



# Jacob's Ladder



A NEWSLETTER OF OXFORD FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Christopher C. Diggs, Pastor

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## The Gathering Imagine Tour by Minister Laura Gillom



The Gathering Imagine Tour 2016 came to Tupelo, MS, on Sunday, September 18th. Shae, Min. Tressie, Brittyny, and I were

blessed to be able to take 16 children and youth to the event at St. Luke UMC. We were greeted and welcomed to the church



gym where our group mingled with other young people from the northeast Mississippi area. The younger ones jumped around in the bouncer, and the older ones played games including basketball and indoor football where all appeared to have a good time.

We then went into Worship where DJ Blaha played some of the latest music allowing the young people to "be themselves" in a safe environment. Kendra was invited on stage to

show off her dancing skills. Big Al Cherry, a gospel hip-hop and R&B artist from Monroe, Louisiana, led the music. We jumped, leaned, and popped to the sounds of the beat as Big Al gave a positive message through music. Big Al also spoke words of encouragement to the young people in attendance, giving his testimony of how he started drinking at age 9, fighting with his step-father who was abusive to his mother, and battling with depression, resulting in a suicide attempt. He

then went on to tell about how God touched him and changed his life. He finished school, went to college, and became a math teacher and even a college professor. It was evident the message resonated with many of the young people as they came up with tears in their eyes during the invitation.



Our young people said they really enjoyed the event and are very appreciative to their church family for sponsoring the trip. They are looking forward to attending The Gathering: Imagine 2017 in Jackson in February. (The Gathering is an annual event sponsored by Mike Howington and the Mississippi Annual Conference Youth and Family Ministry.)

## Students Of The Month



Zamari Price (above left), son of Jason and Jarebu Henderson, was named Student of the Month at Lafayette Upper Elementary School and Khashanti Hervey (right), daughter of Carlotta Moore, was named Student of the Month at Oxford Middle School. Oxford First UMC and Rev. Diggs recognized them at the September 25th morning worship service.

## Soup for Seniors Wednesday, October 12, 2016

11:00 a.m.



# Kashaun Wortham joins Phi Kappa Phi



Kashaun Wortham, the son of Kenneth and Barbara Wortham, has been invited to join Phi Kappa Phi. Phi Kappa Phi is an honor society for juniors, seniors, and graduate students. There are over 300 chapters in colleges and universities

across the country. Membership is by invitation to the top 7.5% of juniors with at

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least 72 credit hours and the top 10% of seniors and graduate students at member-campuses. Faculty, professional staff, and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction also may be eligible for membership. The Society's motto is "Let the love of learning rule humanity." Notable alumni include former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, best-selling novelist David Baldacci, Grammy Award-winning soprano Renée Fleming, YouTube co-founder Chad Hurley, and NASA astronaut Wendy Lawrence.

This year's induction ceremony for the University of Mississippi will be held on October 16 at 3:00P.M. at the Ford Center. Kashaun is a senior with a GPA of 3.78. He is majoring in Music Education and will be doing his student teaching this spring at Hernando High School.

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P.O. Box 277  
Oxford, MS 38655

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