie Hamlin (Linda King's mother), Robert Jenkins (Tiffany Harrison's father), Zachary Madden, Harold & Priscilla McFarland (Julia Robinson's parents), Priscilla McFarland, Betty Morton, Alfredo Munez, Lona Neal (Greg Neal's Mother), Richard Norton, Dawn Parker (Jon Parker's mother), Walt Parker, Robert Seay, Odeana Stewart, Donna Tavener, James and Geneva Teel, Dennis Wilkinson

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

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

**Briarcliff:** Gene Casselberry, Jack Gray

**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.**



Phone: 903-886-3220

Fax: 903-886-3240

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

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

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, March 23 by 9:00am**