

First United Methodist Church

Commerce, Texas



Volume 26, Issue 2

February 2026

The Mission of the Month is Food Resources

Food Resources has been named the February Mission of the Month by the Serve Team. February, the Super Bowl and also Souper Bowl of Caring month. There are three agencies in Commerce that offer free food: **Bread of Life Church of the Nazarene, the Commerce Food Pantry and the Lion Food Pantry.**

Bread of Life, located at 301 Hwy 224, distributes food baskets on the first Friday after the first Monday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and the third Wednesday from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Senior Commodity boxes, additional food for those over 60, may be picked up at the same time. Home deliveries are also possible; however, no new deliveries can be added due to a lack of volunteer drivers. Anyone who would like to volunteer may call Leslee Lay at 903 886-1515. It takes about one hour, one day a month. Blessing Boxes are also kept on hand for people experiencing unusual situations. To qualify, one must produce a photo ID and proof of residence.

The Commerce Food Pantry, located at The First Presbyterian Church at 1216 Monroe Street, is a second resource for food. According to Angela Roberts, volunteer manager, 632 households were served and 245 per month for 2025. People may come once a calendar month on Thursday from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. Individuals stay in their car and fill out a form for their choice of frozen protein, beverages, and personal hygiene products. Their choices are added to a box of staples and bread delivered to the car. To qualify one must show proof of residence and complete a Household Application.

A third source of food is **the Lion Food Pantry**, located in room 122 in the Performing Arts Center. Any registered TAMU-C student may visit the Pantry on Wednesday. They must present their university-issued ID. Since statistics indicate 1 out of 3 college students are food insecure,

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There is a fourth source of food, **the Blessings Table**. Members can place food --preferably cans with easy-open tops. With the cold weather in mind, gloves, caps, blankets and even old sleeping bags would be appreciated.

You are invited to the **Souper Bowl of Caring soup lunch on February 8th after service.** **Please let us know what you will bring on the sign up sheets in the gathering area.**

There are several ways you can support this mission.

1. Drop dollar bills or a check with Food Resources on the memo line in the collection plate during February. If you give online, just click the Mission of the Month tab.
2. Place items on the Blessings Table.
3. Bring a crock pot of soup to the Souper Bowl of Caring lunch on February 8th. You can also bring a dessert or a side dish.

Let's team up to "Tackle Hunger" and food insecurity and sack it



Board of Trustees report 1-21-2026

These dedicated group of church members are active in managing the resources of our congregation. We always have an issue or three to work on, such as leaky roofs, replacing old lights, keeping our campus safe and managing the limited resources we have for these things. Consequently we are not able to do all of the fixes and improvements we would like or need. We have been blessed with benevolent church members who have donated the cost for specific non budgeted needs. Examples of this are our LED sign (coming soon), TV's, a printer for the office and etc. This has been a great help in keeping our tight budget under control. On our current 'wish list' for non-budgeted items would be a bottle filling water fountain to replace the non-working and eye sore water fountain in the main hallway. The cost would be around \$1,200. Also the Little Ark Program is looking for an outdoor storage shed to store their toys.

Projects that just require time would be; Cleaning the windows in the gathering area, scraping the mud from the parking lot in the back keyhole area, cleaning out and around the outside AC units. The Trustee's take great pride in the love and care for our and church and parsonage, thanks to all of you who pick up a bit of trash, see a need and just do it, or report a problem or issue. Fill comfortable to reach out to any of the good looking folks in the photo with questions or concerns.

—The Board

Prayer List 01/21/26

Recent Concerns:

- ◆ Our world, country and leaders
- ◆ Carter McLeroy (Needs a Heart Transplant) Grandson of Julie and Bob McLeroy
- ◆ Baby Ray Lee born weighing 1lb. 11oz
- ◆ Family of Carole Saye Tanner mother of Ronda Dickenson
- ◆ Janet Peek
- ◆ Petra Strassberg
- ◆ Family of June Dunn
- ◆ 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
- ◆ Manuel Harrison
- ◆ Melanie and Judy Cortea
- ◆ 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

Upcoming Important Dates

- February 3—Women's Study Group 3PM
- February 5—Serve Team 10:30AM
- February 8—Super Bowl of Caring 11AM
- February 9—Prayer Shawl Meeting 9:30AM
- February 10—Trustees 6:30PM
- February 16—Finance 6PM
- February 17—Women's Study Group 3PM
- February 18— Ash Wednesday
Youth Pancake Fundraiser 5:30PM
Ash Wednesday Service 7PM
- February 19—Prayer Shawl Crafting 9:30AM
- February 22— Children's Choir Performance 10am
Reception in the Gathering Area after Service
- February 26 --Prayer Shawl Crafting 9:30AM

Ongoing Activities

- Men's Breakfast (Texas Café Diner): Tuesdays 8AM
- Country Home Estates: Wednesdays at 2:00PM
(Not meeting the 4th, 11th & 18th)
- 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



If you are interested in giving flowers for the altar, please contact Luann Huffman at 903-366-2899 or email lhuffman01@cumbytel.com

Fun at Little Ark



LITTLE ARK NURSERY & PRE-K

IS NOW OFFERING AFTER-SCHOOL CARE GRADES K-5TH

WITH TWO OPTIONS TO CHOOSE FROM CHILDREN CAN RIDE THE COMMERCE I.S.D SCHOOL BUS DIRECTLY TO LITTLE ARK MONDAY-FRIDAY

<p>OPTION ONE</p> <p>M-F AFTER SCHOOL \$50/WEEK</p>	<p>OPTION TWO</p> <p>M-F AFTER SCHOOL PLUS HOLIDAYS \$80/WEEK</p>
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FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL : 903.246.5650
OR
EMAIL
LITTLEARKCENTER@GMAIL.COM
1709 ST. HWY 24
COMMERCE, TX 75428



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



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