

APRIL 2021
Vol. 63 No. 4

The Messenger



FROM THE PASTOR

The central teaching of Christianity is that Jesus Christ is alive forevermore. He was crucified on Friday but early on Sunday, God raised Him from the dead. A lot can change in three days.

We've all experienced long days; a workday that drags on and on, motivating your child to do homework, sitting with a loved one in a hospital room. A long day seems to last more than twenty-four hours.

Yet on the other side of long days, our perspective may change. In hindsight, the day might not seem as long.

I can't imagine how long the days between the crucifixion and the resurrection must have seemed to the disciples. Their world had crashed. Their leader was gone. They were hiding out afraid they might be put to death next.

The news of Easter changed their world. Their perspective changed. Seeing the resurrected Jesus filled them with joy and gave them a passionate mission that carried them for the rest of their lives. The long days were replaced with the joyous news of the resurrection.

Jesus had taught them this central truth.

John 10:10 - *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.* (NIV)

The phrase 'to the full' is often translated as 'abundantly'. The word gets to the idea of something 'beyond what is anticipated.'

What an uncommon life Jesus invites us to live! Easter teaches us that in Jesus we can know life beyond what is anticipated. Long days are not wasted and they're followed by the promise of life beyond expectation. A lot changes in three days. Easter proves it.

Don

April

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

APRIL 1

6 p.m. Lord's Supper Service

APRIL 2

Good Friday

Church office closed.

APRIL 3

8 a.m. Mission Trip Training

APRIL 4

Easter Sunday

8:30 a.m. Senior Adult Worship Service

9:45 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School

11 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School

APRIL 7

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

4 p.m. Griefshare

6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom

6 p.m. Women's Explorer's

6 p.m. Midweek for Youth

APRIL 9

6 p.m. Parents' Night Out (*Registration required*)

APRIL 10

10 a.m. Kids Disciple Now

APRIL 11

8:30 a.m. Senior Adult Worship Service

9:45 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School

11 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School

2 p.m. Associational Bible Drill

6 p.m. Sunday PM for Youth

APRIL 14

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

4 p.m. Griefshare

6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom

6 p.m. Women's Explorer's

6 p.m. Midweek for Youth

APRIL 15

2 p.m. State Bible Drill

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

APRIL 17

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

APRIL 18

Baby Dedication

8:30 a.m. Senior Adult Worship Service

9:45 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School

11 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School

12 p.m. Visiting Families Interest Lunch

1:30 p.m. Links Apartment Open House

6 p.m. Sunday PM for Youth

Check out Sunday Bible Study options at gotofirst.org/sunday.

We will have in-person and online options for worship and Sunday School. Worship Service link available at gotofirst.org. Sunday School 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

APRIL 21

- 4 p.m. Griefshare
6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom
6 p.m. Midweek for Youth

APRIL 25

College Graduates and Summer Missionaries Recognition

- 8:30 a.m. Senior Adult Worship Service
9:45 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School
4 p.m. Sunday School Adult
Teacher Meeting
5 p.m. Quarterly Business Meeting
6 p.m. Sunday PM for Youth
8 p.m. College Pancake Study Break

Quarterly Business Meeting

April 25 at 5 p.m.

in the sanctuary and available by Zoom

APRIL 27

- 6 p.m. Outreach

APRIL 28

- 4 p.m. Griefshare
6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom
6 p.m. Midweek for Youth

APRIL 30

- 1 p.m. Sr. Adult Outreach

Budget March 1-23, 2021

Budget	\$128,078.91
Building	\$1530.00
Designated	\$14,736.00
Total	\$144,344.91

**ANNIE
ARMSTRONG
EASTER OFFERING**

FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

First Baptist Oxford Goal: \$25,000

Given to date: \$10,280.00

Deacons of the Week

- March 28-** Fred Johnson, Jim Rose,
April 3 Nelson Little
April 4-10 Ryan Overall, Michael Ferris,
Craig Kirkendall
April 11-17 Michael Meurrier, Paxton
Little, Derrell Doss
April 18-24 Dave Miller, Daniel Denton,
Kevin Bain
April 25- Lanny Shackelford, Jason
May 1 Simon, Gary Carter

Congratulations

Josh and Ashley Glasz, and big brother Cooper, welcomed **Blair Lynn Glasz** on March 11, 2021.

Our Sympathy

To Mrs. Joan Johnson after the loss of her brother Mr. Darron Edlin.

To Mr. Fred Johnson after the loss of his brother Mr. Hoyt Johnson.

To Mrs. Janice Bounds after the loss of her brother Mr. Jerrol "Jerry" Kellum.

