



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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).

MAY 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](mailto:news@fumcorange.org)  
by Monday, May 20,  
so the newsletter can be  
distributed before June 1.

## A TIME TO CELEBRATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The first Sunday of May (May 5), we will celebrate the culmination of our 2019 Class of Confirmation students and their mentors work together, under the leadership of Randall Bridges. They will have finished their work on confirmation, taken part in mission projects and worship, as well as a few time-honored First United Methodist Church traditions for the class—a confirmation retreat, a special communion in the beautiful stain glass Upper Room of the sanctuary, and a trip to the bell tower to hear the bells. But it really marks a new beginning for these young folks as they then embark on their future as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Please join us for ONE service at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary as these students get confirmed.

The following Sunday we celebrate the women in our church—mothers, step-mothers, foster mothers, women who have been like a mother to us—and the blessings they bring to our lives.

The last weekend of the month we remember those who have given their lives for the freedom we enjoy on Memorial Day.

And finally, we Celebrate the Ministry of the Texas Annual Conference at the Hilton of the Americas in downtown Houston, May 26-28. Rev. John and Sandra will be among those honored on Tuesday, May 28, at a Retirement Service at 2 p.m. Major work of the conference this year will be electing a representative to General Conference in May 2020. That conference will have major legislation that will affect the future of the United Methodist Church as a whole regarding our ministry to the LGBTQ community. What kind of church do you think Jesus wants us to be?

Finally on Saturday, June 1, the church will host a reception for Sandra and me from 2-5 p.m. We do not know the particulars, but we understand the Council has something in store as a celebration with food and refreshments. I know my family, Sandra's family, and others from out of town will be here to celebrate with us. I have heard they are seeking photos of our time together. If you have those, send to [news@fumcorange.org](mailto:news@fumcorange.org)



**May 5  
Confirmation Sunday  
ONE Service @  
11 a.m. in the Sanctuary**

On Confirmation Sunday, we will confirm these students into the church as they become official members of FUMC.

Keep these confirmands and their mentors in your prayers!

A small celebration reception of cake and punch will follow the service for these confirmands and their families.

### 2019 Confirmands

Ella Burns

Darian Sandlin

Brooklyn Pierre

Aiden Taylor

Angel Wedgeworth

Cameron Wedgeworth

Wynter Wedgeworth

Bryce Williams

### Mentors

Dana Sandlin

Angela Abshire

Nicole Watzlavik

Lisa Hodge

Ana Golemon

Harry Golemon

Lori Kratzer

Ginger Williams

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

Mar. 31	Apr. 7	Apr. 14	Apr. 18	Apr. 19	Apr. 21
9:00 .....80	9:00 ..... 66	9:00 .....55	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>	9:00 ..... 131
11:00 .....35	11:00 ..... 55	11:00 .....50	<b>61</b>	<b>38</b>	11:00 .....58
<b>TOTAL 115</b>	<b>TOTAL 119</b>	<b>TOTAL 105</b>			<b>TOTAL 189</b>

## Giving

March 2019	
Income.....	\$32,755.57
Expenses.....	\$40,840.38
	<b>— \$8,084.81</b>

You can also [give online!](#)

## May Worship

### May 5, 2019

Scripture: John 14:31a  
Sermon: **Why Be A Part of a Church?**

### May 12, 2019

Scripture: 2 Timothy 2:5  
Sermon: **What Mom Taught Me**

### May 19, 2019

Scripture: 2 Samuel 9:1-13  
Sermon: **Commitments Matter**

### May 26, 2019

Scripture: Galatians 5:1-2,12-13  
Sermon: **More Than Words**



**ONE SERVICE at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary**



**Altar Guild:** Sandra Hoke 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—Greg Defrates  
11—Betty Merchant

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

**Welcome Center Bakers:**  
Marcia Brown & Gwen Whitehead

**Altar Guild:** Sandra Hoke team & Trish Anderson

**Parking Lot Greeters:**  
9—Richard & Leighia Barron  
11—Drew & Annely 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—TBA

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

**Welcome Center Baker:**  
Kay Butler



**Altar Guild:** Sandra Hoke 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—Brittany Harmon Allen  
11—TBA

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

**Welcome Center Bakers:**  
Beverly Blalack & Eunice Barrett

## COMMUNION

**Altar Guild:** Sandra Hoke team & Trish Anderson

**Parking Lot Greeters:**  
11—Sandra Hoke & Betty Merchant

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

**Lay Readers:**  
11—Sarah Boehme

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

**Welcome Center Bakers:**  
Cindy Reynolds & Donna Benefield

A small celebration reception of cake and punch will follow the service for Confirmands and their families.

**Youth Car Wash**



**Sunday, May 19  
8:45-noon**



### 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

May 5	Billy and Lori Kratzer
May 12	Harry and Ana Golemon
May 19	Pat and Debra McCombs
May 26	Daniel and Lauren Peet



## 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.

**C**hristians **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 May & Upcoming Activities:

#### May 3-4: Confirmation Retreat (Malloy Retreat Center)

The retreat will start on Friday, May 3, at 7:30 pm (eat dinner beforehand) and end Saturday, May 4, at 3 p.m. During this time, we will go over the Confirmation Service, have spiritual growth lessons, play team building activities, work on our stoles, and enjoy many other activities.

