



# Jacob's Ladder



A NEWSLETTER OF OXFORD FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Quennel Alexander Anderson, Pastor

Volume 26, Number 4, April 2026



FROM THE  
PASTOR'S DESK  
Rev. Quennel Anderson



## A Time of Reflection, Renewal and Faith

Dear Oxford First United Methodist Church Family, Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As we continue our sacred journey through this Lenten season, we are reminded that this is a time of reflection, renewal, and deepened faith. Lent calls us to draw closer to God through prayer, fasting, and repentance, as we prepare our hearts for the glorious celebration that is now before us. The Word of God

encourages us in **GALATIANS 6:9 (NIV)**, *“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”* **Church family, we are on the brink of that harvest!**

This coming Sunday, we will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ—a powerful reminder that death could not hold Him and the grave could not defeat Him. As declared in **MATTHEW 28:6 (NIV)**, *“He is not*



here; He has risen, just as He said.” What a mighty victory we celebrate! Because He lives, we have hope. **Because Jesus lives, we are redeemed. Because Jesus lives, we are never alone.**

Even now, as we reflect on the sacrifice made at Calvary, let us hold firmly to the promise found in **ROMANS 5:8 (NIV)**: *“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”* This is the love that carries us, sustains us, and gives us strength to endure. This is shout worthy church family!

In the midst of this holy season, we also pause to celebrate and give thanks for the blessings among us. We joyfully reaffirm the union of Clarence and Niler Franklin (pictured on page 1) as they celebrate 50 years of marriage. What a beautiful testimony of enduring love, commitment, and God’s faithfulness. As **ECCLESIASTES 4:12** reminds us, *“A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.”* May their journey continue to inspire us all. Love still exist!

We also celebrate with great joy Carl Goolsby (pictured below), who has come forward as a

candidate for baptism. This is a powerful step of faith and a public declaration of new life in Christ. As written in **2 CORINTHIANS 5:17 (NIV)**, *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”* Let us uplift him in prayer as he prepares to take this sacred step.

Church family, let us continue to pray for one another. We especially lift up the Murray and Wortham families during their time of bereavement. God reminds us in **PSALM 34:18 (NIV)**, *“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”* May His comforting presence surround them and grant them peace that surpasses all understanding!

As we approach Resurrection Sunday, let us remain steadfast in our faith, unwavering in our hope, and committed to walking in love. Continue to seek the Lord, encourage one another, and hold fast to His promises.

Let us press on together, knowing that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is alive within us.

With love, grace, and **Resurrection** hope.

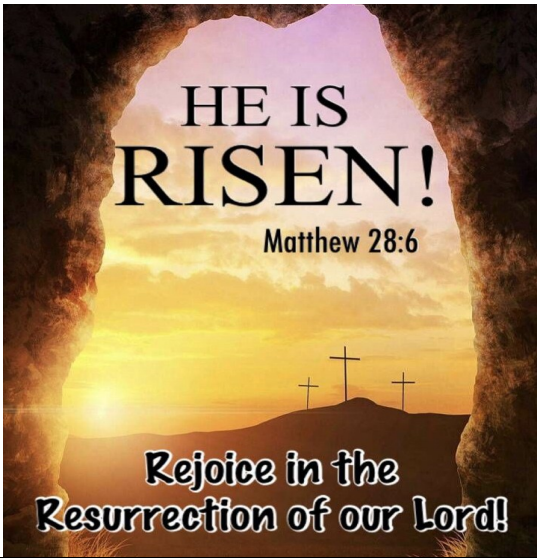




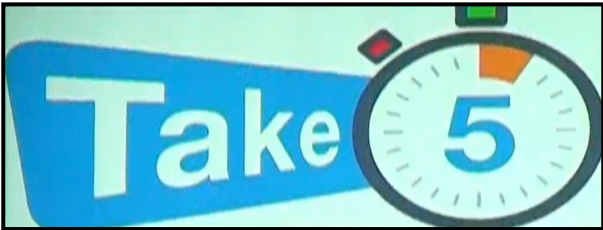
**50th Anniversary Celebration:** Clarence and Niler had many family members and friends to join them in their celebration from Oxford, Starkville, MS and Atlanta, GA.



**A Special Shout-out goes to Carl Goolsby:** He brought organization to the church storage room by designing and installing the shelves pictured above.



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On Sunday, March 1, 2026, Sis. Minnie Milliner was the Take 5 speaker.

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PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE