



ORTEGA  
CHURCH



November 2025  
**THE SPIRE**



# GENERATIONS

Psalm 78:1-7



*I will teach you lessons from our past—stories we have heard and known, stories our ancestors handed down to us. We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord.*

Psalm 78.2-4

In November, Ortega Church celebrates the many gifts of being a church family who gathers many different generations for God's worship and service. We celebrate those who came before who taught the next generation about *the glorious deeds of the Lord, about his power and his mighty wonders*. We celebrate the church today, who renews our covenant to teach and live and give to ensure *each generation's hope is renewed in the Lord*.

In this spirit of gratitude, we ask you to prayerfully discern how you will support the ministry of Ortega Church in the upcoming year. Our shared commitment to the ministry of Jesus Christ brings a collective power to be the body of Christ who accomplishes infinitely more than any one of us could ask or imagine or accomplish alone.

*Each generation  
should set its hope  
anew on God.  
Psalm 78:7*

Our **GENERATIONS** Worship focus begins Sunday, November 2 with a beautiful expression of our Family First Sunday Worship where all generations of the church will gather to witness the Baptism of Infants, Welcoming of New Members, our Remembrance of the Saints who are now present with our Lord, and the Presence our Lord shares as we celebrate Holy Communion together.

Throughout the month, we will continue to celebrate the many generations who currently make up this present generation of Ortega Church – all working together, united in purpose and love, trusting God will guide us for the future generations who follow to teach about the glorious deeds of the Lord.



Join Ortega Church for an evening of food, fun and fellowship as we gather the whole church family around the table to enjoy a delicious Barbeque dinner, family-friendly Bingo games, and Fall Photos in the Courtyard. Space is limited, make your reservations today with the QR Code.



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



# PASTOR'S POST by Rev. Art McClellan

## GENERATIONS PROJECT

### Our Staff:

**Rev. Art McClellan**  
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**Jonathan Jennings**  
Audio Visual  
jonj@ortegachurch.org



Ortega Church is one of 10 churches recently awarded a GENERATIONS PROJECT Grant through the Florida Annual Conference of the Global Methodist Church. The grant is funded in collaboration with the Lilly Endowment's "Nurturing Children in Worship" Initiative.

In 2025, we are living in a moment when seven generations are present in the life of the church, a phenomenon unprecedented in history. Yet many churches struggle to integrate children into the full and communal life of worship, study and fellowship – leading to a gap that leaves young people without strong role models of faith to follow.

The GENERATIONS PROJECT presents a unique and Spirit-filled opportunity to engage ALL generations in shaping and sharing the Church's future. Through our shared worship, prayer, and relationship connections, we hope to inspire a church culture where discipleship is modeled across generations – especially between senior adults and younger generations.

Recently, several Lay Leaders and Staff attended the Project's two day Listening, Learning and Leading Workshop where we were inspired, challenged, and given great confidence that this strategically designed partnership along with gifted coaching and a year-long, four-phase plan will bring great fruit to the life of our church and our ministry together, across the generations who worship and serve God together at Ortega Church.

If you are interested to learn more or to join our Generations Project team, please contact Karen Coleman at Kids@OrtegaChurch.org. We look forward to sharing greater insight into the exciting journey ahead of us all!



# FINANCES

**Year-To-Date**  
**September 30, 2025**  
**Revenue and Expenses**

**Actual**  
**Revenue:**  
**\$ 644,754**

**Actual**  
**Expenses:**  
**\$ 657,839**

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.

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)



[ortegasportsjax](https://www.instagram.com/ortegasportsjax)



[ortegasports](https://www.facebook.com/ortegasports)

ORTEGA  
SPORTS



## DAYTIME Pickleball OPEN PLAY

*Monday*

**Open Play**

10:00 - 11:30a  
11:45 - 1:15p  
1:30 - 3:00p

*Tuesday*

**Open Play**

10:00 - 11:30

*Wednesday*

**Open Play**

10:00 - 11:30a  
11:45 - 1:15p  
1:30 - 3:00p

*Friday*

**Open Play**

10:00 - 11:30a  
11:45 - 1:15p  
1:30 - 3:00p



**Yoga: Held on Tuesday Nights at 6:00pm**

Join us in welcoming our new Yoga Instructor - Tyler.



