



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE & DINNER

Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 6:00 PM

MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER

(IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE)

in the Family Life Center Gym

You must have made a reservation to
attend the dinner

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Friday, April 3, 2026

7:00 PM

Tenebrae Service

EASTER SERVICES

Sunday, April 5, 2026

9:30 AM

and

11:00 AM

RESIDING HOPE CHILDREN'S HOME LUNCHEON

April 19th following the 11:00 AM Service

On April 19, 2026 we will be holding a very special event. Elisabeth Gadd, from the Children's Home will be sharing with us the wonderful way in which we are not only bringing up the next generation of Christian Disciples in our church but how we are bringing up those outside of our church family into the Kingdom of God through the Children's Home.

On the gate of the Children's Home it reads, "One never stands so tall as when they stoop low to help a child." The Children's Home has long been a ministry of our church family and we have not simply paid lip service to our commitment. Over the last ten years our church has given \$739,087.57 to the Children's Home.

This is truly a time of celebration. Come and join us for a complimentary lunch of Meat Loaf & Gravy, Seasoned Pork Tenderloin, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Squash Casserole, Seasoned Italian Green Beans, Honey Glazed Carrots, Tossed Salad, Rolls and Banana Pudding. Lunch is free! Reservations for lunch are required by April 12th.

For Reservations Call Debbie Frendahl at 904-264-2241, Extension 281

MUSIC MISSION AUCTION

Friday, April 24th at 5:30 PM in the Gym

The Music Auction will be an incredible opportunity to experience live entertainment, a phenomenal meal, a silent auction with wonderful offerings and a live action to follow.

The sole purpose of this auction is to provide additional funding for our choirs to be in the community. This will support transportation, travel expenses, refurbishing of instruments as required and other expenses related to our choir's expanded ministry and mission.

Tickets can be purchased from any choir member, the music office or the church office. If you have a new item or service to donate to the auction, please contact the music department at 904-264-2241 x245.

The cost of each ticket will be \$20.00 and will include a festive meal of Chicken Marsala, Roasted Broccoli, Glazed Carrots, Caesar Salad, Bread and Éclair Pie. Music will be provided by Stephen Fennell. The admission ticket will also provide access to the silent auction and participation in the live auction. Children's Event with dinner (ages up to 11 yrs. Old). Tickets are \$6.00 each. Nursery is available upon request. Truly a night to be remembered!

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 17TH: PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

- Dinner, crafts & activities, and watch a movie on the big screen!
- \$20 for 1st child, \$15 for each additional child
- Drop off: 5:30 PM in the Family Life Center Lobby
- Pick up: No later than 9:30 PM in the Family Life Center Lobby
- Scan the QR Code to Register by Sunday, April 12th



WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY SUMMER KIDS CAMP 2026

- Kids Camp is a single day version of our summer Vacation Bible Camp. This ministry is a full day program from 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM. The purpose of this ministry is to meet the needs of the families in our church and community, while teaching children about Jesus Christ. The day includes breakfast, lunch, two snacks, an exciting field trip & other activities. If interested in volunteering, please contact Ellen Despres at edespres@opmethodist.org or (904) 264-2241 ext. 243
- Cost: \$40.00 per child
- To register your child, please visit www.opmethodist.org or email Ellen Despres at edespres@opmethodist.org

KIDS CAMP DATES & ACTIVITIES:

- Wednesday, June 3rd: Horseback Riding at Batton Family Ranch
- Wednesday, June 10th: Pinball Palace in Brunswick, GA
- Wednesday, June 17th: Swimming & Splash Pad at Green Cove Springs City Pool
- Wednesday, June 24th: Skating at Skate Station
- Wednesday, July 1st: Sweet Pete's Lollipop Making Class
- Wednesday, July 8th: Bowling, Laser Tag & Arcade at Batt Family Fun Center
- Wednesday, July 15th: IMAX at Epic Theatres Oakleaf
- Wednesday, July 29th: Swimming at Madison Blue Springs

VACATION BIBLE CAMP 2026- RAINFOREST FALLS

Step through the mist into Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees, and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys,

kids plunge into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God. They'll explore what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their creator, a safe place in life's storms.

