



Jacob's Ladder



A NEWSLETTER OF OXFORD FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Sapada Thomas, Pastor

Volume 20, Number 10, October 2020

Dedication and Consecration Service by Clarence H. Franklin



On Sunday, September 28, 2020, Oxford First United Methodist Church held its Church Dedication and Consecration Service for the new church at 102 Dylan Avenue. This program had been delayed since April due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was originally planned for Easter Sunday. Having held a test run for its first in-person worship

service the week before, it was time for the formal dedication and consecration service.

"On acquisition or completion of any church-owned building, a service of consecration may be held" according to *The Book of Discipline 2012*, ¶ 2545. The service is based on the ancient tradition that the consecration

of a church building is the proclamation of the Word and the celebration of Holy Communion as the first act of worship in the new building.

The Dedication and Consecration Service was led by Pastor Sepada Thomas, and special guest, Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly, New Albany District Superintendent. She officiated over the traditional "Burning of the Church Note." By the Grace of God, Oxford First has no note since the church is completely paid for. This was proclaimed to the church by James Milliner and Jimmy McGlaun.

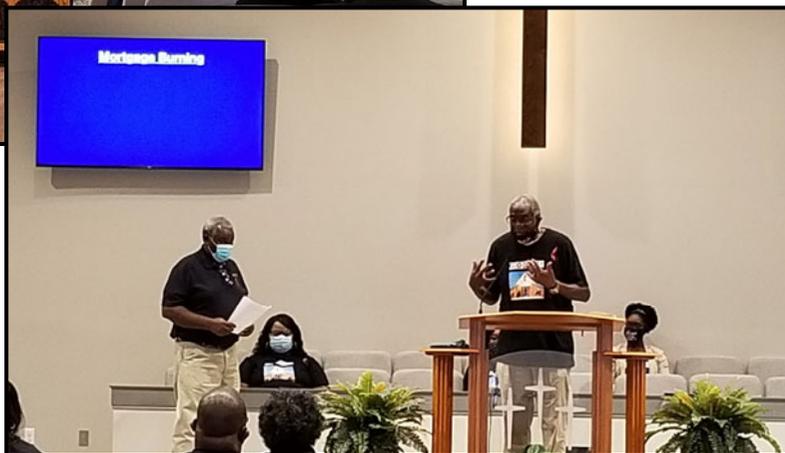
Rev. Miskelly also delivered the Dedication and Consecration sermon for the day. She presented the following phrase to the

congregation and asked them what did they see:

IAMNOWHERE

Do you see **"I am nowhere,"** or do you see **"I am now here?"** It all about how we see ourselves and how we see God she said. There is a big difference. She also stated that the church today needs to proclaim more about what it stands for, and not so much about what it is against. It was a great message.

We practiced necessary social-distancing, and all wore masks, as we resumed in-person worship, and *Celebrated, Consecrated, and Dedicated* our new church building. Praise God.





**Theme: The Role of the Servant to
God and Church**

Subject: "See A Need and Lead"

Text: Nehemiah 2:17-18

Outline: Prayer, Prepare, Perseverance



Speaker: Minister Gracie Spearman
Chairperson, OFUMC Prayer Ministry and Outreach Programs

Oxford First UMC Laity Program
October 18, 2020
9:00 A.M.

Continuing to Make It Happen: Free Food Box Give-A-Way

"If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?"

—1 JOHN 3:17 NIV

Oxford First UMC Prayer and Outreach Ministry will continue giving out food boxes on Mondays at 1:00 P.M. to those in need until the end of the year, or until otherwise noted, at the church on 102 Dylan Avenue.

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We have been blessed and highly favored, and wish to continue to pass those blessings on to the community at large. Minister Gracie Spearman (pictured below right) is the coordinator of this effort.

