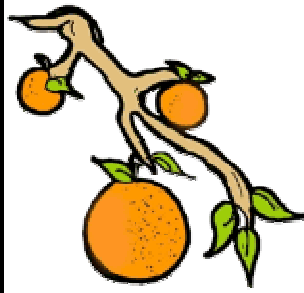


THE ORANGE BRANCH

FEBRUARY 2008

Orange UMC
220 Orange Church Circle
Canton, Georgia 30115



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit # 39

The Members of Orange UMC are its Ministers

and the staff

who assist them are:

GRAHAM ARP,
Youth Director

SHARON KESSLER,
Administrative Assistant

DEE SMITHWICK
Church Custodian

JENNIFER SMITHWICK,
Children's Director

JOY TURNER,
Music Director

MAX VINCENT,
Pastor



Orange United Methodist Church established 1848

Pastor: Rev. Max Vincent

Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9AM—2PM

Sunday School: 10AM—10:45AM

Worship Services: 8:45AM & 11:00AM

Phone: 770-886-9662 **Fax:** 770-886-9234

Email: orangeumc@orangeumc.org

Website: www.orangeumc.org

**We
Welcome
You!**

WHAT'S INSIDE:

PAGE 1: Cover — Church Contact Info

PAGE 2: Pastor's Corner—Connected

PAGE 3: Sundays at Orange UMC

Sunday Services

Sermons and Scriptures

Soup-er Bowl Sunday

I Wonder... Lenten Devotionals

"Strength for Service"

Scout Sunday "Strength for Service"

Continued...

PAGE 4 Scout Sunday "Strength for Service"

Confirmation Classes

Ministry Meetings

PAGE 5: Committee Meetings

Wesleyan Advocate

Easter Lilies

Homeless Offering

Upcoming Events

PAGE 6: February Calendar

The Orange Branch - February 2008



Connected



Max Vincent

Every four years there is a General Conference of the United Methodist Church. Delegates are chosen at their regional conferences the preceding year and then gather from all around the globe to try and discern how God is calling our church to move forward into the next four years. Our next General Conference will meet April 23 – May 2, 2008 in Fort Wroth Texas. General Conference always brings with it a certain amount of excitement, anxiety, and change.

From the first General Conference in 1792, change has been a big part of the process leading up to and the impact of this legislative body. This quadrennial meeting is the only group empowered to speak for the United Methodist Church. Any changes to our organization or teachings (our *Discipline*, as we call it) have to be approved during General Conference. So there is a lot at stake in this gathering. Though you may not be a delegate or even know one, as part of the United Methodist Church, General Conference will impact you. So, every member of our church has a responsibility to be in prayer for the Delegates who will gather in Fort Worth this spring.

Another responsibility I think we all share is to try and stay informed about what is actually occurring at General Conference. There are some great tools to keep all of us in touch with the process and decisions of General Conference. Anybody with internet access can go to the website: www.gc2008.umc.org and learn more about General Conference: the proposal for a new hymnal which will be considered, some of the petitions before the delegates, etc. Another way to stay informed about the process is through our own *Wesleyan Christian Advocate*, the newspaper of Georgia United Methodism.

Because General Conference is a representative gathering of our denomination, with delegates coming from vastly different parts of the world and divergent cultures, there is a great potential for conflict as people try to discern a common way forward. It's easier for me to talk with other white, middle-class southerners about what it means to live as a Christian than it is a female pastor from Honduras whose yearly income is less than I make in a week. When we talk about mission, I have a tendency to think of giving money to the poor, she wants to know what can be done to stop spring flooding of half of her congregation whose only shelter is a tarp. It's hard work crossing our language and cultural divisions, but not impossible. In the midst of the struggle to find a common voice and direction which surrounds any General Conference, there is a tendency to focus on the disagreements and votes: how narrowly was this point defeated, how many sided with us on this teaching, etc. What we often lose sight of is the theological mystery behind it all: we are united in the spirit of Christ.

