

"The STEEPLE"
A Newsletter of Commerce UMC - NOVEMBER
2023

1155 N. Commerce Rd, Commerce Twp, MI 48382

Phone: 248-363-3935

Sunday Worship: In-Person Worship 10:00 AM
Our Worship Services LIVE STREAM our YouTube
channel, <https://www.youtube.com/> and also linked through
our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/commerceumc



It Doesn't Hurt to Ask

On October 27th, we experienced unseasonably warm weather. The sun was out and the temperature was in the 70's. As we move deeper into the fall and eventually into winter, these instances are becoming increasingly more rare. So, I packed a few snacks and right when my oldest got off the bus, I took her and her younger sister straight to Scarlett's playground. I wanted them to enjoy the rest of the day outdoors.

While they played, I couldn't help but notice Halloween-decorated tables were set up to the north all along a trail. It turned out the library and local businesses were hosting "Trail or Treat" an event in which candy would be passed out to children. I called my wife on the phone and she brought over the kids' costumes and our two little ones had a blast.

The "Trail or Treat" event was one of several opportunities for my kids to accumulate candy. Obviously, the church hosted its super awesome Trunk or Treat. The schools had their own events. Lastly, you can't forget the good old fashion trick or treating that occurs in each of our neighborhoods. I love how our kids have a chance to dress up on multiple occasions and get use out of their overpriced costumes. However, what I do not especially like is having two giant mounds of candy at our house. One belonging to a 5 year old and the other, a 3 year old.

So, I asked them to take some candy out and place it in a bucket. A bucket for

other kids to enjoy. Let's give away some of our candy. I didn't expect them to be enthused about giving away their candy. It is literally their treasure. Their most prized possession. Yet, they listened. They obeyed their nagging father. I fully expected to see the give-away bucket filled with all the candy I know they personally do not like: warheads, almond joys, mounds, whoppers.

Instead, I was surprised to see some really desirable candy: snickers, reese's, kitkat's, Swedish fish, m&m's. My daughters were not selective in what they were giving away. It reached the point where I had to ask them, "are you sure about this? You're okay with giving that one away?" And, they were. They were fine with it.

This experience confirmed what I already know. I've heard the phrase, "It doesn't hurt to ask" on numerous occasions. Whenever we make an ask, we risk little, but in the process we might discover an unexpectedly good outcome.

As a pastor, it is my job to help people grow into mature Christians. There are many components to this. The big one we are addressing this season is our relationship with money. Each of us is called to reflect the generous nature of God. Each of us is called to cheerfully release our treasures back to God. Each of us is called to accomplish God's purposes in the world and we use our money as a tool for that end.

With that said, might I be so bold to make a request? May I ask something of you? For the 2024 fiscal year, would you take one more step in your generosity journey? God is truly at work at Commerce UMC. In-person Sunday worship is robust and healthy. New people are joining our community of faith as we experience record numbers in the nursery, children's ministry, and youth group. Still, the giving and generosity of our body has not yet matched the growth we are seeing.

So, please consider taking one more step in generosity and faithful obedience. If you have never supported the church, consider giving for the first time. If you

have given on occasion, consider going over your finances and committing to even just 1 percent of your income and give regularly. If you are already giving a portion of your income, consider a 1 percent increase until you reach a tithe. Lastly, if you are already tithing or going beyond the tithe, I thank God for your generosity. Still, since it doesn't hurt to ask, would you consider yet another increase?!

May God continue to sanctify this body and may God continue to bless you so that you might be a blessing to others.

Pastor Andy

Looking for a Committee to Join?

Fellowship Committee



Sunday, November 1

During Coffee Hour we will be planning activities

**for next year. Everyone is welcome. Any questions
contact Tammi Fenn at: 248-396-3078**

CALLING ALL ARTIST OF ALL



AGES

**DRAW, PAINT, COLOR A PICTURE OF A BIBLE STORY
AND SEND IT IN TO THE CHURCH OFFICE. WATCH
FUTURE BULLETINS AND SEE YOUR PICTURE USED
AS A COVER IMAGE. YOU MAY DROP THEM OFF ON
THE FRONT OFFICE DESK OR EMAIL THEM TO:
commerceumc@sbcglobal.net**

**October 29th Bulletin cover picture was drawn by
Samson Van Dussen**



It's time for SOUP ...

MISSIONS SOUP LUNCHEON that is!

Put a note on your calendar to remember to have lunch at church on Sunday November 5th! Our fantastic homemade soup lunch will be available in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 10 a.m. noon.

For \$5 you will get Soup, Crackers & Cookies and you can eat in or carry out.

All proceeds benefit our Missions giving.



**United
Women
in Faith**



CHRISTMAS MARKETPLACE: Saturday December 2, 2023 at 9AM - 4PM.

COOKIES--UWF members are asked to bake 10 dozen of your best or favorite Christmas cookies. We appreciate cookies from the entire congregation as we are almost sold out by the end of the day. They are sold by the pound (\$8.00)

FRESH CHRISTMAS GREENS & ARRANGEMENTS--Beautiful small-large arrangements were created by Susie Thompson and her helpers. If you have a container you would like filled please contact Susie at church or call her at 248-887-4773. She will be completing the arrangements by the day of the Marketplace.

CRAFTS--We have our own craft table for the UFW. If you have a craft or crafts you would like to donate, please price them and contact Kyle Caswell or Linda Kornatowski. Please deliver them to the church by 6pm on Friday Dec.1st.

RAFFLE--Each year we sell raffle tickets for special items. If you have an item that is new or like new contact Kyle Caswell at 248-622-1465. We currently have 4 items but would like 2-3 more.

WHITE ELEPHANT--This area is usually handled by the CUMC Youth Group. New items that you have decided you won't use or don't need. For example: decor items, Christmas items, etc. **NO CLOTHING.** Please have your donations to the church by Friday Dec.1st. A box or area to leave things will be on the tables at the back of the fellowship hall.

LUNCH-- Delicious soups, sloppy joes and hot dogs are made by the UFW. Desserts and hot/cold drinks are also served.

This is a great day to start your holiday preparations!!! Hope to see you there!!!



Quilters are Getting' Ready for Marketplace!

I can hear "Christmas Marketplace" buzzing around – or

is that the Prayers & Patches Quilters busy as work stitchin' a table full of beautiful love-filled homemade project for this year event!

Marketplace is just a month away. Last-minute seams are being sewn, and wrinkles are being ironed out. Come and find beautiful items that will make great gifts for your special someone. There will be aprons, rubber jar grippers, quilted purses & tote bags, microwave tatter sacks, seasonal table runners and placemats, quilts, pillowcases, scripture mug-rugs, stylish blazer pins and more.

This year's raffle quilt is called; "Chandelier" and is stunning with multiple jewel tone colors on white positioned on point creating a chandelier effect. The quilt will be on display in the Fellowship Hall / and Narthex a few



weeks before Marketplace. Raffle tickets will be available during the time of display and on the day of Marketplace. Winner need not be present to win. Cost of tickets are: \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00





Anchored Hope Outreach Gives Thanks!

I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. Psalm 9:1

We have so much to be thankful for as we continue to serve many in need who are battling Human Trafficking in the Detroit area. Your continued support makes a huge difference in our mission success.

In September we handed out ... 173 meals and 35 hygiene kits,

making our 2023 Year-to-Date: 1849 meals & 245 hygiene kits

“Thank YOU” ...

... to the Commerce United Women in Faith; formerly the UMW, for hosting Anchored Hope as your event speaker at the Fall Unit Gathering last month. Your support warms our hearts.

... to all the bakers who donated baked goods for the Fisk Farm Festival CUMC goodies table. The proceeds we received from the sales will go toward the Christmas Gifts we give in December to the women we serve.

... to YOU, Commerce UMC Family and Friends, for the monthly donations of

meals & essentials.

... to the Monday Night Ladies Yoga Group for the donations and money you collected on one of your nights.

... for your prayers and continued prayers for the safety of the teams who go out, for those who organize our outreach work, supplies, and the vehicle we use.

How can you Pray for the women ?

ü We are THANKFUL for one of the women who left her situation and went into recovery early in October. Please pray for her decision, and for strength and encouragement for the days ahead as she gains control back in her life.

ü In the short time we are in contact with the women as we distribute items and meals, we regularly ask if they would like us to pray for anything specific for them. Their top requests are: for safety, strength, healing from injuries, protection from the cold, and their family.

Are you or your group interested in hosting a donation drive to help support Anchored Hope Outreach? Consider this your invitation!

It's easy as 1-2-3!

1. Pick a category - snacks, hygiene, clothing, etc.
2. Set a timeframe - a special month, the weeks leading up to a holiday, your organization's annual event, etc.
3. Contact us at 586-991-1389 or info@anchoredhopeoutreach.org We can let you know our upcoming needs, answer any questions, help you with ideas, and arrange for pick up of donations.

Thank you! Anchored Hope Outreach, Kati Brush

For more info about Anchored Hope Outreach ministry
goto: <http://anchoredhopeoutreach.org/>

You can find our Amazon Wish List
here: <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2ZF4BMZBHLHY3...>

POINSETTIAS - HURRY QUANTITY IS LIMETED



Cost \$11.00 with a choice of white or red. See sign up sheet and envelopes on bulletin board in the narthex hall. Place your orders by Dec. 3rd, They will be put in front of the church on Dec. 10th and You may take them home on Christmas Eve.

2
0
2
3



**Return filled boxes
(with \$10 postage)
by November 12th**



November 2023 Christian Education News...

Mark you calendars:

November 29th Kids Klub +

December 17th Kids of the Kingdom Manger Tales

Trunk or Treat 2022

Woohoo! Just when I worried that last year was a fluke, we once again welcomed 400 children to our Trunk or Treat. Thank you to everyone that hosted or helped! We ended up having to move our event indoors, but everything worked out just as God planned.

It was a really special evening, and fun to see some VBS kiddos from over the summer.

Kids On a Mission

As you may already know, on the Second Sunday of each month, our children do a "Kids On a Mission" project. This is an opportunity for children to do hands-on missions work for friends in our community. We need a few adult volunteers to assist the children with stuffing care packages, etc. and are hoping that you can assist! We have created a Sign-Up and would love to see you upstairs. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DAFAF2FAAFEC07-kids2>

Kids Klub+

Please note that because of the Thanksgiving holiday, November Kids Klub + will be on the FIFTH Wednesday

Kids Klub + is an opportunity to share a community meal, and then send the kids upstairs for an hour of fun! This month we will go on a Oceans Away adventure.

Kids of the Kingdom Manger Tales

You heard it here, we are once again putting on a fantastic and fun filled Christmas program! Here are some details:

- December 17th during 10am service
- 2 or 3 songs to sing, plus 4 short skits
- Hosting coffee hour
- Rehearsals December 3rd, 6th, 10th, and 13th

Kristine Van Dussen- Christian Education Director

Kristine.CUMC@gmail.com 248.363.3935 ext. 304



Homemade Candy
sold by
1/2 pound
and 1 pound.

Order by
November 12th

Pick-up on
November 26th

**Commerce
Candy Makers**

**CUMC NURSERY
ASSISTANTS NEEDED!**

MANY HANDS MAKE FOR LIGHT WORK,
AND MANY FEET MAKE FOR
A HAPPY PITTER-PATTER.

