The ANCHOR

October 2026

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



LOVE BOLDLY, SERVE JOUYFULLY 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.



What: Pets may be brought forward for an individual blessing, in the tradition of St. Francis of Assisi, who held all of creation as part of our great family of God.

When: Sunday, October 11 at 2:00 pm

Where: The Oriental Community Labyrinth across from Lou Mac Park

Who: All pets are welcome! We only ask that they are on a leash or properly contained. If your pet does not do well with others, please use a carrier or bring a picture of your pet. If your animal companion has passed away, feel free to bring a photo or just bring them in your heart.

Pastor Anne Sims and Pastor Adam Christiansen will be blessing the animals and are asking that you bring a food item for the pet food pantry located at the library. We wil provide a bin in which to place your donation.

Events that occur weekly throughout October

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

October 1	Theo of Golden book study	11:30 am
October 2-3	Ol' Front Porch Music Festival	
October 7	Prime Time Game Day	2:00 pm
October 8	Theo of Golden book study	11:30 am
	Sand Dollar Circle meeting	3:00 pm
October 10	Methodist Men's Breakfast	9:00 am
October 11	Quaker Silent Worship-all are welcome	2:00 pm
	Blessing of the Animals at the Labyrinth	2:00 pm
October 12	Mission Team meeting	9:30 am
	Prime Time Pamlico-ECU Digital workshop	10:00 am
	Sojourners Circle meeting	11:30 am
	Prime Time Pamlico-cooking	1:00 pm
October 13	Sara Veal Circle meeting	9:15 am
October 14	Prime Time Pamlico Health & Safety Expo	8:00 am
October 15	Labyrinth Committee meeting	2:00 pm
October 17	Wing & a Prayer chicken dinner	10:00 am
October 19	Prime Time Pamlico cooking	10:00 am
October 21	Prime Time Pamlico expo	7:00 am
	Prime Time Pamlico Board meeting	12:00 noon
October 25	SPRC meeting	1:30 pm
October 28	Finance Committee meeting	9:30 am
	Prime Time game day	2:00 pm

Announcements

The Deadline for the November Newsletter is October 26!

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Methodist Men's Breakfast

Our monthly Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, October 10 at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please text or email Jim Kellenberger by noon on Friday the 9th, if you plan to attend.

919-621-0362/jimkellenberger05@gmail.com

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Women's Circle News

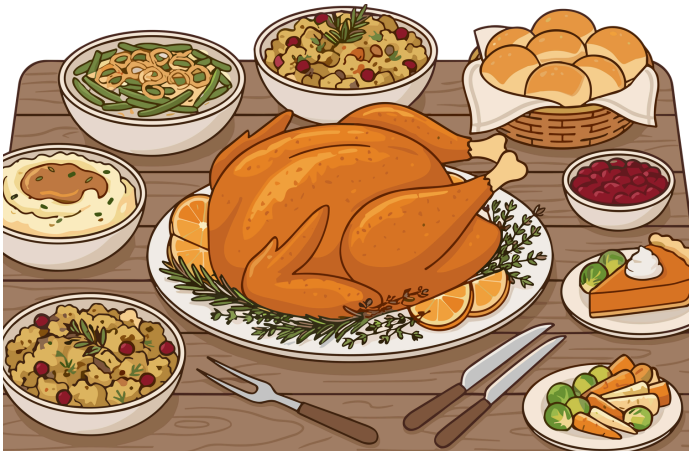
Sojourner's Circle: October 12 @ 11:30 am
Sara Veal Circle: October 13 @ 9:15 am
Sand Dollar Circle: October 8 @ 3:00 pm

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PCFLO Food of the Month:

Sides for Thanksgiving

Canned yams, green beans, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce



October's Birthdays

Doug Carmichael	10/03
Ben Piner	10/03
Ken Van Hook	10/03
Emily Piland	10/04
Chip Hindes	10/06
Kathy McCullock	10/08
Karen VanGamper	10/10
Nelda Coats	10/11
Caitlin Delamar	10/11
Alan James	10/12
Liz Lathroup	10/12
Willa Kay Bruce	10/12
Mary Balsly	10/13
Paul Delamar III	10/13
Madeline Sutter	10/13
Joshua Ricker	10/13
Wanda Forrest	10/14
Marina Ricker	10/14
John Deaton	10/15
Marilyn Ramsey	10/15
Anne Miller	10/17
Ashton Spruill	10/17
Deanna Russo	10/17
Chad Hoff	10/18
Jalyn Dunn	10/19
Priscilla Seals	10/22
Mark Hoff	10/23
William (Bill) Kepp	10/25
Drake Scott Dunbar	10/27
Troy McCraw	10/31

