

# AUBURN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

February 1, 2014

Vol. 6 Issue 11

## *REFLECTIONS from Tripp Martin*

As we continue to live into the ordinary time on the calendar of the Church Year, which we refer to as time after Epiphany, we “look twice” at the life of the congregation. We “look twice” in order to see what we do not notice when we look only once. In the midst of routine meetings and ordinary work, we hope to discover much more than we first notice.

Each year in January, as committees begin their work again and as the church office tries to finish its work from the previous year, so it can focus solely on the work to come, we glance back over our shoulder briefly in order to discuss the stewardship of the church. The stewardship committee meets, the deacons hear the financial report, and the congregation discusses it at its business meeting in January. All of which involve spreadsheets and summaries that are a priority, but not exciting.

This month as we glance back over our shoulder at the stewardship of 2013, we look not only once, but also “twice.” We see more than simple numbers organized in columns on spreadsheets, or just the difficult language of book-keepers and accountants. We recognize these numbers as the generosity and commitment of the congregation. They are meaningful gifts, born out of faith and hope, sustaining the ministries of the church. As we look at these numbers “twice,” we give thanks.

On the last day of 2013 when the church accounted for every gift and expense, the church ended the year in the positive, exceeding its expenses by \$29,109.41. This surplus over expenses was then applied to a deficit, which was carried over into 2013 at the end of 2012, which was a negative \$69,617.78. This means that the church begins 2014 with a deficit of \$40,508.37. We are grateful to reduce the deficit by such a generous amount, which is a signal of health and a positive step in a good direction. In addition, the church pledged a total of \$444,405 towards the general budget of 2014, which is a significant increase compared to 2013, when \$383,000 was pledged. Historically, the church also receives generous, regular giving, which is not pledged.

We look at these numbers on a spreadsheet “twice” because they represent the commitment and the resolve of the congregation, offering generous gifts for the work of the church. We can celebrate each gift to the church as an act of stewardship, for which we say, “Thanks be to God.” We give for the sake of our faith, for how the church shapes our lives, for the benefit of one another, and for the ministry of the kingdom of God. For all those reasons, we see the spreadsheets of the church in a different light. We look at them and see generosity, community, hope, and compassion. We are thankful for the leadership of the congregation, deacons, and stewardship committee. We glance over our shoulders and say to one another as the church, “We are grateful.”

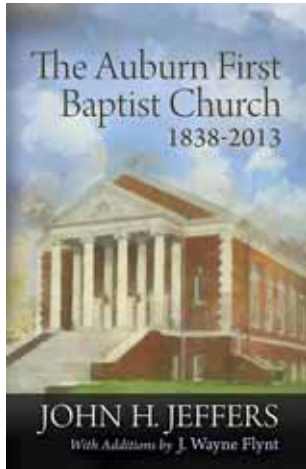
*Tripp*



***Auburn First Baptist Church • 128 E Glenn Avenue • Auburn, AL • auburnfbc.org  
334.887.8506 • auburnfbc@mindspring.com***

**Our Mission:** Believing the Spirit of God is alive in each one of us and in the world, we affirm that the mission of Auburn First Baptist Church is: to glorify God as the Creator, Sustainer, and Redeemer of life; to call all people to God through Christ as Savior and Lord; to enable all people to be more like Jesus.

***The Auburn First Baptist Church  
1838-2013***



*Copies of the book, **The Auburn First Baptist Church 1838-2013**, are available to the church. One free copy is available for each church family. Additional copies will be available for \$10. Please make your checks payable to AFBC and note "175th Annv. Book" on the memo line.*

## **Reading Revelation**

*A January/February "J-Session" on Reading Revelation*

Sunday evenings, 5:00 pm, through February 9th  
Coleman Fellowship Hall

**Led by Tripp Martin**

Everyone in the church is invited to participate!

The Discipleship Training and Connecting Faith and Families groups will combine for this study. Reading Revelation carefully in the midst of many misconceptions is difficult and important, as we gain constructive insight into this book.

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Thursday Evenings  
**Wade in the Water:  
The Currents of Grace  
in Scripture**  
*Led by: Tripp Martin*

## **Mark Your Calendar**

### ***Children's Committee Meeting***

*Sunday, February 2, Noon, Fellowship Hall*

### ***Brotherhood Breakfast***

*Sunday, February 9, 8:00 am, Fellowship Hall*

### ***Youth Committee Meeting***

*Sunday, February 9, 4:00 pm, Youth Room*

### ***CDC Committee Meeting***

*Tuesday, February 11, 5:30 pm, Library*

### ***Stewardship Committee Meeting***

*Thursday, January 13, 5:00 pm, Library*

### **Dayfriends**

Tuesdays, February 4 & 18  
11:45 am, Acapulco's

*Please call the church office before noon  
Monday if child care is needed.*

### **Grounds Work Day**

February 15th, 7:00am

Everyone is invited to help mulch plant beds, pressure wash, prune, paint, add irrigation, and pick up trash. Coffee, juice, and donuts will be provided.

## **Global Ministries Offering Day**

Preparations for GMO Sunday are well underway. We are intentional and generous in supporting ministries beyond the boundaries of our congregation. Annually we encourage members to pledge an additional offering that is dispersed throughout the world in ways such as, global missions, providing shelter, local and world hunger, Christian education, disaster relief, etc. As the church council is currently working on the proposed budget, they are asking for requests and/or suggestions for the GMO budget from the church family. If you have something you would like to be considered for the budget, please send the information to the church office.

