

The O.U. Reporter

Prayers for Lent

OPEN HEARTS
OPEN MINDS
OPEN DOORS

February 25, 2010
Issue No. 79

Worship Schedule

Sunday, February 28

Worship Service—8:45 a.m., 9:00 a.m. & 10:55 a.m.
Fellowship Time—9:30 a.m.
Sunday School—10:00 a.m.
Confirmation Class—3:30 p.m.
Marriage Course—4:45 p.m.
Genesis Ringers—5:00 p.m.
F.I.S.H.—5:30 p.m.
U.M.Y.F. Dinner—6:30 p.m.
Youth Worship—7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 3

Lenten Luncheon—12:00 p.m.
Children's Choristers—4:00 p.m.
Comfort Station Meal—5:00 p.m.
Way of the Cross—6:00 p.m.
Youth Choir—6:00 p.m.
Celebration Ringers—6:00 p.m.
Chancel Choir—7:00 pm.

Sunday, March 7

Worship Service—8:45 a.m., 9:00 a.m. & 10:55 a.m.
Fellowship Time—9:30 a.m.
Sunday School—10:00 a.m.
Confirmation Class—3:30 p.m.
Marriage Course—4:45 p.m.
Genesis Ringers—5:00 p.m.
F.I.S.H.—5:30 p.m.
U.M.Y.F. Dinner—6:30 p.m.
Youth Worship—7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 10

Lenten Luncheon—12:00 p.m.
Children's Choristers—4:00 p.m.
Comfort Station Meal—5:00 p.m.
Way of the Cross—6:00 p.m.
Youth Choir—6:00 p.m.
Celebration Ringers—6:00 p.m.
Chancel Choir—7:00 pm.



O Lord during these 40 days of Lent, as I walk with you toward the cross, help me learn to accept and forgive myself as you accept and forgive me.

Help me let go of my fears and go into an uncharted world I've never been before—knowing you go with me. May I face the future, as far as possible, with “faith in the foreground and my fears in the background.”

I pray whatever trials and temptations come—and they will come—that I will trust you more than anyone or anything else and if I, in your strength, am able to do this, I know that you will never leave me to face my fears alone. Amen.

—written by Warren Black

Prayer for Ash Wednesday/Lent by Henri Nouwen

I am still so divided. I truly want to follow you, but I also want to follow my own desires and lend an ear to the voices that speak about prestige, success, human respect, pleasure, power and influence. Help me become deaf to these voices and more attentive to your voice, which calls me to choose the narrow road to life.

I know that Lent is going to be a very hard time for me. The choice for your way has to be made every moment of my life. I have to choose thoughts that are your thoughts, words that are your words, and actions that are your actions. There are no times or places without choices. And I know how deeply I resist choosing you.

Please, Lord, be with me at every moment and in every place. Give me the strength and the courage to live this season faithfully, so that, when Easter comes, I will be able to taste with joy the new life which you have prepared for me. Amen.



UMYF Summer Trip Registration and Deposits due
Sunday, February 28!

Jr. High Trip to Atlanta: \$50

Sr. High Trip to Chicago: \$100

Download registration forms at theoxu.org.

PRAYERS

- Frank Anderson
- Bea Bratton
- Lou Breazeale
- Bill Champion
- Clyde Coltharp
- Mildred Davis
- Emma Frances Landrum
- Rachel Lewand
- Shirley McCauley
- Mary Swayze
- Charles Walker
- Margaret Weems

- Daniel Allen, Lorraine Wagster's nephew
- Peggy Butler, Beth Rasberry's mother
- Howard Cole, Kevin Cole's father
- Ann Logan Edwards, Mary Beth Mobley's sister-in-law
- Eva Grayson, Sandra Kennedy's mother
- Earl Hampton, Jim Hampton's brother
- Daisy Harris, Jim Hellums' sister
- Mary Humphries, Cathy Cox's mother
- Elizabeth Jones, Mary Beth Mobley's aunt
- Paul Klotz, Cile Downer's son-in-law
- Adrian Langendoen, Eddie Langendoen's father
- Blanche Miller, Cecilia Marshall's mother
- Susan Osterberg, Bert Felder's daughter
- Trey Poole, Wanda Poole's grandson
- Tommie Sue Rhodes, Billy Rhodes' mother
- Elizabeth Roberts, Susan Thomason's grandmother
- Rebecca Robertson, Jim Taylor's sister
- Joanne Rone, Scott Rone's mother
- Tony Schneider, Chris Schneider's father
- Mitch Schuck, Donna Killen's father
- Lindie Scott, Shea Scott's sister-in-law
- Deborah Thompson, Pat Forrester's cousin
- Hayden Thornton, Marie Moses' mother
- Beverly Tucker, Charlie Black's sister

