



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY OCTOBER 4, 2026

World Communion Sunday is an especially important time in the local church. All around the world on this day Christians gather to commemorate the Last Supper through the sacrament of holy communion. It is both a reminder of Christ's love for us and the love we are called to share with one another. And just as the term COMMUNION in World Communion Sunday recalls the commemoration of the Last Supper, so too the term WORLD in World Communion Sunday recalls the commemoration of Pentecost when Christians from all over the world came together to hear the gospel proclaimed in Jerusalem and were empowered by the Holy Spirit to do the same. World Communion Sunday is a time for Christians to come together to remember that around the globe - in different languages, with different traditions and customs, and in various forms of liturgy - we have a common bond made possible through our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. And that through his broken body and shed blood, we have received the incredible gift of grace, love, forgiveness and new beginnings.

CELEBRATION SUNDAY OCTOBER 4, 2026

Let's celebrate our commonality as brothers and sisters in Christ on World Communion Sunday by joining together for a time of good food and warm fellowship.

- Hamburgers, hotdogs, baked beans, potato salad, banana pudding and all the fixings will be served.
- Reservations are not required and there is no cost. Lunch will be served in the FLC gym after the 11:00 AM service.

TRUNK OR TREAT OCTOBER 28, 2026

This year we will be holding our annual Trunk or Treat event on Wednesday, October 28, 2026. The deadline to register for Trunk or Treat is October 18, 2026.

- This is a very special event for the whole family. The cost is \$5 for children & \$10 for adults.
- Reservations and prepayment are required for dinner and trunk or treating. Contact the Church office to make reservations at 904-264-2241 for church members or Pat Noonan at 904-264-7330 for families that attend the Early Education Center.
- All you need to do is to bring your child in costume at 5:15 PM for dinner in the Family Life Center.
- At 6:00 PM the Trunk or Treat Sponsors will go to their cars and get ready for the children.
- At 6:15 PM the families will be dismissed from dinner and will head to the Trunk or Treat area.
- Campus Security will be provided by the Orange Park Police Department. Each adult and child will have to show his or her wristband to the officer before entering the arena.
- There will be a bounce house and inflatable obstacle course for the children.
- Families are welcome to leave through the exit when they are finished Trunk or Treating to go to the Pumpkin Patch for photos.
- If you are interested in having a trunk at this event, please call Ellen Despres at 904-264-2241 ext. 243.

PUMPKIN PATCH SEPTEMBER 26 - OCTOBER 31

The Pumpkin Patch will be open again this year. It is a great place to pick out the perfect pumpkin and to have a few Kodak Moments. It is also the means through which our youth are able to raise the funds necessary to pay for mission trips and church activities. The Pumpkin Patch will be open Monday through Saturday from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM and on Sundays from Noon to 8:00 PM.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

WEEKLY EVENTS

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

- Held during the 9:30 AM Worship Service
- Nursery & Toddlers: Room 6105 in the Family Life Center
- 3 & 4 year olds: Room 4110 in the Education Building
- K - 3rd Grade: Fellowship Hall
- 4th- 6th Grade: Room 6204 in the Family Life Center

CHILDREN'S GATHERING: 10:15 AM TO 11:00 AM

In between Children's Sunday School and Children's Worship, children can gather in the Fellowship Hall and enjoy food, drinks, and fellowship while listening to some of their favorite worship songs!

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

- Held during the 11:00 AM Worship Service
- Grades K-6
- Located in the Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY

- Open 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Ages 0-2: Room 6105 in the Family Life Center
- Ages 2-4: Room 4110 in the Education Building

SUNDAY NIGHT CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS 4:30 - 7:30 PM

- All 1st- 6th graders are welcome to a night full of Faith, Food and FUN!
- The night will include Bible Discovery, Choirs, Games, Activities, and more!
- Dinner: \$5

Club 456/JAM Choir (4th - 6th graders)

- 4:30 PM: Drop off in the Fellowship Hall (Building #7)
- 7:30 PM: Pick up in the Music Center (Building #2)

Kids Club/ Carol Choir (1st - 3rd graders)

