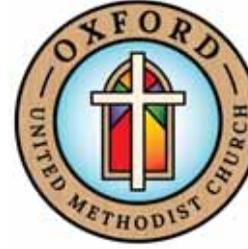


Oxford United Methodist Church Contacts

Office Hours are from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

Church Office: (919) 693-4091	
Pastor: Glenn Stallsmith	glenn@oxfordmethodist.org
Office and Finance Administrator: Taylor Cooke	taylor@oxfordmethodist.org
Director of Worship: Caroline Allen	caroline@oxfordmethodist.org
Coordinator of Kids & Youth Ministries: Kathryn Mincher	kathryn.mincher@gmail.com
The Learning Tree Preschool Director: Ellen Thompson	ellen@oxfordmethodist.org
Summer Literacy Director: Donna Critcher	summerliteracy@oxfordmethodist.org
Church Website:	www.oxfordmethodist.org
YouTube Live Link:	http://tinyurl.com/OUMCLive



TOWER TIDINGS

The mission of the Oxford United Methodist Church is to love God, love people, and faithfully minister to human and spiritual needs in our community and beyond.

Message from Pastor Glenn

Summer often brings a change of pace, but it's also a season full of ministry at Oxford UMC. As we enjoy longer days and warmer weather, our church continues to grow into the mission we believe God has given us: to be a place that is welcoming, caring, and outward-reaching.

We continue to lean into our top priorities: renovating our facilities to create a more hospitable space (*Continuing Our Legacy* Capital Campaign), deepening our care for one another, and connecting with our wider community. These are areas of emphases that will take us well beyond the summer, but this season offers fresh opportunities to live them out.

We're already welcoming young learners and volunteers for our Summer Literacy Camp, which runs through July 18. These weeks of reading, mentoring, and relationship-building make a real difference for students in our community. Then in late July, we'll open our doors again for Vacation Bible School (July 22-25), as children come to hear the good news of Jesus in fun, creative, and joy-filled ways.

Let's continue to pray for these ministries, support them with our presence and gifts, and look for ways to love our neighbors well this summer.

See inside for more details on these important ministries.



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The Tower Tidings
Vol. 101, No. 55 June 2025
105 W. McClellan St.
P. O. Box 757, Oxford, NC 27565

Summer Intern

Oxford United Methodist Church is delighted to have an intern from Duke Divinity School this summer. Seongjin started Sunday, June 1st and will be with us for 10 weeks. Please join us in welcoming Seongjin!

Hi, Oxford UMC! My name is Seongjin Son. I am pleased to be able to be with this church this summer and appreciate your company.

I am originally from Seoul, South Korea. I attended a church that followed the Wesleyan tradition (Korean Holiness Church). After studying theology as an undergraduate, I came to Duke to better understand my theological and spiritual journey.

In my free time, I enjoy drinking coffee. If you know of any good coffee shops, please recommend them to me! I hope this internship will be a great opportunity for growth in my journey. As an intern, I will be praying for this church.

Thank you for welcoming me!



Prayer Concerns

The Oxford Methodist Church Prayer Chain is ready at any time to give support for any prayer need. To activate the chain, email Pastor Glenn, glenn@oxfordmethodist.org

Please pray for...

All with Mental Health Struggles
Those with Addiction Struggles
Our incarcerated brothers and sisters
Kristen Hicks Allen
Michele Allen
Patricia Brady, Kate Brady's Mother
Maysi Blenk, Ellen Thompson's Niece
Nancy Brooks
Karen Brown
Bubba Burgess, Kathryn Mincher's Uncle
Russ Caldwell, friend of the Brady Family
Al Carraway
Ronald Cates
Danny Crute
Bobby Davis
Jenny Davis, Beth Dean's Sister
Margaret Duncan, Karen Brown's Mother
Sharon Foster, Dee Woodlief's Mother
Onnie Gore
David Haley
Martha Jackson
Don Jenkins
Inpahn Keolavanh
Amanda Kittrell
Doan Laursen
David & Judy Matlock
Bob May
Sara Michaelsen
Bill Mitchell
Joni Monroe, friend of Cindy Cash
Adrienne Morton

Carolyn Morton
Danielle Motto, friend of the Carraways & Matlocks
Kathrine Noel
Ray Payne
Diane Proctor
Steve Pruitt
Jakiya Roberts
Bob Sloan
Betty Jane Stovall, friend of Angela Parrott
George Summers
Pauline Sawdey, Michele Allen's Mother
Emerson Swanner
Marshall Tanner
Ava West
Beth Williams
Francis Wilson
Lyna Carol Breedlove Wilson
Steve Woodlief, friend of Harold Hilton

