

The O.U. Reporter

THE MARRIAGE COURSE

OPEN HEARTS
OPEN MINDS
OPEN DOORS

January 22, 2009
Issue No. 57

Worship Schedule

Sunday, January 25

Worship Service—8:45 a.m., 9:00 a.m. & 10:55 a.m.

Fellowship Time—9:30 a.m.

Sunday School—9:45 a.m.

Genesis Ringers—4:30 p.m.

Celebration Ringers—5:30 p.m.

Jr. High U.M.Y.F.—5:30 p.m.

Sr. High U.M.Y.F.—6:45 p.m.

Wednesday, January 28

Children's Choisters—3:30 p.m.

Holy Communion—6:00 p.m.

Youth Choir—6:00 p.m.

Chancel Choir—7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 1

Worship Service—8:45 a.m., 9:00 a.m. & 10:55 a.m.

Fellowship Time—9:30 a.m.

Sunday School—9:45 a.m.

Genesis Ringers—4:30 p.m.

Celebration Ringers—5:30 p.m.

Jr. High U.M.Y.F.—5:30 p.m.

Sr. High U.M.Y.F.—6:45 p.m.

Wednesday, February 4

Children's Choisters—3:30 p.m.

Wednesday Night Supper—5:15 p.m.

Holy Communion—6:00 p.m.

W.O.W.—6:00 p.m.

Youth Choir—6:00 p.m.

Chancel Choir—7:00 p.m.

There is not a better Valentine's gift than to commit to a weekly date spending time with your spouse showing each other you care about maintaining your marriage no matter how long or short ago you took your vows.

WHAT IS THE MARRIAGE COURSE?

The **Marriage Course** is very practical, giving any married couple the tools to build a strong and healthy marriage that lasts a lifetime.

Over **eight evenings** spent together, couples talk about important issues that can get swept under the carpet in the rush of daily life.

Topics covered include: recognizing each others' needs, learning to communicate effectively, resolving conflict, healing past hurts, knowing how to make each other feel loved, relating to parents and in-laws, good sex, making time for each other, and having fun together.

Privacy as a couple is always respected. There is **no** group discussion and no requirement to disclose anything about your relationship to anyone else.

WHAT'S INVOLVED?

Each evening begins with a **simple meal**. There is then a talk, followed by an opportunity to discuss the topic together as a couple. The setting is welcoming, relaxed, and unthreatening.

The course runs from **February 8 to April 5 on Sunday evenings from 4:45 p.m. to 7 p.m.** (excluding the week of spring break).

The cost of the course is **\$100 per couple, made payable to OUUMC, due by Feb. 8**. This cost covers the curriculum, manuals, dinner, and dessert for the entire eight weeks.

Please complete the registration form below or email dkelly@ouumc.org to sign up.

WHO IS IT FOR?

The Marriage Course is for any married couple who wants to build a strong and lasting relationship, especially:

- Those who want to enhance their marriage
- Those in the first five years of marriage
- Those at a challenging stage in their marriage, like a birth of child, career change, teenagers at home, or the "empty nest."
- Those struggling with issues in their marriage

QUESTIONS?

Please feel free to contact any of the following couples who are leading this course:

Will & Stephanie Berry stephanie.s.berry@gmail.com

Danny & Ann Kelly dkelly@ouumc.org

Warren & Janis Black office@ouumc.org

MARRIAGE COURSE REGISTRATION FORM

Please fill in this form and send it with your payment to the church office:

Name: _____

Email: _____

Home phone: _____

Cell phone: _____

PRAYERS

- Jenny Arnold
- Mildred Davis
- Bob Ellis
- Marie Gillis
- Buddy Gresham
- Cecil Locke
- Sarah Robinson
- Charles and Ann Scott
- Mary Swayze

- Jackie Atkins, Jack Atkins' mother
- Jerry Buntin, Rodney Holley's step-father
- Fritz Costley, Christine Costley's brother
- Jordan Deakes, Pat Williams's nephew
- Julie Deakes, Pat Williams's niece
- Sherry Felder, Bert Felder's wife
- Eva Grayson, Sandra Kennedy's mother
- Theola Grissom, Janice Martin's mother
- Kathy Haynes, Richard Hopper's sister
- Orell Hedgepeth, Jacky Sparks' mother
- Elizabeth Jones, Mary Beth Mobley's aunt
- Jeanne Jones, Jennifer Taylor's grandmother
- Dianne Martin, Bo Martin's mother
- William Miller, Cecilia Marshall's uncle
- Cora Norman, Bob Norman's mother
- Ginger Pepper, Will Pepper's mother
- Tommie Sue Rhodes, Billy Rhodes' mother
- Rebecca Robertson, Jim Taylor's sister
- Joanne Rone, Scott Rone's mother
- Francis Scott, Shellie Ross' grandfather
- Deborah Thompson, Pat Forrester's cousin
- Melinda Thornburg, Julianna Ross' sister
- Hayden Thornton, Ree Moses' mother
- Lois Thornton, Suzanne Spruiell's mother
- Ann Moore Tucker, Laura Parkinson's cousin
- Patsy Waller, Beth Rosson's mother
- Willie Wicker, Walter Wicker's mother
- Martha Witherspoon, Kara Giles' mother

Personnel Update

Liz Clayton, OU's administrator of finance and programs, tendered her resignation on Sunday, January 18, effective immediately. The rest of the staff will fill in and assume extra duties and tasks. Staff responsibilities to be detailed later.

—John King
Staff Parish Chair

**Administrative Council
Monday, January 26
5:15 p.m.
Activities Center**

The Finance Committee met Monday, Jan. 12th to make the final decision on the budget proposal. The Administrative Council will be presented with the 2009 Budget for approval at this meeting.

—Joyce Whittington
Administrative Council Chair

Pledge Update 2009

Amount Pledged: \$972,210
Total pledges through January 20, 2009: 235

Pledge cards are available in the narthex and the church office.

If your financial circumstances change, you may adjust your pledge at any time.

Budget Update

Proposed Budget for 2009: \$1,333,646
Pending Administrative Council approval on Monday, January 26.

2008 Budget Information

Receipts 2008 General Fund—\$1,462,708.67
Expenditures 2008 General—\$1,486,077.78
Receipts for Capital Campaign—\$339,928
Balance on Building Loan—\$882,284.69

Please note that books have not been closed for 2008 and there may be some minor reconciling items before final numbers are published.

**PRESENCE
Sunday Worship**

January 11

Sunday School	370
8:45 a.m.	141
9:00 a.m.	128
10:55 a.m.	307

January 18

Sunday School	316
8:45 a.m.	112
9:00 a.m.	102
10:55 a.m.	333

**Holy Communion
January 8
January 15**

*Christian Love and Sympathy
is Extended to*

Natalie and Eli Ryan in the death
of their father, Greg Ryan

In Memoriam
Sue N. Vernon
*November 30, 1922-January 15,
2009*

Congratulations to
Eric and Shea Graeber whose
daughter Grafton Lee was born
January 9. She is the grand-
daughter of David and Debby
Pritchett.

New Members



Jason and Eason Futch
1077 Augusta Drive
259-2681

The Futch family joined OU on January 11 from Savannah, Georgia. Jason works with Thyssen-Krupp Elevators and Eason is a home-

maker. They previously attended Isle of Hope United Methodist Church. They have three children, Andrew, 2, Bowen, 1, and Olivia, 5. They both attended Ole Miss.



Edward and Gayle Lee
326 Russell Drive
234-0366

Gayle and Edward joined OU on January 11 from a sister denomination in Oxford. Ed retired from the FBI and also worked in security for

the NFL. Gayle, a graduate of Millsaps, is a homemaker. They have two grown children, Virginia and David, and one granddaughter.

You are invited
Habitat Dedication
Sunday, January 25
2:00 p.m.
5001 Forrest Circle
(Brittany Woods)

Please join us as we celebrate the completion of OUUMC's fifth Habitat house, belonging to Barbara Walker and her grandsons Tae and Jalen.

The Pantry's Most Wanted List

If you would like to donate food to the Pantry, here are the most-wanted items:

- Ground beef
- Ground turkey
- Turkey breasts
- Chicken breasts
- Chicken fillets
- Sausage

These items may be brought to the church. Please label your donations "Pantry" and bring it to the church office.

Baptisms



Oliva Grace Stanley
was baptized on January 18. She is the daughter of Candace and Chris Stanley. She is the granddaughter of Mickey and Nancy Carole King.

Small Group Studies

Beth Moore Bible Study—Esther

Tuesdays beginning January 27
1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Conference 327

Angelita Morris will be facilitating Beth Moore's newest Bible Study starting January 27. "Esther--It's Tough Being a Women" is an i-depth and very personal examination of this great story of threat and deliverance. Beth Moore peels back the layers of history to show how contemporary and applicable the story of Esther is to our lives. If you've ever felt inadequate, threatened or pushed into situations that seem overpowering, this is the study for you.

Esther is a profile in courage and contains many modern parallels for today's women. Esther's destiny can be yours as you know more deeply the God who is in your corner. Just as it was tough being a women in Esther's day, it is tough today. This portion of God's Word contains treasures to aid us in our hurried, harried, and pressured lives. This is a nine-week study and will meet each Tuesday from 1 until 3. If you are interested contact Angelita Morris at angelita49@bellsouth.net or call 281-1543.

