



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.

MARCH 2019

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

Rev. John E. Warren
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 **Wednesday, March 20**,
so the newsletter can be
distributed before April 1.

PASTOR ANNOUNCES HIS RETIREMENT JOHN WARREN / JUNE 2011-JUNE 2019 (Full report in April!)

John and Sandra will be packing during her spring break. If you have boxes you could donate, they would be much appreciated. The DS will meet with our council in March to share with us the possible next pastor. A special service for retirees will be held at the Annual Conference on Tuesday, May 28, at 2 p.m. at the Hotel of the Americas in Downtown Houston. John's last Sunday and retirement festivities at the church are being planned.

At the Sunday, February 24 9 a.m. service, we found the names of all the Special Conference delegates encircling the Family Life Center where we prayed for each person. Then at the 11 a.m. service, the names were placed in the pews—they FILLED the church. Our congregation lifted the conference in prayer, and many took a person's name to continue praying. Results of their work will be announced soon. But we will remain and always will be a congregation where all are loved and accepted into the family.

Sunday, March 3—UMM Gumbo Fundraiser, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6—Ash Wednesday Service—Service of Ashes will be held at 6 p.m. in The Slade Chapel. Join us at **5 p.m. for Lenten soup** in the Family Life Center (No WNL). Our Confirmation Class will be participating in the service. Our service will begin our Lenten Series with this service of confession.

Sunday, March 10—Texas A&M Wesley Worship Team will lead both services
25 students from Texas and Prairie View Methodist Foundations will stay at the Mauriceville UMC Fellowship Hall while working in the area during Spring Break

Lenten Sermon Series—Cross Roads With the Messiah

Meet six persons whose lives crossed the life of Jesus Christ. Our Lenten series will introduce us face to face with the people who were called by Christ, those who followed, and those who were caught in the turbulent week of his capture. We are venturing out looking at their stories one on one. Come and see who will visit us each week.

With the great response from our Trial of Judas several years ago, we are venturing out with the one-on-one personal stories from those who were part of Jesus' life. The men and women in the monologues are adapted from *The Follow Through On Follow Me* by Thomas Blowers, a UMC pastor.

Saturday, March 23—Churchwide Garage Sale, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Mark your calendars for HOLY WEEK:

† **Sunday, April 14—Palm Sunday** (Easter VBS, Egg Drop/Hunt, etc.)

† **Thursday, April 18—Maundy Thursday Service** at 6 p.m.

† **Friday, April 19—Funeral for Jesus—WHAT?** What if there had been time for a proper burial? That is what the women went to prepare. Who would of been there to pay their respects? Which disciples would be missing in action? Mark your calendar for Good Friday, where we find out just who would be there. Were you there when they crucified my Lord is not the only question for Good Friday as we hold a funeral for Jesus. Pay your respects and bring your friends—it will be a service to remember! Service at 6 p.m.

† **Sunday, April 21—EASTER—HE IS RISEN!**



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 Since Last Newsletter

Jan. 20	Jan. 27	Feb. 3	Feb. 10	Feb. 17
9:00 ?	9:00 60	9:00 63	9:00 68	9:00 64
11:00 ?	11:00 62	11:00 60	11:00 44	11:00 53
TOTAL 119	TOTAL 122	TOTAL 123	TOTAL 112	TOTAL 117

Giving

January 2019		You can also give online!
Income.....	\$31,059.34	
Expenses. ...	\$36,062.78	
	-\$5,003.44	

March Worship

March 3, 2019

Scripture: Luke 9: 28-36
Sermon: Beyond Words

March 10, 2019

Texas A&M Wesley
Worship Team

March 17, 2019

Scripture: Mark 3:13-19
Witness: James - What It Means to Fish for Men

March 24, 2019

Scripture: Luke 7:36-48
Witness: The Women In Jesus' Life

March 31, 2019

Scripture: Matthew 16:13-20
Witness: Simon Bar-Jonah - Who Do You Say That I Am?

