

the grapevine

January 2016 | Monthly Newsletter of Oxford United Methodist Church



A Message from Pastor John

By the time you read this article I will be on sabbatical. Every seven years a pastor is supposed to take some time off in order to become refreshed to continue the work in which he is engaged. I have been a pastor for thirty-six years and have never taken one. Most of my friends who have taken a sabbatical do so for a period of two or three months. I recently requested of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee that I have such a time. They graciously consented. I will begin my renewal time after the Christmas Eve services and will be back in the office February 29. During this period of time I will basically be out of touch with the church. The retired pastors of the church, Doug Boldt and Michelle Carey will be picking up the slack during my absence. Carl Taylor, Tom Jackson, Shirley Hill, Pete Peterson, Doug Boldt will be preaching and doing the other things that pastors do. Shirley will be coming to the office about three days a week. Carl will be making most of the hospital calls. I appreciate very much their stepping in to take over my tasks while I am away.

During my time off I will be doing some traveling, reading some books, and doing other things to get myself into shape to take up my tasks in March with renewed vigor. I know that you will be supporting the church and my fellow ministers by your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. This is a time for you to step up in ministry and assume responsibilities for the continuing ministry of the church in ways that you perhaps have not been doing up until now. The staff at the church will undoubtedly be tasked with things that they have not done before. They may need more volunteers to help them. We have the witness of other pastors who took this kind of time off that their churches, by not depending so much upon their pastors, became more active churches. I count on that happening with us.

Much love,
Pastor John

January 2016 Preaching Schedule

Sunday, January 3

9:15 am - Rev. Carl Taylor

11:30 am - Rev. Tom Jackson

Sunday, January 10

Michelle Carey preaching both services

Sunday, January 17

9:15 am - Rev. Pete Peterson

11:30 am - Rev. Tom Jackson

Sunday, January 24

Rev. Douglas Boldt preaching both services

Sunday, January 31

Rev. Shirley Hill preaching both services



Start the New Off Right with Zumba!

Hey Ladies! Let's Zumba!
Wednesday nights at 7 pm in the Family Life Center. Classes are FREE and open to all women of the church. Dress comfortably.

No experience necessary!

Bring a Friend!

Childcare is available by RSVP to michelle@oxfordumc.org



Kids' Night Out is Friday, January 8 from 6 pm—10 pm. Please RSVP no later than Thursday, January 7 by calling the church office,



Beth Youell's baby girl Kelly Grace was born on December 3 weighing 7 lbs. 3 oz. and 20 inches long. Baby Kelly has been to church already! Praise God!



2016 Church Council Planning Session

The Church Council will be having its annual planning and scheduling meeting on Saturday, January 16 beginning at 8:30 am. The planning session will take place in the Family Life Center. This is always an important visioning and planning meeting in the life of our congregation. Annual events that have not been well-supported may be dropped or modified and new and exciting events may be created and scheduled to take their place. All members of the Council are strongly encouraged to attend. Bring your ideas, insights, and your 2016 calendars! You are welcome to bring breakfast items or snacks to share.



The Tuesday Women's Bible Study will kick off on Tuesday, January 26 at 10:30 am in the Choir Room. The Study is to be announced. Stay Tuned!



