

# The Messenger



## from the Pastor

Happy New Year!

*“Teach us to number our days,  
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.”*

— Psalm 90:12

I love time-travel fiction. I enjoy stories of people who go back in time hoping to change the past. Taking a peek into the future also seems appealing. However in these stories, time travel almost never works out as well as hoped.

As we begin 2019, the Bible gives us a word of instruction for the New Year. Here it is: Live a Day at a Time. Psalm 90:12 calls it ‘numbering our days.’ Make each day count.

Easier said than done?

Here’s the good news. Notice that the verse is a prayer. The Psalmist, Moses, is asking God to teach all the people, including him, to make every day count. I think this means that we can learn to make our days count because God will teach us.

Notice the goal, ‘that we may gain a heart of wisdom.’ The word for ‘heart’ is not the word for the organ in our chest that pumps our blood, but the word for our ‘inner self’; our soul. ‘Wisdom’ here is the knowledge of God’s ways. Therefore the goal is that our soul gains knowledge of the ways of God. Talk about making a day count!

Perhaps in the past you’ve neglected your soul’s health. There’s no need to hop in a time machine and try to change the past. Instead, decide today to do something that nurtures your spirit. Reading the Bible, praying, worshipping all help our spirit soar. You will likely find the time you spend with God is the most meaningful part of your day.

Let’s make Psalm 90:12 our prayer for 2019.

*Don*



## FIRST BAPTIST *Oxford*

800 Van Buren Ave., Oxford MS 38655 ■ 662.234.3515

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

# January

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

## JANUARY 1

*New Year's Day*

*Church office closed*

## JANUARY 6

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

## JANUARY 8

11 a.m. XYZ Program & Luncheon  
Noon Prayer Meeting

## JANUARY 9

6:40 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

## JANUARY 13

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

## JANUARY 15

Noon Prayer Meeting

## JANUARY 16

6:40 a.m. Men's Explorer's Bible Study  
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal  
5:30 p.m. AWANA: Can Can 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

## JANUARY 17

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

## JANUARY 18-19

True Story Conference for Students

## JANUARY 18

6 p.m. Men's Ministry Bowling Night

## JANUARY 20

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

## JANUARY 21 *Martin Luther King Jr. Day*

*Church office closed*

## JANUARY 22

Noon Prayer Meeting  
4:30 p.m. GriefShare

## JANUARY 23

6:40 a.m. Men's Explorer's Bible Study  
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal  
5:30 p.m. AWANA: WUTS Up 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

## XYZ Senior Adult Program and Luncheon

**Tuesday, January 8 at 11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall**

We will begin with hymn singing led by Keith McGregor. Greg McDaniel will present an educational program on long term care.

*A delicious meal will be provided. Invite a friend and join us.*

# Our Family

## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. We know if hurts, and we want to help.

### GriefShare

**beginning  
Tuesday, January 22**  
from 4:30-6 p.m.

in the old church office building  
across Van Buren Ave.

**For more information, contact  
Dr. Glenn Waller at (662)701-7226**



## JANUARY 27

- 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. Sunday PM for Youth
- 5 p.m. Children's Choir
- 5 p.m. Life University Classes
- 6 p.m. Quarterly Business Meeting

## JANUARY 29

- Noon Prayer Meeting
- 4:30 p.m. GriefShare

## JANUARY 30

- 6:40 a.m. Men's Explorer's Bible Study
- 5 p.m. Fellowship Meal
- 5:30 p.m. AWANA: WUTS Up 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

## Sunday school attendance

December 2 - 554      December 9 - 508

## Budget Dec. 2 and 9, 2018

Budget	\$100,597.37
Building	\$1,065.00
Designated	\$26,457.00
Total	\$128,119.37

