

# ALWAYS GOOD NEWS

MISSION COVENANT CHURCH

53 Pleasant Street/PO Box 299, Orange, MA 01364 978-544-2803

April 2019

[info@missioncovorange.org](mailto:info@missioncovorange.org)

## Welcome

Our mission is to follow Jesus, inviting our community, making new friends along the way.

Dr. Mary Hendrickson, Pastor

### Worship and Praise

Sunday Worship	10AM
Communion Service - 1 <sup>st</sup> Week	
Contemporary Praise Service - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Week	

### Learning and Study

Sunday Children and Youth	10AM
Tuesday Study at MCC	9AM

### Youth and Adult Fellowship

Sunday Village Square Gathering	11AM
Sunday Youth Fellowship	5-7PM
1 <sup>st</sup> Friday Prayer Night	7PM
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday Men's Breakfast	8AM

Call 978-544-2803 for more information and to learn more about "one time" events which encourage members and guests alike to share the love Jesus has for each of us.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN THE ORANGE CHURCH COMMUNITY'S (INC) JOURNEY THROUGH LENT. HOW?

*Tuesday's 9-10:30AM  
Mission Covenant Church  
Women's study,  
"The Easter Experience"*

*Wednesday's 6:45-8PM  
St. Mary's,  
"The Joy of Hope" video series.*

*Friday's 6PM  
Soup, Supper & Brief Devotion  
April 5 at Mission Covenant  
April 12 at Orange UMC*

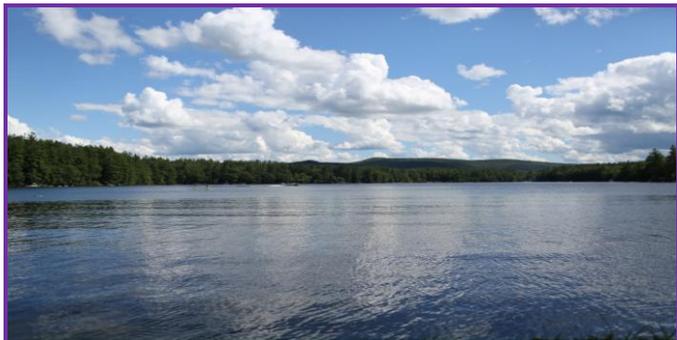
*Maundy Thursday Service 4PM  
April 18 at Orange UMC*

*Conclude your Lenten Journey  
BY CELEBRATING A SERVICE OF JOY &  
HOPE - EASTER, APRIL 21  
YOU WILL BE WELCOME WITH THE  
LOVE OF JESUS AND HIS  
FOLLOWERS. (Look in local  
newspapers or online for times.)*



*For those early risers, the  
Orange UMC (Athol site)/INC  
invites you to a  
6AM sunrise service and  
Pancake Breakfast*

*One of God's Gifts - The Pines*



**2019 LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Mercedes Clingerman, Chair

Ken Johnson, Vice Chair

Bob Treutlein, Secretary

George Hunt, Financial Officer

Kenny Parent, Member-at-Large

Amy White, Member-at-Large

Pastor Mary Hendrickson, Ex Officio Member

LT meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at 9AM.  
Do not hesitate to ask members questions, express  
concerns or joys and most vital support them as  
they lead us in discipleship to Jesus Christ.

**SHARING GOD IN OUR LIVES**

It is not just in worship or study we share God with  
others. It is also making time to be together in our  
daily secular lives. Here are 2 possibilities.

*ATTENTION  
all Men*

**MEN'S BREAKFAST**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup>, 8AM**

**BRING A FRIEND!**

**ENJOY GREAT FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP**

**VOLUNTEER FOR BROWN BAG**

**DISTRIBUTION THE 3<sup>RD</sup> WEDNESDAY OF  
THE MONTH AT THE ARMORY.**

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Dear MCC Friend,

As we enter the month of April, I am reminded of one of my very favorite Scripture passages. It is found in Song of Solomon, 2:11-12. "11...now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. 12 The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land." Okay, so maybe to really fit where we live, it should say snow instead of rain, but I think we all get the message. Once again the seasons turn, and spring finally comes. I think what touches my spirit in this passage is the "time of singing" and the "voice of the turtledove." There is little that can raise my spirits faster than the songs of the birds in the early spring. They announce that winter is over, even when the buds are still hiding. With their songs, hope springs anew. Isaiah writes, "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" Do we perceive that God is about to do a new thing?