Jesus said, "Wherever two or three of you gather in my name, I am there in the midst of you" (Matthew 18:20). Throughout all of our conferences, from the local church conference through Annual Conference all the way to our General Conference, we believe there is this biblical promise to guide us: when we gather, Christ will meet with us, and, if we listen long enough, he will lead us forward. Stay connected through prayer and being informed.

Peace, Max

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

Sundays at Orange!

Sunday Worship Times:

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Nursery Available During:

Worship and Sunday School

Sunday School Classes:

10:00 a.m.—10:50 a.m.

Children's Music Time:

10:00 a.m.—10:15 a.m.

Children's Church During:

11am Worship 2nd/4th Sunday

Communion Service:

First Sunday of every month

Pastor's Prayer Breakfast

7:00 a.m.—Simply Southern
(*Second Sunday each Month*)

Youth Meeting— 5:00 7:00 p.m.

Grades 6th—8th and 9th—12th)

Youth meet every Sunday for Food, Fun and Friendship. To learn more...visit our NEW Youth link on the church website:

www.orangeumc.org.

Sermons & Scriptures

Feb. 3 - Sermon: He was Transfigured

Scripture: **Exodus 24:12-18; Matthew 17:1-9**

Feb. 10 - Sermon: What is Sin?

Scripture: **Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Matthew 4:1-11**

Feb. 17 - Sermon: What is Grace?

Scripture: **Genesis 12:1-4a; John 3:1-17**

Feb. 24 - Sermon: What is Faith?

Scripture: **Exodus 17:1-7; Romans 5:1-11**

Sunday, February 3th

Souper Bowl Sunday of Caring ...

On Super Bowl Sunday, February 3, our youth will stand at the church exits with soup pots to collect dollars and canned goods to participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring. They are participating with other youth all across the nation to collect donations for local hunger ministries on Super Bowl Sunday. Although this is a nationwide event, 100% of the donations benefit the selected local hunger ministry of our choice – our youth are collecting for Mother's Cupboard, the local food pantry ministry.

Lenten Devotionals - "*I Wonder*"... is a Lenten devotional program we are inviting everyone to participate in this year. This devotional material will be available on February 3rd in the church vestibule. Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, and charitable giving, remembering Jesus' life and sacrifice for our redemption. ***I Wonder***, challenges us to respond to Jesus' commands to care for the poor and needy of our world. Prepared by the Society of St. Andrew, a Christian hunger-relief ministry, (www.endhunger.org), ***I Wonder*** invites us to set aside a sacrificial gift daily during Lent to feed hungry people here in the United States. Pick up your material on February 3rd in the church vestibule and begin ***I Wonder*** on Ash Wednesday, February 6. *Thank you.*
Ed McDonald Missions/Outreach

"Strength for Service" a special bulletin insert will be included in your Sunday, February 3rd, bulletin. This insert will provide details about a tremendous opportunity to reach out to the men and women who put their lives on the line each day in the line of duty as they serve in our nations military. *Thank you. Roger Leaders, Scouting Ministry*

Sunday, February 10th

Scout Sunday—"Strength for Service"

Service men and women around the world today are being inspired by the pocket devotional *Strength for Service*. More than one million copies of this book were first distributed during World War II and the Korean conflict before it went out of print. Fifty years later, a young boy named Evan Hunsberger was inspired by his grandfather's worn copy and began working to republish the book as his Eagle Scout project

Continued....next page.

Continued... Scout Sunday—"Strength for Service" February 10th

Since Strength for Service's release in 2002, the book has been distributed to 300,000 people of all denominations. The books have been given to troops deploying to the Middle East, and they have also been sent to institutions caring for the wounded. However, with new deployments, thousands of troops have a need for this moving and relevant devotional.

