

# *CITY OF OXFORD, GEORGIA*

## *A PROCLAMATION*

*Whereas*, The City of Oxford, Georgia recognizes and commends the life of *Mrs. Mary Gaither McLurkin*, one of Oxford's oldest and deeply respected citizens, and

*Whereas*, "Mary," as she was fondly known, was born in Oxford, Georgia on December 7, 1923, to Americus and Willie Gaither, and

*Whereas*, she married Mr. Samuel McLurkin, Sr. and they were the proud parents of three children - "Marianne, Kimberly, and Samuel, Jr., and

*Whereas*, Mary was probably the only Oxford resident who was a leading member of both Mount Zion Baptist Church of Oxford, and Rust Chapel United Methodist Church, and

*Whereas*, during her 88 plus years at Mount Zion and Rust Chapel, she gave her energy and love to both churches and demonstrated patience, sacrifice, determination, obedience, and an unwavering faith in God, and

*Whereas*, she served as Chaplain of Newton County's Democratic Party, and counted among her dearest friends many stalwart Republicans, and

*Whereas*, at a time when the community was torn over the legacies of segregation in the city cemetery, Mary patiently kept talking to all parties concerned and helped bring about an equitable solution in which all of Oxford takes pride.

*NOW, therefore*, I, Jerry D. Roseberry, Mayor, on behalf of the Citizens of the City of Oxford hereby recognize and commend the life and contributions of *Mrs. Mary Gaither McLurkin*.

*PROCLAIMED*, this the 27<sup>th</sup> day of June 2012.

*Jerry D. Roseberry*  
*Mayor*  
*Oxford, Georgia*