

First United Methodist Church Commerce

Volume 12, Issue 9

September 2014

Children's and Youth Choirs

Morning Song (Age 3 - 2nd Grade)

Sunday Mornings 9:45-10:00 a.m. in the Chapel

We will meet each week (beginning September 7th) to sing together at the beginning of Sunday School. We will also sing in worship upon occasion.



Auxano (3rd - 5th Grade)

Monday Afternoons, After School - 4:30 p.m. in the FUMC Choir Room

Van pickup from ACW is available. *Auxano* is the Greek word for growing.

We will meet weekly beginning September 15th. We will sing periodically in worship.

Confirmed (6th - 8th Grade)

Sunday Evenings 5:30-6:15 p.m. in the FUMC Choir Room.

We will meet immediately following FLY youth group beginning

September 7th. We will sing periodically in worship. We will also go on a choir tour in June.

Confirmed

Growing Musically

Growing Faithfully

For more information on any of these groups, please contact Michelle Corazao at (903) 886-2684 or michelle@fumccommerce.org.

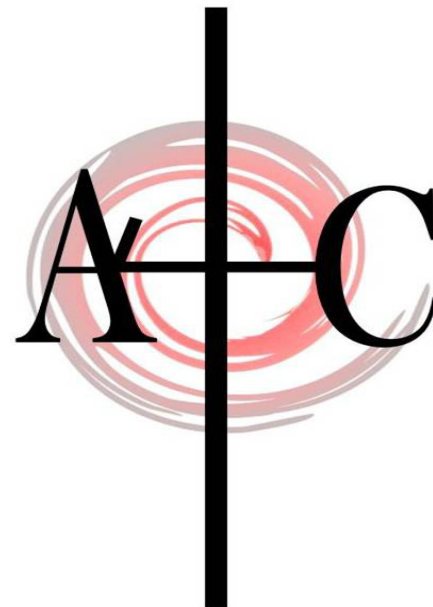
Art for Christ

"ART for CHRIST" is an after school art club focused on praising the Lord through ART!

We meet at First United Methodist Church-Commerce on Wednesdays during the traditional school year. We will begin September 17.

Children in grades 3rd – 6th are welcome to participate. There is van pickup for a limited number from A. C. Williams. A non-refundable \$30 supply fee is required each semester, and children are accepted throughout the year.

The children will arrive around 3:30 and eat a snack. We will then have a gathering time activity. At about 4:00 the art lesson will start, and will wrap up around 4:45. The kids may free draw, or work on homework until the pick up at 5:00.

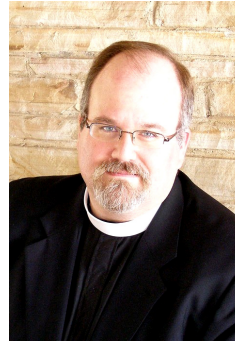


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More on Worship-Wear
By: Dr. Gregory S. Neal

Last month I wrote about the meaning and significance of the Alb and the Stole, and why I prefer them for wear while leading worship, preaching, and presiding in the sacraments. To recap:



Alb: A white or flax-colored robe that covers one's street clothing from neck to lower-calf. It is the basic, symbolic garment of the "Priesthood of all Believers" and may be worn by any person, lay or ordained, while leading worship. It may be worn with or without a rope cincture, which is intended to hold the alb together and keep it and the stole even and neat.

Stole: The stole is a band of colored cloth, about seven to nine feet long and three to five inches wide, worn around the neck and hanging down the front of a minister's robe. The stole is almost always decorated in some way, usually with crosses or some other significant religious designs or elegant tapestries. It is the nearly universal symbol of ordained ministry and the Order of Elder.

I prefer wearing the alb because it is the most ancient and widely worn kind of robe among Christian clergy. I also prefer it because it is very comfortable in the hot, humid, Texas summer months. There are, however, several other kinds of vestments that I also enjoy wearing while leading worship:

The **Chasuble** is a "poncho-like" garment that may be worn over the alb and stole by Elders in worship services where they are presiding at Holy Communion. It is usually made of elegant materials and color-coordinated to the liturgical season of the year. Roman Catholics, many Lutherans, most Episcopalians, and a small but growing number of United Methodist clergy wear it for services where Communion is to be celebrated.

The **Cassock** is a close-fitting robe very similar to the alb, usually black, and often bound at the waist by a rope or band cincture. In worship it is usually worn with a **Surplice**, which is a white, sheet-like garment that is intended to hang loosely from the shoulders and take the place of the alb. The Cassock and Surplice, with stole, was what John Wesley – the founder of Methodism – wore most often in presiding at Holy Communion.