On February 3rd and February 10th (Scout Sunday) you will have an opportunity to make a donation to raise funds to purchase copies of *Strength for Service* to send to service men and women around the world. Our Scouting Troop 469, along with other troops have been cordially invited to also attend Orange UMC services to participate in this great opportunity.

Orange UMC will continue to receive donations from through Monday, February 18th at which time an order will be placed for these inspirational devotionals to be sent to service men and women around the world.

Orange UMC has set a goal of \$1000.00 which will enable the purchase of 250 copies of *Strength for Service*.

Donations will be collected at Orange UMC church services or they may be mailed to: Orange UMC, 220 Orange Church Circle Canton, Ga 30115. Please make checks payable to Orange UMC and write *Strength for Service* in the memo line of your check.

You can also learn more about the "Strength for Service" project by visiting their website at: <http://www.strengthforservice.org>

For more information or questions contact our Scouting Coordinator, Roger Leaders, at r_leaders@comcast.net or call Roger at: 770-656-8523.

Confirmation Class— Sunday, February 17th

Parents of youth ages 6th grade and up, whose children had not joined the church yet, were invited to meet with Pastor Max last month to learn more about Confirmation and to enroll his or her child in Confirmation Class. If you were unable to attend this meeting and would like to talk with Pastor Max about enrolling your child, please call the church office. Classes will begin on February 17th from 10:00 a.m.-10:45 a.m. in the 5th grade Sunday school classroom.

Ministry Meetings

United Methodist Women

(The Orchard Circle) **All ladies are invited** to meet with the UMW on, **February 4th at 7:00pm.** We usually meet in the church fellowship hall, but, **this month we will meet at the church office.** Our meetings start off with light refreshments and fellowship, then ministry sharing, followed by discussion of old and new business. We always close with prayer. Ladies, we hope you'll join us, this month! *Thank you. Jamie Hogue, UMW President.*

United Methodist Men

(UMM) *Here's what's on the horizon for the men's ministry...* The Sixth Annual Missions Conference of the UMM of the North Georgia Conference will be held at Marietta FUMC on February 23rd. A couples retreat will be held April 11 and 12th at the Simpsonwood Retreat Center. For information on either of these two events, call Bob Koenig.

John Moeller's presentation at the January UMM meeting revealed numerous needs that are available for services and mission here in Cherokee County through MUST Ministries. The next UMM meeting will be February 18 in the Orange Church Fellowship Hall at 7:00pm. *Thank you!. Bob Koenig, UMM Present*

MOW'S (Meals on Wheels)

Ministry—We meet in the church fellowship hall on the second Tuesday of each month to prepare and deliver meals to approximately 60 homes within our community. We'd love to have you on our ministry team! *Liz Lathem, MOW'S Ministry*

Orange Adult Choir

If you love to sing and have considered joining the choir, now is the time to jump in. We are just beginning our Easter music and we would be delighted to have you on the choir ministry team. We always have lots of fun at practice every Tuesday evening at 7:00pm in the church sanctuary.

Small Group Ministry

Senior High Youth are invited to come together on a deeper and more directed study of particular topics of interest every Tuesday evening at 7:00pm in the Youth Room.

Senior's Bingo! - Have you heard the "Good News"? The Bingo Games at Orange are **scheduled to continue** the last Wednesday of each month!! (*This month Bingo will be on February 27th*) All seniors are invited to come out and have some fun! We start with lunch at 11:30AM in the Orange Church fellowship hall, followed by a time of devotion and then the Bingo Games begin! It's a great time of fellowship with friends!

2-4-2! Wednesday Night Fellowship.

2-4-2 is based on Acts 2:42. On the fourth Wednesday of each month we enjoy a good meal, study and great fellowship. The meal begins at 6:00pm and the Program at 6:45pm. Look for meal reservation forms in the back of your pew on Sunday morning. (*2-4-2 will be on: February 27th.*)

All Monthly Ministry Meetings and dates, times and locations are listed on the newsletter calendar (last page). If you would like more information, please contact the ministry leader or call the church office for more information.