COMMUNION

Altar Guild: Nevella Toal team & Trish Anderson

Parking Lot Greeters:
9-Jeff & Sherri Frugé
11-Sandra Hoke & Betty Merchant

9 am Inside Greeters:
Greg Defrates & Lauren Peet

11 am Ushers: Team #1
Ricky Harper, Frank Beauchamp, John Cochran, Jean Whitley, Elaine Cooper

Lay Readers:
9-Greg Defrates
11-Beverly Blalack

Welcome Center Greeters:
9:30-10-Pat McCombs
10-11:15-Kay Butler

Welcome Center Bakers:
Bridget Teaff & Debbie Taylor



Altar Guild: Nevella Toal team & Trish Anderson

Parking Lot Greeters:
9-Susan & Jeff Eby
11-Charlie & Beverly Blalack

9 am Inside Greeters:
Ed & Charlotte Foreman

11 am Ushers: Team #2
Brown Claybar, Phil Grooms, Ken Hillsten, Betty Merchant

Lay Readers:
9-Texas A&M members
11-Texas A&M members

Welcome Center Greeters:
9:30-10-Jonathan Vogt
10-11:15-Suzanne Magee

Welcome Center Bakers:
Dana Sandlin & Priscella Burns

Altar Guild: Nevella Toal team & Trish Anderson

Parking Lot Greeters:
9-Richard & Leighia Barron
11-Drew & Annelly Domas

9 am Inside Greeters:
Julie & Richard Allensworth

11 am Ushers: Team #3
John Griffith, Jerry Windham, Ron Hopperton, Nevella Toal, Vernon Murray, Richard Powell

Lay Readers:
9-Julie Allensworth
11-Jonathan Vogt

Welcome Center Greeters:
9:30-10-Pat McCombs
10-11:15-Kay Butler

Welcome Center Bakers:
Gloria Jackson & Leighia Barron

Altar Guild: Nevella Toal team & Trish Anderson

Parking Lot Greeters:
9-Dale Dardeau & Ken Wheeler
11-Archie McLellan & Nevella Toal

9 am Inside Greeters:
Chris & Jennifer Smith

11 am Ushers: Team #4
Mat Taylor, Sarah Boehme, Drew Domas, Wayne Mulhollan

Lay Readers:
9-Tom Henry
11-Donna Bell

Welcome Center Greeters:
9:30-10-Jonathan Vogt
10-11:15-Suzanne Magee

Welcome Center Bakers:
Sue Stephenson & Barbara Dardeau

Altar Guild: Nevella Toal team & Trish Anderson

Parking Lot Greeters:
9-Randall & Sharon Bridges
11-**Volunteer Opportunity**

9 am Inside Greeters:
Trisha & Bobby Anderson

11 am Ushers: Team #5
Hubert Hancock, Travis Miller, Barry Bates, Don & Debbie Bayliss

Lay Readers:
9-Pie Bridges
11-Theresa Beauchamp

Welcome Center Greeters:
9:30-10-**Volunteer Opportunity**
10-11:15-**Volunteer Opportunity**

Welcome Center Bakers:
Dina Defrates & Theresa Allen

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

Wesley Foundation
Bluegrass Band
from Texas A&M
at both services!



A Service of Ashes
Wednesday, March 6
at 6 p.m.
in the Slade Chapel.



Every 1st Sunday— OCS Collection Sundays

Give money (in envelope marked OCS) or place donated items in OCS containers in the Family Life Center. During Communion, all offerings left at the rail go to **Orange Christian Services.**

2nd Sundays—
Bring Cans to Recycle

3rd Sundays—
Bring Donations for the Rainbow Room

Please pray for our "Family" of the week

Mar. 3	Jimmie and Carol Allen
Mar. 10	Randall and Sharon Bridges
Mar. 17	Chris and Angela Abshire
Mar. 24	Doug and Donna Rogers
Mar. 31	Jerry and Florence Evans



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](https://www.fumc.org) to 81010

Facebook: [fumcorangeyouth](https://www.facebook.com/fumcorangeyouth)

Instagram & Twitter:
[@fumcorangeyouth](https://www.instagram.com/fumcorangeyouth)

Youth March & Upcoming Activities:

March 1—Lamar Wesley Center Game Night (High School & College Students), 5:20 p.m.

March 6—Confirmation Class helps lead the Ash Wednesday Service

March 10—No C.R.E.W. (Spring Break)

March 13—No Confirmation or WNL Classes (Spring Break)

March 20—Youth Feeds WNL

March 31—Town Scavenger Hunt, 5-7 p.m.



