



Jacob's Ladder



A NEWSLETTER OF OXFORD FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Roger Wilson, Pastor

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"Morning Doves" by Carol McGee



"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and purity." —1 TIMOTHY 4:12 NIV

I have decided to start doing what GOD has called me to do. For years I have been running and battling with this because I was more worried about what people would say, or think of me. But coming to this I asked GOD, if this is what You want me to do, then give me the name of the group, the vision,

and the people. Within two hours of this prayer, on the same day, I had four pages written, with a name, *Morning Doves*, picture, and vision. We are always talking about women's ministry, and Black girls rock, but we never talk about our young girls' need for guidance. There are many

young girls, at early ages, that are in abusive relationships, whether it's physical, mental, or emotional. These young girls have a lot of anger in them and need to vent or need someone to listen to them, or at least care. We are losing our young girls to TV, social media, and other distractions. They are bombarding our young girls with negative images of clothes, shoes, etc., and how to treat each other. My goal is to help these young girls, TO LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS, AND LOVE THEMSELVES. But also, I need to redeem myself. What

good are testimonies, when you don't share them with others? AND I HAVE MANY. There are a lot of young girls with many talents that need to be seen or heard, and they're just waiting on a chance. If you know any young ladies from the 7-11 grade meet me at Zaxby's on August 5, 2023, at 12:00NOON.

Assisting me in this effort will be Tressie Johnson, Erma Goolsby, Pamela Flemons, Vonda Woods, and Rodnie Buford.

“NOW is The Time”

by Rev. Mattie Gipson

The United Methodist Church is at a crucial point in its history. Many churches are disassociating from the denomination. The battle cry is unhappiness about the possibility that the General Conference 2024 will change the UMC's current stance on human sexuality. We currently do not ordain self-proclaimed, practicing homosexuals. There is a supposed fear that the 2024 General Conference delegates will vote to change this stance.



that remain in the Mississippi Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church to stand up and be counted, to speak up and to take action, and continue to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Now is the time for us to attend in large numbers any event, workshop or training that is offered by the District or the Conference. Now is the time for us to take an active part in the leadership of Mississippi Methodism. We have a strong African American female

To that notion, as of June 1, 2023, about 160 churches of the Mississippi Conference United Methodist Church have disaffiliated from the United Methodist Church. It is speculated that by December 31, 2023 another 100 churches will disaffiliate. The clarion call now is for those churches

Bishop who is greatly anointed by the Holy Spirit to lead us forward in these tedious times. Now is the time for us to step up, stand up, speak up and carry the United Methodist Church forward into the next century. Now is the time for us to carry out our promise to support our church with our

presence, our prayers, our service and our gifts.

We should certainly make our presence known at two upcoming events of the New Albany/Tupelo District. On August 6 at Tupelo First UMC we will celebrate the combining of the two districts with the Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly as the District Superintendent of the Combined Districts. Let's be there at 3:00 pm to witness and support our church.

On this same day at Glenfield United Methodist in New Albany at 7:00 PM there will be a FIESTA CELEBRATION for our own dear Cheryl Prather as we honor her time with us as the District Administrative

Assistant. Cheryl has served us well over the years, often going the extra mile to make sure the churches and pastors of the New Albany District have what they need to be effective in their ministries. As the Districts have been realigned and we have fewer districts, Cheryl has been offered another opportunity to be of service to the church and the community. Her husband, Rev. Timothy Prather, was appointed to serve at Senatobia First UMC in 2022. Cheryl has spent many hours on the road between Senatobia and New Albany in order to serve effectively as our Administrative Assistant. Let's give her an unforgettable send-off and show up en masse at Glenfield UMC on August 6 at 7:00 PM!!!



A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer.

Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year.

Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning. Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy.

Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.



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P.O. Box 277

Oxford, MS 38655

Revival



Oxford First UMC's Revival will be held from Monday, August 14th to Wednesday, August 16th. On Monday night, **Rev. Rodney Dean** of New Salem M.B.C. will be bringing the word; on Tuesday night, **Rev. Lee Earl Robinson** of Tobby Tubby M.B.C. will be giving the message; and on Wednesday night our very own **Rev. Greg Waxx**.

Pastor Roger Wilson and the entire OFUMC church family invite you all to come and fellowship with us.

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE