

The Orange Branch

Orange United Methodist Church
October 2009

Sunday Morning Schedule:

8:45 am Worship

10:00 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship

Office Hours:
Mon-Fri - 9am-2pm

The Members of Orange UMC are its ministers. The staff who assist them in their work are:

- Graham Arp
Youth Director
- Anne Chandler
Administrative Assistant
- Dee Smithwick
Custodian
- Jennifer Smithwick
Children's Director
- Joy Turner
Music Director
- Max Vincent
Pastor

Inside this Issue

Pastor Max Message	1
Outreach/Missions	2
Youth News	2
Music News	2
Stewardship	3
Announcements	4
Sundays in October	(insert)
UMW	(insert)
UMM	(insert)
Calendar	(insert)
Birthdays	(insert)

November newsletter deadline is
November 15

Email:
orangeumc@orangeumc.org

Ultimate Questions

“Why do bad things happen to good people?” “Where is God when it hurts?” “Why is it that the innocent are often the ones who suffer?” These are questions I often hear in my work. Some people are reluctant to speak them and struggle for words to express these thoughts, fearing that asking them is somehow not nice or betrays a lack of faith. These are tough questions, but they are questions we ask, precisely because we are a people of faith.

I find that what helps people most with these questions, is when they realize that they have already been asked. In fact, we can read them in the very words of the Bible, especially the Psalms. Psalms 22:1 “My God, my God why have you forsaken me?” It would be harder to find a tougher question than that. Can you hear the anguish, the pain behind those words? Can you imagine how forlorn you would have to be to charge God with abandoning you? Yet, there is the faith. Notice the words are spoken to God, the Psalmist is asking God to respond to this feeling of being abandoned, forsaken. The Psalmist still believes very much in God, otherwise he would not be speaking to God (he would be mad to cry out this way, if he did not believe in God!)

When we ask these tough questions, we often think of them as “ultimate.” They are difficult, and many of them we may never have answered, but they are not ultimate. The ultimate questions are the ones God asks us.

The Swiss theologian Karl Barth, once pointed out that when we really get serious about the Bible; really engage the Bible and study it, we find that the questions we ask are not that difficult. The difficult thing about really engaging the Bible is we discover that the Bible questions us. It challenges us and seeks to change us. This is what Barth referred to as “The Strange New World of the Bible” (essay by that name).

Over the next several weeks in worship, I want to put before you some of the questions that the Bible puts before us. All these questions are found on the lips of God, and they are questions God asks of us: “Where are you?” “Where is your brother?” “What are you doing?” “Who will go?” “What do you see?” “Should I accept that?” “Who do you say that I am?” “What is truth?” (You might have fun trying to figure out where those questions come from in the Bible.)

These are ultimate questions. They are questions that God puts to us. You cannot shy away from or evade them. I hope to see you in worship as we try to confront them and form our lives into living responses to the questions God is asking.

Peace, *Max*

Aldersgate Homes

Aldersgate Homes is a related agency of the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church serving persons with developmental disabilities. Aldersgate Homes provides adults with safe, comfortable, affordable residential placements as well as opportunities for accessible recreational activities.

Aldersgate Homes’ residential programs allow residents to live as independently as possible and participate in community life. Group Homes serve persons with extensive care needs. Aldersgate Homes presently manage 3 group homes and several independent living facilities.

Our annual offering to support Aldersgate Homes will be October 25.

Youth News

Graham Arp, Director
Email: gram4jesus@yahoo.com
Phone: 770-894-1979
Youth Website: www.orangeyouth.org



This year, Orange Youth will continue doing the annual Orange Pumpkin Patch! This has become a great outreach for our church, as well as a good fundraiser.

Please consider how you might help with this as well as how many pumpkins you will

purchase. Pumpkins are scheduled to be delivered on Friday, October 16. We will need plenty of help unloading and organizing when the pumpkins arrive. Signup sheets will be made available for time slots on Sunday, September 27.

We will need people to work shifts which will be Saturday, October 17 thru October 30. We will be open 8 hours a day, from noon until 8 pm. The shifts for volunteers will be from 12-4 pm and 4-8 pm each day.

