

Disciples Growing Disciples

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

OFFICE (409) 886-7466 ~ FAX (409) 886-0489 ~ WWW.FUMCORANGE.ORG

To access the Southeast Texas District newsletter, visit southeastdistrict.org.

JULY 2019

ROOTED IN CHRIST ... BRANCHING OUT IN FAITH ... DISCIPLES GROWING DISCIPLES

Rev. Lani Rousseau

Senior Pastor

Doug Rogers Director of Worship and Music

Randall Bridges Director of Christian Education & Youth

Norma Bergeron Administrative Assistant

Scott Lawson Part-time Custodian

> **Donna Rogers** Organist

Mary Grimes Lisa Hodge Nursery Caregivers

Mission Statement: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

To have information included in the next newsletter, please send it to news@fumcorange.org by Friday, July 19, so the newsletter can be distributed before August 1.

TIMES OF TRANSITION

Isn't it amazing how these times of transition in our lives can be filled with excitement and anticipation and also with sadness and even a little fear? What will it be like? Will we like each other?

I've heard wonderful things about you as a congregation. You have overcome challenges and faced difficult things, but you remain strong and committed to your faith. I'm looking forward to being in ministry with folks like you. I want to hear more of your stories in the coming weeks. I hope we can gather together and share our hopes and dreams as well as our struggles. That is what disciples do.

I spent a long weekend in Orange back in July 2006 with a group of junior students at Big House. We stayed at the Malloy Retreat Center and worked in the surrounding area. My little work team was assigned to paint a house, a different color than it had been. Not exactly an ideal assignment for young people of any age, but certainly a difficult one for middle schoolers. But we prevailed with the help of many additional helpers and finished our assignment. I have fond memories of that weekend.

I'm excited about the possibilities that God has for us and our ministry together. This season of transition and learning about each other is often referred to as a courtship. We will share ourselves to build trust and our relationship. I think it is also like a family reunion. We are already family because of Jesus Christ and our United Methodist heritage, we just haven't gotten acquainted yet. You will know my name, but I will have to learn yours, so please introduce yourself when we are together. Bear with me, if I get it wrong. I'll also be connecting individuals into family groups and trying to keep all of that in my mind. And the beauty of it all is that God is with us on this journey together.

I hope you will join me in praying for our congregation and community. Change is inevitable in life, but we can adapt and adjust. We always do. Thanks be to God.

