

Current Schedule

Morning Worship: 10:45am

Sunday School: 9:30am

Ladies Bible Study:

Tuesdays @ 9:30am

Children's Catechism:

Wednesdays @ 6:30pm

Midweek Prayer Meeting:

Wednesdays @ 7:00pm



PCA



4406 Longfellow Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32210

NOVEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nov. 3 - Chili Cook-off

Nov. 4 - Memorial Service for Clairette Walma (following morning worship)

Nov. 9-10 - Mens' Retreat on SSI

Nov. 15 - RUF @ UNF Fundraiser at Maple Street Biscuit Company in San Marco (5pm-7pm)

Nov. 18 - Fellowship Meal and Roof Replacement Progress Report

Nov. 26 - Session Meeting (6:30pm)

Upcoming

Dec. 2 - Called Congregational Meeting

Committees Forming

Fellowship Committee: We'd like to have more opportunities for fellowship outside of the church's stated meetings without crowding your schedules. If you'd like to help plan and organize quarterly fellowship events/outings, speak with Aubrie Miller about how you can help.

Sound Committee: We're looking for several men and teenagers to be trained and placed on the rotation to run the sound and record/upload sermons on Sunday mornings. See Chuck Sowers to get on the list.



Issue 2 - November 2018

Pro Ecclesia (*for the church!*) is a monthly publication for the worship, community, and mission of Ortega Presbyterian Church (PCA).

Ortega's Officers

The Session

Josh Hinson, Pastor
Nick Ainsworth, Ruling Elder
Carl Hunter, Ruling Elder

The Diaconate

Mike Butler

PRO ECCLESIA

"for the Word of God, and the testimony of Jesus Christ." ~ Revelation 1:9

4406 Longfellow Street Jacksonville, FL 32210 | 904.389.4043 | ortegapres.com



Does Anyone Know Where We Worship?

Rev. Joshua Hinson

It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it.

- Isaiah 2:2

The location of our church is both a blessing and a challenge. We're nestled in a wonderful community and a convenient drive from downtown, Orange Park, and anywhere on the Westside. At the same time, our location presents a bit of a challenge. We're not as recognizable as other churches in our community. We're tucked in behind two others, just far enough off the highway to go unseen, and we're sometimes even mistaken for other churches with "Ortega" in their names.

We certainly want the people of our community to know our location. We want them to know of our church in order that they may know our Lord. So we want them to know where we gather for worship.

Now this may sound silly, but do *you* know where we worship? Not the street name or address, but do you know the Scriptural location of the New Covenant church? Do you know where we worship when we gather together on the Lord's Day?

The author of Hebrews exhorts God's New Covenant people to worship the Lord with reverence and awe (Heb. 12:28). The rationale behind this exhortation is that those in the New Covenant have come to Mount Zion, the city of the living God, which is the heavenly Jerusalem (v. 22). That is to say, heavenly as opposed to the earthly Jerusalem and the earthly Zion.

Mount Zion was the physical location of the temple, God's chosen dwelling place in the midst of his people. The earthly Zion was a type and shadow patterned after the heavenly. The shadow has faded now that the brightness of the real thing is shining forth, coming to light in Christ.

(continued on next page)

NOVEMBER FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Nov. 4-10

Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. 19 For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. - **Romans 5:18-19**

Nov. 11-17

You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, 40 yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life. - **John 5:39-40**

Nov. 18-24

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. [11 Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.] - **1 Peter 2:9-11**

Nov. 25-Dec. 1

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. - **Romans 10:17**

SHORTER CATECHISM

Nov. 4-10

Q. 90. How is the word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation?

A. That the word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation and prayer; receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts, and practice it in our lives.

Q. 91. How do the sacraments become effectual means of salvation?

A. The sacraments become effectual means of salvation, not from any virtue in them, or in him that doth administer them; but only by the blessing of Christ, and the working of his Spirit in them that by faith receive them.

Nov. 11-17

Q. 92. What is a sacrament?

A. A sacrament is an holy ordinance instituted by Christ; wherein, by sensible signs, Christ, and the benefits of the new covenant, are represented, sealed, and applied to believers.

