

The Messenger

APRIL 2016
Vol. 58 No. 4



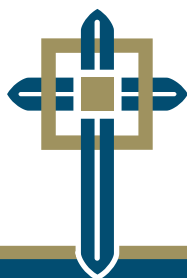
from the Pastor

Ascension Island is a tiny outcropping of volcanic rock in the dead center of the vast stretch of the Atlantic Ocean separating South America and Africa. Although quite small and virtually devoid of flora and fauna, it has had an outsized strategic significance since its discovery by Portuguese sailors on Ascension Day, 1503. Its location midway between the Old and New Worlds has made it critical for shipping, communication, and defense. The GPS that functions on your smart phone is linked to five antennas positioned around the globe. One of those antennas is on Ascension Island. Great military operations have launched from it, the most famous of which was the West Africa Squadron, a group of ships that, from 1808 to 1860, rescued 150,000 Africans from the horrific “middle passage” and lives of slavery in the Americas. For years, it was the location of an emergency landing strip for NASA’s Space Shuttle program.

The Ascension of Christ operates in the life of the believer much the same as the tiny Island which bears its name. We often struggle to connect with the significance of the resurrection of Christ across the vast sea of history that separates us from it. The fact, however, that the Resurrected Christ sits even now at the right hand of the Father providing supply, intercession, and rescue gives us hope and help even when we lose our way. Even though Easter has passed, don’t let the living reality of its truth drift away from you. The Ascended Christ is your resting place, your communication point, and your source of freedom at this and every moment.

In Christ,

Bro. Eric



FIRST BAPTIST *Oxford*

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800 Van Buren Ave., Oxford MS 38655  662.234.3515

FREE app "First Baptist Oxford MS"



April

Check out featured events at www.gotofirst.org

APRIL 3

8:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes
11 a.m. Worship Service
3:30 p.m. Children's Church Drill
4:15 p.m. Youth Church Drill
5 p.m. Children's Choir
5 p.m. Student Worship Arts Group (SWAG)
5 p.m. Life U: The Mind of Christ
6 p.m. Evening Worship

APRIL 4

5:30 p.m. Touch Oxford (*Preschool and Adults*)

APRIL 5

11 a.m. XYZ Program & Luncheon

APRIL 6

Noon Prayer Meeting
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal
5:30 p.m. AWANA
6 p.m. Adult Bible Study
6 p.m. Women's Explorers Bible Study
6 p.m. English as a Second Language
6 p.m. Rev.o.lu.tion Youth Worship
6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. Band Rehearsal

APRIL 8

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

APRIL 10

8:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes
11 a.m. Worship Service
1:30 p.m. Associational Bible Drill
at FBC Abbeville
5 p.m. Children's Choir
5 p.m. Student Worship Arts Group (SWAG)
5 p.m. Life U: The Mind of Christ
6 p.m. Evening Worship
6:45 p.m. Mission Trips Interest Meeting

APRIL 11

5:30 p.m. Touch Oxford (*Children and Adults*)

APRIL 13

Noon Prayer Meeting
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal
5:30 p.m. AWANA
6 p.m. Adult Bible Study
6 p.m. Women's Explorers Bible Study
6 p.m. English as a Second Language
6 p.m. Rev.o.lu.tion Youth Worship
6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. Band Rehearsal

APRIL 14

2 p.m. State Bible Drill at Harrisburg Baptist Church in Tupelo

APRIL 17

8:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes
11 a.m. Worship Service
4 p.m. VBS Directors Meeting
5 p.m. Children's Choir
5 p.m. Student Worship Arts Group (SWAG)
5 p.m. Life U: The Mind of Christ
6 p.m. Evening Worship
7 p.m. Quarterly Business Meeting

APRIL 18

5:30 p.m. Touch Oxford (*Youth and Adults*)

APRIL 19

9:30 a.m. Inmon Circle in the Conference Room

APRIL 20

Noon Prayer Meeting
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal
5:30 p.m. AWANA
6 p.m. Adult Bible Study
6 p.m. Women's Explorers Bible Study
6 p.m. English as a Second Language
6 p.m. Rev.o.lu.tion Youth Worship
6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. Band Rehearsal

APRIL 23

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Double Decker Fun Zone

Our Family

APRIL 24

8:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes
11 a.m. Worship Service
5 p.m. Children's Choir
6 p.m. Summer Missionary
Commissioning Ceremony

