



EXCITING FALL EVENTS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

(For more information on these events,
please contact Ellen or Jason at 904-264-2241)

NEW IMPROVED WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

September 3 - Chicken Parmesan with noodles, roasted zucchini, seasoned buttered corn, garlic bread, Caesar salad and apple crisp

September 10 - Pot roast with onion and carrots, lima beans, red potatoes, garlic bread, tossed salad and chocolate poke cake

September 17 - Roasted pork chop, field peas, roasted sweet potatoes, cornbread, Caesar salad and carrot cake

September 24 - BBQ chicken, broccoli, macaroni and cheese, cornbread, coleslaw and strawberry cake

October 1 - Salisbury Steak with gravy, roasted carrots, garlic mashed potatoes, roll, salad and brownie with fudge icing

October 8 - Pulled pork, baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, cornbread and banana pudding

October 15 - Mexican seasoned chicken with yellow rice, black beans, Mexican corn, garlic bread, Caesar salad and apple cobbler

October 22 - Meatloaf with gravy, Italian green beans, mashed potatoes, roll, salad and blueberry white chocolate bread pudding

October 29 - Trunk or Treat - Chicken Parmesan with noodles, green beans, salad and dessert

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT CLASS OFFERINGS

DISCIPLE I: BECOMING DISCIPLES THROUGH BIBLE STUDY

This is the first study in the four-phase DISCIPLE program. This 34-week study concentrates on the Old and New Testaments equal time, emphasizing the wholeness of the Bible as a revelation of God. DISCIPLE draws upon the work of scholars, the personal Bible reading and study of the participant, and dynamic group discussion to aid understanding of the Bible.

- 34 week class located in Room 6206 starting now
- 6:00- 7:30 PM and led by Toni Piper and cost of workbook: \$50
- Register for class by contacting Toni Piper at (904) 993-0299 by August 31st

EXPERIENCING GOD: KNOWING & DOING THE WILL OF GOD

Over the years, God has used the truths of Experiencing God to awaken believers to a radically God-centered way of life. As a result, millions have come to know God intimately, to recognize His voice, and to understand His will for their lives.

- 13 week class starting on September 3rd, 2025 located in room 6203
- 6:00 - 7:30 PM and led by Danny Koon
- Cost of workbook: \$30
- Register for class by contacting Danny Koon at (904) 210-2133

GRIEF SHARE

Grief Share is a support group to help you move through the grief process. This support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week study group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability - and gain solid support each step of the way.

- Group starts on August 27 and meets every Wednesday
- Meeting time is from 6:00 - 7:30 PM in Room #1107 in Park Square

- You can sign up online at <https://www.griefshare.org/findagroup> and choose Orange Park Methodist Church
- Cost is \$20 to cover the workbook
- Please contact Robyn Voigt at 904-264-2241 x273 with any questions

2025 – 2026 CONFIRMATION CLASS

We believe Confirmation is a sacred occasion. It is a worship service where confirmands publicly accept the salvation offered through Jesus Christ, profess their love for God and become members of the church. We believe that young people should know what they believe and why, and what it means to be a disciple, a growing Christian, and a church member. During this 30 week Confirmation class, confirmands learn about the history of Christianity, teachings of the Methodist Church, and an explanation of the baptismal and membership vows. We invite all 6th graders to take a significant step in their journey of faith by joining our Confirmation class.

- Classes meet Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM (during the 9:30 AM Worship service) and are held in Room 4221
- Classes begin in September and end in May
- All 6th Graders are welcome!
- Service opportunities include raising funds for the Residing Hope Children's Home and mission trips!
- Please contact Suzy Williams at suzyq614620@bellsouth.net or (904) 591-1918 if you are interested in your child participating.

PUMPKIN PATCH

SEPTEMBER 27 THRU OCTOBER 31, 2025

Our annual pumpkin patch is our main fundraiser for the youth ministry. It's an excellent way for our students and their families to work together and earn money for our trips and events. All the money earned by our students and families goes into their student's youth account. It's also a fun way to serve and interact with our community as they come to shop and take pictures in our patch. Our pumpkin patch is open from September 27th through October 31st. We are open daily from 8 AM to 8 PM and Noon to 8 PM on Sundays. We look forward to seeing you out there!

TRUNK OR TREAT OCTOBER 29, 2025

This annual event has become a holiday delight. You don't have to cook, just make your reservations for dinner (Wonderful Wednesday), bring your children in their favorite costumes, and there will be some 40 plus staging areas for the children to visit and receive holiday goodies. And, as always, it will be a safe and secure event with wrist bands issued to all who come to dinner so they can enter the trunk or treat area. Our local police will be on site to provide a prank-free environment. The cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children (which includes dinner).

