

## **"The STEEPLE"**

**A Newsletter of Commerce UMC-MAY 2026**  
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**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](http://www.facebook.com/commerceumc)



**Our United Women in Faith recently held their annual spring rummage sale. For a week, they transformed the fellowship hall into a place where clothes, books, toys, houseware and countless other items found new homes. My family contributed three garbage bags full of things we no longer needed, and I'm not going to lie, it felt great.**

**The parsonage is a little less cluttered. There's something satisfying about letting go of what had quietly become "junk": outgrown clothes, forgotten toys, things that once seemed important but now just took up space. And we weren't alone. People from the congregation and the wider community did the same, dropping off what they no longer wanted.**

**But as the saying goes, one person's junk is another person's treasure. By the end of the week, all that "junk" turned into \$5,000. When I reflect upon it, I find the idea of a rummage sale so fascinating, miraculous even. Everyone offloads the belongings they no longer want and somehow, some way all that stuff is exchanged for cold hard cash. The money, as always, will support ministry partners that will make an impact on the world.**

**When you stop and think about it, that's kind of remarkable. Because these undesirable items were given a second chance, what resulted was a multifold blessing for the church, the donors, the shoppers, and several ministry partners. Beyond a rummage sale and the fellowship hall, second chances and new life abound all over our church.**

**For some time, I understand the former sanctuary was a dumping ground for old couches. It was no longer a space that anyone was excited to use. After**

**an investment of new flooring, a pair of basketball hoops, and a pickleball net, the former sanctuary was reborn as the “activity hall.” A fitting name, because there’s a lot of activity in there now. Our children use it to run around for their monthly Kids Klub. I gained an evangelism award for hosting community basketball. And, we have pickleball scheduled 3 times a week in there as well. There are new connections made every week.**

**Beyond the rummage sale and the old sanctuary, I invite you to consider where God has given you a second chance and redeemed the parts of your life that you wanted to throw away. Perhaps, there was a season you’d rather not repeat that still shaped you for the better or a failure that redirected you in a way success never would have. If you can’t recall any examples, it’s possible God is working in you right now to bring about a blessing from an unexpected or counted out part of your life.**

**May we all come to know and share the power never-ending, always available, and transforming grace of God.**

**Peace be with you,  
Pastor Andy**

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**Kids of the Kingdom Bell Choir Returns Mother’s Day Sunday!**  
ALL CHILDREN 3-13 are invited to join us in playing during service on May 10th  
Please arrive NO LATER than 9:30am for a quick run-through before service begins.

Students who are going into third grade or older, are eligible to acolyte! This is a wonderful way for kids to serve in worship on Sundays.

**Acolyte training** will take place after church on May 17th, and the new acolyte schedule will start in July. Sign up in the narthex for the training if you'd like me to add your name to the list. If you are interested in signing up to acolyte, but can't make the training, let us know.

**Kids Klub +** is an opportunity to share a community meal, and then send the kids upstairs for an hour of fun! This month we are going on an **Animal Adventure**. Themed games, sensory bins, and crafts are always a hit for all ages.

We have over 150 kids signed up to join us this summer for **CUMC VBS 2026!** We need your help to make this amazing week possible. Sign-up in the narthex or email us to **volunteer!**

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# Acolyte Training May 17<sup>th</sup> 11:30 am