SIGN UP

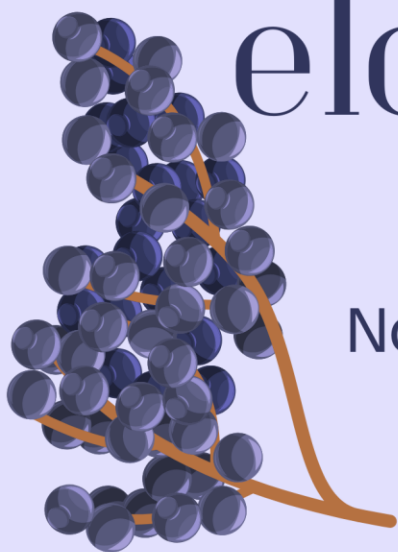




THE COMMERCE ANGEL TREE will be set up in the narthex early November. With your help, our angel tree will benefit Baldwin, Hospitality House, Church Family and Anchored Hope.

All donations from the tags on our angel tree need to be returned back to the tree no later than Sunday November 26th. **PLEASE DO NOT WRAP YOUR GIFT**, and make sure to return the tag you removed from the tree securely attached to your donation gift.

For more information contact Laura Contesti at 248-363-2557



elderberries

Every Third Thursday
Noon in the Fellowship Hall

Check CUMC website calendar to
confirm meeting information

Women's Book Study

WEDNESDAYS AT 5:30PM

JOIN US IN THE WESLEY ROOM



*CHECK CUMC WEBSITE CALENDAR TO
CONFIRM MEETING INFORMATION*



Commerce UMC Pickleball

LADIES YOGA

COMMERCE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

All ages.
All abilities.
All are welcome.

6:30-7:30 PM



EVERY SECOND
MONDAY

Check CUMC website calendar
to confirm meeting information.

Yoga in the sanctuary led by Rachel MacCarreall, church member and yoga instructor, who teaches at places like Lifetime Fitness.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

TUESDAYS 7:30PM
IN THE ACTIVITY HALL



FUN ZONE

LAST MONTH'S ANSWERS AND NEW ACTIVITIES

fall
 corn
 maze
 pumpkin
 haystack
 scarecrow
 wagonride
 farm
 field
 harvest
 patch
 pick
 squash
 vines
 seeds
 weigh
 tractor

Pumpkin Patch Word Search



A	L	N	X	G	F	R	Q	Q	M	M	A	E	C	Z
E	O	W	K	V	X	E	T	M	R	P	Y	D	C	D
F	R	D	O	E	H	Z	O	A	T	A	J	I	V	G
E	B	U	D	R	X	A	F	Z	Q	T	C	R	F	R
O	X	Y	G	N	C	N	R	E	Y	C	F	N	I	X
J	B	O	Z	C	J	E	J	V	H	H	M	O	L	E
M	Q	N	Q	X	Q	P	R	Q	E	F	M	G	K	U
G	R	L	P	W	U	K	C	A	T	S	Y	A	H	B
V	E	I	A	M	B	D	K	I	C	P	T	W	N	T
S	C	D	P	F	I	E	L	D	H	S	A	U	Q	S
K	E	K	Y	H	U	O	S	F	A	L	L	O	W	D
Y	I	N	G	D	Q	T	R	A	C	T	O	R	N	E
N	J	I	W	V	U	Y	Q	J	O	L	Z	R	E	
H	E	T	Q	V	Z	X	G	D	C	Q	R	Y	V	S
W	Q	I	Z	C	U	K	V	A	Q	F	U	N	D	G

Thanksgiving for Kids

W	M	R	H	A	R	V	E	S	T	T
P	Z	O	F	O	Z	Y	X	L	E	U
I	N	S	A	I	N	D	I	A	N	R
L	O	T	M	C	L	F	P	R	Q	K
G	V	U	I	M	G	P	I	I	S	E
R	E	F	L	L	W	M	E	I	M	Y
I	M	F	Y	P	U	M	P	K	I	N
M	B	I	T	H	A	N	K	F	U	L
P	E	N	V	E	R	Z	H	J	M	W
S	R	G	Y	P	A	U	T	U	M	N
W	Q	H	A	F	D	I	N	N	E	R

autumn
dinner
family
harvest
Indian
November

pie
Pilgrim
pumpkin
stuffing
thankful
turkey



TAKE THE CHALLENGE

Giving Gratitude

EACH DAY

#1 What are you most grateful for today?

