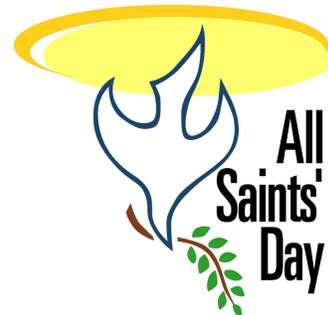


All Saints' Day

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:

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|---|
| * Fred Blohm | * Lois Cranford | * Family members and dear friends |
| * Allen Martin | * Gayle Shumate | * Military service men and women |
| * Tom Collier | * Euple Walker | * Those who have generously left gifts to the church foundation to carry out the missions of our church |
| * Doris Kerbow | | |





Charge Conference

Sunday, November 10

3:00pm Combined Worship at Wesley UMC in Greenville



Share and Receive the Blessing of the Community Thanksgiving Dinner

The November Mission of the Month is the Community Thanksgiving Dinner, which will be hosted Thanksgiving Day, November 28, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Family Ministry Center. All \$1 bills placed in the offering plate during worship and designated gifts during the month will help cover the cost of the dinner (previously ~\$1,000), which includes turkey, dressing, green beans, sweet potatoes, and homemade pies. Volunteers and participants are also needed to support this annual tradition.



Ways to Serve

- Soup Making – Make your favorite soup or stew to provide an additional meal to a home-bound neighbor over the holiday weekend.
- Pie Baking – Bake either a regular or sugar-free pie.
- Hospitality – Assist with meal preparation, serving, and clean-up on Thanksgiving Day.
- Home Deliveries – Deliver a Thanksgiving meal, soup and a blessing to a home-bound neighbor.
- Attendance – Be our guest and strengthen our community! Conversations during the meal provide opportunities for neighbors to connect and learn from one another.

Visit the Thanksgiving sign-up table during the Sunday School hour and before and after worship on November 3, 10, 17, and 24 to volunteer. Please contact Amy Stark or Sabrina Green, our Community Thanksgiving Dinner coordinators.

Inside this issue:

The Light, Upcoming Worship, Announc.	pg. 3	Pastor's Article	pg. 2
UMYF Evergreens, Thanksgiving	pg. 5	Children's Dept., Little Ark, UMYF	pg. 4
Turkey Trot, Proyecto Abrigo, Raffa	pg. 7	Hunt County Gives, September MoM	pg. 6
Jubilee Celebration, Prayer Shawl	pg. 9	Merry Marketplace	pg. 8
Announcement, Numbers, Scriptures	pg. 11	Holiday Grief Support Seminar	pg. 10
		Prayer List	pg. 12

“Darkness may Linger for a Night but Joy Comes in the Morning”

Life is full of both brokenness and healing. I learned this in Confirmation Training and it is true. Again and again! So I have often taught this influential truth in Confirmation classes. God has created the world with some freedom in our human choices. Through choice and free-will, God has welcomed humankind into the divine realm of creating. In so doing, God has invested creative capabilities in you and me. Genesis says we are created in the image of God--so humans have creative power! Sometimes we use those gifts well and create something helpful or beautiful. Other times, we humans can make quite a mess!



Theologians and philosophers call it “free will”. God could have made beings that would have no freedom--no choice but to honor and obey God. But if honoring God was our only choice, then what fun would that be for God? If obedience was our only option, then the choice to obey would not be very meaningful. So God has made us with choices and sometimes we humans choose badly.

Sometimes we celebrate bad choices--and even rehearse them. We celebrate violence and cultivate rebellion. Combine that with selfish disregard for others and what results is tragedy. I don't like that part of my world and cannot see how we are to tolerate reckless disregard for life.

If you don't care for the way your world is, then stay around for a little while and it will change. It is our job to help it change for the better. You and I are called to help change it--to make a difference! Right where you are! You may become the agent who helps influence that change.

It's a good question I raise for you (which I ask of myself as well): What is God asking you to change in your thoughts and actions that would shine God's Hope and Love in the world?

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam".

Rev. Sam Caldwell, Pastor
sam@fumcommerce.org

Happy
Thanksgiving
from your FUMC-C Staff

A colorful illustration of a cornucopia overflowing with autumn produce, including pumpkins, gourds, apples, and grapes.

