

# The Orange Branch

ORANGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE PASTOR'S CORNER



Pastor Mark Outlaw

## Welcome to Spring, 2019!

### Why Easter Isn't March 24<sup>th</sup> This Year

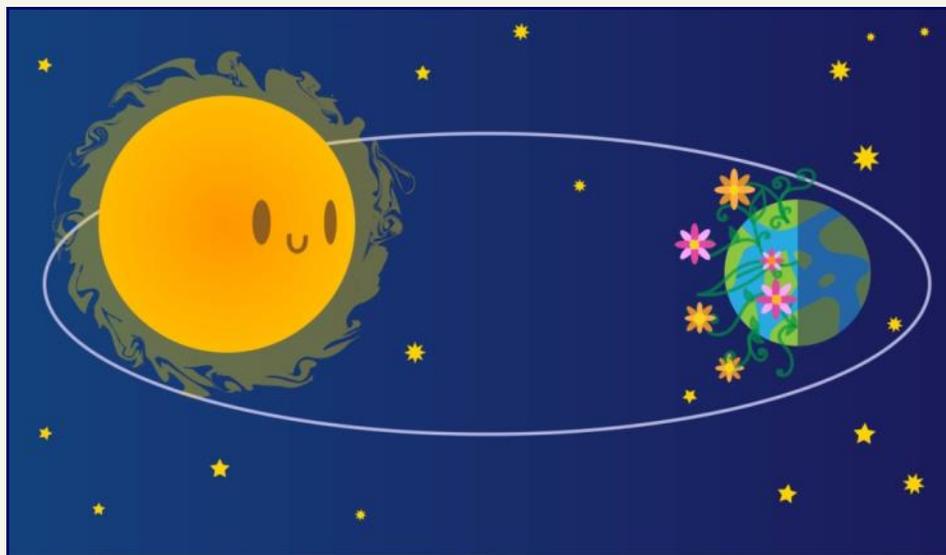
As I write this on Wednesday, March 20, a very interesting, quasi-rare astronomical event happens *today* that actually pushes Easter back five weeks this year. This year's spring full moon (called a super worm equinox moon) and the lunar equinox both happen tonight and because they happen on the same day, which is a day *before* March 21<sup>st</sup>, Easter is going to be on April 21<sup>st</sup>, instead of March 24, which is when it would normally be (which we will see in a moment.) I know this is a bit confusing, but hitch up your wagon to this and hold on. It really is interesting!

Ok. Easter is always on the Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox (which is the moment in time when the earth's equator-hence, equinox- is aligned with the center of the sun.) Now, since tonight the full moon happens four hours after the spring equinox, then THIS Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, is actually the "first Sunday *after* the first full moon *after* the spring equinox," right? This begs the \$12 question: then why isn't Easter this Sunday, March 24?

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Why Easter isn't in March this year
- Easter Calendar
- Lots of upcoming events!
- Birthdays

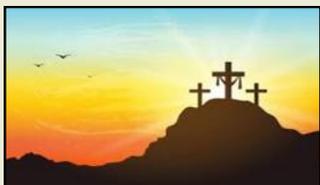
Well, it turns out to make things simpler for Christian church calendars, the spring equinox has been given a set date of March 21<sup>st</sup> even when it *does not happen* on the 21<sup>st</sup>, like, say, today! (Sometimes it's on the 19<sup>th</sup>, or the 20<sup>th</sup> ) Consequently, since the official day of spring equinox is March 21 (and not today when it actually occurs) and even though this month's full moon follows tonight's equinox on March 20, Easter has to wait five weeks for the next full moon past the *officially designated* spring equinox of March 21. Next month's full moon is Friday, April 19, making IT the first full moon after March 21 and the first Sunday after that is Easter: April 21<sup>st</sup>. Interesting. Easter this year is the Sunday after the *second* full moon following the *real* spring equinox! And now you know. You can unhitch your wagon now if you want!



## Easter Calendar

Make sure you put these dates in your phone and be a part of the highest celebration in the Christian year: Easter!

Thursday, April 18



7 PM Drama: He Touched Me, in the sanctuary. Nursery provided.

Saturday, April 20



2 PM Easter Egg Hunt, fun for all kids. Invite and/or bring your children for this fun annual event!

Sunday, April 21



7 AM Easter Sunrise Service outside at the cross. Bring a blanket if you need to. Come in PJs if you want!

7:30 AM Free hot breakfast for all in the fellowship hall.

11 AM Another Worship celebration!

Also in this quarter, lock in the dates for Homecoming (June 9), Father's Day (June 16), and VBS (June 16-21) followed by VBS Sunday (June 23).

God bless you and your family. If I can serve you in any way, please don't hesitate to contact me.