Discipleship

Outreach. Tuesday, April 27. 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
Letters, phone calls, visits. Light meal at 5:45 p.m. Preschool/childcare provided.

Sr. Adult Outreach. Friday, April 30. 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
Letters, phone calls, visits. Dessert, coffee, soft drinks served.

Sunday School Adult Teacher Meeting. April 25 at 4 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE! July 18! Preschool, Children, Youth
Sunday School Leader Training.

SAVE THE DATE! August 15! Adult Sunday School
Leader Training.

SAVE THE DATE! August 29! New Committee/Teams Training.

**NATIONAL
DAY OF
PRAYER**



National Day of Prayer 70th Anniversary

Thursday, May 6

This year's observance will include:

- A 24 hour prayer watch at the Belfry Museum beginning at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 5 and concluding at 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 6
- A community wide lunch in the church's Fellowship Hall at 11 a.m. Thursday, May 6
- An outdoor prayer service at 12:10 p.m. on the south lawn of the courthouse on Thursday, May 6. A shuttle will be provided for transportation to and from the church.

You are invited to join us for



EXPLORER'S BIBLE STUDY

God's Perfect Plan in Prophecy and the book of Revelation

Beginning August 18

Teaching Leaders: Beth Fitts and Joe Meurrier

WEDNESDAY CHURCH & ONLINE CLASSES

6:30 a.m. Groups for men

9:30 a.m. Groups for women

Children's program, ages 1 year-6th grade

12 p.m. Groups for men and women

6 p.m. Groups for women

ADDITIONAL ONLINE CLASSES

6:30 p.m. Mondays for women

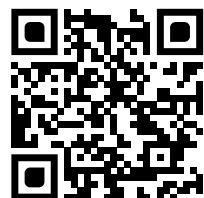
9:30 a.m. Tuesdays for women

Explorer's also offers personal study option.

Call (662) 801-1517 to register.

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

Scan the QR code and let us know.



Missions

Links Connections

FBC Oxford Ministry to
the Links Apartments

BIBLE STUDY Sundays at 5 p.m. Bldg. 28, Apt. 7

ENGLISH LANGUAGE MINISTRY


Become a conversation partner for an English Language Learner.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 3 at 2 p.m.
between Bldgs. 200 & 300 at The Greens. *Weather Permitting*

Apartment Open House Sunday April 18 from 1:30-4:30 p.m.
You are invited to see the church's apartment, at the center of
our ministry at the Links Apartments: Bldg. 28, Apt. 7

*Email lynndyfurdle@gmail.com for more information
about any of these ministry opportunities.*

 [linksconnections](https://www.facebook.com/linksconnections) • Check out volunteer opportunities at gotofirst.org/links

THURSDAYS in MARKS

Leave church at 2 p.m. and return at 6 p.m.

Helping the Reclaimed project with tutoring, helping
with homework, recreation with kids.

Contact Pam Carter at 662-234-3515 or
pcarter@gotofirst.org with questions.

FBC Oxford partnership
(re)claimed
PROJECT

Mission Team Training. Saturday, April 3. 8 a.m.-noon.

FBC Fellowship Hall

Disaster Relief Team Training. April 30-May 1. First Baptist Oxford.

New Orleans Mission Trip. April 9-11. Pray for Phil Kains, Ella Beth Hurdle, Elizabeth Simon, Tyler Tyree, Liesa Holeman, and Jeff Holeman serving with Lakeshore Spanish Church.

Peru Medical Trip. May 9-19. Pray for Nelson Little, Greg Hamrick, Diane Conner, Ronnie Conner, Dawn Early, AK Mynatt, Raymond Smith, Clara Sanchez, Daniel Sanchez and Jeff Holeman serving on the Amazon River.



Visiting Families

ministry partnership between FBC Oxford
and the Baptist Children's Village

During holidays and school breaks children are
allowed to spend time with families in our church.

INTEREST LUNCHEON APRIL 18
for any families interested in hosting
a child. There is no obligation.

Call the church office at (662) 234-3515 to make
a reservation before NOON, Monday April 12.

Your whole family is invited.

OUR USA AND INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS PARTNERSHIPS:

NEW ORLEANS / Lakeshore Spanish Church

OAXACA / International Mission Board

BRAZIL / Pioneer Missions

PERU / International Mission Board

ITALY / Campus Crusade for Christ

PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S NEWS

Preschool and Children's Sunday School

Sundays at 11 a.m. Check in downstairs from the Atrium

Children's Sunday School also meets on Zoom at 9 a.m.
Email wsimon@gotofirst.org for details. Check out Gospel Project resources at gotofirst.org/children

Preschool & Children's Departments

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT April 9 • 6-9 p.m.

