

# First United Methodist Church

## Commerce, Texas



Volume 22, Issue 12

December 2024

### MISSION OF THE MONTH IS OPERACION ABRIGO

The December Mission of the Month is Operation Abrigo, loosely translated as Operation Shelter in Juarez, Mexico. Homes are built from concrete cinder blocks and mortar. Each home has 2 windows and a door. Families are delighted to get a permanent structure to protect them from the bitter cold or extreme heat in that region. Until a family can qualify and pay a modest sum for the house, they build shelter from whatever they can find in the trash.

Several of you have gone on mission trips to build these homes. The community, organized by Rev. Jose Luis Portillo, now contains 5 churches, a health clinic, a community center and many, many houses. These mission trips to build housing are exhausting yet exhilarating and strangely satisfying.

Since the pandemic, basic groceries have become a huge need and funding for food is desperately needed. Being the hands and feet of Jesus is what mission is all about. Please donate generously to this worthy mission of God's work. "...just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."-Matthew 25:40.



Gifts can be made by dropping dollar bills in the collection plates on Sundays, by check with Operation Abrigo in the memo line, or through on-line giving to the church at <http://new.fumcccommerce.org>.

Funds can also be given on-line at: [www.operationabrigo.org](http://www.operationabrigo.org)



# Youth



Thank you all for your support of the Fall Festival for Missions! We earned over \$2,000 for missions and charitable organizations in Commerce and beyond! We could not have done it without your help! - Serve team”

**Thank You!**



*The Connect Team will be hosting a gathering time between Church Service and Sunday School on Dec. the 29th. We hope you can join us!*

The Youth group will host a fundraiser of a Parent’s Night Out on December 14 from 5:30 to 8:00. It is themed “The Polar Express” and children are encouraged to come in their pajamas!

The youth will be riding a float in the Christmas Parade on Dec. 7th. Line up starts at 4:30 and the Parade rolls out at 6:00. You are welcome to join them on the float. It will be Nativity themed, so come in costume! Youth are also looking for donations that will fit that theme. Thank You!

The Youth also have a few Christmas items left from their fundraiser that will be for sale at the Church booth at the “Miracle on Main Street” event on the square the night of Dec. 7th. Costs range from \$25- \$33.

*Merry Christmas*

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Angel Tree Prison Ministries will have Angels out for you to adopt the first Sunday of Dec. Gifts need to be returned to the church by the 15th. These gifts help to connect a child with a parent who is in jail. For more information or to help out, call Tricia Dempsey at 903-366-1055. Thanks!



## Prayer List 11/27/24

### Recent Concerns:

- ◆ Our world, country and leaders
- ◆ All affected by the war in The Middle East
- ◆ Family of Billie Patterson
- ◆ Family of Bobby Greenwood
- ◆ Bill Knutson (hip replacement)
- ◆ Debbie Dunham
- ◆ Rev. Sam Caldwell (hip replacement)
- ◆ Judy Rudoff
- ◆ Manolo Leos cousin of Ruth & Debbie
- ◆ Orvis Reynolds
- ◆ Diane Garcia
- ◆ Nancy Roberts, Mike Roberts' mother
- ◆ Danny Duncan

### Continued Prayers (long term):

- ◆ Bill Heitholt
- ◆ Carlos Rickman
- ◆ Mike Smith
- ◆ Betty Martin
- ◆ Anna Blohm
- ◆ Wyman Williams
- ◆ Rose Stapleton
- ◆ Jack Kelly, Jill Grove's father
- ◆ Glenda Helton
- ◆ Rita Thompson
- ◆ Jack Gray
- ◆ Rev. Dennis Wilkinson
- ◆ Georgia Gholston
- ◆ Manuel Harrison
- ◆ Melanie and Judy Cortea
- ◆ Brenda Mosley Longhoffer
- ◆ Robert Seay

### Ft. Worth:

- ◆ Mary Louise McMahan

### Those serving in our military:

- ◆ Sgt. Kyle Ray Capps
- ◆ Celeste Young, and Chandler Teague grandchildren of Lee Riddle
- ◆ 1st Lieutenant Cameron Lehr
- ◆ Lt. Dan Barton
- ◆ Daniel Chamberlain
- ◆ Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith

## UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

- December 1 -Angel's available for Angel Tree Prison --Ministries
- December 3 –Women's Study Group at 3:00
- December 4 –Advent Study at WOW! at 5:45
- December 5 –Serve Team at 10:30  
--First Thursday Luncheon at noon
- December 7 -Christmas Parade at 6:00
- December 8 –Christmons, lessons & carols Service
- December 9 -Prayer Shawl Meeting at 9:30
- December 10 -Trustees at 6:30
- December 14 -Blue Christmas at 4:00 at Wesley UMC  
-Parent's Night Out 5:30 to 8:00
- December 15 –Angel Tree Gift return deadline
- December 17 -Women's Study Group at 3:00
- December 19 -Prayer Shawl Crafting at 9:30
- December 22 -Angel Tree Party at 3:00 (Join us!)
- December 23-27 –Little Ark closed
- December 29 -Doughnuts and such after Service

## ONGOING WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Tuesdays– Men's Breakfast Group meets at McKay's at 8:00

Weds. -Country Home Estates worship at 2:00

Weds. -WOW! Worship on Weds. Dinner at 5:45, Advent study at 6:00

Weds. -Adult Choir at 7:00



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)

# Fun at Little Ark



Our Thanksgiving program and Pie with Parents was a great success. Everyone had fun and got full of tasty treats!

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

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