

The Messenger



Q & A with the Pastor

Q: When will we be able to meet again at full capacity?

A: I wish I knew the answer. I can assure you that no one wants to be back together more than me. I miss seeing the whole church family on Sundays and Wednesdays. However, we are in the midst of a pandemic and regardless of opinions about it, many people are getting sick and dying. The disease is very contagious so we are still seeking to limit large crowds which seem to be a catalyst for spread. We will continue

to follow medical and community guidelines to do our part to reduce the spread.

Q: When will we be able to return to children's activities on-site?

A: We hope very soon. Remember that almost every ministry of the church is led by volunteers who willingly give their time and energy to prepare and carry out the ministry. When our volunteers are ready and we feel it's safe for children, we'll get going again.

Q: Where are we in the Minister of Music search?

A: I wish I had better news here. I want to applaud the Personnel Committee for their vigilance. We have explored and interviewed many people but so far none has been the best choice for our church. Please keep praying.

Q: What are we doing about leadership in 2020-21?

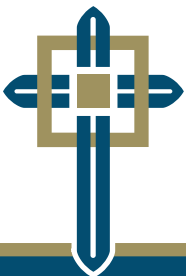
A: Usually, summer is when the Nominating Committee brings a report of Committee and Team leadership, as well as various other leadership roles in the church. Because of our unique situation this year, I have asked all who are serving as leaders to continue in their leadership role for one more year. I think a leadership change in the middle of these days would be confusing and difficult to pull off. I'm grateful that most of our leaders have agreed to continue in their service. I'm especially grateful to our Deacons as all 21 men agreed to continue for one more year.

Q: When will we have another Quarterly Business Meeting?

A: As the ministry of FBC continues, I am committed to finding a way for those interested to know all the details of what's going on and what's planned. We hope to have a meeting near the end of August which will likely include an online option for attendance.

I'm so grateful for First Baptist Church. Thank you for your faithfulness during this unusual time.

Don



FIRST BAPTIST *Oxford*

800 Van Buren Ave., Oxford MS 38655 ■ 662.234.3515

 fbcoxford  @fbcoxford ■ www.gotofirst.org

August

See www.gotofirst.org for event updates and the latest safety guidelines.

AUGUST 2

9 a.m. Kid's Sunday School on Zoom
10 a.m. Sunday School on Zoom
11 a.m. Worship Service online

AUGUST 5

6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom
6 p.m. GriefShare

AUGUST 9

9 a.m. Kid's Sunday School on Zoom
8:30 a.m. Senior Adult Worship Service
10 a.m. Sunday School on Zoom*
11 a.m. Worship Service

AUGUST 12

6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom
6 p.m. GriefShare

AUGUST 13

8 a.m. Food Boxes in the CLC

AUGUST 16

9 a.m. Kid's Sunday School on Zoom
8:30 a.m. Senior Adult Worship Service
10 a.m. Sunday School on Zoom*
11 a.m. Worship Service

AUGUST 19

6:30 a.m. Men's Explorer's
9:30 a.m. Women's Explorer's
12 p.m. Men's & Women's Explorer's
6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom
6 p.m. GriefShare
6:30 p.m. Women's Explorer's

Jersey/T-shirt Day

August 23, wear your favorite team colors to worship.

AUGUST 23

Jersey/T-shirt Day

9 a.m. Kid's Sunday School on Zoom
8:30 a.m. Senior Adult Worship Service
10 a.m. Sunday School on Zoom*
11 a.m. Worship Service

AUGUST 26

6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom
6 p.m. GriefShare

Welcome Back College Students

August 30, Jason Lovins Band will be our guests in worship.

AUGUST 30

College Student Welcome Back Day

9 a.m. Kid's Sunday School on Zoom
8:30 a.m. Senior Adult Worship Service
10 a.m. Sunday School on Zoom*
11 a.m. Worship Service

* Some classes are meeting in person. Contact your teacher or the church office for times and locations.

You are invited to join us for



A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF ACTS
Wednesdays beginning August 19

AVAILABLE CLASS TIMES:

6:30 a.m. Group for men
9:30 a.m. Group for women
12 p.m. Group for men & women
6:30 p.m. Group for women

ALL GROUPS WILL OFFER THE FOLLOWING:

1. Church groups at First Baptist Oxford (mask and distancing)
2. Online groups through Zoom with emailed lectures
3. Personal study at home with emailed lectures

Call (662) 801-1517 to register.

Zoom meeting numbers are sent out through church-wide email prior to each meeting. If you would like to be added to our email list to receive meeting access, send a request to pcarter@gotofirst.org.

Our Family

New Members in July

Steve and Ginger Roark

Congratulations

To Andrew and Sara Scott of Chantilly, VA, on the birth of a son, **Thomas Rives Mullen Scott**, June 17. Proud grandparents are Buddy and Carol Lowrey.

