



ADVENT SERVICE AND BRUNCH

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024**

**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 22, 2024**

**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
\$5 per Adult
Children 3 - 12 are \$3
2 and younger are free
(Reservations Required for All Who Attend)

RESERVATION AND PREPAYMENT REQUIRED
RSVP by December 15th by
filling out an RSVP envelope with your payment
RSVP envelopes will be in the pews

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024

**5:00 PM
A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
FEATURING THE CHILDREN OF ORANGE PARK METHODIST
AND THE EARLY EDUCATION CENTER**

**7:00 PM
"A SERVICE OF
LESSONS, CAROLS AND CANDLES"
FEATURING THE CHANCEL CHOIR
AND A STRING ENSEMBLE**

**11:00 PM
"A SERVICE OF
LESSONS, CAROLS AND CANDLES"
FEATURING THE REGENERATION CHOIR
AND TLC ALUMNI**

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUNDAY 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, DECEMBER 13TH: PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

CHRISTMAS PARTY

- Register no later than Sunday, December 8th by scanning the QR Code
- Christmas Crafts, Games, Dinner, Hot Cocoa, a Visit from Santa and watch the classic movie, The Polar Express!
- \$20 for 1st child, \$15 for each additional child
- Drop off: 5:30 PM in the Family Life Center Lobby (Building #5)
- Pick up: No later than 9:30 PM in the Family Life Center Lobby (Building #5)
- Children are encouraged to wear their Christmas garb for a photo with Santa!



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH: CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S PROCESSIONAL REHEARSAL

- Located in the OPMC Sanctuary
- 9:30 AM Arrival for Costume Fitting & Adjustments
- 10:00-11:00 AM Rehearsal

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH: KIDS CLUB & CLUB 456

CHRISTMAS DINNER WITH THE LEVER'S

Kids Club and Club 456 Members are invited to have a Christmas dinner with Pastor Lever and his wife, Sam, at their home. We will still meet at 4:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall to begin our evening!

- Ages: Kids Club (K-3rd), Club 456 (4th-6th)
- Date/Time: Sunday, December 15th from 6:00- 7:30 PM
- Location: Pastor Lever's Home (Parsonage One Block from the Church)
- Cost: \$5

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND: KIDS CLUB & CLUB 456

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Kids Club and Club 456 Members will have a Christmas Party filled with games, cookie decorating, hot cocoa, and more! Our Christmas Party will take place during our regularly scheduled Sunday night programming.

- Ages: Kids Club (K-3rd), Club 456 (4th-6th)
- Date: Sunday, December 22nd from 4:30 - 7:30 PM
- Location: Fellowship Hall
- Cost: \$5

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH: CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S PROCESSIONAL

- 3:30 PM: Processional Gathering with Refreshments in the Music Center
- 4:30 PM: Group Photo in Costumes in Sanctuary
- 5:00 PM: Processional Service Begins

MONDAY, JANUARY 6TH: KIDS CAMP DAY (WINTER BREAK - NO SCHOOL): BLACK RAVEN ADVENTURES - ST. AUGUSTINE PIRATE SHIP CRUISE TREASURE HUNT

- 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 the Black Raven Adventures St. Augustine Pirate Ship Cruise Treasure Hunt
- Register by Sunday, December 29th by scanning the QR Code



YOUTH MINISTRY

SUNDAY 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

DINNER WITH THE LEVERS

Each year our Senior Pastor Dr. Lever and his wife host us at their home for a wonderful family-style dinner. On that night we also have our annual youth gift exchange. We ask each student to bring a gift of no more than \$10 for the exchange. It's a fun night of fellowship before the busyness of the holiday season begins. This year the dinner will be on Sunday, December 8th during regular youth times. Dinner with the Levers is free! Please bring a \$10 gift for the exchange.

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 15th during regular youth times. The Progressive Dinner is free!

ROCK THE UNIVERSE

- Friday, January 24th – Sunday, January 26th
- Rock the Universe is an unforgettable weekend of faith and fun. On Friday and Saturday, youth will experience powerful beats from Christian Music's brightest stars and thrilling rides at Universal Studios Florida.
- Cost: \$150



SPRING BREAK TRIP (TAMPA BAY)

- Friday, March 14th – Monday, March 17th
- Stay at Lake Magdalene Methodist Church in Tampa, Florida.
- We are going to Busch Gardens for a day and to enjoy the beautiful beach at Honeymoon Island State Park.
- We will also worship at Lake Magdalene on Sunday morning.
- Cost: \$200



SPRING CONFIRMATION RETREAT

- Friday, April 25th – Sunday, April 27th
- 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 in Keystone Heights!
- Cost: \$70



SUMMER INTERNATIONAL MISSION TRIP

- Friday, June 20th - Friday, June 27th 2025
Destination: Belize
Mission Organization: Praying Pelican Missions
- Registration Deadline: January 12th, 2025
- Student Cost: \$800
- Chaperone Cost: \$1200



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 PNO DATES

December 13th

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.

EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

Our Bible verse this month is, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a child is given." This month we will be talking to the children about the following Christmas themes: “God With Us,” “For Unto Us a Child is Born,” “The Christmas Story,” and “Keep the Christmas Spirit in the New Year.”

We will have our annual visit from Santa so that the children can meet Santa, who is kind and caring and well-loved by the children. We will be taking pictures which we will give to the parents for Christmas.

Our children will be told the story of the birth of Christ and create crafts to remember this glorious event. We know how important it is to teach our students the real meaning of Christmas and about God’s love for them.

Our children have been practicing very hard with Mrs. Martha to be in the procession with the Church children on Christmas Eve at the 5:00 PM service at the Children’s Pageant on December 24th.

REMEMBER TO TELL FAMILY AND FRIENDS that we are enrolling children for full-time care, and our hours are 6:30 AM until 6:00 PM. Unlike most childcare facilities, we only close for six days out of the year. If you know of anyone who may be interested in working or volunteering at the Early Education Center, please call Pat at (904) 704-9762.

The Early Education Center will be here throughout the Christmas season caring for all of your wonderful children that we have grown to love. All of the staff at The Early Education Center want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a very blessed and safe New Year!

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

DINNER PRICES

ADULT - \$7 AND CHILD (ages 3-12) - \$5
Non-season reservations must be made weekly.
Please call 904-264-2241 ext. 278

December 4 - Pot Roast with gravy, potatoes, carrots, roll, salad and Cinnamon Bread pudding.

December 11 - Pork Chop with gravy, field peas, cheesy scalloped potatoes, cornbread, coleslaw and apple crisp.

December 18 - Chicken Parmesan, mixed vegetables, parmesan potatoes, garlic bread, salad and carrot cake.

Dinners will resume on January 8, 2025.
All Menus are subject to change.

MUSIC MINISTRY

UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

CHRISTMAS CANTATA—DECEMBER 8TH AT 9:30 AND 11:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICES

Deeply embedded in the story of Christmas is a word that takes us from simply hearing about the birth of Christ to allowing our lives to be transformed by His love. It is with an expectant heart that we believe. With this belief we find hope and peace through the Son that God sent down to earth.

An electrifying worship experience, BELIEVE IN CHRISTMAS delivers the relevant message of what it means to have faith in Christ. Conceived by the creative team of Travis Cottrell, Sue C. Smith, and David Moffitt, the dazzling orchestration by Mason Brown and heart-stirring lyrics combine to reveal the profound impact of God sending His Son to save the world from sin. The familiar carols and captivating new songs combine to make this a Christmas worship experience for both believers and those who don't yet know Christ.

HANDBELL CONCERT

The Handbells will be performing on Tuesday December 3 at 6:00 PM at Orange Park Library. This program will consist of Christmas hymns played on handbells and chimes.

CHRISTMAS EVE - 11:00 PM SERVICE

TLC/ReGENERATION ALUMNI

You are invited to join us for Christmas Eve, 11:00 PM service! We meet at 10:15 pm, eat, catch up, and rehearse the music. We love seeing all of you! Help us spread the word!

COME JOIN THE YOUTH OR CHILDREN’S CHOIR

ReGENERATION YOUTH CHOIR

All 7th-12th graders are welcome to join our youth choir. We rehearse every Sunday 4:30 - 5:30 PM in the music building just before Youth.

JAM CHOIR

All 4th-6th graders are welcome to join in the fun with JAM as a part of Club 456, 4:30 - 7:30 PM every Sunday. Thank you to all who attended our musical with JAM and CAROL choir. We appreciate your support!

CAROL CHOIR - This is our choir for all K- 3rd graders who love to sing! Come join us every Sunday 4:30-7:30 PM as a part of Kid’s Club!

SYMPHONY OPPORTUNITIES

We have new dates for Concerts at the Jacksonville Symphony! If interested, please contact Martha Reid or Ruth Loomis at (904)264-2241 x245.

Friday, January 10, 2025

- Gershwin and Tchaikovsky
- 7:30 PM concert
- Ticket: \$33

Friday, January 31, 2025

- Beethoven and Rachmaninoff
- 7:30 PM concert
- Ticket: \$33

METHODIST WOMEN

The Methodist Women will hold their Christmas General Meeting on December 12, 2024 at 10:00 AM in the Family Life Center Gym. It will begin with a business meeting where we celebrate our accomplishments this year and look forward to another year of service to our church and community. This will be followed by music provided by Steve Conrad and Janice Reid and a pot-luck luncheon to say thank you to our awesome staff. To make a reservation or with questions about this event, please contact Diantha Owen at 904-699-0882.