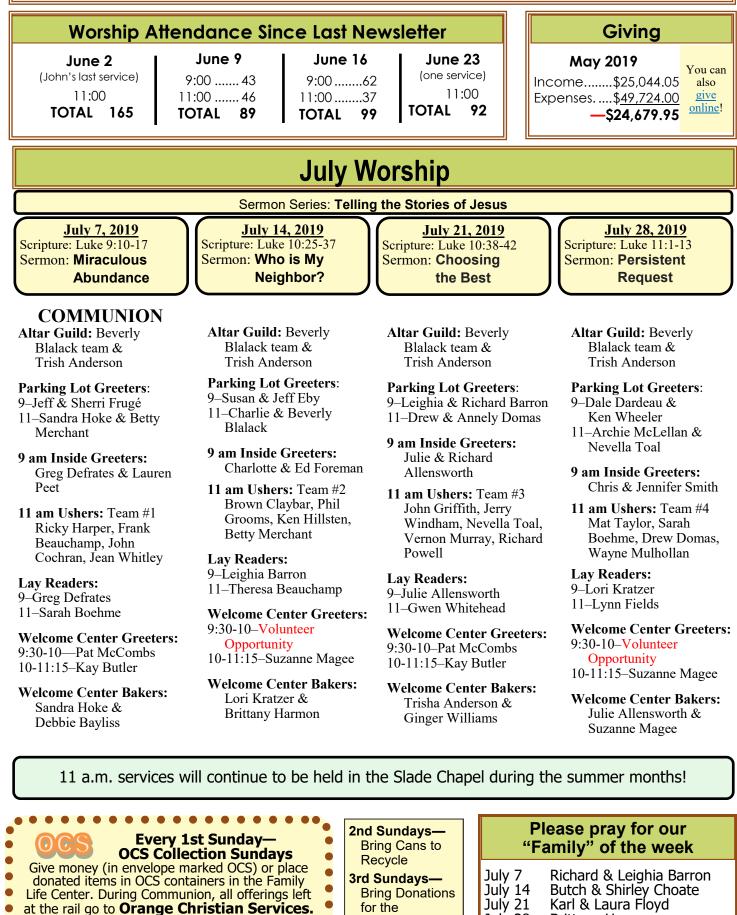
> Grace and peace, Rev. Lani Rousseau



"Meet and Greet" Reception for Pastor Lani Rousseau on Sunday, July 7, in the Welcome Center immediately after the 9 a.m. service before Sunday School.

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





July 28

Rainbow Room

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Brittany Harmon



Join us in the Family Life Center!

Youth Sunday School at 10 a.m. We share how God is working in our lives and

look more in depth at the Bible!

Sunday Night C.R.E.W. from 5-7 p.m.

Christians Ready, Equipped, and Willing Join us for a meal, fellowship, worship, music, skits, games, and Jesus.

Social Media

Join our text message group to get reminders about upcoming FUMC Youth announcements by texting @fumcora to 81010

Facebook: fumcorangeyouth Instagram & Twitter: @fumcorangeyouth

Youth July & Upcoming Activities:

June 28-July 1: Camp Eagle (Jr. High)

July 21-23—Youth Galveston Trip





1st Methodist Kids

Will Begin Again in the Fall! Sunday nights from 5-7 p.m. 1st Methodist Kids meet with Mr. Doug on Sundays from 5 to 7 p.m. We meet on the playground and have dinner together. K-5th graders welcome. Call Mr. Doug with questions, 409-779-2143.





Congratulations to another of our high school graduates!

Emily Glover Little Cypress-Mauriceville High School

Have you always wanted to see the Holy Land but can't travel there?

Join the New Beginnings Sunday School class through the summer as we journey with Ray Vander Laan to the Holy Lands.

His fascinating video Bible studies, filmed on location in the Holy Lands, brings the Word to life with astounding relevance.



COLLEGE/YOUNG ADULTS

A college/young adult group for those single and married below the age of 30 meets in the Youth Lounge (downstairs youth game room in the Family Life Center) at 10 a.m. on Sundays.







2019 First UMC Church Council

Lay Leader–Carol Allen (Chair); Finance–Sherri Frugé & Tom Henry; Trustees–Gary Bonneaux & Brown Claybar; SPR–Theresa Beauchamp & Greg Defrates; Members at Large–Jerry Pennington, Betty Merchant & Trisha Anderson; Secretary–Suzanne Magee; Pastor–Lani Rousseau

Deadline for agenda items to secretary Suzanne Magee—1st Thursday—July 4 suzanneM97@gmail.com

Next meeting—2nd Thursday—July 11 at 6 p.m.

If you have any questions or concerns for Church Council, send ONE email to <u>council@fumcorange.org</u> that will go to ALL council members!

FUMC Guiding Principles and Approved Church Council Meeting Minutes are posted on the FUMC website (under Resources)

Rev. Lani Rousseau

Lani Rousseau, affectionately known by her former children and youth friends as "Rev. Rou," began her ministerial career with a firm foundation in Christian Education. Her childhood was spent in San Leandro, California, located in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she was raised and active as a young person in the Catholic tradition, but a neighbor's invitation to visit the Methodist church opened up a whole new world and led to her call to full time pastoral ministry in the Texas Annual Conference.

Lani began studying the Bible and serving at Bear Creek UMC where she first attended. Her love of the scriptures and liturgy, background in drama, gift for music and singing, and her natural love of people of all ages resulted in her leading Vacation Bible School, children's messages, teaching adults, serving in the choir, and eventually God revealed her call to full-time ordained ministry, and the rest as they say, is history! A new bachelor's degree and all this practical Christian Educational experience led to her first job in ministry as



Director of Children and Families at First UMC's Westchase campus in west Houston. Later, she would return to Bear Creek, as Adult Ministry Director, and begin her seminary courses and be appointed as an associate pastor.

