

# First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 13, Issue 5

May 2015

## One Service

Sunday, May 3 @ 10:50am

Rev. Dennis Wilkinson, preaching

**POTLUCK Luncheon following**



Please bring a **potluck dish** for us to share as we enjoy a meal with Rev. Wilkinson after worship



**WEEKEND VBS: G-FORCE**  
is all about God's LOVE in ACTION.  
Friday, June 19 – Sunday, June 21.

- Ten volunteer spots are still open. Please contact Joanna (joanna@fumccommerce.org) if you are interested in volunteering. All volunteers must attend training, which is Sunday, May 17 after 10:50am service. Pizza lunch will be served. Please contact Joanna if you cannot attend.

# CONGRATS CLASS OF 2015!

## Senior Sunday ~ May 17

Honoring Seniors at 10:50 service Reception for the Seniors and their families in the Gathering area starting at 10:15am

Sammy Elwell  
Amelia Martin  
Campbell Reid  
Nathan Scarcelli



**BACCALAUREATE SERVICE**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 31**  
**@ 6:00PM**  
**FUMC-C**

## Bridgeport Summer Camps!

<b>Dates:</b> July 28 - Aug 1	<b>Children's Camp (C-4)</b> Check-in: 3:00 P.M.	<b>Completing Grades 3-5</b> Max 220*	<b>Reg. Fee:</b> \$350
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Registration is going on for Bridgeport Children's Camps. I highly suggest **registering early**. I have talked to the Camp, and they are filling up fast. You can register online (information is on the FUMC-C website @ [www.fumccommerce.org](http://www.fumccommerce.org))

We are in need of some **volunteer counselors**. If you would be interested in having an amazing time with the kids at camp this year, please let me know.

Joanna Thrift, Director of Children Ministries



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## Nightmares and Sabbath Keeping

Dr. Gregory S. Neal



From time to time we all suffer from bad dreams and nightmares. We all know that dreams are usually filled with strange, jumbled up, perplexing, and often confusing imagery. It seems to me that many of us don't bother to pay much, if any attention to our dreams. For some reason we are actually afraid to consider those dim recollections with which we awaken in the morning, and by the time we've finished breakfast usually those dreams have altogether fled from our conscious minds. Unfortunately, sometimes it's through our dreams that our subconscious mind is trying to speak with us about those issues and problems in our lives that have been troubling us. And, if we don't address our dreams they may come back to haunt us in subsequent evenings.

That is why I keep a "dream journal." It's nothing fancy—just a small spiral notebook which I keep on the nightstand by my bed—but it has given me much insight over many years of use. When I am awakened by a dream or a nightmare, I quickly jot down any of the impressions, fears, and recollections that may be still bouncing around inside my head at that very moment. After much practice – and, especially, much trial and error – I have sometimes managed to wake myself up from sleep in order to record the content of a particularly interesting or troubling dream. These notes almost always make for fascinating reading the next day, especially if I don't remember a single thing about my dreams – or even if I had a dream! – until I read my notes from the previous night. Then, the memories usually come flooding back, bringing insight and revelation. I have learned a lot about how my mind (and especially my subconscious) works from this practice of recording my dreams, and it's an exercise I heartily recommend to anyone who is both interested in a similar experience, and also willing to confront some not-very-nice elements of our human condition.

One night I had a real nightmare; I dreamt that after Church one Sunday I went back to the office and took off my stole and my robe only to find that I was wearing yet another full set of vestments underneath! With frustration, I proceeded to take off this second stole and robe only to find a third layer of clerical vestments on underneath them! In my dream, I kept removing layer after layer of vestments: endless processions of robes, albs, stoles, and clerical collars, with no end in sight, until my cat jumped up on the bed and woke me from my thrashing. Of course, I was tangled up underneath my covers and sweating profusely, but the dream stuck in my mind even many hours later, when I was eating breakfast and reading my "dream journal."

