

# The Messenger

MAY 2017  
Vol. 59 No. 5

from Interim Pastor Don Gann

One of the great privileges of my life is to be associated with First Baptist Church, Oxford. I am doubly blessed in this second opportunity to serve with you.

*I want to remind you of several things during this interim time:*

- Jesus is the Head of the Church. When we come together to worship, study, fellowship we do so at His call and for His glory. Whether the church has a pastor on the field or not, the Head of the Church doesn't change. I believe God wants to do great work at First Baptist Church during this interim time.
- Some people are tempted to check out of involvement in church matters during an interim time waiting to see if they like the next preacher. I think this is a huge mistake and it's unbiblical. In fact, stepping up to assist the ministry of the church is what is called for.

*So what can you do to step up? Let me suggest a few things.*

- Pray daily for the church staff, church leaders, Pastor Search Committee, and the on-going ministry and mission of the church. Commit to making prayer a greater priority that First Baptist Church will be faithful and focused on God's will.
- Be an encourager. Welcome each other. Love each other.
- Be faithful in your attendance and support of the church.

After Easter, Peter had seen the risen Lord yet Jesus wasn't staying with Peter and the other disciples as He had before. John 21 records that Peter and six other disciples decided to go fishing. They were checking out. Many scholars believe that these men didn't just plan to fish for a day, they planned to make a career of fishing. The passage says that Jesus showed up with breakfast by the lake. After challenging the disciples to let down their nets one more time, receiving a huge catch of fish, He invites them to eat. At the breakfast, Jesus restores Peter, encourages John, and calls the disciples to faithfulness gained by knowledge of His resurrection. Look what they would have missed if they had checked out!

Are you tempted, like Peter, to check out for a time; to step back and wait? Don't forget that God does His work in our midst every day. First Baptist Church needs you and you need the Church. Now is a time to step up.

*I'll see you in worship on Sunday.*

Don



## FIRST BAPTIST *Oxford*

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800 Van Buren Ave., Oxford MS 38655 ■ 662.234.3515

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# May

## MAY 2

11 a.m. XYZ Program & Luncheon

## MAY 3

Noon Prayer Meeting  
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal  
5:30 p.m. AWANA: Affliction Night  
5:30 p.m. Youth Crawfish Boil  
6 p.m. Adult Bible Study  
6 p.m. English as a Second Language  
6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
7:15 p.m. Band Rehearsal

## MAY 4

11 a.m. National Day of Prayer Lunch  
12:15 p.m. Community Prayer Service at the Courthouse on the Square

## MAY 7 *Prove the Tithe Day*

8:30 a.m. Worship Service  
9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
5 p.m. Children's Choir  
5 p.m. Youth Worship Ensemble  
5 p.m. Life U: All In  
6 p.m. Children's Choir Spring Concert and fellowship

## MAY 8

9 p.m. College Pancake Study Break

## MAY 10

Noon Prayer Meeting  
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal  
5:30 p.m. AWANA: Party Night  
6 p.m. Graduate Banquet  
6 p.m. Adult Bible Study  
6 p.m. English as a Second Language  
6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
7:15 p.m. Band Rehearsal

## *Mother's Day and Graduate Recognition*

## MAY 14

8:30 a.m. Worship Service  
9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
*No evening activities*

## MAY 17

10:30 a.m. Mother's Morning Out Graduation  
Noon Prayer Meeting  
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal  
6 p.m. AWANA: Award Ceremony  
6 p.m. Rev.o.lu.tion Youth Worship  
6 p.m. Adult Bible Study  
6 p.m. English as a Second Language  
6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
7:15 p.m. Band Rehearsal

## MAY 20

7:30 a.m. Men's Work Day

## MAY 21

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

## MAY 22

5:30 p.m. Outreach

## MAY 24

Noon Prayer Meeting  
5 p.m. Catfish Dinner  
6 p.m. A Night Of Encouragement with Dr. Steve Gaines

## MAY 28

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

## MAY 29

## *Memorial Day*

*church office closed*

## *XYZ Senior Adult Program and Luncheon*

**Tuesday, May 2 at 11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall**

Our speaker, **Angela Davis**, wife of Associate Pastor Jim Davis of Grace Bible Church will be sharing her testimony and insights serving as a missionary, pastor's wife and cancer survivor.

