ne Messenc



from the Pastor

Back to normal?

Since March and the onset of the pandemic, the question we keep asking is, "When will we get back to 'normal'?" We want to go to restaurants, sporting events, classes, family visits, and church. Yet, it seems there is no end in sight.

When we lose 'normal' we grieve. That's why when a family loses a loved one they grieve. They grieve not only the loss of the person they love relationally but also the loss of 'normal' life with their loved one. Some have even described the process of grieving as getting to 'new normal'. Perhaps that's what is happening with us.

I prefer, however, to believe that instead of longing for 'back to normal,' we might be better served to realize that God has us alive at this point in history by His Divine will!

During Wednesday night Zoom Prayer Meeting we have begun exploring the book of Esther. Through a series of events, Esther became the person in the right place at the right time to deliver the people of God from destruction. The most familiar verse in the book of Esther is 4:14, "And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

I believe that God has us alive not only to survive the pandemic as best we can but to faithfully walk with Him through these days. We are alive today. Since we are alive, God has us here 'for such a time as this!'

We are living in a time like no other.

The poet C.T Studd said, "Only one life and that soon past. Only what's done for Christ will last"

Rather than simply longing for 'normal' perhaps we can see the uniqueness of this time, realize God has us here in His Divine plan, and trust that we may be exactly where we need to be 'for such a time as this.'

Therefore we can find encouragement and direction from Psalm 118: 24, "This is the day that Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Don



September

AUGUST 30

College Student Welcome Back Day

8:30 a.m. Senior Adult Worship Service 9 a.m. Kid's Sunday School on Zoom 9:30 a.m. Youth & Adults Worship Service 10 a.m. Sunday School on Zoom* 10:30 a.m. Youth Sunday School 3rd floor

and on Zoom*

11 a.m. College Worship Service 6 p.m. Sunday PM for Youth

SEPTEMBER 1

7 p.m. Tuesday Night Sunday School Training on Zoom





FBC PRAYER WATCH HOURS:

Wednesday, Sept. 2 from 7-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 3 from 4-5 a.m.

at the Burns Belfry Museum and Multi-cultural Center 710 Jackson Ave., Oxford

SEPTEMBER 2

National Day of Prayer: Prayer Watch

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 p.m. Women's Explorer's 7 p.m. Midweek for Youth

SEPTEMBER 6

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

11 a.m. Worship Service 6 p.m. Sunday PM for Youth

SEPTEMBER 7

Labor Day

church office closed

SEPTEMBER 8

7 p.m. Tuesday Night Sunday School Training on Zoom

SEPTEMBER 9

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 p.m. Women's Explorer's 7 p.m. Midweek for Youth

SEPTEMBER 12

7:30 a.m. Men's Ministry Workday

SEPTEMBER 13

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

6 p.m. Sunday PM for Youth

SEPTEMBER 15

7 p.m. Tuesday Night Sunday School Training on Zoom

SEPTEMBER 16

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 p.m. Women's Explorer's 7 p.m. Midweek for Youth

SEPTEMBER 17

6:30 p.m. Women's Ministry Book Club

SEPTEMBER 18-20

Youth Beach Camp

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.



SEPTEMBER 20

8:30 a.m. Senior Adult Worship Service 9 a.m. Kid's Sunday School on Zoom 10 a.m. Sunday School on Zoom* 11 a.m. Worship Service 6 p.m. Sunday PM for Youth

SEPTEMBER 22

7 p.m. Tuesday Night Sunday School Training on Zoom

SEPTEMBER 23

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. Women's Explorer's
7 p.m. Midweek for Youth

SEPTEMBER 27

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

SEPTEMBER 29

7 p.m. Tuesday Night Sunday School Training on Zoom

SEPTEMBER 30

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. Women's Explorer's
7 p.m. Midweek for Youth

FBC Library Open Sundays 9:30-11 a.m. and Wednesdays 5-7 p.m. downstairs next to the Old Fellowship Hall gotofirst.org/library

Budget August 1-23, 2020

Budget	\$143,773.36
Building	\$2,775.00
Designated	\$3,048.00
Total	\$149,596.36

Congratulations

Proud parents Wesley and Janet Dickens welcomed **Katherine Elizabeth Dickens** on July 20.

Proud parents Reed and Elizabeth Falkner and big sister Annie welcomed **Dolly Elizabeth Falkner** on July 28. Proud grandparents are Ley and Donna Falkner.

Our Sympathy

To Beth Little after the loss of her grandmother Mrs. Louise McKinney.

To Beth Fitts after the loss of her sister-in-law Mrs. Gail Langston.

To Ronny and Mary McNeer after the loss of Ronny's mother Mrs. Geraldine McNeer.

