



The ANCHOR

JULY 2026

**Oriental United Methodist Church
404 Freemason Street
Oriental NC 28571
252-249-0213
orientalumc@orientalumc.org
www.orientalumc.org**



LOVE BOLDLY, SERVE JOYFULLY AND LEAD COURAGEOUSLY

Our Core Values

Since 1887, Oriental United Methodist Church has been and is committed to living out our values of love for God and one another. Guided by John Wesley's Three Simple Rules: do no harm, do good, and stay in love with God, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously. All are always welcome in our OUMC community.

Ponderous Thoughts

Catherine, Leslie, and I spent several days in June in Greenville at Annual Conference. There are lots of reasons to not enjoy going to conference-mostly the weather, which is always hot, and the schedule, which is jam-packed with worship services, committee reports, and ministry celebrations. And on Thursday evening we had an ice cream social!

At Conference, clergy and lay members-always selected in equal numbers-hear the same reports, share the same celebrations, and vote on the same questions and resolutions. That doesn't mean we all agree, but we do have the chance to listen to one another.

We agreed that action must be taken to prevent gun violence in schools and other places even if we don't agree exactly how. We heard students and teachers share their fears, experiences, trauma and tears. We felt our own senses of urgency and impotence. We have to sit with that, and with each other.

We passed the conference's financial reports, covering mandated minimum salaries, pensions and insurance for pastors and full-time Conference employees, salary support for struggling churches, and the Conference budget (down a little from last year) nearly unanimously. I think there was a single "nay" vote, just to be contrary...but I don't recall the vote ever having such broad agreement before.

We heard from Dr Susan Henry-Crowe, formerly of the General Board of Church and Society, about the revisions to the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church, those things we hold as key teachings of our faith as we affirm the full dignity and humanity of all God's people, and our need to care for one another, and for all of God's good creation.

I loved celebrating 30 years of the Order of Deacons, the 70th anniversary of full clergy rights for women, and the federal recognition of the Lumbee tribe, whose tribal lands are in the southern part of the conference. Conference is a lot...and it's a blessing and encouragement as we look to the future. Pastors and church members are doing and sharing innovative ministry and forming disciples in love, service, and leadership. I've not even hit the highlights here, and Leslie will have a more detailed report later. For now, let me say that I am proud of our denomination, our conference, and our congregation, who love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously into the future.

Grace & peace,
Pastor Anne

Events that occur weekly throughout **JULY**

Sunday	Riverfront Worship Service at Lou Mac Park	8:30 am
	Worship Service, OUMC Sanctuary	10:30 am
	Drum'in Dragons Practice in the Fellowship Hall	3:00 pm
Tuesdays	Bible Study	10:00 am
	Beginners Ukulele	12:30 pm
	UHOO's Ukulele Practice	2:00 pm
Wednesday	Community Art	2:00 pm
	Praise Band Rehearsal	5:00 pm
Thursday	PrimeTime Pamlico Breakfast with Friends at Brantley's in the Back Room	8:30 am
	PrimeTime Pamlico Prayer Shawl Ministries—Fellowship Hall	10:00 am

Calendar of Events

July 1	Summer Blessings food distribution	9:00 am
July 4	Rock painting at Labyrinth	10:00 am
July 5	Bring Canned Green Beans for PCFLO	
July 8	Prime Time Game Day	2:00 pm
July 9	The Gathering	6:00 pm
July 12	Quaker Silent Worship-All are welcome	2:00 pm
July 15	Methodist Men's Fellowship Breakfast	9:00 am
	Prime Time Pamlico Board meeting	10:00 am
	River's Edge @ Perry Griffin house	1:00 pm
July 22	Finance Committee meeting	9:30 am
	Prime Time Game Day	2:00 pm
July 26	Quaker Silent Worship-All are welcome	2:00 pm
July 27	The Gathering	6:00 pm
July 29	Summer Blessings food distribution	9:00 am





Announcements

**The Deadline for the August Newsletter
is July 28!**

Methodist Men's Breakfast (NOTE DATE CHANGE)

Our monthly Men's Breakfast will be held on Wednesday, **July 15 at 9 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Please text or email Jim Kellenberger by noon on Tuesday the 14th, if you plan to attend.