Q. 93. Which are the sacraments of the New Testament?

A. The sacraments of the New Testament are baptism and the Lord's supper.

Nov. 18-24

Q. 94. What is baptism?

A. Baptism is a sacrament, wherein the washing with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, doth signify and seal

In the context of the letter to the Hebrews, the author was encouraging believers who were tempted to turn back to the smells and bells, the sights and sounds, and all the pageantry of temple worship. Despite appearances, we are those who truly worship in the presence of God. To be sure, believers from every era of redemptive history have worshiped in God's presence and have possessed in Christ the substance of all spiritual blessings, but not to the degree or clarity of New Covenant believers.

Our current sermon series locates Israel at another mountain; not Mount Zion in Jerusalem, but Mount Sinai in Arabia. Remember the scene? The Lord descends in a great cloud. There is fire and smoke. There are streaks of lightning and claps of thunder, the sound of a trumpet growing louder and louder, and the very voice of God speaking to his people.

We may not think that the location of our worship offers much by way of comparison. We're not able to touch the mountain, see or hear the awesome sights and sounds in the terrible revelation of God as the Israelites did at Sinai. However, we come by faith to the heavenly Zion. Consider this location as Hebrews describes it: innumerable angels in festal gathering, the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, to God the Father, the spirits of the righteous who have been made perfect, and to the risen and ascended Mediator, Jesus Christ (v. 22-24).

In one sense, redemptive history chronicles a move from mountain to mountain; the mountain being synonymous with the presence of God and the location of the temple. We even find what some have referred to as a "gate liturgy," begging the question of Psalms 15 and 24 "Who may ascend into the presence of the holy one?"

Our first parents were situated in a garden sanctuary depicted as a mountain (Ezek. 28:13-14). Eden was an elevated source from which four rivers find their heads. As Adam and Eve are exiled from this place where God dwelt with them, they are barred from entering into his presence with the cherub's flaming sword. Noah's ark comes to rest on the mountains of Ararat where Noah worshiped God by sacrifice. The men of Babel are scattered after they attempt to "ascend to heaven" with their own man made mountain. Abraham is commanded to take Isaac to Mount Moriah where he and the lad will ascend to

worship (Gen. 22:5). God makes covenant with Israel at Mount Sinai, where the last half of Exodus, all of Leviticus, and the early part of Numbers take place. Moses and the elders ascended the mountain part way to see, eat, and drink in God's presence. Moses alone, as the Mediator of the covenant, was allowed to ascend the holy hill and "come near" to the Lord (Ex. 24:2). At the summit, God descended to meet with Moses, causing all of his goodness to pass before him (Ex. 33:18-19; 34:2, 5). The people leave Sinai, and God makes his dwelling in their midst by way of the tabernacle, what some have referred to as a portable Sinai...that is, until the hard copy is established on Mount Zion in Jerusalem. Zion then becomes synonymous with the temple and the presence of God. The Old Testament is replete with references to the "holy mountain" or "holy hill" of the Lord.

As the scene moves from summit to summit, two questions arise: *where* and *who*? Where will the holy mount of God's presence finally be established and who may ascend the hill? Both of these questions are answered in the person and work of Christ. In him is the fulfillment of all types and shadows. He is the high priest who answers the Psalmist's question, "Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place. He who has clean hands and a pure heart." He entered once for all into the holy place, the tabernacle not made with hands, offering his own blood as an atoning sacrifice (Heb. 9:11-14). His sacrifice has brought an end to shadowy temple worship, for he is the substance. Indeed, he is the true temple (John 2:19-23), the meeting place between God and man. His people need not come to an earthly mountain, for their High Priest ministers in the heavenly sanctuary where they too have been raised by virtue of their vital union with him through faith. In Christ, the typical and symbolic mountain has become the "last days" mountain promised in Isaiah chapter two that would be established as the highest of the mountains and lifted up above all hills. As Stephen Dempster fittingly puts it, "Zion has become Everest" and the nations gather to it like water flowing uphill as Christ draws all men to himself in the heavenly Jerusalem (John 12:32).

