ORTEGA CHURCH

THE SPIRE
November 2026



November Worship:

GATHERED IN FAITH AND THANKSGIVING

This November, we will conclude our **Gathered** series by exploring what it means for the Church to serve with purpose, and make room for others. This series has been an important reminder for us, and I hope you have allowed God to speak to you during these weeks in His Word.

Be sure to join us for **Thanksgiving Sunday on November 22** as we give thanks for God's faithfulness and consider how gratitude inspires generosity. **Don't miss this great day of Thanksgiving in worship together!**

OUR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- **8:30AM** — Traditional Worship in the Chapel
- **9:30AM** — Sunday Classes
- **10:30AM** — Blended Worship in the Sanctuary

NOVEMBER 1 - ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Every Member Matters
Romans 12:1–8

NOVEMBER 8

Sent to Serve
Acts 13:1–3

NOVEMBER 15

Room for More
Acts 2:47; Luke 14:15–23

NOVEMBER 22 - THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

A Generous Heart
2 Corinthians 9:6–11

NOVEMBER 29 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Son of Mary
Mark 6:1–6

LOOKING AHEAD WITH GRATITUDE AND HOPE

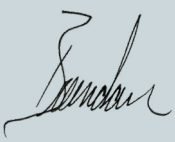
Thank you, Ortega church family, for the many ways you have supported our church and its ministry this past year. Through your prayers, generosity, service, and faithful presence, you have helped us welcome new faces, care for one another, and share the love of Christ with our community.

This has been a year of transition, but we have much to celebrate together! It is a joy to serve alongside you, and I look toward our ministry together in 2027 with great excitement.

As we move through the month of November, soon you will receive a stewardship letter in the mail inviting you to prayerfully consider your financial support of Ortega Church for the coming year. Enclosed will be an estimate-of-giving card to return by **November 22, our Thanksgiving Sunday celebration**. Your response helps our Leadership Team plan faithfully for the ministry ahead.

As you consider your giving, take a moment to thank God for the people and ministries that have shaped your faith. Then prayerfully consider how your generosity can help extend that same blessing to others.

Thank you for being part of the Ortega Church family. There is much to be grateful for—and much to look forward to as we follow Christ together!



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



PASTOR'S POST



A LETTER FROM PASTOR BRENDAN

A Season of Gratitude November 2026

Our Staff:

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Pastor
BrendanHock@ortegachurch.org

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Director of Finance, Operations and Communications
Nora@ortegachurch.org

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Joe Ogno
Maintenance Coordinator



Dear Ortega Family,

Welcome to the Season of Thanksgiving!! There is something joyful about the fall season. This past month, I have especially enjoyed sharing that joy with you in the pumpkin patch. The pumpkins brought people onto our campus, but your warmth and kindness helped them feel welcome.

Thank you to everyone who gave time, offered support, purchased pumpkins, and helped make the patch possible. I appreciate your spirit of generosity. Every greeting helped us share the love of Christ with our neighbors.

As we now move into November, we have wonderful opportunities to extend that love even farther. Through **Rise Against Hunger**, November 8, we will help provide meals for people facing hunger around the world. Packing meals together is a simple, practical way to make a difference—and a great opportunity to serve alongside someone you may not yet know.

We will also be packing shoe boxes for **Operation Christmas Child**. This year, our boxes will bring joy to children in the Amazon. It is wonderful to imagine a child opening a gift packed here at Ortega and discovering that someone far away cared enough to remember them. As you prepare a box, take a moment to pray for the child who will receive it.

Then, at the end of the month, we will gather around our **Thanksgiving** tables. Scripture encourages us to "*give thanks in all circumstances*" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). A thankful heart can change the way we experience an ordinary day. When we pause to notice God's gifts—a friend's encouragement, an answered prayer—we begin to see blessings we might otherwise hurry past. Our challenges may still be there, but gratitude helps us face them with a renewed awareness of God's care.

This month, try **beginning each morning by thanking God for three specific things.** Let that gratitude shape your conversations, your responses, and your willingness to help someone else.

I am thankful to be your pastor and to share this season with you. God has given us so many opportunities to bring hope and joy to others. Let's step into November with thankful hearts, open hands, and anticipation for what God will do among us!

