



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE ALLIGATOR CIRCUIT



502 N. 6TH ST. ~ ORANGE, TEXAS 77630

OFFICE (409) 886-7466 ~ FAX (409) 886-0489 ~ [WWW.FUMCORANGE.ORG](http://WWW.FUMCORANGE.ORG)

To access the Southeast Texas District newsletter, visit [southeastdistrict.org](http://southeastdistrict.org).

JANUARY 2017

## Rev. John E. Warren

Senior Pastor

**Doug Rogers**

Director of  
Music & Fine Arts

**Randall Bridges**

Director of  
Christian Education & Youth

**Jeff Harris**

**Donna Rogers**

Organists

**Norma Bergeron**

Church Secretary

**Samantha Ziller**

Nursery Coordinator

**Mary Grimes**

Nursery Caregiver

Mission Statement:

*To make disciples for Jesus  
Christ for the transformation of  
the world.*

The next newsletter will be  
for the entire month of  
February.

If you have any information  
to be included,  
please send it by  
**Wednesday, January 25,**  
to Norma at  
[norma.bergeron@fumcorange.org](mailto:norma.bergeron@fumcorange.org).

### 1 New Year offers New Beginnings for our Ministry to Share and Serve Jesus Christ

As the year begins reports from various Vibrant Church Initiative groups will be making reports and giving us options on how we will be meeting our five prescriptions we voted in last August. Prescription number 2 has been met, our new one board will meet this month for the first time. Several other prescriptions are progressing such as the Hospitality team will be bringing us signage proposals and the Communications team will be bringing us a new web site which we are excited about. The Vision Team will be bringing us a proposed logo and vision statement. All with the goal of making disciples of Jesus Christ right here in Orange. Other groups will continue their work. Two new teams will begin their work this month. So things are happening. Thanks to your good work our church moves forward.

**Prayer Needs** - We have prayer cards and boxes placed near each worship area. By placing a prayer request in the box you will have a prayer team praying for your concerns for a month. Notice to the pastor will be made as requested on the card. Thanks to our prayer warriors!

Please lift up Denise Hillsten Taylor in Harbor Hospice

### Worship Workshop – January 6-7 -

“If we are going to worship in Spirit, we must develop a spirit of worship.” Michael Catt  
Dr. Craig Gilbert, “The Worship Doctor”, will be meeting with the praise band and all folks involved in the sound and video for the 9 am service on Friday evening. He will be working with the band and worship team.

#### Friday Schedule – for Band and 9 am worship team

5:30 Gather meet Craig and Mitch Bohannon of the Kyser Capo company to work with guitar players  
6:00 play through Sunday’s music  
6:30 Craig will talk through arrangement suggestions  
7:00 break out into small group coaching  
8:00 go through music again  
9:00 Dismiss

#### Saturday Schedule

Session 1 For folks involved in any of our worship services – choir members, ushers, greeters, lay readers and staff persons.

8:30 Gather and coffee

8:45 Craig will talk about basic critiques of worship making suggestions for going forward.  
Questions and answers.

10:15 End session 1

Session 1 and 2 For Pastor, Choir Director, Organists, pianists, worship excellence team i.e. Betty Merchant, Jim, Brown, Lauren Peet, Lori Kratzer, Brittany Harmon, Kaylin Abshire, altar guild chair, Head usher, greeter chair, and youth director.

Session 2

10:30 Very specific feedback from Craig and questions and answers as well as some directed discussion.  
Noon Dismiss

### Church Council for 2017

The new governing board will meet on Monday January 9 at 6:00 p.m. Requests to be a part of the agenda must be submitted to the office in writing or to the office by e-mail by the previous Monday, (January 3 due to holiday). The first order of business will be to elect a Chairperson from the group. Our distinguished team is as follows:

Greg Defrates – Representing Finance  
Chris Abshire – Representing Finance  
Jonathan Vogt – Representing SPR  
Jim Armstrong – Representing SPR  
David Bridges – Representing Trustees  
Gary Boneaux – Representing Trustees  
Janice Gresham – Member at Large