THE LIGHT

**Contemporary Service
Sundays @ 6pm**
at the Wesleyan Campus Ministry
(1504 Lee Street)



**Connect/Grow
Team Meeting**
Monday, November 11
@ 6pm

Upcoming Worship

Sunday, November 3
All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 10

Sunday, November 17

Sunday, November 24
Christ the King Sunday

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

WELCOME

New Members

Welcome to our new members:

- o Glenn, Dawn, and Faith Crow



COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ad Council Chair:

Pat Skaug (903) 259-9875

Lay Leader:

Carole Walker (903) 886-4450

SPPRC Chair:

Mitzi Parker (903) 886-7364

Trustees Chair:

Gene Lockhart (903) 886-3498

Finance Chair:

Jim Brown (903) 886-7439

FUMC Foundation President:

Ann Underhill (903) 886-3922

Worship & Connect Chair:

Pastor Sam (214) 842-9252

Grow Team Chair:

Craig Jensen (903) 886-8713

Serve Team Chair:

Amy Stark (903) 246-1487

Lay Member:

Gene Lockhart (903) 886-3498

OPERATION GRATITUDE

SAYING "THANK YOU" TO ALL WHO SERVE

Blessing of the Scarves
For Operation Gratitude
Sunday, November 10
10:50am Service
Scarves made by our
Prayer Shawl Ministry



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

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



Please join us for Children's Sunday School every Sunday morning from 9:45-10:40am.

Our Sunday School Bible Verse for November is: "God said, "I will be with you." (Exodus 3:12)

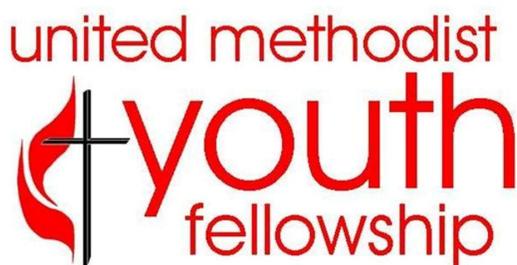
The Children's Council would like to thank EVERYONE who donated candy and/or money that will help us participate in our third Trunk or Treat!

We plan to get our name and message out into the community by meeting, greeting, and giving out candy, stickers, pencils, and bookmarks to our Commerce kids.



Coming up: Little Ark Thanksgiving Feast is on November 21st at 6pm. We would love some FUMC members to feast with us and see the kids perform!

We had 32 dads and their kiddos participate in donuts with dad.



UMYF had a great turn out for our mystery dinner theatre on October 13. The kids read their parts and tried to figure out "who done it". Only 1 suspect guessed correctly! We talked, laughed, and had a great time. We had a fun time with the 16 youth who participated in our UMYF Pumpkin Carving. We will have a Thanksgiving Pie bake-off on Nov. 10th from 2-4. Let Mandy or Jennifer know if you'd like to be a judge! We will take the youth to Holiday in the

Park on November 23rd.

Sunday school meets at 9:45 every Sunday.

Evergreens orders will be accepted until Nov. 4th. Please see an UMYF member, leader, or stop by the church office for an order form. Thank you for your support.



Evergreen Orders Due November 4!

UMYF is selling Christmas evergreens again as a fundraiser for Bridgeport Church Camp and (hopefully) a ski trip!! Sherwood Forest Farms in Washington handcrafts their wreaths, garlands, and swags from fresh evergreen trimmings and then ships to anywhere in the lower 48 states. Look for flyers and order forms in the Gathering Area and table by the Chapel.

How to Order

- Turn in order form and money to church office. (Flyers and forms are available from the bulletin board outside church office and from the church's website www.fumccommerce.org).
- Use online ordering tool by visiting church website or www.facebook.com/FUMCCommerce.
- Call or text Jennifer Knight at 903.513.0460. or Mandy Swinson at 903.454.4144.

Delivery Dates

- Local items will be available for pick-up from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on December 7 at the Merry Marketplace and Lunch for Missions.
- Direct delivery gift items will ship from Sherwood Forest Farms to recipients within the first two weeks after Thanksgiving.

*Please spread the word about our fundraiser to your family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues!
We appreciate your help!*



F E A S T *with* Little Ark
Thursday

November 21 @ 6pm

Fellowship Hall

RSVP at the front desk.

Please sign up to bring your favorite dish/dishes!!



JOIN US FOR OUR
**COMMUNITY
THANKSGIVING
DINNER**
THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 28
11 AM-1 PM



Let's Work Together November 23

2019 marks the 9th annual "Hunt County Gives" program led by Hunt County Shared Ministries – FISH. First United Methodist Church of Commerce and the Wesleyan Campus Ministry will again be involved. We will host the Thanksgiving basket distribution

and pancake breakfast on Saturday, November 23, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Pantry partners throughout the county, including Commerce Food Pantry and Bread of Life Food Pantry, have facilitated registration for neighbors in need during October. Last year, 182 local families registered, and a similar participation level is expected for this year.

