

# THE OUTLOOK

MAY 2021

VOL.29, ISSUE 5



**COMMERCE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
*A PLACE TO KNOW, GROW, AND SHOW GOD'S LOVE*

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*Commerce First United Methodist Church (Facebook)*

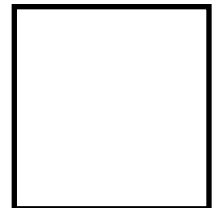


*Commerce First United Methodist Church (YouTube)*



*[comercefumc](https://www.instagram.com/comercefumc) (Instagram)*

Commerce First United Methodist Church  
16 Cherry St.  
Commerce, GA 30529





# FROM THE PASTOR

## Thinking About Time...

Life is short...even when we have the blessing of many years to grace this earth, the truth is that when it is time to say goodbye, it seems the time is too short.

In the coming weeks our church will begin the transition from one pastor to another. It will be a time of both goodbye and hello. In our United Methodist denomination, each pastor is appointed at the direction of our Bishop and is assigned one year at a time to serve the community as well as the church. It is a peculiar way to order our life...to allow another to determine where we will live and serve. Yet when we as Elders in the church receive our ordination, we are asked very specifically, "Will you itinerate, will you go where sent?" John Wesley, one of the founders of our denomination, was a big believer in itinerancy. He felt that a change in appointment energized both the congregation and the pastor. My youngest brother said recently, "I don't understand you Methodists. I thought you liked Commerce, your church, and your house!" And I do. As a person who spent many years in the business world choosing where to live, I find itinerancy is a very different way to move forward in life and vocation, yet one I embrace.

So...if all is well, why move? One of the things I have come to understand in my 20+ years of ministry is that the church, the United Methodist Church, is to be the "work of the people," not the personality of the pastor...and I truly appreciate that perspective. Far too often we have people that are heralded as icons, both in the church and society, that forget their purpose and their call. At this time, it has been determined it is time for a new appointment. I have enjoyed these four years working alongside each of you. It has been a time to love together, laugh together, work together, and worship together for the kingdom.

I challenge you to embrace your new pastor, Joshua, with enthusiasm and grace as he and Stephanie, his wife, move into the community. Pray for him regularly and encourage them in these next steps. We pastors need to know our congregation is praying for us and supporting us.

You have blessed my life more than you can possibly know; I am thankful we have shared this time in ministry together. I have learned much from you; it is my prayer you can say the same about my time here. Remember you are God's beloved and mine as well.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Kathy

## BANKS-JACKSON FOOD BANK

Remember your donations to the Banks-Jackson Food Bank make a difference to those who are struggling during this difficult time. Please drop off items at the church office. Cash contributions are also accepted. Checks can be made payable to CFUMC and designated to food bank on the memo line. The Food Bank also needs volunteers for 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays. Call 706-335-5143 for more info.



## CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

Thank you to all who have helped beautify our courtyard. It looks great!

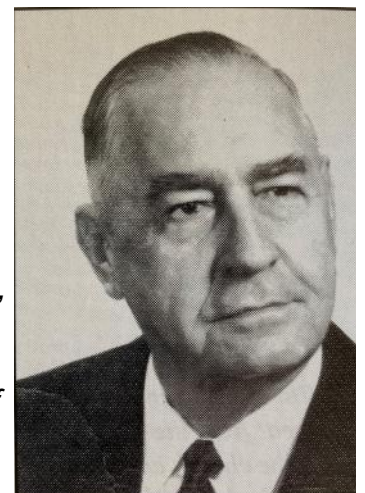


## OUR HERITAGE

Each month we will feature pictures and stories from our church's 178 proud years. If you have anything you would like to submit for this column, email us at [cmcoffice@windstream.net](mailto:cmcoffice@windstream.net).

This month we remember Rev. Claude Hendrick, pastor of our church from 1954-1960. Rev. Hendrick was born in 1889 and began to preach at 23. His pastoral appointments were Armuchee, Lindale, Mount Vernon (Atlanta), East Thomaston Circuit, Jonesboro, Sparta, Capital View, Chickamauga, Kirkwood, Sam Jones Memorial, District Superintendent of the Gainesville District, Rome First, Newnan First, Saint Paul (Atlanta), and Commerce First. After he retired in 1961, Commerce First built a home for him adjoining the church property; this building currently houses our Church Office. He was extremely active in his reinterment before becoming ill and passing away in 1970 at age 81.

Rev. Dr. J. Walker Chidsey, pastor of Commerce First from 1966 to 1971, wrote the following about Rev. Hendrick in the 1970 Journal of the North Georgia Annual Conference; *"Every place served by Brother Claude was blessed by his witness and ministry. Certainly the last place he ever served, Commerce, can vouch for 'the big man with the big heart.' His interest, concern, and love for the people of Commerce and all the surrounding territory...knew no bounds...Truly here was: a stalwart man of God, defender of the faith, effective preacher, lover of his fellowman."*



*The Rev. Claude Hendrick,  
pastor from 1954-1960*

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

*As of April 30th*

Received to Date: \$128,060.70

Budget to Date: \$154,000.00

Expenses to Date: \$132,980.10



## TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH

George Turk

## ALTAR GUILD

Kathleen Hooper

Mary Walters

## LOOKING AHEAD— SUMMER FUN FOR KID MINISTRIES

**June 1st-June 4th**

Come ride the Rocky Railway with us at VBS! Check-in will be from 5:45-6:00pm at the entrance of the Education Building nearest the sanctuary.

Checkout will be at 7:30pm in the same location. In an effort to keep our children healthy, we will limit VBS this year to the children of Commerce FUMC. Masks are encouraged.



## BIRTHDAYS

George Evans	5/1
Bobby Marshburn	5/5
Trey Wood	5/5
Charles Exley	5/8
Kathleen Hooper	5/16
Jim Gaines	5/18
K. Ellen Hagan	5/18
Neal Smith	5/18
Tommy Benton	5/20
Leila Huss	5/21
Beckett Jones-Leggett	5/26
Megan Marshburn	5/28
Addie Mitcham	5/28
Annette Anderson	5/30
Avery Byrd	5/27
Al Fleming	5/31

## ANNIVERSARIES

Sally and Terry May	5/27
Jean and Bill Davis	5/30



**June 28th-July 2nd**

We are excited that once again we are one of a select number of churches to host GROW Camp on our campus this summer! Glisson

provides the counselors for this fun day camp experience for older kids. GROW is for rising 1st-6th graders. Monday-Thursday 9am-5:30pm and Friday 9am-12:30pm.

Register online at

<http://growdaycamps.org/register/>

## **TRUSTEES FLASH**

The month of May is significantly indicative that Spring is really here and Summer is beginning. Circle Five is focusing on the courtyard between the Chapel-Family life Center, plans are being made for Vacation bible school (yea!!), and thankfully we are in the Sanctuary for services! Your trustees are working to seamlessly support these and all programs.



The exterior doors of the Education Building, Chapel, and Sanctuary as well as the windows in the Chapel have been painted. They look much improved. We will paint the inside of these doors and replace thresholds as needed in the near future. The waterproofing of the Youth Room is complete. We are in the process of rebuilding the wall at the stage end of the room. We are repairing the wall in the pantry off the kitchen as well as the peeling plaster on the stairwell leading up to the Narthex. The lighting panel that controls the lights in the Sanctuary is 20 years old and has been in need of attention. We have reworked/upgraded it so that it is functioning properly. But we need to be prepared to install a new system in the future. The Clean Freak cleaning machine was malfunctioning and Mike Manus fixed it!! We have contracted with EMC to install an updated smoke detector system in the Education Building, Sanctuary, and Family Life Center. The Office building already has an updated system. We will install several carbon monoxide sensors in the Youth Room and the Education Building. Weather prevented us from repairing the fence that surrounds the backside of our campus in April. We have rescheduled that work to be done on May 15th. WiFi issues continue to pop up. We continue to assess our present and future needs to determine what upgrades/changes need to be made. Connectivity in the Education Building has been an issue.

Keeping a maintenance schedule is a constant necessity and is very helpful to prevent big expenses from surprising us. We hope to develop a system to keep track of such things as when roofs or HVAC equipment was purchased, when big projects were completed, etc.

An old song reminds us of the importance of the transition of leadership; "make new friends but keep the old, one is silver and the other is gold". The Trustees have enjoyed working with Pastor Kathy on all of our projects over the last 4 years. We have benefitted by her support and counsel; we've been blessed by her contributions. We pray for her going forward, we are excited for our opportunities!