Budget Update

Danny Kelly, director of Finance and Facilities, has been on the Living Waters mission trip to Mexico. We will update the budget report when he returns.

We are still in the process of closing the 2009 financial books and will report the year-end numbers as soon as they are available.

—The Finance Team

Health Kits for Haiti Update

Thanks to everyone in our church and community, we now have **474 kits** to deliver! Our trip to UMCOR will be March 11 - 14th in Baldwin, Louisiana. We need folks to help load the van after services on March 10th (6:30 p.m.), since we will be leaving early Thursday morning, March 11th. Contact Antoinette Bethea for more information or if you would like to help (abethea442@aol.com).

Special thanks also to Bubba Brame for counting and checking that each kit had all the pieces.

Mission Outreach Moment: The Pantry

The Pantry is Oxford's food distribution agency serving the needy. It is run entirely by volunteers. The Pantry helped almost 8000 clients last year, including more than 40 home-bound whose food is delivered. In January, headed by Mariella Scott and Barbara Mitchell, O-U organized workers to stock the shelves and dispense food at the facility. Page and Reida Broadway are active in Pantry leadership; June Rosentreter heads the Empty Bowls yearly event held to support the Pantry; George Rosentreter is the Pantry treasurer.

The Pantry added an extra day in February, 2009. Clients under 65 are served on Wednesday; clients 65 or over come on Thursday. O-U Missions has budgeted a donation of \$1500 for The Pantry for 2010.

PRESENCE

Sunday Worship

February 10	
Sunday School	349
8:45 a.m.	102
9:00 a.m.	63
10:55 a.m.	386
February 21	
Sunday School	339
8:45 a.m.	91
9:00 a.m.	79
10:55 a.m.	385

Christian Love and Sympathy is Extended to

Paula Whitaker in the death of her grandmother, Emma Little Bailey

In Memoriam

Patsy "Pat" Ruth Alexander
Elmore

November 5, 1929

February 19, 2010

▪
Eugenia Boyer

November 23, 1914

February 23, 2010

Congratulations to

Elaine and AB Locke, whose daughter Scarlett Jena was born February 15. She is the great-granddaughter of Kay and Cecil Lock.

▪
Samantha and Earl Dismuke, whose daughter Rowan Heart was born February 18.

▪
Ann Paige and Andy Shull, whose son was born February 22. He is the grandson of Kathy and Lewis Wood.

▪
Marie Gillis, who celebrated her 90th birthday on February 18.

New Members



Paul, Tamara, Katie and Lillie Austin
607 Edison Street
259-2425

The Austin family joined OU on February 14, Paul from Faith Baptist Church in Bartlett, Tennessee, and Tamara from St. Francis of Asisi in Cordova, TN. Paul works with FedEx in Memphis. Tamara

is a homemaker. Their children Lillie and Katie are 8 and 5 years old. Tamara is the sister of OU member Lisa Scott.



Julie Cook and Wesley Clark

Wesley Clark joined OU on February 21. He is a senior chemistry major at Ole Miss and previously attended Evergreen Baptist Church in Seminary, MS. He and Julie, a member of OU since 2000, will get married in our

sanctuary on March 13.

Oxford and Lafayette County Homeless Task Force Update

About sixty people attended the recent meeting to discuss the growing homeless population in Oxford and Lafayette County. Oxford saw over 300 homeless last year, most of whom were helped by Interfaith Compassion Ministries. From January 1-February 18, Oxford had 21 homeless families (48 people total). ICM has resolved 12 of these cases already and the other nine are being worked on.

