

The Messenger

JUNE 2020
Vol. 62 No. 6



from the Pastor

Preachers often express the humorous statement to each other about challenges they face in church with the phrase, “I never learned that in seminary.” Seminary is vital training for ministry types but not every situation that comes up in church life is addressed in the hallowed halls of a seminary. Here’s one that I never learned in Seminary: *How do you lead a church to reopen services after quarantine during a pandemic?* Perhaps today’s students will explore this in the years ahead and

probably learn from our mistakes and successes.

As re-opening of some meetings at FBC begins, I’d like to give you a challenge.

First, let’s agree to respect each other’s strong views about the pandemic.

Respect means to have “*a due regard for the feelings, wishes, rights or traditions of others.*” The pandemic has certainly caused a wide gamut of opinions. While some hold that it’s all a political conspiracy, others say it’s a health crisis of life and death. I don’t know who is right. But I know the Bible teaches: (1 Peter 2:17) — *Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.*

Second, let’s agree to be more concerned about others than ourselves.

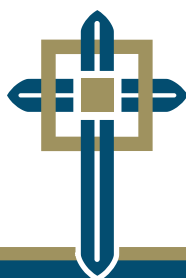
Again the Bible instructs us: (1 Corinthians 10: 24) — *No one should seek their own good, but the good of others.* We don’t have to change everyone’s opinion to match ours. Instead, we can move beyond worldly selfishness to value others in the Body of Christ. One of the ways that the body of Christ shows its beauty best is when people “*with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love*” are “*eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace*” (Ephesians 4:2-3).

Third, let’s agree to be flexible. As we open up our meetings to give more and more people the chance to be together, things may look a lot different for a while. Most of these things will be temporary. We just don’t know how long ‘temporary’ will last. So, try some new things and realize this is a season in the life of FBC. You may have to sit somewhere different, wear something different, or interact differently for a time.

Finally, let’s agree to celebrate our coming together. The staff and leadership of First Baptist Church have done our best to minister during this strange time. Hopefully when we meet in the near future, we’ll be grateful for the chance to be together.

Let’s remember our purpose in coming together. Our purpose is to honor and glorify Jesus Christ who is our Savior and our Lord. Any other reason is far secondary.

Don



FIRST BAPTIST *Oxford*

800 Van Buren Ave., Oxford MS 38655 ■ 662.234.3515

f fbcoxford t @fbcoxford ■ www.gotofirst.org

June

JUNE 3

6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom

JUNE 7

10 a.m. Sunday School on Zoom

11 a.m. Worship Service online

7 p.m. Sunday PM for Youth

JUNE 10

6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom

JUNE 13

7:30 a.m. Men's Ministry Workday

JUNE 14

10 a.m. Sunday School on Zoom

11 a.m. Worship Service online

7 p.m. Sunday PM for Youth

JUNE 17

6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom

JUNE 18

6:30 p.m. Women's Ministry Book Club
on Zoom

JUNE 19

Deadline to register for VBS!

Register at gotofirst.org/vbs

JUNE 21

10 a.m. Sunday School on Zoom

11 a.m. Worship Service online

7 p.m. Sunday PM for Youth

JUNE 22-26

Middle School Wild Week, 6 p.m. nightly

JUNE 24

6 p.m. Prayer Meeting on Zoom

JUNE 28

10 a.m. Sunday School on Zoom

11 a.m. Worship Service online

6 p.m. Summer Fellowship Night

7 p.m. Sunday PM for Youth

Zoom meeting numbers are sent out through church-wide email prior to each meeting. If you would like to be added to our email list to receive meeting access, send a request to pcarter@gotofirst.org.



June 28
July 12 & 19

6 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Snack Supper
Bible Study for Adults
Activities for children grades 1-6

Our Family

Budget May 1-24 2020

Budget	\$162,540.50
Building	\$1,240.00
Designated	\$39,987.20
Total	\$203,767.70
Annie Armstrong	\$ 17,397.00

Our Sympathy

To Mrs. Ruthann Gordon and family after the loss of her grandson Mr. Ted Lucas "Luke" Smith III

To Mr. Craig and Mrs. Brenda Gordon after the loss of Craig's mother Mrs. Polly M. Gordon.

To Mr. Billie Gene Johnson after the loss of his sister, Mrs. Martha Ella Johnson Norwood.

Deacons of the Week

May 31-	Brad Golmon, Jim Rose,
June 6	Lane Wilson
June 7-13	Michael Meurrier, Bobby Clanton, Gary Carter
June 14-20	Fred Johnson, Paul Hale, Nelson Little
June 21-27	Jeff Busby, David Erhart, Michael Ferris
June 28- July 4	Craig Kirkendall, Daniel Denton, Jason Simon

WAYS TO GIVE

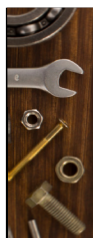
Online: gotofirst.org

Text to Give: [instructions at gotofirst.org/give](http://instructions.at.gotofirst.org/give)

Mail: FBC, 800 Van Buren Ave., Oxford, MS 38655

MEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

mm@gotofirst.org



SATURDAY WORKDAY: JUNE 13

Email mm@gotofirst.org to sign up!

