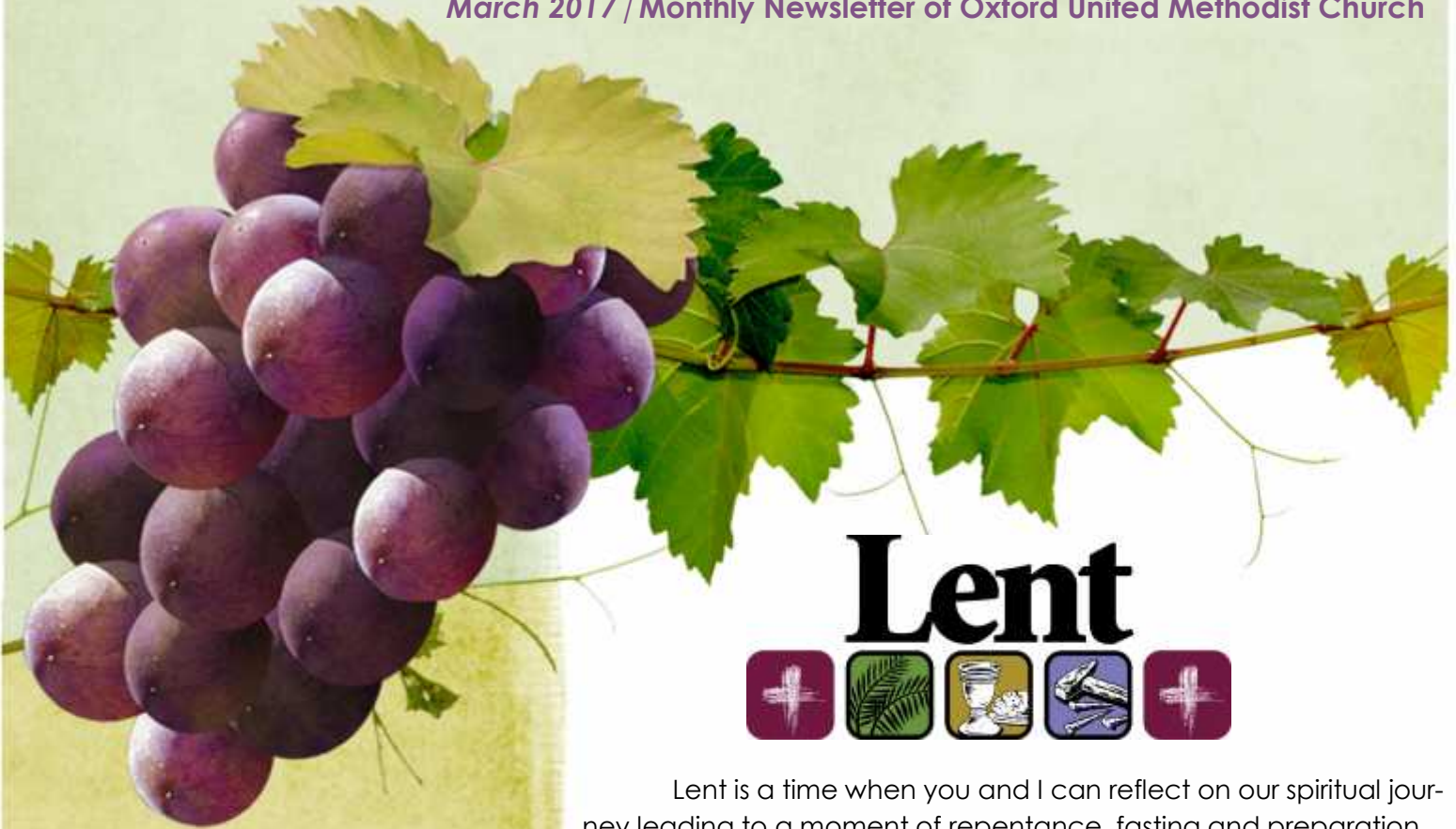


# the grapevine

March 2017 / Monthly Newsletter of Oxford United Methodist Church



## Lent



Lent is a time when you and I can reflect on our spiritual journey leading to a moment of repentance, fasting and preparation for coming of the resurrection of our Savior. Let's take this time today to self-examine and reflect in all that we have done in our journey with God that has proven to show fruitfulness or none at all. Lent is also a time for one to focus on giving back in servanthood. In other words, giving of our self to others, feeding the poor, giving water to those who thirst, visiting the sick, going that extra mile for a friend who has encountered challenges in life. Maybe serving at the Magdalena House for women or simply here at Oxford will allow us to GROW in a deeper covenant with God.

Friends, please join us for our upcoming Lenten worship services, beginning with Ash Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm. Rev. Tom Jackson will deliver the message and will be doing the imposition of ashes. In the Wednesdays leading to Holy Week, we will have Lay Servants from our church bring testimonies or a brief message of reflection for the week. This time will also be a time of worship and praise as we gather to celebrate the many challenges, and the victories that one has experienced in their daily walk with Christ Jesus. Come, witness and be a part of what God is doing in people's lives, the life of the church and together let us praise His name forever.

### In this Issue:

Women's Retreat

Mid-Week Lenten Services

Youth Ski Trip

NEW Financial Peace Classes

Prayers

Worship Attendance

March Birthdays

Blessings,  
Rev. Juan Cantú Jr.



The Tuesday Women's Bible Study is now meeting on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am in the Choir Room. The new study is Sarah Young's "Jesus Calling" study series. Diane Waldron is leading the study.