The **Academic Robe** or "**Geneva Gown**," sometimes called a "Preaching Robe," is probably the most familiar to Methodists in Texas, where it has been commonly worn in formal worship settings since early in the 20th century. It is an evolved form of the cassock and preaching cape (also known as a "chimere") worn by Anglican clergy, like John Wesley in the 1700s, and is also closely connected with academic regalia of the University. It is usually worn black, although grey, white, or other colors may be preferred. It is often adorned with velvet panels down the front and, if one has a doctorate, velvet "doctors chevrons" on the sleeves. With the robe, most ordained pastors also wear a stole, just as they would with the alb or the cassock and surplice.

Upcoming
Worship

September 7
September 14
September 21
September 28

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

Midweek Eucharist
Wednesdays
@ 5:30pm ~ Chapel

Committee Chairs

Leadership Team Chair:

Gene Lockhart
(903) 886-3498

Lay Leader:

John Heatherly
(903) 886-7070

Personnel Chair:

Wes Underwood
(903) 886-1503

Property Chair:

Jim Brown
(903) 886-7439

Stewardship Team Chair:

Mike Roberts
(903) 886-2142

Connect Team Chair:

Melinda Reid
(903) 886-7623

Grow Team Chair:

Sabrina Green
(903) 886-1902

Serve Team Chair:

Angela Roberts
(903) 886-2142

FUMC Foundation President:

Anne Mills
(903) 886-6792

Lay Member:

Carole Walker
(903) 886-4450

UMW President:

Mary Lou Heatherly
(903) 886-8381

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, September 15 by 9:00am****



In preparation for upcoming Stewardship Campaign, the Stewardship Team will be offering

Church Financial Review

Sunday, Sept 7 at 9:45 and 12:15
(or immediately following late service)

A draft 2015 budget will be discussed and food will be provided



SALE OF LAND COMPLETED!

Thanks to the on going work of the Trustees (chaired by Jim Brown) and the Finance Committee (chaired by Mike Roberts) the sale of land to Texas A&M University Commerce was completed on August 15th. The amount of \$122,465.20 (the sale price minus the closing costs) has been received and used to reduce our debt on the Family Ministries Center to under \$50,000. We are deeply indebted to the estates of George W. Knight and E.W. & Mary Ann Roland for their long standing planned gifts to our church. This resulting debt reduction coupled with efforts of the FUMC-Commerce Foundation will enable our church to address deferred maintenance items and a host of identified needs being prioritized by the Trustees and the church Leadership Team. We are indeed blessed!

Gene Lockhart, Chair
Leadership Team

MISSION
of the
MONTH

The Mission of the Month for September is the Wesleyan Campus Ministry. Its mission is to help Texas A&M University-Commerce students grow deeper in Christ, reach farther to serve the world, and connect together as sisters and brothers. All \$1 bills placed in the offering plate and designated gifts during September will support this ministry of the United Methodist Church.



WESLEYAN CAMPUS MINISTRY
TEXAS A&M COMMERCE

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY AND MORE

Meeting: Second Monday morning of each month, 9:30 a.m., Dorcas Classroom beginning September 8th.

For the ninth year, this group is available to anyone wishing to complete knitted and crocheted works for charity and church ministry. Prayer shawls and lap robes are made and delivered with a visit to church and community members in need of comfort during an illness, loss, medical procedure and recovery, etc. Also created are baby blankets for infant baptisms, adult caps for cancer patients and caps/blankets for preemies and newborns at Hunt Regional Medical Center in Greenville, and Operation Gratitude (a national project for members of the military serving in combat zones). Throughout the year, the group also writes personal notes and mails various types of cards to many church and community members with emphasis on the homebound members of our church.

Join this ministry of community and fellowship while being creative. All levels of skill will be welcome and instruction is available for beginners. For more information, contact Anna Blohm 903- 886-3041; Janet Latham 903-886-7156; or Laura Milligan 972-742-5566.



Luigi's Italian Cafe has offered to support our community by donating 10% of dining receipts on the third Sunday of each month to our church. If you take your bulletin after church 9/21, Luigi's will staple it to your ticket. They will tally our receipts and send a check directly to our church. Help support our church by eating some good food!

Making a Difference One Child at a Time



Tom Bailey is a church member and volunteer at A.C. Williams Elementary School. He is making a difference one child at a time through Communities In Schools (CIS), the August Mission of the Month. Read his thoughts on why he volunteers (and what gave him an upper!) and consider whether this might be an opportunity for you too.