It's not hard to draw insight from this kind of a nightmare. There are many ways that we can become smothered by the layers of work and the tangling responsibilities of our professional lives. Be we farmers, construction workers, lawyers, teachers, doctors, bus drivers, secretaries, insurance agents, preachers, or whatever, it does not matter ... we can all become so trapped in our daily routines that we cannot find a way out. This was my dilemma. It had been nearly 7 months since I had taken any substantial time off, with 30 weeks of weddings, funerals, Emmaus Walks, pastoral counseling sessions, emergency hospital visits, research and study, administrative details, Sunday school lessons, Disciple Bible Study sessions, and sermons, all piled high on top of me. The weight of the pastorate, along with the many personal crises that can come to the surface when under pressures like these, had pressed down upon me, tangled me up, and smothered me under the weight of my responsibilities. And, so, my subconscious was beginning to doubt that there was really any *me* underneath the layers of clergy vestments. Layer after layer of robes and stoles, and still no *me* to be distinguished from all the trappings of the pastorate. "Was this really true? Is there really no *me*, to be found under my vestments any more?" These were the kinds of questions that I was asking myself after waking up from that nightmare.

Sometimes we need to get away from our work. Sometimes we need to back away from our normal, day-to-day routine and simply spend a little Sabbath time reflecting upon our lives and the calling that God has for us. Sometimes it's a good idea to "escape" for a few days and spend time hiking in the mountains, or on a beach somewhere, building sand castles, playing in the surf, and spending hours talking with friends and family. Sometimes we need to recreate and rest and recharge our internal spiritual and emotional batteries. There is nothing wrong with this. I have known friends who have burned themselves out in ministry by being so busy taking care of others that they forgot to take care of themselves through appropriate use of Sabbath time. After that nightmare I was determined to not allow such to happen to me. So, I took off the vestments and forced myself to take some rest and retreat time. I forced myself to observe a personal Sabbath, and also take some vacation.

And, you know something, when it came time for me to put on the robe and the stole the next time ... it was easy! And ... there was only one layer.

# MISSION *of the* MONTH

The Mission of the Month for May is helping elementary school children in Commerce Independent School District. Your \$1 bills and designated gifts placed in the offering plate during May will be divided between the Boys and Girls Club (BGC) and Communities In Schools (CIS) to support programs for this coming summer and fall at A. C. Williams Elementary School. In

addition, you can follow your financial gift by acting on opportunities to get involved with either of these two programs. Both offer a range of services to support the educational and personal development of kids in Commerce, and both rely on volunteers like you to make a difference once child at a time!

On Sunday, May 3, during a mission moment in worship, Tom Bailey will share his thoughts on why he volunteers and ways you too can get involved. Talk with him or fellow volunteer Judy Rudoff to learn more. You can also contact the program directors to see how you can help:

- Nancy Laws, CIS Campus Manager  
903.456.2981 | [nancy.laws@commerceisd.org](mailto:nancy.laws@commerceisd.org)
- Regan Reed, BGC Co-Site Director  
903.818.9211 | [reed@begreatnext.org](mailto:reed@begreatnext.org)



**BE GREAT** next



Special thanks to volunteers from the Wesleyan Campus Ministry, the Dough-Rollins Sunday School Class, and the Serve Team for cooking, serving and cleaning up at the April Last Saturday Breakfast!

The First United Methodist Newsletter is the official publication of FUMC Commerce. The newsletter is published at the beginning 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, May 18 by 9:00am\*\***

## Worship

*Sunday, May 3*

*Sunday, May 10*

*Sunday, May 17  
Senior Sunday*

*Sunday, May 24*

*Sunday, May 31*

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

### *Midweek Eucharist*

*Wednesdays*  
*@ 5:30pm ~ Chapel*

### **Committee Chairs**

#### **Ad Council Chair:**

Gene Lockhart  
(903) 886-3498

#### **Lay Leader:**

John Heatherly  
(903) 886-7070

#### **SPPRC Chair:**

Wes Underwood  
(903) 886-1503

#### **Trustees Chair:**

Jim Brown  
(903) 886-7439

#### **Finance Chair:**

Gil Naizer  
(903) 886-1961

#### **FUMC Foundation**

#### **President:**

Anne Mills  
(903) 886-6792

#### **Connect Team Chair:**

Melinda Reid  
(903) 886-7623

#### **Grow Team Chair:**

TBD

#### **Serve Team Chair:**

Angela Roberts  
(903) 886-2142

#### **Lay Member:**

Carole Walker  
(903) 886-4450

#### **UMW President:**

Mary Lou Heatherly  
(903) 886-8381

## Recognized for Putting His Faith in Action

On March 24, the *Herald-Banner* honored Bill Heitholt with the Unsung Hero award, which celebrates the people of Hunt County who work behind the scenes to improve the lives of everyone around them. Read below what was shared at the reception and published in the newspaper about Bill.

*Bill Heitholt lives a life of quiet service and compassion, touching hearts and changing lives by living out his faith. An active member of First United Methodist Church of Commerce, he teaches Sunday School, volunteers for Vacation Bible School, and gives rides to his friends so they can attend church events. Bill is a member of the Mission Team at FUMC and is a model for others on the team for how to live a life filled with selfless, cheerful service. A former coach, Bill believes strongly in the power of shaping young lives. He regularly mentors young students through the Commerce site of the Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Texas and drives to Lone Oak to serve as a mentor and role model for young men in The Range program. Bill seeks resources to help these students in order to connect with them on a personal level. He is patient, understanding, and never judges. These young men consistently learn there is more to life than what they have been exposed to and that strong, caring adults can help them bridge the gaps in their lives.*



Caleb Slinkard of the *Herald-Banner* presents Bill Heitholt the Unsung Hero award

## 2015 Lenten Offering



### Turning Your Lenten Offering into Blessings

During the Lenten season, \$1,428 was received through special gifts and drop-a-dollar giving.

Half of the Lenten offering, \$714, will support the U.M. ARMY (United Methodist Action Reach-Out Mission by Youth) team serving this summer from June 21 to 27. Hayley Jobe, Melinda Reid, Carlos Rickman, and one additional recruit will accompany nine of our high school students to Paris, Texas. They will spend the week connecting with others from around the

state, growing deeper in faith, and serving to meet home repair and maintenance needs for low-income, elderly, and disabled homeowners. Jim and Susan Patton will also be in Paris to lead in the kitchen and ensure that all the volunteers are well fed.

As mentioned above, one additional adult U.M. ARMY volunteer is needed in order for all nine of our youth to attend this life-changing mission trip. Are you 21 or older? Are you willing to lead a small group of energetic high schoolers on the worksite and participate in evening activities with the group? If yes or if you know of a referral, contact Melinda Reid at 903.366.6493 or melreid@yahoo.com as soon as possible!

The other half of the Lenten offering, \$714, will support a future mission trip with Proyecto Abrigo to the impoverished community of Tierra Nueva on the outskirts of Juarez, Mexico. The funds will go towards building a cinderblock home for a family in need.

# All Church Palm Sunday Luncheon

A wonderful time was had by all Under the Oaks at our Palm Sunday Luncheon hosted by Bob and Julie McLeroy. Connecting with our church family always leads to treasured memories.



*Jesus said, "Breakfast is ready." John 21:12 (MSG)*



**Last Saturday Breakfast  
Community Gathering**

*Free Breakfast*

- Pancakes
- Sausage
- Fresh Fruit
- Orange Juice
- Coffee



Sponsored by  
First United Methodist Church  
and the Wesleyan Campus Ministry

**Saturday,  
May 30,  
9:00-10:00 a.m.**

Wesleyan Campus Ministry Building  
1504 Lee Street, Commerce

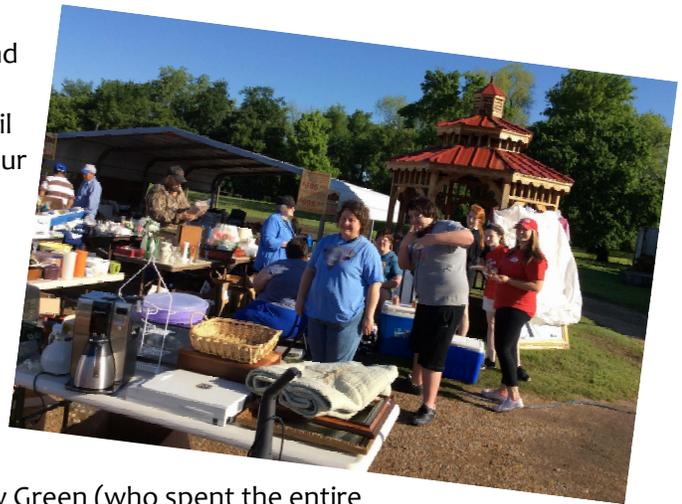
The Youth are volunteering to prepare  
and serve the meal in May.



Thank you so much to our hardworking Youth and those of you who donated your time and your "treasures" for the UM Army Garage Sale on April 25. Can you believe we topped \$2000 through your extraordinary efforts?! That total equals 8 full scholarships for UM Army campers and chaperones.

When you see them, please be sure to thank these wonderful people who made our success possible: David and Luann Huffman, Jim and [Susan Patton](#), [Robyn Elwell](#), [Hayley Jobe](#), Angela Roberts, Virginia and Tom Collier, John Muecke, Jerry Hutton, and Kim Scarcelli.

Also thanks to our Youth Leaders: Wes and Dian Underwood, and Ray Green (who spent the entire day lifting, moving and overseeing our young workforce).



The fundraiser was amazing in many respects, but one standout aspect was the love and effort poured out by our amazing young people: Jackson Singleton, Zane Belcher, Sammy Elwell, Mike Elwell, Connor Green, Campbell Reid, Jakob Scarcelli, Bailey Guinessey, Tara Nicholson, Max Weimar, Claire Dobbs, Forrest Dickson, Faith Dickson, Rachel Scarcelli and Rockney Reid.

We are off to Paris (Texas) June 21-27. Thank you FUMC-Commerce for our many blessings!

Melinda Reid



UMW will meet **Tuesday, May 19** at 10:00am. Our May project is Nursing Home Bingo Prizes: sugar free cookies, 6 oz drinks, peanut butter crackers, lotions, shampoos (small). **All women are invited to join us!**

***In memory of...***

**Johnnie Robertson**

By: Alta Fay Peden  
 Sharon & Charlie Smith  
 Dennis & Judy Anderson  
 Dough Rollins SS Class  
 Pat & Janet Skauge  
 Wyman & Harriet Williams  
 Bette Pennington  
 Edna O'Quinn  
 George & Priscilla McFarland

**Wyvonne Moody**

By: Ronny & Paula Brown  
 Alta Fay Peden

**Jo Parker**

By: Carolyn Trezevant  
 Jimmy & Sherry Chennault  
 Margaret & Robert Johnson  
 Patricia Mezey  
 Dennis & Judy Anderson  
 George & Priscilla McFarland

**Norma McNew**

By: Pat & Janet Skauge  
 Carole Walker  
 Lena Faulkner  
 TLT Class at Kavanaugh UMC  
 Dennis & Judy Anderson

**Collin Heath**

By: Kathy & Bobby Hill

**Dale Little**

By: Carole Walker  
 Lena Faulkner  
 Dennis & Judy Anderson

**Jean Funderburk**

By: Carolyn Trezevant  
 Jayne Williams  
 Gayle Shumate  
 Emerson & Becky Adams  
 Edna O'Quinn  
 Shirley Erb  
 Dorothy Ward  
 Danny & Janet Duncan  
 Jay & Johanna Hicks  
 Randy & Amy Manning  
 Elizabeth Bennett  
 Jim & Janet Latham  
 Pat & Janet Skauge  
 Carole Walker  
 Steve Siebenhausen  
 Lena Faulkner  
 John & Betty King  
 Helon Razniak & Elizabeth Razniak Braumler  
 Roger & Jean Arnold  
 Frieda Branom  
 Glenna Julian  
 Dennis & Judy Anderson  
 Kathy & Bobby Hill  
 Michael & Belinda Benson  
 George & Priscilla McFarland

**Clyde Robnett**

By: Dennis & Judy Anderson



**Financial Update  
 General Operating Fund**

as of March 31, 2015	Year-to-Date
Income: \$ 43,255	\$99,372
Expenses: \$ 27,422	\$91,536
	\$ 7,836



**Daily Scripture Readings:**

Friday, May 1	1 John 4:7-21
Saturday, May 2	John 15:1-8
Sunday, May 3	John 15:1-8
Monday, May 4	Psalm 98
Tuesday, May 5	John 15:9-11
Wednesday, May 6	Acts 10:44-48
Thursday, May 7	1 John 5:1-6
Friday, May 8	John 15:12-17
Saturday, May 9	Acts 10:44-48
Sunday, May 10	1 John 5:1-6
Monday, May 11	Psalm 1:1-3
Tuesday, May 12	Psalm 1:4-6
Wednesday, May 13	Acts 1:15-17, 21-22
Thursday, May 14	John 17:6-16
Friday, May 15	John 17:17-19
Saturday, May 16	Acts 1:21-26
Sunday, May 17	1 John 5:9-13
Monday, May 18	Romans 8:22-27 Acts 1:1-5
Tuesday, May 19	John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
Wednesday, May 20	Ephesians 1:15-23
Thursday, May 21	Luke 24:44-53; Acts 1:6-9
Friday, May 22	Acts 1:9-11
Saturday, May 23	Psalm 104:24-35 Romans 8:18-23
Sunday, May 24	Acts 2:1-21
Monday, May 25	Isaiah 6:1-7
Tuesday, May 26	Isaiah 6:1-8
Wednesday, May 27	Psalm 29
Thursday, May 28	Romans 8:12-13
Friday, May 29	Romans 8:14-17
Saturday, May 30	John 3:1-15
Sunday, May 31	John 3:16-17

**Attendance**

	Early	5:30	Late	SS	Sunrise
<b>Mar 25</b>		10			
<b>Mar 29</b>	33	—	138	77	
<b>Apr 1</b>		12			
<b>Apr 5</b>	50	—	172	56	58
<b>Apr 8</b>		11			
<b>Apr 12</b>	40	—	104	67	
<b>Apr 15</b>		8			
<b>Apr 19</b>	32	—	71	66	
<b>Apr 22</b>		8			
<b>Apr 26</b>	29	—	111	76	



## Prayer Lists

### We pray for those who have experienced an illness...

Sally Grove, Adele Reeves (Susan Reeves's mother), Donald Anderson (Dennis Anderson's father), Clay Yeager, Ruth Pope, Derek Humphries, Audrey Ham (Clay and Nadine Yeager's great granddaughter), Doris Kerbow, Eddie Barker, Anaya Phillips (Bonnie Smith's mother), Louella McIntyre, Carol Davis, Kenny Davis, Debra Burton, Lona Neal, Garrett Cramer, Luanne Huffman, Deby Leos, Harold McFarland (Julia Robinson's father), Buck Johnson, Andrea Watson, Delores Smith, Lois Cranford, Betty Morton, Charles Ranley (at Webb Hill), Michelle Bone, Hugh Hanby, Wendel Underwood (Wes Underwood's father), Robert Seay

### Others to Remember in Prayer...

#### Victims and Families of Nepal Earthquake

#### Christians in the Middle East

**Draughn's/Country Home Estate:** Ahtrell Dalton, Helen Dickson, Barbara Gish, Dorothy Ingram, Joe and Mary Louise McMahan, Edna O'Quinn, Lucy Potts, Pete Robinson, Ruby Vander Velde, Euple Walker, and Jean Ward

**Briarcliff:** Glenna Siebenhausen

**Laurell's Retirement Home:** Lewis and Faye Jackson

*"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...

2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division      Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith  
Col. Peter Bailey      Garrett Johnson  
Nathan Grove      Lt. Col. Keith Williams  
Lt. Dan Barton  
Mike Dempsey-Basic Training  
Josh Ham-Nadine and Clay Yeager's grandson-in-law  
Lt. Col. Jeremy Quatacker-Mark and Frances Sartwell's son-in-law  
Tyler Craig (Afghanistan)-Brad and Vickie Boynton's son-in-law  
Chief Robert Starkey-Wanda Beane's brother and Tom Starkey's son  
Lt. JG. Terry Starkey-Wanda Beane's brother and Tom Starkey's son  
Jim Hunsicker (Afghanistan)-Carolyn Miller's brother  
Alex Dech (Afghanistan)-Pastor Ron Dech's son  
Captain Daniel Robnett-Clyde and Wanda Robnett's grandson  
Kris Yoder-John & Rebecca Sneed's son-in-law  
Staff Sgt. Geoff Abbe & Sgt. Eric Abbe-Ladonna & Chris Patterson's cousins



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**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, May 18 by 9:00am**