

First United Methodist Church

Commerce, Texas



Volume 22, Issue 10

October 2024

MISSION OF THE MONTH IS CLOTHE-A-CHILD

Clothe-a-Child has been designated the October Mission of the Month. Before Covid, eligible families gathered at Wal-Mart at 6 a.m. to buy new clothes. Today, Wal-Mart gift cards are given to families to be used throughout the year as needed. In 2023, there were 251 children who received \$50.00 gift cards according to Commerce coordinator Belinda Miller. This year the Wal-Mart cards for all CISD eligible students may be picked up at Commerce Elementary. Along with the gift cards is a detailed list of eligible items. Those for whom transportation is not readily available, Alison Walker, CISD Family Services coordinator, makes home visits to deliver them.

Students are suggested by teachers, counselors, even parents. Once Mrs. Miller establishes a child's eligibility, ALL school-aged children in the household become part of the program. Two exceptions are special needs students who may receive cards until they are 21 and infants of moms enrolled in CISD. Items for the baby may be purchased with their card. Wal-Mart has reported that there has not been any abuse of the cards. Clothe-a-Child is a pay-as-you-go organization. No family is notified of their acceptance until there are funds to supply the cards.

You can support this mission by dropping dollar bills or a check with Clothe-a-Child in the memo line. If you give online, just click on the appropriate button.

Jesus had a special place in his heart for children. Let's show that we do too by generously supporting this cause.

Candy is needed!

Please donate candy for Trunk-or-Treat by Oct. 26th.



Youth

Youth are selling wreaths and greenery. Order at:

<https://sherwoodfundraiser.com/FUMCCommerce>



Do to others as you would have them do to you. – Luke 6:31

Our world is consumed with division these days, often typified in the colors red and blue. Rather than stay in our monochromatic silos, the Golden Rule in scripture challenges us to engage in conversation and seek to create whatever common good we can with our relatives, friends, and neighbors whom we might consider to be on “the other side” politically and ideologically. As we attempt to come together, the idea is not to obliterate either one or try to change each other; rather we discover the beauty that can be created when we work together to make the world a better place. The “purple space” is where we cultivate kindness, compassion, humility, respect, and love.

Our worship series for the weeks leading up to the national election is Do Unto Others. There is no more important time than now to be talking ways to alleviate our divisiveness. With anxiety at an all-time high, how does our faith equip us to survive, even thrive spiritually?

We don’t have all the answers that can make us feel in control of our situations, but we do have the teachings of Jesus (who also lived in turbulent times) to help us know what matters most. He invites us to focus on what the world would be like if we treated others in generous ways – because we know how it feels to receive that kind of love. We are called to gather around the light of Christ and remember how Jesus called together friends and foes and offered the grace and love of God indiscriminately.

October is **Do Unto Others** month, or if you prefer, **Kindness** month. Join us for the clear message: Caring for one another, as persons not positions, is at the core of our faith.

October 6: Blue and Red Make Purple – Kindness - Luke 6:31-36

October 13: The Polarization Within – Compassion – Isaiah 11:6-9

October 20: Listen More, Speak Less – Humility – Ephesians 4:1-6

October 27: Living Together on Uncommon Ground – Respect – 1 Corinthians 12:1-26

November 5: Malice Toward None – Love – Matthew 22:34-40

The Serve will Hold it's **Major** fundraiser on **November 9th**

From 10:00 to 3:00

Fall Fest for Missions is on November 9th, and needs baked goods for it's bake sale. We need your yummy cookies, pies, cakes, breads, candies, and concoctions. Items should be in the kitchen by Friday morning, November 8.

Thank you.





Prayer List 9/25/24

Recent Concerns:

- Our world, country and leaders
All who are affected by the war in Israel
Virginia H. Hanby
Orvis Reynolds
Diane Garcia
Judy Rudoff
Nancy Roberts, Mike Roberts' mother
Larry Eldridge
Danny Duncan

Continued Prayers (long term):

- Bill Heitholt
Lisa McGuyer
Carlos Rickman
Mike Smith
Charles Webster
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

October 3 Serve Team at 10:30

First Thursday Luncheon at noon

October 7-11 Fall Break for CISD

October 9 No WOW—Fall Break

October 14 Little Ark Closed for Columbus Day

Prayer Shawl Meeting at 9:30

October 15 Women's Study Group at 3:00

Trustees at 6:00

October 17 Prayer Shawl Crafting at 9:30

October 23 Little Ark Decorated Pumpkin Auction/ Fundraiser begins (ends Oct 30)

October 24 Prayer Shawl Crafting at 9:30

October 26 Little Ark Trunk or Treat at 5:30

October 28 Finance Meeting at 6:00

October 29 Women's Study Group at 3:00

October 31 Little Ark Halloween Parties

ONGOING WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

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

Wednesdays-Country Home Estates worship at 2:00

WOW! Worship on Weds dinner at 5:15 and small groups/youth/M&M at 6:00

Wednesdays-Choir Rehearsals at 7pm.

Charge Conference will be held jointly with the Hunt County Cluster Charge Conference at Wesley UMC in Greenville on October 6th between 3:00 and 5:00. All church members are encouraged to go and administrative council members may vote.



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

Fun at Little Ark



Top row: Preschool builds a house, Tiny Tots out for a walk. Bottom row: Bubble fun.

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

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