YOUTH FALL RETREAT NOVEMBER 14 - 16, 2025

Our Fall Retreat on Friday, November 14th through 16th will be a trip that will give us a great opportunity to relax, worship together, and rest as a youth community after the busy pumpkin patch season. All Youth are invited to attend. The cost is \$80.00.

CLUB 456 FALL RETREAT NOVEMBER 14 - 16, 2025

This year, Club 456 members (4th-6th Grade) will be taking a trip to the North Florida Retreat Christian Camp in Keystone Heights on Friday, November 14th through Sunday, November 16th! There will be ziplining, lake activities & swimming, and much more! The cost to attend is \$80 per person.

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

THIRD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

In September, we present each Third Grader a Bible during a special Worship service.

- Sunday, September 14th, 2025
- Held during the 11:00 AM Worship service
- All Third Graders are welcome to participate!
- Please contact Ellen Despres at edespres@opmethodist.org or (904) 264-2241 Ext. 243 if your child would like to receive a Bible and participate in the ceremony.

SEPTEMBER 19TH: PARENTS NIGHT OUT

- 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 Center Gym (Building 5) at 5:30 PM
- Pick Up: Fellowship Hall (Building 7) by 9:30 PM
- Registration Deadline: Sunday, September 14th



OCTOBER 29TH: TRUNK OR TREAT

- Orange Park Methodist Church & the Early Education Center Trunk or Treat: Wednesday, October 29th 5:15 - 7:30 PM
- A fun, safe night of trunk or treating, costume parade, bounce houses, pumpkin patch & more!
- 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 19th, or contact Ellen Despres at edespres@opmethodist.org, or Pat Noonan the Director of the Early Education Center at pnoonan@opmethodist.org
- For added security, the Orange Park Police Department has been hired to oversee the event.
- Inflatable Fun Zone including Bounce House & Slide: Fellowship Hall Lawn
- Pumpkin Patch for pumpkin picking and personal



photos: Music Center Parking Lot

- We are looking to fill 40 parking spots with decorated trunks in the Fellowship Hall parking lot for this 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!

SAVE THE DATE!

- Friday, October 10th: Parents Night Out Halloween Party
- Monday, October 13th: Kids Camp Day (Columbus Day- No School): Anastasia Miniature Golf in St. Augustine, FL
- November 14- 16: Club 456 Fall Retreat to North Florida Christian Camp in Keystone Heights, FL

2025 - 2026

CONFIRMATION CLASS

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- Classes begin in September and end in May
- All 6th Graders are welcome!
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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 14th- Sunday, November 16th
- Location: North Florida Christian Camp - Lakeside Lodge
- Registration Deadline: October 6th
- 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: \$80
- Register by scanning the QR code:



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: \$150
- Register by scanning the QR code:



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.

FUNDRAISERS

PUMPKIN PATCH

Its getting close to that time of the year! Mark your calendars!

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!

- Pumpkin Patch meeting - Sunday, September 7th at 4:30 PM in the Youth Center
- Patch setup - Wednesday, September 24th at 5:30 PM
- Pumpkin Unload #1 - Saturday, September 27th
- Pumpkin Unload #2 - Saturday, October 11th
- Patch will be open from Saturday, September 27th- Thursday, October 31st
- Tear down on Saturday, November 1st

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 904-264-2241 ext. 243.

UPCOMING DATES

September 19

EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

Our 2025-2026 school year has begun, and it has started out to be a great one! Our children are getting adjusted to their routines and the rules of the classroom. Please let your family and friends know that we still have a couple of spots available in our VPK classes as well as two and three year olds – if they are interested.

We ask for your prayers over the teachers, children, and parents in our program—that they all stay healthy throughout this school year. We will have our children pray for all church members during their chapel time.

This month we will be discussing the following themes with our students: Be A Good Friend, Colors and Numbers, Their Families and Apples and Apples and Johnny Appleseed. Our Bible Lessons will I Can Love My Friends: David & Jonathan, Joseph and His Special Coat, God Loves My Family and The Apple Bible Lesson. Our character theme for the month is kindness. Our teachers will accomplish this learning goal by following our mission statement: "Guiding God's children to inspire lifelong learning and good character morals in our students." We will be discussing Kindness and wearing white on the last Friday of the month. On September 10th we will have our Open House and invite the parents and their children to join the church for Wonderful Wednesday dinner.

We are all looking forward to the pumpkins arriving at the end of September! This is such a fun time for the children, and we get to teach them all about how pumpkins grow.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request that you would like on the prayer email chain, please contact Mari Anne Peeples at 904-264-2241 ext. 272 or email her at mpeeples@opmethodist.org.