We often hear about the “Stuff the Bus” campaign, which provides school supplies to Commerce ISD students in need. But that we contribute to help people is kind of distant from how it works and how important that assistance is. I’ve been a volunteer for Community in Schools (CIS) for a couple of years now, and I’m impressed at the degree of need and the level of appreciation of the recipients to those who help.

The first week in August, CIS offered supplemental school supplies to those in need during school registration. Judy Rudoff and I assisted CIS campus manager, Nancy Laws, with connecting nearly 120 families with school supply assistance (250 students from kindergarten through high school). We didn’t ask why they needed assistance. That wasn’t necessary. Those parents who did not need help declined. Those who did often volunteered why. Some had lost jobs; some were working multiple jobs and still were strapped. In two instances, the parents lost everything – including the supplies they’d already bought for their children – in devastating house fires. The parents, and often grandparents, came in all ages, shapes, and sizes but were deeply grateful at receiving some help with school supplies for their children.



Helping at registration is just the tip of the volunteer iceberg, and while satisfying, it is not on the level of actually working with the kids themselves. If you have the time to volunteer to help the kids, the paybacks are endless. I have no background in teaching (that sometimes shows), but if you can assist a student with homework or help build understanding of a school subject, you can give a child a chance at a better life. I had one lad who was struggling with some arithmetic discover how it worked, and I told him he was smarter than he thought and was doing well. He looked at me and said, “No one has ever said that to me before” and smiled for the first time I’d seen him. Talk about an upper! Last fall, one of my kids spotted me at the Navy Band concert and ran through the crowd and gave me a big hug. I wasn’t expecting that, but I sure remember it.

Volunteering with kids can be as intensive as you choose and it’s on your schedule. CIS arranges formal mentoring, and homework help is with the Boys and Girls Club. Both organizations operate at A.C. Williams, and both require a volunteer to get some training and a background check. To explore becoming a mentor, call Nancy Laws at 903.456.2981. Helping with homework is a Boys and Girls Club activity, and if you stop by A.C. Williams after school, they will greet you with open arms.

Volunteering has been a whole new world for me. I find the kids to be endlessly enjoyable, and sometimes – but not often – irritating. If you work with the same kid a couple of times, you will turn into an informal mentor, because that’s the way it works. The paybacks are almost always the sense of helping more actively than dropping a dollar (but don’t stop dropping the dollars!), and sometimes much more dramatically. But even if you wonder if what you are doing helps, don’t worry. It does in ways you may never see but are nevertheless important.

The August drop-a-dollar giving as of the 24th is \$545. This and \$1 bills and designated gifts received on August 31 will benefit CIS.



All Church Come-and-Go Breakfast with Wesleyan Campus Ministry students as special invited guests.

DATE: September 14 - WCM Sunday
TIME: 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
PLACE: Family Ministry Center
BRING: Yourself and friends! This is a perfect time to invite any TAMU-C students you may know to visit our church to learn about us and the wonderful Wesleyan programs.

14 SATURDAYS UNTIL...

On Saturday, December 6, from 10am to 1pm, we will host our second annual Merry Marketplace & Lunch for Missions open to the community. Last year the event raised \$6,600 for missions locally, regionally, and around the world! We need everyone's help to make it happen again!

First mark your calendar to shop, eat, and fellowship on December 6th and then decide how you would like to become involved. This fundraiser depends on the generosity of your donations and time. Here are some of the items we are seeking:



Candy sleds made by Ladonna Patterson were big sellers in the Bakery

- Vintage jewelry, china, crystal, vases, antique linens, silver, pre-1940 books, picture frames, framed art, small furniture that one person can lift (Contact Ann Underhill to drop-off your treasures or to arrange pick-up at 903.886.3922)
- Handcrafted or purchased Christmas decorative items such as wreaths, centerpieces, pillows, and ornaments
- Handcrafted or purchased gifts for the giving
- Homemade sweets, preserves, jellies, pickles, and novelty foods

Contact Ann or Vance Underhill to contribute your vintage treasure to the Antique Corner



We will also need lots of volunteers to help promote, set up, decorate, price, and sell. Please contact Angela Roberts at 903.886.2142 for more information, and watch for more details about this new tradition!

East District Laity Celebration — September 14, 2014

Sunday, September 14, 2014

3:00 pm - 8:00 pm
FUMC Sulphur Springs



Workshop: 3:00-5:00 pm (No Charge)

Dinner: 5:30-6:30 pm (Murray's BBQ \$15.00)

Worship: 6:45-8:00 pm

Registration Deadline: Monday, Sept. 8

Registration: Preregistration for workshop, meal, & childcare are required. No meal tickets sold at the door.