#2 What technology are you most grateful for?

#3 What food are you most grateful for?

#4 What memory in life are you most grateful for?

#5 What item in your home are you most grateful for?

#6 What in nature are you most grateful for?

#7 What book are you most grateful for?

#8 What lesson in life are you most grateful for experiencing?

#9 What place have you traveled that you are most grateful for?

#10 What are you most grateful for in your childhood?

#11 What movie are you most grateful for?

#12 What 3 people in life are you most grateful for?

#13 What season of the year are you most grateful for?

#14 What rejection in life are you most grateful for?

#15 What about your body are you most grateful for?

#16 What band are you most grateful for?

#17 What about your job are you most grateful for?

#18 What trait do you have that are you most grateful for?

#19 What splurge item do you own that you are you most grateful for?

#20 What are you most grateful for in your daily life?

#21 What small item that you use daily are you most grateful for?

#22 What Thanksgiving memory are you most grateful for?

#23 What use of your phone are you most grateful for?

#24 What about social media are you most grateful for?

#25 What are you most grateful for in your city?

#26 What meal did you have today that you are most thankful for?

#27 What are you most grateful for in your country?

#28 What about your home are you most grateful for?

#29 What bill are you most grateful to be able to pay?

#30 What experience this month are you most grateful for?

HAPPY

THANKSGIVING



Continue to Pray for

**Logan Helgemo, Grandma Brandt, Heather Antoon, Aza Catau,
Sharon Hernande, Kendra, Al Young
Richard Kornatowski, Leo & Bea Maki, Judy Rose,
Mary Lesiak, Pat Elliot, Joyce Mikey Faust, Joy Dobson,
Russ Courville, Bruce Flores, Linda & Gary Schultz, Larry
Petersen, Gloria Jones,
Rick Mead, Sandy Richardson, Dave Smiertka, Krull Family, Betty
Barry's Family,
Randy Pellett, Hazel Dupps, Rebecca Flores, Joann Crook, Joel Ben-
Moche,
Craig Smith, Dareld Putnam, Tim Lewandowski, Mike Miller, Bill Krug,
Michael & Mary Alice Lesiak**



**Thank YOU for ALL YOU DO to Serve at Commerce UMC!
If you would like information about helping with a
committee or mission of the church
please contact Pastor Andy at the church office or by email.**



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

- 1 Bev LaTurneau, Kathleen Nelson
- 2 Rich Allanson, Molly hauser
- 3 Silas Mecham, Benjamin Rice
- 4 Jim Hawisher, Dylan Robinson
- 5 Beverly Hughes
- 6 Vickie Armstrong
- 7 Robin Fletcher, Beth Kuzak, Andrew Ruhlen
- 8 Michelle Robinson
- 9 Laura Elliott, Carl Schneider
- 11 Richard Kornatowski, Kay Behrens
- 12 Pamela Bergner, Ken Harfoot
- 13 Kyle Oliver, Gabriel Inglis-Dubin
- 14 Debbie Curry
- 15 Terry Crossett
- 16 Eric Bean
- 18 Lyle Curry, Robert Beagle, Tom Kwaitkowski, Fisher Goosey, Emmett Snyder, Josie Williams
- 19 Jeremy Ralston
- 20 Matthew Whitney, Gabe Laming
- 21 Abby Kaschyk
- 22 Robert Morris, Linda Casenhiser
- 23 Austin Williams
- 24 Bea Burkholder, Addyson Moreland
- 26 Sally Courville, Pat Perry
- 27 William Boyd, Millie Kargol
- 30 Nicholas Stefanou

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARY'S

- 2 Al & Pat Young
- 8 Robert & Andrea Beagle
- 8 Brian & Polly Dodson

9	Jim & Susie Thompson
19	Scott & JoAnne Crandall
23	Scott & Ann Leonard
29	Ed & Dana Wenz