

89 E. Hamric Drive
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www.oxfordchurchofchrist.com

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Class
10:30 a.m. Worship
1:30 p.m. Worship

Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Bible Class

Shepherds:

Charles Dollahite.....256 283 7147
cednjcd@aol.com

Louis Higgins.....256 214 2255
higginslouis@bellsouth.net

Tom McKleroy.....256 239 2312
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Vance Moore.....256 239 2143
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Deacons:

Bruce Dickerson.....256 831 0950
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Evangelists:

Mike Benson.....601 818 0672
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Jason Campbell.....256 453 5733
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Secretary:

Treasurer:

James Jenkins.....256 239 2411
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Oxford church of Christ

Living the word, loving the lost and lifting the brokenhearted."

January 25, 2017

Luke 4:18 NKJV

Deborah—We were all shocked and saddened by the news of **Deborah Ingram's** passing. Often times we have some sort of warning in terms of health before a loved one dies, but that wasn't the case in with our good sister. She left us quickly and unexpectedly. Evidently, her heart was just too weak to keep her going.

Kindred Spirit



Deborah showed us how to be strong in the Lord—especially after adversity and the death of her grandson. Her dependence on Christ grew by leaps and bounds even as she grieved his untimely passing. What inspired me so was how she responded to that awful event. Rather than withdrawing from her Maker, she drew even closer to Him. Her attendance remained steadfast, her giving continued, her tender affection became more demonstrable and her faith in the promises of God became more evident.

We've lost a special member of the Oxford family, but our grief is tempered by the wonderful promise of the Almighty. "But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus" (1 Thess. 4:13-14).

Bible Reading—I'm hearing a lot of positive comments about Oxford members and their daily Bible reading in the Gospels. We've challenged ourselves to read through Matthew—John once a month. That's an average of only three chapters per day and no more than 20 minutes of reading time. It's thrilling to know that our church family is committed to pouring through the Scriptures. I know we'll be blessed in our reading and study (Psalm 119). See Jason's article on page 2 and let's keep marching together Oxford!

Brother's Keeper—I'm so impressed with **Clay** and **Anthony's** work behind the scenes with our new BK ministry. They want our church body to shine as lights within the community and so they've devoted an incredible amount of time and energy to creating and re-working what we've done in the past with our church zones. I want to commend both of these brothers for bringing their ideas and passion for souls to our shepherds. Let's all get behind these men and serve Jesus for His glory (Heb. 10:24)!

Upcoming

- CANCER CARE CLASS starts next Tuesday, Jan. 31 @ 11:45
- GO FORTH (evangelism) CLASS starts Tuesday, Feb. 7 @ 6:00

"God loves you and I love you and that's the way it's gonna be!"—Mike

Do You Have the Time?

As technology progresses certain habits and customs go the way of the dodo bird. Because you send email on a day to day basis, your average child might not know how to address and stamp an envelope. Since you can pay most bills online and use debit/credit cards at the store, your average teen might not know how to write a check. Most watches worn by my generation and beyond are fashion statements since our phones are more accurate and are almost always in our hands. In fact, you rarely hear someone ask “Do you have the time?” anymore because people generally do in their fingertips.

I want to ask you that question today, but with a different context. Mike challenged the congregation to listen to the gospels every month this year. As we close this month and begin the next, we need to review our goal and see if we have succeeded. If we haven't then we need to ask *why?* Why didn't I read *Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John* this month? We might say we forgot, or we were busy; however, often the reason why we don't pick up new habits is because **we don't have the time**. We are so busy! But *how busy are we?*



The month of January had 31 days, which equals 744 hours. Remember that number. Now if we calculated how long it takes to *listen* (which is typically slower than reading it silently) to the four gospels, the number is about 8 1/2 hours spread throughout the month. Even if we subtracted 8 hours of work as well as 8 hours of sleep per day, we still have 248 hours to work with in January!

The goal of this article is not to indict (or confuse) anyone; the goal is to—in a loving way—examine our hearts and find out what our *top priority* is while living on this earth. If we read Matthew this month we might remember Jesus saying in 16:26, “For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?” Far too often people exchange far less than the world for their own soul. John would tell us about the gospel bearing his name that “these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name” (John 20:31). Did you hear that? God has given us His book to **benefit** us, that we might have life in Him!

If we had spent twenty minutes a day in the gospels, we would have finished John on January 26th. Can that be an attainable goal for February? We might be busy throughout the day, but finding 20 minutes here and there is like finding change in the couch cushions: it's easy if we just look for it! We can listen while driving to work or driving home. We can read before we get out of bed in the morning or before we go to sleep. We can have a devotional time with our spouse or with our family by just hitting the “play” button and listening together. What an amazing way to grow as a family!