Lani received her Master of Divinity degree from SMU Perkins School of Theology and was ordained an Elder in 2013. She received her undergraduate degree, a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts from University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas, where she studied Drama and Music and also holds an Associate degree in Business Administration from Chabot College in Hayward, California.

Lani will assume her new appointment to First United Methodist Church in Orange, Texas, in July 2019. She has most recently served God and the Methodist church as senior pastor at Perritte Memorial UMC in Nacogdoches, Texas, but had previous appointments as Senior Pastor at First UMC in Sealy, Texas, as Associate Pastor and Director of Youth at FUMC, Katy, Texas, and as Associate Pastor and Director of Adult Ministries at Bear Creek UMC.

Lani has been married to her husband, Don Rousseau for 32 years. They have four adult children, Beth, Anne, Chad, and Olivia and 5 grandchildren, whom they adore. They spend their favorite days in Galveston, Texas, where they own a Victorian home in the historic district that they call their "Sanctuary by the Sea." Don, a retired educator, is a Master Gardener. Lani enjoys cooking and what she calls "treasure hunting" in resale shops around Galveston and the other small towns where they have lived. She is an avid reader, a quilter, designer of Christian banners, painter, and crafter. She loves spending days in her art studio in Galveston and decorating their Victorian for Mardi Gras and every season! Always willing to learn something new, she has started learning to play Mah Jongg and euro-style board games. Lani and Don also have two spoiled Yorkies named Edsel and Jet.

July Events:

See full calendar on church website

- July 1—Pastor Lani Rousseau begins at First United Methodist-Orange
- July 1—Good Grief Group, 6:30 p.m., Parlor
- July 7-Welcome "Meet & Greet" Pastor Rousseau, Welcome Center, between services
- July 4/5—Deadline to submit items for Church Council agenda
- July 8—Caring Ministry, 10 a.m.
- July 11—Church Council, 6 p.m.
- July 13—UMM Breakfast, 8 a.m.
- July 14—Phil & Debbie Jones—Sunrise Ministries, 6 p.m., Family Life Center
- July 15—Senior Sisterhood, 10 a.m.
- July 19—Deadline for July newsletter information

Upcoming Events:

Aug 3—Back-to-School Orange (see below) Aug 8-10—FUMC/OCP Dinner Theater (see below)



FUMC has supported the Back-to-School mission project since its beginning and even before that when we hosted Last Blast. This amazing event helps hundreds of school children in Orange County.

Please help by Volunteering on August 3 from 8 a.m.-noon by donating money for school supplies or books (checks written to FUMC with purpose at the bottom), and by donating new or gently used children's books for ages 4-14. Our church will have a booth for handing out free books to children as they pass through the line.

The monetary donations are needed by Sunday, July 7, and the books are needed by Thursday, August 1.

Volunteers attending the event on Saturday, August 3, will need to let us know their T-shirt size by Friday, July 5. Sign-up sheets will be passed around at the church services through July 7.

Donations can be given to Ginger Williams (9 a.m. service) or Beverly Blalack (11 a.m. service). You may also drop your donations off in the Administration Office. Don't miss this chance to serve your church as well as your community!

Sunday, July 14 Phil & Debbie Jones from Sunrise Ministries at 6 p.m. in the Family Life Center



SAVE THE DATE

COMING

UP

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Social

Media

Like or follow: FUMCOrangeTX

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Their mission is to share God's loving kindness and healing power through an alive and exciting Christian ministry of music, witness, and prayer that engages the soul and inspires the mind.

This will be an awesome opportunity to come together for a night of fun and fellowship and also a chance to meet our new Pastor, Lani Rousseau!

Dinner Theater August 8, 9 & 10

First UMC and Orange Community Players (OCP) will join forces to produce our next annual fundraiser. The show will be directed by two FUMC members who are also on the OCP Board of Directors, Codie Vasquez and Paul Burch. The meal will be created by Doug Rogers and church members. As many of you know, OCP was dealt a devastating blow by Hurricane Harvey and has had no productions for two seasons in a row. The proceeds will be split between the two organizations and hopefully, after making renovations to their recently purchased "Twin Cinemas," OCP will resume their storied place in the social life of Orange.



John's last service on Sunday, June 2, at FUMC-Orange before retiring!



April 28 baptism

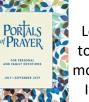
Ansley Jane Leggett Daughter of Tayler & Zack Leggett

(granddaughter of Tana & Tommy Thompson) Thanks to all who helped organize, prepare, cook, clean up, greet, etc., for Pastor John's Retirement Reception on Saturday, June 1.

3G TIPS

Use a smart power strip to reduce your energy consumption with idle electronics. Smart strips sense when electronics are off or in standby mode & cut power accordingly.





Ministry Opportunity:

Looking for a Volunteer to take our recycled Portals of Prayers to the Orange County Jail. The booklet is published every three months; you would need to take them only four times each year. If interested, please talk with Randall Bridges, Leighia Barron, or Norma Bergeron.

Every quarter, we have many unused booklets left. <u>If you pick up a copy to use</u> for your devotional each day, please let Randall, Leighia, or Norma know.
We are thinking more people are using online devotions, and will cut our order next quarter. So, please let us know if you are using it and want to continue; we want to make sure we continue to order for you. Thanks!!

Intentional Acts of Kindness for July

- Donate new or gently used books to Back to School Orange. Ginger Williams and Beverly Blalack will be collecting them – remember chapter books for older kids.
- Pay for the drive thru order of someone behind you.
- ♥ Send snail mail to a friend.
- Call your parents.



Growing Stronger Disciples

This summer we will be sharing articles about helping our children grow as disciples.

Faith Formation in Children

Infants & Toddlers (Birth–23 months) Very young children learn about their world through the people who care for them. They are discovering their world through their senses. The world revolves around the child. The key for children at this age is to build trust. Young children experience God through the people who care for them. They also begin to learn the basics of faith they see modeled for them.

How do we work with this age?

- Provide safe space and people—faith is a feeling.
- Encourage parental involvement at church and at home.
- Provide age-appropriate toys and activities in the nursery and worship space.
- Read and sing songs to children
- Repeat phrases like God loves you; Jesus is your friend; and church is a special place.

Young Preschoolers (2–3 years) Young preschoolers are in the "I can do it myself" phase. Giving children the freedom to do it themselves helps the child develop the strength of will. Examples, actions, and stories from significant people in their lives powerfully influence them. They like schedules and routines and express great curiosity about the world around them. They are beginning to develop a sense of "other" (that the world doesn't revolve around them). They also need firm boundaries to help them feel safe and secure. They play next to other children but not with them (parallel play). They are concrete, literal learners who need physical, hands-on experiences to grow. They learn by using their senses, by doing and experimenting.

How do we work with this age?

- Create space for autonomy.
- Create predictable routine with room for curiosity.
- Be consistent with rules so children know what is right and wrong.
- Use play, puppets, songs, and movement to tell Bible stories.
- Repeat phrases like these: Jesus is my friend; God made the world; God made and loves me.

Rev. Kathy Pittenger www. See All the People.org

Communication

News—News Release online form OR News@fumcorange.org When you have something you want others to know about, please use the NEWS RELEASE form located on the church website—at the bottom of the home page or under Resources—FUMC documents. If you have pictures or other attachments you may send ONE email to those who work on the bulletins, newsletters, website, social media, print media, calendar, etc.		
Prayer Blasts—Quick way to get prayer requests out = PrayerBlasts@fumcorange.org	Calendar —To add or update something on the website calendar, please send an email to office@fumcorange.org	
Prayer Requests —For confidential prayers, use form	Church Council—Send any questions or	

on Intercessory Prayer webpage or send email to PrayerRequests@fumcorange.org Include an co address to have a note of encouragement sent!

Church Council—Send any questions or concerns for Church Council, to council@fumcorange.org that will go to ALL council members!

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Rooted In Christ			

502 NORTH SIXTH ST. ORANGE, TX 77630

OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Friday 8:30 am - Noon

WORSHIP

9 am - Praise service in the Family Life Center

10 am - Sunday School

11 am - Traditional service in the Chapel in the summer

