



AUGUST 2021  
Vol. 63 No. 8

# The Messenger



## FROM THE PASTOR

One of the great things about living in Oxford is how often things start over. With the high-quality educational institutions in Oxford and Lafayette County, many of our schedules reflect the academic calendar. So, each August, we begin again. School starts back, football season opens, hunting season is right around the corner, and church promotes in our organizations. New beginnings make life special.

In Chapter 3 of the Book of Lamentations, we find important words about new beginnings.

<sup>22</sup> The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;  
his mercies never come to an end;

<sup>23</sup> they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.

<sup>24</sup> “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul,  
“Therefore I will hope in him.”

New beginnings can help us focus on a fresh start with the Lord. In a way that only an Old Testament poet can do the writer of Lamentations emphasizes the love and mercy of God. He writes that God’s love is not depleted. God’s mercy is never finished. His love and mercy are new every morning.

We live in times of great uncertainty. As we think of new beginnings I invite you to remember the comfort and hope of God. New beginnings become meaningful when we base our hope on God’s faithfulness.

So as August brings a new routine for many, remember the new beginning of God’s love and mercy ready for each day.

I’ll see you Sunday,

*Don*

# August

Check out featured events at [www.gotofirst.org](http://www.gotofirst.org)

## **AUGUST 1** *Promotion Sunday*

8 a.m. Worship Service  
9:15 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School

## **AUGUST 3**

11 a.m. Youth Grub Club at Lost Pizza  
7 p.m. Prayer walk at The Links Apartments

## **AUGUST 4**

6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom  
6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

## **AUGUST 7**

9 a.m. D-LIFE Boot Camp

## **AUGUST 8**

8 a.m. Worship Service  
9:15 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School

## **AUGUST 10**

6 p.m. Thrive Dance Ministry  
Orientation in the Fellowship Hall

## **AUGUST 11**

6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom  
6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

## **AUGUST 14**

7:30 a.m. Men's Ministry Workday  
8 a.m. Sentinel Training

## **AUGUST 15**

8 a.m. Worship Service  
9:15 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School  
5:30 p.m. Adult Sunday School Training

## **AUGUST 18**

6:30 a.m. Men's Explorer's Bible Study  
9:30 a.m. Women's Explorer's Bible Study  
12 p.m. Men's & Women's Explorer's Bible Study  
5:15 p.m. Fellowship Meal  
6 p.m. KidZone Children's Activities  
6 p.m. Midweek for Youth  
6 p.m. Prayer Meeting  
6 p.m. Men's Bible Study  
6 p.m. Women's Explorer's Bible Study  
6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
7 p.m. Band Rehearsal

## **AUGUST 19**

6:30 p.m. Women's Ministry Dessert Social

## **AUGUST 22**

8 a.m. Worship Service  
9:15 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Sunday School  
5 p.m. Quarterly Business Meeting

## **AUGUST 25**

6:30 a.m. Men's Explorer's Bible Study  
9:30 a.m. Women's Explorer's Bible Study  
12 p.m. Men's & Women's Explorer's Bible Study

## **Wednesday Nights @ FBC Oxford kick off August 18!**

### **5:15 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper**

Adults \$5, Youth \$5, K-6th \$4. Preschoolers eat free. College students eat free. Immediate family group pays a maximum of \$15.

**6 p.m. KidZone** for Preschoolers in the downstairs Preschool area. K-6th grade in the CLC. Check in begins at 5:50 p.m. Pick up kids at 7:01 p.m.

**6 p.m. Midweek for Youth** on the 3rd Floor.

**6 p.m. Explorer's Bible Study, Prayer Meeting, Adult Bible Study, Choir Rehearsal**

# Our Family

5:15 p.m.	Fellowship Meal
6 p.m.	KidZone Children's Activities
6 p.m.	Midweek for Youth
6 p.m.	Prayer Meeting
6 p.m.	Men's Bible Study
6 p.m.	Women's Explorer's Bible Study
6 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
7 p.m.	Band Rehearsal

## AUGUST 26

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

## AUGUST 29

8 a.m.	Worship Service
9:15 a.m.	Worship Service/Sunday School
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service/Sunday School
11:30 a.m.	College students lunch
5 p.m.	Committee/Team Leadership Training

## AUGUST 31

5:30 p.m. Outreach

Check out Sunday  
Bible Study options at  
[gotofirst.org/sunday](http://gotofirst.org/sunday).

## Deacons of the Week

**Aug. 1-7** Lanny Shackelford, Jason Simon, Gary Carter

**Aug. 8-14** Brad Golmon, Jeff Busby, Paul Hale

**Aug. 15-21** David Erhart, Bobby Clanton, Lane Wilson

**Aug. 22-28** Fred Johnson, Jim Rose, Nelson Little

**Aug. 29- Sept. 4** Ryan Overall, Michael Ferris, Craig Kirkendall

## Budget July 2021

Budget	\$161,975.22
Building	\$1385.00
Designated	\$38,850.94
Total	\$202,211.16

## GO TELL OFFERING

GO TELL OFFERING will be collected through July.

