



ADVENT SERVICE AND BRUNCH

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023**

Come and Join
Our Church Family
for An Advent Service of Celebration
And An
Advent Brunch

**ADVENT SERVICE
OF
CELEBRATION AND THANKSGIVING**
10 AM in the Sanctuary
Sunday, December 24, 2023

AN ADVENT BRUNCH
Immediately following our
Advent Day Service
In the Family Life Center

ADVENT BRUNCH CUISINE
Eggs, Ham, Bacon, Sausage Patties,
French Toast, Sausage Gravy
Biscuits, Breakfast Potatoes,
Cheese Grits, Baked Apples
and Mini Muffins
\$3 per Adult
Children 12 and under eat free
(Reservations Required for All Who Attend)

RESERVATION AND PREPAYMENT REQUIRED

RSVP by December 19th by
filling out a RSVP envelope with your payment
RSVP envelopes will be in the pews

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

**5:00 PM
A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

A very special service presented by our children which retells the Christmas story through a processional, scripture, music, video, word and deed. A Christmas Classic and one that touches the hearts of all within the congregation with the wonderful message of the birth of Christ told from a child's perspective.

**7:00 PM
"A SERVICE OF
LESSONS, CAROLS AND CANDLES"**

A very special service which will proclaim the Christmas story through the traditional, wonderful and beloved lessons from scripture concerning Christ's birth. Our Chancel Choir will be accompanied by brass and strings as they provide special pieces and lead the congregation in the great Christmas hymns of the Christian faith. The service will also feature solos from Ann Tabor and Harold Voigt and will, of course, conclude with the lighting of our candles. This is a service that will truly delight and inspire those in attendance with the incredible gift of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Our service of "Lessons, Carols and Candles" has been adapted from an Order drawn up by E.W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for use in the wooden shed, which then served as his cathedral in Truro, at 10 pm on Christmas Eve 1880. It is considered a Christmas classic as it portrays the message of Christ's birth with all the familiar lessons from scripture and all the familiar and beloved Christmas carols which have warmed the hearts of every generation since.

**11:00 PM
"A SERVICE OF
LESSONS, CAROLS AND CANDLES"**

This is a very special service that is led by our Youth Choir and all those who have participated in the Youth Choir in our church on Christmas Eve in the past. It doesn't matter how young or old you are, this is the Christmas Eve Service where generations of our churches Youth Choir come together to make this evening special.

For those who are participating there will be a time of food and fellowship before the service beginning at 10:00 PM in the music center. The rehearsal will begin at 10:30 PM.

The service will be led by our current and former youth who will provide special music and lead the congregation in the beloved hymns of Christmas. The service will also have two featured solos by Jessica Voigt and Ben Reid and will conclude with the lighting of candles.

AN OLD SCHEDULE FOR THE NEW YEAR 2024

During the pandemic we adjusted the worship schedule to accommodate the needs at that time. Now, however, our needs are going back to prepandemic levels and we need to return to our prepandemic schedule.

For example,

- With Sunday School held between the two services, instead of during the two services, we have run out of classrooms.
- With the Sunday School following so tightly the 9:00 AM Service, our teachers have often had inadequate time to get their classes ready.
- With our children, they have found themselves attending two children's worship services and one Sunday School between 9:00 AM and 12:00 AM. In the new schedule they will attend one of each between 9:30 AM and 12:00 Noon with time in between for refreshments.
- With our children and youth, our adult parents who do not attend Sunday School, but want their children to, have said this could be accommodated if we go back to the old schedule where church would be available for the adults while the children and youth attended Sunday School.
- And, many have said they have missed the gathering time of fellowship in the Family Life Center because there is not enough time between church and Sunday School.

So, in order to accommodate more people, we are going back to the old time schedule.

9:30 AM — 10:30 AM— BLENDED WORSHIP SERVICE & CHILDREN'S, YOUTH AND SOME ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES.

10:30 AM — 11:00 AM—THE GATHERING FOR ADULTS & YOUTH IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER.

(continued on page two)

(continued from front page)

10:30 AM— 11:00 AM—THE GATHERING FOR CHILDREN IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.

11:00 AM — NOON— TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE & CHILDREN'S WORSHIP AND SOME ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES.

- ⇒ The Gathering will also be revised and updated providing a greater variety of food for youth and adults in the Family Life Center.
- ⇒ A special gathering for children between Sunday School and Worship will be held for the children in the Fellowship Hall featuring items like tater tots, chicken nuggets, juice and milk.
- ⇒ The special gathering for children will allow parents to drop off their children in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 AM and pick them up between 10:30 AM and 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Or parents can pick their children up following the 11:00 AM Service in the Fellowship Hall.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

WEEKLY EVENTS

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

- 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM during Worship services
- Grades K-6
- Located in the Fellowship Hall

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

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AT 10:00 AM

- 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
- Confirmation Class: Room 4221 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 Cub/ 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

DECEMBER 1ST-2ND: CONFIRMATION TRIP TO THE UNITED METHODIST CHILDRENS HOME IN ENTERPRISE, FL

- Our OPMC Confirmation class will attend an overnight visit to the UM Children's Home in Enterprise, FL
- All children at the home will receive a \$50 gift card and a Christmas dinner party hosted by our Confirmation class.
- The class will leave the church at 2 PM on Friday, December 1st and return between 3 and 4 PM on December 2nd.

