

# The Messenger



## from the Pastor

“One is the loneliest number...” In 1968, Harry Nilsson wrote these words after a breakup with his long-time girlfriend. In his loneliness, Nilsson felt pain. The words set to music became a hit that year, perhaps because people can relate to the pain of loneliness.

It's good to have some time alone but for most of us, too much time alone leads to insecurity, isolation, and depression. Maybe you've been in an airport or shopping area and noticed many people using earphones. With these they can listen to whatever they want to on their handheld device. It's like a retreat to prevent them from interacting with anyone. Some speculate that perhaps they isolate in public in fear they won't be accepted.

God never created people to be alone. God created Eve in the Garden of Eden because it was 'not good for Adam to be alone.' The Bible also teaches that a life apart from God is a lonely life.

This month we kick off an emphasis called 'Who's Your One?'

During February we will be asking every member of FBC to begin praying daily for one person or family who may never have come to faith in Jesus. Our hope is that as we pray, God will give us opportunities to connect with the person the Holy Spirit highlights in our mind and heart. The person may be a family member, neighbor, co-worker, or someone else living life disconnected from God. We pray that our 'One' will begin a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

One can be a lonely number, so let's pray that no person continues to live isolated from the grace and mercy available in Jesus.

Who's Your One?

*Don*

who's your  
**1**ONE?



## FIRST BAPTIST *Oxford*

800 Van Buren Ave., Oxford MS 38655 ■ 662.234.3515

[f](#) fbcoxford [t](#) @fbcoxford ■ [www.gotofirst.org](http://www.gotofirst.org)

# February

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

## FEBRUARY 1

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

## FEBRUARY 2

8:30 a.m. Worship Service  
9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
4 p.m. Children's Bible Drill  
4 p.m. Youth Super Bowl Watch Party in the CLC  
4:15 p.m. Youth Bible Drill  
5 p.m. Children's Choir  
5 p.m. Life University Classes

## FEBRUARY 4

11 a.m. XYZ Program & Luncheon  
Noon Prayer Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Brazil Mission Team meeting  
6:30 p.m. Women's Ministry Paint Party in the Fellowship Hall

### XYZ Senior Adult Program

#### Tuesday, February 4

11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

"An Upside Down Valentine's"

*A delicious meal will be provided.*

## FEBRUARY 5

6:30 a.m. Men's Explorer's Bible Study  
10 a.m. Mother's Morning Out  
open enrollment in the Atrium  
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

## FEBRUARY 7

7:45 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast

## FEBRUARY 9

8:30 a.m. Worship Service  
9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
4 p.m. Children's Bible Drill  
4:15 p.m. Youth Bible Drill

5 p.m. Children's Choir  
5 p.m. Sunday PM for Youth  
5 p.m. Life University Classes

## FEBRUARY 11

Noon Prayer Meeting

## FEBRUARY 12

6:30 a.m. Men's Explorer's Bible Study  
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal  
5:30 p.m. AWANA: Crazy Hair 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

## FEBRUARY 14

7:45 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast

## FEBRUARY 16

8:30 a.m. Worship Service  
9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
2 p.m. Youth Trip to Incredible Pizza  
4 p.m. Children's Bible Drill  
5 p.m. Children's Choir  
5 p.m. Life University Classes

## FEBRUARY 17

5:30 p.m. Outreach

## FEBRUARY 18

Noon Prayer Meeting

## FEBRUARY 19

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

## FEBRUARY 20

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

## FEBRUARY 21

7:45 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast  
6 p.m. Parents' Night Out (*Registration required*)

# Our Family

## FEBRUARY 23

*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
- 4 p.m. Children's Bible Drill
- 4:15 p.m. Youth Bible Drill
- 5 p.m. Children's Choir
- 5 p.m. Sunday PM for Youth
- 5 p.m. Life University Classes

## FEBRUARY 24

- 5:30 p.m. Outreach

## FEBRUARY 25

- Noon Prayer Meeting

## FEBRUARY 26

- 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

## FEBRUARY 28

- 7:45 a.m. Youth Prayer Breakfast

## FEBRUARY 29

- 8 a.m. Men's Ministry Event:  
"You're Not Done Yet"