Outreach / Missions

Ed McDonald, Outreach Coordinator
Email: edmacmo@gmail.com
Phone: 770-720-6089



UMCOR Hotline-Many people think of UMCOR as an "international only" organization, but the reality is they regularly help out here in the U.S. Here is an excerpt from the UMCOR Hotline email newsletter: *After all this flooding in Georgia, UMCOR is in contact with the North Georgia Annual Conference to assist with recovery efforts as disaster response personnel assess the situation. Cleaning buckets from UMCOR's Relief Supply Depots are ready to be dispatched to areas in need. Support the North Georgia Annual Conference during this initial phase of recovery with your gifts to U.S. Disaster Response, UMCOR advance #901670.*

If you want to donate directly to this effort, simply place the Advance number from above on the memo line of your check.

What are mud cakes or mud cookies? Jamie Hogue is the grand prize winner of a fair trade chocolate bar for being the first person who could tell me the

answer. The "End Hunger Now" article from the July 10, 2009 *United Methodist Reporter* posted in the narthex last month wrote about Haitian mothers who were making mud cookies to feed their children to stave off hunger pains. No, these were not the delicious Mississippi mud cake desserts you may have seen or eaten—they literally were made of dirt, a little vegetable oil, and a little salt. Does this break your heart?

Mother's Cupboard-I believe September was our largest food distribution ever. With your help, we served: 58 households, 185 people, 18 seniors, 32 children. Averaging about 25 lbs. per box this was about 1,450 lbs. of food! We were further surprised that there were 18 first-time households participating. Thanks to everyone.

Ministry Spotlight-Contact Ed McDonald if you have some ministry photos you would like to display on a large digital frame in the narthex during Sunday mornings.

Music News

Joy Turner, Music Director
Email: joychoirdirector@bellsouth.net
Phone: 770-889-1278



If you would like to sing with us during Christmas, please join us on Tuesday nights at 7 pm for choir practice.

The Children's Choir will also start practicing their Christmas music soon at 10 am on Sunday mornings.

In October, Orange UMC will host the Community Singing. It will be Sunday, October 4 at 7 pm in the Sanctuary. Choirs and special groups from several churches will perform. Christian fellowship and refreshments will follow. Everyone is invited!



Stewardship

Paula Smith, Chair
Email: paulajsmith@bellsouth.net
Phone: 770-889-8964



A few days ago the official beginning of Fall arrived. We are so accustomed to the changing of the seasons—Fall when God bathes the world in vibrant, glorious colors, Winter when God provides this season’s own unique stark beauty, Spring when God brings the earth out of winter’s sleep to come alive awakening our senses with the beauty of new life and fragrances of the wonderful flowers, and Summer when God shares the warmth of the summer sun and backdrop of a green earth allowing us to enjoy special family times and usually less hectic and less stressful days. Yes, we have come to expect these changes in our seasons and in so many other areas of our lives. Yet there is one thing that we always can rely on to be unchanging and that is God’s love for us. We know that no matter how great times may be or how difficult and challenging times may become, we can always know that He is with us — loving us, supporting us, caring for us, watching over us and strengthening us.

We continue to be so very thankful to God for His continued blessings and to you for your continued support of God’s work. Our community of faith continues to serve our Lord, not just through special projects and ministries, but through your lives and your Christian influence on families, colleagues, friends, acquaintances and the new people you meet each day.

One of our goals this year is to share information regarding the financial status of our Church. As promised, the monthly update on “2009 Giving “ is provided below in this newsletter.

We ask that you continue to be in prayer and to give as you are able and as God leads. Also, please remember the “13th-Month Campaign.”

Thanks to all of you who supported our Recent Church Yard Sale with donations, purchases and time. It was a successful project netting \$883.00. We want to say a special thank you to Debbie Urban for organizing and coordinating the yard sale. Also, thank you to Terrie Cartmill, Amber Smithwick, Jeff Urban, Kevin

Cartmill, Steve Smithwick, Anne Chandler and all our vendors who made this project so successful.

Remember to mark your calendars for our annual Fish Fry on October 24. Tickets are available now. Golfers, save the date, Monday, November 2, because you will not want to miss participating in our first golf tournament.

Please continue to pray for the church and its involvement in Christ’s ministries, those in our midst who have lost or may lose their jobs, our economy, our church leaders, and our committees.

May this new Fall season with its crisp mornings, beautiful landscapes, and wild geese forging paths across clear blue skies bring you and your families much joy, happiness, peace and the blessed assurance that we always are in God’s loving care.