- 4:30 PM: Drop off in Fellowship Hall (Building #7)
- 7:30 PM: Pick up in the Fellowship Hall (Building #7)

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 9TH: PARENTS NIGHT OUT HALLOWEEN PARTY

- Costumes encouraged!
- Infant - 5th Grade
- Attendees will enjoy playing games, making crafts, having dinner, and watching a movie!
- Cost: \$20 for the first child, \$15 for each additional child
- Drop Off: Family Life Gym (Building 5) at 5:30 PM
- Pick Up: Family Life Gym (Building 5) by 9:30 PM
- Registration Deadline: Sunday, October 4th



MONDAY, OCTOBER 12TH: KIDS CAMP DAY (TEACHER PLANNING DAY- NO SCHOOL):

AMAZING GRACE FARMS

- 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM
- VPK - 6th grade welcome to participate
- \$40.00 per participant includes: Breakfast, Lunch, 2 Snacks, Activities and Trip to Amazing Grace Farms
- Register by Sunday, October 4th by scanning the QR Code:



OCTOBER 28TH: TRUNK OR TREAT

- Orange Park Methodist Church & the Early Education Center Trunk or Treat: Wednesday, October 28th 5:15 - 7:30 PM
- A fun, safe night of trunk or treating, costumes, bounce houses, pumpkin patch & more! Dinner Included!
- Ticket Price: \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for kids. Includes a Wonderful Wednesday Dinner plate!
- Registration for this event is required. To reserve your ticket, or volunteer to pass out candy from the trunk of your vehicle, please register by Sunday, October 18th, or contact Ellen Despres at edespres@opmethodist.org
- If your child attends school at the Early Education Center, please register with the school, or contact the EEC Director, Pat Noonan, at pnoonan@opmethodist.org
- For added security, the Orange Park Police Department has been hired to oversee the event.
- Please note that only OPMC members are allowed to volunteer for trunk spaces. Parents/guardians of the trunk or treaters are encouraged to participate with their child and enjoy the experience!



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH: CHRISTMAS EVE PROCESSIONAL SIGN UPS AND COSTUME PICK-UP

Every year we celebrate the birth of Jesus at our 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship Service with OPMC and the Early Education Center's Christmas Processional. Every child has the opportunity to be part of this tradition. Children from the age of 2-3 years old through 3rd Grade will wear costumes to bring the birth of Jesus to life! 4th-6th Graders will sing as a part of the JAM Choir during the service.

- **Sign Ups and Costume Pickup:** Sunday, November 15th in the Fellowship Hall from 9 AM - 12 PM

CLUB 456 FALL RETREAT

This year, Club 456 will be taking a trip to the Laguna Christian Retreat Center in Panama City Beach, FL! We will be staying on the beach, just steps away from the ocean! On campus is a basketball court, a pool, and beach volleyball! On Sunday morning, we will attend Worship on the Water right on the beach!

DETAILS

- **Ages:** 4th- 6th Grade
- **Dates:** November 21st-24th
- **Location:** Laguna Christian Retreat Center in Panama City Beach, FL
- **Registration Deadline:** Sunday, November 1st
- **Cost:** \$190



YOUTH MINISTRY

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School - 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

We join together in the Youth Classroom and then break into smaller conversation groups.

SUNDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

- 4:30 - 5:30 PM - Service opportunities: Youth Choir, Children's Ministry, or Church A/V training
- 5:30 - 5:55 PM - Activity/Game in the Gym
- 6:00 - 6:20 PM - Dinner (\$5) in the Gym
- 6:25 - 7:00 PM - Worship in the youth worship center
- 7:00 - 7:30 PM - Age appropriate small groups

UPCOMING EVENTS

FALL RETREAT

- Friday, November 13th - Sunday, November 15th
- Our Fall Retreat is always a great time for students to get away from the busyness of school, grow spiritually, participate in fun activities, and build relationships in our group.
- Cost: \$100

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Our annual Progressive Dinner is a fun night where we travel around to the homes of church parishioners for a multi-course meal. Each home prepares one of the courses for the evening. It's a fun opportunity for our students and church family to come together to celebrate the Christmas season.

The Progressive Dinner will be on December 20th. The Progressive Dinner is free!

WINTER RETREAT: ROCK THE UNIVERSE

- Friday, January 23rd - Sunday, January 25th, 2026
- Rock the Universe is an unforgettable weekend of faith and fun. On Friday the 23rd and Saturday the 24th January 2026, experience powerful beats from Christian Music's brightest stars and thrilling rides at Universal Studios Florida.
- Registration Deadline: December 7th
- Cost: \$215

YOUTH MISSION TRIP

- Saturday, June 26th - Friday, July 2nd 2027
- Destination: Belize
- Student Cost: \$1000
- Chaperone Cost: \$1400

FUNDRAISERS:

PUMPKIN PATCH

- Pumpkin Unload #2 - Saturday, October 17th

- Patch will be open daily until Saturday, October 31st
- Tear down on Sunday, November 1st starting at 5:00 PM

All hours worked in the pumpkin patch by students and student families counts as paid hours. All money raised through hours worked will go into the student's account, which can be used for any church trip or activity. The pumpkin patch is our biggest fundraiser of the year and all are encouraged to participate!

PLEASE SCAN THIS QR CODE
FOR ALL YOUTH RELATED
REGISTRATIONS AND FORMS



EARLY EDUCATION **CENTER**

CHARACTER TRAIT: RESPECT

Our October character trait is **Respect**. Students are invited to wear yellow on **October 23** as we focus on showing honor and kindness to others.

“Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God and honor the King.” — 1 Peter 2:17

CLASSROOM THEMES AND BIBLE LESSONS

Our October classroom themes will include community helpers, the five senses, staying healthy, fall, leaves, pumpkins, and other seasonal topics. These themes will help children explore the world around them through stories, hands-on activities, observation, and play.

Our Bible lessons will include Zacchaeus, a five senses Bible mini lesson, Jesus Feeds 5,000, The Parable of the Pumpkin, and lessons on “Do Not Be Afraid” and taking the spooky out of Halloween.

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

- Pumpkin Patch - This month, our children and families will visit the OPMC Youth Pumpkin Patch. We will enjoy fall stories, explore the patch, and continue learning in the classroom about pumpkins and how they grow.
- Fire Prevention Month - The fire department will visit during Fire Prevention Month with a fire truck, equipment, and firefighter gear. This special visit helps children learn about fire safety in a memorable and engaging way.
- Picture Day - Our photographer will visit in October to take pictures of the children. We will share additional details with families as the date approaches.

SAVE THE DATE: TRUNK OR TREAT

On Wednesday, October 28. Children and families are invited to our annual Trunk or Treat. This fun evening will be coordinated by both the church and The Early Education Center and will include dinner.

As we enjoy this autumn season, we ask for your continued prayers for the safety of all our staff and children. The children will also be praying for all of you during chapel. Thank you for partnering with us and sharing your children with us each day. We are grateful for the joy they bring to our school family.

WONDERFUL **WEDNESDAYS** **DINNER PRICES**

ADULT - \$8 AND CHILD (ages 3-12) - \$6
Non-season reservations must be made weekly.
Please call 904-264-2241 ext. 278

October 7 - Pulled Pork, baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, cornbread and banana pudding
October 14 - Mexican Chicken with yellow rice, black beans, corn, garlic bread, salad and apple cobbler
October 21 - Meatloaf, broccoli, mashed potatoes, roll, salad and bread pudding
October 28 - BBQ Chicken, green beans, mac and cheese, cornbread, coleslaw and brownie

All Menus are subject to change.

ORANGE PARK **METHODIST MEN**

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall for our next meeting at 8:00 AM on Saturday, October 17, 2026. All men of the church are members of the Methodist Men and are encouraged to come and enjoy one of our delicious breakfasts prepared by one of our cook teams.

UPWARD

Upward Basketball and Cheer is back for our 19th season!
Online Registration is now open at <https://registration.upward.org/UPW91231>.