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
October 4	Dennis Balsly	Joanne Hurley
October 11	Deb Rodenhouser	Ken & Lou Ann Roberts
October 18	Ros Cheetham	Sam & Debbie
October 25	Carl Crothers	Joanne Hurley

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

October 4	Janet Lind	Shirley Mauney
October 11	Karen VanGampen	Shirley Mauney
October 18	Janet Lind	Shirley Mauney
October 25	Karen VanGampen	Shirley Mauney



Finance Update

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 Sept. 20, 2026 = $172,804
Total budget as of Sept. 20, 2026 = $190,000
Surplus / shortfall = $17,196

Shirley Mauney: Working Behind the Scenes

You may know Shirley Mauney as a frequent greeter at OUMC's 10:30 a.m. service, but you probably don't know all the other ways she serves the church. Shirley works tirelessly out of the spotlight at everything from counting offerings on Sunday to calling recipients of the Mission Team's Thanksgiving dinners to giving rides to homebound congregants. She never calls attention to herself, but United Women in Faith did when they named her the 2026 Woman of the Year on Aug. 22.

Shirley has been on OUMC's Missions Team for four years, and Chairperson Nancy Duttry say Shirley is always ready to serve on the team's projects. "Leaders could not lead and achieve their goals without faithful volunteers and followers like Shirley," says Nancy. Shirley is a regular participant in the team's Backpack Blessings summer food distributions and many other projects. She also has served on the Church Council and the Staff Parrish Committee at OUMC. "I really get to be a part of the church by serving," Shirley says.

Shirley became a part-time resident of Oriental and a member of OUMC in 2012, following the death of her husband in 2010 in Shelby. She found a real sense of community in both the Sand Dollar Circle and the Sojourners Circle, and she became a member of both. She also became involved in Prime Time programs. "I have never met such a warm and beautiful set of people," she said. "I think of church members as my family."

Her son, Mark Crowder, lives in Oriental and encouraged her to become a full-time resident, which she did in 2016. As a former employee of the state of North Carolina's Main Street Center, a part of the Department of Commerce, Shirley was used to being busy. She explored various volunteer opportunities and found what worked well for her, especially as her mobility became more limited. "I can't help with a lot of things," she says. "This taught me to see what works and what doesn't. Just because you have been doing something for a while doesn't mean you need to keep doing it." Her advice: If you want to volunteer at OUMC, just reach out and talk to someone at the church. There's an opportunity for everyone to serve.













Mission News article for October

It's time to start collecting donations for our Thanksgiving Dinners!



OUMC will be accepting donations to provide Thanksgiving Dinners to those less fortunate in our community. If you would like to support this mission outreach, please make your check payable to OUMC with **"Thanksgiving Dinner"** on the memo line. You may mail your contribution to OUMC, P.O. Box 70, Oriental, NC 28571, drop it in the offering plate, or bring it by the office at your convenience.

The Mission Team has decided to provide **thirty dinners**. A meal for an individual family will cost approximately **$65** this year. Any donations received over the cost of the thirty meals will be given to **PCFLO** to purchase additional turkeys for their clients. A donation of **any amount** would be greatly appreciated by **Sunday, November 22rd**. Thank you in advance!!!

September and October are collection months for **No Child Wet Behind**. They have not specified most needed diaper sizes this year but stated they could also use gift cards to Walmart and Food Lion.

Your Budgeted Mission dollars for October go to **Habitat for Humanity** for $500.

Joe Geraghty has provided the following update on this year's **Habitat for Humanity** house: "The local guys built a block foundation for a modular home to be delivered in two parts. Those halves have now been assembled, and the local group will finish the interior and exterior. This type of build works well for Pamlico County where volunteers are ages 65 and up. This house is on land that will accommodate one more house to be added 3 years from now. The local chapter must add one home at least every 3 years to keep their charter and it takes Pamlico County that long to raise funds for a house."

Thank you for your donations which make our Local, National & Global outreach possible.

The OUMC Mission Team







Pamlico Partnership for Children

NO CHILD WET BEHIND Diaper Drive



SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2026

The annual Diaper Drive benefits the babies and families of Pamlico County.

Drop off disposable diapers at Pamlico Partnership, 702A Main Street, Bayboro
Cash donations are also welcome

Drop Off - OUMC Fellowship Hall

For more information: Call 252-745-7850
Text 252-671-2883 or email:
michelle@pamlicopartnership.org

October 2026 EVENTS

Prime Time Pamlico, Inc.
Live Well • Stay Connected • Keep Growing
Oriental • Pamlico County

Share Comfort Through Knitting & Crocheting



Oriental United Methodist Church – Fellowship Hall

Thursdays • October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
10:00 am

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.

Breakfast with Friends



Brantley's Restaurant
Thursdays • October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
8:30 am

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.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Digital Series



Monday, October 12
10:00 am

Smartphones 101

Learn how to navigate Smartphones, download apps and use various communication tools.