First Baptist Church of Commerce will host the Christmas basket distribution and pancake breakfast on Saturday morning, December 21, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

There are opportunities for you to share your time and your love with your neighbor. Volunteers are needed to direct traffic, open doors, sort produce, load cars, flip pancakes, and fellowship on November 23. Please contact Angela Roberts at 972.765.6547 for more information or to volunteer.



Pictured are Commerce Food Pantry volunteers Neal Stewart, Janeen Kvanli, and Susan Reeves counting some of the 579 canned food items collected by our congregation and Little Ark families during September! Thank you!



The Pantry serves 150 households on average each month so it is safe to say that your generous donations have already left the Pantry's shelves for the homes of neighbors in need.

The Commerce Food Pantry is located inside the First Presbyterian Church. Please stop by any Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m. to learn more, or contact Angela Roberts or Lee Riddle who serve on the Pantry's board for information.



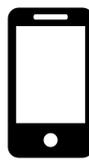
Benefiting Commerce Food Pantry
Thanksgiving Day, November 28
Begins 9 AM at 3920 FM 1568 (Maloy Rd)
Family Fun! Come Join Us! Walk or Run 5K!

Two Ways to Register

Visit and like the “Annual Maloy Road Turkey Trot” page where you’ll find a link to the online registration form.

or

Call/text organizer Celeste Prather-Young at 903.450.5579.



****\$20 registration fee includes T-shirt****
 Youth Sizes S – L | Adult Sizes S – 3XL



Thank you for bringing your medicine bottles to the church to support Proyecto Abrigo! Thanks to your generosity, their pharmacy has all the bottles they can use.



Serve Team: Raffa Clinic Field Trip

On Monday, October 21, a team of seven took a field trip to the Raffa Pregnancy clinic in Greenville. We started with a tour of the newly renovated facility. We visited the classroom and counseling spaces, the Boutique and the sonogram room. We also met the dedicated staff, including director, Threesa Sadler.

Then we helped by packaging diapers into bags of 10. Clients receive a bag of diapers and wipes after each visit to the clinic. Then we packed appreciation bags for clients, which included socks for mom and baby, newborn diapers, lotions, and snacks. We had a great time being helpful, learning more about the Raffa Clinic, and connecting with each other.

If you would like to help, Raffa Clinic is always in need of:

- o volunteers
- o diapers
- o wipes
- o gently used clothes, size newborn-4T (especially boys).





7th Annual Merry Marketplace & Lunch Mission Tradition Continues December 7, 2019



On Saturday, December 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., we will host our seventh annual Merry Marketplace & Lunch for Missions in the Family Ministry Center. This fundraiser benefits general missions, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, and the Wesleyan Campus Ministry. It's also a wonderful opportunity to connect with our community!

The Merry Marketplace will offer beautiful handwork from the Prayer Shawl Ministry, as well as your donations of antiques and vintage finds, Christmas decorative items, gifts for giving, and homemade baked goods and treats. The Merry Market will again be the pick-up location for pre-ordered fresh evergreen wreaths and garlands from Sherwood Forest Farms. And following our strong tradition of alternative gifts, donors can contribute to missions in Commerce and beyond in honor of family and friends.

The Wesleyan Campus Ministry will sell chicken and beef stews to enjoy either at the Merry Marketplace for lunch or in quarts to-go.

Together, we can make it merry! We need your help to craft, bake, donate, promote, set up, price, sell, and clean up. Please contact Ann Underhill at 903-886-3922 (home) or 301-775-8791 (cell) to get involved.



Orders for fresh evergreens are due Monday, November 4. (See "Evergreen" on page 5)



Nothing brings people together like good stew!





Mason Jars Needed!
The Wesleyan needs Quart sized glass or plastic jugs for to-go orders of Merry Marketplace Stew Lunch. Please bring donations to the church office.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry would like to borrow a WHITE Christmas tree for the day of the Merry Marketplace (December 7) to display their beautiful work.



On Sunday, October 20, we celebrated 50 years of ministry at our church location. Bishop Mike McKee gave a greeting in the worship service, and District Superintendent Vic Casad gave the invocation during the banquet. The keynote address was given by Rev. Lisa Greenwood. The Chancel Choir provided the entertainment with a couple of songs written/arranged by our talented members. The festivities were enjoyed by about 170 people.



