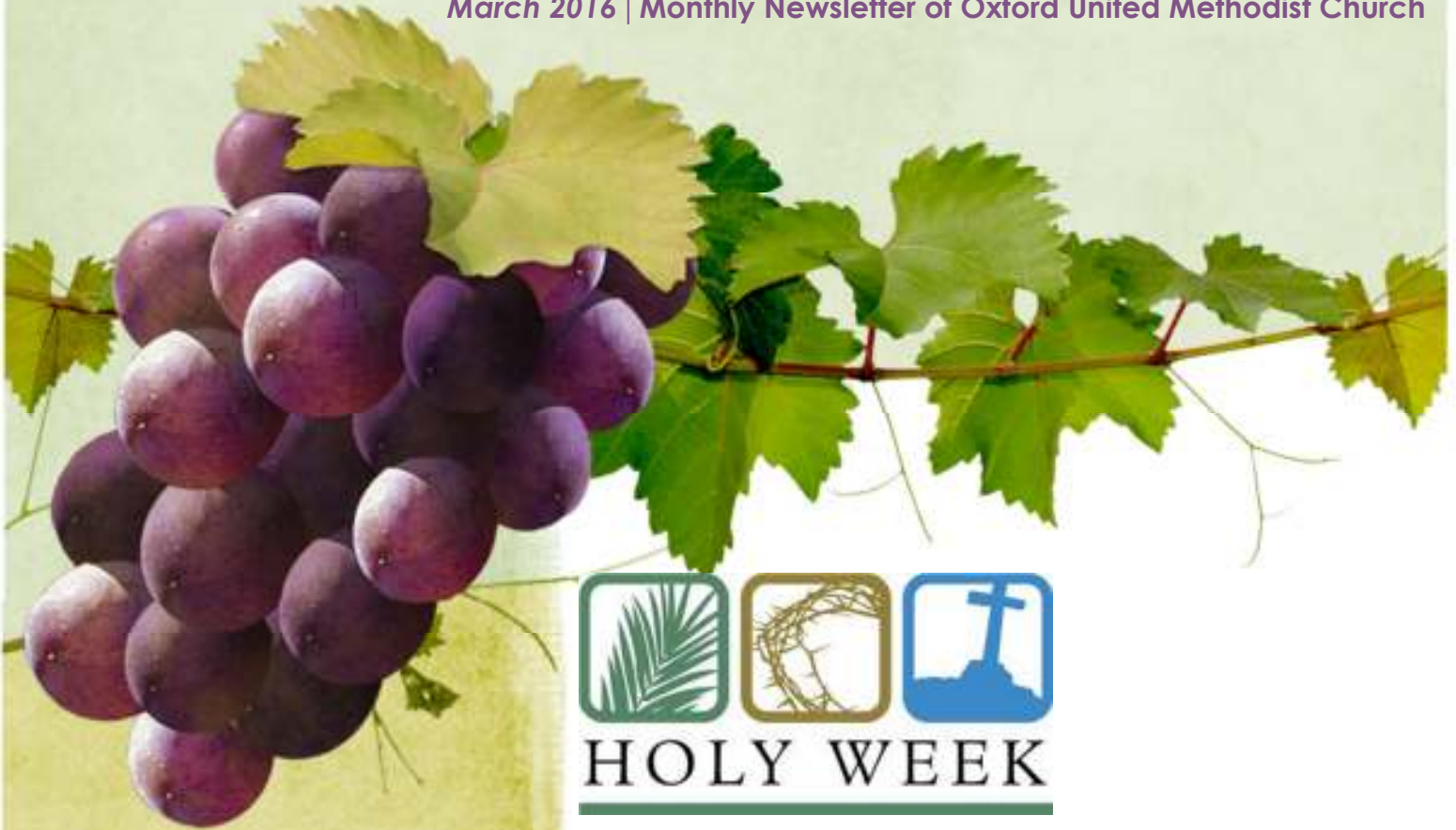


# the grapevine

March 2016 | Monthly Newsletter of Oxford United Methodist Church



## NEW United Methodist Women's Circle Forming

Peggy Francis is starting a **NEW** evening **UM** Women's Circle on Monday, April 4 @ 6:30 pm. We will start with the book Where do you Kneel? By Burt Palmer, and call ourselves the *Kneeling Sisters Circle*. Please prayerfully consider joining us as we meet monthly on the first Monday. Peggy Francis has the books available for the class. Please contact Peggy for more information at [ppfandbird@gmail.com](mailto:ppfandbird@gmail.com)