**imb**

LOTTIE MOON  
CHRISTMAS  
OFFERING®

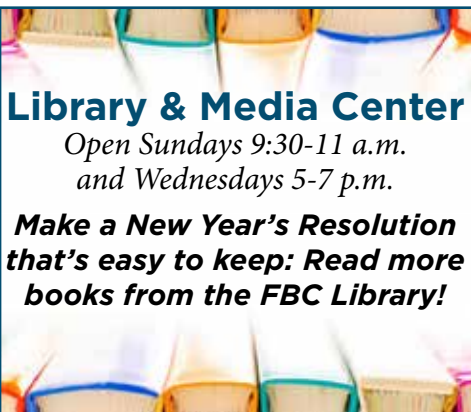
**FBC Oxford Goal: \$100,000**  
**Given to Date: \$24,780**

## Deacons of the Week

- Dec. 30-  
Jan. 5** Michael Ferris, Paxton Little,  
Michael Meurrier
- Jan. 6-12** Ryan Overall, Jason Simon,  
Kevin Bain
- Jan. 13-19** Bobby Clanton, Gary Carter,  
Brad Golmon
- Jan. 20-26** Paul Hale, Nelson Little,  
Lanny Shackelford
- Jan. 27-  
Feb. 2** Jamie Hopson, Kevin Howell,  
Martin Locke

## Our Sympathy

To Mrs. Pam Locke & family in the loss of her father, Mr. Robert O. McFarling, Jr. ("Mac").



### Library & Media Center

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

***Make a New Year's Resolution  
that's easy to keep: Read more  
books from the FBC Library!***

# MISSION & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

**Brazil Church Planting Trip. June 8-16.** Approximately \$2200 per person.  
Fundraising help available.

**Retreat For Missionary Kids. Panama (Central America).  
June 20-27.** Cost is approximately \$1500 per person.



## Small Change for Small People

Support Oxford's Sav-a-Life by filling a baby bottle with change. Bottles will be available for pick up in the atrium beginning Sanctity of Life Sunday, January 20.  
*Mission sponsored by Karis / Sunday School class.*

## STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS

A MAVEN STUDENT CONFERENCE...

# TRUE STORY.

## JANUARY 18-19

North Oxford Baptist Church

*Early registration is \$39. \$49 after January 15.*

Our young people need to know that Christianity is not a childhood fable but the true story of the world. It's the truth about all of reality. But we must go beyond merely teaching them what to believe, we must also give them reasons why they should believe it. They need powerful evidence that the gospel is actually true. And finally, they must see how God's truth touches real life. Every aspect of it.

### SESSION TOPICS:

- The Story of Truth:** Is there truth and how does it transform us?
- The Story of God:** Is God really out there and how do we know?
- The Story of Scripture:** Is the Bible an authority from God?
- The Story of Life:** How do we bring justice to the most vulnerable of society...the unborn?

Details and registration at [www.truestoryconference.com](http://www.truestoryconference.com)



6-week courses, Sundays from 5-6 p.m.

## SPRING 2019

January 13, 20, 27 | February 10, 17, 24

### CHRISTOLOGY: Doctrine of Christ

*Facilitator: Jim Propes*

The virgin birth. Fully God and fully man. Offices of prophet, priest, and king. Atoning death, victorious resurrection, visible ascension, and conquering return. The study of the doctrine of Christ provides a sound overview of who Christ is and what He has done in relation to who He beckons us to be as disciples.

### EPHESIANS: Our Calling, Our Conduct

*Facilitator: Bobby Clanton*

Paul's letter to Ephesus is equally divided into two parts. The first three chapters deal with how God calls us to a life of discipleship. The last three chapters outline how God expects us to live as disciples. In this study, we will canvas the calling on our lives into the church coupled with the expected conduct of our lives as members in the church.

### JAMES: Live What You Have Learned

*Facilitator: Jack Schultz*

The book of James is written to believers in order to challenge them to an authentic life of discipleship. Join us as we seek to live what we have learned of Christ so as to further grow in faith, wisdom, love, and ACTION!