Check the Website for Upcoming Holiday Closures.

**WWW.ORTEGASPORTS.COM**



# ADULT MINISTRIES

GROW

## Connect | Grow | Serve

For more information on weekly class offerings and Life Groups contact the Church Office at

**904-389-5556**

### 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

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

**Women's Prayer Group Thursdays at 10:30am**  
November 13 and 20; Meets every other Thursday at 10:30am in the Education Building.

## Life Groups

### DOING LIFE TOGETHER

#### Monday Evening Life Group

Held the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 6:30pm (November 3 and 17).  
Led by Tom and Gretchen Lynch. Contact Gretchen for more information and location at t-lynch@comcast.net.

#### Tuesday Evening Life Group

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

#### Parents on the Run Life Group

Meets from 5:30pm-7:30pm each month. Child Care Provided at the Church. For November we plan to meet at BBQ & Bingo instead of holding our usual group night. Contact: Karen@OrtegaChurch.org, text 904-651-2857.

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

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

Explore the studies we hope you will enjoy!

### EVERY GOOD GIFT | Ann Voskamp

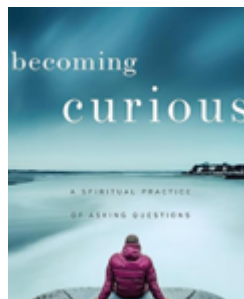
How natural is generosity to who you are? What do you do with what you have? Have you ever wondered what the Bible says about hospitality, generosity, and stewardship? This six-session series with author and speaker Ann Voskamp explores examples of offering hospitality, time, money, spiritual gifts, and empathy to the glory of God.

Everything we have is a gift. Will we hold tightly to these gifts with a scarcity mentality or will we handle them with open hands?

#### Don't have a login?

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

**Women's Bible Study** (Parlor) Mondays at 1:00pm,  
*Becoming Curious* - by Casey Tygett



A little curiosity moves us deeper into the lives of the people around us. A little curiosity, if focused on Jesus, will make us more like him. When we make curiosity a spiritual practice, we open up to new ways of knowing God and knowing ourselves as well. Come discuss and discover the power of asking questions.

**Women's Bible Study** (Fellowship Hall) Mondays at 1:00pm,  
*When You Pray* - by Jen Wilkin & Others



Join us to study prayers in the Bible that can inspire your own. You'll learn that God welcomes your praise and lament, your Thanksgiving and your intercession.

# ADULT MINISTRIES

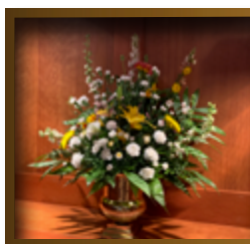


## PRAYERS & PRAISES

### 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

We invite all the women of the church to join one of our circles. Please call Nancy Schwanbeck at 384-5940.

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

**The Ruth-Elizabeth Circle** will meet Monday, November 10 at 11:00am in the Parlor. Lori Chelf from Beyond 90 will be the speaker.

**The Lydia Circle** will meet Tuesday, November 11 at 10:00am in the Parlor. Freddie Walker will be our hostess. We will be getting our boxes for Samaritan's Purse ready to mail. Please bring and write down your favorite Bible Verse.

# MISSIONS AND OUTREACH



## 15th Annual Cardboard City



**November 15-16 at Lakewood Church,** 6133 San Jose Boulevard, Jacksonville, FL 32217 behind the Church of Christ. Come for the evening or come spend the night!

Join the mission committee in attending the maze as a great family activity, sharing housing insecurity with children. This is a great event for families, youth groups and anyone who wants to make a difference in the life of a child.

**Register online:**



Scan or  
Click  
Online

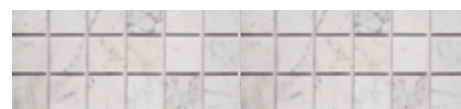
This interactive experience gives families the opportunity to see what it is like to navigate from homelessness to stability.



