

First United Methodist Church

Commerce, Texas



Volume 26, Issue 4

April 2026



Mission of the Month— North Texas Food Bank

The North Texas Food Bank is April (after Easter) Mission of the Month.

The North Texas Food Bank is DEFINITELY a great asset for those who are food-insurance in our community. The NTFB, 8th largest in the U.S., is a major supplier for the Commerce Food Pantry, Bread of Life Church of the Nazarene and the Lion Food Pantry.

This spring, our donations will be **Quadrupled** thanks to a matching gift from the Lesley Family Foundation! Every **\$1 = 12 meals!** Ninety-five percent of NTFB resources go directly to hunger relief programs like: Food 4 Kids, meals for Seniors and fresh produce distributions! NTFB provided 116 million physical meals in 2025! Let's help them provide more meals in 2026!

To support the NTFB, you can:

1. Drop dollar bills or a check with "NTFB" on the memo line in the collection plate during April, or you can give online, just click on the appropriate tab.
2. Volunteer at the Plano location.
3. Learn more at NTFB.org

Notes From Cheryl

Mealtimes can be simple yet transformative opportunities to engage in conversations that matter. It's no wonder God instructed the people to observe holy days or feasts that centered around worship and sacrifices and prioritized gathering around the table for a meal. The people of Israel used these feasts as opportunities to tell the stories of God's faithfulness. They were occasions to experience God's plan to pass the faith from generation to generation. One such feast is the Passover and we will offer "A Taste of Passover" for our worship and storytelling event on Maundy (Holy) Thursday, April 2 at 6pm. During this event, we will participate in an immersive retelling of the defining story of the Jews. Jesus led the Passover Feast for his disciples on the night before he was handed over to the authorities and crucified the next day. Thus Jesus placed himself in the story as the Passover lamb. This is what we usually refer to as "The Last Supper" or the "Lord's Supper."

The Passover Seder is a ritual-rich meal in which each element of food and drink ties symbolically to the Exodus story. As followers of Jesus, whether Jewish or non-Jewish, we are invited to the table as a way of remembering God's faithfulness through history and celebrating Jesus, the Lamb of God, whose death and resurrection make it possible for us to be part of God's family now and forever. It will help us connect more deeply with the redemption story we see repeated and woven throughout scripture.

This is a magnificent opportunity to invite friends and family who are not affiliated with a church to connect without church community. Relational evangelism is a no-pressure chance to share the stories of what the Lord has done and is doing in our lives. There is no cost and you are welcome to bring a side dish or dessert to share with our guests after we celebrate the Passover meal with Holy Communion. A main dish of Gyro sandwiches will be provided.

Much of the Passover story will be explored through the questions of children and the adults' responses. So bring the relatives and neighbors of all ages. We pray that Around the Table: A Taste of Passover will bless you and your family and open doors of conversation around the wonder of our Redeemer King, Jesus Christ.

Prayer List 03/25/26

Recent Concerns:

- ◆ Our world, country and leaders
- ◆ Family of Kyle Smith
- ◆ Carter McLeroy (needs a heart transplant), Grandson of Julie and Bob McLeroy
- ◆ Priscilla McFarland
- ◆ Donald & Marcia Hakala
- ◆ Mark & Donna Streetman
- ◆ Becca Rowe
- ◆ Patricia Mulkey, Jim Patton’s sister
- ◆ Debbie Dunham

Continued Prayers (long term):

- ◆ Bill Heitholt
- ◆ Richard Young, Lee Riddle’s grandson
- ◆ Georgia Gholston
- ◆ Melanie and Judy Corteaal
- ◆ Robert Seay

Those serving in our military:

- ◆ Chandler Teague (US Navy) great-grandson of Lee Riddle
- ◆ Captain Cameron Lehr
- ◆ Lt. Dan Barton
- ◆ Daniel Chamberlain
- ◆ Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith



If you are interested in giving

flowers for the altar,

please contact Luann Huffman at

903-366-2899 or email

lhuffman01@cumbytel.com

Upcoming Important Dates

- April 1–No Evening Bible Studies
- April 2– Maundy Thursday Service
“A Taste of Passover” 6PM
- April 3—Little Ark Closed
- April 5–Easter Sunday Service 10AM
- April 6— Little Ark Closed
- April 9—Serve Team 10:30AM
- April 13– Prayer Shawl Meeting 9:30AM
- April 14—Women’s Study Group 3PM
—Trustees 6:30PM
- April 16—Prayer Shawl Crafting 9:30AM
- April 20— Finance 6PM
- April 23--Prayer Shawl Crafting 9:30AM
- April 28— Women’s Study 3PM

Ongoing Activities

- Men’s Breakfast (Omega’s):** Wednesdays 8AM
- Country Home Estates:** Wednesdays at 2:00PM
- Children’s Choir:** Wednesdays from 4-5:30PM
- Youth:** Wednesdays at 5:30PM
- Pastor’s Bible Study:** Wednesdays at 5:30PM
- Adult Choir Rehearsals:** Wednesdays at 6:30PM
- Children’s Sunday School (ages 4-9):** Sundays 10am
- Friendship Class:** Sundays at 11am

Financial Report

	<u>February</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Member Contributions:	\$14,774	\$25,978
Oil Royalty Income:	\$426	\$426
Building Use Income:	\$1,325	\$1,325
Little Ark Refunds:	\$3,432	\$6,804
<u>TOTAL:</u>	\$19,957	\$34,533

Fun at Little Ark



NOW ENROLLING

**SCHOOL-AGE
SUMMER
CHILD CARE**

For More Information
Contact Little Ark
903-246-5650



**For emergency
pastoral care,
call Pastor
Cheryl at
903-468-7178.**



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