We may not be able to reach out and touch this mountain, but it is no less real. Mount Zion is where you worship, O Christian: the heavenly mountain of God. Approach the Lord's Day with this knowledge. See you on God's holy hill!

our ingrafting into Christ, and partaking of the benefits of the covenant of grace, and our engagement to be the Lord's.

Q. 95. To whom is baptism to be administered?

A. Baptism is not to be administered to any that are out of the visible church, till they profess their faith in Christ, and obedience to him; but the infants of such as are members of the visible church are to be baptized.

Nov. 25-Dec. 1

Q. 96. What is the Lord's supper?

A. The Lord's supper is a sacrament, wherein, by giving and receiving bread and wine according to Christ's appointment, his death is showed forth; and the worthy receivers are, not after a corporal and carnal manner, but by faith, made partakers of his body and blood, with all his benefits, to their spiritual nourishment and growth in grace.

Q. 97. What is required to the worthy receiving of the Lord's supper?

A. It is required of them that would worthily partake of the Lord's supper, that they examine themselves of their knowledge to discern the Lord's body, of their faith to feed upon him, of their repentance, love, and new obedience; lest, coming unworthily, they eat and drink judgment to themselves.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Nov. 1	2 Tim. 4	Nov. 16	Heb. 11
Nov. 2	Titus 1	Nov. 17	Heb. 12
Nov. 3	Titus 2	Nov. 18	Heb. 13
Nov. 4	Titus 3	Nov. 19	James 1
Nov. 5	Philemon	Nov. 20	James 2
Nov. 6	Heb. 1	Nov. 21	James 3
Nov. 7	Heb. 2	Nov. 22	James 4
Nov. 8	Heb. 3	Nov. 23	James 5
Nov. 9	Heb. 4	Nov. 24	1 Peter 1
Nov. 10	Heb. 5	Nov. 25	1 Peter 2
Nov. 11	Heb. 6	Nov. 26	1 Peter 3
Nov. 12	Heb. 7	Nov. 27	1 Peter 4
Nov. 13	Heb. 8	Nov. 28	1 Peter 5
Nov. 14	Heb. 9	Nov. 29	2 Peter 1
Nov. 15	Heb. 10	Nov. 30	2 Peter 2

MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT

Ortega PCA Missions

"...all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD..."

- Num 14:21

Tommy Park - Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at the University of North Florida

Ray Clotaire - Elohim Evangelical Church of Jacksonville.

Wayne Shelton - Redeemer Presbyterian Church of Gardendale, Alabama

Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

New Harvest Missions International (Nathaniel Adawonu)

Donald Cobb - Aix-en-Provence, France (Mission to the World)

Our missions spotlight for November is on Tommy and Nikki Park. Tommy is the campus pastor for Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at the University of North Florida here in Jacksonville. Tommy and Nikki recently began their 12th year of campus ministry.



Getting Ready for a New School Year

Nikki and I have officially started our 12th year of serving students at UNF with RUF. To put that into perspective, we have been serving students 29 days longer than the iPhone has been in existence (released June 29, 2007). We are excited for what God is doing at UNF.

This summer RUF met weekly during the Summer B term. The Summer B term is a great opportunity for us to meet with some incoming freshmen before the craziness of the fall semester starts. Again, to put this freshmen class into perspective, most incoming freshmen were born in the year 2000. We have had record high attendance for our weekly meetings during the summer. We have been averaging about 50 students each week and about 35 of them were freshmen. We had a couple new students come to check out Christianity. One student told me that he had not been to "a church thing since he was 4 years old." In addition to our weekly meetings, we had these new freshmen over to our home for pancakes and dinner, watched fireworks for the Fourth of July, enjoyed ice skating, and went tubing down the Ichetucknee River. We had a great six weeks connecting with these students and are excited to continue building these relationships during the fall semester. Please pray that we continue to reach students for Christ and equip students to serve.

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear."

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven.

At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens." This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of things that are shaken-- that is, things that have been made-- in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain.

Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.
- Hebrews 12:18-29 ESV

THE CHURCH IN PRAYER

Prayer for Ortega Pres, Her Ministries, Officers, and Members

- ◆ Lord's Day Worship
- ◆ Ladies' Study
- ◆ Tommy Park/RUF @ UNF
- ◆ Greenville Seminary
- ◆ North Florida Presbytery
- ◆ Sunday School
- ◆ 3 Members/Families of the Week (from weekly email)
- ◆ Donald Cobb, France
- ◆ Wayne Shelton/Redeemer PCA - Gardendale, AL
- ◆ Prayer MTG/Return of Crowded House
- ◆ Session
- ◆ Diaconate
- ◆ New Harvest/Nathaniel Adawonu
- ◆ Elohim Church/Ray Clotaire

COME OUT FOR THE RUF CELEBRATION & FUNDRAISER AT MAPLE STREET SAN MARCO! GET SOME TIME WITH THE PARKS, ENJOY SOME GOOD FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP WITH CHURCHES OF OUR PRESBYTERY, AND SUPPORT RUF!

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Financial Report*

Budgeted Income:
\$108,304.18
 Actual Income:
\$113,007.48
 Actual Income vs. Actual Expenses:
+\$630.65
 Roof Replacement Fund:
\$42,583.18
 *Numbers reflect "year to date" through October 31st.

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 3 - Melissa Melton
- 4 - Camdyn Hinson
- 7 - Clif Estes; Rosa Gramajo
- 15 - Isaac Barfield
- 16 - Vickie Burke
- 20 - Mike Butler; David Burris; Carl & Laura Hunter; Mike & Nancy Butler
- 29 - Gene Nardi

Nursery Schedule

- Nov 4** - Karen Miller & Annette Steele
- Nov. 11** - Elin Ely & Samantha Barfield
- Nov. 18** - Christen Hinson & Melissa Melton
- Nov. 25** - Nancy Butler & Aubrie Miller

Men's Fishing Trip - September 2018



Thanks to Elder Nick Ainsworth for organizing this outing for our men & future men.

Adult Sunday School - Fall Quarter (Bible)

A CALL TO SPIRITUAL REFORMATION

priorities from paul and his prayers

by **D.A. Carson**

Sept. 2 - Intro & Ch. 1: Lessons from the School of Prayer

Sept. 9 - Ch. 2: The Framework of Prayer

Sept. 16 - Ch. 3: Worthy Petitions

Sept. 23 - Ch. 4: Praying for Others

Sept. 30 - Ch. 5: A Passion for People

Oct. 7 - Ch. 6: The Content of a Challenging Prayer

Oct. 14 - Ch. 7: Excuses for Not Praying

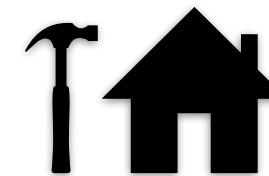
Oct. 21 - Ch. 8: Overcoming the Hurdles

Oct. 28 - Ch. 9: A Sovereign and Personal God

Nov. 4 - Ch. 10: Praying to the Sovereign God

Nov. 11 - Ch. 11: Praying for Power

Nov. 18 - Chapter 12: Prayer for Ministry



We'll be giving a report and thanks on the progress of our roof replacement at the November Fellowship Meal.



This quarter in **Sunday School** the elementary & preschool children are learning what it means to obey God from the kings and prophets of the Old Testament as they make their way through the "Show Me Jesus" curriculum from *Great Commission Publications*. On **Wednesday evenings** the children study the catechism questions found in the family worship guide.

MEN'S RETREAT 2018

with Westminster & Grace Covenant

▶ Epworth by the Sea | St Simon's Island, Georgia | November 9-10

Ladies Bible Study - Tuesdays | 9:45am

The Ladies' Tuesday morning Bible study, led by Audrey Ainsworth, reaches ladies in our church and community and is one of the longest standing ministries of Ortega PCA.

Get Connected:

Ortega PCA sends out a weekly update with announcements, the upcoming Lord's Day's bulletin, etc. If you would like to be added to the *Ortega Weekly* email list, please sign-up on the "Contact Us" page of our website or email the church office at office@ortegapres.org

Current Sunday School Offerings:

Adult Class - Systematic Theology, Church History, Bible, and Practical studies rotating quarterly.

Middle School & Teenagers - Systematic Theology

Elementary & Preschool - *Show Me Jesus* Bible Curriculum