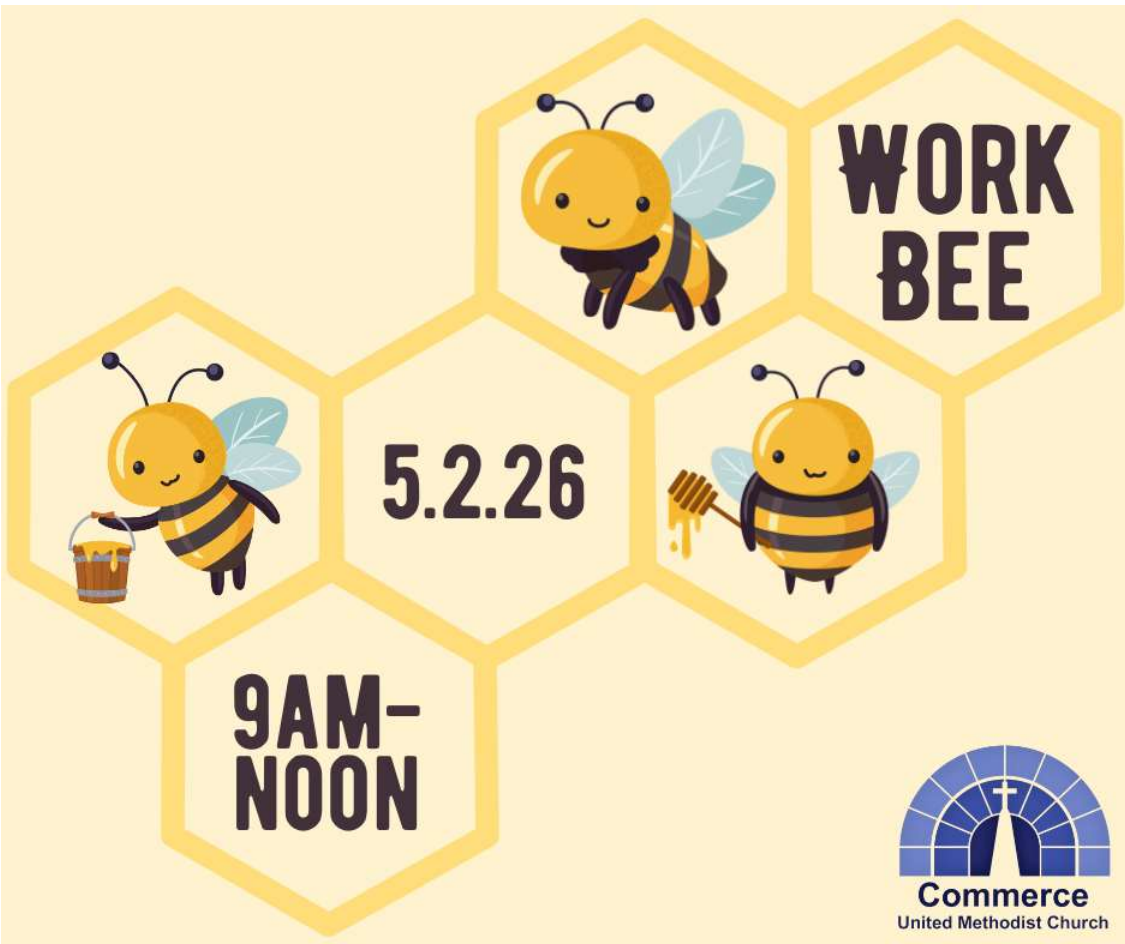
**CUMC Missions Committee is  
collecting Sunscreen & Flip Flops  
for Anchored Hope Outreach!**

**Donate now through June 7th**



# CELEBRATION SUNDAY


COMMERCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
SUNDAY, JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2026



**WORK  
BEE**

**5.2.26**

**9AM-  
NOON**



**Commerce**  
United Methodist Church

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**CUMC  
STAFF**



**APPRECIATION**



CELEBRATE OUR AMAZING CUMC STAFF BY ATTENDING CHURCH ON JUNE 14TH.  
PLEASE CONSIDER SHOWING YOUR APPRECIATION BY MAKING A DONATION TOWARD A GIFT.

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE BY PLACING IN OFFERTORY PLATE  
(MARK YOUR ENVELOPE SPRC / STAFF APPRECIATION)  
OR VIA VENMO (@MEGHANCASWELL-POHL)

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**Adopt a Garden  
2026**



**Do you know the Church has 11 gardens? Think about becoming a foster gardener in 2026 and sign up in the Narthex. For more information see Laura Elliott**

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## **CAREGIVERS**

**Past Experience as a Caregiver? We can use your input.**

**Present Caregivers? We meet to support each other in an informal environment.**

**Think being a Caregiver is in your future? Maybe we can help in some small way.**

**Please join us:**

**We meet once a month at CUMC Fellowship Hall at 1:00pm. Dates vary according to everyone's busy schedule.**

**The next meeting is April 22, 2026**

**Contact:**

**Kyle Caswell**

**248-688-1465**

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**Marilynn Bruss**

**248-408-4869**

[marilynnb1943@att.net](mailto:marilynnb1943@att.net)

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**GRADUATE'S  
BIO AND  
PICTURES  
DUE MAY 27<sup>TH</sup>**

**GRADUATION  
SUNDAY  
JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup> . 2026**

**2026**



## ANCHORED HOPE

Anchored Hope loves keeping our community connected and informed. See what's new in our latest newsletter: [Anchored Hope May Newsletter](#)



Greetings, friends!

April was a wonderful month of music. Thank you so much to all who contributed to making Holy Week such a great experience, especially Norma Gilbert and Randy Pellett who stepped into leadership roles at the last minute and Carly Miller for leading our Kid Bell Choir. Thank you to the choir, bell choir, and praise band members who continue to bless us with their talents each week, and huge thanks to those who brought moving special music like Alissa Pellett, Mila Woodland, and Laura K Jane.

We have some great music scheduled for May. If you are a singer or

instrumentalist of any age, we would love for you to share your talents with our church! Email Music Director Kim Gnagey to discuss ways to get involved: [kgnagey@commerceumc.org](mailto:kgnagey@commerceumc.org).