Our Sympathy

To the family of Hardy Farris after his passing.
To Ginger Weeks in the loss of her mother, Clarice Weeks.

Budget July 2020

Budget	\$141,310.78
Building	\$2,211.00
Designated	\$7,322.18
Total	\$150,843.96

Deacons of the Week

July 26- Aug. 1	Michael Meurrier, Bobby Clanton, Gary Carter
Aug. 2-8	Fred Johnson, Paul Hale, Nelson Little
Aug. 9-15	Jeff Busby, David Erhart, Michael Ferris
Aug. 16-22	Craig Kirkendall, Daniel Denton, Jason Simon
Aug. 23-29	Paxton Little, Ryan Overall, Kevin Bain
Aug. 30- Sept. 5	Dave Miller, Derrell Doss, Lanny Shackelford

How may we pray for you?



Scan Me!

Do you know somebody who is new to town or needs prayer?

Fill out a card in the sanctuary or our online form and let us know!



gotofirst.org/i-know-somebody-who

FBC Library

During this time of the library being closed, you can still check out books!

Email your requests to library@gotofirst.org and we will make arrangements to get the book(s) to you.



Coming in September

Tuesday Night Training

weekly on Zoom
beginning Sept. 8
7-7:29 p.m.

Each week will have a different type of training.



MISSION & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Questions? Contact Jeff Holeman at 662.234.3515 or wigtake@gmail.com

Encouragrams for Teachers



FBC Oxford has adopted the teachers and administrators at Bramlett Elementary and Della Davidson Elementary to pray for during the month of August.

A part of this Prayer Project is to give each teacher an encouraging card (Encouragram) along with a \$10 gift card. If you would be willing to adopt a teacher/administrator, write a card and include \$10 (check to First Baptist Oxford), please email Pam Carter at pcarter@gotofirst.org. She will assign you a teacher. Please do not seal your envelopes so we can put the gift cards in the envelopes. **All cards need to be in the church office before August 4. A box is on the welcome desk in the Atrium to drop off your cards between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. each day.**

On August 13 FBC Oxford, Collaborative Missionary Network and Mid South Food Bank are partnering together to provide

FOOD BOXES FOR 300 FAMILIES.

Work begins at 8 a.m. in the Christian Life Center and will end at 2 p.m. Thank you for your faithful giving that touches our community and the world.



International Mission Trips will be scheduled when travel is allowed.

Mondays in Marks will return soon. Stay tuned!



SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY Sundays at 7 p.m.
Outdoors by Apt. 31. *We are studying 1 Peter.*

ENGLISH LEARNERS' CLASS FOR WOMEN

Tuesdays at 11 a.m. on Zoom *If you know someone who would like to participate, email lynndyfurdle@gmail.com for Zoom meeting information.*

STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS



Sunday AM meets on campus and on Zoom. 10 am!

Save the Date: **DNOW 2021**
January 15-17, 2021.

Prayer Breakfast returns soon!



FBCOXFORDSTUDENTS
SUNDAYAM

Monday Night Bible Study for 11th/12th grade returns soon!

An advertisement for the Parent Cue app. On the left is a white smartphone displaying the app's interface, which includes a logo with 'PC' in a circle and the text 'PARENT CUE' and 'Helping parents do family better'. To the right of the phone, the text reads 'More information available at theparentcue.org' and 'DOWNLOAD THE PARENT CUE APP'. Below this text are icons for the App Store and Google Play. At the bottom, a teal banner contains the text: '*The Parent Cue App is designed to help every parent do something each week to help move their child toward a deeper faith and a better future.'

More information available at
theparentcue.org

**DOWNLOAD
THE PARENT CUE APP**

*The Parent Cue App is designed to help every parent do something each week to help move their child toward a deeper faith and a better future.

PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S NEWS

An advertisement for Weekday Openings for Assistant Teachers. The background features colorful handprints. The text reads: 'Weekday Openings for Assistant Teachers', 'First Baptist Weekday Education has several openings for full-time assistant teachers. Hours are 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.', and 'If you know of anyone interested in applying, please ask them to contact Linda Glaze, Weekday Director, at 662-234-3517.'

Weekday Openings for Assistant Teachers

First Baptist Weekday Education has several openings for full-time assistant teachers. Hours are 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

If you know of anyone interested in applying, please ask them to contact Linda Glaze, Weekday Director, at 662-234-3517.

An advertisement for Mother's Morning Out. The logo features the text 'mother's morning out' in a stylized font with a small figure of a mother and child. Below it is 'first baptist church'. To the right, the text reads: 'Substitute Teachers needed MWF mornings during the school year.' and 'Email koverall@gotofirst.org for more info.'

mother's morning out
first baptist church

Substitute Teachers needed
MWF mornings during the school year.