Sunday, March 20 is Palm / Passion Sunday—In our 9:15 and 11:30 am Worship Services we will have a special reading of The Passion of our Lord.

Holy Thursday, March 24 is Maundy Thursday. We will have a special presentation of The Living Last Supper at 7 pm in the Sanctuary. Holy Communion will be served.

Friday, March 25 is Good Friday. We will have a Good Friday observance in the Sanctuary beginning at 12 noon.

Easter Sunday is March 27. We will have a Cantata by the Chancel Choir at 9:15 am. We will also have a Cantata by the Elevate Team at 11:30 am.

# O<sup>+</sup> Youth Group News

The youth group's season of trips is about ready to take off! Here are some of our highlighted upcoming dates to mark on your calendars:

## March

- 12 – Youth go to the Strong Foundation for community service 9a-2pm
- 16-19: Spring Break Trip to Camp Eagle in Rocksprings, TX \$160
- 27 – Youth will be participating during the 11:30am Easter Worship Service
- 31 – Toby Mac Concert at the AT&T Center \$15

## April

- 17-May 1: Financial Peace University for 8<sup>th</sup> grade –college aged youth
- 29-30: 30 Hour Famine, Lock In and community service project

## May

- 22- Graduation Celebration
- 29- Parent's Day at Youth

## June

- 12-18: High School Mission Trip to SOS in Memphis, TN \$100

## July

- 10-13: Middle School mission trip to Mt. Wesley in Kerrville, TX \$75
- 18-22: Summer Retreat at HEB Foundation Camp Windsong, Leakey, TX \$80

***When does youth meet?*** All 6-12 grade students are welcome to come to youth group, which meets on Wednesday evenings 6:30-8 pm in the gym and Sundays at 1:00 pm in the gym (lunch provided.) For more information please contact the youth director, Kristi Forister, in the church office 210.696.0192 or email [Kristi@oxfordumc.org](mailto:Kristi@oxfordumc.org)

## \*New\* Young Adult Small Group

All Young adults 20 somethings through 30 somethings are invited to the newest Oxford small group beginning Sunday, March 13 at 10:30. We will gather in the conference room of the Education building. Join us for a DVD led discussion based small group by Dan Kimball called "They like Jesus, but not the church." Feel free to bring your coffee, breakfast and/or snacks with you. Class facilitator will be Kristi Forister. If you have children who are not currently attending Sunday School Kristi will be happy to lead you and your children to the age appropriate class and introduce you the class leader. If you have kids that are not school age yet, our Kid's Club will be open for them to play, create and learn as well. Any questions can be directed to the church office 210.696.0192 or [Kristi@oxfordumc.org](mailto:Kristi@oxfordumc.org)

## College Scholarship Applications

College Scholarship Applications will be available March 6. Currently we have three types of scholarships to offer. If you are interested please stop by the Education building; main entrance with the double doors – Folders will be on the wall to your right. Scholarship folder is located top, second row from the left. One scholarship is specifically for females. The other two are for males and females of all ages. For more information you can contact Kristi in the church office or email me at [Kristi@oxfordumc.org](mailto:Kristi@oxfordumc.org)





## KIDS' NIGHT OUT IS GREAT! DON'T MISS IT!

Kids' Night Out is Friday, March 4 from 6 pm until 10 pm. Please RSVP by Thursday, March 3 by

calling the church office or contact Ms. Rosana at [mdo@oxfordumc.org](mailto:mdo@oxfordumc.org)



