

# AUBURN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



December 1, 2014

Vol. 6 Issue 31

## REFLECTIONS by Tripp Martin

With the coming of December, we enter into the season of Advent, a season of great expectation and anticipation. The first Sunday of Advent arrives on the last day of November this year, as we will start to light the candles on the Advent wreath, marking the days until the arrival of Christ, which is the meaning of Advent. It is the “arrival” or “coming” of Christ. It is a time full of waiting as well as full of preparation.

Waiting and preparation coincide during Advent because our waiting is not passive and our preparation is not efficient. They work together, as we participate in the coming of Christ. We prepare ourselves, and we prepare this world for the arrival of Christ, who comes to bring hope and peace, joy and love. We mark these days with expectation, like the people of God did years ago, surprised by the birth of Jesus, but we also prepare, knowing what to expect, allowing the birth of Jesus to shape the growing edges of our lives.

These days are full of preparation, pulling us in many directions and demanding many things from us. We will be busy to the last minute, making sure food is prepared, gifts are wrapped, and cards are sent. It is a time full of great memories, but also stretching us thin. In Advent, we are called to pause, even if it is just for a few minutes each day to look beyond all of our other tasks to see the waiting that prepares us for Christ and in order to prepare a waiting world for Christ.

We wait in order to prepare ourselves, so we look for the grace in our midst, redirecting some of our focus to the manger, where we are surprised by what we find. It is the beginning of something new, which we greet anew each year. We find the grace of God amongst us in the flesh. Our eyes are opened to what is always in front of us, yet we do not always see.

We also prepare a waiting world, knowing that the world yearns for hope and peace, joy and love. We look for ways to participate in the coming of Christ by extending the grace of God into the world, where it can be seen in the flesh. We take time to speak kindly, look mercifully, act humbly, and think carefully about faith and life. We open our hearts with gratitude to the ways of grace, and we allow our words and actions to be moved by them.

We live into Advent by waiting and by preparing for Christmas, where we will celebrate anew the coming of Emmanuel, or “God is with us.” We will gather with one another to sing, to pray, to give thanks, to serve, and to worship many times over the course of the next several weeks. Each time, we will wait for Christmas, and we will prepare a way for the Lord.

Tripp

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**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.

### Mark Your Calendar

#### *DayFriends*

Tuesday, December 2nd, 11:45 a.m., Veggies to Go

#### *Caring Hands*

Tuesday, December 9th, 5:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall

#### *CDC Committee Meeting*

Tuesday, December 9th, 5:30 p.m., Library

#### *Brotherhood Breakfast*

Sunday, December 14th, 8:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

#### *DayFriends*

Tuesday, December 16th, 11:45 a.m., Veggies to Go



### Carols, Candles, and Communion

December 24<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 p.m.

Our traditional Christmas Eve Service.  
A nursery is provided for  
preschool children.

## Deacon Bios

### Deacon Elections will be held at the Special Called Business Meeting on December 4th at 6:00 p.m.

**Jeannie Bumgardner** and her husband, Mike, joined AFBC in the 1980's. They have three children: Michael Jr. and wife, Kim; Leslie Davis and husband, Tom; and Stephanie Cox and husband, Seth. They are also the proud grandparents of Charli, Emily, Mia, and Mitch. Jeannie holds a BS in Finance and a Masters of Education from Auburn University and is retired from a career in banking and most recently from the position of Director, Office of Cash Management, Auburn University. She has worked in the preschool, children's and youth departments; served on the Stewardship Committee; was Treasurer and then Secretary of the Board of Trustees; served on the ordinance committee and as a church greeter. She serves on the Social Committee and is a Sunday School Greeter. She and Mike are active members of the Pilgrims Sunday School class.

**Dick Graves**, along with his wife, Lois, and their children, came to Auburn in 1965 when they joined Auburn First Baptist Church. Dick is professor emeritus of English Education and Lois a retired Administrative Assistant in the Navel ROTC program. Dick currently serves as greeter at the front of the church. He has previously served as deacon, Sunday school teacher and a member of various committees.

**Brian Ledbetter** has lived in Auburn for 15 years and has been a member of AFBC since 2008. Brian and his partner, Shane Dunn, have one son, Liam, who is approaching two and attends the Child Development Center. Brian is a Senior Financial Advisor for VALIC Financial Advisors. He has served as Treasurer of AFBC since 2011. He also serves on the Stewardship Committee, is an active member of the Sanctuary Choir, and attends the Sojourners Sunday School class. Previously, Brian served on one of the Renovation and Renewal subcommittees and the Van Committee. Brian is extremely honored to be nominated as a Deacon of AFBC.