## Cuba Mission

Share in a Special Offering outreach with our World Missions Sister Church Iglesia Metodista de Placetas, Cuba. With roof, walls, windows and doors in place to welcome worshippers and to serve in outreach to their community, we now hope to "Tile The Temple" - a finishing aesthetic attribute that will also preserve the reverant space for years to come.

Your \$25 Gift provides 10-plus square feet of tile for the Temple floor. Gifts in any amount are welcomed as we encourage and support the amazing ongoing ministry of our brothers and sisters in Placetas!





# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



**Karen Coleman**  
Director of Ministry  
Enablement and  
Member Experience  
[Karen@ortegachurch.org](mailto:Karen@ortegachurch.org)

## Exciting News: Ortega Church Receives \$10,000 Generations Grant!

We're thrilled to share that Ortega Church has been awarded a \$10,000 Generations Children's Ministry Grant from the Global Methodist Church!

This funding will help us enhance our children's ministry by creating more engaging worship experiences, expanding family outreach, and developing new programs that build faith across generations. We are deeply grateful for this blessing and the continued growth God is bringing to Ortega Church Kids.

## ORTEGA CHURCH KIDS & FAMILY UPDATE

**Growing Together in Christ** - As the seasons change, we're so grateful for how God continues to grow and bless our Ortega Church family. November brings wonderful opportunities for connection, fun, and outreach — and we hope you'll join in!

**Thank You to Our Amazing October Volunteers**  
A heartfelt thank you to our **October Children's Sunday School Teachers and Helpers** who poured love and energy into our kids each week: **Elaine Koziol, Carrie Smith, Vicky Yong, Christie Martin, Megan Dodd, Brandon Dodd, Vaughan Lee Griffin, and Audra Bancroft.** Your time and dedication help our children grow in faith, joy, and confidence — we are so grateful for you!

**Children's Ministry** - Our Ortega Kids are diving into *The Gospel and Me* series — learning about God's plan for creation, sin, and redemption through Jesus. Each Sunday, kids enjoy songs, stories, and hands-on activities designed to help them know God's love in a personal way.

We're also preparing to launch our new **KidCheck system** to make Sunday check-in faster and safer for families. Parents can pre-register before our go-live date on **November 9** — look for details in this week's church email or stop by the check-in table on Sunday.

**Be ready for our next Family First Sunday on November 2!** - All families will worship together in the sanctuary. Kids can pick up their **Ortega Kids Worship Bags** in the narthex before the service — filled with fun ways to help them follow along and engage in worship.

**Call to Action** - We'd love a few more **volunteers** to help welcome families, assist in classrooms, or prepare materials. If you feel called to invest in the next generation, contact **Karen Coleman** at [kids@ortegachurch.org](mailto:kids@ortegachurch.org).

**Fall Fellowship: BBQ & Bingo – Friday, November 7 | 6–8 PM** - Join us for an evening of great food, laughter, and connection at our Fall Fellowship Dinner! Enjoy delicious BBQ, family-friendly bingo games, and fall photos in the courtyard — perfect for Christmas cards or a fun keepsake. Space is limited, reserve your spot today: 

**Community Outreach: Partnering to Make a Difference** - This month, our children's ministry and outreach teams are partnering with the **Ortega Methodist Women** to pack **Operation Christmas Child boxes** for children around the world through **Samaritan's Purse**.

During November, our kids will help collect items and pack the boxes during Sunday school.

**Be on the lookout for a note coming home** with details on items that can be donated — a wonderful way for families to give together this season!

### How You Can Help:

- Donate school supplies, socks or small toys for the Christmas boxes.
- Volunteer to help assemble or deliver care packages and boxes.
- Pray for the children and families who will receive these gifts.

If you'd like to get involved, please reach out to [kids@ortegachurch.org](mailto:kids@ortegachurch.org) or sign up in the church lobby.