Our Troops

Jordan Blanchard	Sam Rivers
Micah Domnick	Jeremiah Rush
Hamilton Evrard	David Sergent
Brian Harvey	Zach Waler
Brock Perry	Claudia Wilmsatt
Jack Rivers	Drew Wilmsatt

Upcoming Events

Wednesday Night Dinners

On break for summer! Will resume Wednesday, September 10th

Grief Support Group

Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday @ 6:00pm

ACIM Work Day *Meet at ACIM: 634 Roxboro Road

Tuesday, July 15th at 5:00pm

Vacation Bible School *See page 3 for details

July 22—July 25 @ 5:30pm—7:30pm

Membership Class + Refresher *Open to all

June 29—July 20, Sundays @ 10:00am in Carr Classroom

Vacation Bible School

Welcome to VBS 2025

July 22 - 25, 2025

5:30pm—7:30pm

Registration is open ???

Bring a friend!

As children arrive, we will serve dinner in the fellowship hall. The evening will be filled with Bible stories, crafts, recreation, and fun!

If you would like to volunteer to help with VBS, please contact Kathrine Noel at 919-691-3877.



Ways to Register:

- ◇ Contact the church office @ 919-693-4091
- ◇ Follow the Registration link on the OUMC Facebook page & Weekly Reminder email
- ◇ Scan the QR Code & fill out the form



Online Giving Available

Scan the QR code, or [click here](#), to learn more about how you can give through the platform called Vanco Faith. One-time giving and scheduled gifts are available.



If you know someone who is going through a difficult time, contact our Stephen Leader, Beth Day at 919-691-4603 or edaycpa@embarqmail.com about Stephen Ministry. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide focused, confidential, one-to-one Christian care—to help that person experience the healing power of Christ's love.

VBS Family Cookout

Friday, July 25 at 5:30pm

The Children's Ministry team is providing food and the Methodist Men will be cooking!

Methodist Men Updates

Student Food Insecurity Lunch Fundraiser

The OUMC Men's Group recently held a fundraising lunch to support students at West Oxford Elementary who are experiencing food insecurity—especially during the summer break, when school meals are not available. With guidance from school staff and counselors, specific students were identified, and we are thrilled to share that, as of June 12th, **your incredible generosity has helped us raise nearly \$1,350!** What a blessing it was to see the fellowship hall filled with friends and supporters during the lunch hour!

The first round of food has already been purchased, packaged, and delivered! A heartfelt thank you goes to Steve Seivert for handling the shopping and for his leadership alongside the Scouts, who helped sort and bag daily meals for each student. Each family received 14 days' worth of breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks, shelf-stable milk, fruit, and juice—either delivered directly or picked up by family members. We'll be planning the next shopping and packing session in the coming week.

Vacation Bible School Cookout - July 25

We're excited to serve a **hamburger and hot dog dinner** on the final day of **Vacation Bible School—Thursday, July 25th!** A big thank you to Michael Davis and Harley Muse for stepping up to lead the cooking crew. Any church members who would like to help with meal prep, setup, cooking, or cleanup would be *greatly appreciated*—many hands make light work!

Looking Ahead to 2025 Missions

We're already working on plans for both **local and international outreach missions in 2025.** Stay tuned—exciting opportunities are ahead!

With Grateful Hearts

As we continue to explore where **God is calling our group** in missions and fellowship, we cannot express enough how grateful we are for the support from our **congregation, church council, and Pastor Glenn.** Thank you for walking alongside us in this meaningful work.

Summer Literacy

In the short span of two weeks the second floor of the Education building has transformed into a mini school. We have 23 students at this time and are planning to add another! Everyone has settled into a routine, is working hard, and attending consistently. We were very pleased with participation in the first parent workshop/open house—22 out of 23 families participated.

Many thanks to:

Angela Parrot and Cindy Cash for volunteering with student activities during the workshop/open house.

The Carrie Fuller circle for snacks.

Laverne Pope for snacks.

Church members for your prayers

Summer Literacy still needs:

Friday Food sponsor (breakfast or lunch or both—June 27

Breakfast for 2nd parent workshop—June 28

Snacks—We serve 46 servings of snacks a day!



Learning Tree Preschool

Class of 2025



Carrie Fuller Circle

The Carrie Fuller Circle is now the only women's organization within our church. We are affiliated with the Heritage District and the Women of Faith of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. Our mission support spans global, national, state, and local levels.