The meeting set up six groups: temporary housing/shelter for the homeless, fundraising, working with the local government to supplement church/individual help, public relations, statistics, and a group including Ole Miss students and others working on temporary care, food, and clothing. If you would like to be a part of any of these groups, or if you would like more information, contact Jean Shaw (234-1053, jmsahw2@bellsouth.net). The next Task Force meeting will be in April.

Lenten Luncheon Line-Up

Who has influenced your spiritual journey?

March 3: Dan Jones—Chancellor of the University of Mississippi

Introduced by Andy Mullins

Music: Sue Gaston, cello and Jason Derrick, piano

March 10: Sam Haskell—producer, publicist, agent, author

Introduced by Robert Khayat

Music: Mary Donnelly Haskell

March 17: Sue Hale—Assistant Professor and Director of Clinical Education at Vanderbilt University

Introduced by Gloria Kellum

Music: Gospel Harmonettes, Jordan Chapel CME

March 24: Rose Flenorl—President of the Ole Miss Alumni Association, FedEx executive

Introduced by Mary Sharp Rayner

Music: Oxford Civic Chorus; Brooke Bagley Worthy, director

Everyone is welcome to join us. The luncheons begin at noon in our Activities Center; no reservation is required. A nursery will be provided.

Women's Group: This group will study the book *Captivating* by John and Stasi Eldredge. Childcare will be provided. Pick up your books Monday February 15, in Conf. 327 between 9:00-10:00 a.m. Classes will begin the following week, February 22.

Facilitators: Eason Futch and Stephanie Berry
 Time & Place: Mondays beginning February 22, 9:00-11:00 a.m. in Conf. 327
 Alternate Time: Wednesdays beginning Feb. 24, 6:00-8:00 p.m. in Conf. 327
 Course Length: 10 weeks
 Classification: Adult women
 Cost: \$16 book

Weavings During Lent: *Weavings* journal is a quarterly publication that addresses and explores questions of the contemporary life from a spiritual point of view. Organized by themes, this journal provides essays that help illuminate one's spiritual path.

Facilitators: Janis Black and Sherry Felder
 Time & Place: Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m., Conf. 107, Feb. 24-March 24
 Course Length: 5 weeks
 Classification: Adults
 Cost: none

Dan Phillips' Men's Bible Study: This is an ongoing men's study group. They invite other men to share in Christian learning and fellowship.

Facilitator: Wylie Richards
 Time & Place: Wednesdays at 7:00a.m., Conference 107
 Classification: Adult Men
 Cost: None

Friendship Circle: This is an ongoing women's group who is going to study *Scarred by Struggle, Transformed by Hope* by Joan Chittister. Please join them as they explore how to find hope in suffering.

Facilitators: Claire Dobbs and Marian Miller
 Time & Place: Wednesdays beginning Feb. 24-March 24, 10:30 a.m. in Conf. 107
 Classification: Adult Women
 Cost: \$10 book

Men's Group: This group will study Henri Nouwen's book, *The Way of the Heart: Connecting with God through Prayer, Wisdom and Silence*.

Facilitator: John Webb
 Time & Place: Sundays at 6:00 p.m. beginning Feb. 21-March 21, Conf. 327
 Classification: Adult men
 Cost: \$10 book

Sunday Reading Group: This group meets on two Sundays each month to discuss books on religion and spirituality chosen by majority vote. The group's reading has tended to focus on contemporary, non-traditional views of Christianity. Among the authors previously read are Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, Elaine Pagels, Joan Chittister, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Reinhold Niebuhr, Frederick Buechner and Barbara Brown Taylor. Anyone is welcome to join the group at any time.

Facilitators: Brenda Eagles, Fred Lorenzo, and Frank Poole
 Time & Place: 6:00-7:30, Conference 107
 Course Length: meets year round, 2x each month
 Classification: Adults
 Cost: participants purchase or borrow their own books

Twice-A-Month Bible Study: This Bible study class will finish "The Wonderful Last Words of Jesus", a study of John 14-17, on March 9 and will start a new study on March 30. The group meets every first and third Tuesday of the month (it will meet the second and fourth Tuesdays in March.)