Final Consecration Sunday Results											
108	Number of giving units completing estimate of giving cards										
\$346,714	Total amount of 2016 general fund estimate of giving cards										
\$1,820	Median amount of 2016 general fund estimate of giving cards										
List of 2016 estimates of giving by amount											
1.	\$22,000	19.	\$5,400	37.	\$2,880	55.	\$1,820	73.	\$1,200	91.	\$600
2.	\$21,600	20.	\$5,200	38.	\$2,880	56.	\$1,800	74.	\$1,200	92.	\$520
3.	\$16,800	21.	\$5,000	39.	\$2,860	57.	\$1,800	75.	\$1,200	93.	\$520
4.	\$11,100	22.	\$4,980	40.	\$2,760	58.	\$1,800	76.	\$1,040	94.	\$520
5.	\$10,200	23.	\$4,680	41.	\$2,760	59.	\$1,800	77.	\$1,040	95.	\$520
6.	\$10,000	24.	\$4,680	42.	\$2,700	60.	\$1,560	78.	\$1,040	96.	\$520
7.	\$9,360	25.	\$4,500	43.	\$2,600	61.	\$1,500	79.	\$1,020	97.	\$520
8.	\$9,100	26.	\$4,420	44.	\$2,600	62.	\$1,500	80.	\$900	98.	\$520
9.	\$9,000	27.	\$4,160	45.	\$2,400	63.	\$1,500	81.	\$900	99.	\$520
10.	\$8,100	28.	\$3,900	46.	\$2,400	64.	\$1,500	82.	\$840	100.	\$520
11.	\$7,800	29.	\$3,640	47.	\$2,340	65.	\$1,320	83.	\$780	101.	\$520
12.	\$7,280	30.	\$3,640	48.	\$2,220	66.	\$1,300	84.	\$780	102.	\$500
13.	\$6,500	31.	\$3,480	49.	\$2,100	67.	\$1,300	85.	\$780	103.	\$420
14.	\$6,500	32.	\$3,360	50.	\$2,100	68.	\$1,300	86.	\$720	104.	\$300
15.	\$6,300	33.	\$3,300	51.	\$2,080	69.	\$1,300	87.	\$600	105.	\$260
16.	\$6,300	34.	\$3,240	52.	\$2,000	70.	\$1,300	88.	\$600	106.	\$156
17.	\$6,000	35.	\$3,120	53.	\$1,820	71.	\$1,300	89.	\$600	107.	\$52
18.	\$5,400	36.	\$3,000	54.	\$1,820	72.	\$1,300	90.	\$600	108.	\$26

Noisy offering

Sunday, January 31 is a 5th Sunday! If you are new to Oxford, the “noisy offering” is when we all bring in coins to contribute to the offering. The kiddos go around the congregation in the worship services collecting the coins in metal pails and then all of the pails are emptied into a big metal washtub! It can get pretty loud the more coins you drop into the bucket! Let’s make a joyful noise on Sunday, January 31!

Prayer List

Our World
Our service men & women
Our nation & its leaders
Our Bishop & all clergy
Oxford UMC
Kairos Ministry
Shepherd Ministry
Stephen Ministry
The Residents of The Heights
Meals on Wheels clients
Christians persecuted around the world

Ongoing Prayer List:

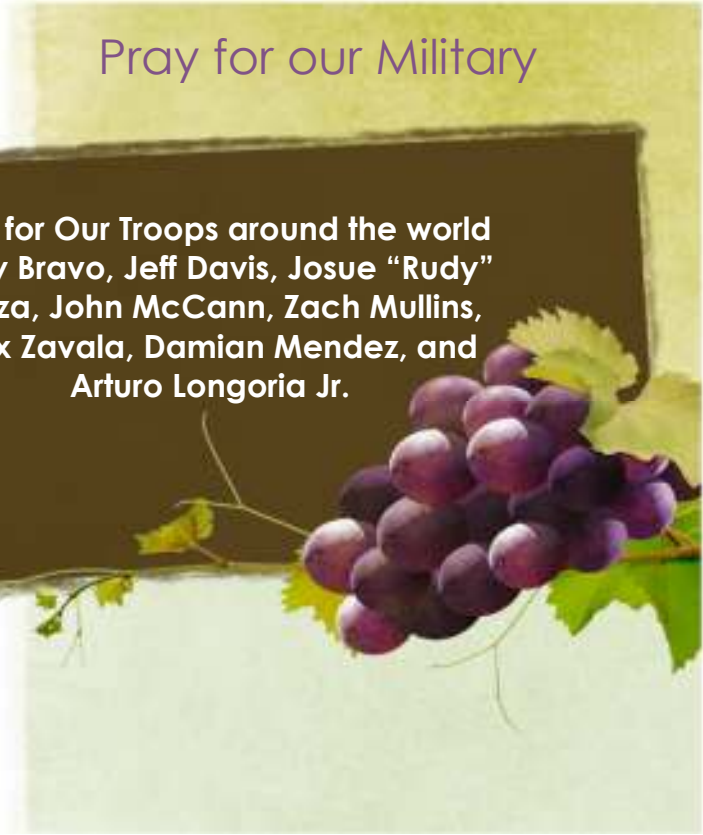
Becky & Dean Thaxton
Richard and Linda Persyn
Jackie Duke
Joyce Johnson
Jimbo Frazier
Meals on Wheels clients
Nolan & Rosalyn Hoelscher
Rev Phil Robberson
Dale Viets
Dr. Walter R.
Ernie Garibay
Carl Taylor
Bernice Adamietz
Milton & Eloise Lindemann
Tommy
Brian Flanner
Max & Barbara Maxwell
Patricia & Kevin and Family
Mary Morgan Marshall
Margaret & Jerry Mason
Susan Gaches
Peggy Fry
Gerry Rodriquez
Ruth Mayes
Rev. Taylor Boone
Ruth Martinez
Rose Cervantes

