



# Jacob's Ladder



A NEWSLETTER OF OXFORD FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Elder Christopher C. Diggs, Pastor

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## Prayer Still Works!

by Elder Christopher C. Diggs



Rev. Kevin Carter, Senior Pastor of Canton UMC in Canton, MS opened our 2017 Revival with this much needed sermon for all who attended our first night of revival. While many of our members and visitors had our

minds focused on the worst flooding in history that occurred in Texas and Louisiana, Pastor Carter emphasized the importance of prayer and the relevance of Jesus teaching his disciples the importance of prayer.

Members of Oxford First UMC should be commended. Our members really supported this revival with their attendance, spirituality and financial support. More importantly, God allowed us all to see the benefits in working together to promote a common cause to enhance God's Kingdom.

I was especially appreciative that my pastor, Rev. Donnell Cherry of Athens UMC in Aberdeen, MS graced us with he and his family's presence on night two of the Revival.

I want to thank everyone for their hospitality and kindness shown to our visitors on each night of our revival. It could not have been a success without a collaborative effort from all of our members, and I can honestly say with great confidence that our best days are yet ahead of us. If we continue to trust God and have faith, there is no limit to what God can do for us in our church and in our personal lives.

**Pictures courtesy of Clarence H. Franklin**



Guest Choirs



**Pictured:** (l. to r.): Kenneth Wortham, devotion leader, Min. Chris Bush, Rev. Carter and Pastor Diggs.



**Pictured:** Rev. Cherry (center) with children and Pastor Diggs with wife, Lecha and daughter, Madelyn..



**On the last night of the revival, Rev. Carter called the entire congregation to the altar for closing prayer.**



Jari (J.J.) Draper was baptized at Bethlehem M.B. Church in Millington, TN by Pastor C.D. Middleton on Sunday Aug. 20th. Jari is 5 years old, and is the son of Nicole Draper, grandson of Jenise Draper, and great-grandson of Cora Campbell,

# Soup for Seniors Is Back!!

**Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2017**

**11:00 A.M.**



**Laura Ann Cancer and Janis Blake  
Coordinators**

# True Worship

by Clarence H. Franklin

"Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. . . . But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

—JOHN 4:21, 23–24, KJV

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Worship service at Oxford First UMC has always been observed in the sanctuary of the church. That's the way it has always been. However, on Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, we had a problem. The air conditioning in the sanctuary was not working and the temperature had risen to 91 degrees inside. Keeping the words of Jesus in mind, we realized that it did not matter where we worshiped, but how. Consequently, we set up chairs in the much smaller Overflow (where the air *was* working), moved the piano and drums, and proceeded to have church. It was a glorious, spirit filled worship service. Because of the smaller room, we were closer together, making it a much more intimate affair. The presence of the Holy Spirit was evident from the start, and as worship proceeded, I don't think the congregation paid that much attention to where we were. It just goes to show that true worship has little to do with where you are, and everything to do with whether you are worshipping "in spirit and in truth."

*Jacob's Ladder*  
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PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE