

First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 11, Issue 11

November 2013



We're back in the Sanctuary! Sunday, November 3 11:00am

**WE HAVE WiFi IN
THE SANCTUARY!**

To log in...

ID: FUMC3S (all upper case)

Passphrase: fumc2013
(all lower case)



All Saints' Day

November 1 is All Saints' Day on the church calendar. On that day, we remember and celebrate the lives of those loved ones who have died and gone on to join the communion of saints. FUMC's remembrance of our saints will be in worship on Sunday, November 3. Come worship with us as we celebrate their lives, and offer support and prayers to their family members.



Our All Saints are:

Mary Casey
Gary Kibler

Mary Jo Leslie
Klyne Martin


Bill Terrell



Jeremiah, Cecilia, and Treble
Trouble Choirs
Singing in the 11:00am
worship service on Sunday,
November 3rd



Jeremiah and Cecilia
Handbells
Ringing in the 11:00am
worship service on
Sunday, November 24th

Charge Conference
Sunday, November 3
2:30pm
Wesley UMC,
Greenville
3:00pm Combined Worship

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Dear FUMC Friends:

A few weeks ago, my husband and I visited our daughter, Eva, in Boston. On Sunday morning during our visit, we worshipped at the church where Eva serves. As worship began, I noticed that there was a lot of available room in the pews (as a preacher is prone to do), and wondered to myself, “where is everyone?” As worship continued, more people trickled in. Just before the Eucharist was celebrated, there was a rush of footfalls in the sanctuary. More and more families came in, with a lot of children in tow. As the priest began to celebrate the Eucharist, I heard some noise: “Thump! Bang, bang! Whump!” (The sanctuary has hardwood floors.) I figured the noise might have something to do with children, but didn’t want to turn around to see what was going on – it might too easily be interpreted as “the look.”



When we came to the part of the liturgy in which we confessed, the worshippers began pulling out kneeling benches from beneath the pews. The source of the banging and thumping was then obvious – the children had been playing with them!

Eva told me later that the children of the congregation attend Sunday school first, and then come into the sanctuary right before the Eucharist is celebrated. The numbers of worshippers at that point almost double – there are many children and families that worship there because of the family-friendly environment. No one is going to scold a child about being interested in how a kneeler sounds when it hits the floor. The congregation has incorporated that kind of welcome into their DNA, even though their worship style is liturgical and somewhat formal.

In the gospels, Jesus says, “let the children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs.” (Luke 18.16) As Luke recounts it, people were bringing infants and young children to Jesus for his blessing, much to the consternation of the disciples. When the disciples try to block the children (maybe by giving them “the look”), Jesus makes clear that not only are children worthy of blessing – they are the measure of God’s Kingdom.

Luke’s recounting of this story is potentially liberating for congregations. No longer do we have to take ourselves so seriously that we dread having to sneeze or cough, because that might make too much noise. No longer must parents dread trying to control a child in worship --children are children, and God-in-Christ welcomes and delights in their presence. If a parent wants to take his or her child out to blow off some steam, that’s the parent’s choice – they aren’t forced out because of others flashing “the look.”

Not only does Christ welcome children into his presence, but children can become our teachers: children can teach us not to take ourselves too seriously. Our God is a God of joy and compassion, and children can teach us unbounded joy, curiosity, and kindness.

One of the blessings of worshipping in the Family Ministry Center this summer as the sanctuary air conditioning has been replaced has been the informal, intimate feel. Coffee and snacks have been shared before (and during!) worship, and the atmosphere has been relaxed. If a child needs to get up and stretch her legs, fine! There’s space and understanding for that to happen.

It is my prayer that as we move back into our wonderful sanctuary on November 3, the freedom we have experienced this summer will continue there. God welcomes us all – young and old alike.

May God’s joy fill your soul –

Valarie

*Upcoming
Sunday Worship*

November 3
All Saints’ Day
Ephesians 1:11-23
“Hope and Inheritance”

November 10
Veteran’s Sunday
1 Chronicles 11:15-19
“Sacrificial Offering”

November 17
Pastor Marc preaching
TAMUC Chorale

November 24
Christ the King Sunday
Luke 23:33-43
“The Chosen One”

8:45am ~ Chapel
11:00am ~ FMC

Midweek Eucharist
Wednesdays @ 5:30pm
in the Chapel

Committee Chairs

Leadership Team Chair

Jim Patton
(903) 886-4612

Lay Leader:

Gene Lockhart
(903) 886-3498

Personnel Chair:

Linda King
(903) 886-3734

Property Chair:

Jim Brown
(903) 886-7439

Stewardship Team Chair:

Mike Roberts
(903) 886-2142

Foundation Chair:

Dan Shepherd
(903) 886-6883

C-G-S Team Co-Chairs:

Angela Roberts
(903) 886-2142

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

****The next deadline is Monday, November 18 by 9:00am****

The TAMU-Commerce University Chorale will be singing in the 11:00 worship service on Sunday, November 17th



Shepherding Ministry

Our shepherding group is working with our pastors and Prayer Shawl Ministry to tend to those in need of care.