## Still Available!

*'Kneeling in Bethlehem' CDs are available in the church office for \$10. Please make checks payable to Chad Parish. CDs from the 40th College Choir Reunion are also still available in the office.*

*40<sup>th</sup> College Choir Reunion T-shirts(L & XL) are available at a reduced price of \$5.*

### The Institute for Theological & Ministerial Studies

Educational classes in theological and ministerial studies.

Next Session:

*It is well with my soul?  
Suffering and the Christian life*  
Led by Dr. Gary Furr and James Smith  
Monday, February 10, 6:30 - 8:30 pm  
Coleman Fellowship Hall

Cost to attend: \$10

Register and learn more at [www.alabamacbf.org/itms](http://www.alabamacbf.org/itms)

## YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Choir  
Choir Room  
Sundays @  
5:00pm

Prayer Breakfast  
Panera

Tuesdays, 6:45 am Youth Sunday Nights  
Sundays, 6-8 pm  
Youth Room

Youth Hang Out  
Thursday Nights, 5:45 pm  
Youth Room

### Missions Monthly!

When? First Saturday of every Month  
11:30 am - 2:00 pm

Where? Community Market  
3810 Peprell Parkway

Why? To learn about and partner with sustainable ministries in our community.

Movie Night  
Friday, February 7  
Youth Room  
6:30 - 9:00 pm

### Sanctuary Flowers

If you are interested in placing flowers in the sanctuary in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please call the church office.



### Tuesday Night Bible Study

*"Get in the Boat:  
Building Christian Community"*  
Supper @ 7, Bible study @ 8

Dinner:

Feb 4 - Porters & Smiths  
Feb 11th - Bill & Emma Peacock



Dinner volunteers still needed! Email Leigh Anne to sign up.  
[leighannearmstrong@gmail.com](mailto:leighannearmstrong@gmail.com)

*Now Serving ATL  
Feb. 7-8th  
leaving mid afternoon Friday,  
returning Saturday Evening*

*Bring bedding, work clothes, \$ for supper on Friday, and a servant heart!*



Children's Choirs  
5pm on Sundays



2nd - 5th graders  
Sundays 6:00 to 6:30 pm  
Education Building  
Bring Your Bible!

Spark Adventure!  
ages 3 - 11  
Thursdays at 5:50 pm





**AUBURN  
FIRST  
BAPTIST**  
128 E. Glenn  
Auburn, AL  
36830-4702

**Every Sunday**

Sunday School 9:45 am  
Morning Worship 11:00 am

**Every Thursday**

Brown Bag Meal Time 5:15 pm  
Prayer & Bible Study 6:00 pm

**Saturday-1st**

Youth Missions Monthly ..... Community Market 11:30 am

**Sunday-2nd**

Children's Committee Meeting ..... Fellowship Hall Noon  
Children's/Youth Choirs ..... Ed. Bldg/Choir Room 5:00 pm  
Reading Revelation ..... Fellowship Hall 5:00 pm  
Bible Encounter ..... Education Building 6:00 pm  
Youth Sunday Nights ..... Youth Room 6:00 pm

**Tuesday-4th**

Youth Prayer Breakfast ..... Panera 6:45 am  
DayFriends ..... Acapulco's 11:45 am  
College Bible Study ..... College Room 7:00 pm

**Wednesday-5th**

Conversational English ..... Education Building 9:00 am

**Thursday-6th**

First Bells ..... Choir Room 12:30 pm  
Youth Hang Out ..... Youth Room 5:45 pm  
Spark Adventure ..... Education Building 5:50 pm  
Sanctuary Choir ..... Choir Room 6:45 pm

**Friday-7th**

Now Serving ATL (college) ..... Gay Street Lot TBD  
Youth Movie Night ..... Youth Room 6:30 pm

**Sunday-9th**

Brotherhood Breakfast ..... Fellowship Hall 8:00 am  
Youth Committee Meeting ..... Youth Room 4:00 pm  
Children's/Youth Choirs ..... Ed. Bldg/Choir Room 5:00 pm  
Reading Revelation ..... Fellowship Hall 5:00 pm  
Bible Encounter ..... Education Building 6:00 pm  
Youth Sunday Nights ..... Youth Room 6:00 pm

**Tuesday-11th**

Youth Prayer Breakfast ..... Panera 6:45 am  
CDC Committee Meeting ..... Library 5:30 pm  
College Bible Study ..... College Room 7:00 pm

**Wednesday-12th**

Conversational English ..... Education Building 9:00 am

**Thursday-13th**

First Bells ..... Choir Room 12:30 pm  
Stewardship Committee Meeting ..... Library 5:00 pm  
Youth Hang Out ..... Youth Room 5:45 pm  
Spark Adventure ..... Education Building 5:50 pm  
Sanctuary Choir ..... Choir Room 6:45 pm

**Saturday-15th**

Grounds Work Day ..... AFBC 7:00 am

**Serving the Month of February**

**Loaves & Fishes:** Adult IV

**Greeters:** Sharlene McDaniel, Dorothy Williams, Delaine Dendy, Nancy Roberts

**Offering:** Pilgrims

**Serving February 2**

**Counters:** Dwayne Beckett, Lois Graves, Lavaughn Johnson

**Sound & Light:** Claude Conn

**Extended Session:** Kelly Meeks, Cindy Cleveland, Amber Berry-Moore, Genesee Cook, Carolyn Thompson, Cynthia Potts

**Serving February 9**

**Counters:** Flarcie Hopkins, Alice Lumpkin, Gladys Thomas

**Sound & Light:** Andrew Yohn

**Extended Session:** Beth L. Smith, Carole Zugazaga, Carolyn Thompson, Anna Starks, Katharine Martin, Magen Barnett

**Ministerial Staff**

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**Listen to the service Sunday mornings  
at 11 am on WAUD 1230 AM**