

First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 10, Issue 10

October 2012

Keeping Our Kids Safe

- Did you know that only 4% of those who prey on children are strangers?
- Did you know that 90% of sexual abusers of children never encounter the criminal justice system?
- Did you know that the majority of sexual abusers of children not only “groom” their victims, but the victim's parents, teachers, and coaches as well?



These statistics – and other alarming figures – are our motivation for implementing Ministry Safe, a certification that seeks to prevent sexual abuse of children 18 and under. If you work with children in our church – either as a staff person or volunteer – please be on the lookout for an email which will prompt you to take a simple on-line training program. The training will be worth your time investment, and will help make us a better sanctuary for the children we serve.



Connect with “Friends of Proyecto Abrigo” at October 6th Luncheon

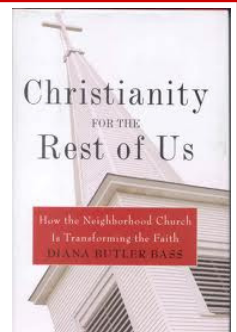
All friends are invited to a luncheon on Saturday, October 6, at Sun creek UMC in Allen from noon to 2pm. Please contact Pastor Marc Corazao if you would like to attend (marc@fumcommerce.org | 903.886.3220).

At the luncheon, participants will brainstorm ways to continue supporting the many ministries of Proyecto Abrigo from here in the United States. Even though teams cannot travel to Juarez to physically build homes, work in the clinic, or serve in the food bank, there are still many ways churches in the U.S. can work together to support Proyecto Abrigo. Rev. Jose Luis Portillo and Rev. Martin Lechuga will also be at the luncheon to give an update on the situation in Juarez.

To learn more about Proyecto Abrigo, visit its new website at www.proyectoabrigo.org.

Discussion Group

Pastor Valarie is seeking 6 to 10 discussion partners to gather over a few weeks to read “Christianity For the Rest of Us” by Diana Butler Bass. Please let her know if you’re willing to participate by calling her at the church office or emailing at valarie@fumcommerce.org.



Save the Date
Church Clean Up Day
Saturday,
November 10

W.e.l.c.o.m.e
New
Members

We are pleased to welcome new church family members:

- Ariel & Kyle Causey
- Robyn, Samuel, & Michael Elwell

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Dear FUMC Friends:

Just a few weeks ago, a called church conference voted to recommend Rick's and my daughter, Eva, for ministry candidacy in the United Methodist Church. I wish I could say that I was present at the proceedings, but Eva and I had agreed beforehand that this was *her* call and *her* ministry journey, and that I would let her steer the course.

To say that I am extremely proud is an understatement. Eva is a gifted, faithful disciple – I learn so much from her – and it is humbling and gratifying to see her take these formal steps into ministry.

But there's more to the story. My mother is also an ordained elder in the North Texas Conference (now retired), which would make Eva a potentially third-generation female ordained minister. My husband teases us that pastoring is the "family business."

While I'm not ready to say that God calls people into ministry by virtue of familial lineage, there is something to be said for growing up with a pastor as parent. One sees ministry in all its glory, as well as its frustrating difficulties. One can also learn that ministry can be a vocational path and choice. (When did you ever see a "Pastors' Table" or "Ministry Table" at a career fair?)

When my mother finally followed through on her own call to ministry, she was in her 40s and I was in my early teens. When she told me that she was going to seminary, I asked her what that meant. She said, "So I can be a pastor." And I said, "Can you do that?" I had never seen a female pastor, and didn't even know it was possible for a woman to be ordained.

Mom was a ministry pioneer. I remember her telling stories about her and her fellow clergywomen gathering for coffee at Annual Conference – all 4 or 5 of them. Every church Mom served she was the first female pastor. It was tough. She endured litmus tests of her beliefs (the virgin birth seemed to come up a lot, for some reason), members leaving the church because of her gender (though never in large numbers), male colleagues who resented her presence at Conference meetings, and other pains too personal to mention.

Recalling the trail Mom blazed, it's a wonder that I entered the ministry myself. But times have changed. Only once (that I'm aware of) has a church member taken issue with my gender by walking out – an experience I've chalked up to taking one for the team, so to speak. The landscape of some areas of the Church has changed, thankfully, with regard to gender.

The landscape of the Church is changing in other ways as well. Ordained persons – especially young adults – are serving in new ways. Ministry is not only happening in local churches, but in coffee houses, in community gardens, in neighborhood gathering spots. It's a rich – if a bit unsettled – time to be engaging in ministry.