**ZUMBA NEW NIGHT!**

Ladies, join us for Zumba now on Tuesday evenings (during Lent) at 7 pm in the Sanctuary. Please RSVP for Childcare. Classes are free and open to all women. To receive a reminder text, please contact Michelle Carey at 210-815-6013.



**Women's Retreat Just Around the Corner**

Our Women's Retreat is officially full at this point. If you wanted to attend, but didn't get the chance to register please let Teri Boldt or Kristi Forister know and we will add you to the waiting list. As of now we have 28 ladies attending, Praise God!

If you would like to carpool/drive to the retreat facility in Comfort, TX please let us know so we can organize rides from the church. We still need help with a few more scholarships. If you would like to donate \$25 to a great cause please see Teri or Kristi. The Women's Retreat is Friday, March 24 beginning at 7pm through Sunday, March 26 ending at noon at the Haven River Inn in Comfort, TX. A letter will be mailed out a few weeks before the retreat explaining what to bring, how to get there, and other pertinent information.

Teri and I can't wait to spend the weekend with all the amazing ladies that plan to attend. **Kristi Forister**

**Lenten Food Pantry Drive**

Last year we conducted another "40 Cans of Lent" food drive for Oxford's food pantry. That food drive was so successful, we are repeating it for the 2017 Lenten season, You may bring your food, toiletries, household cleaners, dish soap, or paper goods with you on Sundays.



Kids' Night Out is Friday, March 10 from 6 pm until 10 pm. Please RSVP by Thursday, March 9 by calling the church office.

# Youth Group News



**Spring Break Ski Trip: March 11-16**

## Youth Group Meets Wednesdays at 6:30 and Sundays at 1 pm

Our Wednesday night study is Half Truths by Adam Hamilton and Sunday afternoon activities include fun games and challenges for team building.

All students in grade 6-12 are welcome to join us in the gym for youth group. Parents are always welcome to join us to observe and see what it is all about!