Current Prayer List:

Melissa Majeroy
Dr Bill Weise
Cheryl
Carolyn Wise
Lyle Dean and John Rosdahl
Tony Salas
People of Lindale TX
Emily
Jessica

Pray for our Military

Pray for Our Troops around the world
Andy Bravo, Jeff Davis, Josue "Rudy"
Garza, John McCann, Zach Mullins,
Alex Zavala, Damian Mendez, and
Arturo Longoria Jr.



A Message from the Alamo City Community Marching Band

One of our band members, Louis A. Arce, needs a kidney transplant. He is asking anyone who would consider being a donor to contact the Texas Transplant Institute at 210-575-4483 or www.TexasTransplant.org – thank you!

The Family of 16 yr old
Kaylee Caren
Susan Jarvis
Jacob
Nann Pritchard
Deanna Owens
David Keeler
People of San Bernadino
Jose Luis Issarraras
Lyndsay Hodges
Damara Miller and family
Worth Feurbacher
Ron Thaxton
Paul
Sarah Nielsen
Fabian
Margaret Ivens
Melinda S.
Jane Howell
Cawthon & Zepeda family
People of Chenai, India
affected by flood
Warren Ward
Micario
Helen Robinson

January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2 8 am Men's Study
3 8:30 am God's Plan 9:15 am Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 am Elevate 1 pm Youth	4 12 pm Senior Meal 2:30 pm The Heights 6:30 pm Stephen Min.	5 MDO 7:00 pm Volleyball	6 12 pm Senior Meal 2 pm Food Pantry 5:00 pm UMW Mtg. 5:30 pm Supper, Chimes 6:30 pm Choir, Youth, 7 pm Zumba	7 MDO	8 12 pm Senior Meal 6 pm Kids' Night Out	9 8 am Men's Study
10 8:30 am God's Plan 9:15 am Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 am Elevate 1 pm Youth	11 12 pm Senior Meal 2:30 pm The Heights 6:30 pm Trustees	12 MDO 7:00 pm Volleyball	13 12 pm Senior Meal 2 pm Food Pantry 4 pm Worship Comm. 5:30 pm Supper, Chimes 6:30 pm Choir, Youth 7 pm Zumba	14 MDO	15 12 pm Senior Meal	16 8 am Men's Study 8:30 am Church Council
17 8:30 am God's Plan 9:15 am Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 am Elevate 1 pm Youth	18 12 pm Senior Meal 2:30 pm The Heights	19 MDO 9:30 a. Dorcas Circle 6:30 pm Finance 7 pm Volleyball	20 12 pm Senior Meal 2 pm Food Pantry 5:30 pm Supper, Chimes 6:30 pm Choir, Youth 7 pm Zumba	21 MDO Oasis Choral Group	22 12 pm Senior Meal	23 8 am Men's Study
24 8:30 am God's Plan 9:15 am Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 am Elevate 1 pm Youth	25 12 pm Senior Meal 2:30 pm The Heights	26 MDO 10:30 am Women's study 7:00 pm Volleyball	27 12 pm Senior Meal 2 pm Food Pantry 5:30 pm Supper, Chimes 6:30 pm Choir, Youth 7 pm Zumba	28 MDO 1 pm Grapevine folding Oasis Choral Group	29 12 pm Senior Meal	30 8 am Men's Study
31 Noisy Offering 8:30 am God's Plan 9:15 am Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 am Elevate 1 pm Youth						



January



Jane Ashley joined Oxford on Sunday, December 6. She attends the 9:15 am service and is a member of the Chancel Choir. Jane sang in the 2015 Christmas Cantata! We thank God for all of our members!

