

# The Messenger

APRIL 2017  
Vol. 59 No. 4

## *A Word from the Education Pastor*

One of the things I most love about First Baptist Church-Oxford is the way people serve here. I look around and I see people faithfully plugging into ministries about which they are passionate. It brings joy to my heart.

My wife recently has felt a call to serve as a foster parent or to try to adopt a little girl. To date, I have not felt the same call. Something of such a magnitude clearly requires much prayer and demands that Brooke and I are in step with one another. After all, it would be a significant ministerial undertaking.

Every ministerial undertaking requires much prayer. Amen?! Nevertheless, we always need to be mindful of the ministries to which God wants our hearts open.

Right now we have a need with a particular ministry in our congregation. We have a wonderful boy desiring the influence of an adult male figure to teach him how to hunt, how to fish, etc., and how to grow in Christ. Are there some men in our church — regardless of age — who would contemplate whether or not the Lord would have them to step up as a “Father in the Field?”

Pray about serving in this way. If the Lord presses upon your heart such an opportunity, contact me so that I can put you in touch with David Erhart.

I am a big proponent for every Christian to have a plus-1 in his or her life. All plus-1 means is that, as a Jesus follower, you are taking time to allow your God-given skills and passions to intersect with a ministerial need beyond the Sunday morning worship service.

*What's your plus-1?*

*Dr. Timothy S. Gibson*



## FIRST BAPTIST *Oxford*

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**FREE app "First Baptist Oxford MS"**



# April

## APRIL 2

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- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service  
9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes  
11 a.m. Worship Service, *Baby Dedication*  
3 p.m. Grief Share  
4 p.m. Church Drill: Children & Youth  
5 p.m. Children's Choir  
5 p.m. Youth Worship Ensemble  
5 p.m. Life U: All In  
6 p.m. Evening Worship

## APRIL 4

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- 11 a.m. XYZ Program & Luncheon

## APRIL 5

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- Noon Prayer Meeting  
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal  
5:30 p.m. AWANA: Backwards Night  
6 p.m. Rev.o.lu.tion Youth Worship  
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. Choir Rehearsal  
7:15 p.m. Band Rehearsal

## APRIL 8

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- 10 a.m. Preschool Eggstravaganza

## APRIL 9

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- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service  
9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
2 p.m. Associational Bible Drill  
at FBC Abbeville  
3 p.m. Grief Share  
5 p.m. Children's Choir  
5 p.m. Youth Worship Ensemble  
5 p.m. Life U: All In  
6 p.m. Evening Worship

## APRIL 10

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- 5:30 p.m. Outreach: Preschool, Children,  
Adults

## APRIL 12

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- Noon Prayer Meeting  
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal  
5:30 p.m. AWANA  
6 p.m. Rev.o.lu.tion Youth Worship  
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. Choir Rehearsal  
7:15 p.m. Band Rehearsal

## APRIL 13

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- 6 p.m. Lord's Supper Service

## APRIL 14

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*Church office closed*

*Good Friday*

## APRIL 16

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*Easter Sunday*

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

## APRIL 19

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- Noon Prayer Meeting  
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal  
5:30 p.m. AWANA  
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

## APRIL 20

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- 2 p.m. State Bible Drill

## APRIL 23

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- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service  
9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
3 p.m. Grief Share  
5 p.m. An Afternoon of Worship at North  
Oxford Baptist Church

## APRIL 24

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- 5:30 p.m. Outreach: Youth, College, Adults

## APRIL 26

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- Noon Prayer Meeting  
5 p.m. Fellowship Meal  
5:30 p.m. AWANA: Store Night  
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

## APRIL 29

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- 10 a.m. Double Decker Fun Zone

## APRIL 30

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- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service  
9:45 a.m. Bible Study classes  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
3 p.m. Grief Share  
5 p.m. Children's Choir  
5 p.m. Youth Worship Ensemble  
5 p.m. Life U: All In  
6 p.m. Evening Worship  
*Quarterly Business Meeting following  
the service.*

# Our Family

## Sunday school attendance

March 5 - 475	March 19 - 487
March 12 - 395	March 26 - 521

## Budget March 2017

Budget	\$125,838.20
Building	\$3,541.83
Designated	\$2,843.91
Total	\$132,223.94
Building Fund to date	\$5,841,020.51

**ANNIE  
ARMSTRONG**  
EASTER OFFERING  
First Baptist Oxford Goal: \$24,000

## April Deacons of the Week

**April 2-8** Brian Harvey, Mark Moore,  
Mike Quarles

**April 9-15** Dan Reed, Chris Riley,  
Brodie Burns

**April 16-22** Ben Hellums, Walter Locke,  
Thomas Herrington

**April 23-29** Rick Mize, Breese Quinn,  
Jim Vinson

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

## New Members Feb. 26-Mar. 12

Samantha & Earl Dismuke, Jake Mooney,  
June & Robert Pryor

## Library & Media Center

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

We have a large selection of  
Easter books for children.