Peace,
Paula

2009 MONTHLY BUDGET UPDATE

2009 Budget:	\$238,484.00
Needed Monthly:	19,874.00

January Giving	\$15,384.50	July Giving	\$13,600.06
February Giving	\$16,522.79	August Giving	\$18,096.22
March Giving	\$19,232.00	Sept. Giving	\$12,735.45
April Giving	\$14,314.58		
May Giving	\$20,333.61		
June Giving	\$12,891.88		



Jennifer Jackson	October 1
Lamar Hicks	October 2
Debra Copeland	October 4
Dan Eastland	October 6
Ken LeCroy	October 7
Avery Jeffreys	October 8
Randy Hogue	October 9
Julie Walton	October 9
John Bramblett	October 10
Toni Dillard	October 11
Frankie Little	October 11
Chuck Pendleton	October 11
Cal Tyner	October 11
Sammi Urban	October 12
Barbara Hardman	October 14
John Tyner	October 16
Doug Lathem	October 17
Chase Brooks	October 18
Trudy Holloway	October 18
Sarah Leifeld	October 18
Jordan Nalette	October 19
Harry White	October 19
Lauren Wright	October 22
Luke Lively	October 24
Jared Wise	October 25
Maria Gaddis	October 29

Sundays in October

October 4-Sermon: "Where Are You?" - Scripture: Genesis 3:1-10-World Communion Sunday

October 11-Sermon: "Where Is Your Brother?"-Scripture: Genesis 4:1-15

October 18-Sermon: "What Are You Doing Here?"-Scripture: I Kings 19:9-18

October 25-Sermon: "Who Will Go For Us?"-Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8-Aldersgate Offering

United Methodist Women

Jamie Hogue, President
Phone: 770-887-9616
Email: jamiebug@gmail.com



Come enjoy the fun and fellowship as we put on our "creative hats" and start a new mission project as we recycle, refurbish and redecorate children's wooden chairs for our next meeting on Monday, October 26 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Be sure to wear your old painting clothes and if you wish, a fun (or funny) painting hat! No experience with creative painting? Not to worry, we will have stencils and fun paint sponges for the timid crafters. So, if you are into crafts or if you just want to find out what the Orchard Circle is all about, please join us for a fun evening!

Ladies are welcome to join us for an overnight trip as we "bring ancient history to life" by visiting the Explorations in Antiquity Center where we will experience what it was like to live in biblical days. Some of the items we will see: a real goat hair tent (like the nomadic shepherds have lived in for thousands of years), Roman armor, a grape press, threshing floor, vineyard, catacombs and enjoy an authentic biblical meal for lunch. For more information about the Center, please visit their website at www.explorationsinantiquity.net. Our trip is planned for November 6 & 7, and the cost is \$80.00 (plus the cost of your dinner Friday at Cracker Barrel). For more information or to reserve your place, please contact Jamie Hogue at 770-853-5182 or 770-887-9616. If you are interested in joining us for this exciting trip back in time, please call soon as spaces are filling up very fast.

United Methodist Men

Bob Koenig, President
Phone: 770-781-6651
Email: koenig2681@juno.com



When we think of service or mission to help others, it would be good to remember the following passage from Ephesians 6:6-7, "Not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man."

We have several opportunities before us in October. If you are looking for a different mission project, there is the Justice and Mercy Impact Ministry Expo being held on Sunday, October 18 from 6-8 pm at St. Andrew UMC in Marietta. Groups will talk about outreach to the people affected by crime.

Assistance is still needed to rebuild The Children's House at the United Methodist Home in Decatur. And last, but not least, we will need the men of Orange to help with the Fish Fry on October 24. We will need cooks, parking and traffic control help and food transport people. If you can help, please call and leave me a message at 770-781-6651 or call the Church Office at 770-886-9662.

Orange UMC Golf Tournament



Place: Country Land Golf Course

Date: November 2, 2009—Noon

Format: Four Player Scramble—\$80.00 per player / \$320.00 per team. Mulligans \$5.00 each—limited to two per player

Buffet meal to follow. Prizes for 1st and 2nd place teams, closest to pin, and door prizes. Space limited—register early! Send team member's name and telephone number and check to: OUMC, 220 Orange Church Circle, Canton, GA 30115.