Meet our wonderful shepherds:

Harriet Williams
Betty Casselberry
Anna Blohm
Susan Patton
Susan Lampe
Ruby Vandervelde
Loretta Kibler



Working together to care for those in need.

Thanksgiving Basket & Christmas Basket Distribution

FUMC-C is a distribution site for the Hunt County Gives holiday food baskets. Volunteers are needed to unload food, check-in recipients, assemble baskets, direct traffic, and much more! To sign-up to help, contact Angela Roberts at AQRoberts@hotmail.com or 972.765.6547.

Volunteer to unload non-perishables at FUMC-C:

- > Thursday, November 21, ~8:30pm
- > Thursday, December 19, ~8:30pm

Volunteer to distribute baskets at FUMC-C:

- > November 23, from 8:30am to 12pm
- > December 21, from 8:30am to 12pm

Thank You!

Special thanks go out to Mariann Andrews, Tricia Dempsey, Mary Lou Heatherly, Jan Helton, Carolyn Lockhart, Laura Milligan, Cherrlyn Nelson of Mt. Moriah, Jim Patton, Susan Patton, Lindsey Priest of First Presbyterian, Judy Rudoff, Gayle Shumate, Bonnie Smith, and Alison Walker for helping register ~140 Commerce-area families for Hunt County Gives food baskets.

Mission of the Month

The Mission of the Month for November is Commerce Clothe-A-Child (CAC). All \$1 bills placed in the offering plate and designated gifts during November will be used to purchase clothing and shoes from our local Wal-Mart for Commerce ISD children referred by teachers, counselors, and social service agencies. If you would like to help on the shopping days (early December), please contact Belinda Miller, CAC Commerce Chair, at 903.886.3757.



Help Needed for Seasonal Mission Event

We are doing something new for our seasonal mission event this year! It is called the **Merry Marketplace & Lunch for Missions** and will be held on Saturday, December 7, from 10am to 1pm, and the community is invited.

We need your help to make it happen. Please review the list below for what's needed, and confirm your assistance with the individual shown by November 17!

Area	What's Needed	Your Contact
Stew Lunch	Lunch Helpers (serving, kitchen cleanup, etc.) Cornbread Bakers	Lori Polk 903.246.3172
Antique Corner	Donations of vintage jewelry, china, crystal, vases, antique linens, silver, pre-1970 Christmas ornaments, pre-1940 books, picture frames, framed art, small furniture that one person can lift	Ann Underhill 903.886.3922
Bakery	Donations of baked items, canned foods, & preserves such as jams and jellies	Judy Anderson 903.886.7432
Boutique	Donations of handcrafted items and purchased items that could be combined into themed gift baskets	Harriet Williams 903.886.2206
Alternative Gifts	Acknowledgement card makers	Angela Roberts 903.886.2142
General	Cashiers	Angela Roberts 903.886.2142

Here are more details of what will be offered at the Merry Marketplace & Lunch for Missions.

- **Ushers stew & homemade cornbread** for \$4 per person from 11am to 1pm. Proceeds will benefit food security programs.
- **Children's & Youth choir performance** at 11:30am.
- **Antiques corner** presenting items ranging from vintage jewelry to crystal to linens and benefiting general missions.
- **Bakery** enticing you with home-baked sweets, preserves, and canned goods to enjoy now or later and benefiting general missions.
- **Boutique** showcasing handcrafted items and themed gift baskets. Proceeds will benefit general missions.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry booth** offering scarves, hats, shawls, and blankets.
- **Alternative gift table** where shoppers may make a contribution to a mission such as Heifer International in the name of a friend or family member. Upon payment, shoppers will receive a gift card for the recipient explaining the gift.

All proceeds from this event will support the following missions of our church.

- Lunch proceeds will go to the Commerce Emergency Food Pantry, Commerce Food Distribution/ Manna Movers, Hunt County Shared Ministries (FISH), and North Texas Food Bank.
- Antique corner, bakery, boutique and alternative gift proceeds will support Heifer International, UMCOR, Proyecto Abrigo, U.M. ARMY, Communities In Schools, and Commerce Boys & Girls Club.
- Prayer Shawl Ministry proceeds will support its mission

In memory of...