Committee Meetings:

SPRC, Church Council, Lay Leadership and Finance, monthly committee meetings are listed on the calendar (on the last page of the newsletter). Please refer to the calendar for meeting dates/times and locations.

Subscribe to the Wesleyan Christian Advocate

Do You Know:

- The major issues that will be discussed at General Conference?
- What happened at the Congress for Evangelism in Savannah?
- Which Ga. colleges and universities are UM-related?
- There was a fire at the Children's Home in Decatur?
- Events happening in North and South Georgia?
- Clergy appointments at the Annual Conferences?

All those issues and more were covered in the **Wesleyan Christian Advocate** in the last several months. Plus, you can read editorials and informative columns by other United Methodists from around the state.

Stay informed

You will have an opportunity to subscribe to the print edition of the *Advocate* during February worship services at Orange. If you are unable to attend services at Orange and would like to subscribe, please call the church office for assistance.

Only \$25 Subscribe Today!

For a one-year print edition

(only \$23 if you're over 65)

Or, get the on-line edition for

only \$15 at www.wcadvocate.org

Easter Lilies Orders:

Beginning February 17th Easter Lily order forms will be available in the back of each pew on Sunday mornings. You may use these order forms to purchase Easter Lilies in honor or in memory of your loved one(s). Drop your completed form in the offering plate along with your payment or bring/mail your orders to the church office by March 12. These beautiful lilies will be displayed on Easter Sunday, March 23rd and a special bulletin insert will list the name of your loved one(s). If you have any questions, please call the church office: 770.886.9662

Homeless offering, Sunday February 24

Shelters, feeding programs, utility and rental assistance, efforts to prevent homelessness, and opportunities to learn skills are all made possible when a contribution is made to the Homeless Offering. These programs minister to the needs of communities all across the North Georgia Conference. Every penny of the offerings received are utilized by ministries serving the poor and homeless.

Upcoming Events:

Children's Ministry has a lot of great events upcoming in March. **Children's Lenten Fair** on March 9th from 10:00am to 12:00pm. On March 16th **Palm Sunday, the children will sing** (with the adult choir!) at the 1100am worship service! And on March 22nd an **Easter Egg Hunt** at 11:00am. (Looking further ahead!—VBS is set for June 8-13th.)

Spiritual Life Retreat Mar 14-16

Earth Day Celebration in May!

If you would like a copy of the 2008 annual church calendar, please call the church office.



Turner	Ronnie	1-Feb
McGowan	John	1-Feb
Turner	Jake	3-Feb
Williams	Whitney	3-Feb
Kinser	Jerry	4-Feb
Hart	Charles	6-Feb
Gibbs	Charlie	8-Feb
Leaders	Roger	8-Feb
Hansard	Debby	10-Feb
LeCroy	Tracy	10-Feb
Pendleton	Nicholas	10-Feb
Smith	Bonnie	10-Feb
Leslie	Bob	11-Feb
Reynolds	Hannah	12-Feb
Smith	Carol	12-Feb
White	Pat	13-Feb
Escher	Becky	14-Feb
Walton	Terry	14-Feb
Corn	Chad	16-Feb
Turner	Nina	16-Feb
Tyner	Josh	16-Feb
Cartmill	Terry	18-Feb
Greene	Benjamin	18-Feb
Moore	Jimmy	18-Feb
Bruce	Melba	19-Feb
Kable	Charles	19-Feb
Turner	Bethany	19-Feb
Brotheridge	Dave	20-Feb
Whitaker	Lauren	20-Feb
Haradon	Cindy	21-Feb
Rice	Adam	24-Feb
Smithwick	Bailey	24-Feb
Stackhouse	Mark	26-Feb
Mastriforte	Nicole	27-Feb
Mastriforte	Marsha	28-Feb
Barnes	Emily	28-Feb
Schwab	Emily	28-Feb
Goodwin	Brenda	28-Feb
Hansard	Lance	29-Feb

