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NEWS

For immediate release

Ouachita's annual A Service of Lessons and Carols set for Dec. 6



By Erin Jackson

November 22, 2016

For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at newsbureau@obu.edu or (870) 245-5208.

ARKADELPHIA, Ark. — Ouachita Baptist University's School of Fine Arts will present its 20th annual A Service of Lessons and Carols on Tuesday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m. in Mabee Fine Arts Center's McBeth Recital Hall. The service is free and open to the public.

The service features nine scripture readings from the books of Genesis, Isaiah, Matthew, Luke and John. Each reading is followed by a carol that reflects Advent and Christmas themes. Ian Cosh, vice president for community and international engagement, will serve as this year's narrator.

"Lessons and Carols is certainly one of the outstanding annual events on our campus. While the lessons are the same from year to year, we use a different translation of scripture each year. This year we will be using the New Revised Standard Version," said Dr. Rob Hewell, director of the worship studies program and chair of the worship arts department. "Always, there is a focus on congregational participation. It is a celebration of God's great grace and wonderful salvation."

The service will feature congregational carols as well as selections by the Ouachita Singers, the Women's Chorus and the Ouachita Handbell Ringers. Adam Haas, visiting assistant professor of music, will accompany the congregational carols on the organ.

Students reading scripture throughout the service will include: Olivia Brown, a freshman biology major from North Little Rock, Ark.; Brenton Butcher, a sophomore Christian studies major with an emphasis in ministry from Flippen, Ark.; Hayley Morrison, a junior physics major with an emphasis in math teaching from Hot Springs, Ark.; and John Sivils, a senior English major from Arkadelphia, Ark. Faculty and staff readers will include: Ashlee Giles, director of enrollment initiatives; Scott Haynes, dean of students; Dr. Chris Mortenson, chair of the history department and associate professor of history; Dr. Bryan McKinney,

dean of the Hickingbotham School of Business; and Dr. Ben Sells, president.

“The service focuses on the biblical narrative of God’s redemptive history, ultimately climaxing in the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ,” Hewell said. “It is a service of worship designed to remind participants of God’s love for humankind and God’s desire to redeem all of creation.”

For more information, contact Dr. Rob Hewell at hewellr@obu.edu or (870) 245-5133.