Join us at our quarterly meeting Saturday morning, **May 14 at 9:30 am in the Family Life Center** as we welcome guest speaker Dr. Ellen L. Palmer. Dr. Palmer will provide insight and understanding of the United Methodist Church's work in mission throughout the world - and in particular the involvement of UMW. Dr. Palmer is the mother of Oxford member Peggy Francis and has been a Methodist since her marriage to the late Rev. Dr. James B. Palmer, Sr. in 1954. Together they began mission work in La Paz Bolivia in 1959. The death of her husband in 2011 has not slowed her down - she is a very active member of FUMC McKinney and is currently involved in several projects in Haiti. Come ready to be inspired and energized about mission through the United Methodist Church and UMW!



## Lenten Food Pantry Drive

For each week of Lent we are asking for items that our food pantry recipients can't purchase with food stamps. So each week, when you go grocery shopping please consider picking up one or several of the items of the week and bringing them to worship each Sunday to be piled high by the altar in the Sanctuary.

**Sunday, March 6** – please bring cereal, coffee, tea

**Sunday, March 13** – please bring canned fruit, macaroni and cheese

**Sunday, March 20** – please bring soup, canned meat

All items can be brought with you to church and dropped off at the front of the worship space or you can bring your items by the church office M-Th 9am-4pm and Friday 9am-12pm. Thank you and God bless you in advance!

## Cradle Club

New members Steve and Emily Work are expecting a baby boy any day now! The cradle club basket will be in the narthex of the sanctuary the next few weeks so we can spoil their soon to be bundle of joy with presents and clothes.

## Prayer Shawls



Ever since the prayer shawls have been moved into the

Sanctuary and on the pews they have been going out to people in need faster than we can knit or crochet them! If you can knit, crochet or create a prayer shawl we are in need of more ASAP! Please drop them off to the church office to be tagged and placed on a pew.

If you would like to take a prayer shawl please see a church employee or usher so we may check it out to you and follow up later about the recipient.

Thank you to all of our prayer shawl creators and to those that have distributed shawls out into our community, it is a beautiful ministry!

## Easter Calla Lilies



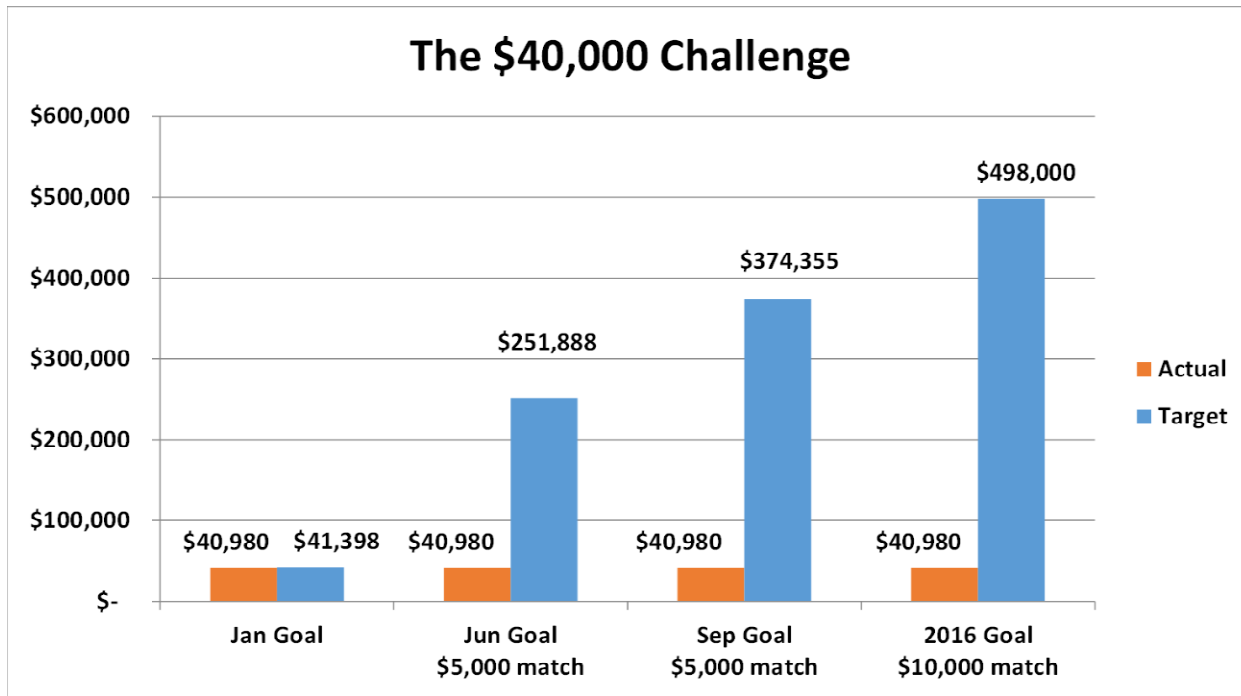
**Easter Calla Lilies** are for sale now! You can purchase a beautiful calla lily in memory or in honor of a loved one. Order forms are available in the narthex. Please one order form per plant. The Easter plants will align the chancel on Easter morning as we celebrate the Glory of the Risen Christ.