*Invite a friend and join us.*

# Our Family

## Sunday school attendance

April 2-514	April 16 - 484
April 9 - 500	April 23 - 478

## Budget April 2017

Budget	\$141,996.58
Building	\$2,461.83
Designated	\$12,509.91
Total	\$156,968.32
Building Fund to date	\$5,843,232.34
Annie Armstrong to date	\$10,189.00

## May Deacons of the Week

**April 30- May 6** Jamie Hopson, Kevin Howell, Martin Locke

**May 7-13** Matt Moore, Mike Tomes, Will Dabbs

**May 14-20** Andy Field, Brian Harvey, Mark Moore

**May 21-27** Mike Quarles, Dan Reed, Chris Riley

**May 28- June 3** Brodie Burns, Ben Hellums, Thomas Herrington

## New Members in April

Neely Sha Spencer, Stacy & Phil Harrison, Kaitlyn Shepard, Carter Herrington

## Congratulations

To Marcie & Aaron Sherman on the birth of a daughter, **Sibyl Linnaeus Sherman**. Proud grandparents are Cascielle and Nelson Little.

To Rebecca & William Barnes on the birth of a son, **Samuel Dalton Barnes**. Big sister is Brianna and proud grandparents are Bonnie and Bruce Mize.

To Valerie & Alex Sires on the birth of twin boys, **Kyson Alexander and Ryker Sky-Lynn Sires**. Proud grandmother is Pam-Allen Abbott.

## Our Sympathy

To Mrs. Charlotte Propes & family in the loss of her aunt.

To Mrs. Penny Nelson & family in the loss of her husband, Mr. Jimmy Nelson.

Mr. Jim Pryor & family in the loss of his sister, Mrs. Penny Pynkaka.

To Meredith Meurrier & family in the loss of her grandmother, Mrs. Ruth Kelly Miller.

## More to LOVE about First

by Brooke Hutson Gibson



There are a group of volunteers that are vital to our logistics on Sunday mornings. They greet you with a smile and "Good Morning," and patiently wait for you and your family to load and unload the shuttle bus.

"With limited parking on Sunday mornings, our shuttle drivers are faithful to serve each week so people can attend Sunday School and worship," said Robert Allen, administrative pastor. "I'm thankful for all who are serving and have served over the past 12 years. In all that time, not one has failed to drive on their assigned Sunday!"

*Special thanks to our current drivers on Sunday mornings: Jared Brownlee, Jeff Busby, Hal Davis, Jonathan Etheridge, Jamie Hopson, Patrick Mooney, Bubba Robinson and Alan Smith! Your faithfulness to serve is just one more thing to love about First!*

[gotofirst.org/more](http://gotofirst.org/more)



# NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

**THURSDAY, MAY 5**

Lunch at FBC: Serving will begin at 11 a.m.

Program on the south lawn of the Courthouse  
on the Square from 12:15 p.m.

**FBC Prayer Watch Hours at the Courthouse on the Square**

**May 3: Youth and parents: 7-8 p.m.**

**College students: 11 p.m.-midnight**

**May 4 : General church membership: 3-4 a.m. and 9-10 a.m.**

## Prove the Tithe Day • Sunday, May 7

The goal for the day is to take God at His Word and bring the tithe. God says to “test Me now in this. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this, says the Lord of host, if I will open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows.” — MALACHI 3:10



## *A Night of Encouragement*

**WITH DR. STEVE GAINES**

**Wednesday, May 24**

**5 p.m. Catfish supper in Fellowship Hall**  
(kids choice available)

**6:30 p.m. Worship Service**

*Dr. Gaines is the senior pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova, TN and current president of the Southern Baptist Convention.*


## COLLEGE NEWS

@FBCOxfordCM

FBC Oxford College Ministry

**Late Night Pancake Study Break May 8** at 9 p.m. FBC Fellowship Hall

# PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S NEWS

 [FirstBaptistOxfordPreschoolMinistry](#)  
Follow us on facebook

 [FirstBaptistOxfordChildrensMinistry](#)  
Follow us on facebook

***Children's Choir Spring Night of Worship***  
**May 7 at 6 p.m.** with a fellowship to follow

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**June 5-9** 9 a.m.-noon



**Open to all kids completing  
Kindergarten-6th grades**

**Volunteers and Kids: Register at [gotofirst.org](http://gotofirst.org)**

Are you telling me some people don't want to help in the nursery? Are they crazy? Have they seen how **CUTE I am?**

***Volunteers are needed!***

Please sign up for Extended Session at the Preschool Desk or email [koverall@gotofirst.org](mailto:koverall@gotofirst.org)



**FBC is hosting the baby bassinet in May to benefit Sav-a-Life.**



Needs include diapers sizes 1, 2, 3, wipes, onesies, bottles, bottle brushes, diaper bags, clothes, pacifiers, thermometers, sippy cups, powder, lotion, body wash, diaper cream, baby socks, infant fever medication, bibs, baby nail clippers, brush and comb sets.