We have been given a tremendous gift of a new facility to add to our beautiful building that is so beloved. How fitting that now we will have a brick building along with the wood one. Why is that fitting? After Easter, I will be preaching a series on the book of Nehemiah. This Old Testament book is all about bricks. It is the story of the rebuilding of the wall in Jerusalem, and is helpful in our understanding of our call to rebuild faith communities in Orange, empowering them to bring healing to those in need here. April includes the last few weeks of the season of Lent and finally leads up to Easter Sunday near the end of the month. Lent is a time of preparation, and so we too will get ready for our journey ahead. Let us be committed to making these last few weeks of Lent a time of deep prayers for God's leading and provision for our future. I can't wait to see the new thing that He does, can you?

Blessings, Pastor Mary



## JESUS SAID, "GO AND DO LIKEWISE."

SOME MINISTRIES AT MISSION COVENANT



JUDY JOHNSON, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Recently I heard "I Will Rise" and thought how perfect for Easter, but it is also wonderful at other times of crisis.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WIHUKY3jBvO>

Chris Tomlin and Louis Giglio wrote this beautiful song to bring hope to people who have lost someone they love with the theme that "Jesus has overcome, and the grave is overwhelmed." We can claim the victory over death, and confidently proclaim, "I will rise when he calls my name; no more sorrow, no more pain."

OUTREACH - DAVID WHITE, CHAIR

I John 3:18 *"Let us not Love with Words or Speech but with Actions and in Truth," guides our ministry.*



We continue helping St. Vincent de Paw/St. Mary's Food Pantry with your gifts of non-perishable foods and much needed personal items. See Claire if you have or could make a wagon to hold donations.

Outreach meets at 6PM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month. Meetings are open to all. Come!



IT BEGAN IN 2017 - SUE SHARED A VISION.



IT MORE THAN DOUBLED IN 2018  
WHAT'S THAT, YOU ASK?  
PEOPLE OF ALL AGES WALKING THE



SATURDAY, MAY 4<sup>TH</sup> 9AM  
MEET AT MISSION COVENANT CHURCH  
HELP US DOUBLE AGAIN IN 2019

On May 4<sup>th</sup> members, friends, neighbors around Orange and beyond are invited to join MCC and other community churches in a walk for water.

In 2018 our walk supported Cheru who was able to get her own well and clean water. This year we walk for Esther. Why not read the book of Esther for spiritual nourishment before you walk?

All levels of walkers are encouraged to spend a pleasant Saturday morning with people you know or those you'd like to know. Walk as part of a team, as an individual; part of the way or the entire route. A light lunch will be provided at the end of the walk. You can also be involved by pledging someone/team who is walking or volunteering for various tasks needed along the way or with lunch.

ALL AGES ARE ENCOURAGED TO WALK  
LET'S SHOW THE WORLD WE CARE!

For more information visit the table in fellowship hall or speak to David White, Bob Treutlein or Mercedes Clingerman



## CHRISTIAN FORMATION STARR LAMSON, CHAIR

Once again the Annual Spaghetti Supper and Pound Auction fund raiser for Camp Squanto scholarships was a rousing success. Five young people will be heading to camp this summer thanks to your support.

Would you like to have some those delicious meatballs for supper tonight? Here is the recipe.



To one pound of hamburger add:

1/3 Cup of bread crumbs	1 Tsp of garlic
3 Tsp onion	2 eggs
3/4 Cups of milk	1 Tsp salt
1/4 Cup of Pecku gremo Romano shredded cheese	
1 Tbl Italian seasoning	

Cook at 325<sup>o</sup> for 20 minutes, cooking in sauce for 4 hours the next day.

**IT IS TIME TO GET YOUR EASTER BASKET RAFFLE TICKETS - ASK A YOUNG PERSON.**

**Sunday morning curriculum theme** for the children is, "Something good can come out of something bad." Adults encourage the students to share in Village Square or at home what they are learning and experiencing through these lessons.