#### May 5: Confirmation Sunday

One service at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary. A small celebration reception of cake and punch will follow the service for Confirmands and their families.

#### May 12: No C.R.E.W. (Mother's Day)

#### May 19: Youth Car Wash Fundraiser 8:45 a.m.-12 noon

#### May 19: End of Year C.R.E.W. Crud War 5-7 p.m.

#### May 29: Safe Sanctuary Training, 5 p.m.

If you haven't been Safe Sanctuary trained in the last two years and want to work with youth and children, you need to be trained. Safe Sanctuary is a policy that promotes child safety. All adult leaders in our church are required to certify that they are familiar with the policy and will follow it when working with children and youth in the church. (Training also on June 2 at 10 a.m.)



Egypt—Here We Come!



Please, Mom!

### April Youth Scavenger Hunt Pictures



Welcome to Louisiana!



Jewish Wedding!!



Oh My! You're Strong!

Thanks to Angela Abshire, Sharon Bridges, Priscella Burns, and Dana Sandlin for leading teams in our scavenger hunt this last month! We had a blast!



"Take pride in how far you've come. Have faith in how far you can go. But don't forget to enjoy the journey."  
Michael Josephson

**Congratulations to our  
graduating  
high school seniors!**

**Diane McLemore**  
West Orange Cove CISD

**Emily Lafley**  
Parkview Baptist  
Homeschool

### 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Bonneau & 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—May 2**  
[suzanneM97@gmail.com](mailto:suzanneM97@gmail.com)

**Next meeting—2nd Thursday—May 9, at 6 p.m.**

If you have any questions or concerns for Church Council, send ONE email  
to [council@fumcorange.org](mailto: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)

## Rev. John Warren's Retirement Reception Saturday, June 1, 2019 2–5 p.m.

John will be retiring this year having had a very full ministry. He and Sandra will begin a new chapter in their life in Wimberly following their final official Sunday with FUMC on June 2.

Prior to that, we will be celebrating John and Sandra on **Saturday, June 1, from 2–5 p.m. in the Family Life Center**. This will be a gathering of their immediate family, their church family, and their ministry family. Please come join the festivity as we recognize and thank them for all that John and Sandra have done for our church. Hope to see you all there.

It has been eight years since John and Sandra began their journey in Orange. In that time, FUMC has become a family of faith. We have worshipped, learned about living God's mission, and grown as a body of Christ. With John's leadership, we have served God by serving the community in many ways. Now, it is time to show them our appreciation for all that they have done.

For the reception on June 1, help from the entire congregation is needed:

- Volunteers to make baked beans for the reception dinner
- Volunteers to make potato salad for the reception dinner
- Volunteers to help serve and clean up

Please contact either Greg Defrates or Trisha Anderson if you would like to help.

Additionally, we will be collecting a love offering to help John and Sandra as they remodel their new home in Wimberly.



**Churchwide Garage Sale  
Generated  
\$2,155**

## May Events:

[See full calendar on church website](#)

May 1—Education Meeting, 4 p.m.  
May 2—Deadline to submit items for Church Council agenda  
May 5—Confirmation Sunday—ONE service at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary  
May 6—Good Grief Group, 6:30 p.m., Parlor  
May 9—Church Council, 6 p.m.  
May 11—UMM Breakfast, 8 a.m.  
May 11—17th annual Art in the Park (come visit FUMC's 3G booth!)  
May 13—Caring Ministry, 10 a.m.  
May 19—Youth Car Wash Fundraiser 8:45 a.m.-12 noon  
May 20—Senior Sisterhood, 10 a.m.  
May 20—Deadline for June newsletter information  
May 29—Safe Sanctuary Training, 5-5:20 p.m. (Training also on June 2)

SAVE THE DATE

COMING  
UP

**Youth Car Wash**  
Sunday, May 19  
8:45-noon



## Upcoming Events:

Coming Later this Spring - 1st Methodist Kids present "Life School Musical"  
June 1—Farewell Gathering for John and Sandra Warren, 2-5 p.m., Family Life Center  
June 2—John's last service as Pastor at First United Methodist-Orange  
June 14-15—Fundraiser Performance  
June 17-21—Sr. High Youth to Big Stuf Camp  
June 24-27—Vacation Bible School  
June 28-July 1—Jr. High Youth to Camp Eagle  
July 1—Pastor Lani Rousseau begins at First United Methodist-Orange



Like or follow:  
**FUMCOrangeTX**



## Vacation Bible School is June 24-27 from 9-11:30 a.m.

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

ALWAYS looking for VOLUNTEERS!

We need volunteers to lead the crews around to the different stations and volunteers to run those stations.

YOUTH – please let Randall or Leighia know if you can help!!

A very special thanks to the volunteers that have already said YES!!!!

This year's theme is the African Safari.

We can use help with decorations:

Stuffed animals (elephants, tigers, lions, zebras, and giraffes);

African print material, Safari hat, and anything that you think looks like the African Savannah. Any help would be greatly appreciated.



We are starting to collect items now in the first Sunday school class on the right by the Welcome Center.

Please let Randall or Leighia know if you can volunteer your time that week and/or if you have any decorations we can use.



### Do you have a family member graduating?

Email Randall to make sure their name is included in the bulletin on Graduation Sunday.



### Safe Sanctuary Trainings

May 29 at 5 p.m.  
& June 2 at  
10 a.m. and 12 noon

If you haven't been Safe Sanctuary trained in the last two years and want to work with youth and children, you need to be trained. Safe Sanctuary is a policy that promotes child safety. All adult leaders in our church are required to certify that they are familiar with the policy and will follow it when working with children and youth in the church.

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

Join the New Beginnings Sunday School class now 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.



### 3G NEWS

We have a booth at the rescheduled

**Art in the Park on Saturday, May 11.**

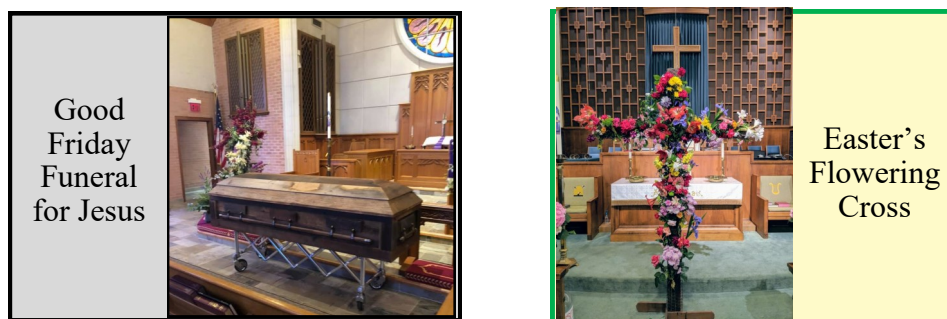
Volunteers are welcome to help us hand out recycling information.







Maundy Thursday Communion Service assisted by Confirmands



## Intentional Acts of Kindness for May From Pre-School to College

- ♥ **North Early Learning Center** will be using theme rooms next year. If you have any of the following, please donate: dinosaurs, stuffed pets, stuffed penguins/polar bears, anything space related.
- ♥ **Wesley Foundation** at Lamar University can use snacks to pass out to students on the weekends.
- ♥ **Box Tops** for several of our elementary schools.
- ♥ **From North Early Learning Center:** We would like to thanks the Hillstens for donating many boxes of Kleenex and baby wipes this year. Everything was greatly appreciated!!!



# Growing Stronger Disciples

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

## STAGE 4: REMAIN IN ME (FUMC's Christ Centered)

**After “Come and See,” “Come and Follow Me,” and “Be with Me,” Jesus gives His final invitation: “Remain in Me.”** This comes from John 15:4: Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.”

This is the stage of complete surrender. Disciples in Stage 4 have no dependence on themselves; they rely entirely on God. Before Stage 4, we tend to go to God when we need something. In Stage 4, we know we always need God. As Acts 17:28 says, “For in him we live and move and have our being.” When we receive the invitation “Remain in Me,” we release our lists and plans and instead tune into what God is already planning and doing. Rather than trying to please God with our activities, we lean on Him and join in His work.

Jesus paints a picture of this in Matthew 11:28-29: “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” By releasing the burdens of our own plans and resting in Christ, we take on His yoke, partnering with His plans instead and doing them through His power.

**Stage 4 is not the “end.” Following Christ never ends**, and throughout our lives, we will probably loop back through other stages and encounter more walls. In our journey, we will never stop discovering new beauty. The depth of intimacy we can have with Jesus has no bottom.

Churches can fall into the trap of thinking that people in this stage don't need anything. But no one ever matures out of needing the church. Stage 4 disciples still need leaders to help them continue in their walk, even if they themselves are also leaders.

First, it is important to help people in Stage 4 realize they have not “arrived.” There's no retirement in spiritual growth. Discipleship is a lifelong journey, and Stage 4 does not have an end point.

Second, don't forget people in Stage 4 also need to be fed and served. One of the best ways to serve them is to facilitate ways for them to worship God and share their faith stories with each other. They need community with each other so that they can receive encouragement and challenge rather than always being the one to give them.

For more information on growing as a disciple, visit [ascendingleaders.org](http://ascendingleaders.org).

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

**STAGE 2: Come and Follow Me** (see FUMC March 2019 Newsletter)

**STAGE 3: Come and Be With Me** (see FUMC April 2019 Newsletter)

## Communication

**News—News Release online form OR [News@fumcorange.org](mailto: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](mailto:PrayerBlasts@fumcorange.org)

**Prayer Requests**—For confidential prayers, use form on Intercessory Prayer webpage or send email to [PrayerRequests@fumcorange.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@fumcorange.org)

**Church Council**—Send any questions or concerns for Church Council, to [council@fumcorange.org](mailto: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!