**Reminder:** Ortega Kids Sunday School starts at 10:30AM  
in the Education Building with Sign In Between 10:15AM-10:30AM

**PK 3 AND PK 4**  
ROOM 15  
Preschool Building

**K - 2ND**  
ROOM 2  
Education Building  
(1st room on left)

**3RD-5TH**  
ROOM 3  
Education Building  
(2nd room on left)

K-5th Pick up in Education Building

# YOUTH MINISTRY



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



Scan or  
Click  
Online



## SUNDAY MORNINGS 10AM-11:30AM

Donuts, games, worship, scripture and fun! Join us for Bible study in the Youth Room!



## SUNDAY EVENINGS 5:30PM-7:30PM

Once a month epic night of fun! Come join us this month for Hide-N-Seek and invite a friend.



## WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 6:45PM-8:00PM

Join us for large group games, a devotional, and small groups.



## ORTEGA YOUTH NOVEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						01
02 10-11:30 THE GLAZE	03	04	05 THE MIX 6:45-8	06	07	08
09 10-11:30 The Glaze Enfuego 5:30-7:30	10	11	12 THE MIX 6:45-8	13	14	15
16 10-11:30 THE GLAZE	17	18	19 THE MIX 6:45-8	20	21	22
23 10-11:30 THE GLAZE	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 10-11:30 THE GLAZE	01	02	03 THE MIX 6:45-8	04	05	06

## MEMBER NEWS

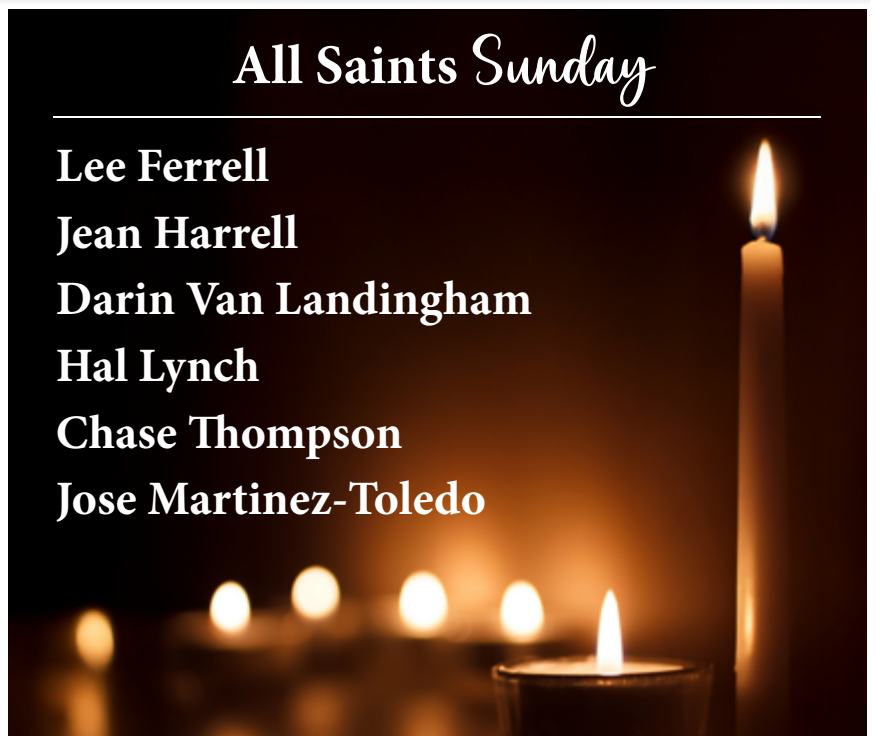
### Sacrament of Infant Baptism

Lomax Louise Barnes, Robert Wade Barnes, and Marjorie Broward Barnes. Baptized in worship on Sunday, October 12, 2025. Proud Parents are Mary and Hampton Barnes.



### All Saints Sunday

Lee Ferrell  
Jean Harrell  
Darin Van Landingham  
Hal Lynch  
Chase Thompson  
Jose Martinez-Toledo





**NOVEMBER 2025**



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Jacksonville, FL 32210

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Playschool: 904-387-0749

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

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## THE OCTOBER OUTREACH!



**RISE AGAINST HUNGER**



**PUMPKIN PATCH UNLOADING**



**OPS GRANDPARENT'S CHAPEL**



**COURTYARD CONNECT WITH CHO**



**CUBA MISSION CELEBRATION**