To Bronwyn Clanton after the loss of her brother Mr. Max McNeill.

To Margarita Neiwald after the loss of her brother-in-law Reverend Bendon Ginn.

To Wanda Lamb and family after the loss of Mr. Billy Lamb.

Deacons of the Week

Deacons of the week	
Aug. 30- Sept. 5	Paxton Little, Jason Simon, Kevin Bain
Sept. 6-12	Dave Miller, Derrell Doss, Lanny Shackelford
Sept. 13-19	Brad Golmon, Jim Rose Lane Wilson
Sept. 20-26	Michael Meurrier, Bobby

Clanton, Gary Carter

Sept. 27- Fred Johnson, Paul Hale Oct. 3 Nelson Little

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

MISSION & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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



SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY Sundays at 7 p.m.

Outdoors by Apt. 31. We are studying The Gospel Project.

ENGLISH LEARNERS' CLASS FOR WOMEN

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

TRUNK OR TREAT coming October 31.

Mondays in Marks coming soon!

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

BRAZIL 2021. June 12 to 20.

Construction, Medical, Children's Ministry. \$1800 per person includes all expenses. Save the dates.



During September: Margaret Lackey Offering for Mississippi Missions!

(an your family adopt a county for ministry?

FBC Oxford goal: \$8200

(\$100 for every county in Mississippi)





How may we pray for you?

Scan Me!







Skills that will make disciples who make disciples.

TUESDAY NIGHTS IN SEPTEMBER! 7-7:29 PM. ON ZOOM.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

wmin@gotofirst.org

Monthly Book Club Thursday, September 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Zoom link sent out the event day. Email wmin@gotofirst.org to be added.

MEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

mm@gotofirst.org



SATURDAY WORKDAY: SEPT. 12

Email mm@gotofirst.org to sign up!

Our workday will be the second Saturday of each month. Meet at the CLC at 7:30 a.m.

STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS

REMIND TEXT. Get all FBC Oxford student ministry news to your phone. Students text fbcoxyl to 81010 to join. Parents text fbcoxpl to 81010 to join.



10 a.m. on campus and online option available.

OXFORD



Sunday Nights 6-8 p.m. in the CLC



Wednesdays 7 p.m. on campus and Zoom

COMMODORES FOR CHRIST

Check your email soon for link to join.

Monday Night Bible Study 6:45 RM. RT JEFF AND LIESA'S

FOR JUNIORS AND SENIORS

Begins September 14

Prayer Breakfast
Coming Soon.
Fridays 7:45 a.m.
Rides to OHS and OMS
provided.

without a Beach

FBC Beach Camp

September 18-20 at the CLC.

Cost \$20 per person. Register and pay now at gotofirst.org/students



The BIG 7! October 11-12! Details to be announced.



Children's Bible Drill

for 3-6 graders

At-home independent study starts September 6.

Verse cards and schedule available in the church office. Contact Whitney for more information at 662-832-3236 or wsimon@gotofirst.org.

Youth Bible Drill

Memorize verses at home September - December Practice Drills at Church Sunday afternoons January - March

Satisfies Super Summer requirements! Verse cards and schedule available in the church office. Text @29f4kh to 81010 to receive reminders. Contact Lynndy Hurdle for more information at lfhurdle@bellsouth.net or 662-816-1538.

PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S NEWS

Whitney Simon is our new Children's Ministry Director.

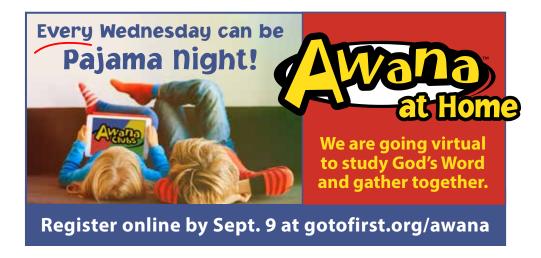
Pray for Whitney and her family as she leads our children's ministry. You can contact her at wsimon@gotofirst.org.

Welcome Kindergarteners! We are excited to have you join FBC Children's Ministry.

Finley Clanton
Laney Cockrell
Tripp Ferris
Aspen Fortenberry
Jacob Gallaher
Jonah Harrison

Ellaree Harwell
Zoe Henry
Ethan Jiang
Paxton Little
William Mayoral
Josephine McMullen

Beren Miller
Camryn Porter
Cannon Spencer
Julia Ware
Senidu Weerasinghe
Mabry Wellborn





FIRST BAPTIST Oxford Impacting Lives - Building Community - Changing the World 800 Van Buren Avenue • Oxford, Mississippi 38655-3844

Periodical Postage paid at 800 Van Buren Ave., Oxford, MS 38655-3844 (USPS 571-680) Published Monthly by First Baptist Church