## New Class Day! New Class Forming!



New **Thursday Night** Financial Peace Classes will begin on April 20 and meet until June 15! If you are part of the choir or you volunteer with the youth on Wednesday nights, you can NOW sign up for this class session. Stay tuned for more details and more information can be found on our website [www.oxfordumc.org](http://www.oxfordumc.org)

## College Scholarship Applications

College Scholarship Applications are being accepted now. If you are interested please stop by the Youth Director's Office in the Education building; . The Church Women United scholarship is offered specifically for women in transition beginning higher education or other young women currently in college. The Pugh Memorial Scholarship is available for all college students. For more information you can contact Kristi Forister in the church office or at [Kristi@oxfordumc.org](mailto:Kristi@oxfordumc.org)

## Easter Calla Lilies

**Easter Calla Lilies** will be available for sale during Lent! You can purchase a beautiful calla lily in memory or in honor of a loved one. Order forms will be 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.



## Passing in the Church Family



CENTER – Bette Jean Center, beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away Friday, February 10, 2017. Bette was born February 22, 1930 in San Antonio, TX, daughter of John P. and Ruby Philips. She married J.D. Center in March 1949 and was his loving wife for more than 50 years. Bette worked many years for and retired with Continental Airlines. She was a talented artist, an avid quilter, and a collector of dolls. She will be greatly missed by all. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband. She is survived by her son John “Rusty” Center (Pam), her daughters Teri Morrison

(Frank) and Tracie Noble (Jerry); her brother John D. Philips (Mimi), sister Elaine Stephens (Roger) and sister-in-law Evelyn Alderman. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Ashlee Madson (Tim), Amy Fleener, Levi Vidmer, Amber Myers (Chase), Clayton Center, Justin Center, and Tim Harden (Cheri). She was great-grandmother to Hailey Miller, Avery Madson, Brady Madson, Caitlyn Madson, Rainey Vidmer, William Vidmer, and McCoy Myers. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. A graveside service was held at Sunset Memorial Park on Wednesday, February 15, 2017. The Rev. Juan Cantu, Jr. officiated the service. There was a wonderful catered luncheon and celebration of life at the church following the graveside service. Many of Bette's magnificent quilts, drawings, paintings, and scrapbooks were on display for all to see. Prayers of comfort continue for Bette's family and friends.



### **NWSA Women's Walk to Emmaus**

#### **NWSA Women's Walk #1, March 16-19, Mt. Wesley**

Lay Director: Susan Morris, Spiritual Director: Rev. David Edgar, Music Team Coordinator: Lori McQuade, Outside Team Coordinators: Mark and Paula Collins. *If you are interested in being a Pilgrim or a Sponsor, please let the church know.*

## 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 staff member 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





# Thank You

Many Thanks to God!

Peggy Francis offers her thanks to all who prayed for her and for all who supported her recent missionary trip to Panama. She hopes that Oxford will someday serve in mission in places like Panama and around the world. Thank YOU Peggy for your ministry!

## Egg Stuffing Parties

We are seeking volunteers to help stuff egg for this year's Community-Wide Easter Egg Hunt which will take place on Saturday, April 15! Egg Stuffing Parties will be on Thursday afternoons at 1 pm beginning on March 9. We are planning to have an even bigger and greater Egg Hunt this year!! Please consider coming to help us prepare.



## Rummage Sale Needs

**Oxford's Annual Rummage Sale** will be on Friday, May 5 from 9 am to 5 pm and on Saturday, May 6 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)*



