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## About us

We are a community of believers committed to living out our vision – *to shine God's love into every life!* We are a vibrant and authentic church family, offering many opportunities for fellowship and service. We are a family of talented, creative and imperfect individuals who gather as the people of God, united by the Holy Spirit, living faithfully as disciples of Jesus Christ.

*FUMC-Denton News* is a regularly published newsletter created to inform, update and share relevant and thought-provoking content.

You can also read FUMC-News at <http://fumc-denton.com/fumc-denton-news/>

Connect with us on [Facebook](#) (First United Methodist Church Denton), in Instagram (@FumcDenton) and on [Twitter](#) (@FUMCDentonTX).

## Alternative Gifts Fair Celebrates its 30th Anniversary!

### Alternative Gifts Fair



Do you know how the Alternative Gifts Fair started?

It started in 1986, primarily as a way to promote and support Heifer Project International (HPI), now shortened to Heifer International. For the first several years, the AGF was held in Flinn Hall, which was completely filled with tables. Teams from First Presbyterian, St. Andrew Presbyterian, Trinity

Presbyterian, Christ the Servant Lutheran and several FUMC Sunday School classes participated. Each group was assigned an HPI animal and an assortment of goods to promote. In addition to animals and crafts, we featured Sierra Club calendars, Greenpeace products, UNICEF cards and special non-competitive games.

“The whole community was invited and the event largely promoted by the Denton Record Chronicle. Every time enough donations were collected to buy any particular Heifer animal, the sponsoring table sounded an appropriate noise-maker, and the entire room celebrated! Around 1990 the Redbird Mission Crafts were added. The local-area crafts organizations that currently participate in the AGF did not exist at that time.”- said Mike Mizell, originator of the fair.

After 30 years, the idea of the fair is still the same: to offer our members and the Denton community an alternative for their holiday shopping and, at the same time, raise money for local, national and international non-profit organizations.

Fair trade goods, handmade merchandise by third-world-country artisans, and merchandise donated by both First United Methodist Church members and Denton locals make the fair an event not to be missed. The fair keeps growing and over 35 vendors will sell their exquisite goods this year. One hundred percent of the proceeds go to the participant non-profits.

## Upcoming Events



### Movie with Hispanic Ministry



We invite you to share a time of fellowship and entertainment with us on the third Friday of each month. We will have a Christian movie appropriate for all ages, in Spanish (with subtitles in English), coffee or chocolate and cookies. Of course, we couldn't miss some delicious popcorn.

We are waiting for you. Our next movie night will be on Friday, October 21 at 7:00 pm. Free.

### We need candy!!!



We are now collecting candy to make this year's the most memorable Trunk-or-Treat yet. You can drop off a bag or two

in Miller Center or many other places around the church. Just look for the Share the Harvest boxes.

## Letter from Editor

Dear members:

I am a very active person and love to exercise. I walk my dogs daily for about one hour, do yoga, Pilates and some strength training.

A few years ago I decided to buy a treadmill. As I don't have space for a dedicated gym at home, I placed the treadmill in my home office. So, after work, I exercise a little more. It is a great way to manage stress (and to burn the extra calories added by those amazing baked goods that some talented ladies at work bring once in a while.) Six days a week I walk/jog for 45 minutes and use the time to watch inspirational movies and documentaries.

Yesterday, I saw an old movie called, *Pay It Forward*, with Kevin Spacey, Helen Hunt and Haley Joel Osment. It's the story of a boy who starts a "pay-it-forward" movement as his school project. It is very inspirational and sad at the same time. Spoiler Alert! I have to tell the end of the movie: the boy dies. And that made me sob. Why did a 12 year-old boy, who was in his own way trying to change the world, have to die?

Reality is: not all good is rewarded, not all bad is punished. At least not during our journey here. It's life. And most of the time, we don't understand why. But if we have faith, we keep going, we grow stronger and we should try to pay it forward.

The idea of doing something good to someone is not new. It doesn't necessarily require money, or time, or much effort at all. It requires heart. It requires detachment from our innate selfish ways wanting everything for ourselves. It requires that, for a moment, we see life through someone else's eyes, feel their pain and cry their tears.