For all kids
preschoolers (*infants-4 years*) and children (*K-6th grade*)

Sign up preschoolers with Jennifer at jwoodard@gotofirst.org
and children with Whitney at wsimon@gotofirst.org



DEFINED

WHO GOD SAYS I AM

KIDS DISCIPLE NOW 2021

with Gary Permenter

and worship leader Joanna Word

April 10 • 4th-6th grade

10 a.m.-5 p.m. • Check-in in the Atrium

Sign up at gotofirst.org/kdnow

\$25 includes program, Bible study leader, T-shirt, food and fun!

Associational Bible Drill April 11 at 2 p.m.
at Yellow Leaf Baptist Church

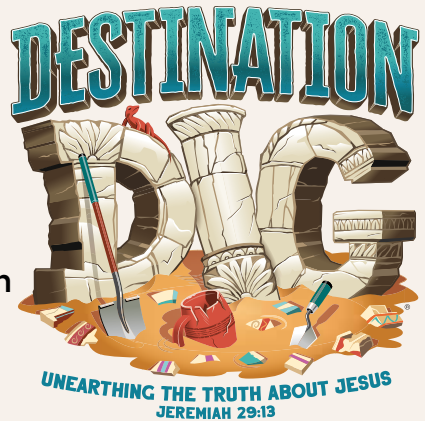
State Bible Drill April 15 at 2 p.m.
at Harrisburg Baptist Church in Tupelo

babydedication April 18
Sign up with Jennifer (jwoodard@gotofirst.org)


VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
June 7-11
9 a.m.-noon


in person & virtual
options available

Volunteers and participants can
register at gotofirst.org/vbs.
Contact Whitney for more
info at 662-832-3236 or
wsimon@gotofirst.org.



STUDENT NEWS [@Studentsgoto1st](https://twitter.com/Studentsgoto1st) [@studentsgotofirst](https://www.instagram.com/studentsgotofirst)


FBCOXFORDSTUDENTS
SUNDAYAM
Sundays at 11 a.m.
in person & on Zoom


FBCOXFORDSTUDENTS
SUNDAY PM
Sundays at 6 p.m.
in the CLC


mid
week
Wednesdays at 6 p.m.
on the 3rd Floor



FBC LIBRARY gotofirst.org/library

COLLEGE NEWS

Facebook/Instagram: [@fbcoxcollege](https://www.facebook.com/fbcoxcollege)

Sunday School Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Christian Life Center

Graduates & Summer Missionaries Sunday Sunday, April 25

Students will be prayed over and commissioned in the 11 a.m. service

Pancake Study Break Sunday, April 25 from 8-11 p.m.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

wmin@gotofirst.org

Monthly Book Club Thursday, April 15 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:
APRIL 17**

Email mm@gotofirst.org to sign up!

Meet at the Christian Life Center at 7:30 a.m.

FBC OXFORD STAFF

Rev. Don Gann, Senior Pastor
dgann@gotofirst.org

Dr. Robert Allen, Administrative Pastor
rallen@gotofirst.org

Jeff Holeman, Minister of Discipleship
& Missions Strategy
wigtake@gmail.com

Louis Zinc, Student Pastor
lzinc@gotofirst.org

Jack Schultz, College Pastor
jschultz@gotofirst.org

Steve Roark, Minister of Marriage
and Family Pastoral Care
steve.roark56@gmail.com

Rev. Slater Murphy,
Interim Minister of Music
smurphy@mbcb.org

SUPPORT STAFF

Dina Addy, Financial
Administrative Assistant
diaddy@gotofirst.org

Corie Miller, Pastoral and Publications
Administrative Assistant
cmiller@gotofirst.org

Pam Carter, Education and Student
Administrative Assistant
pcarter@gotofirst.org

Linda Glaze,
Director of Weekday Education
lglaze@gotofirst.org

Whitney Simon,
Director of Children's Ministries
wsimon@gotofirst.org

Jennifer Woodard,
Director of Preschool Ministries
jwoodard@gotofirst.org

Kristen Overall,
Director of Mother's Morning Out
koverall@gotofirst.org

COLLEGE MINISTRY INTERNS

Nicholas Dukes Sage McNamara
Cassidy Porter Ansley Myers

MUSIC MINISTRY INTERNS

McKenzi Massey Peyton Schiller
Joanna Word

YOUTH MINISTRY INTERNS

JR Wilbanks Alyssa Lee

BUILDING

Maria Thompson W.C. Certion
Carl Pettis Synthia Gilliam

How may we pray for you?

Scan the QR code and let us know.





800 Van Buren Avenue
Oxford, Mississippi 38655-3844

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