



**ORTEGA**  
CHURCH



**FEBRUARY 2025**  
**THE SPIRE**



## February Re-Enlivens Ortega Church Mission to Connect, Grow, and Serve.



**P.R.A.I.S.E. Worship Series and Daily Devotional** – Guided by the P.R.A.I.S.E. acronym we are encouraged to connect to God, grow more in love with God, and serve God as we are found more present to and in communion with God. Our series continues through the month of February as we explore the blessings we are promised as we **Pray** to God, **Read** God’s Word, **Ask** questions, **Interpret** Scripture, **Summarize** applications of our prayers and readings to our own lives, and **Engage** God in sacred time set apart for God’s glory and our good blessing.



**Community Health Outreach and Cuba Mission** – February’s Missions and Outreach effort connects and serves our local community and our world. Please see the back cover for February’s Diaper Collection for Community Health Outreach, and Page 5 for our exciting update and upcoming mission trip to Placetas, Cuba.



**Narthex Renewal Construction** – The invitation to Connect, Grow and Serve begins with the hospitality extended in the Narthex entrance of our Sanctuary. Sunday worship will not be interrupted during construction that is scheduled to begin February 1.



A Special Gifts Campaign and dollar-for-dollar Matching Gift Opportunity seeking to raise \$100,000 is currently underway. The Campaign Brochure is available in the Narthex and Church Office.

**NOTE: Town Hall Meeting** – Church Leaders will host a Town Hall Meeting at 11:30 am immediately following worship on Sunday, February 2 to share an overview and answer members questions.



**Leadership Vision, Mission and Goals** – Please see Page 2 for an update on our 2025 Leadership Team and their continuing work on behalf of Ortega Church, captured in our Mission Statement below.

**Connecting to Our Community, Growing in Christ, Serving the World.**  
Ortega Church Mission Statement



# 2025 Ortega Church Leadership Ministry

## Our Staff:

### Rev. Art McClellan

Pastor  
ArtMcClellan@ortegachurch.org

### Liz Holmes

Administrative/Financial  
Coordinator  
Liz@ortegachurch.org

### Grace Hambrick

Director of Ministry  
Grace@ortegachurch.org

### Melissa Millican

Director of Recreational Ministry  
& Ortega Youth  
Melissa@ortegachurch.org

### Shannon Jennings

Director of Children's Ministry  
Shannon@ortegachurch.org

### Nora Cash-Davie

Director of Communications  
Nora@ortegachurch.org

### Scott Coleman

Director of Contemporary Music  
Scott@ortegachurch.org

### Charlie Mann

Organist/Pianist  
Charlie@ortegachurch.org

### Casey Sharp

Ortega Playschool  
Director of Education  
ortegaplayschool@gmail.com

### Abby Steedley

Ortega Playschool Director of  
Finance & Communication  
ortegaplayschool@gmail.com

### Jonathan Jennings

Audio Visual  
jonj@ortegachurch.org

### Wyatt Cleland

Maintenance Coordinator

### Alison Shriner

Hospitality/Housekeeping



(L to R) Tim Snyder, Doug Fields, Carol Villemaire, Phil Bancroft, Frank Yong, Josh Sale, Abby Dyal, Jim Lanier, Susan Norville, Lauren Purdy, Stacey McKendree, Zack Montford and Rev. Art McClellan.

Ortega Church is served by dedicated volunteers who form a Single-Board Leadership Team to guide and evaluate the ministry, staff and volunteers as we seek to live into our mission: *Connect to Community. Grow in Christ. Serve the World.*

The Single-Board Leadership Model provides a path for better communication, partnership, and outcomes as each board member is more informed about the breath and depth of our ministry celebrations and challenges. The Board meets monthly and as a whole serves as the Church Council, Board of Trustees, Staff Relations Team and Finance Committee.

The Board is divided into Task Teams who develop, recommend and implement ministries approved by the Leadership Team, and are designated below along with those appointed to serve. These Board members are known to most of our active membership and are available to discuss the ministries of the church and the questions you may have, along with staff listed in the sidebar.

We invite you to keep our leadership in your prayers and to offer words of appreciation for their service to God and to Ortega Church.

Josh Sale – Council Chair and Lay Leader

Stacey McKendree – Immediate Past Chair and Finance

#### Finance Team:

Carol Villemaire, Chair

Zack Montford, Endowment Chair

#### Staff Relations Team:

Frank Yong, Chair

Abby Dyal

Lauren Purdy

Tim Snyder

#### Trustees Team:

Phil Bancroft, Chair

Doug Fields

Jim Lanier

Susan Norville



# FINANCES



Year-End Report  
DECEMBER 31, 2024  
Revenue and Expenses

**Actual  
Revenue:  
\$972,135**

**Actual  
Expenses:  
\$886,258**

Thank you for your financial support of the ministries of Ortega Church!

Call or email the Church Office with questions or concerns: 389-5556 x118 or [financeoffice@ortegachurch.org](mailto:financeoffice@ortegachurch.org).