- Dates: July 20-24, 2026
- 7:30 AM-5:30 PM Daily
- Includes breakfast, lunch, two snacks, exciting field trips and experiences, and more!
- Grades PreK- Rising 6th Graders
- Exciting field trips and experiences including Summer Waves Water Park, Marine Dolphin Adventure, Falling Creek Falls State Park, Dave & Busters & more!

COST AND PAYMENTS

- Participant Cost: \$210 per child
- \$100 Refundable Deposit Due Upon Registration. (Full refunds on deposits/payments are available if cancellation is on or before June 22nd)
- Youth/Adult Volunteer Cost: \$90 per person (this cost covers field trips, shirt, and meals)
- Deadline for Registration & Final Payment - June 22nd
- To register your child, or to register as a volunteer, scan the QR Code:



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

GRADUATING SENIORS

Graduation is right around the corner! We are honored that over the years you have let Orange Park Methodist Church be a part of raising your child in the faith! To celebrate their accomplishments and the next chapter of their life we will recognize graduating seniors on May 24th in the 11 AM service.

To have your senior recognized in the worship service, please register them. You can do so by scanning the QR Code below and filling out the brief form. Thank you so much and congratulations to our seniors!

SPRING CONFIRMATION RETREAT

- Friday, May 1st – Sunday, May 3rd
- This is the first retreat that our rising 7th graders/ confirmation students can participate in. We look forward to having a big group this year! There are opportunities to kayak or enjoy their slip-and-slide into the lake. This year we are going to have tubing in the lake!
- Register by scanning the QR code below and clicking the event
- Cost: \$80

YOUTH MISSION TRIP: BELIZE

- Saturday, June 20th - Friday, June 26th
- Destination: Belize
- Partner Organization: Praying Pelican Missions
- We are returning to Belize to continue our partnership with Mark and Shari Somerville.
- Cost: Youth - \$900 Adults - \$1300
- Register by scanning the QR code below and clicking the event



YOUTH SUMMER ACTIVITIES

ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH & MINI GOLF

- Thursday June 4th, 2026
- Destination: St. Augustine, FL
- Cost: \$40

BOWLING AND LASER TAG

- Thursday, June 11th, 2026
- Destination: Jacksonville, FL
- Cost: \$40

SUMMER WAVES

- Thursday, June 18th, 2026
- Destination: Jekyll Island, GA
- Cost: \$40

MOVIE DAY

- Thursday, July 2nd, 2026
- Destination: Oakleaf, FL
- Cost: \$40

ICHETUCKNEE RIVER FLOAT

- Thursday, July 9th, 2026
- Destination: Ichetucknee Springs, FL
- Cost: \$40

JACKSONVILLE DAY

- Thursday, July 16th, 2026
- Destination: Jacksonville, FL
- Cost: \$40

NEPTUNE PARK AND PINBALL PALACE

- Thursday, July 30th, 2026
- Destination: St. Simon’s Island / Brunswick, GA
- Cost: \$40

Events are all day from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Register for all events by scanning the QR Code above and selecting the correct link.

EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

This month our curriculum themes will include teaching our children that they can pray, Let’s Move it, How Things Grow, and Planting. Throughout gardening and planting week, we will take time to explain about God’s World. We will also be talking to the children about how God makes people grow and how things in the world change.

Our Bible Stories will include The Last Supper, Easter which we will teach through the Resurrection eggs, The Lord is My Shepherd, and The Parable of the Sower.

There will be a military service person come and give awards to our military children for Military Child Month. We will wear purple on April 18th to celebrate all military.

On April 22nd we will teach children about God and nature. Our Character trait for April is self-control and students will wear green on April 26th.