919-621-0362/jimkellenberger05@gmail.com

Women's Circle News

Sojourner's Circle: Resume in September

**Sara Veal Circle Meeting: Resume in
September**

Sand Dollar Circle: Resume in August

PCFLO Food of the Month:

July food of the month is



July's Birthdays

Cyndy Little	July 3
Dennis Snyder	July 5
Pastor Anne	July 7
Cathy Delcambre	July 7
Lynn Rockwell	July 8
Jackie Mason	July 10
Sally Belangia	July 13
Lucas Dunbar	July 15
Donna Luh	July 15
Larry Widdecombe	July 15
Pastor Charles Moseley	July 16
Marsha Shirk	July 19
Diane McDaniel	July 21
Mary White	July 22
Joan Lilley	July 22
Joseph Geraghty	July 22
Tristan Stewart	July 23
Marjorie Dufek	July 25
Andrea Bruce	July 27
Bruce Hartman	July 27

If your July birthday is not listed please call the office at 249-0213.

Announcements continued...

8:30 at Lou Mac Park & 10:30 in the Sanctuary

Our volunteer greeters and readers for the **8:30 worship service**

DATE	READERS	GREETERS
July 5	Donna Creech	Dave and Linda Bacon
July 12	Lynn Rockwell	Joanne Hurley
July 19	Jim Kellenberger	
July 26	Deb Rodenhouser	Carl & Donna Crothers

Our volunteer greeters and readers for the **10:30 worship service**

July 5	Janet Lind	Shirley Mauney
July 12	Janet Lind	Shirley Mauney
July 19	Karen VanGampen	Karen VanGampen
July 26	Janet Lind	Janet Lind



An Extra Layer of Security for Realm

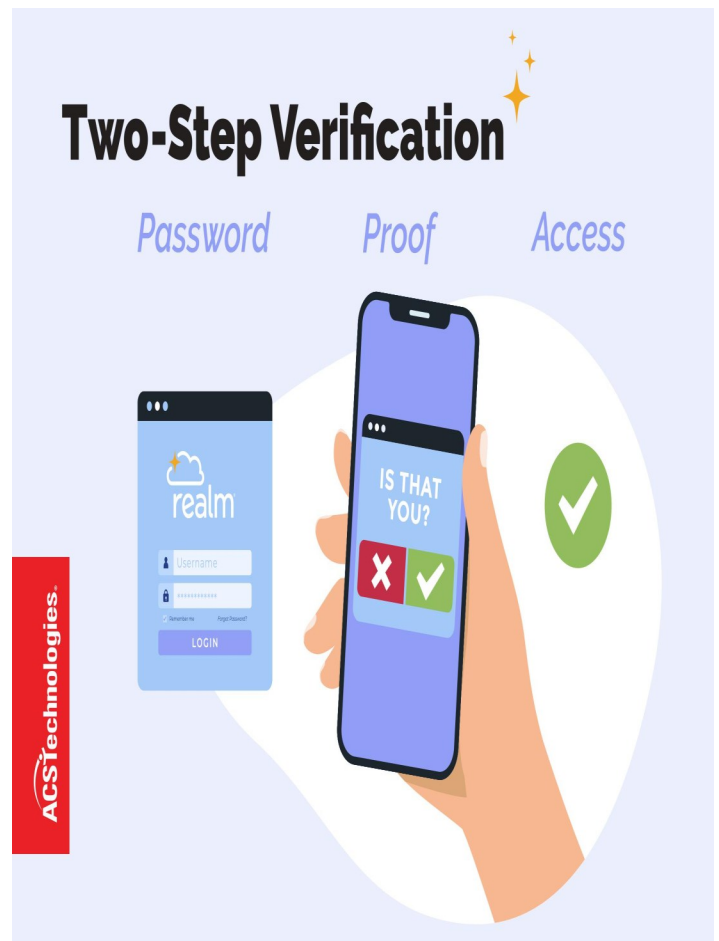
By Donna Crothers

What is two-step verification and why do OUMC members need it for Realm? In today's digital world, where information flows seamlessly online, the need for enhanced security measures has never been greater. Many members of the church have their financial information stored in order to make it easier to make online donations. In addition all contributions are recorded to the person making the donation. Adding an extra layer of security protects this data. The process should be familiar to most of us – first enter your password, then enter a code sent via text or email.