## The Restoration and Renewal of the Sanctuary Narthex

Special Gifts Campaign and Matching Gift Opportunity

The Leadership of Ortega Methodist Church has approved a limited funding campaign for the renovation of the Narthex entry to the Ortega Church Sanctuary. A matching gift incentive allows your gift to be doubled in value. The campaign began on Christmas 2024 and is expected to conclude on Easter Sunday 2025. Please contact Liz Holmes in the church office at 904/389.5556, x118 for a Campaign Giving Brochure, or use the QR Code to the right access our Online Giving. Please ensure your online gift is designated "Narthex Renewal Campaign." Thank you!

SCAN FOR GIVING PAGE



# ORTEGA LIFE CENTER



Melissa Millican  
Director of Recreational  
Ministry & Ortega Youth  
[Melissa@ortegachurch.org](mailto:Melissa@ortegachurch.org)



[ortegasports.com](http://ortegasports.com)



[ortegasports.jax](https://www.instagram.com/ortegasports.jax)



[ortega.sports](https://www.facebook.com/ortega.sports)

**YOUTH  
Volleyball  
LEAGUE**

**Registration is going on now!**

**League begins in March**

**4th - 9th grades**

[www.ortegasports.com](http://www.ortegasports.com)

**ADULT VOLLEYBALL  
DRAFT LEAGUE**

**THURS NIGHTS / COED**

[www.ortegasports.com](http://www.ortegasports.com)

**REGISTER TODAY!**



**SAVE THE DATE: Mega Sports Camp - June 23-26**

This year we are trading VBS for our exciting **MSC!**  
Get ready for Faith Exploration, Sportsmanship & Adventure!



# ADULT MINISTRIES



## Connect | Grow | Serve



Grace Hambrick  
Director of Ministry  
[Grace@ortegachurch.org](mailto:Grace@ortegachurch.org)

### Current Weekly Class Offerings:

**Open Door Class** (Room 4 - Education Building)  
Sundays at 9:30am

**Renovate Class** (Parlor) Sundays at 9:30am

**Bible Believers** (Room 7 - Education Building)  
Sundays at 9:30am

**Rediscovery Class** (Parlor) Wednesdays at 6:00pm

**Mens Bible Study** (Room 4) Wednesdays at 7:00pm



**Men Alive! Bible Study** (Parlor)  
Thursday mornings at 6:45am  
"C.S. Lewis on Christianity"  
Starting February 6  
6 week session  
A Hillsdale College Online Course  
with Professor Michael Ward

**Women's Prayer Group Thursdays at 10:30 AM**  
February 6 & 20; Meets every other Thursday at 10:30am  
in the Education Building.

## Life Groups

**P.R.A.I.S.E. Devotional** - Join us with our 40-day reading guide sharing praise passages found in the Book of Psalms, through the month of February. We are looking at how we are encouraged and are blessed by praising God on a daily basis - and in our weekly worship. If you did not receive a devotional in the mail, they can be found in the Narthex.

### Monday Evening Life Group

Held the 1st and 3rd Mondays (through April). February 3 and 17. Led by Tom and Gretchen Lynch. Contact Gretchen for more information and location at [t-lynch@comcast.net](mailto:t-lynch@comcast.net)

### Tuesday Evening Life Group

Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 6:00pm (February 4 and 18). Led by Lee and Susan Norville, meeting in their home.

### Parents on the Run Life Group

Meets from 5:30-7:30 each month. Child Care Provided at the Church; February 9 in the home of Rebecca and Josh Sale. The next session will be March 9.

[www.rightnowmedia.org](http://www.rightnowmedia.org)

Suggested for  
FEBRUARY



Check out our Ortega Church Channel  
under the library section of Rightnow Media.

Explore the studies we hope you will enjoy!

### How to Read and Study the Bible for Yourself by Benjamin Windle

Come on this journey with Pastor and author Benjamin Windle as your guide, as he teaches you how to use the Bible as a lamp for every question and challenge life throws at you. You will learn:

- How to engage in your own personal devotions.
- Get practical tools and easy to use methods on personal Bible Study.
- Discover the golden rule of how to interpret the Bible.
- Ignite a new passion for the Bible and its power to bring about change in your life.

### Don't have a login?

Contact the church office for this free service and we will help you sign up.



**Womens Bible Study** (Fellowship Hall)  
Mondays at 1:00pm

Heaven. Who goes there? Where is it? Dispel myths and media-influenced images to gain a biblical understanding of this essential truth. Jennifer Rothschild takes a deeper look at what God has prepared for his children, transforming wonder into excitement and peace.



**Womens Bible Study** (Parlor)  
Mondays at 1:00pm

Heaven by Randy Alcorn is a fascinating, easy-to-read study that will help every believer in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord find an anchor for present faithfulness, celebrate the loving provisions God has made for His children, and convey to others a love for God and His home.

# ADULT MINISTRIES



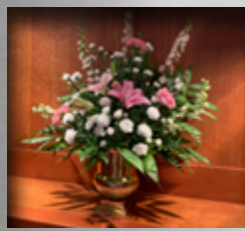
## Prayers & Praises



### How Can We Pray For You?

We invite you to share prayer requests by calling the church office, 389-5556 x118, sending an email to [prayer@ortegachurch.org](mailto:prayer@ortegachurch.org), or completing the prayer request form at [www.ortegachurch.org](http://www.ortegachurch.org).