In the end, we have to make the decision to work. If we are struggling to find 20 minutes a day to hear God's word, can we truly say we are giving God our all? Can we say that we are seeking first the kingdom and His righteousness? Do you have the time?

-Jason Campbell

PRAYER REQUESTS - Kama Monroe, Martin Anderson, Mary Ann Crump, Joseph Farrar (Curacao resident who has cancer), Vera Steen. Urel Shelton, Ray Cranmer, Jim Townsend, Glenn Harris, Sherry Mabry, Tyria Streeter, Ann Coody, Sandra Coffin, Karen Coleman, Mary Fikes, Steve Iverson, Davie Hill, Misty Davis, Nancy Hayden,, Pat Methvin, Drew Pettus, Mike Randall, Deborah Ingram, B. A. Ward Jr., Elmer Bowman, Clellon Tims, Bobby Coley, Vickie Cole, Doris Dickerson, Wayne Greer, Shzavia Hill, Betty Shackelford , George Benson, Inez Smith and Ralph Burleson.

CONTACT ELDER - **Vance Moore** is the contact elder for January - March.

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS - **Sarah Abernathy (1/25), Tawana Lackey (1/28), Mark Nowland (1/29)**

Funeral—The funeral for Deborah Ingram will be at the Oxford church of Christ on Saturday, January 28. The viewing will be at 12pm, and the service will follow at 1pm. Brother's Keeper Team 3 will be in charge of the meal following the service.

Science Seminar—The Jacksonville church of Christ will be hosting a science seminar January 27-29. The theme is "Dismantling Evolution: Highlighting Devastating Flaws in the Fundamental Components of Evolution." The seminar will be on Friday (7pm-9pm), Saturday (9am-12pm), and Sunday (9:30am-11:30am; 6pm). See Jason Campbell if you are interested in going.

PTP SPARK—The Jacksonville church of Christ will be hosting a weeklong "miniature" *Polishing the Pulpit* called Spark March 12-16. There will be a variety of classes every day for every age group. Some of the speakers will include Glenn/Cindy Colley, John Deberry, Donna Faughn, Cliff Goodwin, Chance Hicks, Eric Owens, David Shannon, Allen Webster, and Wade Webster. It is free to attend. See Jason Campbell if you are interested in going.

YOUTH BULLETIN BOARD

Thursday, January 12th - Teen Discussion Group at 6pm

Sunday, January 15th - Bible Bowl (2:30), and Speech (3:30)

Sunday, February 12th - Valentine's Day Banquet for Senior Members hosted by Lads to Leaders at noon.

Evangelism

Bible Correspondence
Bible Tracts
Campaign For Christ
CD Ministry
Cliff Goodwin, "Preaching the Word"
Curacao Mission Work
Friends & Family Day
Gospel Broadcasting Network
Guyana Preacher Training
House To House
Oxfordfest
Spring & Fall Gospel Meetings

Benevolence

Childhaven
Coat Drive
Golden Age Day
Disaster Relief
Food Pantry
Four Students at MSOP
Nursing Home Fruit Baskets
Rainbow Omega

Edification

Area Wide Youth Devo
Annual Youth Day
Backwoods Christian Camp
Bible Classes
Exposure Youth Conference
Fill My Cup
GAP Group
Go Forth Class
Golden Living Nursing Home Devo
GOT MILK Class
Ladies' Day
Lads-To-Leaders
NHC Nursing Home Devo
Pew Packers
Teen Discussion Class
Vacation Bible School

Lynchburgh, Virginia Hospital: Aimiee Rigney, Doris Dickerson's cousin.

NURSING HOME: Donald Yates (NHC, Room 404); May Rene Turner (Autumn Cove); Jack Cofield (Golden Living); Melba Greer (NHC); Phoebe Strickland (NHC Place); Lillian Dollahite (Gadsden Heathcare); Wayne Greer (Retirement Home, Tennessee)

HOME: Virginia Moore, Frances Pugh, Clellon and Ann Tims, Reba Kendrick, Juanita Meredith, Charles Norton

WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS (January 29)

Welcome/Announcements - Charles Dollahite

Song Leader - Clay Blackwell

Prayer Leaders

Communion

Ray Nelson (Head)

Walter Ward

Richard Simons

Joe Walters

Bobby Starr

Braxton Jones

Alternates:

Gerald Nowland

Murray Beasley

Back

Andrew Adams

Eric Adams

Night Buster Hughes

Welcome/Announcements
Wednesday Evening (February 1)
Tom McKleroy

Building Lock-up - Ronnie Nordan

Greeters - Joe Walters and Walter Ward