

# The Messenger



## A Christmas Blessing

Christmas is a mixture of wonder and truth; of fantasy and reality; of peace and uproar. Getting a handle on the holiday season is sometimes elusive. Yet believers know a foundation to Christmas that the world misses.

*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the Lord.*  
Luke 2:9

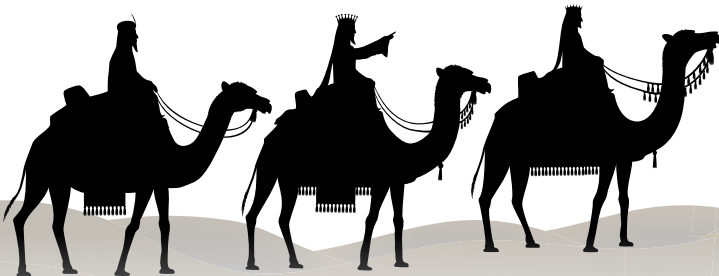
The message of the angel to the shepherds on that first Christmas night reminds us of the foundation of Christmas. The verse forms a blessing spoken by an angel to the world. Galatians 4:4-7 explains it:

*But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.* (ESV)

If we are careful we can squeeze past the hectic schedules, we can look beyond the grief of loss, we can hear the angel's blessing of a truth that changes the world. Like the wise men, let's follow the star to the manger. Let's experience the joy that has dawned.

May the message of the angel resound in our hearts this Christmas!

*Don*



## FIRST BAPTIST *Oxford*

800 Van Buren Ave., Oxford MS 38655 ■ 662.234.3515

f fbcoxford t @fbcoxford ■ www.gotofirst.org

# December

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

## DECEMBER 1

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- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes
- 11 a.m. Worship Service

## DECEMBER 3

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- Noon Prayer Meeting

## DECEMBER 4

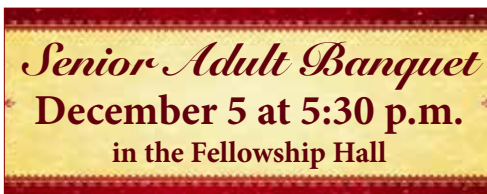
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- 6:30 a.m. Men's Explorer's Bible Study
- 5 p.m. Fellowship Meal
- 5:30 p.m. AWANA
- 6 p.m. Midweek for Youth
- 6 p.m. Adult Bible Studies
- 6 p.m. Women's Explorer's Bible Study
- 6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. Band Rehearsal

## DECEMBER 5

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- 5:30 p.m. Senior Adult Banquet



## DECEMBER 6

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

## DECEMBER 8

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*Gift Wrapping for Lottie Moon  
Children's Choir will sing in both services.*

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes
- 11 a.m. Worship Service
- 3:30 p.m. Preschool Christmas Party
- 3:30 p.m. Children's Christmas Party
- 5 p.m. Children's Choir
- 9 p.m. College Pancake Study Break

## DECEMBER 10

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- Noon Prayer Meeting

## DECEMBER 11

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- 6:30 a.m. Men's Explorer's Bible Study
- 5 p.m. Fellowship Meal
- 5:30 p.m. AWANA: Store Night
- 6 p.m. Midweek for Youth
- 6 p.m. Adult Bible Studies
- 6 p.m. Women's Explorer's Bible Study
- 6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. Band Rehearsal

## DECEMBER 14

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- 9 a.m. Ladies' Christmas Tea



## DECEMBER 15

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*FBC Library Open House*

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes
- 11 a.m. Worship Service

## DECEMBER 17

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- Noon Prayer Meeting

## DECEMBER 18

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- 5 p.m. Fellowship Meal
- 5:30 p.m. AWANA: Caroling Night

## DECEMBER 22

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- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes
- 11 a.m. Worship Service
- 4 p.m. Christmas Around the Piano

# Our Family



## DECEMBER 24 *Christmas Eve*

*Church office closed*

4 p.m. Lord's Supper Service

## DECEMBER 25 *Christmas*

*Church office closed*

## DECEMBER 29

8:30 a.m. Worship Service

9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes

11 a.m. Worship Service

## DECEMBER 31

Noon Prayer Meeting

**2019 CONTRIBUTIONS:** In order to receive credit for charitable contributions made in 2019, they must be received in the church office by Tuesday, December 31, 2019 or have been post-marked by December 31, 2019. Other contributions (stocks, bonds, etc.) must be transferred by December 27, 2019 for credit in 2019. Electronic giving needs to be made by December 30 in order to provide clearance by December 31. For more information, contact Pat Freeman or Robert Allen at 234-3515. All donations to FBC are handled according to IRS rules and regulations.