Job and the Life of Faith

Wednesdays beginning February 4
10:30 a.m.
Conference 327

Have you ever wondered why do bad things happen to good people? Why do goods things happen to bad people? Is there a correspondence between sin and suffering, obedience and blessing? Can God be trusted? Why should we serve God if there are no guarantees?

Come and wrestle with these questions in an 8 week study of the book of Job led by Danny Kelly beginning Wednesday, February 4 at 10:30 in the new conference room 327. Hope to see you there.

Get on board for Wednesday Nights at OU



Comfort Sta-

tion

Come for the food, stay for the fellowship.
Wednesdays beginning February 4, 5:15 p.m., Activities Center

OUUMC will serve comfort food prepared by some of our congregation's greatest chefs. Reservations are required for these Wednesday night meals.

The first Comfort Station meal will be February 4. You may make your reservations beginning now.

Reservations or cancellations by phone or email (234-5278 or dkelly@ouumc.org) must be made by **Monday at noon prior to the meal.**

Please fill out the following information and return it to the church office.

Comfort Station Reservation

Name: _____

of Adults (\$6 each): _____ # of Children (\$3 each) _____
(\$20 maximum per family) Please pay at the door each week.

One-time reservation: Meal Date: _____

Full semester reservation (10 meals):

Discovery Day School and Mother's Morning Out Registration



It's that time! Registration for the 2009-2010 Discovery Day School and Mother's Morning Out classes will begin **Monday, February 2**. Registration packets are available in the preschool office for anyone wishing to register a new student for either program. No completed registration packets will be accepted prior to February 2. **Church members and other priority registrants must return completed registration packets between 9:00 a.m. on Monday, February 2, and noon on Friday February 6.** Non-priority registrants are encouraged to turn in their registration packets as soon as possible beginning February 2 as most programs fill early. Any places not reserved by priority registrants by the February 6 deadline will be filled with new students. Please spread the word to any friends or neighbors who are interested in Discovery Day School or Mother's Morning Out for next year.

Mother's Morning Out, on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, is open to children 18 months and older. Discovery Day School, for three- and four-year-olds, offers the choice of three mornings a week or five mornings a week.

For more information, please contact Susan Phillips any weekday morning at 234-3371 or come by the preschool office.

CHILDREN'S MESSENGER

W.O.W. Volunteers

Parents interested in helping out with our W.O.W. activities on Wednesday nights, please contact Adrian Shipman, chair of W.O.W., @236-6585 abshipman@gmail.com or Pat Forrester, Director of Children's Ministry, 234-4293 or pforester@ouumc.org.

W.O.W. will begin February 4 at 6 p.m.

Children's Church Volunteers

Children's Church is for our younger children, 4 years and older, who are too old for the nursery and too young to sit in the Worship service. The willing parents of children who attend Children's Church are put on a volunteer schedule to help out and lead our children once every 10-12 weeks. Materials, curriculum, games, movies, and ideas are provided. Reach out to Children's Ministry and enjoy the gift of our children.

If you wish to volunteer please contact Children's office, 234-4293 or pforester@ouumc.org

YOUTH NEWS

Hey everybody from the young people at OUUMC!

We had a great time at OVERFLOW²⁰⁰⁸ at Camp Lake Stephens over the New Years holiday. We spent time singing songs, learning about God, gathered around a bonfire and were treated to an incredible fireworks show! I am excited to see the impact the retreat will have on our young people here at OU, and pray God will use the experience to help us all grow closer to Christ.

Here are some upcoming events that we hope to see you at:

January 30—Movie Night! Meet us in room 201 for a movie and popcorn - 6:30pm!

February 1—Superbowl party at Blake and Denise Smith's! I'm guessing, Steelers 31 - Cards 24.

March 8—WINTERJAM in Tupelo - a concert of Christian performers that will rock your face off!

And as always, if you are interested in volunteering or helping with the Youth here in any way, please let me know!



Missions-Outreach Moment: American Red Cross



Directed by James "Bebo" Howell, our local Red Cross helps families in crisis and provides first aid and other training. In its last fiscal year, ARC helped more than 221 individuals in Lafayette County and Red Cross's other five counties after fires, and provided about \$33,000 in financial assistance for people in these and other crisis situations. In 2009, O-U will donate \$200 our local ARC; this will be used for training needs or emergency equipment such as cots for people in Oxford shelters.

O-U works with ARC as an approved emergency shelter. After February 2008's tornado, O-U housed 17 people, fed about 600 meals, and provided money for gasoline and/or other expenses for about 30 families. In 2008 Red Cross has also trained about 20 O-U volunteers in First Aid, CPR, and AED.