DECEMBER 3RD - CHRISTMAS EVE 5:00 PM CHILDREN'S PROCESSIONAL SIGN UPS/COSTUME RETRIEVAL

- December 3rd from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM
- Located in the Fellowship Hall (Building #7)
- Minimum Age: 2 years, Maximum Grade: 3rd Grade
- Deadline to register - December 7th

DECEMBER 10TH - KIDS CLUB AND CLUB 456 PAJAMA CHRISTMAS PARTY

- Kids Club and Club 456 will meet at our usual time (4:30-7:30 PM) but with a holiday twist! We will have hot cocoa, Christmas games and crafts, and more! Don't forget to wear your Christmas pajamas!

DECEMBER 15TH - PARENTS NIGHT OUT CHRISTMAS PARTY

- Infant-6th Grade
- We will have hot cocoa, Christmas games and crafts, a special Christmas dinner, enjoy a visit from Santa, as well as watch the movie The Grinch Who Stole Christmas!

- Deadline to register - December 10th
- Cost: \$30 for the first child, \$15 for each additional child
- Drop Off: Family Life Center Gym (Building 5) at 5:30 PM
- Pick Up: Fellowship Hall (Building 7) by 9:30 PM

DECEMBER 16TH - CHRISTMAS EVE PROCESSIONAL REHEARSAL

- 9 AM to 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary
- Please have your child ready and in costume by 9 AM



DECEMBER 17TH - PASTOR HOSTS CHRISTMAS ICE CREAM BAR FOR KIDS CLUB AND CLUB 456

- After our usual Sunday evening programming and dinner, the Kids Club and Club 456 will attend an Ice Cream Bar Party at the Lever's home from 6:30- 7:15 PM.
- Pick Up will be in the Fellowship Hall (Building 7) at 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 24TH- 5:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE PROCESSIONAL SERVICE

- Invite your family and friends to enjoy this beloved Christmas Eve Worship Service which highlights the children of our Early Education Center and Orange Park Methodist Church
- Please have your child ready and in costume by 4:15 PM in the Sanctuary

JANUARY 3RD- KIDS CLUB AND CLUB 456 WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY DINNER & MOVIE NIGHT

- This will be a fun night of good food and fellowship for our Kids Club and Club 456 children
- After attending Wonderful Wednesday Dinner together, we will go to the Fellowship Hall to watch the movie, Klaus!
- Cost: \$5.00
- Drop Off: 5 PM in the Family Life Center Gym (Building 5)
- Pick Up: 8:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall (Building 7)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5TH - WINTER WONDERLAND KIDS CAMP - NO SCHOOL - WINTER BREAK

- We will be going Ice Skating!
- Drop Off: 7:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall (Building 7)
- Pick Up: 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall (Building 7)
- Cost: \$35.00 which includes breakfast, lunch, 2 snacks, activities, and an ice skating trip to Community First Igloo on Phillips Hwy!



JANUARY 28TH - CAROL CHOIR DINNER AT CICI'S PIZZA

- Carol Choir (1st-3rd Grade) will have a special celebratory dinner at Cici's Pizza from 5:30- 6:30 PM for all their hard work!
- Carol choir will be picked up as usual in the Fellowship Hall by 7:30 PM.
- \$5 Per child for dinner



For more information on OPMC Children's Ministry or if you would like to be added to the weekly email, contact Director of Children and Adult Ministries, Ellen Despres at 904-264-2241 ext. 243 or edespres@opmethodist.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

- Every Sunday morning, 10 AM - 10:45 AM
- We join together in the Youth Worship Center and then break into smaller conversation groups.
- 7th - 8th grade: Youth Worship Center
- 9th - 12th grade: Youth Classroom

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

(continued from front page)

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- 7:00 - 7:30 PM - Age appropriate small groups

All of the children’s choirs look forward to singing for the Christmas Eve 5:00 PM service! Come see all the children from our church and the Early Education Center portray the story of Christ’s birth!

ReGENERATION CHOIR

Calling all TLC alumni - we need you! Everyone is invited to sing in the TLC/ReGeneration Choir on Christmas Eve at the 11:00 PM service. We will meet in the choir room at 10:00 PM for food, fellowship and a rehearsal at 10:30 PM. We always look forward to seeing our returning alumni, tell your friends!

Things are pretty busy in the Music Center. Are you interested in joining a choir? We have something for everyone!

UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

The Chancel Choir will be singing a Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 10, at both the 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM services. We are just starting the music so if you are interested in singing with the choir, now is the perfect time to join. Rehearsals are Thursdays in the Music Center, Building #2 from 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM. If you have any questions, please call Nick or Ruth 264-2241 ext. 245.

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, December 12th, 2023 (note the change in date) at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Come join the group for a entertaining program with Nick and Ellen Despres. Please bring a side dish to go with pot roast. Invite a friend and join us. If you have questions, please call Cindy Koon at 904-210-3546.

MISSIONS

NIMBLE NEEDLES

Looking for a ministry to share your creative, crafty talents? Or just looking to put your unused fabrics and yarn to good use? Nimble Needles welcomes you and/or your donations! Members of this unique ministry create items of comfort for Clay County residents who are in less than desirable circumstances. Those in nursing homes and rehabilitation centers, assisted living and memory care centers, Quigley House, etc. Our handmade items include lap robes, wheelchair and walker totes, shawls, bibs, fidget quilts, baby blankets, and youth quilts. Perhaps you have an item of comfort, you’d like to see created. We share ideas, patterns, and donated items, as well as create great friendships. Nimble Needles meets every second Wednesday of the month in Room 6202 in the FLC at 10:00 AM. Donations of yarn and fabric can be dropped off at the church office between 8 AM - 4 PM, Monday through Friday. Join us and help make a difference in our community!

UPWARD

Announcing OPMC’s 17th UPWARD Season. Registration runs through December 8th (\$100). Ages for both basketball and cheerleading go from K-12th Grade. Practice for K-1st, 2-3rd, and 4-5th will be on Monday or Tuesdays and 6-8th & 9-12th will practice on Thursdays. Games will be on Saturdays starting on January 6th and running though March 2nd. Practices began the week after thanksgiving. We will be in great need of volunteers as we expand the league back to include high school. Registration links are below:
Online Player Registration: <https://registration.upward.org/UPW84852>
Volunteer Registration: <https://registration.upward.org/UPW84852/volunteer>

OUR CHURCH FAMILY
EXTENDS OUR SYMPATHY
To

The family of Frank Wouters
Leel Knowles in the death of his daughter, Melissa Knowles
Dave Mosborg in the death of his mother,
Stella Mae Mosborg

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.

DECEMBER
RECOGNITIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

Jim and Dolores Pierson	12/06	65 years
Peter and Wanda Hellman	12/13	54 years
Daniel and Andrea LaBelle	12/14	21 years
Richard and Sybil Carlson	12/17	63 years
Jeff and Julie Hill	12/21	21 years
Gordon and Linda Reynolds	12/21	37 years
Mike and Robin Bossinger	12/22	16 years
Rod and Mary Virginia Fisher	12/24	41 years
Martha and Jerry Avinger	12/27	54 years
Mike and Linda Zelenka	12/27	54 years
Mike and Deborah Terry	12/27	48 years
Ben and Mary Miciano	12/28	46 years

BIRTHDAYS

Bob Renehan	12/01	Judy Bily	12/17
Linda Reynolds	12/02	Wanda Tison	12/18
Tim Helms	12/03	Sybil Carlson	12/18
Jan Shockley	12/03	Kyle Schutter	12/18
Charles Oglesby	12/04	Dan Schultz	12/19
Trey Wilkins	12/04	Lynda Schmierer	12/20
Ruth Loomis	12/05	Mona Gardella	12/20
Chris Neglia	12/05	Frank Putnam	12/20
Cyndy Barnes	12/05	Sandy Davis	12/20
Stacey White	12/05	Josef Banks	12/20
Paul Cummins	12/06	Judith Matthews	12/20
Isabella Costea	12/06	John Pace	12/21
Sharon Summers	12/07	Kaitlyn LaBelle	12/21
Dianna White	12/08	Noel Flowers	12/23
Piper Coleman	12/08	Doug Schutter	12/24
Curtis Schmidt	12/10	Marcia Figueroa	12/24
Mary Miciano	12/10	Cathy Jones	12/24
Kate Bowles	12/11	John Bowles	12/25
Ridge Corbin	12/11	Allen Turpish	12/25
Pat Osbron	12/11	Janet Robertson	12/26
Linda Jones	12/12	Alisa Jones	12/26
Debbie White	12/13	Holly Fulton	12/27
Adam Eiswerth	12/13	Galen Bills	12/27
Ben Reid	12/13	Bob Harvey	12/27
Traci Foreman	12/14	Kyndall Magin	12/27
Cindy Koon	12/14	Eric Boismier	12/27
Bill Adams	12/16	Ronald Adams	12/28
Charlie Yow	12/16	Ben Miciano	12/28
Tom Lee	12/16	Linda Yow	12/29
Harold Voigt	12/16	Bob Reynolds	12/29
Becky Wall	12/16	Maxwell Wilder	12/29
Ian Killian	12/16	Loree French	12/30
Stacy Johnson	12/16	Kathy Roberts	12/30
Charles Costea	12/17	Daniel Adams	12/31
Joshua Volpe	12/17		