## Sunday school attendance

November 3 - 560

November 17 - 479

November 10 - 501

## Budget November 1-17, 2019

Budget	\$109,540.98
Building	\$1,654.00
Designated	\$25,687.00
Total	\$136,881.98

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LOTTIE MOON  
CHRISTMAS  
OFFERING®

FBC Oxford Goal: \$100,000

Given to date: \$20,654

## New Members in November

Charlotte Thornton, Bradley Ramsay

## Our Sympathy

To Mrs. Kathleen Taylor and Mrs. Pene Russell after the loss of their mother, Mrs. Sue Wilkinson.

To Mrs. Hope Gardner after the loss of her father, Mr. Thomas Dean Edwards.

To the family of Mrs. Bernice Craig.

## Deacons of the Week

**Dec. 1-7** Michael Meurrier, Kevin Bain, Daniel Denton

**Dec. 8-14** Bobby Clanton, Ryan Overall, Craig Kirkendall

**Dec. 22-28** Dave Miller, Paul Hale, Jason Simon

**Dec. 22-28** Nelson Little, Jeff Busby, Lanny Shackelford



Save the Date

**SPRING 2020**

Classes begin Jan. 26

# MISSION & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

**Pray for the Italy Team. Dec. 12-21:** Jeff, Liesa, Bubba Robinson, Jack Schultz, Pete Campbell, Nancy Campbell.

## OAXACA MISSIONS PARTNERSHIP

### Leadership Training Team #6. February 19-24, 2020

Cost is \$450 for FBC Members. Four men are needed.  
\$200 deposit is due now.

## STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS

FBC OXFORD STUDENT MINISTRY

# CHRISTMAS PARTY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 AT 9:45 A.M.



*Progressive Dinner*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23 AT 5 P.M.



January 17-20 • Pigeon Forge, TN

Pray for our 44 students and parents attending this year's retreat.



The Aletheia Ladies Sunday School class will be offering

## *Gift Wrapping for Lottie Moon*

**December 8 in the Atrium from 8-11 a.m.**

Bring your already boxed gifts with gift labels taped lightly to the tops and drop them off. We will alternate attending worship services, so we can have your gifts wrapped after each service. We provide all paper, tape, ribbon and sparkles. Just drop a donation in the basket on our table for the Lottie Moon offering.

# Library Open House

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15**

Come by between services or before Sunday School. We will have refreshments and a display of Christmas artwork from our Children's classes.



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS [wmin@gotofirst.org](mailto:wmin@gotofirst.org)

FBC OXFORD WOMEN'S MINISTRY

## *Ladies' Christmas Tea*

*Guest Speaker: Beth Bowman*

**DECEMBER 14**

9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Catered by Party Waitin' To Happen



To host a table, contact Tommie Lee Ford at 662-326-0522  
or email [wmin@gotofirst.org](mailto:wmin@gotofirst.org).

TICKETS: \$10

Purchase Sundays in the Atrium or weekdays in the church office.

# PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S NEWS

Help me turn this frown upside down...  
Be a Nursery Volunteer :)

We need helpers for the 11 a.m. service.  
Sign up downstairs at the preschool desk  
or contact Lauren at [lhill@gotofirst.org](mailto:lhill@gotofirst.org)



Preschool & Children's Departments

**PARENTS' NIGHT OUT**  
December 6 • 6-9 p.m.

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

*Sign up at the Preschool Desk and/or the Children's Desk.*

FBC Children's Choir presents

Follow  
the  
**STAR**



Sunday, December 8 during both morning worship services



# Preschool Christmas Party

**December 8**

3:30-5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

*We will be doing Christmas crafts and have pizza and cookies.  
Be sure to wear your pajamas!*

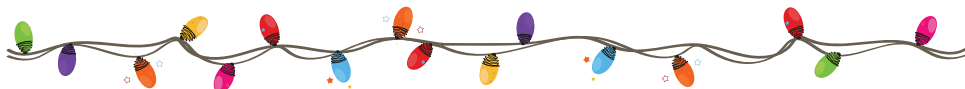
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# Children's Christmas Party

**December 8**

3:30-5 p.m. in the Christian Life Center

*Christmas snacks and games for all K-6th grade children!*



## SAVE THE DATES

**Kids DNOW | MARCH 20-21, 2020**

Open to all kids in grades 4-6. *Details to come.*

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# CONCRETE & CRANES

Philippians 1:6

**Vacation Bible School | JUNE 1-5, 2020**

Open to all kids in grades K-6.

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**Children's Mission Camp | JULY 9-11, 2020**

Open to all kids in grades 2-6.

Cost: \$120. \$60 Non-refundable deposit due by February 2.



*The Messenger*  
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