-Linda Exley, Chair, Board of Trustees



# May 2021 Prayer List

“Offer prayers and petitions in the Spirit all the time. Stay alert by hanging in there and praying for all believers.” - Ephesians 6:18

## **Prayers for strength and healing:**

Rev. Carlton Allen  
Courtney Allen, friend of Linda and Charles Exley  
Ronnie Bagwell, brother of Linda Lamb  
Tara Beauchamp  
Raymond Bennett, friend of Mary and Chester Walters  
Dennis Burnett, brother of Dave Moon  
Arkey Crocker  
Colleen Cunningham  
Anna and Glenn Diemond  
Willie Durham, brother of Dave Moon  
Bobby Evans, brother of Nadine Waters  
Angela Ivey, friend of Mary Walters  
Ed Lacey, brother-in-law of Anne Fleming  
Linda Lamb  
Lynn Meadows, sister of Larry Meadows  
Bud McFearson, friend of Mary Walters  
Shirley Meeks, friend of Phillips family  
Todd Mize  
Beth Pierce  
Barbara Sweetzer  
Ray Rayburn, nephew of Larry Meadows  
Dot and Keith Sumner

## **Prayer Requests For Our Community & Beyond:**

For the many who are struggling with the effects of the COVID pandemic in our church family and community  
CFUMC Preschool teachers and students  
All educators, students, and all in our school systems  
Our church, its ministries, and leadership  
Our country, our community, and our church leaders  
For those affected by injustice and violence in all the ways they present themselves  
All medical and emergency personnel

## **Our men and women in the military:**

Ryan Buckingham, nephew of Jane Bedell, US Army  
Karl Buckingham, nephew of Jane Bedell, US Army  
Tyler Buckingham, nephew of Jane Bedell, US Army  
Bobby Marshburn, Ensign in the Navy  
Keenen McDaniel, Godson of Janni & Dynelle Martin, US Army  
Mason McDaniel, Godson of Janni & Dynelle Martin, US Army  
Major Scott Powell, son of Thomas Powell, US Army  
Steven Wheeler, brother-in-law of Jan Roe

## **Those in Assisted Living:**

Brookside Senior Living 199 W. West Gary Rd., Commerce, GA 30529): *Charles McMullan (Cottage 179); Margie Brown; Bo Holland (130)*

Bountiful Hills (200 Bolton Ave, Commerce, GA 30529):  
*Helen Siegel (111)*

Jackson Oaks Senior Living ( 50 Sumner Way, Jefferson, GA 30549 ): *Ann Linn (260) (Mother of Chad Linn)*

## **Those at home:**

Louellen Besuden (332 Victoria St., Commerce, GA 30529)  
Lucy Gailey (228 Honeysuckle Dr., Commerce, GA 30529)  
Brenda Hay (183 Lathan St. Commerce, GA 30529)  
Jan Johnson (706 Deadwyler Road, Maysville, GA 30558) (Mother of Dynelle Martin)  
Velma Long (34 Norwood Dr. Normal, IL. 61761) (Mother of Janni Martin)  
Dr. Don McFadden (119 University Dr., Commerce, GA 30529)  
Beverly Nesbit (112 Glenloch Way, Commerce, GA 30529)  
Gayle Pritchett (289 Wilson Dr., Commerce, GA 30529)  
Pat and Jimmy Purcell (108 Windy Hills Rd. Commerce, GA 30529)  
Bernice Scott (1430 Mason Dixon Dr., Marion, VA 24354)



# HERE TO SERVE

## **Trustees**

Linda Exley  
Brian Anderson  
Robert Lyle  
George Turk  
Ray Morris  
Sally May  
Josh Rider  
Joe Fenn  
Joanna Suarez

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Dave Moon  
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Shonda Jones-Leggett  
Lee Hagan  
Elton Collins  
Dave Moon  
Jean Davis  
Al Fleming  
June Murphy  
Lisa Nesbit

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Charles Blair  
Stewart Smith  
Pam Barnett  
Matt Lund  
Jason Phillips  
Bette Rose Bowers  
Tom Murphy



# Stop the Spread of Germs

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)