



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 2020

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

Rev. Lani Rousseau

Senior Pastor

Pastor@fumcorange.org

Norma Bergeron

Administrative Assistant

Office@fumcorange.org

Randall Bridges

Director of

Christian Education & Youth

Youth@fumcorange.org

Caroline Dennis

Director of

Music & Worship Arts

Music@fumcorange.org

Scott Lawson

Custodian

TBA

Organist

Mary Grimes

Christine Bodin

Nursery Caregiver

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, March 20,

so the newsletter can be
distributed before April 1.

The Season of Lent has begun. As I mentioned last month, we are all going to put our congregational focus on learning together with a study by Rev. Adam Hamilton called *The Walk*. We will be digging deeper into "the essential practices of the Christian life." We will not be following the Revised Common Lectionary during this season, but we will explore the scriptures as we walk along and allow ourselves to discover, anew, the aspects of our Christian discipleship that have brought meaning to our lives.

I will be leading two small groups: one on Mondays at 10 a.m. and the other as part of our Wednesday Night Live program at 6 p.m. Both groups will meet in the Fellowship Hall to discuss our reading for the week and share our insights and perhaps even our struggles.

Even if you are unable to be a part of a small group, I hope that you will commit to pray during this season and really listen for God's voice in your own life. What is God calling you to this Holy season? Perhaps there is a friend who has been on your heart who needs a call or a card. Perhaps you can share kindness with a stranger at a doctor's visit. Acts of discipleship do not always have to be large, but they usually have a large impact in God's kingdom and in our own lives.

My sermons will have a different focus each Sunday and correspond with the chapters of the book. We will begin with worship and prayer, our first impulses of gratitude to God for all of gifts we see around us each day—the gift of life, of creation, of family and friends, to name a few. What will it mean for us to reflect on what worship means in our lives and how prayer plays a part as worship each day? Week two we will be learning and applying what study means in the life of a disciple of Jesus. Perhaps we will find new ways to think about study; perhaps there is more we can learn on this walk together. In week three, we will learn about the ways that disciples serve in the Body of Christ and the world. Each step on our walk will have us pondering the ways we still live and thrive as disciples. On the fourth week, we will reflect and evaluate what it means to give as a disciple. Over the four preceding weeks, we should have gained some new knowledge and practices to stretch our current ways of supporting the ministries of the church. On the fifth week, March 29th, we will take a break in our study and experience our Easter Cantata (Special Musical) at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary followed by our Fabulous Fifth Sunday Fellowship with a light lunch and a church workday! (Several folks have said that a Sunday after church is better for a workday. There are lots of plans for cleaning and repairing and sprucing up in time for Easter.) Week six is Palm Sunday. Suddenly, we are in April and we will be looking at our final practice of sharing the Good News. Our study will come to completion on Maundy Thursday, April 9, as we reflect even further on all five of these essential practices from the perspective of the cross. On Good Friday, we will have a special time of prayer in the chapel where you can come and go throughout the day, remembering the generous way Jesus gave his life for all of us.

Lent is definitely an appropriate season to remember and share together our love of God and care for others. I have been praying that we will all grow stronger in our faith and discipleship and be re-created as we take *The Walk* together.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Lani



This month, Chancel Ringers will rehearse Thursday evenings from 6-7 p.m. in the Sanctuary, in preparation for a Palm Sunday performance! If you can read music and would like to join in the fun, please contact Caroline Dennis! caroline@fumcorange.org

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. 26	Feb. 2	Feb. 9	Feb 16	Feb. 23
9:00 72	9:00 63	9:00 67	9:00 121	9:00 78
11:00 46	11:00 33	11:00 49	11:00 51	11:00 32
TOTAL 118	TOTAL 96	TOTAL 116	TOTAL 172	TOTAL 110

Giving

January 2020	You can also give online!
Income.....\$43,130.13	
Expenses.....\$25,481.11	
+ \$17,649.02	