Betty Merchant – Member at Large  
Sherri Fruge’ - Secretary  
Barbara Dardeau – Secretary Asst.  
Ginger Willimas - Communications  
Carol Allen – Lay Leader  
John Warren - Pastor

**financial report, attendance report, youth, WNL, Class at lamar**

**January 8<sup>th</sup> Baptism at 9:00 am service** Daniel and Marie Auckenbach bring their daughter Emily Rose to become part of our family of faith. She played to role of Jesus at our Christmas Eve service this year. Grandparents are Ken and Judy Pittman

**Orange County United Methodist Men Dinner** Monday January 30 at 6:30 pm hosted at First United Methodist Church of Vidor. Come enjoy the food, fellowship and speaker.

Lord, help us to be a family of faith. To worship you, learn, grow in your likeness, and serve you by serving others. Amen.

## Our Faithfulness

### Worship Attendance

December 4	December 11	December 24
8:00 18	8:00 23	
9:00 71	9:00 73	6:00 p.m.
11:00 42	11:00 56	
<b>TOTAL 131</b>	<b>TOTAL 152</b>	<b>TOTAL 310</b>

### Giving

December 2016

Income: \$48,045.00  
Expenses: \$37,734.42  
\$10,310.58



**Missions** is collecting size hotel items you have accumulated during your summer travels for the Seafarer boxes. Pens, notepads, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, combs, or any other variety of little items along this line.

## Worship

January 1, 2017

January 8, 2017

One Service Sunday at 11:00  
Sanctuary  
Communion

Scripture: Mathew 3:13-17

### Bakers for Christ

Each Sunday the Welcome Center will feature *Bakers for Christ*. The love offering will go to *Stop Hunger Now*. **Bakers:**

**Jan. 1** Donna & Cindy  
**Jan. 8** Amy H. & Sandra H.  
**Jan. 15** Debbie & Bridget  
**Jan. 22** Ginger & Trisha  
**Jan. 29** Suzanne & Julie

### Mr. Doug's First Methodist Kids

1st Methodist Kids will meet with Mr. Doug on Sundays from 5 to 7 pm. We meet on the playground and have dinner together. K-5th graders are welcome.

See you Sunday! Call Mr. Doug with questions, 779-2143.



FUMC Senior Adults meet on Mondays at 10:00 am in the Administrative Center. Bring a snack to share and invite your friends and neighbors.



### Kroger

Your enrollment in Community Rewards needs to be renewed each year. Go to [www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com). Click on community and enroll. Our church number is 80600. It takes 2 minutes.

**change  
The WORLD!**

We are collecting change during each worship service to **CHANGE the WORLD!!**



**Youth Sunday School at 10:00 am**

**Youth Sunday Night 5:00-7:00 pm**

## **Sunday Nights:**

Join us for Youth Group in the Praise Center !

## **What's Happening Sunday Nights?**

The Youth will start their Word of the Year series on Sunday, January 15.

### **NEW:**

**Confirmation Classes begin Wednesday, January 18.**

Remember to pick a mentor for the year!

**Hot Hearts is Coming on Friday-Saturday, January 27-28!**

The cost is \$50. Concert performers include Lauren Daigle, Switchfoot, Need To Breathe, Rend Collective, and more!

## **Social Media:**

To see more of what we've been up to Like us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/fumcorangeyouth](http://www.facebook.com/fumcorangeyouth) or Follow us on Twitter and Instagram: @fumcorangeyouth



**The 3G Committee thanks** everyone who donated the 39 small stuffed animals for the children in Mexico for Christmas through the Shepherds for the Saviour program.



Join  
Feed My Sheep  
at Salem UMC  
on  
Sat., January 28  
at 10:00 am.



Please remember the 4th Sunday of each month is OCS (Orange Christian Services) Collection Sunday. You can bring donated items or money. Please mark the envelope, OCS.