While two-step verification initially is not required for all members, Pastor Anne and Technology Chairman John Phillips encourage it. "In order to help protect everyone's data, church staff and administration are required to use two-step verification for Realm. We encourage everyone to enable two-step verification for Realm to protect their data and everyone else's. Those with access to add or change members' profile information, such as Tracy, our finance officers, and myself are required to use two-step verification because we have a different level of access from most users. But this is the same kind of authorization that you use for other accounts like banking, so it should be familiar," said Pastor Anne.

Enabling two-step verification is straightforward. First, sign into your Realm account and click on your name in the upper right corner of the screen. From the dropdown menu, select "My Account." For security reasons, you will be asked to sign in a second time. At the bottom of the account settings is a button to turn on two-step verification. At that point, you must sign in again and select your method of two-step verification. If your mobile phone number or email address is not in your profile, you must add it. You will then receive a code for verification to get into your account. After this, you will use two-step verification each time you log in.

Taking this extra step is worth the effort, John said. "Two-step verification is not required of most church members, but it is encouraged. Is it an extra step? Yes. But it behooves us to have this extra protection."



Two-Step Verification in Realm



What is Two-Step Verification?

Two-step verification is an enhanced security feature for your Realm account that helps prevent anyone with unauthorized access from getting into your account. A user is only given access to a system after providing two pieces of information uniquely identifying that person, such as entering your password and a one-time code that is sent to your phone.



Why is it Important?

When you enable two-step verification, you add an extra layer of protection to your Realm account. It makes it difficult for hackers to access your account, even if they know your password. This extra security step ensures that only you can access your account, keeping your personal information safe from unauthorized access.

How Will Two-Step Verification Impact Me?

If your church has enabled it but does not require it for logging into Realm, you can opt in by following the steps below.

If your church requires it for logging into Realm, then upon logging in, you will be prompted to set up two-step verification following the steps below.



How Do I Set Up Two-Step Verification?

To enable two-step verification within Realm:

1. Click your name in the top right corner of the screen.
2. Select **My Account** from the drop-down menu.
You will be prompted to sign in again for security reasons.
3. Turn on **two-step verification**.
4. Select which method of verification you want to enable.

MISSION ARTICLE – July 2026

Thanks to the generous donations to the **Local Mission Fund**, the Mission Team voted to send \$500 each to **Pamlico Partnership for Children** and **Coastal Center for Hope & Healing (CCHH)**.

CCHH (formerly Coastal Women's Shelter) continues to help survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Craven, Jones and Pamlico counties. They have served over 1,000 women, men and children on their path toward independence. Their agency recently received Courts' Home for Hope. This house will provide survivors with opportunities to stabilize, save income, access counseling and advocacy services, and work toward long-term safety.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES for PAMLICO COUNTY STUDENTS

If you would like to help, there will be collection bins in the Fellowship Hall and Narthex.

DUE DATE: AUGUST 19th

ITEMS NEEDED:

Crayons
Pencils #2
Pens
Colored Pencils
Pencil Pouches
Highlighters
Dry Erase Markers
Backpacks
Glue Sticks
Children's scissors
Rulers
Large Pink Erasers
Pocket Folders

3 ring hard Binders – 1 inch, 1 ½ inch - most needed

Composition Notebooks – most needed

Loose-leaf notebook paper (wide rule)

Mini Stapler

Ear buds/headphones

Clorox/Lysol Wipes

Hand Sanitizer

Kleenex Tissue

Paper Towels

Zip Lock Bags (all sizes)



Many thanks from the OUMC Mission Team!!

REWYRE Your LIFE - If you could benefit from a supportive environment that will help you move forward positively after the loss of a relationship (breakup, divorce, death, etc) we'd love to have you join us!

What: We will read and discuss the book *Rebuilding When Your Relationship Ends*, by Fisher and Alberti (which focuses on divorce, but is mostly relevant to everyone who has lost a partner.)