## Deacons of the Week

- Jan. 26-** Jeff Busby, David Erhart,  
**Feb. 1** Craig Kirkendall
- Feb. 2-8** Michael Ferris, Daniel Denton,  
Jason Simon
- Feb. 9-15** Paxton Little, Ryan Overall,  
Kevin Bain
- Feb. 16-22** Dave Miller, Derrell Doss,  
Lanny Shackelford
- Feb. 23-29** Brad Golmon, Jim Rose,  
Lane Wilson

## Sunday school attendance

- January 5: 467      January 19: 496
- January 12: 529      January 26: 516

## Budget January 2020

Budget	\$163,768.53
Building	\$1,365.00
Designated	\$18,066.50
Total	\$183,200.03

imb

LOTTIE MOON  
CHRISTMAS  
OFFERING®

**FBC Oxford Goal: \$100,000**  
**Given to date: \$96,718.50**

## New Members in November

James Wright, Carlyn Burns, Bryson Herrington

## Congratulations

to Wes and Ali Sneed on the birth of a daughter, **Madilyn James Sneed**, on January 13. Proud siblings are Liam, Hadley, and Miles.

## Our Sympathy

to the family of Mrs. Pat Gay after her passing.

to Mr. Michael MacIntyre after the loss of his mother, Mrs. Betty MacIntyre.

to Ms. Sheila Crawley after the loss of her daughter, Ms. Suzanne Crawley.

to Mr. Frank Belk after the loss of his wife, Mrs. Lessie Belk.

to Mrs. Donna Atwood after the loss of her mother, Mrs. Jean Parent Dillehay.

to Ms. Diane Oliphant after the loss of her mother, Maudie Odie Miller Oliphant.

to Mr. Brad Peters after the loss of his mother, Mrs. Mildred Peters.

FBC is asking all attendees to update contact information in an effort to maintain current records. Please call the church office at 662-234-3515 or email Corie Miller at [cmiller@gotofirst.org](mailto:cmiller@gotofirst.org) for more information.

# MISSION & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

## MONDAYS in MARKS *resumes February 3!*

Bus leaves FBC at 2:30 and returns at 6:15 p.m.



We need folks to help with homework and serve snacks.

## BRAZIL MISSION TEAM MEETING

February 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

*Brazil Church Planting Trip: June 5-15, 2020*

Pray for Nelson Little and Jeff Holeman traveling to Oaxaca Feb. 8-14 for a medical project in the areas of southern Mexico affected by recent earthquakes.



Thursday, February 13 • 11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
at the Oxford Conference Center

Your \$20 donation includes soup, bread, water and a ceramic bowl of your choice created by a local artist.

*Proceeds benefit the Oxford Food Pantry.*

## MONDAY OUTREACH Feb. 17 & 24

Light meal at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, followed by Outreach. Come join us in outreach to our community. *Preschool care begins at 5:45.*



### SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Sundays at 5 p.m. at The Links Clubhouse.  
*All are welcome to come and join the study and build relationships with those at The Links.*

### ENGLISH LEARNERS' CLASS FOR WOMEN

Mondays at 10 a.m. at The Links Clubhouse.

*If you know someone who would like to participate (learning or leading) please call the church office.*

# Reversed Missions Reversed: A New Strategy for Reaching the World with the Gospel

*A message from Interim Music Minister, Rev. Slater Murphy*

In case you haven't noticed, the people groups of the world are making their way to your town or city. Many are your new neighbors. From an early age, I was taught the commission "go ye into all the world." Now, the opportunities we have for international witness have expanded exponentially with the influx of "the world" into Mississippi.

A number of years ago, in response to the Holy Spirit's leadership, my wife and I began hosting foreign exchange students in our home. Most were with us for an entire school year. With the frenetic pace of ministry, I was not looking for something else to do! Our son had befriended a German boy at his school; later, he shared with us his conviction that we should become a host family. We prayed together, then decided to exercise faith and take the big risk.

What we did not know was how this act of obedience would augment our ministry in the future. The Reverse Missions part of this strategy involves first inviting the student into your home. We welcomed each one as our own child, taking full responsibility for their care and parental nurture. We were family! To this day, some refer to us as "Dad and Mom."