**FBC Goal: \$18,000**  
**Given to Date: \$26,175**

Go Tell provides financial assistance to First Baptist Oxford members/college students on mission trips.

## New Members

Jasper Porter joined on 6/27/2021.

Shane, Jennifer, Josie and Olivia McMullen joined on 6/27/2021.

Timothy, Christi, Jamisyn and Parker Freeny joined on 7/4/2021.

Derick and Lindsay Henrichs joined on 7/4/2021.

Jaunell Sanders joined on 7/4/2021.

Cannon Spencer joined on 7/4/2021.

Audrey Yow joined on 7/4/2021.

Beren Miller joined on 7/11/2021.

## Congratulations

Devin and Kimberly Rossetti, along with big brother Dustin, welcomed **Jenna Lynn Rossetti** on July 8, 2021. Proud grandparents are Ken and Kay Rossetti.

# Discipleship

## D-LIFE BOOT CAMP

Training for a lifestyle  
of discipleship.



*Register  
online  
today!*



**First Baptist Oxford • Saturday, August 7 • 9 a.m.-1 p.m.**

What do I do to make disciples? How can I teach my kids about discipleship? How can I lead my friends in discipleship? What is discipleship? We'll answer all of those questions and equip you with the tools you need to make disciples in your home, in your neighborhood, at work, or wherever you go! Please register at [gotofirst.org](http://gotofirst.org). Cost is \$10 and includes all materials you will need.

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## COMMITTEES AND TEAMS

**Committee and Team Training: August 29**

**5:30 p.m. meal. 6-7:30 p.m. training**

Fellowship, Fun and Training for all committee and team members.

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Adult Sunday School Leader Training: August 15**

**5:30 p.m. meal. 6-7:30 p.m. training**

Fellowship, Fun, and Training for Adult Sunday School Leaders and for those interested in leading a Sunday School class.

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## OUTREACH

**Tuesday, August 31. 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.**

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**It's Time to Sign Up!**  
**for God's Perfect Plan in Prophecy**  
**and the book of Revelation**



**EXPLORER'S**  
**BIBLE STUDY**

***Beginning August 18***

Teaching Leaders: Beth Fitts and Joe Meurrier

In-person, online, and personal study classes  
available. Schedule and registration links at

**[gotofirst.org/ebs](http://gotofirst.org/ebs)**

**Sunday Nights @ FBC Oxford kick off September 12!**

**AWANA (4-6 p.m.) DLife Groups and Life University (5-6 p.m.)**



*Church wide*  
*Ice Cream Fellowship*

**Sunday, September 12**

**6 p.m. on the church lawn**

**Bring your ice cream and desserts.**

*(Rain plan in the Fellowship Hall).*

# Links Connections

FBC Oxford Ministry to  
the Links Apartments

**BIBLE STUDY** Sundays at 5 p.m. Bldg. 28, Apt. 7  
Our first meeting will be August 8.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Prayer Walk at The Links**

Tuesday, Aug 3 at 7 p.m. Meet at Bldg 28.

**The Art of Parenting**

8 week parenting series - Begins Wednesday, Sept. 8 at 6 p.m.

*Email [lynndyfthurdle@gmail.com](mailto:lynndyfthurdle@gmail.com) for more information  
about any of these ministry opportunities.*



linksconnections • Check out volunteer opportunities at [gotofirst.org/links](http://gotofirst.org/links)

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

Scan the QR code and let us know.



## FBC OXFORD PRAYER ROOM

### Fellowship Hall Room 219

Please consider being a part of the FBC Oxford prayer ministry.  
Individuals and groups up to four people can reserve a time.

**The Prayer Room is open**

**Monday-Friday • 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

**Special times can be scheduled upon request.**

To reserve a time please contact Corie Miller  
[cmiller@gotofirst.org](mailto:cmiller@gotofirst.org) or 662-234-3515.

# Missions

**Oaxaca Pastor/ Leader  
Training. August 18-23.**

## OAXACA

*Pray for Brad Golmon, Bill Rose, and Jeff Holeman as they lead training for pastors and church leaders.*

**Oaxaca College Trip. December 27 to January 7.**

*Missions and Discipleship Training for all college students.  
More info coming soon...*

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## PERU

**Peru Medical Trip.  
September 19 to 28.**  
Amazon River Medical Clinics.

*Pray for Greg Hamrick, Nelson Little, Becky Little,  
Jeff Holeman, Diane Conner, Ronnie Connor, Raymond Smith,  
Dawn Early.*

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**Italy Mission Trip. December 6 to 16.**

*Pray for Jeff Holeman, Pete Campbell,  
Nancy Campbell, and Mike Gilliland.*

This team will be involved in refugee ministry and college campus ministry in Rome, Italy. We have room for more.