Eva will have many options available to her, and I am grateful that this congregation is a part of her journey in exploring those ministry options.

In short, y'all are just the best – thank you.

Valarie



Upcoming Worship

Continuing Theme:
"Beyond Promises"

October 7

Matthew 25:31-48
"Incognito"

October 14

Matthew 28:16-20
"Sharing without Shouting"

Theme: "Rhythms and Time"

October 21

Exodus 20:8-11
"Rest for the Weary, Pt 1"

October 28

Mark 2:23-28
"Rest for the Weary, Pt 2"

8:45am ~ Chapel

9:45am ~ Chapel

10:50am ~ Sanctuary

Committee Chairs

Leadership Team Chair

Jim Patton

(903) 886-2206

Lay Leader:

Gene Lockhart

(903) 886-3498

Personnel Chair:

Chester Robinson

(903) 886-8220

Property Chair:

Donna Tavener

(903) 886-7891

Stewardship Team Chair:

Mike Roberts

(903) 886-2142

Foundation Chair:

Dan Shepherd

(903) 886-6883

C-G-S Team Co-Chairs:

Ladonna Patterson

(903) 886-4630

Teresa Heatherly

(903) 886-7070

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, October 22 by 9:00am****

October Mission Focus: Local Food Assistance Organizations

Our drop-a-dollar giving during October will benefit four local organizations committed to helping the hungry. Each is described below. You can make a difference by not only supporting it financially through your offering or attending one of the fundraising events but also volunteering your time or becoming an advocate against hunger.

Hunt County Shared Ministries - FISH

Between April 2011 and March 2012, FISH served 1,339 Commerce area families, and the requests from Commerce are up 37% over last year at this time. Assistance includes help with food, utilities, prescriptions, and limited medical expenses for emergency needs. In addition, 245 Commerce area families received holiday food baskets in 2011.



Celebrate 30 years of service in Hunt County by attending the BBQ fundraiser held at Wesley UMC in Greenville on Sept. 28. Lunch is 11am to 1pm and dinner 5:30pm to 7pm. Tickets are \$10.



Meals on Wheels

Volunteers deliver hot meals 3 times a week to 50 homebound Commerce residents. These meals are prepared by cooks at the Linda Muller Community Center and Shelly's Casseroles for Christ volunteers. To volunteer as a driver, leave a message for Ann Champion at 903.886.4352. To sign up to prepare food, call Sharon Smith at 903-450-3600.

Commerce Food Distribution & Manna Movers

Every 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesday, ~200 families receive boxes of food from the North Texas Food Bank and Feeding America-participant Wal-Mart. Of the 200 area families, 150 are walk-in clients seeking assistance and 50 are homebound residents who receive their food delivered by Manna Mover drivers. To volunteer as a Manna Mover, contact Julie Gentle at 903.468.2679.



At Word of Life Family Church, Johnnie Applegate receives food delivery from North Texas Food Bank truck driver Daniel.



Commerce Food Pantry

30 different families on average visit the Commerce Food Pantry located at the First Presbyterian Church every Thursday afternoon where they can select from a list of stocked fruits/vegetables, pasta/grains, and proteins. An independent board comprised of representatives from local churches and the community-at-large govern the Commerce Food Pantry. To volunteer, contact Isabel Davis at 903.886.2711.

Thank You from CIS



Dear FUMC-Commerce,

As a member of this church and as the area team manager for Communities In Schools, I would like to say thank you for your generosity. Our congregation contributed \$1,415.00 during July and August for the "Stuff the Bus" campaign. These funds helped us to provide backpacks, school supplies, and clothes for 325 students in 141 different families.

Your gifts have and will continue to benefit the 420 Commerce students served by CIS as well as other students and families in the district who need our help. Thanks again for your strong support of Communities In Schools over the past 5 years.

Matt Wolcott

Your Drop-a-Dollar at Work!

Twins Diana and Andrea Flores have just entered the 4th grade for the 2012-13 school year in Juarez, Mexico. Your drop-a-dollar giving has funded annual scholarships of \$180 each for these girls to attend school since they started Kindergarten. Sponsorship is organized through the Wesley Community Development Fund.



Dianna (left) says she enjoys being with her classmates and wants to be a teacher when she grows up. Andrea (right) says she is trying to work harder to do her best and wants to be a doctor.

Save the Date Sunday, November 11

TAMU-C Chorale Performance during 10:50am service
and
3rd Annual Usher Stew Luncheon
Benefiting Local Food Assistance Programs

Enjoy homemade beef and chicken stews with family-recipe
cornbread and desserts

Fellowship with members of Alliance of Ministry churches



Children's Music Ministry

The Children's Music programs have started up the last week of September, and we've had a great time!