### Couple's Study: Loving One Another in a Christ-like Fashion

*Facilitators: Don & Melinda Gann with Timothy & Brooke Gibson*

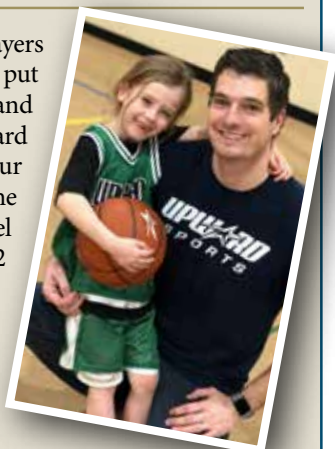
Life in relationship with others can prove hard, especially when it involves the intimacy of marriage. But the intimacy of marriage in many ways provides a picture of the intimacy of Christ with His church. Whether you are single, dating, married for a short time, or married for a long time, this study holds relevance for you in your life of discipleship.

## More to LOVE about First

*by Brooke Hutson Gibson*

The CLC will be bustling on Saturdays with little basketball players and their families cheering them on. **Daniel Denton** has put in a lot of time and energy promoting, recruiting coaches and volunteers, and coordinating schedules for this year's Upward Basketball program. Upward is a wonderful outreach to our community as it not only teaches basketball skills, but the Gospel and the importance of Christ-like character. Daniel and his wife Tiffany have been active members at FBC for 12 years. They are the proud parents of three daughters, Gray, Trudie and Sarah Caroline. In addition to Upward, Daniel serves in our men's ministry and AWANA.

*Dads who faithfully serve in our children's and outreach ministries are one more thing to love about First.*



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

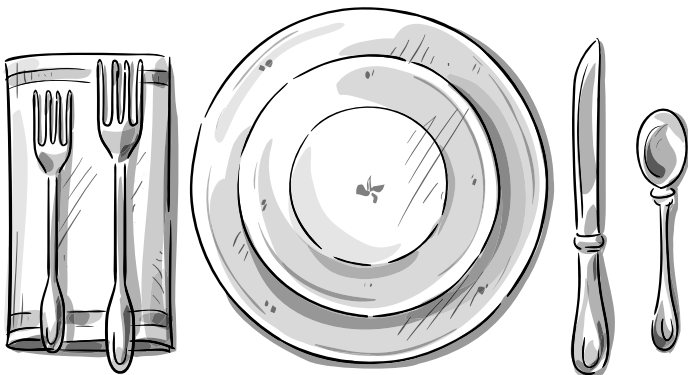
# Dinners for **8** FEBRUARY 3

12:30-2:30 p.m. or 5:30-7:30 p.m.

**Join our fellowship in coming together  
in one another's homes to share  
a meal in a small group setting.**

***To participate, sign up by January 27.***

**Contact Pastor Timothy at [tgibson@gotofirst.org](mailto:tgibson@gotofirst.org)  
or 662-234-3515 or sign up online at  
[www.gotofirst.org](http://www.gotofirst.org).**



## MEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

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

### Bowling Night

Friday, January 18 at 6 p.m. Email [mm@gotofirst.org](mailto:mm@gotofirst.org) for more info.



## MEN ON MISSION CONFERENCE

**February 9-10**  
**FBC Fellowship Hall**

*Tickets: \$15*

GUEST SPEAKER:

**Ken Miller**

Minister to Men at Christ Chapel  
Bible Church in Fort Worth, Texas



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

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

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

### Monthly Book Club

Thursday, January 17 at 6:30 p.m. January book: *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen. Email [wmin@gotofirst.org](mailto:wmin@gotofirst.org) for more info.



**Save the Date**

*Going* **BEYOND**  
SIMULCAST

with **PRISCILLA SHIRER**

**Saturday, April 6 • 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**

Details at [gotofirst.org/beyond](http://gotofirst.org/beyond)

# PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S NEWS



Early enrollment for FBC families for the 2019-20 school year will be January 24-31.

Call or email Kristen for more info, (662) 801-4487 or koverall@gotofirst.org

Preschool & Children's Departments

**PARENTS' NIGHT OUT**  
February 15 • 6-9 p.m.

Sign up starts January 27!

baby  
dedication March 3

Sign up with Lauren (lhill@gotofirst.org)



**Children's  
Mission Camp**  
**JUNE 27-29, 2019**

**Open to all kids in grades 2-6. Cost: \$120**  
*\$60 Non-refundable deposit due by February 3!*

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



Central Hills Baptist Retreat, West, MS 39192