If you or your friends are interested in having your child attend the Early Education Center, registration is ongoing. Call the EEC office at 904-264-7330 for more information.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS DINNER PRICES

ADULT - \$8 AND CHILD (ages 3-12) - \$5
Non-season reservations must be made weekly.
Please call 904-264-2241 ext. 278

- April 1** - no Wonderful Wednesday dinner due to the Maundy Thursday dinner
April 8 - Meatloaf with gravy, Italian green beans, mashed potatoes, roll, salad and blueberry white chocolate bread pudding
April 15 - Pulled pork, baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, cornbread and banana pudding
April 22 - BBQ Chicken, field peas, macaroni and cheese, roll, Caesar salad and strawberry cake

April 29 - Salisbury Steak with gravy, roasted carrots, garlic mashed potatoes, roll, salad and brownie with fudge icing

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, April 18, 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.

MUSIC MINISTRY

UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

Come join a choir! With the new school year starting this is a perfect time to join a choir. There are choirs for everyone from ages 5 years to 99+ years. Everyone is welcome!

- CAROL CHOIR** - K through 3rd grade - meets Sunday at 5:30 PM - 6:10 PM in the Music Center
- Carol Choir is part of the Sunday Kids Club and sings several Sundays through out the year.

- JAM** (J.esus A.nd M.e Choir) - 4th through 6th grade - meets Sundays at 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM in the Music Center
- JAM Choir is part of Club 456 on Sundays and sings for several services, including World Communion, Christmas Eve Processional, their own Children’s musical and they go on an annual choir trip.

- ReGENERATION** - 7th through 12th grade - meets Sundays 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM in the Music Center
- ReGeneration is a vocal youth ensemble who sings for Worship services throughout the year including Advent, Christmas Eve, Lent and Easter. They present a Dinner Theater in the Spring and go on a Choir Tour in the summer.

- CHANCEL CHOIR** - Adult Choir - meets Thursdays 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM in the Music Center
- The Chancel Choir involves singers with varying levels of experience. They sing for the 11:00 AM worship service every Sunday and for Advent, Christmas Eve, Lent and Easter.

- INSPIRATIONS** - Women’s Choir - meets Thursdays 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM in the Music Center Rehearsal Room
- The Inspirations is a Women’s choir for experienced singers. They sing several Sundays throughout the year including Advent, Christmas Eve, Lent and Easter.

- DYNAMICS** - Men’s Choir - meets Thursdays 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM in the Music Center Room 2103
- The Dynamics is a Men’s choir for experienced singers. They sing several Sundays throughout the year including Advent, Christmas Eve, Lent and Easter.

- CHANCEL BELLS** - meets Tuesdays 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary
- The Chancel Bells play several Sundays throughout the year. Music reading skills are helpful but not required

- PRAISE BAND** - meets Tuesdays 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM in the Sanctuary
- The Praise Band sings for the 9:00 AM worship service every Sunday and for Advent, Christmas Eve, Lent and Easter. Please contact Nick Despres if you are interested in the Praise Band at (904) 264-2241 ext. 236.

If you are interested in any of the choirs or have questions please call the Music Center 904-264-2241 ext. 245.

If you love music and want to know more about it we do offer a **Music Theory class** on Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM in the Music Center. Doug Westberry, the Director of the Inspirations, is the teacher and makes it fun to learn. Come join us!

Do you want to go to the Symphony? We have a couple more dates that we have planned to attend the Jacksonville Symphony as a group. We sit in the Terrace seating area that

is above the stage. The Ticket price for Terrace seating this year is \$35.00. All tickets must be paid in advance of each Concert; sorry no refunds. We will use the church bus or vans for transportation to and from the concert.

Concert Dates:
Friday May 15th Beethoven’s Triple & Brahms
Friday June 5th Rachmaninoff’s Third

If you are interested in attending any of these please contact John Banton or Ruth Loomis 904-264-2241 ext. 245.