UMYF with D.S. Vic Casad and his wife Mary Brooke

Amy Stark leading Children's Time at the Altar with our children, youth, and Pastor Sam



Prayer Shawl Ministry



Thank you to the many donors who support the work of our Prayer Shawl Ministry by donating through the year and purchasing from our booth at the Merry Marketplace. Our church membership has been generous to us, and we greatly appreciate the donations. Our projects include creating cancer caps for the cap tree located at Hunt Regional Hospital in Greenville, sending holiday cards to shut-ins at Valentine's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas, creating items to sell at the Merry Marketplace, and sending scarves to troops through Operation Gratitude. A percentage of the Prayer Shawl Ministry's Merry Marketplace funds are returned to mission projects, and the rest is used for yarn and postage.

Our Prayer Shawl group has casual gatherings on the 4th Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m. No pressure, no refreshments; just knitting, crocheting, and/or socializing! Please join us! Regular meetings are 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am.



Grieving?

Know someone who is?

When you are grieving a loved one's death, the holiday season can be especially painful. Our ***Surviving the Holidays*** seminar helps participants discover:

- How to deal with emotions
- What to do about traditions
- Helpful tips for surviving social events
- How to find hope for the future

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

Please join us for this encouraging seminar.



www.griefshare.org/holidays

First Baptist Church Commerce
November 4, 2019 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
For more information, call Jim Ayres
(903) 886-8600



Men's Breakfast
Monday, Nov. 25
@ 7am
at Omega's Restaurant!

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

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.

By the Numbers

Attendance

	<u>Early</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>SS</u>
September 29	33	75	74
October 6	34	68	44
October 13	35	77	46
October 20	—	146	43
October 27	29	66	43

Financial Information
General Operating Fund

as of September 30, 2019 Year-to-Date

Income:	\$ 33,887	\$256,527
Expenses:	\$ <u>30,361</u>	\$ <u>272,488</u>
	\$ 3,526	-\$15,961



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, November 1	Luke 6:20-31
Saturday, November 2	Psalm 149
Sunday, November 3	Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18
Monday, November 4	Haggai 1:15b-2:5
Tuesday, November 5	Haggai 2:6-9
Wednesday, November 6	2 Thess. 2:1-5,13-17
Thursday, November 7	Psalm 145:1-5
Friday, November 8	Luke 20:27-38
Saturday, November 9	Psalm 145:17-21
Sunday, November 10	Luke 20:27-38
Monday, November 11	Isaiah 65:17-20
Tuesday, November 12	Isaiah 65:21-25
Wednesday, November 13	Isaiah 12
Thursday, November 14	2 Thessalonians 3:6-9
Friday, November 15	2 Thess. 3:10-13
Saturday, November 16	Luke 21:5-8
Sunday, November 17	Luke 21:9-19
Monday, November 18	Jeremiah 23:1-6
Tuesday, November 19	Jeremiah 23:1-6
Wednesday, November 20	Luke 1:68-79
Thursday, November 21	Luke 1:68-79
Friday, November 22	Luke 23:33-43
Saturday, November 23	Luke 23:39-43
Sunday, November 24	Colossians 1:11-20
Monday, November 25	Isaiah 2:1-5
Tuesday, November 26	Romans 13:11-14
Wednesday, November 27	Psalm 122:1
Thursday, November 28	Romans 13:11
Friday, November 29	Matthew 24:42
Saturday, November 30	Psalm 122



Prayer Lists

Recent Concerns

Family of Lois Cranford
Sammy Elwell
Tom Green
Mary Means

Continued Prayers (long term)

Our world and country and our leaders, Glenna Anderson (Dennis Anderson's mother), Debra Burton, Gene Casselberry, Pete & Ann Chamberlain, Kenneth & Carol Cline (Tammy Naizer's parents), Harold Coker, Garrett Cramer, Abby Crawford (Janet Skauge's granddaughter), Bill Ray Ellis (Luanne Huffman's cousin), Jack & Gladys Gray, Sally Grove, Margie Hamlin (Linda King's mother), Colton Hanson, Preston Helton (Jan & Jeff Helton's grandson), Kimberly Huffman, Robert Jenkins (Tiffany Harrison's father), Zachary Madden, Harold & Priscilla McFarland (Julia Robinson's parents), Betty Morton, Alfredo Muniz, Richard Norton, Racehl Oats, Sara Plemons, (Mimi Dobbs' sister), Robert Seay, Odeana Stewart, Donna Tavener

Oak Manor: Helen Cole, Barbara Gish, Nick Heath, Myra Terrell

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

Briarcliff: Mildred Davis

Colonial Lodge (Tender Care): Joe McMahan

Christian Care Center (Mesquite): Roger & Jean Arnold, Virginia Collier

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

*"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
office@fumccommerce.org

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

First United Methodist Church
1709 Highway 24
Commerce, TX 75428
Pastor - Rev. Sam Caldwell