**Hazel Johnston Lee** has been a member of Auburn First Baptist since 1953. Hazel has 3 children, 7 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren. She is currently a member of the Mary Martha Sunday School class and the Crisis Committee and also serves as a greeter and counter. Hazel has previously served as a deacon and is retired from J & M Bookstore.

**Julie McClanahan** and her husband, Mike, joined AFBC in 2008. They have 2 grown sons. She teaches remedial math classes at Southern Union State Community College. She is a member of the Pilgrims Sunday School class. She serves on the Visitation and Ordinance committees and attends the Discipleship Training class.

**Warren McCord** and his wife, Brenda, have been members of Auburn First Baptist since 1972. He has served as an active deacon, a member of the ordinance, greeter and usher committees, and, for over 20 years, taught adult Sunday School. Brenda and Warren have two children, who were reared in AFBC, and seven grandchildren. Warren retired from Auburn University in 2003 as Emeritus Professor and Assistant Director of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

**Ruthie Spiers** joined AFBC in 2009. She is married to Jay Spiers, and they are the parents of Annie, 5, Millie, 1, and are excitedly anticipating the arrival of a new baby girl in February. Ruthie is the Academic Counselor for the Academic Counseling and Advising Center at Auburn University. She currently co-teaches the Toddlers Sunday School Class and in the past has taught the 3s and 4s class. She also has served as a greeter and member of the preschool committee and children's committee.

**Mark Thornton** and his wife, Jan, joined AFBC in 1995. Mark, as a candidate for baptism, and Jan, by letter from the First Baptist Church of Tuscaloosa. Mark is a graduate of Auburn University with a B.S. in Wildlife Management and a M.S. in Forestry and is employed at Ft. Benning as a threatened and endangered species biologist. He is currently a member of the Serendipity Sunday School Class and has served on various committees at AFBC, including the Youth, Preschool, Children's, CDC, Usher, and Van committees. Mark and Jan are the parents of two sons, John, 18, and Matthew, 12.

**Nancy Webster** and her husband, Bill, joined Auburn First Baptist in 1989 when Bill's work brought them to Auburn from Pennsylvania. Nancy received her RN degree from Temple University and her bachelor's degree in Psychology from Eastern University. The Webster's have 3 daughters, 4 grand-girls, and 1 great grand-girl. Nancy worked for many years as a hospice volunteer. She has served on many church committees, including Committee on Committees, Flower, Social, Missions, Internationals, and Caring Hands. She was also a choir member for over 20 years.

## Mark your calendars now for... December 7th

...a special Day of Celebration & Worship.

**11:00 A.M.**

**Prepare... for Hope Fulfilled**  
(The music of Christmas)

Presented by our Sanctuary Choir

**6:00 P.M.**

**Family Night at Christmas**  
(Music by our Youth and Children's Choirs)  
Followed by our *Cookie Fellowship*

**Plan now to attend!**

### Special Called Business Meeting

December 4th, 6:00 p.m.

Coleman Fellowship Hall

#### The Following items will be on the agenda:

A report from the Committee on Committees, a report from the Stewardship Committee (2015 budgets), and election of deacons.

*This will also be the final Thursday Evening Activities in December.*



### Family Christmas Movie Night

Friday, December 12th, 6:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Bring your quilts, sleeping bags, and pillows to settle in on the floor of the Fellowship Hall to enjoy an evening together. Everyone is invited from our youngest to our oldest member. We will watch Frozen! Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to come.

### Brotherhood working at Amputee Camp

Lake Martin  
December 12th & 13th

3rd Annual Home for Christmas  
Thursday, December 18th 6:30 p.m.

Leigh Anne's Home (1200 Ferndale Dr.)

For all college/young adults returning to (or staying in)

Auburn for the holidays. Hang out around the fire for conversation, chili, hot chocolate, and s'mores.





**Missions Monthly**  
December 6th @ 11:30 a.m.  
Community Market

**Choir Practice**

Thursday, December 4th @ 5:30 p.m.  
*No Youth Hang Out Time*  
Sunday, December 7th @ 5:00 p.m.

**Christmas Party**

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Moore's Mill Club Pavilion-1957 Fairway Dr.

Food, fun, and games!

Bring a gift of no more than \$10 for Dirty Santa.