We warmly invite all women who wish to meet, worship, and serve to join us. We are a small but committed group and would love to welcome new members. We meet for about an hour on the first Sunday of each month at 3:00 p.m., except during June, July, and August.

Our supported missions include ACIM, The Methodist Children's Homes, Credle and West Oxford Schools, local nursing homes, Murdoch Center, Central Regional Hospital, Harold Sherman Adult Daycare, and others as needs arise. We also contribute to Conference missions, Vacation Bible School, and the Literacy Project through annual pledges and occasional fundraisers. In the past, the Circle has supported broader church initiatives, such as capital campaigns.

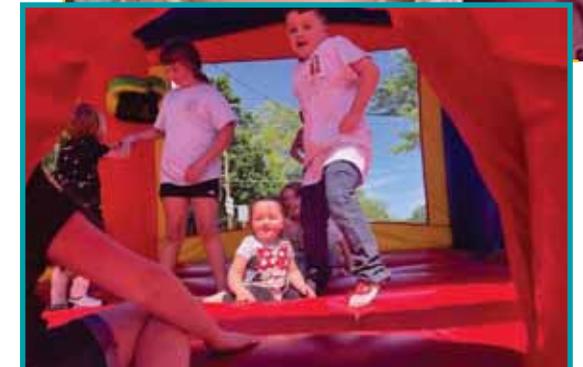
We host a Christmas dinner and a June picnic, inviting spouses, friends, and church staff to join us. We are a friendly, caring group and strive to live out Jesus' message by serving those in need.

Youth Group & Kids Club

Our Palm Sunday Hot Dog Lunch & Easter Egg Hunt were a *blast*! Families enjoyed good food, sweet treats, and an epic egg hunt. A big shoutout to everyone who donated food, candy, and eggs - and to those who helped set up, serve, and clean up. And let's not forget our incredible youth who proved to be top-tier egg hiders! What a fantastic afternoon of fun and fellowship!



Our End-of-School Bash was the perfect way to celebrate the start of summer - complete with bounce houses, pizza, ice cream, games, and sunshine! It was such a joy to see so many smiling faces enjoying the beautiful weather together.



Looking ahead, we are *so excited* for Vacation Bible School this July! And mark your calendars for August 3 as we kick off the new year with Promotion Sunday, Bible presentations, and a super fun pool party from 6-8 PM at Forrest Hills. You won't want to miss it!



We have a *full and fun* fall semester in the works and can't wait to start meeting regularly again!

If you have children and aren't receiving our monthly newsletter, please reach out to Kathryn Mincher or Taylor Cooke - we'd love to keep you in the loop!

Capital Campaign Update

The Capital Campaign team is excited to share that we have now received over 94% of the \$550,000 pledged toward our *Continuing Our Legacy* Capital Campaign. This is a remarkable milestone, and it reflects your deep commitment to the future of Oxford UMC. Thank you for your prayers, generosity, and support since the project launched in May.

With funds beginning to come in, we are preparing to move forward with the first phase of work. Our initial projects will focus on the Education Building and outdoor improvements. New energy-efficient windows will be installed in the Education Building, creating a more comfortable and cost-effective environment for our children, youth, and adult classes.

Outdoors, we will begin repainting exterior doors and breezeway railings, updating shrubbery, and improving lighting around our campus.

These are just the first steps in a larger vision. Inside the Education Building, we'll combine the current administrative offices into a more efficient shared workspace. Two new brick signs facing McClanahan and College Streets will help us become more visible and inviting to our neighbors. Later on we will renovate the Sanctuary to make it more welcoming and accessible, with extended chancel steps and handrails, refinished pews, designated wheelchair spaces, new carpet, lighting, paint, and an upgraded hearing assist system.

As we continue this work together, let's remember that these improvements are not just about buildings – they are about creating spaces where ministry can flourish and where people feel truly at home.

Membership Class

We are running a membership class for potential new members and current ones that want a refresher! Class will be held for four weeks from June 29th to July 20th. The class will meet on Sunday mornings at 10am in the Carr Classroom.

See Pastor Glenn if you are interested in attending.

OUMC T-shirt Sale

\$15 each

All proceeds go to the Children and Youth Ministry
To purchase, stop by the church office, or see
Kathryn Mincher to Taylor Cooke.



Baby Shower for The Knights

All women of the church are invited to join us for a Baby Shower honoring

Anna Britt Knight

July 13th at 2pm

Anna Britt is registered at babylist.com. Instead of bringing a greeting card, please write your inscription and wishes in your favorite children's book!