Financial Report

Revenue November

36,395.52

Revenue YTD

394,063.42

Expenses November

37,364.91

Expenses YTD

415,717.51

Carey, Mia	01/01
Cervantes, Ben	01/18
Forister, Kristi	01/23
Howell, Bill	01/28
Huggins, Russell	01/23
Lee, Laine	01/12
Maxwell, Michael	01/29
Ormand, Joel	01/09
Tarr, Aaron	01/09
Tarr, Barbie	01/28
Taylor, Ruth	01/23
Wright, Kay	01/22

If we missed your Birthday this month, please send your birthday info to michelle@oxfordumc.org

Worship Attendance

November 22

9:15 a.m...95

11:30 am ...76

Nursery ...4

Total... 175

Sunday School...78

November 29

9:15.....90

11:30 a.m...68

Nursery ...4

Total162

Sunday School...69

December 6

9:15...110

11:30 a.m...91

Nursery ...10

Total ...211

Sunday School...76

December 13 (Cantata Service)

10:30 a.m...208

Nursery ...8

Total ...216

Sunday School did not meet



Silent Auction

Our Annual Silent Auction raised **\$1,739.00!** Thank you to all who donated and to all who made bids! Special thanks to **Sandra Peterson** and **Julie Thibodeaux** for making our Silent Auction so great again this year!



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The prayer shawl ministry is in need of more shawls. If you knit or crochet, we'd love to have you create some shawls that will definitely bless others who are going through a difficult time. Please bring your prayer shawls to the Education Building and place them in Kristi Forister's office.



Longtime Oxford member Angee Shelburn and Oxford member Bradley Mason were married on Saturday, December 19 at Oxford! We wish Brad and Angee a lifetime of joy and happiness!



leadership
motivation
dedication drive discipline
excellence
passion
heart

New Church Leaders for 2016

Church Council Chairperson - David Holloman

Lay Leader - Paul Peterson

Finance Committee Chairperson - Paul Peterson

Board of Trustees Chairperson - Larry Riley

Worship Committee Chairperson- Flo Jackson

S.P.R.C. Chairperson- Peggy Francis

Prayer Leader- Marty Donohue

Evangelism Leader - Javy Tamez

Missions Leader—Teresa Carper-Espino

Fellowship Leaders- Teri Boldt and Pat Hawes

Stephen Ministry Leader- Bettie Lee Wilson

Sunday School Superintendent -Patricia McFaul

Church Treasurer- Rose Eakin

Church Historian - Louise Taylor

Membership Secretary- Helen Robinson

**Lay Member Annual Conference -
Michelle Garibay-Carey and
Louise Taylor (alt.)**

UMW President - Linda Hensley

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CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

The Rev. John G. Hargis pastorjohn@oxfordumc.org

Program & Communications Director

Michelle Garibay-Carey michelle@oxfordumc.org

Youth Director and Program Assistant

Kristi Forister kristi@oxfordumc.org

Traditional Music Director

Douglas Boldt doug@oxfordumc.org

Contemporary Music Director

Pat Carey pat@oxfordumc.org

Facility Manager

Sandra Peterson sandra@oxfordumc.org

Mother's Day Out Director and Nursery Coordinator

Rosana Orr mdo@oxfordumc.org

Financial Administrator

James Minor james@oxfordumc.org

Custodian

Jose Moya

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Traditional Worship at 9:15 am

Sunday School for all ages at 10:30 am

ELEVATE Contemporary Worship at 11:30 am

○ Positive Youth at 1:00 pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday 9 am—4 pm

Office Closed Friday