Childcare: Must pre-register, complete necessary release forms, and bring child's meal.



Jodi Cataldo, Director of Laity in Leadership, General Board of Discipleship, will be our keynote speaker and workshop leader. Jodi has many years experience in leading the laity of the United Methodist Church. Her workshop will be interactive-based learning of the **H.O.P.E (Hospitality, Opportunity, Purpose and Engagement)** core processes so that attendees can leave with the tools to carry out our mission statement "to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Start the Year Off

Fresh

Wesleyan

Regenerate
Monday, Aug 25
7:27 pm
Music, friends, food,
& life with God

FYI Lunch
Wed, Aug 27 &
Thu, Aug 28
Noon - 1 pm
Free Home-Cookin'

Mobius Coffee House
Thursday, Aug 28, 9-11 pm
Coffee house drinks & open mic fun

Whirlyball
Friday Night, Sep 5
Road trip to
the tournament
of a lifetime

**Wesleyan
Campus Ministry**
1504 Lee Street
Next to Prairie Crossing



UMW will meet **Tuesday, September 16** at 10:00am. Kelly Lawson will bring the program about Methodist Children's Home in Waco. Our September project is undies for kindergarten students "Drop your undies here"
All women are invited to join us!

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



In memory of...

Mary Gandy

By: Dough Rollins SS Class

Phyllis Talbt

By: Dough Rollins SS Class

Wanda Brown

By: Jayne Williams



Attendance

	Early	5:30	Late	SS
Jul 30		16		
Aug 3	32	—	128	90
Aug 6		13		
Aug 10	34	—	141	75
Aug 13		6		
Aug 17	33	—	83	68
Aug 20		10		
Aug 24	31	—	159	86



**Financial Update
General Operating Fund**

	<u>as of July 31, 2014</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income:	\$ 28,960	\$220,405
Expenses:	\$ 35,886	\$226,448
	-\$ 6,926	-\$ 6,043

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, Sep 1	Exodus 12:1-10
Tuesday, Sep 2	Exodus 12:11-14
Wednesday, Sep 3	Psalms 149:1-4
Thursday, Sep 4	Psalms 149:5-9
Friday, Sep 5	Matthew 18:15-20
Saturday, Sep 6	Romans 13:8-10
Sunday, Sep 7	Romans 13:11-14
Monday, Sep 8	Exodus 14:19-31
Tuesday, Sep 9	Exodus 14:19-31
Wednesday, Sep 10	Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21
Thursday, Sep 11	Romans 14:1-12
Friday, Sep 12	Romans 14:1-12
Saturday, Sep 13	Matthew 18:21-22
Sunday, Sep 14	Matthew 18:23-35
Monday, Sep 15	Exodus 16:2-3
Tuesday, Sep 16	Exodus 16:4-15
Wednesday, Sep 17	Philippians 1:21-26
Thursday, Sep 18	Philippians 1:27-30
Friday, Sep 19	Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45
Saturday, Sep 20	Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45
Sunday, Sep 21	Matthew 20:1-16
Monday, Sep 22	Matthew 21:23-27
Tuesday, Sep 23	Matthew 21:28-32
Wednesday, Sep 24	Exodus 17:1-7
Thursday, Sep 25	Exodus 17:1-7
Friday, Sep 26	Psalms 78:1-4, 12-16
Saturday, Sep 27	Philippians 2:1-13
Sunday, Sep 28	Philippians 2:1-11
Monday, Sep 29	Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Tuesday, Sep 30	Psalms 19:1-6



Prayer Lists

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

Pam Allgood, Ronnie Ellison, Mary Louise McMahan, David Polk, Jean Arnold, Wanda Robnett, Vicky Vicker, Ahtrell Dalton, Michelle Bone, Hugh Hanby, Rick Miller, Mitzi Oltman, Sally Grove, Wendy Neat, Roger Arnold, Steve Staub, Clay and Nadine Yeager, Allen Martin, Warren Dunham, Dorothy Carlton, Wendel Underwood (Wes Underwood's father), Jean McKinney, Doris Kerbow, Norma McNew, Clyde Robnett, Jaron and Tiffany Peek (Jim Peek's son and daughter-in-law), Gene Caselberry, Pat Skauge, Sue Taylor, Lois Cranford, Betty Morton, Robert Seay

Others to Remember in Prayer...

Christians in the Middle East

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

Briarcliff: Glenna Siebenhausen, Mildred Davis

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...

2nd Marine Division Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith
Col. Peter Bailey Garrett Johnson
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
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, September 15 by 9:00am