



Jacob's Ladder



A NEWSLETTER OF OXFORD FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Quennel Alexander Anderson, Pastor

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FROM PASTOR'S DESK



Church Family, my heart overflowing with gratitude for what God is doing in and through the ministry of Oxford First United Methodist Church. Truly, ***“the Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy”*** (PSALM 126:3). As I reflect on God’s goodness, I am humbled by how His hand continues to shape our fellowship, our mission, and our witness in this community.

One of the greatest blessings we have

witnessed is the powerful move of God among our youth and young adults. By His grace, many have made the life-changing decision to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. And with great joy, we give thanks to God that **five young people have been baptized since our journey together. Zamari Price, Malachi Henderson, Xavier Robinson, Kaylee Robinson, (pictured above), and Trinity**

Herron (pictured below). This is a testimony to God's faithfulness and the working of the Holy Spirit in the lives of our next generation. Jesus tells us in JOHN 6:44, ***"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them."*** We honor God for drawing these young hearts, transforming their lives, and anchoring their futures in His love. Let us continue the journey with them as we extend our hearts to them in their journey ahead!

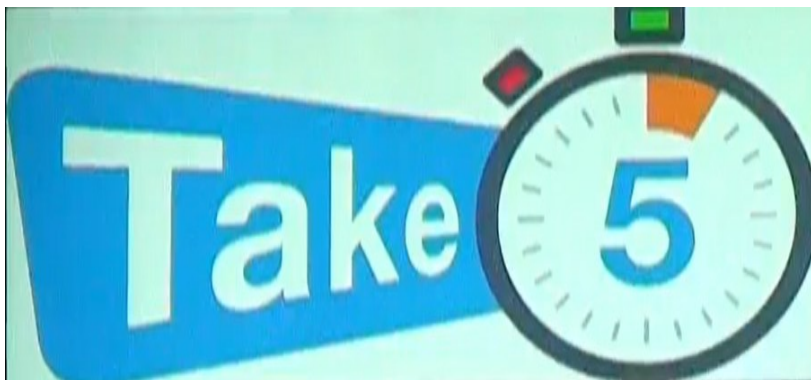
I am equally grateful for the overwhelming love and support that flows within our congregation. It is evident that the love of God dwells richly among us. Your kindness, generosity, and unity reflect the heart of Christ and embody the words of Scripture: ***"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*** (JOHN 13:35). The spirit of compassion and encouragement that fills our church is not

manufactured—it is birthed by the Holy Spirit and sustained by our shared commitment to Christ.

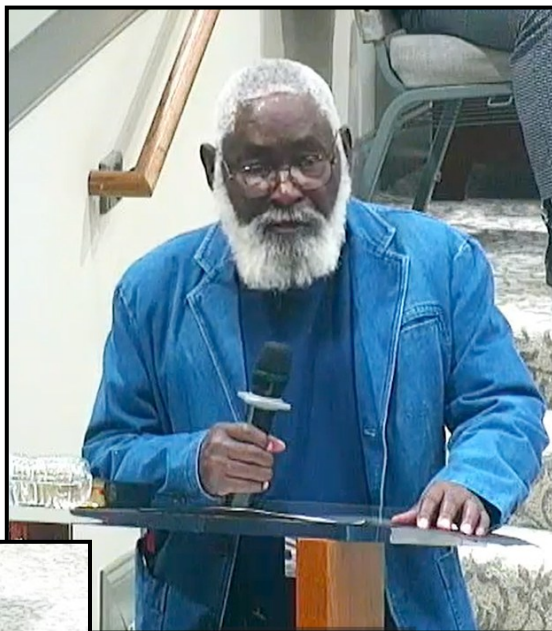
As we move forward, we hold tightly to the promise that God's Spirit continues to draw people closer to His will. Jesus declared in JOHN 12:32, ***"And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."*** And Scripture reminds us that ***"the Father seeks those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth"*** (JOHN 4:23). This is our calling: to be a church where Christ is lifted high, where worship is sincere, and where God's presence is welcomed with open hearts.

My prayer is that God will continue to use Oxford First United Methodist Church as a beacon of hope, a house of love, and a sanctuary where lives are changed for His glory. May God continue stirring the hearts of our youth, strengthening our families, and





Two months ago Oxford First UMC launched a new segment called Take 5 where seasoned members of our church family were asked to share 5 minutes of heartfelt testimony about their Christian journey. It began with a bang last month as three members blessed the congregation with their testimony.



FROM UPPER LEFT COUNTER-CLOCKWISE: It began with Dr. Erskine Smith on November 16th, followed by Sister Barbara Wortham on November 23rd, and Rev. Frank Gipson on November 30th. Each gave heartfelt testimonies about incidents along their Christian walk. Their stories were moving and emotional, and they blessed the congregation with their presentations. And that's just the beginning. There are so many wonderful inspirational stories out there yet to be told.



A Morning Doves Event



The Morning Doves: Hallelujah! The Bake Sale on November 8, 2025 in front of Goolsby's Hair World was a success! To ALL who gave donations, participated in any shape form or fashion, THANX from the Morning Doves.





Oxford First UMC offers a special **Thank You** to **James and Minnie Milliner** for sponsoring and hosted their **Annual Hayride** on November 2nd. It was a wonderful day of Fellowship, Food and Fun. The following pictures are from the event.





Mitchell High School Cheer from Memphis, TN traveled to Jackson State University for their annual High School Day on November 15th. Following an exciting day on campus, the team made a meaningful stop on their way back to Memphis. Under the leadership of First Lady Anderson, over 30 athletes and staff joined Oxford First UMC for a powerful worship experience that uplifted and united the team.

About Thanksgiving

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He
is good, for His lovingkindness is
everlasting.

—PSALM 107:1

Your first thought may be, “Hey, what do I have to be thankful for?” No matter what your situation, you can be thankful.

- If you live in the United States or other developed countries, even on your worst day, you are better off than most of the world.

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- If you own a car (no matter how old), you are more prosperous than 91% of the world.
- If you make more than \$2.50 a day, around \$75 a month, 1/2 of the people in the world wish they were as blessed as you.
- If you survived the Covid-19 pandemic, you are better off than the 6.3 million people who have died from it.

You are truly blessed. Sure, things may not be perfect, but they could be much worse. You can be thankful today. Just the fact that you are reading this is a blessing.

Because God is good, and because His commitment love for you is forever, you can be thankful.