- Both Basketball and Cheer are for K/5-8th grade
- Take advantage of discounted registration until October 23 @ \$100 per participant, \$115 after October 23
- Skill evaluations will be October 24 from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (makeup on November 8)
- Practices start the week of November 30 and will be either Monday, Tuesday or Thursday from 6:00 - 7:00 PM or 7:15 - 8:15 PM
- Games are on Saturdays beginning January 9, 2027.
- Season end celebration on Monday, March 8 from 6-8pm

We need all types of Volunteers including coaches, referees, concessions, setup, etc. You can sign up to volunteer at <https://registration.upward.org/UPW91231/volunteer> or contact Steve Crowe at vanha19681@gmail.com or 803-479-9128.

MUSIC MINISTRY **JACKSONVILLE SYMPHONY** **CONCERT SERIES**

Are you ready for another exciting season with the Jacksonville Symphony? We have a wonderful lineup of concerts planned, and we'd love for you to join us! Tickets are \$40 per concert, and we will once again be enjoying Terrace seating, located above the stage, for most performances. This season, we've also added three extra concerts to the schedule, giving you even more opportunities to experience outstanding Classical music.

We'll also be attending the Holiday Pops Concert, with tickets available for \$60.

Your ticket price includes round-trip transportation, making it easy to sit back, relax and enjoy the evening. Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, as seating is limited. Payment is due at the time you reserve your ticket. The deadline to purchase tickets is one week prior to each concert. If you have any questions or would like to reserve your tickets, please contact Ruth Loomis at 904-264-2241 ext. 245

SYMPHONY CONCERT DATES

Fri. Nov. 6, 2026	Mahler's Ninth
Fri. Dec. 4, 2026	Holiday Pops (tickets \$60)
Fri. Jan. 8, 2027	Elgar's Cello & Second Symphony
Fri. Jan. 29, 2027	Tristan & Aida Suites w/ Chorus
Fri. Feb 19, 2027	Beethoven's "Eroica"
Fri. March 19, 2027	Tchaikovsky & Brahms
Fri. April 9, 2027	Ravel & Shostakovich
Fri. April 30, 2027	Rachmaninoff's First Symphony
Fri. May 21, 2027	Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto w/ Chorus
Fri. June 11, 2027	Beethoven's Ninth w/ Chorus

SENIOR ADULT **MINISTRY** **ROCK "N" AGES**

Start your month right by joining us at the Rock N' Ages Luncheon. It will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. The program will be presented by Jason Williams and he will discuss the youth ministry and their trip to Belize. Please bring a dish to go with pulled pork. Wearing a Halloween costume is encouraged. Invite a friend and join us. If you have questions, please call Cindy Koon at 904-210-3546.

BOOK CLUB

You are invited to attend our Book Club! We meet on the first Monday of every month to discuss the book that we just read. We meet in Room 1107 in Park Square at 5:00 PM. Here are the dates we are meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend.

October 5	December 7	February 1
November 2	January 4	March 1

For more information, please call Donna Macleod at 904-910-4227.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Here is a listing of the upcoming committee meetings

OCTOBER

Tuesday, October 6	Altar Guild - 5:00 PM
Tuesday, October 6	Trustees - 7:00 PM
Monday, October 12	Finance Committee - 6:00 PM
Monday, October 12	SPR - 7:00 PM
Tuesday, October 13	Church Council - 7:00 PM
Tuesday, October 13	Charge Conference (following the Church Council)

CHARGE CONFERENCE

There will be Charge Conference on October 13, 2026 in Room 1107. All members of the Church Council are encouraged to attend.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY EXTENDS OUR SYMPATHY To

The Family of Lee Jeter

STAFF DIRECTORY

Church phone number - 904-264-2241

PASTOR

Dr. Charles C. Lever, Sr. Pastor, ext. 273
clever@opmethodist.org

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Robyn Voigt, Director of Pastoral Communications, ext. 273
rvoigt@opmethodist.org
Debbie Frendahl, Director of Finance, ext. 281
dfrendahl@opmethodist.org
Mari Anne Peeples, Director of Congregational Care,
ext. 272; mpeeples@opmethodist.org

EDUCATIONAL STAFF

Ellen Despres, Director of Children and Adult Ministries,
ext. 243; edespres@opmethodist.org
Pat Noonan, Director of Early Education Center, ext. 230
pnoonan@opmethodist.org
Jason Williams, Director of Youth, ext. 282
jwilliams@opmethodist.org
John Thielen, Director of Culinary Services, ext. 235
jthielen@opmethodist.org
Connor Hanks, Facility Manager, ext. 273;
chanks@opmethodist.org