Game Day (2nd & 4th Wed)



Wednesday, October 14, 28
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! We've been playing Rummikub & Dominos Mexican Train, but it's always exciting to introduce new games and learn from others. All skill levels are welcome!

Adirondack Chair Fundraiser



Tickets $10 each or 3 for $20

- Beautiful Polywood Adirondack Chair
- Generously donated by Nautical Wheelers
- Drawing to be held at the Prime Time Pamlico Health & Safety Expo October 21, 2026.

Live Well • Stay Connected • Keep Growing

October 2026 EVENTS

Prime Time Pamlico, Inc.
Live Well • Stay Connected • Keep Growing
ORIENTAL • PAMLICO COUNTY

Prime Time Pamlico Annual Health & Safety Expo

Wednesday, October 21
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Vaccinations by Bayboro Pharmacy
10:00 AM – Noon

Protect your health and stay up to date with recommended vaccinations.

Meet Our Health & Safety Exhibitors

Connect with local organizations, professionals, and community resources offering information and practical tips on:

- Health & Wellness
- Pharmacy & Medications
- Heart Health & Diabetes
- Home & Fall Safety
- Emergency & Fire Safety
- Emergency Medical Services
- Brain Health & Healthy Aging
- Nutrition & Healthy Eating
- Balance, Exercise & Mobility
- Community Resources
- Personal Safety & Fraud Prevention
- Caregiving & Support Services

Come Learn. Come Move. Come Connect.



Cook, Care & Connect:
Getting Ready for the Holidays
Fall for Soups

Monday, October 19
10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Oriental United Methodist Church – Fellowship Hall

The kitchen becomes a place of connection, compassion, and community, Cook, Care & Connect is a hands-on cooking series designed not only to teach simple, nourishing recipes but also to support neighbors who could use a little extra care—those recovering from illness, surgery, caregivers or simply needing a reminder that their community is thinking of them.

What to Expect

Learn & Create
Work side-by-side to prepare wholesome dishes using fresh, minimally processed ingredients.

Share & Enjoy
After cooking, everyone sits down to enjoy the meal together—celebrating fellowship, friendship, and the joy of shared effort.

Give Back
Extra meals will be packaged, frozen and/or delivered to community members who need a boost, offering comfort through food and kindness.

Featuring Professional Chef Bob Locarro

With more than 45 years of professional culinary experience, Chef Bob Locarro brings extraordinary skill—and extraordinary stories—to the table. Trained at the Culinary Institute of America in New York, Bob has worked in artisan bakeries, fine dining restaurants, and wild-game kitchens. His career later took him to Aspen, Colorado, where he thrived as a private chef.

Bob's first freelance job was with legendary music producer Quincy Jones, and he later spent two memorable weeks cooking alongside actor Dustin Hoffman. His classes blend technique, creativity, and storytelling, offering participants both culinary knowledge and a glimpse into a remarkable career.

Join him to learn practical, flavorful recipes and hear firsthand the tales behind his decades in the culinary world.

Whether you're an experienced cook or just beginning your culinary journey, your presence makes a meaningful difference.



On the Road Again –
Voices of Freedom, Stories from 250 Years
New Bern Ghostwalk

Friday, October 23, 2026
Main ghost sites open 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM

Join Prime Time Pamlico for the "Voices of Freedom, Stories from 250 Years" at the New Bern Historical Society 36th Annual Ghostwalk in New Bern, North Carolina. There are 13 ghost sites spread across Cedar Grove Cemetery and historic downtown porches/indoor buildings in New Bern.

Advance Tickets are $20 per person.
Reserve your spot by contacting Debora Steenson at **director@primetimepamlico.org** or by calling **252.675.0909.**
Once you make reservations, ticket price must be received by Prime Time Pamlico no later than October 16th for advance purchase.

Live Well • Stay Connected • Keep Growing

Oriental United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 70
Oriental, NC 28571
Forwarding Service Requested



Prayer List:Helen Bland, Mary Boudreault, Jennifer Burke, Martha Jo Campbell, Aldo Cristiani, Nancy & Denise DiNunzio, Peter Dripchek, Branson Dunn, Jill Ensley, Marvin Friel, Jodie Geiger, John Hallinan, Nancy Hart, Kelly Hitchcock, Patti Higginbottom,Linda Hoff, 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, Kathy Sciorra, Debbie Sevelio, Ben & Anne Sims, Carol Small, Ernie Smith, Jeanne Urban, Karen VanGamper, Worth Wallin & Family, Harold & Arlene Walter, Bill White, 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
Office: (252) 249-0213
Fax: (252) 249-0411
Church Email: orientalumc@orientalumc.org
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facebook.com/www.orientalumc.org
Web Site: www.OrientalUMC.org