A special thanks to all who contributed in buying goodies during our Valentine's bake sale last month!

The Confirmation Class visited Stable Spirit for their mission activity.



Can you help feed the youth?

This meal would serve about 15-20 people and can be something simple like hot dogs, pizza, soups, lasagna, corndogs, sandwiches, etc.

YOUTH—If you are willing to feed the youth on Sundays, March 24 is still available.

CONFIRMANDS—Randall is also looking for someone to feed the confirmation class after WNL ends on April 17 and April 24.

Email or call Randall to claim one!

Confirmation Classes January 16 through April 24 May 5—Confirmation Sunday



Confirmation classes in Spring 2019 runs alongside WNL in the Spring but participants usually eat together from 5-5:30 p.m. and then started class 30 minutes before the other classes start.

Confirmation is a time for students to learn more about their faith and the Methodist Church. The last day, we will confirm the students into the church as they become official members of FUMC.

Keep these students in your prayers!

1st Methodist Kids

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.



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—John Warren

Deadline for agenda items to secretary Suzanne Magee—1st Thursday—March 7
suzanneM97@gmail.com

Next meeting—2nd Thursday—March 14, at 6 p.m.

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

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



Churchwide Garage Sale

Saturday, March 23
8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Administrative Center

Save your treasures from your “Spring Cleaning!”

Please bring items below **by Friday, March 22**, to the Administrative Center during office hours (or on Sunday morning for smaller items):

- Household items, books, dishes, working appliances, or furniture in good condition, etc.
- While we are not accepting clothes, we hope you will donate those to the Salvation Army.
- If you have large items and need help getting them to the church, please call the church office to see if we can assist you.
- Pricing will be ongoing through March—all items **must** be at church by March 22!
- Proceeds will go to the ministries of First United Methodist Church.
- To volunteer, contact the church office or watch for sign-up sheets in the Sunday services

Council News

The District Superintendent (DS) met with the Church Council at their February 21 Council meeting.

The Council passed the proposed 2019 budget and approved a new five-year contract with Emmaus. The DS will be back at the end of March.

United Methodist Men Gumbo Fundraiser Sunday, March 3

Serving from 9 until 12:30
Family Life Center

**Cup of Gumbo w/rice, rice,
potato salad, & drink for \$5**
Two cups w/rice for \$10
Three cups w/rice for \$15
Eat in or take out!

**Raising funds for church
projects!**

Mark your calendars—Vacation Bible School will be June 24-27.

Please invite your family and friends
to come join the fun!!
(Ages preschool through 5th grade)

Talk to Randall or Leighia if you would like to volunteer
to help with rotations, be a crew leader, or
donate materials and snacks.

Also if you have any African savannah theme decorations
that we could use—YELL!!



March Events:

[See full calendar on church website](#)

Wednesdays—Wednesday Night Live—Meal at 5 p.m., Classes at 6 p.m.
March 2—24th annual Community Trash-Off, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
March 3—United Methodist Men—Gumbo Fundraiser
March 3—Ephesian Bible Study, Unfinished Crafters, 5-7 p.m., Parlour
March 4—Good Grief Group, 6:30 p.m., Parlor
March 6—Education Meeting, 4 p.m.
March 6—Lenten Meal at 5 p.m. / Ash Wednesday Service at 6 p.m. in Chapel
March 7—Deadline to submit items for Church Council agenda
March 9—UMM Breakfast, 8 a.m.
March 10—Texas A&M Wesley Worship Team will lead services
March 11—Caring Ministry, 10 a.m.
March 13—NO Wednesday Night Live Meal/Classes (Spring Break)
March 14—Church Council, 6 p.m.
March 20—Deadline for April newsletter information
March 23—Churchwide Garage Sale

Upcoming Events:

April 14—Easter VBS, 3:30 p.m., followed by Kid's Egg Drop & Easter Egg Hunt
April 18—Maundy Thursday Service, 6 p.m. Chapel
April 19—Good Friday Service, 6 p.m., Chapel
April 21—EASTER
June 24-27—Vacation Bible School

SAVE THE DATE

COMING
UP



Like or follow:
FUMCOrangeTX

Wednesday Night Live

Please invite family and friends
to come for fellowship and
growing in our spiritual walk with Jesus.

Share a Meal at 5 p.m.