MUSIC STAFF

Nick Despres, Director of Music Ministries, ext. 236
ndespres@opmethodist.org
Ruth Loomis, Music Administrative Assistant, ext. 245
rloomis@opmethodist.org
Janice Reid, Accompanist, ext. 237

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

THE DOVE is a faith based publication of Orange Park Methodist Church. It is not a forum for community news, political debate or personal opinion. Submissions are to be made in Microsoft Word attachments sent via email to rvoigt@opmethodist.org. Space is limited. All submissions are subject to available space and are subject to approval and redaction at the sole discretion of the editor.

OCTOBER RECOGNITIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

Bob and Linda Renehan	10/04	23 years
Doug and Kyle Schutter	10/04	23 years
Noel and Cheryl Flowers	10/05	58 years
Dana and Sue Frandsen	10/05	41 years
Jason and Amber Gutierrez	10/06	8 years
Darrell and Melody White	10/07	37 years
Chris and Jamie Cioffi	10/09	22 years
Michael and Jennifer Moore	10/13	3 year
Brad and Rhonda Robinson	10/14	37 years
Steve and Donna Trumble	10/17	45 years
Tom and Terri Lee	10/18	45 years
Charles and Diana Costea	10/20	25 years
Buzz and Mary Johnson	10/23	16 years
Barron and Stasha Martin	10/24	6 years
Ken and Amy McMaster	10/28	31 years
Nate and Kristin Messler	10/28	9 years

BIRTHDAYS

Hayden Frandsen	10/01	Parker Schmidt	10/19
Brooks Frandsen	10/01	Julie Williams	10/19
Debbie Frendahl	10/02	Ken Kolz	10/19
Nicole Fleming	10/02	Sue Mikell-McGaha	10/19
Karen Morris	10/02	Sandy Carlson	10/20
Flavio Chavez	10/02	Wayne Holder	10/21
Nancy Reedy	10/03	Stacy Shelton	10/21
Mike Bossinger	10/03	Eden Foreman	10/21
Nancy Reedy	10/03	Judy Willey	10/21
Tara Bunn	10/04	Lilla Bonneval	10/22
Jacob Mansen	10/04	Michelle Mansen	10/22
James Link	10/05	Billie Flahive	10/23
Jerry Sidner	10/05	Margaret Lawshe	10/24
Jan Cagle	10/05	Lois Lambert	10/24
Danny Koon	10/05	David Livingston	10/24
Kathleen Rich	10/06	John Evans	10/24
Marywayne Wright	10/06	David Stevens	10/25
Jenny Chavez	10/06	Judy Fields	10/26
Caleb Pledger	10/06	Erin Mitchell	10/26
Gabriel Berberi	10/08	Doug Edwards	10/26
Cheryl Flowers	10/08	Donna Jefferson	10/26
Victor Claudio	10/09	Burma Habeck	10/27
Keith Litterick	10/09	Carol Klein	10/27
Jan Tucker	10/10	Matthew Drawdy	10/28
Tony Spasoff	10/12	Rhonda Robinson	10/28
Mitchell Feuerborn	10/12	Evan Strong	10/28
Carol Denton	10/12	Mary Virginia Fisher	10/28
Carol Studdard	10/13	Sue Wade	10/28
Nathan Reid	10/14	Steve Foster	10/28
Amber Gutierrez	10/14	Jennifer Pledger	10/28
Herman Sessions	10/16	Lisa Adams	10/29
Judy Goodwin	10/16	Kathryn Lofton	10/29
MaryAnn Harvey	10/16	Carolyn Hubbard	10/29
William Freehafer	10/16	Gianna Mansen	10/29
Angie Robinson	10/16	Brad Boyle	10/30
John Thielen	10/17	Danny Powers	10/30
Wendell Davis	10/18	Mary Hoskins	10/30
Sandy Knafelc	10/18	Mollie Sidner	10/31
Joy Harvey	10/18		