October 2009

Orange United Methodist Church
 220 Orange Church Circle
 Canton, GA 30115
 Phone: 770-886-9662 Fax: 770-886-9234
 E-mail: orangeumc@orangeumc.org
 Youth Events: orangeyouth.org
 Prayer Request: prayer@orangeumc.org

CALENDAR KEY: S=Sanctuary; FH= Fellowship Hall; SS=Sunday school Rm.; YR= Youth Rm.; BCO=Basement Church Office; CO=Church Office; MR=Music Rm.; SH=Scout Hut; CP=Church Pavilion CG=Church Grounds; CPL=Church Parking Lot; OL= Outside Location ; WA=Wooded Area; LLCO= Lower Level of Church Office; BS=Boy Scouts; GS=Girl Scouts

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 GS Leaders Mtg. 7-9 pm (FH)	2 GS-4-5:15 pm (FH)	3 Noon-4pm Reserved
4 18th Sunday after Pentecost / World Communion Worship 8:45 & 11am(S) Sunday School-10am Children's Music-10am(MR) Youth-5-7pm (FH) Community Sing 7pm (S,FH)	5 BOT-7pm (CO)	6 Choir Practice-7-8pm (MR) BS-7-9pm (FH) Fun Tuesday-Jr/Sr High- 7-8:30 pm (YR)	7 SPRC-7pm (CO)	8 BS-6-7:30 pm (FH) Finance Committee Mtg. 7:30pm (CO)	9 Children's Sabbath (Oct 9-11)	10
11 19th Sunday after Pentecost / Children's Sabbath Worship 8:45 & 11am(S) Sunday School-10am Children's Music-10am(MR) Youth-5-7pm(FH) Church Conference-7 pm	12 Canadian Thanksgiv- ing Day MOW - FH reserved GS-6-8pm (FH)	13 MOW-8-2pm-FH Choir Practice-7-8pm (MR) BS-7-9pm (FH) Fun Tuesday-Jr/Sr High- 7-8:30 pm (YR)	14	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 Pumpkin Patch - Delivery GS-4-5:15 (FH)	17 Pumpkin Patch
18 20th Sunday after Pentecost/ Laity Sunday Worship 8:45 & 11am(S) Sunday School-10am Children's Music-10am(MR) Youth-5-7pm(FH) Pumpkin Patch	19 Pumpkin Patch	20 Choir Practice-7- 8pm(MR) BS-7-9pm (FH) Fun Tuesday-Jr/Sr High- 7-8:30 pm (YR) Pumpkin Patch	21 Church Council- 7:30pm (CO) Pumpkin Patch	22 Pumpkin Patch	23 Fish Fry Prep. Pumpkin Patch	24 Fish Fry-3-7 pm Pumpkin Patch
25 21st Sunday after Pentecost / Aldersgate Offering Worship 8:45 & 11am(S) Sunday School-10am Children's Music-10am(MR) Youth-5-7pm(FH) Pumpkin Patch	26 UMW-6:30-8:30pm (FH) Pumpkin Patch	27 Choir Practice-7- 8pm (MR) BS-7-9pm (FH) Fun Tuesday-Jr/Sr High- 7-8:30 pm (YR) Pumpkin Patch	28 Senior's Bingo- 11:30am (FH) Pumpkin Patch	29 Pumpkin Patch	30 Pumpkin Patch Ends	31

October Announcements

OUMC Golf Tournament

Place: Country Land Golf Course

Date: November 2, 2009—Noon

Format: Four Player Scramble—\$80.00 per player/
\$320.00 per team. Mulligans \$5.00 each—
limited to two per player

Buffet meal to follow. Prizes for 1st and 2nd place teams, closest to pin, and door prizes. Space limited—register early! Send team member's name and telephone number and check to: OUMC, 220 Orange Church Circle, Canton, GA 30115.

World Communion Sunday—October 4, 2009

What is World Communion Sunday? World Communion Sunday is one of the six churchwide Special Sundays of The United Methodist Church. World Communion Sunday provides scholarships for U.S. racial- and ethnic-minority students and international students, on both undergraduate and graduate levels.

Community Singing at OUMC—October 4

In October, Orange UMC will host the Community Singing. It will be Sunday, October 4 at 7 pm in the Sanctuary. Choirs and special groups from several churches will perform. Christian fellowship and refreshments will follow. Everyone is invited!

The Church Conference will take place on October 11 at 7 pm in the Sanctuary.

All Saints Sunday—November 1, 2009

The first Sunday in November will be All Saints Sunday. If you would like to have a candle lit during the service to remember one of the saints who has touched your life, please bring your candle to the church office by Sunday, October 25, as well as the name of the person you want remembered.

New Sunday School Class

There is a new Sunday School class for adults starting in October. The class will meet in the office conference room. It will be led initially by Max and Kristen Vincent. The first study will be on the Psalms as tools of prayer.

Orange United Methodist Church
220 Orange Church Circle
Canton, GA 30115
770-886-9662 - 770-886-9234 - Fax

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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

Visit Us on the Web:
www.orangeumc.org