**Bassinet will be in the atrium.**

**Library & Media Center**

*Open Sundays 9:30-11 a.m. and Wednesdays 5-7 p.m.*

We have a large selection of family night DVDs!

# MISSION & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

## TOUCHOXFORD

*Come help us reach Oxford, one touch at a time.*

Light meal at 5:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall, followed by outreach. Join us in making phone calls, writing letters, and visiting. *Preschool care begins at 5:45.*

**MONDAY, MAY 22**

*Training will be offered to new participants each week at 6 p.m.*

### **Oxford Outreach** July 9-13.

Evening Neighborhood Sports Camps in/around Oxford.



**Family Trip to New Orleans July 24-28.** Assist Live Oak Church with Vacation Bible School. \$75 per person plus meals. **REGISTER NOW** at [gotofirst.org/missions](http://gotofirst.org/missions).

### **Pray for Live Oak Church in the Elmwood area of New Orleans.**

This is our USA Missions Partner. Pray for Adam and Jessica Bourne who serve as church planters with the North American Mission Board. You can find more prayer requests for Live Oak Church at [liveoaknola.com](http://liveoaknola.com).

## OAXACA MISSIONS PARTNERSHIP

### **WOMEN'S TRIP TO OAXACA** September 23-29

\$520 (includes food and lodging) plus airfare.

Discipleship with women, cooking classes, prayer walking, children's ministry.

### **MENS TRIP TO OAXACA** October 7-13

\$520 (includes food and lodging) plus airfare.

Discipleship with men, light construction, medical opportunities.

**REGISTER NOW** at [gotofirst.org/missions](http://gotofirst.org/missions)

**Pray for the Zapotec People of the Tlacolula Valley in southern Mexico.** This is the Unreached People Group that FBC Oxford has adopted in southern Mexico for the purpose of planting new churches. The population of this people group is 99,500. There are less than 1,000 believers among this people group.

Find out about upcoming mission trips at [gotofirst.org/missions](http://gotofirst.org/missions)

## YOUTH NEWS

**Youth Crawfish Boil. May 3**  
at the Reed Farm. Leave church at 5:30 p.m.  
and return to the church at 8 pm.

**Middle School Cook-out  
and Game Night. May 21**

5-8 p.m. Quarles Hacienda.

**Big 7 Trip June 15-17**

St. Louis, MO. For all youth entering and  
finishing 7th grade. Registration continues.  
\$100 per student.

**Beach Camp 2017 June 25-30**

Panama City Beach, FL. For 7-12 graders.  
Registration continues until all spaces are  
filled \$175 per person.

**Class of 2017**

**Celebration Week May 8-14!**

**May 8** 11th/12th grade Bible Study will  
celebrate our graduates!

**May 9** Memory Table Set up in the  
Atrium. 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

**May 10** Graduation Banquet. 6 p.m. in the  
Youth Suite

**May 14** Graduate Recognition during  
morning worship services.

**Lafayette High School  
Graduation. Thursday, May 18**

**Oxford High School  
Graduation. Friday, May 26**

## MEN'S MINISTRY NEWS [mm@gotofirst.org](mailto:mm@gotofirst.org)

Fundraiser to purchase equipment

spaghetti lunch

**SUNDAY, JUNE 4**

**\$10/plate or \$30 family cap**

*To go plates starting at 11 a.m. Sit down or to go after Noon*



**MEN'S MINISTRY** **DOOR PRIZES!**

**4-MAN GOLF SCRAMBLE**

**Saturday, June 10**

**8 a.m. - shotgun start • University Golf Course**

*Don't forget to sign up (or invite a friend to sign up)!*

\$16 cart fee for course members / \$46 cart fee for course non-members

Register at the church office or contact Timothy Gibson at [tgibson@gotofirst.org](mailto:tgibson@gotofirst.org).  
The cut-off date to sign up is Sunday, June 4th.



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