Contact Jeff Holeman if you sense a calling to join this team.

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## SENTINEL SECURITY TRAINING

**Saturday, August 14**

**8 a.m. - noon • FBC Fellowship Hall**

Training is required to receive financial assistance for mission trips. Training must be repeated every two years.

Cost is \$45 but FBC Oxford members attend for free.

Register with Pam Carter in the church office.

# HELP WANTED

## **Preschool Sunday School**

*Email Jennifer Woodard at [jwoodard@gotofirst.org](mailto:jwoodard@gotofirst.org) to sign up.*

9:15 a.m. 4 teacher assistants (can rotate monthly)

9:15 a.m. 2 Special Needs assistants

10:30 a.m. 2 teachers

4 teacher subs

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## **Children's Sunday School**

*Email Whitney Simon at [wsimon@gotofirst.org](mailto:wsimon@gotofirst.org) to sign up.*

9:15 a.m. K-2nd teachers, even months

9:15 a.m. 3rd-6th teachers, odd months

10:30 a.m. 3rd Grade assistant

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## **Wednesday Night Kids Zone**

4 Game Time leaders

2 Story Time leaders

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## **Adult Sunday School**

*Email Matt Moore at [matt.moore@usda.gov](mailto:matt.moore@usda.gov) to sign up*

9:15 a.m. 2 teachers for Adult Ladies (age 25 to 40)

9:15 a.m. 2 teachers for Young Coed (age 25 to 40)

9:15 a.m. 2 teachers for Graduate/Law School

10:30 a.m. 2 teachers for Senior Adult Coed

10:30 a.m. 2 teachers for Adult Men (age 45 to 60)

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## **MEN'S MINISTRY NEWS**

[mm@gotofirst.org](mailto:mm@gotofirst.org)



**SATURDAY WORKDAY:**  
**AUGUST 14**

*Email [mm@gotofirst.org](mailto:mm@gotofirst.org) to sign up!*

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





**Free Outreach Event!**  
**FBC OXFORD**  
**WOMEN'S MINISTRY**

**Dessert Social**

*Thursday, August 19*  
**6:30-7:30 pm**  
*in the Fellowship Hall*

Ice cream will be provided.  
Bring a dessert to share.

Preschool/childcare available. Email  
[jwoodard@gotofirst.org](mailto:jwoodard@gotofirst.org) by August 15  
with names of children and ages.

**Monthly Book Club** Thursday, August 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Email [wmin@gotofirst.org](mailto:wmin@gotofirst.org) for more information.

**Save the Date: Pumpkin Painting and Panel Discussion**

Saturday, October 16 from 9:30-11 a.m. on the church lawn and in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a fall craft, dessert, and learn about traditions and daily rhythms to keep Christ at the center of your home. Cost: \$10



**FBC LIBRARY** Open Sundays 9-11 a.m.

Online Catalog available at [gotofirst.org/library](http://gotofirst.org/library)

- Search the entire catalog
- Reserve and renew books

**Upcoming Women's Book Club books are available in the FBC Library:**

August: The Lions of Fifth Avenue by Fiona Davis

September: The World that We Knew by Alice Hoffman

October: Sense and Sensibility by Jane Austen





quality dance instruction in ballet, lyrical, jazz, contemporary and hip-hop for the purpose of praise and worship for grades 3-12

Schedule, fees, and registration details:  
**[gotofirst.org/dance](http://gotofirst.org/dance)**

Parent and Student Orientation August 10 at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Classes will be on Tuesdays beginning August 17.

## PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S NEWS

**Promotion Sunday: August 1**



### FIRST KIDZONE

begins Wednesday, August 18  
from 6-7:01 p.m.

Bible Study! Games!

Kid-friendly Mission Projects!

AWANA begins  
Sunday, September 12!  
4-6 p.m.



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

**Grub Club August 3 at 11 a.m. at Lost Pizza**

All youth are invited for lunch and Bible study.

# FBC OXFORD STAFF

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

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

**Jeff Holeman**, Minister of Discipleship  
& Missions Strategy  
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**Dr. Louis Zinc**, Student Pastor  
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**Steve Roark**, Minister of Marriage  
and Family Pastoral Care  
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**Rev. Slater Murphy**,  
Interim Minister of Music  
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## SUPPORT STAFF

**Dina Addy**, Financial  
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**Jennifer Woodard**,  
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**Kristen Overall**,  
Director of Mother's Morning Out  
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## COLLEGE MINISTRY INTERNS

Sage McNamara

## MUSIC MINISTRY INTERNS

McKenzi Massey    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.





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