**Starr led 6 of us to the "ROAR" VBS Workshop** in Holden on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The weather threatened attendees but those of us who were able to make it were totally rewarded with hands on lessons, a highly motivated and experienced teacher/leader, delicious lunch and warm hospitality of the hosting church. We all left with a "can't wait until July feeling". We had the additional enrichment of the leader and her husband sharing antidotes from their years of mission in Africa which is the setting for ROAR.

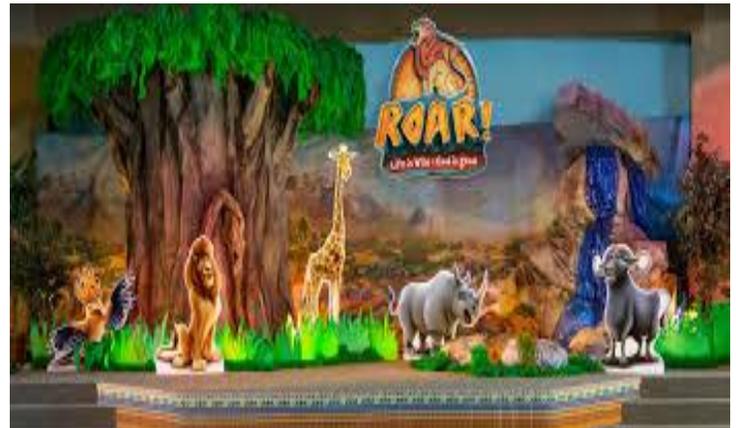
## YOUTH GROUP

Sunday night from 5-7PM continues to be a great time of fellowship, games, food and meaningful study about discipleship and faith. In the coming weeks the study will be "FAMOUS LAST WORDS" which asks the question, "If you knew your time was coming what would you want to say?"

**Everyone, member of MCC or not, is invited.**



## IT'S COMING JULY 22-26, 2019 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



## MARK THE CALENDAR!

There will be crafts, songs, stories, study, fellowship and refreshments set in an African theme. Adults bring your children, your neighbors, your grandkids and even stay for fellowship in an "adult" room.

Everyone is invited to help in a small way, as a leader, as a supporter, a follower, a provider of supplies, etc. Contact Starr Lamson at church or [starrlite68@gmail.com](mailto:starrlite68@gmail.com)

If interested of have questions come to the VBS meetings on April 22, and May 20 at 6PM.



**PRAISE THE LORD WITH HUMOR**

When my arms can't reach people who are close to my heart... I always hug them with my prayers.



www.iampoosie.com

**THE SECULAR WORLD WITNESSES  
"JESUS IS ALIVE"**

I had prepared several examples and stories possible for this section. Since the onset of our newsletter it has been by far my favorite. But in this time of Lent I decided it was more of God for each of us to make a point to reflect on an individual or incident through which someone's actions or words reminded you that God speaks sometimes most loudly through a "non-believer." I pray that you will have such an experience today.

Claire, Editor

**SATURDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>**

**4-6PM DINNER WILL BE SERVED**

The Leadership Team will host our meal in honor of "The Launch of Phase 3 of Our Vitality Journey." As we supper together we will have opportunity to ask questions about the use of our facilities and programs possible. We will have moments to listen to each other as we respond to, "What is God asking us to do? Most important how can each of us be a part." Hope to see you there. Pastor Mary or Mercedes, LT Chair would be glad to give you more information.

**CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING  
SPRINGFIELD, MA  
April 26 and 27, 2019**

This is a meeting of delegates and pastors from our local MCC New England churches. The regional and national conferences are of great support to our ministry and mission. For more information or if you would like to attend, delegate or not go to

[office@ECconf.org](mailto:office@ECconf.org) .

Or speak to one of our local church leaders.



**MISSION COVENANT CHURCH  
OFFICE NUMBER 978-544-2803**

Call this number for non-emergencies, general questions about programs and worship times. You will be directed to the appropriate person.

[info@missioncovorange.org](mailto:info@missioncovorange.org)

East Coast Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church/Cromwell, CT (click on website)

1-860-635-2691

[office@eastcoastconf.org](mailto:office@eastcoastconf.org)

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