Grace and peace,



FINANCES

Year-To-Date
SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

Expenses

Actual Revenue:
$638,465

Actual Expenses:
$662,330

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

CHURCH CONFERENCE

Join us for Ortega's annual Church Conference on Sunday, November 15, at 1:00 p.m. This gathering is an opportunity to celebrate God's work among us, attend to the business of the church, and look ahead to another year of ministry together.

Everyone is welcome! Your presence and prayers are appreciated as we give thanks for this past year and prepare for the opportunities ahead. Our Presiding Elder for this Church Conference will be Rev. Mike Hudson.

ORTEGA CHURCH

ORTEGA LIFE CENTER

New Line Dancing Fitness Class begins Friday, Nov 4th.



Gym Closed for Thanksgiving Wed 25th thru Saturday the 28th.



WWW.ORTEGASPORTS.COM
CONTACT: MELISSA@ORTEGACHURCH.ORG

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

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

Renovate Class (Parlor) 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 (See more info below on the right).

Women's Prayer Group Thursdays at 10:30am
November 12 and *19 (*due to Thanksgiving); Meets every other Thursday at 10:30am in the Education Building.

Life Groups



Mon Evening Life Group - November 2 and 16. Contact Susan@ortegachurch.org for more information.

Parents on the Run - 5:30pm-7:30pm each month. Child Care provided at the church from 5:15-7:45. Upcoming Dates: November 8, December 13, January 10, February 7, March 21. Contact: Susan@OrtegaChurch.org.

If you're interested in joining a Life Group contact the church office at 389-5556.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

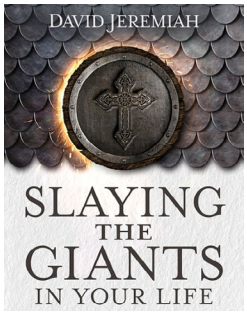
SCAN TO GIVE

We are collecting items and donations for "**Operation Christmas Child**." Items can be dropped off in the Narthex or Sanctuary, and donations can be made online at the QR code to the left. A donation of $10 covers shipping. Item suggestions can be found on the Narthex flyers. Empty boxes are available if you would like to take one to fill instead of providing your own, while supplies last.

A Light in the Darkness Blue Christmas Service
Wednesday, December 9, 2026 | 6:30pm, Boyd Chapel
The Christmas season can be difficult when you are carrying grief, loneliness, or the weight of a challenging year. Ortega Church invites you to a quiet service of Scripture, prayer, and reflection, offering space to acknowledge sorrow and find comfort in the hope of Christ. Together, we will remember God's promises, and rest in the light of Jesus.

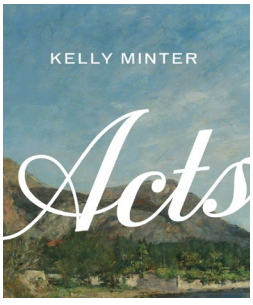
WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) Meets Mondays at 1:00pm, *"Slaying the Giants in Your Life"* by David Jeremiah



How do we defeat giants like guilt, failure, worry, temptation, and doubt? These are daunting giants, but thankfully we have access to God's Word, which is a wealth of knowledge, encouragement, and power. We are not weak - we are empowered!

Women's Bible Study (Parlor) Mondays at 1:00pm, *Acts- The Story of the Church, the Power of the Gospel, and the Mission that Continues Today* by Kelly Minter



In this Bible study for women on the book of Acts, you'll discover what it means to be Jesus's witness today, get a vision of living in rich community, and be challenged to live with great purpose and passion in God's unfolding story.

ADULT MINISTRIES



How Can We Pray For You?

We invite you to share prayer requests by calling the church office, 389-5556 x102, sending an email to admin@ortegachurch.org, or completing the prayer request form at www.ortegachurch.org.

Would you like to join our Prayer Ministry Team?
Contact admin@ortegachurch.org



Altar Flowers

The Altar Flower Calendar is in the Narthex. Reserve your Special Sunday. The Cost is $90.

Ortega Methodist Women

Board Meeting - The Ortega Methodist Women's Board will meet Tuesday, November 3 at 10:00am in the Parlor.