March Worship—Lent

Sermon Series: *The Walk: Essential Practices of the Christian Life* by Rev. Adam Hamilton

March 1, 2020

Psalm 95:1-7

**Worship and Prayer:
A Living Hallelujah**

March 8, 2020

2 Timothy 3:14-17

**Study: The Importance
of Listening and
Paying Attention**

March 15, 2020

Matthew 25:31-46

**Serve: Here I Am,
Lord, Send Me**

March 22, 2020

1 Timothy 6:17-19

**Give: Where Your
Treasure Is...**

March 29, 2020

**Cantata
(see below)**

COMMUNION

Altar Guild: Nevella
Toal team & Trisha
Anderson

Parking Lot Greeters:
9—Leighia & Richard
Barron
11—Sandra Hoke & Betty
Merchant

9 am Inside Greeters:
Lauren & Sydney
Peet

11 am Ushers: Team
#1—Ricky Harper,
Frank Beauchamp,
John Cochran, Lynn
Fields

Lay Readers:
9—Debbie Tutt
11—Theresa Beauchamp

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

**Welcome Center
Bakers:**
Gloria Jackson &
Leighia Barron



Altar Guild: Nevella
Toal team & Trisha
Anderson

Parking Lot Greeters:
9—Jerry & Susan
Pennington
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—Leighia Barron
11—Lynn Fields

**Welcome Center
Greeters:**
9:30-10—**Available**
10:30-11:15—Suzanne
Magee

Welcome Center Bakers:
Sue Stephenson &
Barbara Dardeau

Altar Guild: Nevella
Toal team & Trisha
Anderson

Parking Lot Greeters:
9—Jeff & Sherri Frugé
11—Drew & Annely
Domas

9 am Inside Greeters:
Julie & Richard
Allensworth

11 am Ushers: Team
#3—Richard Powell,
Jerry Windham,
Nevella Toal, Vernon
Murray

Lay Readers:
9—Julie Allensworth
11—Annely Domas

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

**Welcome Center
Bakers:**
Dina Defrates &
Theresa Allen

Altar Guild: Nevella
Toal team & Trisha
Anderson

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

9 am Inside Greeters:
David & Pie Bridges

11 am Ushers: Team
#4—Don & Debbie
Bayliss, Sarah
Boehme, Wayne
Mulhollan

Lay Readers:
9—Donna Benefield
11—Sandra Hoke

**Welcome Center
Greeters:**
9:30-10—**Available**
10:30-11:15—Suzanne
Magee

**Welcome Center
Bakers:**
Sandra Hoke &
Debbie Bayliss

**ONE SERVICE
10 a.m.
Sanctuary
No Sunday School**

Altar Guild: Nevella
Toal team

Greeters:
Bobby & Trisha
Anderson, Bart &
Ginger Williams

Ushers: Team #5—
Drew Domas, Travis
Miller, Barry Bates

**Welcome Center
Greeters:**
9:30-10—**Available**
10:30-11:15—Suzanne
Magee

**Welcome Center
Bakers:**
Lori Kratzer &
Brittany Harmon

These 11 a.m. services will continue to be held 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 Welcome
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

4th Sundays: Bring books for
Back to School

Our
"Fabulous Fifth Sunday"
Worship Event -
*The Weeping Tree: A Service
for Holy Week*, is a poignant
portrait of the cross that uses
beloved hymns, newly
composed music, and
thoughtful narration to create
a touching testament of grace.
Come, be immersed in this
beautiful composition as we
posture our hearts in
remembrance of Christ's
sacrifice given for our
salvation.



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 **R**eady, **E**quipped, and **W**illing
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.instagram.com/fumcora) to 81010

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

Instagram & Twitter:

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

Youth March Activities:

March 15: No C.R.E.W.

March 29—RSVP deadline for Graduation Breakfast on May 3 (all high school seniors & their family members).



