

First United Methodist Church Commerce, TX



Volume 25, Issue 12 December 2025



December Mission of the Month:

Operación Abrigo (Formerly Proyecto Abrigo)

For many years, this church has been helping support Proyecto Abrigo on the outskirts of Juárez, Mexico. Several of the congregation have made the 13– hour trip to Juárez to assist in building a home for a family who flimsy shelter has been a hastily constructed cardboard and trash bag shack. Those who have been know the incredibly joy of serving God in this way. In the past, FUMC-Commerce has been wonderful in providing funds for the homebuilding supplies for multiple families to have homes. Most of you know, too, that the home, when finished, is a basic 12' X 24' cinder-block structure with two windows, a door, a concrete floor, and a slightly pitched roof. There is no heating or air conditioning. There is no running water. There is no electricity, It's merely a bare shell of a building, yet to the recipient family living in the cardboard shack, it is a gift of love that provides shelter, and is for all intents and purposes, a palace for the family. In 2024, 25 homes were built by 17 teams.

Your generous donations are needed now more than ever. Renamed Operación Abrigo (Operation Shelter), alongside the home building, gifts to Operación Abrigo support grocery provisions for 30-50 families each month, along with feeding meals to over 60 children each week art the local Sublima Gracia congregation. The generosity of our teams also sponsor special neighborhood meals and children's programs at Sublima Gracia and Nuevo Pacto during the Christmas and New Year's seasons. Grocery goods being delivered include rice, beans, cornmeal, canned meat, flour, pasta, oil, salt, sugar and occasionally a chocolate bar for the children. Mission director José Luñs says that these foodstuffs are just as important as the houses built by various teams who travel to Mexico to work for the mission efforts of Operación Abrigo . He and one or two others are personally serving 60 families per week. A gift of \$25 will feed a family for a week, and a gift of \$100 can feed a family for a month.

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**Online Giving makes donating easy, scan QR
Code or go to www.fumccommerce.org and click
"Ways to give"**



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Operación Abrigo is our December Mission of the Month. Please consider providing what you can to help support this worthy endeavor. In this fourth decade of ministry, Operación Abrigo continues to partner with churches old and new to provide the basic necessities of shelter to families throughout Ciudad Juarez. One by one, we are faithfully “serving with love” all those people on both sides of the border. Gifts can be made by check, through your online church gift giving, or directly to www.operacionabrigo.org.



Children's Church Blanket Drive

Children's church is collecting new or gently used blankets between now and 12/21. We will then make Christmas bags for the Blessings Table that will include the blankets. There will be labeled bins near the office and the chapel for all blanket donations. You may also make a monetary donation labeled Children's church blanket drive.



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

Prayer List 11/24/2025

Recent Concerns:

- ◆ Our world, country and leaders
- ◆ Family of Jack Gray
- ◆ Priscilla McFarland
- ◆ Marcia Hakala
- ◆ Mark & Donna Streetman
- ◆ Kyle Smith
- ◆ Becca Rowe
- ◆ Patricia Mulkey, Jim Patton's sister
- ◆ Mike Clay
- ◆ Debbie Dunham

Continued Prayers (long term):

- ◆ Bill Heitholt
- ◆ Richard Young
- ◆ Georgia Gholston
- ◆ Melanie and Judy Cortea
- ◆ Robert Seay

Ft. Worth:

- ◆ Mary Louise McMahan

Those serving in our military:

- ◆ Sgt. Kyle Ray Capps
- ◆ MMN 1 Chandler Teague grandson of Lee Riddle
- ◆ Captain Cameron Lehr
- ◆ Lt. Dan Barton
- ◆ Sgt. Stephen Smith & Denise Smith

- Dec. 2—Chicken Spaghetti Orders Due
— Women's Study 3pm
- Dec. 4— Serve Team at 10:30am
Merry Market Set up
- Dec. 6—Merry Market 10am-3pm
—Commerce Miracle on Main St. 3pm
—Christmas Parade Starts at 5:30pm
- Dec. 8— Prayer Shawl Meeting 9:30am
- Dec. 9— Trustees at 6:30pm
- Dec. 13 —Parents Night Out Youth Fundraiser
5-8pm
- Dec. 14—Lessons & Carols Sunday, Pot-luck Luncheon to follow Service 10am
- Dec. 15 — Finance Meeting 6pm
- Dec. 16 — Women's Study 3pm
- Dec. 18 —Prayer Shawl Crafting at 9:30am
- Dec. 19—Little Ark Christmas Program & Lunch
RSVP by Dec. 17th
- Dec. 21 — Youth & Children's Service, Reception to follow Service 10am
- Dec. 22-26 — Little Ark & Church Office Closed
No Ongoing Events
- Dec. 24— Christmas Eve. Service 7pm

Financial Update as of Oct., 2025

	Current	YTD
Budget Income	\$25,920	\$200,054
Budget Expense	\$24,068	\$255,888
Diff.	\$-1,852	\$-56,834

Your Finance Committee

Dec 31st — New Years Eve. No Ongoing Events

Ongoing Activities

- Men's Breakfast at Texas Cafe @ 8am on Tuesday Mornings
- Country Home Estates Service on Weds. at 2:00 pm
- Music & More on Weds. from 4:00-5:30pm
- A Child Is Born: Advent Study & Dinner 5:30pm
- Choir rehearsals Weds. at 6:00pm



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH DEC. 2025

Little Ark Cuties



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

**Let's
Get Merry**

Pre-K & Preschool invite you to a
CHRISTMAS Program

DECEMBER 19 AT 11:00 am
in the sanctuary.

We will have a pancake brunch for families
in the fellowship hall following the program.
We hope you will join us for songs & fellowship.

Please RSVP by Dec 17th

903.246.5650 or
littlearkcenter@gmail.com

**First United Methodist Church
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Commerce, TX 75428
Pastor – Rev. Cheryl Murray**