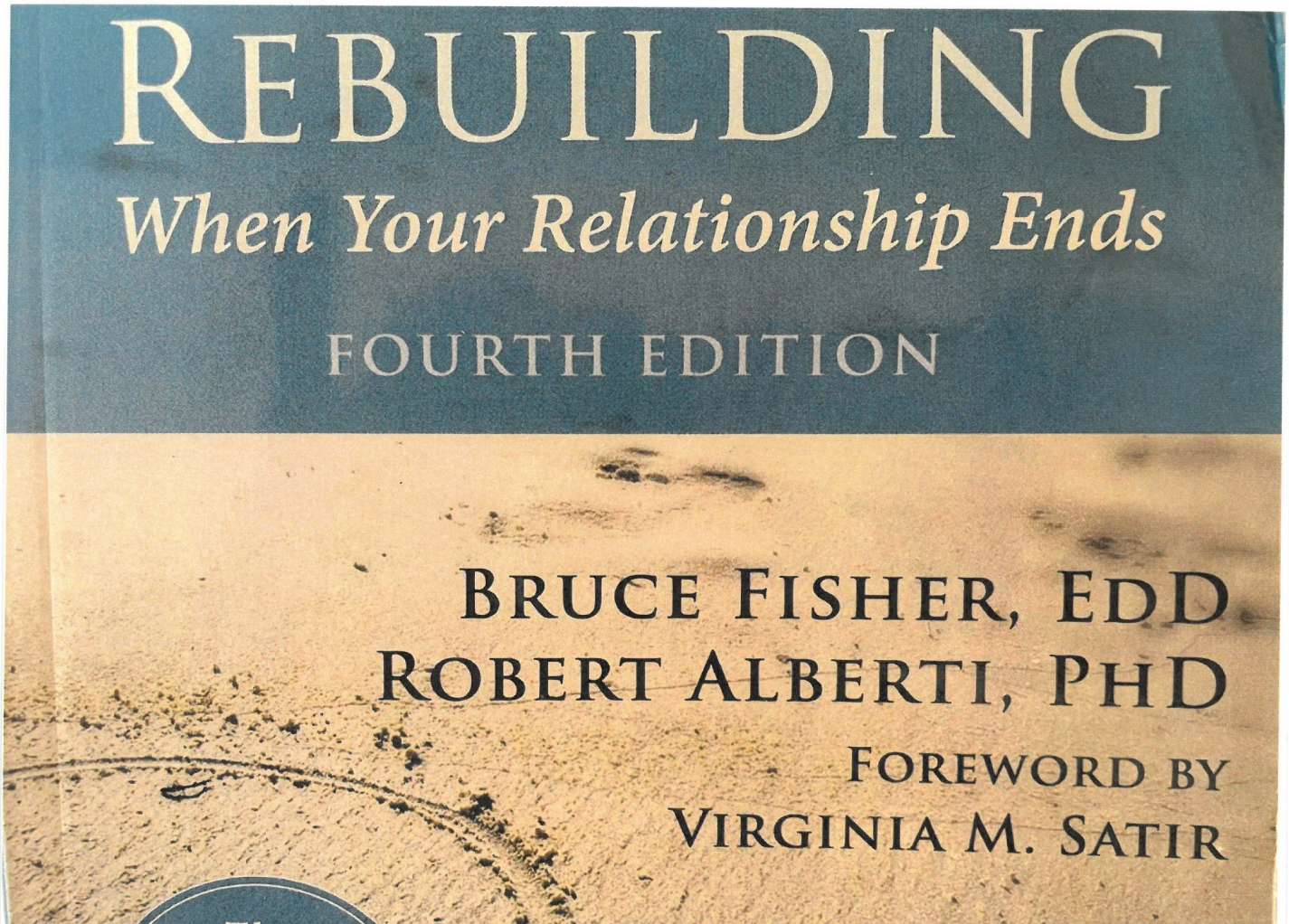
Why: We all heal and grow better as part of a community.

Where: Perry-Griffin Community Center

When: 7-8:30pm on Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 23; ending Nov 18

Who: Ann Boswell, who has benefitted greatly from ReWYRE, will lead us.

How to sign up: Text Ann at 919-593-9806: Type ReWYRE and leave your name & email and/or call or text



To meet our total expected expenses for 2026, our contributions needed to total about \$260,000, or about \$5,000 per week.