Older Elementary and Younger Youth (Grades 3-7) are meeting on Monday afternoons after school. We have two fantastic groups of kids singing and playing handbells!

Cecilia



Be ready to see and hear the Jeremiah Choir (boys) and the Cecilia Choir (girls) in church!

Choir

Younger Elementary (Grades K-2) are meeting on Wednesday afternoons during M&M for a fun music time! You'll get to see and hear Treble Trouble in church too!



We're also very excited about the new music program in the Little Ark Preschool! Children in the 3's and 4's classes will begin music classes on Wednesday mornings starting in October.

AND, the TAMU-Commerce Chorale will be with us in the 10:50 worship service on Sunday, November 11th. What a gift they bring to our worship experience!



Plans are underway for the 2nd annual Handmade Holiday Bazaar on Sunday, December 9. If you or your small group want to craft for a mission, please contact either Jamie Moore (903.413.2882) or Angela Roberts (903.886.2142).

Boy Scout Troup 27 cordially invites you and your family to attend an

Eagle Court of Honor

for

Ian Bruton

Sunday, October 21, 2012

at 3:00pm in the Chapel

Reception immediately following



*Celebrating
70 years
of marriage*

Lewis & Faye Jackson

September 3, 2012

Dear FUMC Friends,

"Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a great battle."

—Philo of Alexandria



I want to thank each of you for your amazing support in my call to ministry and my endeavors here in Boston. It was a pleasure sharing my story with you in the recent charge conference meeting. I will continue to send updates of my year, and hope to hear about what is going on in the life of FUMC Commerce.

The Christ in me recognizes the Christ in you.

Blessings, Eva Englert



missional. monastic. methodist.

The New Day Commerce Experiment

Sundays, 5:00-7:00pm

at the home of Ryan Klinck

(the corner of Hunt & Washington)

Share a meal, worship & pray,
share life.

Join Ryan Klinck and others dreaming with God for a new kind of community, a new vision of church, a new day!

NEWS FROM THE WESLEYAN

Your source for Wesleyan Campus Ministry Updates



After a month of encounters with students and stories of the Wesleyan throughout September, there is one question that keeps hanging in the air around FUMC...

"How Can I Continue to Support the Wesleyan Campus Ministry?" We are so glad you asked! Here are some ways to be involved in the grace-filled work God is doing with these students:

- (1) **Pray** for the staff as they strive to be servants in God's ministry.
- (2) **Provide Lunch** for students who come to the Wesleyan for food, friends, and welcome on Wednesdays & Thursdays. Join a team to make and serve a meal, or donate a meal to be made in-house at the Wesleyan (approx. \$150).
- (3) **Pray** for the Core (student leaders) as they dream and discern God's call.
- (4) **Sponsor a Student** to participate in our Spring Mission Trips. In Spring 2013, we are taking an extraordinary trip to the monastic community of Taizé, France – a pilgrimage site of global peace, worship, servanthood, music, and transformation! Total cost for the \$1500, a challenging amount for some students. Any sponsorship amount helps make this possible.
- (5) **Pray** for all students touched by the ministry of the Wesleyan, that they may find in us a home, a place of hospitality, a genuine family, a transforming movement of God's grace!
- (6) **Accept an Invitation** to come and join us for an event, meet the students, and see first-hand what is happening here. FYI Lunch, Regenerate Worship, Mid-day Prayer, Möbius Coffee House, The Crew... Talk with Marc about the right moments of ministry for you!





UMW will meet **Tuesday, October 16** at 10:00am. The program will be brought by Mary Carolyn Dye. Our October project is: Nursing Home Bingo Prizes, sugar free cookies, 6 oz drinks, peanut butter crackers, lotions, shampoos (small).