# The \$40,000 Challenge

## \$40,000 challenge + \$20,000 match = \$60,000

Thank you to everyone who attended the information sessions after worship on Sunday, February 14. I hope you found the information helpful. The chart below shows our progress against our income goals for the month of January, June year to date, September year to date and full year 2016.



January was a very good month as we were within \$418 of our goal, which someone then decided to graciously give when they heard the news, so we are right on target. Four things I would ask you to do this year to help us meet our financial goals are as follows:

- Please stay current with your planned giving for 2016
- Be mindful and prayerful of how we are tracking against our goals as a church
- Be mindful and prayerful of when you have been financially blessed and can make an above and beyond gift to help reach our goal
- Be mindful and prayerful about potential fundraising opportunities and please let the Finance committee know your ideas

Blessings,

Paul Peterson  
Finance Chairperson

## Your Dollars Making A Difference

A monthly article describing the impact of our contributions to Oxford.

*"I was fairly new to Oxford when a loved one who had been in the nursing home passed away. I asked if services could be held here. So much compassion was shown to me! I was asked to give a rough estimate of how many people would be attending the service, and I was told not to worry about any food. It would all be provided. A burden was lifted from my shoulders. The spread was beautiful and simple, and all provided by loving hands."* **Thanks so much, Jody Maroney (Finance Committee Member)**



Dale R. Viets joined the Lord February 10, 2016. Dale was delivered by a mid-wife September 26, 1929 to a pioneering family who founded Southington a small town in Eastern Ohio in 1805. He moved to Texas in 1943 where he met his future wife Mildred Nelson in 1945. They were married in 1949 and remained married for 61 years until Mildred Passed away in March 2010. Dale is survived by his daughters Julie Thibodeaux (Mitch), Lisa Gonzales (Joe) and Lori McCraw. Granddaughters Joie, Jamie, Alexis, Amanda and Hailey. Great-grandchildren Jordyn, Jaelynn, Hunter, Parker, Payton and Luke, his brother Stanley Viets and sisters-in-law Barbara Goode and Signa Nelson. Special thanks to Dr. Schenk, Carol G. Chang and Vitas Hospice. In lieu of flowers Memorial Contributions can be made to Oxford United Methodist Church. A Memorial Service was held on Saturday, February 13, 2016 at 1PM at Oxford United Methodist Church, The Rev. William Dr. Brown officiating.



## Senior Fellowship

Our Senior Fellowship Meals are Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's at 12 noon in the Family Life Center. We have donuts and we play cards on Wednesday's. But, every time we gather, we have a very enjoyable time. Our focus is to be together and to grow in friendship. We recently lost one of regular attendees. Our beloved Juanita Motika passed away. We remember her fondly and we cherish the times we spent with her. If you are over the age of 60, we invite you to join us for our Senior Fellowship. You are invited!