*Mark*

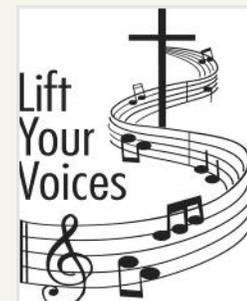
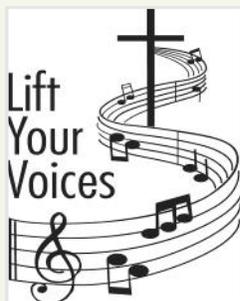


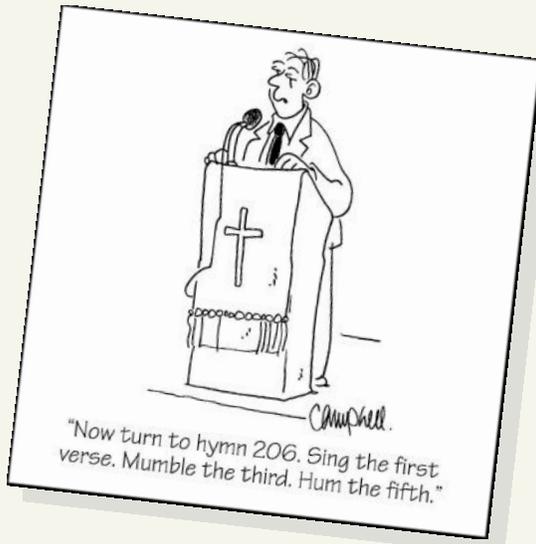
Joy Turner, Music Director



Many studies have proven that singing is actually very good for you! It is a natural anti-depressant and gives you an overall “uplifted” and happy feeling. It is a form of relaxation which calms you and reduces stress levels. It serves as a workout and increases oxygen in your blood, which improves mental alertness. It boosts your immune system by significantly increasing proteins that function as antibodies. The list goes on and on about the wonderful effects of singing!

I want to challenge each of you to sing! Pick up your bulletin or church hymnal each Sunday and sing! It doesn't matter if you have a beautiful voice and hit each note exactly right—just sing! Congregational singing is a wonderful part of each service. Try joining the Adult Choir! The fellowship and sense of service to the Lord is indescribable! I think you will find that singing is really good for you!





There are many special Sundays in the next few months-Palm Sunday, Easter, Mother's Day, and Homecoming are some of my favorites. Each of these services will be filled with music. I hope you will make a special effort to come, sing, and worship at Orange.

Come and celebrate our Risen Savior!

## Joy



Palm Sunday	April 14th
Easter	April 21st
Mother's Day	May 12th
Homecoming	June 9th
Father's Day	June 16th
VBS	June 17th-June 23rd



Bethany Goode



Happy Spring! This is my favorite time of year. I love seeing everything outside blooming and turning green! One of the kids favorite Spring events is the church Easter Egg Hunt. This year, our hunt will be on the day before Easter, Saturday April 20<sup>th</sup>. It will start at 2:00 pm. Along with the egg hunt, we will have bounce houses, balloon art, crafts, snacks, and other fun activities. As usual, we are asking church members to provide individually-wrapped candy for stuffing in the eggs. Please bring the candy to the marked box in the Narthex ASAP, so our Rise & Shine crowd can get busy stuffing thousands of eggs!



In Sunday School, the kids have been learning about the Fruit of the Spirit. We have been relating each spiritual fruit to an edible fruit to help us remember them. For example, an apple reminds us of the first Fruit of the Spirit, love, because it's slices look similar to hearts.

We have been learning through crafts, snacks, memory verses, and Bible lessons with Squirmy the caterpillar puppet. I can't wait to continue these lessons with our children!



Go ahead and mark your calendars for VBS 2019. It will be June 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, with the Closing Program on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Our theme this year is "In the Wild". Join us on a wild adventure with elephants, giraffes, and crocodiles. As kids seek out exotic animals, they'll also find snapshots of real-life encounters with Jesus in Scripture. We need TONS of volunteers for this week-long event. The last few years, we have had between 80-100 kids, making this one of the biggest outreach programs for our church. Plan to be a part of our awesome VBS team.

Be Blessed!

Bethany Goode





Lynn  
Outlaw,  
BLAST  
Director



The first quarter of BLAST at OUMC has been great! Our first lesson series was *Drama Queens and Blow Up Kings*. We learned how to avoid, deal with, and diffuse the drama we face day to day at school, home, and with our friends. Currently, Jennifer Smithwick is leading the group on *Identity: Who we are and Whose we are*. In February we had a fun outing at Cherokee Lanes and our BLAST Sunday school class was challenged with King's Quest, an Escape room experience in Marietta!

### Cherokee Lanes!



We have several of our BLAST members signed up for Camp Glisson this summer. We had an Ash Wednesday Pancake Dinner fundraiser and raised \$266 to help pay camp balances for our campers. Thank you to our parents who helped with food prep and the BLAST members who served!



Our next fundraiser will be Wednesday, April 10th as we have our Chili Cook Off! Bring your best pot of chili and try to win the prize for tastiest chili!



Our last Monday night for BLAST will be on May 6th. We will have a BLAST group for OUMC's VBS in June. Be on the lookout for dates and registration!