Facilitators: John and Martin Case
 Time and Place: First and Third Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Room 409
 Classification: Adults
 Cost: free

Good Sense: This study is designed to help individuals at every stage of their lives effectively deal with day-to-day issues related to finances. The *Freed-Up Financial Living* Curriculum outlines biblical essentials on earning, giving, saving, spending and reducing debt, while providing practical tips to help participants achieve their own financial, personal, and spiritual goals. The setting will provide a safe, guided, and confidential opportunity to become more confident stewards of your resources. Pre-work is required and will be mailed or e-mailed to you.

Facilitators: Kin and Laura Kinney
 Time & Place: Wednesdays, April 21-May 12, 6:45 p.m. in Conf. 327
 Classification: Adults
 Cost: participant's book

United Methodist Orientation: Sunday, May 2, 3:30-5:30 p.m. in Wesley Hall. Come learn about the teachings, history, theology, polity/structure of United Methodism in one afternoon.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Shrove Tuesday Celebration



OU celebrated Shrove Tuesday on February 16 with burning of the palms for Ash Wednesday, pancake races, Mardi Gras masks, food, and fun.



Vacation Bible School 2010: Hero Headquarters

June 15-18

For children ages 3 years old through the fourth grade. Fifth and sixth graders will have a pool-side Disciple study with Ms. Pat.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Congratulations, OHS Mock Trial Team!

The Mississippi Bar Mock Trial Regional Competition took place at Ole Miss. The Oxford High team advanced to the state competition. Members of the OHS Mock Trial Team include OU members or Youth participants **Leland Graeber, Lakyn Collier, Elizabeth Evans, and David Rozier**. Leland and Lakyn won special recognition for Best Witness and Best Lawyer.

If you need to get in touch with J Johnson, Director of Student Ministries, you can email him at j@theoxu.org. Check out www.theoxu.org for more information

COLLEGE MINISTRIES

College Ministries Dinner and Devotion Thanks

Thanks to John and Dorothy Laurenzo for hosting the most recent Dinner and Devotion and to Debbie Paine and Beth Doty for providing food.

The next Dinner and Devotion will be Sunday, March 28. If you would like to help by hosting or providing food, contact Laura Kinney (lkinney@kinneypllc.com) or Susan Phillips (schove2002@yahoo.com).

Notes From the Past

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY YEARS AGO: On March 1, 1890, the Oxford Methodist church (located on Jackson Avenue) burned. Part of the *Oxford Eagle* story is this: "On Saturday night last, about 1 o'clock the alarm of fire was given and as the mid-night bells pealed forth the dreadful warning, the citizens rushed half dazed to the scene. It was soon discovered that the fire had originated in the store house on Depot street occupied by T. W. Yates which being a frame building was soon to far under headway to control. The house adjoining also frame, occupied by T. L. Kendal, caught fire in a short time and it was soon discovered that efforts to save either would be useless so every attention was given to check the spread of the flames to the west block of the square, as it was conceded by all that if the fire spread in this direction the town of Oxford would be in ashes before the dawn of another day. In the meantime the Methodist church directly west of the burning building took fire and in the course of an hour was entirely consumed, nothing gut the blackened walls left of this elegant house of worship. The Methodist church was valued at \$7,000 and had no insurance. It had recently been remodeled and was one of the largest and most comfortable churches in the place."

SIXTY YEARS AGO: In February 1950 it was reported that the new church [the current one] would cost \$60,000, the new pipe organ \$15,000, new furniture \$9,500, and art glass for windows \$5,000.

FORTY YEARS AGO: On February 22, 1970, members heard a brass ensemble consisting of Larry Overstreet, Tommy Ayles, Mike Pritchard, Jerry Robbins, and Bill Carroll.

Interfaith Compassion Ministries Catfish Fundraiser

Sponsored by Taylor Grocery

Tuesday, March 9

Lunch: 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Supper: 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church Family Life Center (800 Van Buren Avenue)

Catfish and Chicken plates available. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased in the church office. Each plate comes with catfish fillets or chicken tenders (or a combination), cole slaw, hush puppies, French fries, and a 12 oz. drink.

OXFORD-UNIVERSITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Return Service Requested

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