Would you like to join our Prayer Ministry Team?  
Contact [prayer@ortegachurch.org](mailto:prayer@ortegachurch.org)



### Altar Flowers

The Altar Flower Calendar is in the Narthex. Reserve your Special Sunday.

The Cost is \$90.



### Ortega Methodist Women

The Ortega Methodist Women's Board will meet Tuesday, February 4 at 10:00am in the Parlor.

Their will be a combined meeting of the Ruth-Elisabeth Circle and the Lydia Circle on Tuesday, February 11 at 10:30am in the Parlor. Our speaker will be Louise Rowe from Dress a Girl. Barbara Burns and Patricia Trout will be our hostesses.

Remember to bring your items to stock The Little Food Pantry at Ortega Church. Please bring all of your items to the church office.



# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

## MCV



Ortega Church received several heartfelt "Thank You" notes from MCV families who received your gifts of Christmas Stockings and Gift Cards. Thank you for your generosity!

### 2025 Cuba Mission



A small mission team heads to visit our Sister Church Iglesia Metodista de Placetas, Cuba February 14-18. Missions Team members will transport the first installment of OTC Medicines inspired by Ortega Church members and now supported by a grant from the John and Katherine

Duda Foundation. Team Members will worship in the new Sanctuary built with financial gifts raised by Ortega Church, as well as visit offspring ministries whose Pastor's salary support will be underwritten in 2025 by Ortega Church. Please continue your Praying for Placetas and include our missionaries, John Newsom, Cuba Coordinator, Carol Villemaire, Robin (Missions Chair) and Doug Fields, and Rev. Art McClellan.

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Shannon Jennings  
Director of  
Children's Ministry  
[Shannon@ortegachurch.org](mailto:Shannon@ortegachurch.org)



For the Month of February  
**Ortega Kids Choir**  
will practice during  
Sunday Morning  
Children's Church

## What's Happening



### Sunday School Teachers are Needed

If you would be interested in sharing your gifts by teaching just once a month, contact Shannon Jennings or visit the QR Code to sign up.



[Shannon@ortegachurch.org](mailto:Shannon@ortegachurch.org)



(Scan or Click Online)

## Save the Date



Ortega Kids  
[ortegachurch.org/ortega-kids](http://ortegachurch.org/ortega-kids)

THIS YEAR WE ARE TRADING VBS FOR OUR EXCITING MSC!



# MEGA SPORTS CAMP!

## JUNE 23-26

Faith Exploration,  
Sportsmanship & Adventure!



**KID'S CHURCH:** 10:30: Sanctuary with Family | 10:45: Dismissal to Kid's Church in the Ed. Building

**PK 3 AND PK 4**

NURSERY  
(corner door to  
left of flag pole)

**K - 1ST**

ROOM 2  
(1st room on left  
in Ed. Building)

**2ND-3RD**

ROOM 3  
(2nd room on left  
in Ed. Building)

**4TH - 5TH**

ROOM 8  
(1st room on right,  
upstairs, Ed. Building)

K-5th Pick up in Education Building

**NURSERY:** 6 weeks - 4 years (Prek4) | 10:15 - 11:45; Room 19

# YOUTH MINISTRY



Melissa Millican  
Director of Recreational  
Ministry & Ortega Youth  
[Melissa@ortegachurch.org](mailto:Melissa@ortegachurch.org)



[OrtegaChurch.org/ortega-youth](http://OrtegaChurch.org/ortega-youth)



## THE GLAZE

Sunday Mornings  
10am - 11:30am  
February 2, 9, 23



## ENFUEGO - YOUTH NIGHT

Sunday Night  
5:30pm - 7:30pm  
February 2, 23



## THE MIX

Wednesday Nights  
6:45pm - 8pm  
February 5, 12, 19, 26



## WINTER RETREAT

February 14 - 17

# Ortega Playschool



## ORTEGA PLAYSCHOOL CHILDREN'S RESALE

Ortega Playschool will host its 4th Annual Children's Resale on Saturday, February 8 from 8am-11am in Fellowship Hall. All proceeds benefit Ortega Playschool. Payments can be made with cash & Venmo.

Come shop for toys, children's clothing, shoes, nursery items, strollers, maternity clothes, baby gadgets and more!

**FEBRUARY 2025**



4807 Roosevelt Blvd.  
Jacksonville, FL 32210

Church Office: 904-389-5556  
Playschool: 904-387-0749

Email: [communications@ortegachurch.org](mailto:communications@ortegachurch.org)  
[www.ortegachurch.org](http://www.ortegachurch.org)

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## Share the Luv – February Diaper Collection



During the month of February, we will collect diapers for the Baby Luv Ministry of local mission partner **Community Health Outreach**. Please bring size 1-4 diapers and baby wipes to the Narthex or the Church Office. The Baby Luv program assists needy parents of young children with essential baby products.



**Let's Help  
Share the Luv!**