Bonfire at the Abshire's



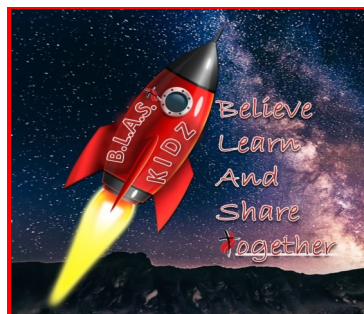
The **Kids@First** are learning to pray "The Lord's Prayer" in unison, followed by a song with choreography, "My God is So Big." During the Methodist Moment, they have learned about the Methodist church and know the significance behind the symbol:

Sundays, 5-7 p.m. Cross and Flame. During a Scavenger Hunt, the girls found 55 and the boys found 54 Methodist Cross and Flame symbols in the building. During snack time, the lights were lowered, and an ancient replica of an oil lamp from Israel was filled with olive oil, a cotton wick, and lit to take them back in time to how light was during the days of Jesus. They are also learning about John and Charles Wesley.

The Kids@First discuss the morning sermon and what they learned in Sunday School.



Israeli Oil Lamp



BLAST kicked off with a song, the Lord's prayer, and did a Blind trust game, where the participant had to find a key chain Bible that they got to keep, and put on their backpack for school. As an initiation into BLAST,

Wednesdays, 5-7 p.m. any new Kidz to Blast will do the blind trust challenge and be awarded with this prize (below).

The next week we learned about Prayer—Speaking to Authority. The verb to pray in ancient Hebrew (palal) means speaking to authority, to be respectful, and reverent. Jesus taught us to pray with "Our Father." We have an Heavenly Father.

Another week, we discovered El-Kanah, Penninah, and Hannah, a story of bullying, praying with your heart, pouring your soul out to the Lord, and an answered prayer. I Samuel 1



2020 First UMC Church Council

Lay Leader—Greg Defrates (Chair); Finance—Tom Henry, David Bridges & Betty Merchant;
Trustees—Brown Claybar & Sandra Hoke; SPR—Theresa Beauchamp, Jerry Pennington &
TBD; Communications—Trisha Anderson; Member at Large—Betty James;
Secretary—Suzanne Magee; Pastor—Lani Rousseau

Deadline for agenda items—2nd Thursday, March 12

Email to suzanneM97@gmail.com

Next meeting—3rd Thursday, March 19, 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
Approved
Church
Council
Meeting
Minutes**
are
[posted on the
FUMC website](#)
(under
Resources)



A Time for
Christian
Fellowship as
We Grow into a
Stronger Disciple
for Jesus.

Light meal at 5 p.m.;
class at 6 p.m.

Meals at 5 p.m.:

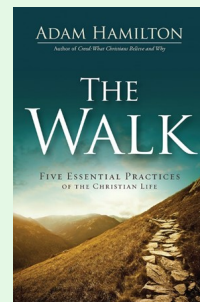
- ♦ **Mar. 4:** Link, hotdogs
—by UMM (proceeds go towards
UMM's projects)
- ♦ **Mar. 11:** Potatoes and sausage
—by Richard/Leighia Barron
- ♦ **Mar 18:** Pizza and salads
—by WNL Committee
- ♦ **Mar 25:** Mexican Casseroles
—by Unfinished Crafters (proceeds
go towards an Unfinished Crafters
mission project)
- ♦ **Apr 1:** TBA
—by Youth (proceeds go towards
Summer Camps)

At 6 p.m.:

- † Adults—Beginning March 4, Pastor Lani
will lead a 5-week class on Adam
Hamilton's *The Walk*, Fellowship Hall
- † 6th-12th—Youth
- † K-5th—BLAST (Believe, Learn, and Share
Together)

The Walk A Church-wide Study for Lent

**Examine five essential
spiritual practices rooted in
Jesus' own walk with God
this Season of Lent**



How do we walk with Christ—daily follow him, grow in him, and faithfully serve him? In the Gospels, Jesus modeled for us the Christian spiritual life. The apostles taught it in their writings. And the Church has, through the last 2,000 years, sought to pursue this Christian spiritual life.

