



# Jacob's Ladder



A NEWSLETTER OF OXFORD FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Sapada Thomas, Pastor

Volume 20, Number 3, March 2020

## Planning Retreat



On February, 9 2020 members of Oxford First UMC came together for a Planning Retreat at Camp Lake Stephens. Plans were made for an Open House and Dedication Service for the new church at 102 Dylan Road.

Members volunteered and/or were assigned tasks that needed to be done before moving into the new structure. An attempt was made

to cross every "t" and dot every "i" so that the transition would be as smooth as possible. The Open House is planned for Saturday, April 11, 2020 at 12 noon and the New Church Dedication will be part of the Easter Celebration on Sunday, April 12, led by Resident Bishop, James E. Swanson, Jr.

More details will be in next month's issue of *Jacob's Ladder*.

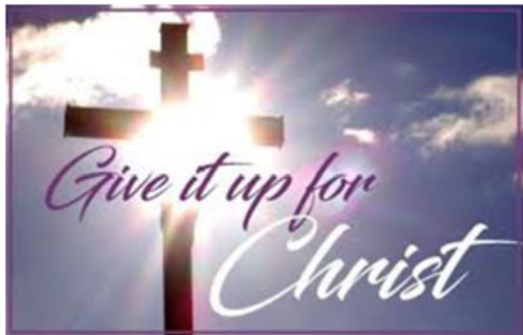
# Oxford First Membership Grows



Oxford First UMC welcomed two new members last month, Jamiah Speaks (pictured above) and Adrian “A.J.” Jones (pictured below) with Pastor Thomas.



## LENT SERMON SERIES: “Got To Give It Up”



Many of us give up certain things for the forty days of Lent, and doing so can be a very beneficial thing for us. This seven-week series takes that idea one step further and talking each week about things that God wants us to give up, not just for forty days, but forever.

Week 1. Sunday, March 1:

***Giving Up Control***

Week 2. Sunday, March 8:

***Giving Up Expectations***

Week 3. Sunday, March 15:

***Giving Up Superiority***

Week 4. Sunday, March 22:

***Giving Up Enemies***

Week 5. Sunday, March 29:

***Giving Up Our Lives***

**(Palm Sunday)**

Week 6. Sunday, April 5:

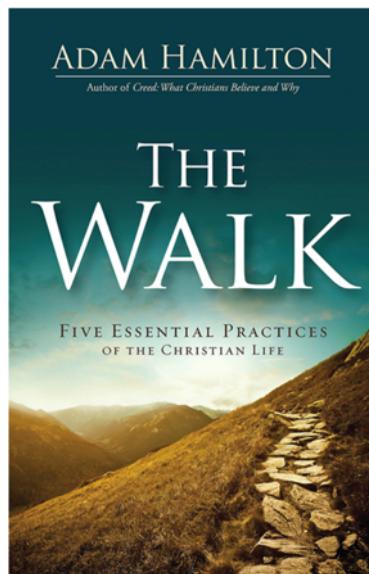
***Giving Up Popularity***

**(Easter Sunday)**

Week 7. Sunday, April 12:

***Giving Up Death***

## Lent Wednesday Night Study Series



Examine five essential spiritual practices rooted in Jesus' own walk with God.

How do we walk with Christ—daily follow him, grow in him, and faithfully serve him? Join Adam Hamilton this Lent and Easter in *The Walk* and discover five essential spiritual practices rooted in Jesus' own walk with God. In each chapter, Hamilton's engaging teaching style will help you explore one of these practices—each of which is intended to be a part of our daily walk with Christ—its New Testament foundation, and its potential effect on our personal lives and our lives together as the church.

**Study Dates: March 5, 11, 18, 25 & April 1**

**(Books can be purchased on Cokesbury  
and Amazon)**

# The Storm is Over Now



On February 23rd the youth of Oxford First put on a praise dance presentation of *The Storm is Over Now* led by the little ones performing *Freedom* for Black History Month.

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# The Glory Train



The women of Oxford First performed *The Glory Train* skit on Sunday, February 9th. *The Glory Train* is a play about a group of people who board a train to glory, but everyone doesn't get to make it that far.