"Pay it forward" got stuck in my mind. At some point in the movie, the boy, under duress, "freezes," not being able to help his friend. Fear made him freeze. And that can happen to us, too. Not acting, not helping, not loving is failing. In a world full of tension and fear, it is very easy to just watch and let things take their course. In a world led by busy routines and false idols, it's very easy to ignore and be ignored. Work, school, children, grandchildren... everything can become excuses not to see what God really has in mind for us. Because many times, what He has in mind is not exactly what we have in mind. Many times the rewards we expect don't come. And rewards we don't expect bless us. Because "life" has an interesting way of teaching us things...

## Share the Harvest To Bring Community Families to Trunk-R-Treat



On October 31, we will maintain our tradition and have the most Spook-tacular and Fa-boo-lous *Share the Harvest* yet. From 6:00 to 8:00 pm children from the Denton community will Trunk-or-Treat, enjoy a safe alternative to Halloween trick or treating for kiddos from our church, neighborhood and community. And we are prepared to have a great time rain or shine!

All children from the Denton community are invited! They can get candy, a snack supper, participate in carnival games and their favorite: the hayride! We will have many new games this year: Duck Pond, Golf, Kirplunk, glow bowling, pumpkin broom hockey and much more. There is also a best costume/trunk decoration contest.

Admission is one canned food item in support of the Denton County Food Room.

We are now collecting candy to make this a very memorable Trunk-or-Treat. You can drop off a bag or two in Miller Center or many other places around the church. Just look for the Share the Harvest boxes.



We also need volunteers who want to decorate their car trunks. If you like to see a smile when you give out candy to the children we definitely need you! *Share the Harvest* is October 31, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the parking lot and East wing.

Have questions? Contact Brandi Southwell at [bsouthwell@fumc-denton.com](mailto:bsouthwell@fumc-denton.com).

Click on the link to watch a video about our Share the Harvest. <https://vimeo.com/184368479>



## FUMC-Denton Social Media



FUMC-Denton has a very active social media presence. It is a great and quick way to update yourself on events, activities and programs, as well as last minute changes and cancellations.

We are in Facebook as First United Methodist Church Denton. "Like us" and be always up-to-date on anything FUMC-Denton. Follow us on Twitter, @FumcDentonTX or Instagram at @fumcdenton.



8:30 am – Traditional Worship - Sanctuary

9:45 am – Connection Fellowship -Monroe Fellowship Building

11:00 am – Celebration Worship (Also televised\*) - Sanctuary

12:30 pm – Bilingual Service – Flinn Hall

11:15 am – 3rd Day Family Service (3rd Sunday of every month) - Flinn Hall

For details go to <http://fumc-denton.com/worship-us/sunday-worship/>

## Back to Bach Concert at FUMC-Denton



Alfred Calabrese

Denton Bach Society begins an exciting 40th Anniversary Season with the concert October 15 at 7:00 pm at First United Methodist Church, Denton. Honoring the roots of the organization, Music Director and Conductor Dr. Alfred Calabrese has chosen an all-J.S. Bach concert.

For details and tickets go to [dentonbach.com](http://dentonbach.com). Tickets will also be available at the concert. For more information you may contact Helen Reikofski at [Helen.Reikofski@unt.edu](mailto:Helen.Reikofski@unt.edu) or Vicki Jones at [DentonBach@gmail.com](mailto:DentonBach@gmail.com).

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., concert starts at 7:00 pm.

## Empty Bowls Benefiting Our Daily Bread Held at FUMC-Denton



FUMC-Denton will hold Empty Bowls, a fundraising event, on October 22, 11:30 am-1:30 pm in Monroe. During the event, ticket holders select a handcrafted bowl of their choice and are served bread from Ravelin Bakery and homemade soup. This is a ministry of Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in Denton. All proceeds from this event are donated to the Denton Community Food Center and Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen. To reserve tickets (\$20.00 each) visit [www.ctsdenton.org](http://www.ctsdenton.org). For questions call Christ The Servant Lutheran Church at 940- 387-1984.

## Upcoming Events

### Credo Bake Sale



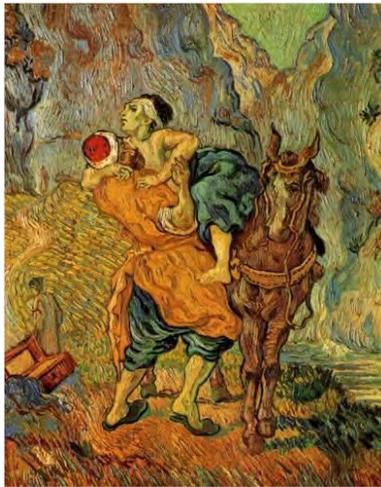
On October 30, our Credo Choir will have a Bake Sale in Miller Center from 8:00 am until after the 11:00 am service. Donations of baked goods are appreciated. The proceeds will benefit the Credo Choir.



### Free Flu Shots for FUMC-Denton Members

Free flu shots will be available to our members on October 23 at noon in Miller Center Dining Room. This service will be provided by Texas Health Resources.

## Pastor's Note



We are continuing the series, "Crazy, Stupid, Love: The Musical," an in depth look at Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan. This Sunday, Act 2, "An Unfortunate Traveler Gets Mugged." Join us as we attempt to answer the question, "Who is my neighbor?" Don't forget to do your homework and invite a friend, family member or neighbor to join you for church. Why do this? Because it's written into our spiritual DNA as disciples to lead others to a safe place where their needs can be met, wounds dressed and hearts fed.

If you've not already turned in your Estimate of Giving card, please bring it Sunday or drop it in the mail. We are asking for 100% participation even if you mark, "As Can."

See you in Church!  
Don

## Board of Global Ministries' Jacques Akasha Umembudi to Speak on October 23

Jacques Akasa Umembudi is a missionary with the Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church assigned to the Wings of Caring Aviation Ministry in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. As a pilot-mechanic and program director of the Wings of Caring Aviation Ministry, Jacques flies people and supplies to various missions in the region.

He and his wife, GBGM missionary Poto Valentine Shutsha, will be speaking during the Sunday School hour 9:40 am) on October 23 in Cole Chapel to the Senior High School Sunday School class. All are



Jacques Akasha Umembudi

welcome to come and listen. For more information on Jacques Akasha Umembudi go to <http://bit.ly/2dh9EtD>

## Upcoming Events

# ATTENTION!!!

### Church Conference

**November 13**

**3:00 - 5:00 pm**

Christ United Methodist Church  
3101 Coit Rd, Plano, TX 75075

All are welcome to attend!



**Sunday, October 15**

**11:15 am in Flinn Hall**

Join our 4th graders in the 3rd Day Family Service. Our 3rd Day Family Service is designed to engage children while introducing them to the many traditions of worship. Children can bring their parents to a kid-friendly atmosphere for prayer, scripture, music led by our own RUSTY BUMPERS band led by Jett Cheek, our Children's Choir Director, and more. Wiggles and giggles are most definitely acceptable and always present when we gather on the third Sunday of each month. The service is entirely presented by the kids for the kids and families of our congregation and community.

### Letter from the Editor

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If we look around, we may see there are people who do just that: pay it forward. Some of the best conversations I had when recording our members and guests for the "Living God's Dream" videos were about paying it forward. One member said he just liked to serve, to give. No matter if he was opening a door for someone, helping someone carrying their bags or simply talking about God, he liked to serve. "It felt good, it felt right." Another member said he wanted "to be there for someone." "It does not matter if it is three in the morning or 10 at night, I want my friends, family and people who cross my way to know that I will be there for them," another member said.

So, what if each one of us committed to pay it forward once a day, once a week, once a month or just whenever we have the chance? Wouldn't the world be a better place? Working for a "better place" may be just being there for someone, listening and comforting, making a difference in someone's life. "Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."- 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Have a great week!