Email koverall@gotofirst.org for more info.

AUGUST 2020

PRAYER GUIDE

Prayer for Parents of Students

by Tim Carter

August 1

Please pray for parents to have the courage to pray about their decisions in sending their students to school this year. Pray for them to have peace and comfort.

August 2

Please pray for parents' health, both physical and mental, as they lead their families during this time of uncertainty during the pandemic.

August 3

Please pray for parents' patience with the school leaders as they provide the educational opportunity for the students of their school districts.

August 4

Please pray for the work environment of the parents. Pray for a distraction free work relationship that will allow the family to meet their financial obligations and needs of their family.

August 5

Please pray for parents to help their children in times of anxiety. Help parents to be able to demonstrate a calming demeanor that will allow the children to handle anxious moments by focusing on God's word.

August 6

Please pray for parents' and students' safety as they travel to and from school each day.

August 7

Please pray for parents' ability to help students with virtual learning should the need arise to learn from home again.

August 8

Please pray for parents to be able to answer questions of why we have to wear masks and wash hands and social distance.

August 9

Please pray for parents to help their student navigate their way back into the learning process and their daily schedule at school.

August 10

Please pray for families of teachers to help the teachers to remain calm and focused on God's truth in their lives.

August 11

Please pray for teachers' families to remain healthy during this time of return to school.

August 12

Please pray for peace and calm of teachers' families as teachers, staff and administrators return to work. Help them to be able to pray together as a family as they walk through this school reopening together.

August 13

Please pray for families of teachers to help them know what a tremendous role their teachers play in the education of the students at the school.

August 14

Please pray for families of teachers to have no financial burdens that would distract the families from continuing to thrive during this time.

August 15

Please pray for families of teachers as they watch their loved ones deal with the creation of coursework both in face to face and in virtual format. As teachers feels overwhelmed with the process, give their families the words to say and the hugs to make it better.

Prayer for Students by Candy Mize

August 16

Pray that God will protect each student from the virus and other illnesses while at school. Pray for early symptoms to occur before students enter school or load on a school bus. Ask God to contain the spread of all viruses and other infections.

August 17

Pray that our students will have peace and comfort during times of uncertainty. Ask God to use the administrators and teachers to bring security and stability during the transition back to school with all the changes. Pray the students will have no chaos or fear.

See www.gotofirst.org/pray for the complete prayer guide.

August 18

Ask God to help our students see and understand His sovereignty. Pray that the students will see His power in everything they do and will see that His power has no limits.

August 19

Pray the students will choose the right school model that is best for their learning and best for their personal situation. Ask God to give them wisdom and discernment as they decide.

August 20

Ask God to provide all the materials and resources students will need to be successful. Ask the Lord to touch the hearts of our leaders to help close the financial gap for many of our students. Pray that every need will be met.

August 21

Ask God to protect the social-emotional health of students who are isolated from their peers. Pray that God will strengthen the home environment and renew their relationship with siblings and with their parents. Pray that God will provide an opportunity for the students to see their peers in a safe environment.

August 22

For the students who choose to participate in online learning, pray they can get the education and help they need. Ask God to protect their time with no interruptions or technology problems.

August 23

Many students need extra-curricular activities as another avenue to help strengthen their self-esteem and confidence. Ask God to make a safe way for the extra activities to continue.

August 24

Pray that God will protect their hearts and minds when faced with challenging situations. Ask God to give them stamina and wisdom to persevere during this school year. Ask God to protect them from evil.

August 25

Ask the Lord to help our students to be patient with others and to love one another. To be responsible for their actions and choices so that

others around them will feel safe and secure. Encourage the students to use their gifts and talents to find new ways to reach other students.

Prayer for Teachers and Administrators by Kristin Busby August 26

As our teachers begin this school year, let them feast on Your word to give them daily strength. Isaiah 30:21: Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it."

August 27

Thank you for our teachers. Please watch over them and protect them. Help them be a light to their students. Help them to show love, care, and respect to all they encounter daily.

August 28

Please protect our teachers from obstacles they face. Help them to remember that when they are scared or afraid You are there with them and love them and are watching out for them.

August 29

Grant our teachers an abundance of Your wisdom. Prepare their hearts to welcome and love our loved ones, and may we show them love and respect in return. Give them grace as they help students.

August 30

Give our teachers peace when they feel unseen, remind them that no moment goes unnoticed. We are overwhelmed with gratitude for the gift of teaching and learning they share. Bless them and may they see a glimpse of how their faithfulness will forever impact generations to come.

August 31

We pray for our teachers that they conduct themselves in a worthy manner and that they would speak life into the students, families, and those they interact with daily. We pray that they will handle their daily duties with patience and grace. Matthew 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."



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