OMW Meeting - The Ortega Methodist Women will meet Tuesday, November 10 at 10:00am in the Parlor. We will be filling fifty shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Please bring all of your items to the meeting.



MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Rise AGAINST HUNGER

NOVEMBER 8, 2026

On Sunday, November 8, Ortega Church kicks off our missions focus with our Annual Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event. Two meal assembling sessions will be shared before and after our 10:30 Worship with the objective to create 17,000 meals to be delivered to hungry children throughout the world.
Sign up for a session at the QR code or online at tinyurl.com/RiseNov2026

REGISTER

Two Sessions:
9:30 and 11:30

MARK YOUR CALENDARS & SIGN UP

MCV

Join Ortega Church volunteers as we take on light repairs and clean-up projects inside and out with our community mission partner, Methodist Children's Village.

MCV WORKDAY
Saturday, November 14
9am-12pm

Methodist Children's Village is located at 7915 Herlong Rd. Contact the church office for questions - 904-389-5556.

ORTEGA Community Table

Fellowship Hall - last Friday of the month (Next: November 20)

Prepare 100 Sandwich Bags from 11am -12pm to be delivered to the City Rescue Mission for distribution.

Hand out Hot Meal from 4pm-6pm and a to-go bag of groceries.

To Volunteer:
Text "SERVE"
to 904-389-5556
or visit the QR Code:

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

ORTEGA KIDS SUNDAYS

10:30AM - EDUCATION BUILDING

(Sign-in begins at 10:15AM)

6 WEEKS - 2 YEARS

ROOM 5

(3nd room on right)

PREK 3 - PREK 4

ROOM 6

(age 3 and 4 by 9/1/26)

(2nd room on right)

K-2

ROOM 2

(1st room on left)

3RD - 5TH

ROOM 3

(2nd room on left)

Get regular Ortega Kids updates by signing up to receive our weekly email by visiting the QR code.

FAMILY FIRST SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 1, 2026

Kid-friendly worship service -the first Sunday of each month. Children stay with their families in the main service center. **There is no Sunday School this day.** We provide **Ortega Kids Activity Bags** with fun things to do during the service. Pick up your bags in the Narthex before the service. If kids turn in their completed activity at the end, they'll receive a **special prize**!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COORDINATOR



Children's ministry is at the heart of our life together at Ortega Church, and we are seeking a Children's Ministry Coordinator to help children know Jesus, grow in faith, and feel at home in our church family.

5 Key Responsibilities Will Include:

- Coordinating Sunday morning children's ministry.
- Recruiting, supporting, and scheduling volunteers.
- Planning lessons and activities that help children grow in their faith.
- Communicating with parents and welcoming new families.
- Helping organize special children's events and maintaining a safe, caring environment.
- Position will be up to 20 hours per week and Compensation will be based on experience.

Send Resume to:
Email: Admin@OrtegaChurch.org
Subject: Children's Ministry Coordinator Position

Ortega Kids will be stuffing boxes for"**Operation Christmas Child** during Sunday School on Sunday, November 15, 2026.

This year the boxes will be delivered to the Amazon as an expression of God's immense love for a child. "*Every Box is an opportunity for a child to hear that God loves them.*" - Franklin Graham.

YOUTH MINISTRY



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

VISIT ONLINE FOR MORE INFO

ORTEGA YOUTH



MEMBER NEWS

Sacrament of Infant Baptism



Maxwell David Yazdiya was Baptized in worship on Sunday, October 18, 2026. Proud Parents are David and Mary Kate Yazdiya; siblings are Dean and Bennett.

Member Updates Needed

If you have any updates, additions, or a family photo for the Church Directory, please email them to admin@ortegachurch.org, or you can update with the Connect Card. We are hoping to have a directory published by January and we don't want anyone to be left out.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY



NOVEMBER 2026

ORTEGA CHURCH

4807 Roosevelt Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32210

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

Email: Admin@OrtegaChurch.org
www.OrtegaChurch.org

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A LOOK AT OCTOBER





PUMPKIN PATCH UNLOADING





ORTEGA COMMUNITY TABLE