March 6—Lenten Soup for Ash Wednesday (*no classes*)
March 13—SPRING BREAK (*no meal/classes*)
March 20—Ham, veggies, mac & cheese (Youth—
proceeds go to ministry project)
March 27—Mexican Casseroles (Unfinished Crafters)

Learn Together at 6 p.m.:

† Disciple Fast Track—Luke / Acts

Facilitator: Beverly Blalack

Disciple Fast Track Into the Word Into the World is an adaptation of the original, bestselling *Disciple Bible Study Into the Word Into the World*. The study is ideal for busy people who want to fit an in-depth Bible study into their schedule. The study retains the familiar *Disciple* format with its theme word, theme verse, statement of the human condition, daily and weekly assignments, and prayer. Into the Word helps readers deepen their understanding of Scripture and make connections between what they already know and what they are reading. Each week you will encounter three spiritual disciplines, learn what they are, and how you can engage those disciplines. The first discipline varies from week to week, then moves into Sabbath and prayer. In every session, you commit to how you will respond to Scripture in terms of ministry in the world.

† Max Lucado's Bible Study—Ezra & Nehemiah

Facilitator: Suzanne Magee

Twelve lessons on Ezra and Nehemiah, key leaders who left Babylon for the reconstruction of Jerusalem. With scripture reading, inspirational readings, questions to answer, space for journaling, and a prayer, it's like studying the Bible with Max Lucado. This class is finishing the study that started in the fall. If you would like to join, they have two additional books.

† **Confirmation** for youth in 6th and 7th grades and their sponsors. Confirmation class will begin at 5:30.

† **Classes for youth 8th–12th grades and children K-5th.**
A nursery is provided for younger children.



If interested in cooking a WNL meal,
please talk with Leighia Barron or
Randall Bridges.

It's not too late to join a class!
Talk with Beverly or Suzanne!

24th Annual Community Trash Off

The 24th annual
Community Trash-Off is
scheduled for **Saturday,
March 2, 2019, from
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

A big THANK YOU to
Donna Benefield and Cindy
Reynolds for organizing
the FUMC trash off team!

If YOU would like to help
clean the streets and
waterways of the Orange,
West Orange and
Pinehurst communities,
meet them at the Boat
Ramp on Simmons Drive
at 7:30 a.m. They will
have a form for you to
sign. **For participants,
lunch is provided.** If you
have questions, please call
Donna at 670-6328.

This event is supported by
the City of Orange, Texas,
and organized by Shangri
La Botanical Gardens and
Nature Center;
headquarters are at the
City of Orange Boat Ramp
on Simmons Drive.
(409.670.9113)

Jesus Taught us how to Serve Others

Good Grief Group

Life just throws a curve some-times. You may not even know it is coming, but you know when it happens. It is valuable to us to walk through life with others who have walked on a similar path. Our lives have been marked with instances of grief, some more recent, but all real.

If you find yourself in that area, join us each first Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor.

BY GIVING
SERVICE
TO OTHERS,
I GIVE
SERVICE
TO GOD.



Community Rewards

First United Methodist Church-Orange's account number = **NV689**

Go to www.kroger.com; click on Savings & Rewards—Kroger Community Rewards. To enroll, search for the **account number** or the **name of your organization**.

Nov. 2018-Jan. 2019 Total Donations =
\$71.84

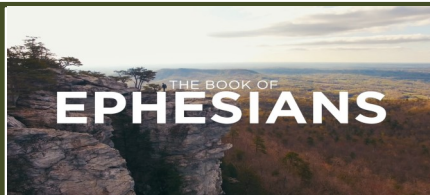
Thank you to the
26 households who helped FUMC by
shopping at Kroger!

Palm Sunday, April 14

Activities for families begin at 3:30 p.m.
in the Family Life Center: crafts, snacks,
science activities, and games.

The Egg Drop will be begin at 4:30 p.m.
followed by the Easter Egg Hunt.

Donations of candy for the eggs would be greatly appreciated!!
THANKS!!



STUDY OF EPHESIANS BEGINS MARCH 3

The Unfinished Crafters will dive into a 7-week study of Ephesians beginning Sunday, March 3, from 5-7 p.m. in the Parlor. The class will not meet Palm Sunday nor Easter Sunday, and the last class will be on Sunday, April 28.