Join us this Lenten season as we take part in this new study by Rev. Adam Hamilton. In *The Walk*, Adam Hamilton focuses on five essential spiritual practices that are rooted in Jesus' own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. Each of these practices is intended as part of our daily walk with Christ while also being an essential part of growing together in the church.

In each chapter, Hamilton explores one of these practices, its New Testament foundation, and what it looks like to pursue this practice daily in our personal life and together in the life of the church. Deepen your walk with Christ as we explore the five essential practices of worship, study, serving, giving, and bearing witness to our faith.

The Walk Lenten Study with Pastor Lani begins on Monday, March 2, at 10 a.m. and Wednesday, March 4 at 6 p.m.. You only need to attend one of the class meetings. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall near the church offices. Read the Introduction and the first chapter to be prepared to for our group-time together.

March Events:

[See full calendar on church website](#)

Sundays until May 3—Unfinished Crafters Bible Study of John

Mar 3—Programming Team Leader Meeting, 4:15 p.m.

Mar 4—Education Meeting, 4 p.m.

Mar 9—Caring Ministry, 10 a.m.

Mar 12—Deadline for Council agenda items

Mar 14—UMM Breakfast, 8 a.m.

Mar 15—Deadline to order Easter Lilies (\$15) or Hydrangeas (\$20)

Mar 15—United Methodist Men's Gumbo Fundraiser, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Mar 16—Senior Sisterhood, 10 a.m.

Mar 19—Church Council, 6 p.m.

Mar 20—Deadline for April newsletter information

Mar 29—Fifth Sunday Fellowship—NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

ONE SERVICE at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary, 11 a.m.—church workday

Upcoming Events:

Apr 4—Art in the Park (visit our 3G booth)

Apr 5— 3 p.m.—Egg Drop;

3:30 p.m.—Easter Egg Hunt for toddlers through 5th grade;

4:15 p.m.—The Great Surprise: Easter Family activities, Family Life Center

Apr 9—Maundy Thursday Communion Service, 6 p.m., Chapel

Apr 10—Come and Go Prayer Vigil (Come and go as you please to pray that day in the beautiful Chapel.)

Apr 12—EASTER SUNDAY, no Sunday School

Jun 22-25—VBS, 9-11:30 a.m.

SAVE THE DATE

COMING
UP



Like or follow:
FUMCOrangeTX

UMM Gumbo Sale

Sunday, March 15

9 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Eat in or Take out:

Cup of gumbo w/rice, potato
salad, crackers & drink = \$5

2 cups gumbo w/ rice = \$10

3 cups gumbo w/ rice = \$15

Proceeds support local projects.

Thank you so much

to everyone who contributed
to our Valentine's Day Bake Sale
Faith-raiser*. We raised \$908.27,
and we're extremely grateful to all of
you! Some of you gave money despite
not being able to get any treats!

-FUMC Youth



*Our staff likes this word, Faith-raiser, because funds given at these Faith-raisers enable the growth of faith. In this case, they help our teens go to camp. Today, camp prices average \$400/camper.

MAR 3G TIP



Thanks to everyone who
has helped us recycle!

Currently we're recycling hearing
aid batteries at LU Speech &
Hearing Department. Also
vitamin and prescription
containers (without labels) are
sent to places that are not able to
afford them. Please share your
empty aluminum cans because
we can sell them for a few cents,
but then we have a little money
for projects that help others.
Also, remember to visit our booth
at Art in the Park on April 4!
Please stop by and say "Hi"!!

Rainbow Room Donations

The Rainbow Room is in need of
new sets of clothes sizes 2T-5T
(please be sure to send sets).
Items can be put in donation
container in Welcome Center.

If you prefer to donate money,
make checks out to Orange
County Community Partners and
give to Norma or to Ginger
Williams, who will take them to
the Rainbow Room board
meeting every 3rd Thursday.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Vacation Bible School June 22–25, 9-11:30 a.m.

