

# First United Methodist Church Commerce, Texas



Volume 21, Issue 8

August 2023 Newsletter

## TRUSTEES NOTE OF THANKS

The Trustee Committee would like to acknowledge some of the volunteers that have been very helpful in keeping our church campus and facilities appealing, safe and working properly.



Our mowers and weed eaters: Dennis Anderson, John Mark Dempsey, Greg Richards and Dick Latson

Our 'fixers': Jim Patton and Dennis Anderson

Our businesses: Huffman's Farm Supply, who supplied the seed and fertilizer for

planting the grass where we fixed the sidewalks on the west entrance. (It is looking good. Go see!)

Church members who turn off lights and lock doors.

Also thanks to others who take pride in our facility, like those stopping to pick up trash they see in the parking lot, pulling a weed or two, and just helping us all keep an eye on things. We don't always see you at work, but we see the results!

Our building and campus is our best advertisement to the community. Thanks for everyone's help in keeping it a clean and welcoming place.

## VBS & BACK TO SCHOOL SUNDAY, AUGUST 6



There will be a Blessing of the Backpacks during worship. Afterwards, please plan to stay for lunch and fun! The Connect Team will serve a hot dog lunch. We will have a bounce house, snow cones and face painting for the kids.

## CALLING ALL COOKS!

Your Serve Team will publish an FUMC-Commerce Cookbook. Believe it or not, our last cookbook was published 40 years ago! Have you ever been to a First Thursday lunch or a Souper Bowl soup lunch or a potluck and thought to yourself, "Gosh, I wish I had that recipe!"? Now you will have that chance. This month, we will send out an all church email requesting recipes, along with a form to submit them. We encourage all FUMC cooks to turn in their favorite recipes.



## MISSION OF THE MONTH-CISD FAMILY SERVICES by Judy Rudoff

The Serve team has designated C.I.S.D. Family Services, most easily recognized by one of its components "Stuff the Bus," as the August Mission of the Month. C.I.S.D. Family Services, directed by Alison Walker, is the umbrella organization for numerous support services for children enrolled in C.I.S.D. and their families.

Of all its programs, "Stuff the Bus" is the most timely. "Having supplies on the first day of school builds a child's confidence and gets the year off to a good start, but they can be expensive," noted Walker. "Having an agency that provides essential items is very helpful."

Family Services also provides laundry and hygiene facilities and supplies to students and their families. If a clean set of clothes is needed, Family Services has them. Ms. Walker can also use her vast network to rally the entire community to aid a family experiencing a devastating emergency like a house fire. When the family needs everything including lodging, food, clothes, and furniture, citizens throughout Commerce step up and donate items.

There are several ways we can support C. I.S.D. Family Services.

1. Drop dollar bills or a check with C.I.S.D. Family Services on the memo line in the collection plate during the Sundays in August. If you give online, just click on the appropriate button.
2. Stuff a container in the gathering area with school supplies including

Elmer's glue and glue sticks

Packages of black, blue or red pens

Packages of #2 lead pencils

Large erasers

Water colors

Composition books

24 count crayons



Let's show C.I.S.D. kids that FUMC cares.

## Notes from Pastor Cheryl



VBS will be underway next week, and lots of new faces will be present and hearing about God's "Hero Hotline," how God calls each and every one of us to do God's work here and now. You may say, "I was never called," and you mean in the sense that you never felt the urge to quit your job and/or go to seminary and enter the process to become an ordained minister. For most people, God's calling is much more in the here and now, "bloom where you are planted" calling. And if you're attending worship, praying, listening to sermons, enjoying and/or singing God's praises, plus giving of your time and resources, then you are called by God. Basically if you're reading this, God is calling you to a response of prayer and action.

Let's spend August thinking about our callings and learning about more heroes of the Bible. We have Jacob and Joseph coming up, then some of God's Wonder Women: Shiphrah, Puah, Miriam and her mother Rahab, Deborah, and Esther.

Let's also be intentional about growing in our discipleship – find a short-term study if you aren't in a class already. Sign up to help with children's Sunday School and/or the Music & More after school program that will begin in September. You will be so glad you answered God's call!

### **Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila:**

*May today there be peace within.*

*May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.*

*May you not forget the infinite possibilities born of faith.*

*May you use those gifts that you have received and pass on the love that has been given to you.*

*May you be content knowing you are a child of God.*

*Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.*

*It is there for each and every one of us.*

*Amen.*

## BURKETT-LOCKHART FUND

The John Burkett and Gene Lockhart Music Enrichment Fund was established in 2017 to honor the 40+ year commitment of John and Gene to the music programs at our church. The fund helps to cover expenses that "enrich the music programs at our church." The FUMC-Commerce Foundation met in May and renewed their commitment to match donations up to \$5,000 per year through 2026. Any donations made will be matched, maximizing the benefit of these gifts. Both gentlemen have given so much to FUMC-Commerce. Please consider a donation to the John Burkett and Gene Lockhart Music Enrichment Fund. Doing so helps us honor these men and their contributions to FUMC-Commerce.



## NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE LAITY EVENT ON AUGUST 12

**What:** *Hope in Resurrection* is the theme of this year's annual laity event hosted by the Conference Committee on Lay Servant Ministries along with the Board of Laity of the North Texas Conference.

**When:** 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Aug. 12

**Program:** Will be led by Rev. Danielle Buwon Kim, the NTC's Associate Director for Research and Development. It will include a panel discussion by laity engaged in exciting new ministries, followed by a Q&A.

**In person:** at Aldersgate UMC (3926 Old Denton Road, Carrollton, TX 75007)

**Online:** A link will be email to you Aug. 10.

**Registration:** Required, fill out form online. The deadline is Aug. 9.



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Fall Fest for Missions**

**Saturday, October 28**

**10am-3pm**

**Silent auction, Carnival games,  
Bake sale, Market items, and more!**

## Prayer List 7-27-23

### Recent Concerns:

- ◆ Our world, country, & leaders
- ◆ Ruth Warren
- ◆ Suzanne Kizer Carter
- ◆ Wyatt Bourcy (upcoming surgery)

### Continued Prayers (long term):

- ◆ Mel Fox (stroke)
- ◆ Priscilla McFarland, FUMC-C member
- ◆ Michael Vickers, Ginny Haight's father
- ◆ Kyle Smith
- ◆ The Elwell Family
- ◆ Jack Gray
- ◆ Richard Stapleton, Al Stapleton's brother (Advanced Parkinson's)
- ◆ Tom Bailey
- ◆ Pete and Ann Chamberlain
- ◆ Carlos Rickman
- ◆ Rev. Dennis Wilkinson
- ◆ The leaders and citizens of Ukraine
- ◆ Bill Heitholt
- ◆ Janet & Jim Payne, Becky Coker's sister
- ◆ Georgia Gholston
- ◆ Manuel Henderson
- ◆ Melanie Corteaal
- ◆ Judy Corteaal
- ◆ Harold & Becky Coker
- ◆ Mabel and Carl Little
- ◆ Robert Seay
- ◆ Dudley Shaw (Robyn Elwell's brother-in-law)

### Austin:

- ◆ Ruby Vander Velde

### Burleson:

- ◆ Mary Louise McMahan

### Legacy Oaks (Midlothian):

- ◆ Jerry Hutton

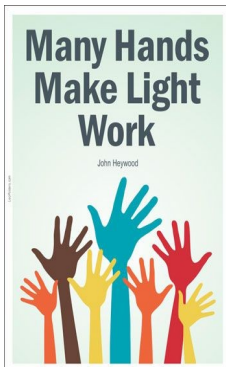
### Oak Manor:

- ◆ Helen Cole

### Those serving in our military:

- ◆ Celeste Young, (Marines) & Chandler Teague (Navy), great-grandchildren of Lee Riddle
- ◆ 1st Lieutenant Cameron Lehr
- ◆ Lt. Dan Barton
- ◆ Daniel Chamberlain
- ◆ Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith

## A COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY



*The Bread of Life food pantry is short-handed and needs additional help on Mondays and Wednesdays. This is especially true on the third Wednesday of each month. They need help unloading the truck and getting client boxes put together for distribution on the evening of the third Wednesday. They also need additional drivers for Manna Movers. If you would like to help, please see Jan Helton or LesLee Lay for further details.*

If you are interested in giving flowers for the altar, please visit with Luann Huffman before worship on Sunday or contact her at 903-366-2899 or [lhuffman01@cumbytel.com](mailto:lhuffman01@cumbytel.com).



## UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

- August 1-3-Hero Hotline VBS** from 5:30-8:00pm
- August 6-Blessing of the Backpacks** during worship and **VBS & Back to School Celebration** after worship
- August 7-Finance** meets at 6pm
- August 8-Women's Study Group** meets at 5:15pm
- August 8-Trustees** meet at 6:30pm
- August 9-Connect Team** meets at 5:45pm
- August 10-Serve Team** meets at 10:30am
- August 10-First Thursday Luncheon** at noon in the Family Ministry center
- August 10-First Day of School**
- August 14-Prayer Shawl** meets at 9:30am
- August 16-Grow Team** meets at 5:45pm
- August 17-Prayer Shawl crafting** meets at 9:30am
- August 21-Ad Council** meets at 5:45pm
- August 22-Women's Study Group** meets at 5:15pm
- August 24-Prayer Shawl Crafting** meets at 9:30

## ONGOING WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT FUMC COMMERCE

- Tuesdays-Men's Breakfast Group** meets at Texas Café Diner at 8am
- Wednesdays-Choir Rehearsals** resume on August 9th at 7pm.

## BI-WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

- Every other Tuesday-Women's Study Group** at 5:15pm

*We are bringing back Music & More for children Kindergarten-5th grades! M & M will be held on Thursdays from 3:30-6pm beginning on September 7th. More details to come...*

# Fun Things Going on at Little Ark

Top row: Sun days are fun days in Pre-K; Super Hero Fun in Toddler 1!

Bottom Row: Birthday Girl!!!  
Preschool field trip to the movies



In case of emergency pastoral care need,  
please call or text Pastor Cheryl at 940-613-5375.

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