Lynn Outlaw  
BLAST Ministry

# FRONTLINE YOUTH GROUP

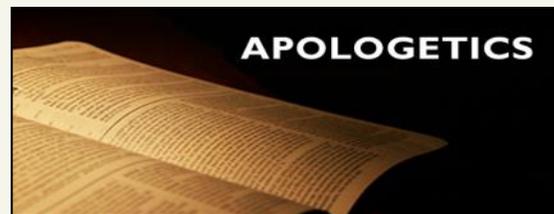
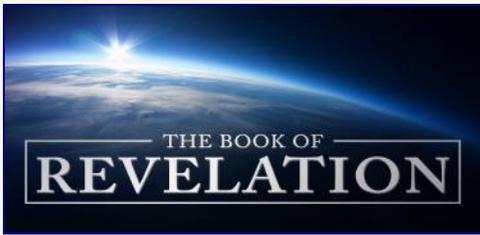
Frontline went on our ski trip in February. We had a great time and thankfully came away with no serious injuries! We want to thank Bobby again for driving and thank everyone that donated, we couldn't have gone without y'all!



Our next outing will be in May at Project: Escape in Marietta.



We are meeting Sunday mornings at 10:15 and continuing through the book of Revelation and on Monday nights from 6-7:30 we are continuing in apologetics. Our goal is to be able to defend our faith with proof and reason. If anyone has any information, recommendations, or wants to help in any way with these topics, please let Patrick now through email: [patricklee86@comcast.net](mailto:patricklee86@comcast.net).



Frontline shirts are still available for \$15. Thank you all for your support and if anyone has any questions or wants to help in any way feel free to email Patrick!

Patrick Lee,  
Frontline  
Director





Mary Cissell,  
UMW President

Our special speaker at our last meeting, Feb. 27, was Mrs. Sandy Reed from Bethany Place along with her daughter, Nivia. Sandy and her husband began Bethany Place over 30 years ago as a home for troubled young women and single moms with children in need of sanctuary. Her plan does more than provide shelter. She instructs the women in the Christian faith and provides them with structure to transform their lives.

## *Bethany Place*

*A safe haven for women and children*

We were so impressed with her presentation, that we went for a tour of her campus on East Cherokee drive on March 7. Bethany Place also has a thrift shop and a Christian bookstore with some very nice items. Other than the store, Bethany Place relies on donations for its day to day operations. We urge you to carry your gently used clothing and household items to their store and do some shopping there as well: 8024 E. Cherokee Dr. Canton 30115 phone 770-479-9462.

On March 20, OUMW will take a trip to Murphy Harpst Children's Home in Cedartown, GA. We have given financial support to this wonderful home for abused children for many years. They provide foster care,



psychological counseling and education for children who were rescued from extremely abusive homes. While this is a very sad thought, it is very uplifting to visit their campus and see the wonderful work they do there and the children love to have visitors.

Submitted by Mary Cissell, UMW President



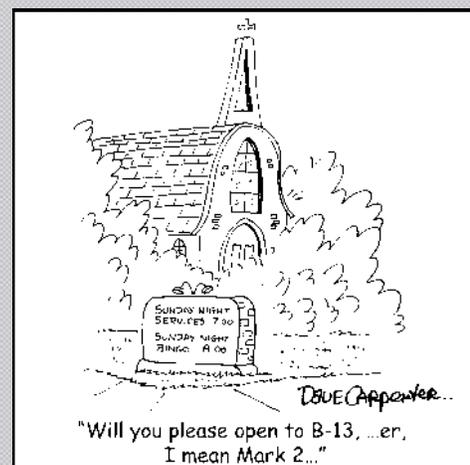
**Don't forget to mark your calendars for the following dates for BINGO at Orange!**

**April 24th, 2019**

**August 28th, 2019**

**October 23rd, 2019**

**COME JOIN US!!**



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## April

Trace Sosebee	April 2
Aaron Cayo	April 4
Hannah Daniel	April 8
Joy Turner	April 14
Tonya Dean	April 16
Marlene White	April 17
Susan Lively	April 18
Esther Smith	April 19
Neva Lough	April 20
Lisa Kinser	April 26
Josh Turner	April 27

## May

Carol Hicks	May 1
Tom Cissell	May 2
Margie Lough	May 8
Betty Wallace	May 9
Dan White	May 15
Ashely Starr	May 15
Lynn Outlaw	May 16
Betty Hutson	May 20
Judy Powell	May 22

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## May Cont'd

Mary Shelley	May 25
Danielle Gradwell	May 27
Cindy Turner	May 28
Esta B. Gattis	May 29
Mark Outlaw	May 30
Sam Lough	May 31
Beth Williams	May 31

## June

Shirley Manning	June 3
Alexis Daniel	June 3
Erin Starr	June 5
Samantha Green	June 7
Amanda Bryant	June 10
Patricia Burke	June 12
Jim Green	June 13
Bobby Sosebee	June 14
Justin Whitaker	June 18
Jean Rogers	June 21
Rylee Starr	June 23
Kit Sloan	June 24

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## HERE TO SERVE YOU!

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