## Rummage Sale Needs

Oxford's Annual Rummage Sale will be on Friday, May 6 from 9 am to 5 pm and on Saturday, May 7 from 9 am to 3 pm. We are seeking volunteers, donations of rummage and finer items for the boutique, as well as hangers and shopping bags. There are so many ways to participate, and we need your help. It will be an amazing success! You may bring your donated items to the church office. *For more information contact Sandra Peterson at [sandra@oxfordumc.org](mailto:sandra@oxfordumc.org)*



**SAVE the DATE** for our **Annual Women's Retreat at The Haven River Inn** in Comfort, TX.—April 22-24! The cost per person is \$150.



**SAVE the DATE of April**

**1-3 for the Oxford Men's Retreat** in Garner State Park! The cost for the entire retreat is \$100. Installment payments are welcome and scholarships are available. For more info contact Javy Tamez at 210-400-7587. Men, please sign up today at the coffee bar!

# MARCH



Bert, Mary	03/12
Cantu, Yolanda	03/22
Cawthon, Taylor	03/11
Davis, Ana	03/10
Dennis, Rick	03/03
Garibay, Cecilia	03/02
Garibay-Carey, Michelle	03/25
Grothues, Heather	03/16
Heskew, Ruth	03/09
Higgins, Tanner	03/31
Hodges, Nancy	03/04
Hughes, Lois	03/21
Jenkins, Mary	03/11
Jones, Robert	03/20
La Vallee, Janet	03/11
Ormand, Martha	03/15
Rosdahl, Glenice	03/19
Shelburn, Kimberly	03/26
Sisnero, Alicia	03/25
Youells, Beth	03/16

Karen Burgamy joined on 1/31/16

Jennifer Campos and her children Julia, Makayla, Shaun, and Angelique joined on 2/14/16

Bonnie Cawthon and daughter Taylor joined on 1/31/16

Cheryl Daye joined on 1/24/16

Daniel & Marion Davila joined on 2/7/16

Bryan Frasier was baptized on 2/7/16  
Suzanne Ricks is Bryan's fiancée

Rene Jacob joined on 2/14/16

Steve & Emily Work joined on 2/14/16

Martin & Lisa Avila and daughter Rory joined on 2/21/16



## Worship Attendance

### January 31

9:15 a.m...102  
11:30 am ...107  
Nursery ...9  
Total... 81  
Sunday School....218

### February 7

9:15 am ....121  
11:30 am...80  
Nursery ....5  
Total .... 206  
Sunday school ....73

### February 14

9:15.....115  
11:30 a.m...96  
Nursery ...9  
Total .....220  
Sunday School...72

### February 21

9:15.....111  
11:30 a.m....91  
Nursery ...5  
Total .....207  
Sunday School...74



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

**The March Birthday Bash  
will be on Easter Sunday,  
March 27 at 10:30 am**



Members, don't forget to "Spring forward" on Sunday, March 13!  
Turn your clocks forward as Daylight Savings Time begins



## Prayer List:

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

## Current Prayer List:

Mitch & Julie Thibodeaux  
Lily Robinson  
Doris Keeler  
Luz Maria  
Mario  
Hubert Davis, Sr.  
For those in Rehab  
For those hooked on drugs  
Jeff Davis  
The family of Chris Lerma on his passing  
Mia Carey  
Phoenix Shakir  
The family of Trevor Macias on his passing  
Joe Barbola-  
Johnny Villarreal  
Lucille Wernette  
Mr. Walt  
Rachel Zertuche