**Kim Gnagey**  
Director of Music

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A graphic with a light blue and grey background featuring abstract shapes. The main text is in a bold, dark blue font. To the left is an illustration of a gooseneck microphone on a stand. To the right is an illustration of a vintage-style microphone. At the bottom right is a small asterisk symbol.

**JOIN THE AV TEAM!**  
**SERVE ONCE A MONTH**

The AV Team is looking for help!

- Do you have experience running sound?
- Do you have experience with video and streaming?
- Do you have graphic design experience?
- Do you have none of the above, but you're willing to be trained to run slides or video?

email Kim Gnagey for more info  
[kgnagey@commerceumc.org](mailto:kgnagey@commerceumc.org)

The AV Team is looking for two new volunteers who can assist with running the Audio/Visual aspects of the service about once a month. If you have sound, video, or graphic design experience, we could really benefit from having you on the team; however, if you don't have any experience in these areas, we would still love to have you and can train you to help. Email AV Director Kim Gnagey for more info: [kgnagey@commerceumc.org](mailto:kgnagey@commerceumc.org).

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# THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING

JOIN US IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

## COFFEE HOUR

Please sign up in the  
Narthex to host a  
Sunday

**COFFEE HOUR provides not only great food and drinks, but a wonderful time to fellowship with people after service. Thank you to those who have signed up in the past and have served in this capacity. If you are feeling led to host a coffee hour with a few of your friends or with your committee/organization, please sign up either in the Narthex or click the link below. If you've never hosted before, we will provide you with everything you need to know and will be there to help!**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E4BACAE2BA57-46927626-commerce>

**Thank you for hosting a coffee hour! Kati Brush and Dana Wenz**

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## Women's Book Group

If you enjoy books and conversation you are welcome to join us for lively discussions, encouragement, and friendship.

Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

Questions? Call Diane Senk 248-770-0711



**MISSION COMMITTEE  
MEETS 2ND SUNDAY AT  
11:15 AM IN THE  
CONFERENCE ROOM**

**MISSION COMMITTEE IS NEEDING SOMEONE TO LEAD THEM  
PLEASE CONSIDER THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE BACK  
IF YOUR INTERESTED PLEASE SEE PASTOR ANDY**

# Ushers Needed



**Interested?  
Contact  
Diane Senk**

## BIBLE JOURNALING

1st Thursday @ 5:30pm  
3rd Thursday @ 3:00pm

No experience needed,  
everyone is welcome to  
join the fun!



CHECK CUMC WEBSITE CALENDAR TO  
CONFIRM MEETING INFORMATION



# MAY

## BIRTHDAY'S

- 2 Joyce Broyles, Colton Fletcher, Kaden Stoddard
- 3 Josh Simpson, Mark Watkins, Grace Hunt
- 5 Steve Thode
- 6 Cynthia Forsyth, Finn Gnagey
- 7 Ameilia Dubin, Sawyer Summerville, Logan Nelson
- 10 Tim Lewandowski, Jack Caswell
- 11 Graham Bennett
- 15 Dorothy Saari
- 17 Corinne Hughes
- 18 Eleanor Van Dussen
- 19 Marilyn Baroni, Ally Cooper
- 20 Tom Fournier, Roberta Carpenter
- 21 Meghan Oliver
- 22 Sue Willis, Paul Simpson
- 24 Jill Hendrickson, Nancie Stoddard, Gabriel Heximer, Jerry Gill
- 25 Kim Gnagey, Clark Kristofik
- 26 Michael Stefanou, Owen Beard
- 27 Amy Snyder, Heather Fagan

- 28 Julia Antonelli
- 29 Kevin Lambert
- 30 Ann MacArthur, Sandy Bakken, Rebecca Flores
- 31 Gary Contesti

## ANNIVERSARY'S

- 12 Randy & Christine Pellett
- 16 Bill & Janet Boyd
- 25 Paul & Vickie Armstrong
- 27 Frank & Lori Hunt
- 30 John & Louise Kirk-Stoddard
- 30 Trent & Kristen Thiry
- 31 Gary & Laura Contesti

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*Please Pray for*



**ASAP**

*Always say a prayer!*

**Kristin Lemon (Steve & Becky Lemon's daughter), Terry Shaw (Steve Lemon's brother-in-law), Leroy Stoddard's Family for his passing, Pastor Andy's Stepfather, John Sgriccia, Mychele friend of Jaclyn Parvin**

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**Thank YOU for ALL YOU DO to  
Serve at Commerce UMC!**

**If you would like information about joining  
with a committee or mission of the church  
please contact Pastor Andy at the church office  
or by email: [pastorandy@commerceumc.org](mailto:pastorandy@commerceumc.org)**