After each student returned back to their home country, their family always enthusiastically invited us to come visit. The first time Marsha and I went overseas, we were stunned by the gracious hospitality of everyone we met! They accepted us as part of their community and family because we hosted their student. This part of the strategy is Missions Reversed.

We joined with the student's family and friends for multiple times of fellowship, meals, and community celebrations in our honor. They wanted to introduce us to every person significant to them. We have experienced the privilege of sharing with a multitude of folks the joy of knowing and following Jesus. Without exception, each person has wanted to know why in the world we would invite a stranger into our home! It has been a question that consistently has opened the door to a conversation about the truth of the gospel.

Has God placed in your heart a desire to reach Europe or another international people group? It is extremely difficult to enter these cultures and build relationships. Pray earnestly, and if God speaks to you, say yes to this effective, "under the radar" approach to sharing the Gospel—first from your house, then over to their house!

## Help at the Food Pantry

**During March, members of FBC will help at the Oxford Food Pantry.** Each week, workers will be needed on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. On Tuesdays, we will stock shelves and unload supplies from trucks. On Wednesdays and Thursdays, we will help serve the clients and re-stock shelves. For more information, please call Jim Propes (236-4758 [jp65monza@att.net](mailto:jp65monza@att.net)) or Brian Smith (601-594-1165 [brianhs@bellsouth.net](mailto:brianhs@bellsouth.net)).

## FBC Library

Open Sundays 9:30-11 a.m.  
and Wednesdays 5-7 p.m.  
downstairs next to the Old Fellowship Hall

**Check out our new selection of CDs**



## STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS



**5 Students : 1 Leader**  
Wednesdays 7-7:20 p.m.  
Sign up TODAY!



**Prayer Breakfast**  
Fridays at 7:45 a.m.  
at McDonald's  
on University Ave.



**Sunday, February 16**  
Leave church at 2 p.m.  
Return at 9 p.m.  
\$25 per person.  
Chaperons Needed.

# MFUGE

**MFuge Summer Mission Trip  
to Nashville. June 22 to 27.**

Cost is \$225 per person.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

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

**Ladies' Paint Party** Tuesday, February 4 at 6:30 p.m.  
in the fellowship hall. Email [wmin@gotofirst.org](mailto:wmin@gotofirst.org) for more info.

**Monthly Book Club** Thursday, February 20 at 6:30 p.m.  
Email [wmin@gotofirst.org](mailto:wmin@gotofirst.org) for more info.

## MEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

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

### SATURDAY WORKDAY: FEBRUARY 1

Meet in the CLC at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast and work details.  
**Email [mm@gotofirst.org](mailto:mm@gotofirst.org) to sign up!**

**Men's Ministry Event: "You're Not Done Yet"**  
Saturday, February 29 from 8 a.m.-noon.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Jim Phillips, pastor of North Greenwood Baptist Church  
Breakfast will be served at 8 a.m.

# PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S NEWS

Preschool & Children's Departments

## PARENTS' NIGHT OUT February 21 • 6-9 p.m.

For all kids  
preschoolers (infants-4 years) & children (K-6th grade). **Signup begins Feb. 2**

## babydedication March 1

Sign up with Jennifer (jwoodard@gotofirst.org)



**DEFINED**  
WHO GOD SAYS I AM

### KIDS DNOW WEEKEND

4th-6th grade | March 20-21  
with Gary Permenter  
and worship leader Joanna Word

\$50 registration due March 6 and includes program, Bible study leader, T-shirt, food and fun!  
For more info, contact Jeff Holeman (wigtake@gmail.com) or Dina Addy (diaddy@gotofirst.org)  
or go to [www.gotofirst.org/children](http://www.gotofirst.org/children).

AMBASSADORS

## Children's Mission Camp JULY 9-11

Open to all kids in grades 2-6. Cost: \$120  
\$60 Non-refundable deposit due by February 2!

Contact Dina Addy to register, (662) 837-0797 or [diaddy@gotofirst.org](mailto:diaddy@gotofirst.org)



## HELP WANTED!

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 1-5 • 9 a.m.-noon

Contact Dina Addy, (662) 837-0797  
or [diaddy@gotofirst.org](mailto:diaddy@gotofirst.org) for more info.





*The Messenger*  
**FIRST BAPTIST Oxford**  
Impacting Lives • Building Community • Changing the World  
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