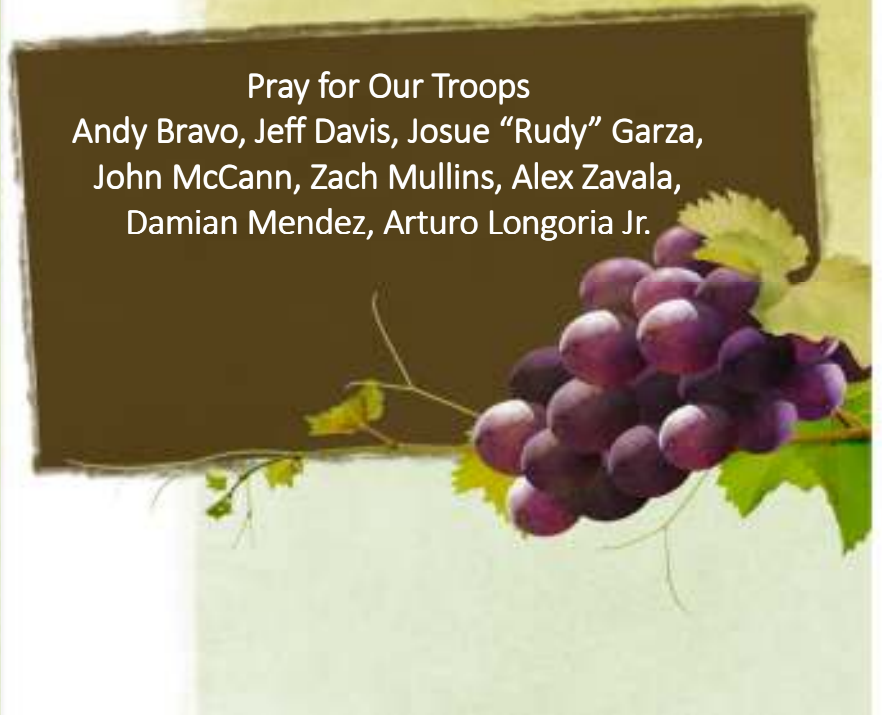


Tonia Riley  
Becky Shoemaker  
Gramma Ponkey - join our Lord in Heaven  
The Family and friends of Mae Carlin  
Tom & Janette Jackson on the passing of Tom's sister  
Sue Booth

## Pray for our Military

### Pray for Our Troops

Andy Bravo, Jeff Davis, Josue "Rudy" Garza,  
John McCann, Zach Mullins, Alex Zavala,  
Damian Mendez, Arturo Longoria Jr.



## Ongoing Prayer List:

Margaret & Jerry Mason  
Richard & Linda Persyn  
Jackie Duke  
Dennis and Sue Moses  
Jimbo Frazier  
Michele Frazier  
Nolan & Rosalyn Hoelscher  
Rev Phil Robberson  
Dr. Walter R.  
Ernie Garibay  
Carl Taylor  
Milton & Eloise Lindemann  
Tommy  
Brian Flanner  
Barbie Tarr  
Max & Barbara Maxwell  
Patricia & Kevin and family  
Mary Morgan Marshall  
Susan Gaches  
Peggy Fry  
Gerry Rodriguez  
Rev. Boone  
Ruth Martinez  
Rose Cervantes  
Mark C.  
Nolie Tolbert  
Phoenix Shakir

Oxford United Methodist Church  
9739 Huebner Road  
San Antonio, TX. 78240  
210-696-0192    [www.oxfordumc.org](http://www.oxfordumc.org)

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## CHURCH STAFF

### Pastor

The Rev. John G. Hargis [pastorjohn@oxfordumc.org](mailto:pastorjohn@oxfordumc.org)

### Program & Communications Director

Michelle Garibay-Carey [michelle@oxfordumc.org](mailto:michelle@oxfordumc.org)

### Youth Director and Program Assistant

Kristi Forister [kristi@oxfordumc.org](mailto:kristi@oxfordumc.org)

### Traditional Music Director

Douglas Boldt [doug@oxfordumc.org](mailto:doug@oxfordumc.org)

### Contemporary Music Director

Pat Carey [pat@oxfordumc.org](mailto:pat@oxfordumc.org)

### Facility Manager

Sandra Peterson [sandra@oxfordumc.org](mailto:sandra@oxfordumc.org)

### Mother's Day Out Director and Nursery Coordinator

Rosana Orr [mdo@oxfordumc.org](mailto:mdo@oxfordumc.org)

### Financial Administrator

James Minor [james@oxfordumc.org](mailto: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  
O Positive Youth at 1:00 pm

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday 9 am—4 pm  
Office Closed Friday