



NEW SANCTUARY BATHROOMS

The Trustees are pleased to announce the commencement of the renovation of the Narthex Bathrooms and the addition of three quiet rooms.

The quiet rooms will be for mothers who are nursing and for those who have special needs requiring them to view the services in private. The quiet rooms will have video monitors and speakers for live viewing of the services in the sanctuary and will have special soundproofing.

The men's and women's bathrooms will be enlarged to accommodate more people. There will be more stalls that will be equipped with tankless toilets so that individuals can move in and out of the bathrooms so they can return to services more quickly. The renovation will begin the week of Christmas and will take five to six weeks to complete.

During the renovation, the men's bathroom and the women's bathroom will be out of commission. So, we have arranged for the bathrooms in the Music Suite, to be available before, during and after services each Sunday.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause temporarily as we seek to improve the facilities that are required to serve you better.

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.**

**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 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
- Confirmation Class: Room 4221 in the Education Building

CHILDREN'S GATHERING: 10:30 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 for 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 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

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)



RESCHEDULED- JANUARY 4TH-5TH: CONFIRMATION TRIP TO THE UNITED METHODIST CHILDRENS HOME IN ENTERPRISE, FL

- All children at the home received a \$50 gift card for Christmas, thanks to all of your generous donations!
- Our OPMC Confirmation class will attend an overnight visit to the UM Children's Home in Enterprise, FL
- Our Confirmation Class will host a New Year's dinner party for the Children's Home during their stay
- After completing a volunteer opportunity at the home, the class will leave OPMC at 2 PM on Thursday, January 4th, and return between 3 and 4 PM on Friday, January 5th.

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

- We will be going ice skating, playing winter games, enjoying an ice cream bar, and watching a winter movie!
- 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, ice cream bar, 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 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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

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

- 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

WINTER SKI RETREAT

- Friday, January 12th - Monday, January 15th
- Stay at Boone UMC in Boone, NC
- 2 days of skiing or snowboarding at Appalachian Ski Mountain
- We are going back to Appalachian Ski Mountain for a quieter skiing experience.
- Be praying for us on this trip!

SPRING RETREAT

Our Spring Retreat will be Friday, May 10 - 12, 2024 and will be at the North Florida Christian Retreat Center in Keystone Heights. We have a cabin on the water with a beautiful view. 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! This is first retreat that our rising 7th graders/confirmation students can participate in. We look forward to having a big group this year!

- The Spring Retreat cost is \$50



SUMMER MISSION TRIP

- Sunday, July 6th - Saturday, July 13th
- Destination: Western Kentucky (La Center)
- Mission Organization: Team Effort
- All the details about the trip are available by clicking the registration link



FUNDRAISERS

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT FUNDRAISER

Youth and parents lead kids 0-6th grade in games and crafts, serve dinner, and end the night with a movie in the Fellowship Hall. The proceeds from PNO go directly to the accounts of the students who work the event. Contact Ellen Despres to sign up. She can be reached at 264-2241 ext. 243.

UPCOMING DATES

- January 19th

YOUTH ACCOUNTS

Each student can earn money for use on trips and events that are held in an account for them. Students can earn money working Parent's Night Out events and our biggest fundraiser, the Pumpkin Patch. If you have any questions about youth accounts or would like to check your student's account balance, you can contact Jason at 264-2241 ext. 282.

REGISTERING FOR EVENTS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

To register for any upcoming youth event or volunteer opportunity please visit www.youth.opmethodist.org and click on the events page. Under the description of each event you will find a registration link.

WEEKLY YOUTH EMAIL UPDATES

If you would like to receive a weekly update on youth ministry events through email, please contact Jason Williams at jwilliams@opmethodist.org.

EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

We are glad to be back sharing God's Word with the children and hope that all of you have a happy and healthy New Year. Our themes for this month are: Observing Weather, The Four Seasons, Outer Space, Pets and At the Farm. Our Bible Lessons will include Noah and the Very First Rainbow, God Made the Seasons, Martin Luther King, Pets are a Blessing and God Made the Animals. We are so excited to announce that Ms. Ellen does Chapel every Thursday along with Ms. Martha and Mr. Nick. Mr. Nick and Ms. Martha also teach music every Tuesday with the children.

During the week of January 15th we will be setting up for our annual Florida "Snow" week. The children will be able to experience snowballs, cold, ice and different aspects of snow and cold.

We also look forward to Gray Chandler coming to visit with the children and teaching them about train safety.

Our Character Trait for January is Fairness, and our children will wear orange on January 28th. We will be teaching the children that there is no partiality with God.

The Wonderworks Early Education Center staff would like to wish all the members of the church A Happy and Healthy New Year! Please continue praying for the staff, parents, and children in the Wonderworks Early Education Center.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

DINNER PRICES

ADULT - \$7 AND CHILD (ages 3-12) - \$5

NEW SEASON BEGINS IN JANUARY

Adult - \$56 and Child - \$45 (January and February)

Non-season reservations must be made weekly.

Please call 904-264-2241 ext. 278

January 3 - Chicken Parmesan with noodles, vegetables, succotash, garlic bread, Caesar salad and carrot cake

January 10 - Salisbury Steak with gravy, carrots, potatoes, roll, salad and chocolate cake

January 17 - Hawaiian Pork, rice with gravy, vegetable medley, sweet potato casserole, coleslaw, cornbread and pineapple upside down cake

January 24 - Chicken Lemon' with rice and gravy, broccoli, corn, roll, Caesar salad and lemon cake.

January 31 - Meatloaf with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, roll and blueberry cake

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, January 20, 2024. 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.