Last year O-U UMW (United Methodist Women) worked with St Andrews UMW to provide more than 150 comfort (toiletry) kits for Red Cross. We maintain a box for donations of soap, small shampoos, combs, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and other toiletries for this project in the Wesley Hall kitchen. As a result of this work and monies given to Red Cross for training supplies, O-U and St Andrews UMWs were recognized by Red Cross in 2007 as its outstanding faith-based partners.

Notes from the Past

ONE HUNDRED FIFTY YEARS AGO. The second Quarterly Conference for Oxford and Andrew Chapel (Memphis Conference, Grenada District) met at the church on February 19, 1859. Rev. J. J. W. Auld was chair. T. L. Harris was named secretary. There were no written reports except the one stating that the quarterly payments of \$50 to the presiding elder and \$35 to the pastor in charge had been made.

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY YEARS AGO: At the first quarterly conference, held on January 9, 1899, it was reported that the membership of the church was 159, that the church owned two houses of worship (valued at \$7,700), and that the parsonage was valued at \$2,000. The answer to the question "What are we doing for the American Bible Society?," the answer was "Nothing yet." Sunday school attendance had "not been good, owing to bad weather." As to the state of the church, the minister responded that "Continuous bad weather has repeatedly interfered with our services. But our faith is strong that the Lord will this year give us a great spiritual revival." Unfortunately, "the charges against [a minister] are sustained by the facts in the case." It was therefore "Resolved by the Quarterly Conference of this Oxford Station, Grenada District, North Mississippi Conference, that the Rev. ... be and hereby is expelled from the ministry of membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South."

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO: At the first quarterly conference on January 13, 1909, the minister listed "the things to be aimed at this year": Fuller activity in the various auxiliaries of the church, a deeper experience for each member of the church, an earnest effort to save every lost person in the community, a removal of the church debt, and a remodeling of the parsonage."

SIXTY YEARS AGO. Mrs. C.M. (Doris) Murry was named leader of Circle Number 1 of the Women's Society in January 1949.

FORTY YEARS AGO: On January 19, 1969, the church sponsored a benefit supper, with proceeds going to "aid Miss Sue Robinson in her work as a missionary in Algeria."

THIRTY YEARS AGO: Dorothy Walton (Laurenzo) and Missy Gafford (McCracken) were acolytes on January 14, 1979, Steven Brammer and Philip Tettleton on January 21, and Dayna Bailey and Christi Kinney on January 28. Julia Larson and Alex Kulcsar were married in the sanctuary on January 20. Don Fruge spoke to the United Methodist Men at their potluck-supper meeting on January 31. He spoke about wills and estates.

TWENTY YEARS AGO: Justin Crockett joined the church on January 1, 1989, Elaine May on January 29, 1989.

TEN YEARS AGO: Susan Lloyd, Scott Dunavent, Al and Marilyn Taylor, and Corley and Kyle Wicker joined the church on January 10, 1999, Lori Chandler and Judy and Chris Riddell on January 17, Jamie and Sam Jaudon on January 24, Mrs. Ben Barnes on January 31. Morgan Upton was baptized on January 10.

OXFORD-UNIVERSITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
424 SOUTH TENTH STREET
OXFORD, MS 38655

Phone: 234-5278 Fax: 234-4202 Website: <http://www.ouumc.org>

Non-Profit Organization
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Our Church Staff:			
	Name	Phone	E-mail
Pastor	Warren Black	234-5278	office@ouumc.org
Associate Pastor	Claire Dobbs	234-5278	cdobbs@ouumc.org
Minister to Older Adults	Frank Poole	281-8103	fpoole@bellsouth.net
Director of Facilities and Fellowship	Danny Kelly	234-5278	dkelly@ouumc.org
Director of Youth and College Ministries	J Johnson	234-4220	j@theoxu.org
Director of Children's Ministries	Pat Forrester	234-4293	pforrester@ouumc.org
Director of Preschool Programs	Susan Phillips	234-3371	schove2002@yahoo.com
Director of Music	Lee Uhlhorn	234-7102	Lee7@dixie-net.com
Journey Coordinator	Julianna Ross	832-9888	juliannaross@hotmail.com
Admin. Assistant to the Pastors	Barbara Camp	234-2680	bcamp@ouumc.org
Communications Coordinator	Emilie Bramlett	234-5278	ebramlett@ouumc.org
Music Associate	Dasha Teelin	234-5278	dbteelin@yahoo.com
Organist	Jason Derrick	234-5278	wjderrick@olemiss.edu
Receptionist	Jan Estes	234-5278	jestes@ouumc.org
Bookkeeper	Sylvia Harvey	234-5278	office@ouumc.org
Lead Custodian	James Young	234-5278	office@ouumc.org