# MARCH



|                        |   |    |
|------------------------|---|----|
| Mary Bert              | 3 | 12 |
| Yolanda Cantu          | 3 | 22 |
| Ana Davis              | 3 | 10 |
| Cheryl Daye            | 3 | 3  |
| Andrew Del Cueto       | 3 | 10 |
| Rick Dennis            | 3 | 3  |
| Cecilia Garibay        | 3 | 2  |
| Michelle Garibay-Carey | 3 | 25 |
| Heather Grothues       | 3 | 16 |
| Ruth Heskeu            | 3 | 9  |
| Tanner Higgins         | 3 | 31 |
| Nancy Hodges           | 3 | 4  |
| Lois Hughes            | 3 | 21 |
| Mary Jenkins           | 3 | 11 |
| Robert Jones           | 3 | 20 |
| Janet La Vallee        | 3 | 11 |
| Valerie Longoria       | 3 | 19 |
| Dylan May              | 3 | 11 |
| Martha Ormand          | 3 | 15 |
| Glenice Rosdahl        | 3 | 19 |
| Kimberly Shelburn      | 3 | 26 |
| Beth Shovelton         | 3 | 16 |
| Alicia Sisnero         | 3 | 25 |
| Rita Snyder            | 3 | 7  |
| Sarah Tebbs            | 3 | 6  |
| Diane Waldron          | 3 | 18 |
| Tom Wohlers            | 3 | 15 |
| Anakin Work            | 3 | 12 |

*If we missed your Birthday this month, please send your birthday info to [michelle@oxfordumc.org](mailto:michelle@oxfordumc.org)*

*The March Birthday Bash will be on Sunday, March 26 at 10:30 am in the Narthex!*



Ash Wednesday Service  
Wednesday, March 1 at 6:30 pm  
in the Sanctuary.  
The Rev. Tom Jackson preaching.

Mid-Week Lenten  
Service Schedule  
Wednesdays at 7 pm

March 8, 2017 at 7pm ~ Tony Thompson  
March 15, 2017 at 7pm ~ TBA  
March 22, 2017 at 7pm ~ Michelle Carey  
March 29, 2017 at 7pm ~ Kevin Wilson  
April 5, 2017 at 7pm ~ Leslie Sparacello  
April 12, 2017 at 7pm ~ Javi Tamez



## Worship Attendance

### February 5

9:15 a.m. ...111  
11:30 a.m....85  
Children's Church ...20  
Nursery ...7  
Total .....223  
Sunday School ....68

### February 12

9:15...101  
11:30 a.m...93  
Children's Church... 15  
Nursery ...10  
Total ...219  
Sunday School...67

### February 19

9:15...84  
11:30 a.m...95  
Children's Church ...12  
Nursery ...6  
Total ...197  
Sunday School...56



## Prayer List:

Our World  
Our service men & women  
Our nation  
Rio Texas conference churches &  
clergy  
Oxford UMC  
Kairos Ministry  
Shepherd Ministry  
Stephen Ministry  
The Residents of The Heights  
Meals on Wheels clients

## Current Prayer List:

Pedro Barrera  
Taylor Perez  
David Duvwell  
Son Kyle and family  
Jason Hakala  
Ray Davis  
Kyle and Jing wedding  
Jeff Davis  
Premature baby Alica  
Tonia Riley  
Yvette and Tony  
Kaitlyn, Kailey and Antonio  
Emily and Valoria  
Angelica Vasquez  
Israel Garcia  
Estella Santos  
Leticia



Joe  
Desire Toney  
Karen and Patrick Scoles  
Rev Harry West family  
Missy Johnson  
Verna's family

## 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:

Diane Waldron  
Barbara Maxwell  
Ellen Burns  
Jackie Duke  
Jimbo Frazier  
Michele Frazier  
Ernie Garibay  
Carl Taylor  
Milton Lindemann  
Eloise Lindemann  
Brian Flanner  
Barbie Tarr  
Max Maxwell  
Mary Morgan Marshall  
Margaret and Jerry Mason  
Susan Gaches  
Sadie  
Lyndsay Hodges  
Perla May  
Janet Haby  
Diane Waldron  
Johnnie and Lottie Millsaps  
Cathy Dean  
Roberto Macias  
Sue Moses  
Lillie Robinson  
Larry Schaeff  
Sarah Bunch

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



#### CHURCH STAFF

##### Pastor

The Rev. Juan Cantu, Jr. [revcantu@oxfordumc.org](mailto:revcantu@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 OPEN MONDAY-THURSDAY (CLOSED FRIDAYS)**  
**MOTHERS' DAY OUT - Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**