



## Congratulations to Greek Marion

By Evelyn Smith

She's studious, she is an active member at church and she runs track. Greek Marion (pictured with Pastor Thomas) is an eighth grader at Oxford Middle School. She loves to eat, loves sports and loves to hang out with her friends and family.

In school, Greek's favorite subject is Mathematics. She maintains A's and B's although she prefers A's! She finished the last quarter with all A's and 2 B's. Her goals for high school next year are "to maintain focus, to pay attention more, to run track, to participate in other sports and to continue to get her grades up!!"

At church, Greek sings in the youth choir, dances with the Praise Dancers, serves as an Acolyte during worship service and participates in anything else that is asked of her.

In Track and Field running events, Greek came in first place, 32 times, second place, 18 times, third place 5 times and fourth place 1 time! Greek won all first place ribbons!! These were her accomplishments during her 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade track and field running events!!!! God has given Greek one of many outstanding talents! She is such a fierce competitor that Coaches Patton and Perkins (the Varsity High School Track Coaches) heard about her and watched her



run her last three middle school meets at the end of this season. Coach Patton came up to Greek and said "we will like to recruit you, and have you on the Oxford High School Varsity team," and so she ran for the **high school** varsity team after the middle school track season ended this year. Greek participates in sprints (100 and 200 dash) relays (4 x 100, 4 x 200) and anything else

that is asked of her.

In life, Greek is motivated by her heroes who are the angels in the sky, her grandmother, and her brother, Keetan. Greek plans to be successful. We know that this will happen because God knows the plans He has for Greek, plans to prosper her and not to

harm her, plans to give her hope and a future once she seeks the path that God has set for her life.

Congratulations to Greek Marion, a multi-talented human being, as she is honored as Oxford First's Youth of the Month!!!

## New Member History

### By Vantessa Thompson



Known as the "Thompson Family," Maya Thompson, Josiah Thompson, Nyla Thompson and I, along with Carlos Richardson, Jr. are elated to have joined with our new church family, Oxford First United Methodist Church.

For the past 4 years, we have been members of Resurrection House of Prayer, where Pastor Alice Blackmon was our Pastor and leader. She instilled in me so much about being faithful to God, how important

titling is, and how honorable marriage is with God. For this past year, I have been faithful with Oxford First and have waited until the Holy Spirit led me to join. This has been the best thing that has happened to us!

We have been greeted with open arms since the first day of us coming as visitors. I am a young wife and mother of 3 beautiful babies that I have been blessed with. I have learned that I need them more than they need me. I have also been blessed

with the opportunity to become a legal guardian for my youngest brother Carlos (CJ). This has been the most challenging yet rewarding blessing I have been given. I could not do any of this without God and I am truly grateful for it all. I have my Associates Degree with a Concentration in HealthCare Administration. I have also started with my bachelor's degree. I am currently waiting on God to place me where he wants me in ministry.

Maya and Josiah are my toddler "teens." They both attend Mary Cathey Headstart. They are very bright and gifted children. I cannot wait to see what God has in store for them at Oxford First. CJ is an upcoming senior at Oxford High School. He

loves basketball! He has not been living in Oxford very long, but he has adapted very well to his surroundings. I am so grateful for him as well.

We believe there is One God and we believe in God, the Father, and the Holy Spirit. We believe in God's son Jesus and that He died for all our sins, and God raised Him from the dead. Nyla and I have been baptized and we have accepted Jesus as our savior. CJ, Maya and Josiah will be getting baptized. I just thank God for all of this, and I am very excited for what God has in store for my family at Oxford First United Methodist Church.

## OFUMC United Methodist Women



Oxford First UMC United Methodist Women participated in the New Albany/Tupelo District's Day Apart Celebration of 150 years of United Methodist Women at New Albany First UMC in New Albany, MS on Saturday, April 27, 2019.

# Courtland Barnes Who's Who



Courtland Barnes (pictured with Pastor Thomas) was nominated for one of the most prestigious awards at the University of Mississippi along with about 2000 other highly qualified seniors.

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He was selected along with 150 other candidates who are also highly qualified for The Who's Who award. This is one of the greatest and most notable accomplishment of those completing a four year degree at the University, second to those who are accepted into the Hall of Fame.



**PICTURED ABOVE: Khashanti Hervey was welcomed as a new member of Oxford First UMC on Sunday, April 7, 2019 by Pastor Thomas.**