502 NORTH SIXTH ST.  
ORANGE, TX 77630

### OFFICE HOURS

**Monday- Thursday**

8:30am - 4:30pm

**Friday**

8:30am - Noon

### WORSHIP HOURS

**8:00a** - Traditional service  
in the Chapel

**9:00a** - Celebration service  
in the Praise Center

**10:00a** - Sunday School  
(9:40a Pairs & Spares)

**11:00a** - Traditional service  
in the Chapel

## VIBRANT PRAYER WITH PURPOSE

And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ. ~ Philippians 1:9-10

We pray that our love will grow in knowledge and depth of insight so that we can discern how best we may serve you. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.



# Wednesday Night Live

Wednesday Night Live's mission is to simulate personal spiritual growth and fellowship. WNL strives to build maturing disciples and maintain an active agenda of informal fellowship. WNL also provides not only FUMC but area residents personal enrichment courses. Winter classes are scheduled starting Jan 18<sup>th</sup> and ending April 26<sup>th</sup>. Participants enjoy fellowship over dinner, served at 5:00 pm. Classes begin at 6:00 pm. The fee for each study is \$10 for books and/or materials.

## **Life Lessons by Max Lucado**

Suzanne Magee

Life Lessons with Max Lucado are twelve week studies with Reflection questions to begin your study, a Bible Reading section with text in both the NCV and NKJV, Discovery questions to help you explore the Bible, Inspirational thoughts from the writings of Max Lucado, Response questions for discussion, prayer, and room for journaling.

## **STIR: Spiritual Transformation in Relationships**

Beverly Blalack

*STIR* calls church leaders to reclaim an essential, biblical truth - that the process of spiritual growth is more than a one-size-fits-all program, it happens best through intentional relationships with others in the body of Christ. Three distinct, sequential stages of spiritual development typically occur as people mature in their spiritual walk with Christ, and they need different kinds of relationships to support their growth through those different seasons. *STIR* describes those stages - learning together, journeying together, and following together - and shows how progress into and through these stages is best made in the context of relationships that change in nature over time.

## **Introduction to Bible Journaling**

Nicole Watzlavik & Misti Grooms

Bible Journaling is a popular spiritual practice. If you are wanting to learn a new way to connect with God, to fall in love with your Bible, help with Bible memorization, and leave a legacy while doing so...join us for an introduction into Bible Journaling.

**Ash Wednesday meal and service will March 1st. A Lenten soup will be served at 5:00 with the Ash Wednesday service at 6:00 pm in the Chapel.**

**We will not meet on March 15th due to Spring Break.**

**\$5 Adult; \$2 ages 3-12;  
\$15 Family; \$5 Take-out**



# Who or what is God?

**What is faith? How can we reconcile it with intellect?  
Why does God permit evil to exist, and to hurt us?**

Dr. Neil Lindley, Ph.D, D.D. with  
Lamar State College-Orange  
explores these ancient questions  
and some of the surprising  
answers in PHIL 2321, the  
Philosophy of Religion.



**Where:** Lamar State College-Orange

**When:** Every Wednesday at 2:00, January 17 - May 16

**Available as a 3-hours academic credit  
OR**

**Apply through the Leisure Learning program (only \$15)**

**For more information call: (409) 882-3027 - for college credit  
or (409) 882-3053 - for Leisure Learning**



**LAMAR STATE COLLEGE-ORANGE**

*Stay Close, Go Far!*

MEMBER THE TEXAS



STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

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An open letter to the congregation:

Dear friends,

Lamar State College-Orange is excited to introduce a new course entitled "The Philosophy of Religion," offered both for college credit and for leisure learning and continuing education. The course explores the nature of God, the coexistence of faith and secular knowledge, and the problem of evil. Dr. Neil Lindley, a long-time minister and professor, brings mystery and scholarship together in a sensitive study for answers to the world's oldest questions.

The course meets at Lamar State College - Orange on Wednesdays at 2:00, and runs from January to May 2017. The cost for leisure learners is only \$15.00—one dollar per week. We invite the members of the congregation to join us and to add your unique perspectives in the discussion to those of Dr. Lindley and the other students.

Register by calling Charlotte Chiasson at (409) 882-3053 or by visiting the Leisure Learning office at room 218 in the Ron E Lewis Library on the LSC-O campus.

Norma Bergeron, Contacts, Holidays in United States

Jan 2017 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>New Year's Day</p> <p>10am - Sunday School</p> <p>11am - One Service Sunday</p>	<p>New Year's Day observed</p> <p>Office Closed/Banks</p>	<p>Church Office Closed to Public - Staff working on Year-End Reports</p> <p>7pm - Choir 德 Sanctuary</p> <p>7pm - Praise Band 德 Praise</p>	<p>7pm - Choir 德 Sanctuary</p> <p>7pm - Praise Band 德 Praise</p>	<p>9:30am - Faith &amp; Joy Circle</p> <p>5:30pm - Love Circle</p>	<p>VCI Worship Workshop</p>	
<p>Can Collection</p> <p>8am - Traditional Service 德</p> <p>9am - Praise Service 德</p> <p>9:40am - Pairs &amp; Spares</p> <p>10am - Sunday School</p> <p>11am - Traditional Service</p> <p>5pm - Youth/1st Kids</p>	<p>10am - Carling Ministry 德</p> <p>10am - Senior Dominos 德</p> <p>1pm - Staff Meeting 德</p> <p>5:30pm - Missions 德</p> <p>8pm - One-Board Council 德</p>	<p>10:20am - LSCO Visits 德</p>	<p>7pm - Choir 德 Sanctuary</p> <p>7pm - Praise Band 德 Praise</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Malloy Reserved</p> <p>8am - UMW Breakfast 德</p>
<p>Rainbow Room Collection</p> <p>8am - Traditional Service 德</p> <p>9am - Praise Service 德</p> <p>9:40am - Pairs &amp; Spares</p> <p>10am - Sunday School</p> <p>11am - Traditional Service</p> <p>5pm - Youth/1st Kids</p>	<p>Martin Luther King Day</p> <p>Offices Closed</p> <p>1pm - Staff Meeting 德</p>	<p>10:20am - LSCO Visits 德</p>	<p>4:30pm - Confirmation</p> <p>5pm - WNL Meal</p> <p>6pm - WNL classes 德</p> <p>7pm - Choir 德 Sanctuary</p> <p>7pm - Praise Band 德 Praise</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>OCS Collection</p> <p>UMW Gumbo Fundraiser</p> <p>8am - Traditional Service 德</p> <p>9am - Praise Service 德</p> <p>9:40am - Pairs &amp; Spares</p> <p>10am - Sunday School</p> <p>11am - Traditional Service</p> <p>5pm - Youth/1st Kids</p>	<p>10am - Senior Dominos 德</p> <p>1pm - Staff Meeting 德</p>	<p>10:20am - LSCO Visits 德</p>	<p>4:30pm - Confirmation</p> <p>5pm - WNL Meal</p> <p>6pm - WNL classes 德</p> <p>7pm - Choir 德 Sanctuary</p> <p>7pm - Praise Band 德 Praise</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Hot Hearts-Youth (Bus Reserved) 德 Ford Park</p> <p>7:30pm - Luther Event 德</p>
<p>8am - Traditional Service 德</p> <p>9am - Praise Service 德</p> <p>9:40am - Pairs &amp; Spares</p> <p>10am - Sunday School</p> <p>11am - Traditional Service</p> <p>12pm - UM Women's Tea</p> <p>2pm - District Leadership</p> <p>5pm - Youth/1st Kids</p>	<p>Vision Statement Due</p> <p>10am - Senior Dominos 德</p> <p>1pm - Staff Meeting 德</p>	<p>10:20am - LSCO Visits 德</p>	<p>4:30pm - Confirmation</p> <p>5pm - WNL Meal</p> <p>6pm - WNL classes 德</p> <p>7pm - Choir 德 Sanctuary</p> <p>7pm - Praise Band 德 Praise</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>