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:

- Monday, Oct 1 Job 1:1; 2:1-8
- Tuesday, Oct 2 Job 2:7-10
- Wednesday, Oct 3 Psalm 26
- Thursday, Oct 4 Hebrews 1:1-4
- Friday, Oct 5 Mark 10:2-13
- Saturday, Oct 6 Mark 10:13-16
- Sunday, Oct 7 Hebrews 2:5-12
- Monday, Oct 8 Job 23:1-7
- Tuesday, Oct 9 Psalm 22:1-15
- Wednesday, Oct 10 Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-22
- Thursday, Oct 11 Job 23:8-9, 16-17
- Friday, Oct 12 Hebrews 4:12-16
- Saturday, Oct 13 Mark 10:17-27
- Sunday, Oct 14 Mark 10:28-31
- Monday, Oct 15 Job 38:1-7
- Tuesday, Oct 16 Psalm 104:1-9
- Wednesday, Oct 17 Hebrews 5:1-10
- Thursday, Oct 18 Mark 10:35-45
- Friday, Oct 19 Psalm 104:24, 35c
- Saturday, Oct 20 Job 38:34-41
- Sunday, Oct 21 Mark 10:41-45
- Monday, Oct 22 Job 42:1-6
- Tuesday, Oct 23 Job 42:10-17
- Wednesday, Oct 24 Psalm 34:1-8
- Thursday, Oct 25 Hebrews 7:23-28
- Friday, Oct 26 Mark 10:46-52
- Saturday, Oct 27 Mark 10:46-52
- Sunday, Oct 28 Psalm 34:1-8, 19-22
- Monday, Oct 29 Hebrew 9:11-14
- Tuesday, Oct 30 Ruth 1:1-18
- Wednesday, Oct 31 Psalm 146



If you are interested in giving flowers for the Altar on: **October 21,** please contact Luann Huffman at 903-886-3368 or lhuffman01@embarqmail.com.

In memory of...

Sarah Langford

By: Wyman & Harriet Williams
Sisters Too



Attendance

	Sep 2	Sep 9	Sep 16	Sep 23
Early	45	25	32	27
9:45	14	12	11	11
Late	82	126	144	105
SS	61	62	76	68

Financial Update: General Operating Fund

General Operating Fund

as of August 31, 2012	Year-to-Date	
Income:	\$ 34,216	\$254,243
Expenses:	\$ 29,873	\$265,392
	\$ 4,343	-\$ 11,149





Prayer Lists

Blessings for those who have a new addition to their family. Congratulations to...

- Dustan & Joanna Thrift for the birth of daughter, Lily Jane
- Jim & Janet Latham for the birth of their granddaughter, Anastasia Marie

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

Pat Reid (Mark Reid's mother), Helen Dickson, Mary Casey, Sandy Rudoff (Judy Rudoff's brother-in-law), Clay Yeager, Jerry Lambert, Lana Fallis, John Burkett, Tiffany Peek (Jim Peek's daughter-in-law), Nancy Doughty, Gary Kibler, Kathy Benton, Gene Casselberry, Lois Cranford, Betty Morton, Robert Seay, Louella McIntyre, Sharon Brewton, Amy Sallstrom Smith (Bill Heitholt's cousin), Sam Duckworth, Ray Sandifer, Becca Smith (Mike Smith's mother), Jim and Diane Price, Billy Guinn, Chris Sterzik (Shelley Jackson's son-in-law), Sondra Feduccia, Frederick Lucas, Dorothy Ingram, Pam Allgood, Jan Chapman (District Office), Kay Webber, Judy Greenwood, George O'Kelley

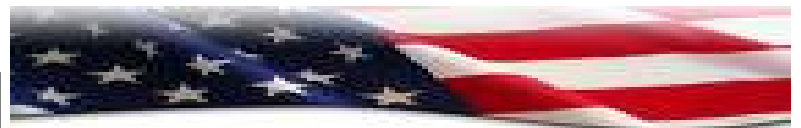
Others to Remember in Prayer...

Those affected by violence in Libya and Egypt
Draughn's/Country Home Estate:
 Pete Robinson & Helen Dickson

*"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	Col. Peter Bailey
Lt. Col. Richard Bailey	Lt. Col. Keith Williams
Lt. Dan Barton	Nathan Grove
Lt. Col. Jeremy Quatacker (Korea)-Mark and Frances Sartwell's son-in-law	
Tyler Craig(Afghanistan)-Brad and Vickie Boynton's son-in-law	
Jason Timmons-seriously injured	
Ensign Terry Starkey-Wanda Beane's brother and Tom Starkey's son	
Chief Robert Starkey-Wanda Beane's brother and Tom Starkey's son	
Christopher Kendrick-Navy (Helen Rowe's friend)	
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	
Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith	
Keith L. Boone-former Associate Pastor	
Kris Yoder-John & Rebecca Sneed's son-in-law	
Staff Sgt. Geoff Abbe & Sgt. Eric Abbe- Ladonna & Chris Patterson's cousins	
Garrett Johnson	



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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE
 NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
 Articles for the next newsletter are due
 Monday, October 22 by 9:00am**

Place Label Here

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