## Congratulations

To Fair & Taylor Jones on the birth of a daughter, **Lillian Fair Jones**. Big brother is Leo. Proud great-grandparents are Sammie & Devon Jones.

To Corie & Dave Miller on the birth of a daughter, **Saoirse Joan Miller**. Big brother is Beren.

To Andrea & Luke Bynum on the birth of a daughter, **Rosemary Anne Bynum**. Big brother is Grayton.

## Our Sympathy

To Mrs. Amanda Brandon & family in the loss of her sister, Michelle Johnson Kalifah.

To Mrs. Sharron Pennington & family in the loss of her mother, Mrs. Louise McGonagil.

To Mrs. Betty Wiseman & family in the loss of her sister, Mrs. Joy Jean Bruce.

To Mrs. Linda Ward & family in the loss of her cousin, Mrs. Elizabeth Mann.

To Mrs. Angelia Wiggins & family in the loss of her mother, Mrs. Janet McKee.

To Heather Moffatt, Haley Murphy & family in the loss of their grandmother, Mrs. Janet McKee.

To Mr. Thomas Herrington & family in the loss of his grandfather, Mr. Robert R. Herrington, Jr.

To Mr. Hal Davis & family in the loss of his mother, Mrs. Diane Sanford.

To Mrs. Beth Allen & family in the loss of her aunt, Mrs. Ruby Erwin.

To Mrs. Joyce Fitzgibbons & family in the loss of her sister, Mrs. Dianne Barlow.

To Pene Russell, Kathleen Taylor, Al Wilkinson & family in the loss of their father, Mr. Wayne Wilkinson.

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

# XYZ Senior Adult Program and Luncheon

Tuesday, April 4 at 11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Our speaker is **Charlie Spillers**, author of *Confessions of an Undercover Agent: Adventures and Close Calls*. His book highlights selected experiences he had in Mississippi and Louisiana, told with drama and humor. Singing at 11, and lunch is served at noon.

*Invite a friend and join us.*

## MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

### SEND NEW ORLEANS PARTNERSHIP

#### High School Mission Trip to New Orleans/Live Oak Church.

April 21-23. Limited to 10 students. Cost is \$25 plus food costs.

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

**Touch Oxford. April 10** for preschool and children and adults. **April 24** for youth, college, and adults.

**Easter Outreach.** Pick up some Easter Invitations to share with your neighbors. Look for info on Sunday, April 9, in the Atrium.

**Double Decker Outreach. April 29.** We need volunteers to pass out bottles of water.



### KAIROS WEEKEND APRIL 27-30 Parchman Prison

For more information, contact Kevin Howell at 662.816.3101

## More to *LOVE* about First

by Brooke Hutson Gibson

A staple in the children's ministries at FBC-Oxford remains Vacation Bible School. At the start of June, between 200-300 children from nursery age through 6th grade flood the campus of the church to learn more about Jesus. Dina Addy says, "I just feel like God uses VBS in a powerful way in the heart of a child."

So many others in our fellowship clearly agree with Dina because it takes a large number of volunteers to make VBS a success. Last year, 120 teens and adults volunteered their time!

Vacation Bible School this year is June 5-9, and our theme is "Galactic Starveyors: Discovering the God of the Universe." Contact Children's Ministry Director Dina Addy about ways to get involved so that the ministry of VBS continues to be just another reason FBC offers more to love!



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

# PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S NEWS

Preschoolers, parents, and siblings please join us for

## Preschool Eggstravaganza

Saturday, April 8 • 10 a.m. at Pat Lamar Park



*Don't forget your baskets!*

*Rain location: First Baptist Christian Life Center*

**April 29 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!*

## 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 currently in K-6th grades

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



# YOUTH NEWS

## Revolution Worship

Wednesdays at 6 p.m. Our Bible Study focus is Jesus and Tough Times.

## Beach Camp 2017 June 25-30.

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

## Big 7 Trip to Saint Louis.

June 15-17. For all youth entering and finishing 7th grade. \$100 per student.

## Class of 2017

### Celebration Week May 8-14!

**April 21** Deadline for graduates to submit 9 candid photos and 1 formal photo.

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

**May 9** Memory Table Set up in the Atrium. 9 am until 4 pm.

**May 10** Celebration Banquet. 6 pm.

**May 14** Graduate Celebration Worship Service. 11 am.