Please bring a study Bible, notebook, and pen for this class. Bring a snack to share. To join, please contact Nicole at 409-782-6296.

*In
Loving
Memory*

Rev. Earl Howard "Howdy" Dawson, who served as pastor at First United Methodist Church-Orange from 1993-1998, died Sunday, February 17, 2019, in Houston.

A memorial service celebrating his life was held Friday, February 22, 2019, at Williams Memorial United Methodist Church in Texarkana, Texas.

*In
Loving
Memory*

Memorials:

In Memory of

Bob Izer

Sam & Dee Culpepper
Tim & Joy Hughes

Greg Rogers

Tim & Joy Hughes

Beverly Keszeg Mixson

Lewis & Linda Sims

Intentional Acts of Kindness From Pre-School to College

North Early Learning Center always needs:

- ♥ Kleenex
- ♥ Baby Wipes
- ♥ Underwear 3T and 4T
- ♥ Socks

The Wesley Foundation at Lamar University, which prepares 150 snack bags given out on Fridays, can use:

- ♥ Small paper bags
- ♥ Snacks



Growing Stronger Disciples

Article from *The Four Stages of a Disciple's Journey*, Natalie Lavalley

STAGE 1: Come and See (see FUMC February 2019 Newsletter)

STAGE 2: Come and Follow Me (FUMC's Knowing Christ)

This stage begins when we step beyond just learning about Christianity and decide to follow Christ. During this stage, we learn to read Scripture and pray, and we may begin to worship and serve in a Christian community. We also begin to reconsider our actions and habits in light of Christ's commandments.

Unfortunately, we have the tendency to become stagnant in this stage. Over time our enthusiasm wanes. Confusion, disillusion, and doubts may discourage us. Up to this point, we may have focused on the actions and the head knowledge of Christianity and found we've come no closer to deeper intimacy with Christ. Despite reading the Bible and saying our prayers, we may still have no sense of interacting with someone who desires a deep relationship with us. Everyone experiences this from time to time, but the danger comes when we settle into thinking that this stage is as good as it gets and take up residence here.

The REVEAL for Church survey shows that, in most churches, the largest percent of church members are in this stage. In some churches, people in Stage 2 make up about 50% of the congregation. And some of those people have remained there for decades. They may actually fear intimacy with Christ because it means giving up control. When Christianity becomes more than church activities, and God begins to speak to us, we no longer control our journey. But, of course, that's what being a follower of Jesus is all about. This is the point at which we must move from being a Martha to being a Mary. It is harder to sit still and be with Christ, waiting for His timing and direction, than it is to do activities for Christ.

An excellent tool for helping us take the steps from "Come and Follow Me" toward "Come and Be with Me" is small groups. Small groups get people more comfortable with the relational aspect of their faith. Of course, the quality of the small group impacts how well it leads a person toward intimacy with God. Many groups shy away from getting too personal and may be so legalistic that they stifle the vulnerability that is essential for growth.

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

Prayer Requests—For confidential prayers, use form on Intercessory Prayer webpage or send email to PrayerRequests@fumcorange.org Include an address to have a note of encouragement sent!

Calendar—To add or update something on the website calendar, please send an email to office@fumcorange.org

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



Rooted In Christ • Branching Out In Faith
Disciples Growing Disciples

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 Sanctuary

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH—ORANGE'S VISION ROOTED IN CHRIST ... BRANCHING OUT IN FAITH ... DISCIPLES GROWING DISCIPLES

At First UMC-Orange, we grow Disciples who grow Disciples! It is just that simple! It's what we do!

From revival and renewed spirit through worship, we move people from the sanctuary to the community delivering God's message of hope and grace through Jesus Christ. Whenever and wherever we come together, we do so in His name, modeling His Grace and sharing His Word.

For saints and seekers; for individuals and families; for those more or less fortunate; for young and old alike...The *good news* is for all people. We are the voices and the hands branching out in Faith to encourage and support people. We provide worship, programs, and activities for families and individuals that will help you take God's word and apply it to *your* circumstances so He can change *your* life in ways you knew not possible.

Through Christ, we will facilitate the transformation of individuals into His People and our community into His community! At First UMC-Orange, we grow disciples who grow disciples! It is just that simple! It's what we do!