Take a minute to
invite your family
and friends –
giving them the
opportunity to
mark our VBS on
their calendars
too.



If you can volunteer in one of our rotations
or as a crew leader, please let Randall or Leighia
know. THANKS!



**Orange's Mardi Gras
Parade & Gumbo
(Saturday,
February 15)**



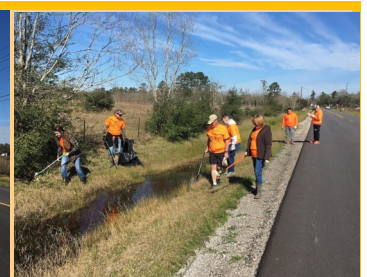
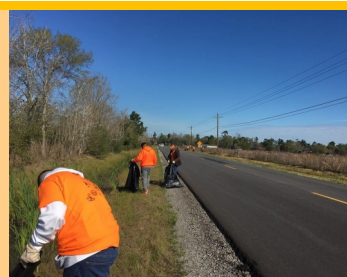
**Mission Project for American Soldiers
(Wednesday, February 18)**



**Leighia presenting Mr. Rock with
his prayer blanket made during
Wednesday Night Live**



**Orange County
Trash Pick Up
(Saturday,
February 22)**



Throughout the next year, FUMC-Orange is participating in the "One Child Campaign" and will **pray for Dayton**—a local 15-year-old boy awaiting adoption. On his profile, Dayton says, "When I look in the mirror, I say, 'You're handsome, you're smart, you're funny.' I want a mom and dad and my forever home."



Growing Stronger Disciples

Get Them Talking REST!!

Scripture—"Come to me, all you who are struggling hard and carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28, Common English Bible

Reflection

Life can sometimes get super busy. We might have a lot of homework to do or a special project at work that requires extra time. We might get overwhelmed with rehearsals before the play opens or we might not want to end our time playing with friends.

But the truth is, rest is important. God designed human beings with a need for down time. It's not just a good idea; it is necessary to help make us more ready when it is time to work or play again. And, Jesus tells us that if we come to him, he will give us rest.

Families—Get them talking

- ♥ Are you good at resting, or is it difficult for you? What makes it hard to rest?
- ♥ Have you ever been so busy that you have not rested well? How did that make things harder?
- ♥ What is your favorite part about bedtime? What is your least favorite part?
- ♥ What do you think Jesus means when he says, "I will give you rest"?

Prayer

Dear God, teach us the importance of rest and how to enjoy times when we are not busy. Amen.

Activity

Find time each week (30 minutes? an hour?) for the whole family to rest together. No work. No screens. Just rest, talk and be together.

Get Them Talking is a [series of monthly resources](#), provided by the United Methodist Church, to help families lead conversations about issues of faith during dinner, devotions, a drive or anytime.

In Loving Memory

Memorials:

in Memory of

Nancy Finchum

Bart & Ginger Williams

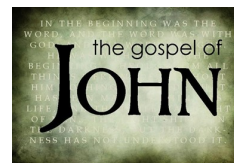
Gerald Taylor

Bart & Ginger Williams

Alice Rothrock

Bart & Ginger Williams

Nancy Donnaud



Unfinished Crafter's John Bible Study Sundays, 5-7 p.m.

Unfinished Crafter's is a Sunday evening Bible study group for women. We are studying the book of John this semester. The book of John is a Gospel that was written so that all may believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who gives eternal life. John's gospel uses the word "Believe" 98 times, and the word "Life" 36 times to illustrate the importance that one must believe in order to live eternally.

Please join us this semester on Sunday evenings to learn more about John's gospel. It's not too late to join us! Contact Nicole Watzlavik at mrsjcwatz@gmail.com.

Communication

News—Send ONE email to those who work on the bulletins, newsletters, website, social media, print media, calendar, etc. = News@fumcorange.org

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 Chapel

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!