Martha Ware  
Director of Marketing and Communications

### Alternative Gifts Fair Celebrates its 30th Anniversary!

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The success of the fair is due to unique merchandise, the wonderfully caring and giving FUMC-Denton members and the Denton community. The Alternative Gifts Fair subcommittee is deeply involved with every single aspect of the fair and so are the more than 100 volunteers. But more than everything, they are very passionate about the event. Janet Fisher, chair of AGF said: "It's great to be around people whose passion for their mission is as strong as ours. We are proud to offer this opportunity for non-profits to have a venue for their merchandise. Helping others really can become addictive. It feels good to know your efforts are helping needy people around the world. When I agreed to chair the Alternative Gifts Fair, I said I would do it for three years. It has been so much fun, I have continued and am in my sixth year."

The Alternative Gifts Fair starts on November 4 at 5:00 pm. Admission for the "first choice" is \$5.00. Until 8:00 pm shoppers can come by early and purchase from a selection of incredible goods. On Saturday, November 5 the fair starts at 9:00 am and goes until 3:00 pm, and on Sunday, November 6 it starts at 9:00 am and ends at 1:00 pm. Admission for both Saturday and Sunday is FREE.

## Hispanic Ministry Fiesta Makes Monroe Shake!



The “Thank You Party” offered by FUMC-Denton Hispanic Ministry exceeded all expectations. Monroe was completely filled with over 250 members and guests. Volunteers of all ages worked hard to prepare and serve delicious traditional Mexican dishes. One of the highest points of the “fiesta” was the Mariachi band, which entertained an enthusiastic and cheerful audience. Smiles, laughter and some Spanglish united our members and guests of different cultures, ages and backgrounds. Pastor Mauricio led a heartfelt prayer before the meal and danced at the sound of the band with Martha Segundo, our facilities manager, and other members of the Hispanic ministry. Happiness was in the air!



## Welcome New Members!

Please take the time to greet and welcome our new members. You can also see their photos on the New Member bulletin board in the hallway connecting Miller Center and the East Wing.

Happy Carrico and Deanna Carrico joined on October 9. They attend the Celebration Service at 11:00 am. Happy loves our church's philosophy and Deanna has many friends in our Trippers ministry and loves the people here. Welcome to our church family!

Austin Rich attends our 9:45 am service and joined our church on October 2. Friends recommended FUMC-Denton and he felt welcome. "It feels close to home!" he said. We are glad to have you with us, Austin.

Olivia and Thomas Rogers together with children Lance and Reid, joined us on August 2. They attend the 9:45 am service. Olivia loves the sermons and Thomas believes we have a very resourceful youth program. It's great to have you with us!

Sue Swift joined FUMC-Denton on October 2 and attends our 11:00 am service. She said she felt the spirit and love of the Lord with the people here. We are glad to have you here, Sue!

Laurence Breyfogle joined our church on October 2 and attends the 11:00 am service. He thinks our services are enjoyable and our people and pastors very friendly. Welcome to our church family, Laurence!

Robert Eugene Davis grew up in this church and is glad to have joined us. We are also glad you joined, Gene!

Kaleb Jones joined us on September 14. He attends the 11:00 am service and works for our FunStop Out-of-School program. He loves the people at FUMC-Denton. It's great to have you with us, Kaleb!

Judith Rempp and Fernand Chabot joined our church on September 18. They attend the Celebration 11:00 am service. Both think our congregation is very friendly. We hope to always have open arms and are glad you are part of our church family!

Larry and Mary Ann Klein joined us on August 28. They attend the 11:00 am service. Welcome to our church family!

Robert and Sarah McKinney joined FUMC-Denton on August 21. They attend the 11:00 am service. They both have many friends who attend our church and their daughter Norah attends our Children's Day Out program and loves it! Welcome to our church family!

Richard Owen Hanson, Sr. and Judith Russell joined us on September 4. They attend the Celebration service at 11:00 am. Judith loves the music and the choir. Both feel that our people are warm and friendly. We are glad you joined us!

Sydney McCollum joined our church on September 4. She attends the 8:30 am Traditional service and she loves our traditionalism. Welcome to our church family, Sydney!