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
SEASON TICKETS - SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER
Adult - \$56 and Child - \$45

September 3 - Chicken Parmesan with noodles, roasted zucchini, seasoned buttered corn, garlic bread, Caesar salad and apple crisp
September 10 - Pot roast with onion and carrots, lima beans, red potatoes, garlic bread, tossed salad and chocolate poke cake
September 17 - Roasted pork chop, field peas, roasted sweet potatoes, cornbread, Caesar salad and carrot cake
September 24 - BBQ chicken, broccoli, macaroni and cheese, cornbread, coleslaw and strawberry cake

All Menus are subject to change.

UPWARD

We are expecting a record turnout this Season! Following the Upward Sports model, the League will be for ages K-5-8th Grade for Basketball and Cheerleading. Register early and save. Early registration starts on August 15, and the cost will only be \$95 per participant, \$110 after early registration closes, October 24, 2025. **KEY dates:** Evaluations November 1st and November 8th. All participants must be evaluated and sized for uniforms. First practices begin the week of December 1. Practices will be once a week on either Monday, Tuesday or Thursday. First games will be on Saturday, January 10, 2025. Last Games will be Saturday March 7. Season Celebration and dinner will be Monday, March 9.

Participant online registration: <https://registration.upward.org/upw88973>

There are many ways to volunteer for the Upward Program!
Volunteer online registration: <https://registration.upward.org/upw88973/volunteer>

For any questions or help with registrations please contact - Hugh Peeples, 904-759-8082, hpeeples1@gmail.com

ORANGE PARK METHODIST MEN AND METHODIST WOMEN

The Methodist Men AND Women will meet in the Fellowship Hall for a combined meeting at 10:00 AM on Saturday, September 20, 2025. This is an opportunity for the men and women to get together and have a time of fellowship. Please RSVP to Tim Helms at thelmsopmc@gmail.com or Diantha Owen at kdowen@bellsouth.net by September 14th to reserve your spot.

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 (Jesus 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 goes 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. (starts Thursday, August 21st.)

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. (starts Thursday, August 21st.)

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. (starts Tuesday, August 19th.)

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.

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, September 2, 2025 at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. The program will be Safety As We Age. Please bring a dish to go with lasagna.

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

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.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY EXTENDS OUR SYMPATHY To

Julie Killian in the death of her mother, Marilyn Shenton
Mistie Heyer in the death of her grandmother, Betty Harrell

STAFF DIRECTORY

Church phone number - 904-264-2241

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SEPTEMBER RECOGNITIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

Andy and Terri Dobbs	09/01	7 years
Stephen and Nora Logan	09/03	31 years
Frank and Jackie Putnam	09/03	59 years
David and Kathleen Rowlinson	09/04	43 years
Wayne and Sheila Holder	09/05	38 years
Flavio and Jenny Chavez	09/06	12 years
Bob and Ann Hinzman	09/14	56 years
Tim and Susan Helms	09/18	5 years
Gene and Pat Warren	09/18	15 years

BIRTHDAYS

Doug Brown	09/01	Tara Volpe	09/17
Doug Westberry	09/01	Dave Mosborg	09/18
Paige Evans	09/01	David McCranie	09/18
John Turpish	09/02	Connie Eden	09/18
Aimee Turpish	09/02	Janet Ballantine	09/18
Aidan Chandler	09/03	Sheila Gaskill	09/18
Madison Wilder	09/03	Donna Trumble	09/19
Ricky White	09/04	Hannah Morin	09/19
Bryan Crotts	09/04	Cooper Roth	09/19
Betty Young	09/06	Jim Cribb	09/20
Chanel Stowers	09/06	Jeff Killian	09/20
Jasmine Wilger	09/07	Diane Howard	09/22
Joe Banks	09/07	Anastasia Turpish	09/23
Matthew Mansen	09/09	Aliyah Gray	09/24
Gayle Martin	09/08	Ella Cate Terry	09/24
Harmen Heeg	09/08	Nancy Dewey	09/25
William Kennedy	09/08	Lynda Davis	09/26
Kathleen Vanhooser	09/08	Carlyle Martin Jr.	09/27
Jarred Dill	09/09	Celie Meadows	09/27
Ray Bernard	09/09	Belinda Spasoff	09/27
Evan Ryan	09/09	Amy Thomas	09/27
Jessica Voigt	09/10	Mike Applegarth	09/27
Macy Presley	09/11	Wayne Tison	09/28
Mason Martin	09/11	Deborah Terry	09/28
Ed Sellars	09/12	Maggie Hovda	09/28
Andy Dobbs	09/12	Joseph Bryan	09/28
Maddy Kramer	09/12	Nick Despres	09/28
Jamie Cioffi	09/13	Daniel Ringle	09/29
Dave Unsicker	09/14	Bob Moore	09/30
Beverly Bernard	09/14	Gene Warren	09/30
Vicky Moore	09/16	Jamie Hovda	09/30