ORANGE PARK METHODIST WOMEN

COME JOIN A CIRCLE

Deborah Circle

Co-Chairs Diantha Owen (699-0882) and
Connie Eden (343-5612)

Meets 4th Tuesday at 7:00 PM

Meets in Fellowship Hall

Elizabeth Circle

Chair - Janet Connolly (292-9396)

Meets 3rd Thursday at 9:30 AM

Meets in Fellowship Hall

Mary Lydia Circle

Chair - Cindy Koon (210-3546)

Meets 3rd Wednesday at 10:00 AM

Meets in Fellowship Hall

MUSIC MINISTRY

Happy New Year from the Music Department! We are so excited for this coming year and we have lots of activities, trip and musicals planned. This is the perfect time to join a choir as we are starting all new music and we have a choir for all ages:

CHILDREN/YOUTH

- Carol Choir (1st - 3rd grades) meets Sundays 5:30 PM to 6:10 PM
- JAM Choir (4th - 6th grades) meets Sundays 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
- ReGeneration Ensemble (7th - 12th grades) meets on Sundays 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

- Chancel Bells (Handbell Choir) meets on Tuesdays 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
- Praise Band (Praise & Worship-must audition) meets on Tuesdays 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
- Dynamics (Men's Ensemble) meets on Thursdays 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
- Inspirations (Women's Ensemble) meets on Thursdays 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
- Chancel Choir (Adult Choir) meets on Thursdays 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

If you are interested in any of these choirs, please contact the Music Center 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, January 2, 2024 at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Come join the group for a time of fellowship. Please bring a side dish to go with Italian casserole.

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!

CARE MINISTRY

Please think about volunteering to brighten one of our shut-in's day with a visit, a phone call or a card...or all three. We are also looking for people to help deliver flowers once a

month to our shut ins. These are people that once attended faithfully and due to age, health issues or both are no longer able to. Let's help them know they haven't been forgotten. If you are interested in being a part of this team, please contact Mari Anne Peeples at 264-2241, ext. 272.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

USHERS

We need ushers at both the 9:30 and 11:00 AM worship services. Ushers are responsible for handing out bulletins, greeting the congregation members as well as helping collect the offering. They rotate on a weekly basis. If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Mari Anne Peeples at 264-2241 x272.

COMMUNION SERVERS

If you are interested in helping serve Communion at either the 9:30 or 11:00 AM worship service, please contact Mari Anne Peeples at 264-2241 x272.

COMMUNION SET UP

We need help setting up Communion on the 4th Sunday of each month at the 9:30 AM service. Please call Mari Anne Peeples if you are interested in helping.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Here is a listing of the upcoming committee meetings.

JANUARY

Tuesday, January 2	Altar Guild
Monday, January 8	SPR Meeting
Tuesday, January 9	Trustee's Meeting
Monday, January 22	Finance Committee
Tuesday, January 23	Church Council

OUR CHURCH FAMILY EXTENDS OUR SYMPATHY To

Kyle Schutter and family in the death of her father,
Bill Kirklin
Harmen Heeg in the death of his brother, Ted Heeg
Glen Oakes in the death of his son, Mike Oakes
Belinda Spasoff in the death of her sister, Beverly Cholley

STAFF DIRECTORY

Church phone number - 264-2241

PASTORS

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

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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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.

JANUARY RECOGNITIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

Randy and Tara Bunn	01/02	35 years
Dale and Marilyn Freeman	01/08	69 years
David and Janet Ballantine	01/21	39 years
Wilbur and Sue Anne Rubright	01/27	33 years
Joe and Peggy Grantham	01/29	51 years
Toby and Janyce Coussens	01/30	58 years

BIRTHDAYS

Sara Burge	01/01	John Norton	01/17
Dale Freeman	01/01	Margaret Burrow	01/17
Jerry Habeck	01/02	Julia Cramer	01/18
Nancy Garrett	01/03	Leel Knowles	01/19
Jose Claudio	01/03	Jill Schmidt	01/19
Kelley Drawdy	01/04	Lillian Bell	01/20
Jacob Butacan	01/04	Britt Stephens	01/20
Peggy Stone	01/05	Tyler Fleming	01/20
Brenna LaBelle	01/06	Brodie Moses	01/21
Fran Dedmon	01/06	Ken Eberlein	01/21
Jennifer Hoprich	01/08	Lauren Magin	01/21
Oliver Manning	01/08	Kelsey Eiswerth	01/22
Alicia Turpish	01/08	Aedan Bonneval	01/22
George Martin	01/08	Mary Johnson	01/23
Bill Bazemore	01/08	Sharon Noel	01/24
Emma Banton	01/08	Sharlene Schlichtman	01/24
Linda Renehan	01/09	Andrew Turpish	01/24
Hailey Fleming	01/09	Karen Toth	01/24
Marti Boatright	01/10	Kitty Baker	01/25
Kathleen Rowlinson	01/10	Dave Conaway	01/25
Richard Carden	01/11	Norma Allgood	01/25
Kathy Wray	01/11	Joanna Armistead	01/26
Dave Bily	01/12	Logan Seeley	01/26
Carolyn Sellars	01/13	Catelyn Waters	01/27
Dorothy Davis	01/13	William Strong	01/27
Pat McCarty	01/13	Anna Freehafer	01/28
Sandy Austin	01/14	Jim Reape	01/28
Charlotte Terry	01/14	Mark Meier	01/28
Andrew Mansen	01/14	Norman Jones	01/28
Geneva Gray	01/14	Ashlyn Eden	01/29
Lee Lobello	01/15	Mindy Maconi	01/30
Ray White	01/16	Lynn Murphey	01/31
Stasha Martin	01/16	Martha Reid	01/31
Kris Wahl	01/17	Michael Griffis	01/31