



A Farewell Letter of Love

by Brittiny Massey



Dear Oxford First Family,

I want to take the time to thank you for all you've done with and for me over the course of the last 8 years. All those prayers, opportunities, and all the love you've shown me have truly blessed me. In you all, I've gained godmothers, spiritual sisters and brothers, and lifelong friends. You've truly kept me lifted and protected in your prayers. I love you all so much and I ask that you continue to keep me in your prayers. And don't hesitate to call or come visit. I've made my number and address available for future reference. May the peace of God be with you all forever, I love you.

The ABLE Corner: Stories of Persistence from our Adult Basic Literacy Education Students.

by Barbara Wortham



Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded.

—2 CHRONICLES 15:7 KJV

Dee was a former student of mine at the Oxford Learning Center. She was that student that all the other students respected. They valued her motherly advice. Plus, Dee was known to throw those hands if needed. She dropped out of school and soon had her first child. While pregnant with her second child, Dee decided she wanted to obtain her high school equivalency. She began working with our program and quickly passed two parts of her exam. Then tragedy struck. Dee's mom had an allergic reaction to the COVID 19

vaccine. She was in a coma for several weeks. Of course, Dee had to put her studies on hold in order to take care of her mom and children. Despite this setback, Dee came back to the program a few months later. She said she had to finish what she started for her boys. They were her motivation. Within four days, Dee took her last three tests. She plans to apply for a better job, so she can provide for her children.

Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. --JAMES 1:3



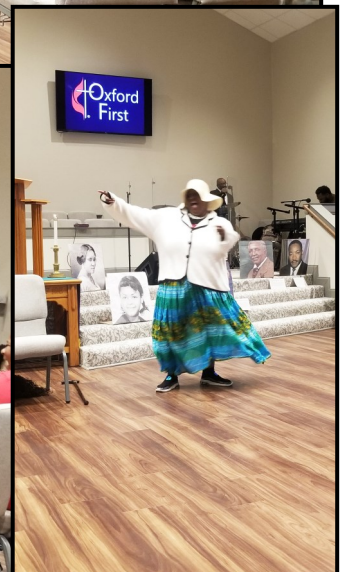
February Birthdays

On February 27, 2022, Oxford First UMC celebrated its following February birthdays with a cake:

Khamiah Thomas — 2nd
Ashton Miller — 14th
Carrie Vaughn — 16th
Derrick Milliner — 16th

Black History Month Program in Pictures

On Sunday, February 20th, Oxford First UMC held its Annual Black History Month Program. It was coordinated by Minister Tressie Johnson. These are some images from the program:



TITHING

IS IT FOR TODAY?

by **James Davis, PhD Theology**
Jacksonville Theological Seminary (1995)

Yes, tithing is still relevant today. In the Old Testament, it was a law to be kept and obeyed. Under the new covenant, it is a declaration that all that we have

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comes from God and belongs to God as our Creator. This is not an act of blind obedience but an act of worship and thanksgiving for all that He has provided for us. If our present means are meager, offering to God from our heart and out of our need demonstrates that we put Him first in our life.

“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

—MATTHEW 6:31–33