APRIL 27

Noon Prayer Meeting
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal
5:30 p.m. AWANA
6 p.m. Adult Bible Study
6 p.m. English as a Second Language
6 p.m. Rev.o.lu.tion Youth Worship
6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. Band Rehearsal

**ANNIE
ARMSTRONG
EASTER OFFERING**
First Baptist Oxford Goal: \$20,016

Sunday school attendance

March 6 - 585 March 20 - 583
March 13 - 468

Budget for March 6-20, 2016

Budget	\$130,466.22
Building	\$6,739.33
Designated	\$3,057.91
Total	\$140,263.46
Building Fund to date	\$5,777,422.57

April Deacons of the Week

**Mar. 27-
April 2** Walter Locke, Rick Mize,
Mark Moore
April 3-9 Jim Vinson, Glenn Wilson,
Hank Addy
April 10-16 Bobby Clanton, Derrell
Doss, Jeff Evans
April 17-23 Brad Golmon, Victor New-
ell, Brian Harvey
April 24-30 Larry Little, Mark Moore,
Mike Quarles

New Members

Warren and Amanda Brandon

Congratulations

To Jessi and Erik Tolleson on the birth of a son, **Reed Hooper Tolleson.**

Our Sympathy

To Dr. Jeanette Phillips and family in the loss of her husband, Mr. Jesse P. Phillips.

To Mr. Tim Phillips and family in the loss of his father, Mr. Jesse P. Phillips.

To Mr. Andy Phillips and family in the loss of his father, Mr. Jesse P. Phillips.

To Mrs. Joanna Porter and family in the loss of her mother, Mrs. Rebecca Anne Floyd.

To Robert Stonestreet, Cheryl Ledford, and Joann Evans and family in the loss of their aunt, Mrs. Ruth King.

To Mrs. Beth Allen and family in the loss of her aunt, Mrs. Florence McKeever.

TOUCH OXFORD

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.*

WEEKLY FOCUS:

April 4 Preschool & Adults **April 11** Children & Adults **April 18** Youth & Adults
Training will be offered to new participants each week at 6 p.m.

Bulletin Board



XYZ Senior Adult Program and Lunch

Tuesday, April 5 at 11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Singing hymns led by Tom Barrett. Will Kollmeyer, member of the Ole Miss play-by-play team for the SEC Network, will present the program.

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

Library & Media Center

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

NEW BOOKS: *The Insanity of God* by Nik Ripken and Barry Stricker
The Insanity of Obedience by Nik Ripken and Barry Stricker
Count It All Joy by David Jeremiah, *Moving Mountains* by John Eldredge
A Treasure Concealed by Tracie Peterson



OXFORD Lovepacks

For the month of April, we will be collecting **16 oz. peanut butter for Lovepacks.** A collection box is in the Atrium.



KAIROS WEEKEND APRIL 27-30

Parchman Prison

For more information, contact Kevin Howell at 662.816.3101

Mission Trip Interest Meeting for ALL trips

April 10 at 6:45 p.m. in the Atrium

UPCOMING TRIPS INCLUDE:

July 24-27: Family Mission Trip to New Orleans, to lead a Vacation Bible Club for Live Oak Church.

October 22-29: Medical Trip to Oaxaca, Mexico, to minister in villages of our adopted people group, the Zapotec of the Tlacolula Valley. You do not have to have medical training to be an important part of the team.

Date TBA: Trip to Syrian Refugee Camps in Europe. Opportunity to send a small team to work among the camps with IMB missionaries.

Rescue Plan bracelets are available through Kings Witness:
www.kingswitness.com/collections/witness-wear-2-share



PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S NEWS

 **FirstBaptistOxfordPreschoolMinistry**
Follow us on facebook

 **FirstBaptistOxfordChildrensMinistry**
Follow us on facebook

Preschool Department

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT
April 8 • 6-9 p.m.

For preschoolers (*infants-4 years*) and siblings through 2nd grade

Sign up at the Preschool Desk.

For questions, koverall@gotofirst.org

April 23

Double Decker FUN ZONE

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Join us outside the CLC for some family fun on your way to the Double Decker Festival!

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



FBC Children's Choir will present



May 13 & 15 at 6 p.m.

Vacation Bible School

June 6-10

9 a.m.-noon



Open to all kids currently in K-6th grades

YOUTH NEWS

 [@FBCOxfordSM](https://twitter.com/FBCOxfordSM)

COLLEGE NEWS

 [@FBCOxfordCM](https://twitter.com/FBCOxfordCM)

 [FBC Oxford College Ministry](https://www.facebook.com/FBCOxfordCollegeMinistry)



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