

First United Methodist Church

Commerce, Texas

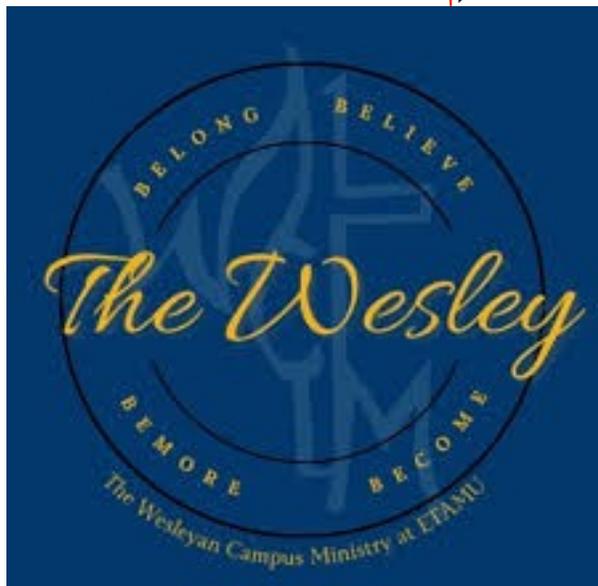


Volume 25, Issue 8

August 2025

Wesley Campus Ministry is our mission for August.

We are excited to welcome Reverend Travis Burdett as new campus minister. He will be our guest preacher on Sunday, August 3rd. Reverend Burdett is originally from Wylie and graduated from the University of Oklahoma. While he was a student there, he was involved in the Wesleyan campus ministry, which led him to pursue his calling to ministry. He and his wife now live in Caddo Mills.



This summer, Reverend Burdett has been working with the student leadership team to prepare for the fall semester. They plan to keep having Wednesday evening dinners and worship services. He is looking for a small group to provide a meal one Wednesday evening this fall. Additionally, they are planning fun social activities like game nights to strengthen connections.

Reverend Burdett and the facility have needs such as help with laundry hookups and updating a computer lab, and we want to support him in any way we can. If you'd like to offer assistance please email him at travis@etxwesley.org.

There are several ways our church can support this campus ministry:

1. Keep Reverend Burdett and the students in your prayers as they grow in their faith.
2. During Sundays in August, you can give donations—cash or checks (write "Wesley" on the memo)—which can be placed in the collection plate. If you give online, just click the mission of the month button.



3. Consider joining a group to provide a dinner on an upcoming Wednesday night.

Thank you for supporting The Wesley Campus Ministry!

Online giving is through Vanco, the United Methodist preferred company. It is secure and convenient. Just go to

www.fumcccommerce.org

and click on "Ways to Give"

Or use this QR code.





FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

AUGUST 2025

Notes from Cheryl

This month I want to summarize a few articles I have read lately on Bible translations, particularly a post by Brian Dembowczyk, published on July 8, 2025, titled “Why Are Our Bibles Different?” Part 1: Our Bibles’ Sources and art 2: Translation Philosophy. This post emphasizes the importance of knowing the Bible ‘s origins to deepen the faith and confidence in its teachings. It explores the differences in English Bibles.

Understanding translation philosophy is crucial to grasping the differences in English Bible translations. Translating the Bible involves inherent bias, starting from the choice of source text to interpreting decisions by translations. Translation is not an exact science; words can have multiple meanings and contexts. Different translators approach ancient Hebrew and Greek texts with varying philosophies, leading to diverse translations.

The Translation Philosophy Continuum illustrates the spectrum of translation approaches from literal to figurative. Translations range from “Formal Equivalence” (literal) to “Dynamic Equivalence” (thought-for-thought). Charts depicting this continuum often lack scientific methodology and scale, leading to variability in classification. There is no universally accepted standard for what constitutes a “literal” translation.

The Role of Progressive Revelation in Translation

Understanding the term “virgin” in Isaiah 7:14 highlights the complexities of translation. The NET (New English Translation) opts for “young woman” instead of “virgin,” which can lead to theological implications regarding the virgin birth of Jesus.

Theology can significantly impact how certain passages are translated. Translations may broaden or narrow the meaning of passages based on their theological perspectives, particularly on controversial topics like homosexuality and women in ministry.

How Does This Affect Our Church? Our church has pew Bibles in the *New Revised Standard Version*. Recently in worship, I have been having the sermon text read from *The Common English Bible*, one of my new favorites. Interestingly, it’s



Prayer List 7/30/2025

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Recent Concerns:

- Our world, country and leaders
All affected by the floods in Central Texas
Donna Streetman
Emily Lampe
Kyle Smith, son of John Kinney Smith
Becca Rowe
Patricia Mulkey, Jim Patton's sister
Mike Clay
Debbie Dunham

Continued Prayers (long term):

- Bill Heitholt
Jack Gray
Richard Young
Rev. Dennis Wilkinson
Georgia Gholston
Melanie and Judy Corteaal
Robert Seay

Ft. Worth:

- Mary Louise McMahan

Those serving in our military:

- Sgt. Kyle Ray Capps
MMN 1 Chandler Teague grandson of Lee Riddle
1st Lieutenant Cameron Lehr
Lt. Dan Barton
Daniel Chamberlain
Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith

- August 3 —VBS/Back to School Bash!
August 6 —Choir Practice Returns!!! At 7:00
August 7 —Serve Team Meeting at 2:00
August 11 —Prayer Shawl Meeting at 9:30
—Little Ark Team Meeting at 5:00
August 12 —Trustees at 6:30
August 18 —Commerce ISD starts new year
—Finance at 6:00
August 21 —Prayer Shawl Crafting at 9:30
August 28 —Prayer Shawl Crafting at 9:30
—Little Ark Meet & Mingle at 5:30 to 6:30
August 29 —Little Ark Teacher Work Day

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- Men's Breakfast will take a break for the month of August
Country Home Estates Service on Weds. at 2:00
Choir rehearsals Return! At 7:00

Financial Update as of June 30th :

Total YTD member giving \$96,302

Total YTD member giving Needed to meet 2025 Budget \$98,004

Difference of <\$ 1,702>

Your Finance Committee



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



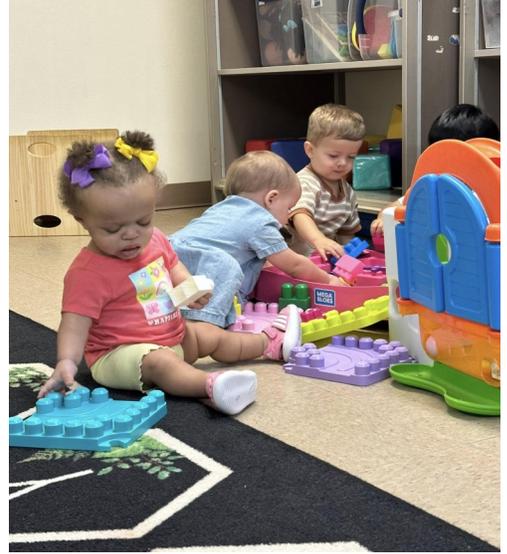
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AUGUST 2025

Little Ark Fun!



**For emergency
pastoral care,
call Pastor
Cheryl at
940-613-5375.**



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