METHODIST MEN

There is no December meeting. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall for our next meeting at 8:00 AM on Saturday, January 18, 2025.

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 3, 2024 at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. The program will be Special Music by Paul and a special guest. Please bring a dish to go with ham.

Invite a friend and join us. If you have questions, please call Cindy Koon at 904-210-3546.

MISSIONS

ANGEL TREE

It is time for our Annual Angel Tree. This year the Angel tree is different than previous years. It is based on what the current needs are from the Department of Children and Families. They have older teens who are still in the system from ages 18 to 20, and the department has a severe shortage on clothing and shoes for all ages. Please take an angel from the tree and fulfill a great need! The tree is located in the Family Life Center Gym. All angel gifts are due back by December 8th. Any questions you may have, please call Tracy Frandsen at (904) 514-0298.

UPWARD

Our registration is well underway for our 18th Upward season. The league is co-ed, and includes K5-12th Grade. Registration will close on December 6th. Practices are once per week for each team (M, T, & Th). Practice will start the week after Thanksgiving and games start the first weekend in January (8 games running through 1st weekend in March). Cost is \$100 per player. There is a \$10 discount for each additional child enrolled. For questions, contact the Program Director, Justus Dill, at justusdill98@gmail.com or 904-738-4833. Registration link and the volunteer registration link is provided below.

Registration Link: <https://registration.upward.org/UPW86596>

Volunteer Link: <https://registration.upward.org/UPW86596/volunteer>

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
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Mari Anne Peeples, Director of Congregational Care, ext. 272; mpeeples@opmethodist.org

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MUSIC STAFF

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Ruth Loomis, Music Administrative Assistant, ext. 245
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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.

DECEMBER RECOGNITIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

Jim and Dolores Pierson	12/06	66 years
Peter and Wanda Hellman	12/13	55 years
Richard and Sybil Carlson	12/17	64 years
Jeff and Julie Hill	12/21	22 years
Gordon and Linda Reynolds	12/21	38 years
Mike and Robin Bossinger	12/22	17 years
Rod and Mary Virginia Fisher	12/24	42 years
Martha and Jerry Avinger	12/27	55 years
Mike and Linda Zelenka	12/27	55 years
Mike and Deborah Terry	12/27	49 years
Ben and Mary Miciano	12/28	47 years

BIRTHDAYS

Bob Renehan	12/01	Stacy Johnson	12/16
Linda Reynolds	12/02	Greg Howard	12/16
Tim Helms	12/03	Charles Costea	12/17
Jan Shockley	12/03	Joshua Volpe	12/17
Mira Martin	12/03	Wanda Tison	12/18
Trey Wilkins	12/04	Sybil Carlson	12/18
Ruth Loomis	12/05	Kyle Schutter	12/18
Chris Neglia	12/05	Dan Schultz	12/19
Cyndy Barnes	12/05	Lynda Schmierer	12/20
Stacey White	12/05	Mona Gardella	12/20
Linda Stubbs	12/05	Frank Putnam	12/20
Paul Cummins	12/06	Sandy Davis	12/20
Isabella Costea	12/06	Josef Banks	12/20
Sharon Summers	12/07	Judith Matthews	12/20
Gabriel Hanks	12/07	Kaitlyn LaBelle	12/21
Dianna White	12/08	Noel Flowers	12/23
Robin Stowers	12/08	Doug Schutter	12/24
Jillian King	12/08	Marcia Figueroa	12/24
Piper Coleman	12/08	Cathy Jones	12/24
Louise Crowe	12/09	John Bowles	12/25
Curtis Schmidt	12/10	Allen Turpish	12/25
Mary Miciano	12/10	Janet Robertson	12/26
Kate Bowles	12/11	Alisa Jones	12/26
Ridge Corbin	12/11	Galen Bills	12/27
Pat Osbron	12/11	Holly Fulton	12/27
Linda Jones	12/12	Bob Harvey	12/27
Debbie White	12/13	Kyndall Magin	12/27
Adam Eiswerth	12/13	Ronald Adams	12/28
Ben Reid	12/13	Ben Miciano	12/28
Traci Foreman	12/14	James Gorman	12/28
Cindy Koon	12/14	Linda Yow	12/29
Bill Adams	12/16	Bob Reynolds	12/29
Charlie Yow	12/16	Maxwell Wilder	12/29
Tom Lee	12/16	Loree French	12/30
Harold Voigt	12/16	William Gebhard	12/30
Becky Wall	12/16	Kathy Roberts	12/30
Ian Killian	12/16	Daniel Adams	12/31