Our workday will be the second Saturday of each month.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

wmin@gotofirst.org

Monthly Book Club Thursday, June 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Zoom link sent out the day of the call. Email wmin@gotofirst.org to be added.

MISSION & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Questions? Contact Jeff Holeman at 662.234.3515 or wigtake@gmail.com

Online Oaxaca Leadership Training.

Selected evenings this summer. If you would like to help lead a training time, please call Jeff Holeman. Materials and training provided. Translation to Spanish will be provided.

Oaxaca Women's Trip. November 5 to 10.

\$200 per person. Ministry to women in villages.

Oaxaca Leadership Training. November 12 to 16.

\$200 per person. Training church leaders for effective ministry.

Rome, Italy Mission Trip. December 10 to 19.

Ministry to refugees, college students, and missionary families. Trip includes time seeing major sites in Rome. Cost is \$1400 includes all expenses. \$400 deposit is due August 1.



Let our FBC Oxford Errand Runners help with groceries and other errands! Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday afternoons! Call the church office at (662) 234-3515 to schedule your personal Errand Runner today!

If you can volunteer to be available to help by going shopping, picking up medicine, paying a bill, visiting the bank, etc. please call Pam Carter at (662) 234-3515. You will be needed from 1:30-4 p.m. on the day/days you volunteer. We will meet at church at 1:30 p.m. each day to get assignments.



SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Sundays at 5 p.m. on Zoom.

We are studying I Peter. If you are interested in joining this study, email lynndyfurdle@gmail.com for Zoom meeting information.

ENGLISH LEARNERS' CLASS FOR WOMEN

Mondays at 10 a.m. on Zoom.

If you know someone who would like to participate (learning or leading), email lynndyfurdle@gmail.com for Zoom meeting information.



Food Drive for the Oxford Pantry

Sponsored by the FBC Oxford Student Ministry

We need flour, rice, soup, dry beans, cooking oil (peanut or canola), and canned fruit (peaches preferred).

It's not too late to give to the Pantry. Take items to the Pantry or call the church office for a pick-up.



A word from the **FBC LIBRARY**

During this time of the library being closed, you can still checkout books!

Email your book requests to library@gotofirst.org and we will make arrangements to get the book(s) to you. To see some of the books available, check out the links at gotofirst.org/library.

COLLEGE NEWS

@FirstOxfordCM

The 2020 First Baptist Oxford...

COLLEGE BEACH CAMP

August 2 to 6. Laguna Beach, Florida.

Don and Melinda Gann, Bible Study Leaders

Cost: \$150 Covers all expenses except meals while traveling.

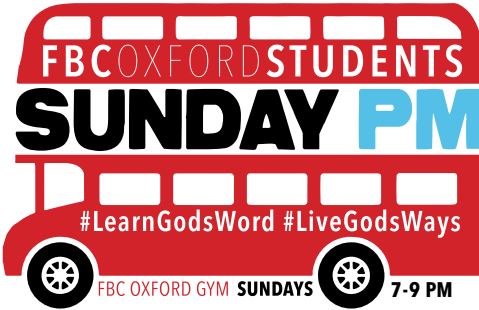
Space is limited to 30! Register today!
\$50 deposit is due now. Balance due July 24!

Questions?
Email Pam Carter at pcarter@gotofirst.org.

2020 College Beach Retreat. August 2 to 6. Laguna Beach, FL.
\$150 per person includes all costs except meals while traveling.

Lifeway's Collegiate Week was cancelled.

STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS



SUNDAY PM June 7, 14, 21, 28
(Summer hours are 7 to 9 pm)

WILD WEEK

Middle School WILD WEEK.
June 22 to 26. 6 to 9 pm. Food, Fun,
Worship and Bible Study!

Beach Camp 2020

(for all youth) will be **July 27 to 30**
at Laguna Beach Retreat in Panama City
Beach, Florida. Cost is \$150 per person.
Only 4 spots left!

The Big 7 Trip

(7th and 8th graders!) has been moved to Fall Break.
October 9 to 12. Cost is \$150 per
person. Laguna Beach Retreat in Panama
City Beach, Florida. More details to come.

PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S NEWS

Preschool Sunday School Lessons are posted on Facebook each week
[@FirstBaptistOxfordPreschoolMinistry](https://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistOxfordPreschoolMinistry)

Children's Sunday School Lessons are posted on facebook each week
[@FirstBaptistOxfordChildren](https://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistOxfordChildren) and access to Gospel Project videos and resources
are available at gotofirst.org/children

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL HELP WANTED!

- Organizing T-shirts
- Assembling craft kits
- Putting together the Bible story folders
- Assembling the buckets
- Distributing the buckets (July 14-15, 2 - 4 pm
and July 16, 6 - 7:30 pm)

Contact Dina Addy, (662) 837-0797
or diaddy@gotofirst.org to volunteer!



FIRST BAPTIST OXFORD

VBS in a Bucket

**Virtual VBS
July 20-24**

**CONCRETE
& CRANES**
Philippians 1:6

**3 year olds -
6th grade**

Each family will receive a bucket containing everything you need to do VBS at home!

Register kids in your family by June 19 so we'll know what supplies you'll need!

More info at gotofirst.org/vbs



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