If your birthday is not on this list and you would like it to be, please contact the church office. 770.886.9662

February 2008

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

CALENDAR KEY FOR MEETING/EVENT LOCATIONS: **S**=Sanctuary; **FH** = Fellowship Hall; **SS**=Sunday school Rm.; **YR** = Youth Rm.; **BCO**=Basement Church Office; **CO**=Church Office; **MIR**=Music Rm.; **SH**=Scout Hut; **CP**=Church Pavilion **CG**=Church Grounds; **CPL**=Church Parking Lot; **OL**= Outside Location (e.g.; restaurant, home, etc); **CU**=Clean-up **WA**=Wooded Area; **LICO** = lower level of church office

3	Transfiguration Sun/ Last Sun after Epiph Communion Worship8:45 & 11amS Sunday School 10am Prep 4:30pm Youth5 -7pmFH <u>BS Abdalla 2-5pmSS2</u> <u>CSD5-Scott 4-5pmSSI</u>	4	UMW 6:30prep 7pm <u>meeting CO</u> GSJT2743 McPherson 6:00-7:00pm FH	5	Choir 7-8pmS/MR Sr. High SGM 7-8pm YR Boy Scouts 7-9pm FH	6	Ash Wednesday <u>SPRC-7pm CO</u>	7	BT 2740 Garcia 6-7:15pm FH	8	Boy Scouts Jr. Leader Training : 02/08 5pm through 02/09 9am FH/CP	9	Boy Scouts Jr. Leader Training : 02/08 5pm through 02/09 9am FH/CP
10	1st Sunday in Lent Scout Sunday Worship8:45 & 11amS Sunday School 10am CS Pack Meeting 3-4:30pm FH Prep 4:30pm Youth5-7pmFH <u>CSSP-Hughes 2:30-5pm</u> <u>CSDLM 6-7pm CP/SSI</u>	11	Presidents Day GSBT-Upchurch 4-5:30pm FH GSJT2743 McPherson 6:00-7:45pm FH CSD8-Lipscomb 6pm- 7:30pm CP/SSI EDC Planning 7pmCO	12	Lincoln's Birthday <u>MOW 8am-2pm FH</u> Choir 7-8pmS/MR Sr. High SGM 7-8pm YR Boy Scouts 7-9pm FH	13	Church Council -7:30pm FH	14	Valentine's Day	15	Washington's Birthday School Holiday	16	Last Revision: 01/28/08 Feb. is Advocate Subscription Month Next Mo.: Spiritual Life Retreat Mar 14-16
17	2nd Sunday in Lent Worship8:45 & 11amS Sunday School 10am Confirmation 10-10:45am SS-5G Prep 4:30pm Youth 5-7pmFH <u>CSD5-Scott 4-5pmSSI</u>	18	School Holiday UMM-7pm FH	19	School Holiday No Choir Practice Sr. High SGM 7-8pm YR Boy Scouts 7-9pm FH	20	School Holiday SR'S B-I-N-G-O FH (8amPrep) 11:30-1:30pm (CU-2pm)	21	School Holiday Finance Meeting 7:30pm CO	22	Washington's Birthday School Holiday	23	
24	3rd Sunday in Lent Homeless Offering Worship8:45 & 11amS Sunday School 10am Confirmation 10-10:45am SS-5G Prep 4:30pm Youth 5-7pmFH	25	GSBT-Upchurch 4-5:30pm FH GSJT2743 McPherson 6:00-7:45pm FH CSD8-Lipscomb 6pm- 7:30pm CP/SSI	26	Choir 7-8pmS/MR Sr. High SGM 7-8pm YR Boy Scouts 7-9pm FH	27	SR'S B-I-N-G-O FH (8amPrep) 11:30-1:30pm (CU-2pm)	28	BT 2740 Garcia 6-7:15pm FH GS Leaders-Charis B. 7pm FH	29			