



# Jacob's Ladder



A NEWSLETTER OF OXFORD FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Roger Wilson, Pastor

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## Charge Conference 2023

by Rev. Mattie Gipson



Once a year each local United Methodist church elects officers, sets the budget, and looks ahead to activities and ministries that are projected for the coming year. Charge Conferences can take various forms but it is the legal way of operating the business of the church. Forms are filled out listing the officers for the coming year, the budget, and various committee reports.

Once these forms have been completed they are submitted to the District Superintendent for review. After this review and a Pastoral Consultation with the District Superintendent, a meeting is set to present this information to the congregation. This meeting is called THE CHARGE CONFERENCE. This year Oxford First UMC was host to the Lafayette County

United Methodist Cluster Charge Conference. The UMC churches participating along with OFUMC were Beverly, Salem, Buford Chapel, Providence, St. Andrews, and West St. Peter.

The Conference's overall theme this year was UNITY. Each Pastor took part in the Worship Service and a Lay Member from each church shared a Glory Sighting, something special their church is doing to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

Following these sharings, a mission offering was taken. The offering went to support Honey in the Rock, a mission program in Tupelo that provides food for the hungry.

Our District Superintendent, The Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly, then shared with us a few things about herself and the vision she has for the Tupelo-New Albany District. A major vision is for churches to work together, share resources, share ministries, and above all

share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with those we meet in our day-to-day lives.

Dr. Miskelly called for Responses of Affirmation from each Congregation to ratify the reports that have been submitted by the various entities. Each church had the opportunity to vote on its leaders, budgets, and activities for 2024.

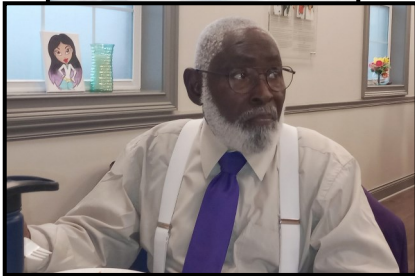
A brief Memorial Time was shared as candles were lit representing those persons who have crossed into eternity.

Our Charge Conference concluded with a prayer of Blessing by Superintendent Miskelly and a blessing of the food we were about to share. Dr. Miskelly emphasized the importance of breaking bread together during our Christian journey. As we eat we often learn from each other and discover ways we can be in ministry together. An excellent meal was enjoyed by all.

Pictures of the event presented below . . .









**Trinity's Day:** On Sunday, November 26th, Trinity Herron read the Old Testament scripture and blessed the church with a Praise Dance to *You Know My Name!*.

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**OFUMC Food and Outreach Ministry is now accepting donations for our ICS Headstart classrooms. Each family is asked to donate 1 girl and 1 boy toy by the first week of December. Please see Minister Gracie Spearman for more information.**



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