**Coming up: Youth Sunday on February 22nd!**

Youth Summit  
January 16th-18th  
FBC of Huntsville

Passport Camp  
July 12th-17th  
at Greensboro College, NC  
Deposit of \$100 due by  
February 1st

**Financial Class**

**Begins Sunday, January 11th at 5:00 p.m.**  
**Nine Week Course**

Financial Peace University (FPU) is a class about financial management and is taught by Dave Ramsey through video presentations, class discussions, and small group activities. It discusses practical money management based on lessons of stewardship. Registration is required and each family will need to purchase materials. Church members and visitors are welcome to attend. You will never be asked to share your financial information.

*If you would like to participate or have any questions, please contact Alison Crosby at [suttali@gmail.com](mailto:suttali@gmail.com) or Brian Ledbetter at [brianledbetter@yahoo.com](mailto:brianledbetter@yahoo.com).*

**Tuesday Night Bible Study Supper Sign-Up**

Church members, one of the most tangible ways to show your love for our college group is to provide a home-cooked meal for them on Tuesday nights when they gather for Bible study. Sign-up for these meals is now open for the spring semester, which stretches from January through April. To get in on the good feelings, contact Leigh Anne Armstrong at [leighannearmstrong@gmail.com](mailto:leighannearmstrong@gmail.com) or 334.332.3040 to reserve your preferred week before it's gone! Thank you!



**College Christmas Party**

Tuesday, December 2nd; 6:30 p.m.  
Leigh Anne's home (1200 Ferndale Dr.)  
Food, carol jam, Dirty Santa  
*(bring \$5 wrapped gift for game)*



**Poinsettias**

*The poinsettias placed in our sanctuary and throughout the church for Christmas are placed in Memory or Honor of those listed.*

**In Honor of:**

Libby & Dale Peterson  
The Martin Family  
Paula & Joe Turnham  
Jackie Hundley  
J.D. & Hunter  
Tripp & Katharine  
Carol Smith Goff  
Our Children & Grandchildren  
Dorothy Flynt  
The Vota Vita & Fidelis Class  
Camryn, Alexis, & Nicholas Renuart  
Tripp & Katharin Martin  
Mary Virginia Moore  
Great Big Wonderful Family

**Given by:**

Bill & Ruth Alford  
Barbara & Wallace Baldwin  
Barbara & Wallace Baldwin  
Flarcie Hopkins  
Pops & Kaki  
Milton & Kathy  
Milton & Kathy  
Lavaughn & Peggy Johnson  
Wayne Flynt  
Brenda & Warren McCord  
Grandmom  
Phyllis & Oxford Smith  
Phyllis & Oxford Smith  
Helen W. Brown

**In Memory of:**

Our Parents  
Our Parents  
Ruth Stevenson  
Dodie Gross  
Haskell Lumpkin  
Our Parents  
Inez & Walter Sowell  
My Parents & Brother  
Charles Potter  
J.W. Bearden  
Grace Casey  
Annie Grace & W. Albert Smith  
Homer & Mae Flynt  
John & Jeanette Jeffers  
Claude H. Moore  
Curtis Ward  
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Rollins  
Douglas Rollins  
Ralph L. Sherer  
Fred O' Brien  
Margaret Elizabeth Dunn  
James Wesley Dunn  
Lula Mae Holmes  
Paul & Clois Shoffeitt

**Given by:**

Neda & Carl Hill  
Annua & Charles Segrest  
Bob & Frances Stevenson  
Barbara & Wallace Baldwin  
Alice & Family  
Steve & Dee Williams  
Family  
Mary Ann Dell  
Mary Ann Potter, Clifford & Charlann  
His Family  
Candy Enkebol  
Wayne Flynt  
Wayne Flynt  
Jo Randall & Mary Virginia Moore  
His Family  
Charlotte Ward  
Your Family  
Your Family  
Vetra, Gail & Wayne  
Laura, Michael & Becky, & Families  
Brian, Shane, & Liam Ledbetter-Dunn  
Brian, Shane, & Liam Ledbetter-Dunn  
Brian, Shane, & Liam Ledbetter-Dunn  
Jean, Paul & Mary

**19<sup>th</sup> Annual Cookie Walk**

December 6<sup>th</sup>

Grace United Methodist Church

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

*To provide cookies, please contact Chad Eastman.*

**WMU Christmas Jail Ministry Project 2014**

*Donate \$15 and come help put the shoe boxes together!*

Assembly line: Tuesday, December 16th,  
9:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall



Sunday Night, December 7th  
Children's Choirs @ 5:00 p.m.

spark Adventur e  
t Hur sdAy, deCember 4t H  
@ 5:50 p.m.





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

<b>Every Sunday</b>		<b>Every Thursday</b>	
Sunday School	9:45 a.m.	Brown Bag Meal Time	5:15 p.m.
Morning Worship	11:00 a.m.	Prayer & Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
<b>Tuesday-2nd</b>			
DayFriends .....	Veggies to Go		11:45 a.m.
College Christmas Party .....	Leigh Anne's House		6:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday-3rd</b>			
Conversational English .....	Education Building		9:00 a.m.
<b>Thursday-4th</b>			
First Bells .....	Handbell Room		12:45 p.m.
Youth Choir Practice .....	Choir Room		5:30 p.m.
Spark Adventure .....	Education Building		5:50 p.m.
<b>Saturday-6th</b>			
Missions Monthly .....	Community Market		11:30 a.m.
<b>Sunday-7th</b>			
Sanctuary Choir .....	Choir Room		3:15 p.m.
Children's Choirs .....	Education Building		5:00 p.m.
Connecting Faith & Families .....	Activities Building		5:00 p.m.
Discipleship Training .....	Fellowship Hall		5:00 p.m.
Youth Choir .....	Choir Room		5:00 p.m.
Family Night at Christmas .....	Sanctuary		6:00 p.m.
Cookie Fellowship .....	Fellowship Hall		7:30 p.m.
<b>Tuesday-9th</b>			
Caring Hands .....	Fellowship Hall		5:15 p.m.
CDC Committee Meeting .....	Library		5:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday-10th</b>			
Conversational English .....	Education Building		9:00 a.m.
<b>Friday-12th</b>			
Christmas Movie Night .....	Fellowship Hall		6:00 p.m.
<b>Sunday-14th</b>			
Brotherhood Breakfast .....	Fellowship Hall		8:00 a.m.
<i>No Evening Activities</i>			
<b>Tuesday-16th</b>			
Jail Ministry Production Line .....	Fellowship Hall		9:00 a.m.
DayFriends .....	Veggies to Go		11:45 a.m.
<b>Thursday-18th</b>			
Home for Christmas .....	Leigh Anne's Home		6:30 p.m.
<b>Sunday-21st</b>			
<i>No Evening Activities</i>			
<b>Wednesday-24th</b>			
Christmas Eve Service .....	Sanctuary		6:00 p.m.
<i>Church Office Closed</i>			
<b>Thursday-25th</b>			
<i>Merry Christmas- Church Office Closed</i>			
<b>Friday-26th</b>			
<i>Church Office Closed</i>			
<b>Sunday-28th</b>			
<i>No Sunday School</i>			
<i>No Evening Activities</i>			
<b>Wednesday-31st</b>			
<i>New Year's Eve- Church Office Closed</i>			

**Serving the Month of December**

**Loaves & Fishes:** Pilgrims  
**Greeters:** Dick Graves, Ruthie Spiers, Todd Miller, Randy West, George Crandell  
**Offering:** Families of AFBC

**Serving December 7th**

**Counters:** Dwayne Beckett, Lois Graves, Lavaughn Johnson  
**Sound & Light:** Andrew Yohn  
**Extended Session:** Kelly Meeks, Mark Wilson, Holly Smithart, Ruthie Spiers, Amy Zhong

**Serving December 14th**

**Counters:** Flarcie Hopkins, Alice Lumpkin, Gladys Thomas  
**Sound & Light:** David Sutton  
**Extended Session:** Beth L. Smith, Paula Turnham, Ana Starks, Ruthie Spiers, Leah Duzy

**Serving December 21st**

**Counters:** Donna Bennett, Bill Faurot, Hazel Lee  
**Sound & Light:** Chad Parish  
**Extended Session:** Cindy Cleveland, Andy Yohn, Lynli Cantrell-Wright, Denise Stoeckel, Mrs. Ogundele

**Serving December 28th**

**Counters:** Aaron Greene, Carl Hill, James Nichols  
**Sound & Light:** Alison Crosby  
**Extended Session:** Anna Coxwell, Delaine Dendy, Anna Parish, Jeannie Eddins, Kathleen Sabo

**Ministerial Staff**

Dr. Tripp Martin  
 Pastor  
 trippmartin@mindspring.com  
 334-332-4100

Leigh Anne Armstrong  
 Interim Minister of Students  
 leighannearmstrong@gmail.com

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 Youth Coordinator  
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Eddi Vinson Riley  
 Interim Minister of Music  
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Dale Peterson  
 Minister of Music Emeritus/  
 Composer in Residence

**Support Staff**

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 Organist  
 kingbry@auburn.edu

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 CDC Director  
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 Administrative Assistant  
 auburnfbc@mindspring.com

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