SENIOR ADULT
MINISTRY
ROCK “N” AGES

This is an exciting month for Rock “N” Ages! We are going to the fair on April 7th. Entrance fee is free for Seniors 55+. We will take the church vehicles and leave the church at 9:15 AM. We will return at 4:00 PM. You must make a reservation for a spot on the church vehicle. Please call Connie Eden at 904-343-5612 to reserve a spot or ask questions.

We will have our regular monthly meeting on April 14th at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. We are having a true pot luck so bring your favorite dish. The program will be Bingo.

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. Everyone is welcome to attend.

April 13 (note the date change)
May 4
June 1
July 5

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

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Here is a listing of the upcoming committee meetings. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM.

APRIL	
Tuesday, April 7	Altar Guild
Monday, April 20	SPR Meeting
Tuesday, April 21	Trustee’s Meeting
Monday, April 27	Finance Committee
Tuesday, April 28	Church Council

OUR CHURCH FAMILY
EXTENDS OUR SYMPATHY
To

Robyn Voigt in the death of her stepfather, George Wright
Ellen Hill in the death of her brother, Larry Curry

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,
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Jason Williams, Director of Youth, ext. 282
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John Thielen, Director of Culinary Services, ext. 235
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Connor Hanks, Facility Manager, ext. 273;
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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, Organist and 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.

APRIL
RECOGNITIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

Eddie and Bev Dayrit	04/05	40 years
Russ and Sandy Carlson	04/06	58 years
Charlie and Ginger Aiken	04/07	64 years
Paul and Diane Burshuliak	04/07	42 years
Nicole and Jason Strong	04/09	15 years
Dick and Chris Keyworth	04/10	60 years
Sean and Amy Cronin	04/11	39 years
David and Ruth Boyer	04/16	55 years
Jon and Adrienne Mansen	04/16	22 years
Bob and Shirley Reynolds	04/17	66 years
Bob and Pat Johnson	04/20	35 years
Scott and Kelley Drawdy	04/24	33 years
Andrew and Michelle Mansen	04/29	9 years
Steve and Miriam Crowe	04/30	60 years

BIRTHDAYS

Brady Boyle	04/01	Anna Mather	04/17
Bonnie Bailey	04/02	Carol Wright	04/18
Delaine Robertson	04/03	Sheila Holder	04/18
Robbie Swart	04/03	Savannah Olsson	04/18
Mike Neglia	04/04	Xiommy Lever	04/18
Sandra Balestracci	04/04	Carol Smith	04/19
Audrey Freehafer	04/04	Pete Davis	04/20
Janet Connolly	04/05	Paul Frendahl	04/20
Pam Jacobs	04/05	Robyn Voigt	04/20
Diana Costea	04/05	Robert Meadows	04/21
Tina Martin	04/05	Julie Griffis	04/21
Barbara Broach	04/06	Brian Boatright	04/21
Hannah Brown	04/06	Carter Feuerborn	04/21
Hayden Roth	04/07	Alex Pledger	04/21
Jeffrey Lampos	04/07	Terri Lee	04/22
Betty Sullivan	04/09	Glen Oakes	04/23
Susan Lampos	04/09	Pat Dougher	04/25
Pat DeVries	04/10	C. J. Brown	04/26
Adam Drawdy	04/13	Micki Kramer	04/26
Emory Thomas	04/13	Tonya Wilson	04/27
Madelyn Christofoli	04/14	Mario Hernandez	04/27
Maxwell Pledger	04/14	Kresten Mansen	04/27
Sue Frandsen	04/15	Adrienne Mansen	04/28
Jade King	04/15	Charley Dellinger	04/29
Carol Palmer	04/16	Holly Turner	04/29
Gavin Chandler	04/16	Barbara Evans	04/29
Carlee Griffis	04/16	Claire Evans	04/29
Beth Walker	04/16	Stafford Davis	04/30
Lowell Steely	04/16	Gretchen Brechler	04/30
Ross Arrowood	04/16	Zachary Banks	04/30
Gray Chandler	04/17	Landon Manning	04/30
Keller Volpe	04/17		