Total Offerings as of June 15, 2026 = \$105,043

Total budget as of June 15, 2026 = \$120,000

Surplus / shortfall = \$14,957



July 2026

To RSVP call 252.675.0909 or email
director@primetimepamlico.org

Breakfast with Friends

Brantley's Restaurant

Thursday's

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

8:30 am



ALL ARE WELCOME Please join the group at Brantley's (Center Room) for breakfast. The breakfast will continue every Thursday at 8:30. (Except for when they are closed). Come as you are able. Breakfast is on your own.

Prayer Shawl

Thursday's

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

10:00 am

**Oriental United Methodist
Church – Fellowship Hall**

Share Comfort Through Knitting & Crocheting

Crochet or knit shawls and lap robes to share warmth, hope, and prayer with those facing illness, grief, or loneliness. Your handmade gift becomes a tangible reminder that someone cares—and prays—for them. For questions or to arrange delivery, please call 252-675-0909. Let's wrap our community in love, hope, and prayer—one stitch at a time.



Game Day (2nd & 4th Wed)

Wednesday—July 8

Wednesday—July 22

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

**Oriental United Methodist
Church – Fellowship Hall**



Join us for an afternoon of fun-filled board games, cards, and fellowship! All skill levels are welcome! We've been playing Rummikub, but it's always exciting to introduce new games and learn from others. If you have a favorite game, this could be an opportunity to share it with others and maybe even inspire new enthusiasts.

On the Road Again

Join Prime Time for A Historic Trolley Tour in New Bern, NC

Thursday, July 23, 2026 Tour starts at 11:00 am with lunch following

Discover three centuries of history and architectural beauty in a comprehensive 90-minute trolley tour of historic downtown New Bern. Let our professional guides entertain you with fascinating details, historical narratives, and true stories of this former royal capital of North Carolina. You are sure to be enchanted by the city's unique beauty and charm.

The trolley tour includes a visit to the New Bern Academy Museum, Cedar Grove Cemetery, and Christ Episcopal Church. RSVP Required by calling 252.675.0909, cost of tickets will be \$20+tax plus cash for driver & tour guide tips. Lunch on your own following the tour.



Oriental United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 70

Oriental, NC 28571

THE ANCHOR: YOUR LINK TO OUMC



Prayer List:: HELEN BLAND, MARY BOUDREAU, JENNIFER BURKE, MARTHA JO CAMPBELL, ALDO CRISTIANI, NANCY & DENISE DiNUNZIO, PETER DRIPCHEK, BRANSON DUNN, JILL ENSLEY, DAVID FILIPIAK, MARVIN FRIEL, JODIE GEIGER, JOHN HALLINAN, KELLY HITCHCOCK, PATTI HIGGINBOTTOM, JOAN HORICK, JOAN JOHNEN, CAROL JOHNSON, WARREN JOHNSON, MARTHA KEEFE, SUSAN KLEMM, GRACIE KNOWLES, KAYLA KRELIE, PEGGY LAURICELLA, GARY & PAT LEONARD, MATT MCINTYRE, DIANA MIDYETTE, SUSAN PANDICH, LILLY PEARSON, DIANNE PILAND, CLAIRE PITTMAN, DEBBIE PRICE, SALLY CROTHERS RAMIREZ, LINN RAYE, ANTOINETTE RIZZI, WYATT ROHRMAN, KATHY SCIORRA, DEBBIE SEVELIO, BEN & ANNE SIMS, CAROL SMALL, ERNIE SMITH, JOAN ULVOG, JEANNE URBAN, KAREN VANGAMPER, HAROLD & ARLENE WALTER, HATTIE WERNER, EDNA WHORTON, GLEN WIBLE, MISSIONARIES, OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Anne Sims: Pastor
Catherine Baxley: Lay Leader
Tracy Peterson: Office Staff

PRIME TIME STAFF

Debora Steenson: Director
Prime Time Number: 252-675-0909
director@primetimepamlico.org

OFFICE HOURS

9 am to 3 pm Monday through Thursday
(Except Holidays)

PHONE NUMBERS

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Fax: (252) 249-0411

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Find us on Facebook:

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