Mary Jo Leslie

By: Bob & Anne Mills
 Bobby & Kathy Hill
 James & Wyvonne Moody
 Wanda Anderson & Family

Mary Casey

By: Betty & John King

Irvin Patterson

By: Harriet Williams



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:

- Friday, Nov 1 Luke 6:20-31
- Saturday, Nov 2 Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18
- Sunday, Nov 3 Ephesians 1:11-23
- Monday, Nov 4 Haggai 1:15b-2:9
- Tuesday, Nov 5 Haggai 2:2-5
- Wednesday, Nov 6 Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
- Thursday, Nov 7 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
- Friday, Nov 8 Luke 20:27-38
- Saturday, Nov 9 Haggai 2:4-5
- Sunday, Nov 10 Psalm 145:17-21
- Monday, Nov 11 Luke 21:5-6, 12-19
- Tuesday, Nov 12 Luke 21:7-11
- Wednesday, Nov 13 2 Thessalonians 3:6-12
- Thursday, Nov 14 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
- Friday, Nov 15 Isaiah 65:17-23
- Saturday, Nov 16 Isaiah 65:24-25
- Sunday, Nov 17 Isaiah 12
- Monday, Nov 18 Jeremiah 23:1-4
- Tuesday, Nov 19 Jeremiah 23:5-6
- Wednesday, Nov 20 Luke 1:68-79
- Thursday, Nov 21 Colossians 1:11-14
- Friday, Nov 22 Colossians 1:15-20
- Saturday, Nov 23 Luke 23:33-43
- Sunday, Nov 24 Luke 23:33-43
- Monday, Nov 25 Isaiah 2:1-5
- Tuesday, Nov 26 Psalm 122:1-5
- Wednesday, Nov 27 Psalm 122:6-9
- Thursday, Nov 28 Psalm 100
- Friday, Nov 29 Romans 13:11-14
- Saturday, Nov 30 Matthew 24:36-42

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



UMW will meet **Tuesday, November 19** at 10:00am. The program will be our World Thank Offering/Pledge Service. Our November project is Food Pantry Items. **All women are invited to join us!**

Attendance

	Early	5:30	Late	SS
Sep 25		12		
Sep 29	27	—	105	84
Oct 2		13		
Oct 6	24	—	97	67
Oct 9		14		
Oct 13	31	—	103	82
Oct 16		13		
Oct 20	38	—	120	95
Oct 23		15		
Oct 27	32	—	83	83

**Financial Update
 General Operating Fund**

as of September 30, 2013 Year-to-Date

Income:	\$ 32,558	\$284,114
Expenses:	\$ 26,533	\$291,865
	-\$ 6,025	-\$ 7,751





Prayer Lists

Prayer Request from the District:

Mr. and Mrs. Hal Ticknor (82-year old man who is an active member of First UMC Garland and has been missing for two weeks)

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

Al Jackson, Willie Morgan, Doris Kerbow, Sam Wells, Josh Jorgenson, Anika Shah (infant with severe immune deficiency), Lewis and Faye Jackson, Lynn Stone, Jaron and Tiffany Peek (Jim Peek's son and daughter-in-law), Gene Casselberry, Pat Skauge, Sue Taylor, Anaya Phillips (Bonnie Smith's mother), Moena and RJ Burnett, Glenda Helton (Jeff Helton's sister-in-law), Lois Cranford, Betty Morton, Robert Seay, Amy Sallstrom Smith (Bill Heitholt's cousin), Jessie Short

Others to Remember in Prayer...

Draughn's/Country Home Estate: Ahtrell Dalton, Helen Dickson, Dorothy Ingram, Lucy Potts, Pete Robinson, Ruby Vanderveelde, and Euple Walker
Briarcliff: Cindy Klingbeil and Glenna Siebenhausen

*"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 nd Marine Division	Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith
Col. Peter Bailey	Garrett Johnson
Lt. Col. Richard Bailey	Nathan Grove
Lt. Col. Keith Williams	Lt. Dan Barton
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	
Ensign Terry Starkey-Wanda Beane's brother and Tom Starkey's son	
Christopher Kendrick-Navy (Helen Rowe's friend)	
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	



Phone: 903-886-3220
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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE
NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Articles for the next newsletter are due
Monday, November 18 by 9:00am**

Place Label Here

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Senior Pastor - Rev. Valarie Englert