

AUBURN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



February 1, 2015

Vol. 6 Issue 34

REFLECTIONS by Tripp Martin

Before rushing forward into a new year, we always pause one more time at the end of January, after all of the work of the previous year has come to a close, to take one more look at last year in order to say one more important word, "Thank you." In looking at the previous financial year, our giving exceeded our expenses again, allowing us to further reduce the deficit from 2012. There are further details from the Stewardship Committee in this newsletter, but we pause in order to say to one another, "Thank you."

We are thankful for each and every gift offered to the church, which represents the generosity and commitment of the congregation. We are thankful for all the ways in which those gifts support the congregation and extend its ministry. Each gift enlivens and enriches all we do.

We are grateful for all the church is doing, for the Brotherhood in Action, as they meet and talk about possible projects, recently helping a ministry for people with disabilities replace screen doors at a camp. We appreciate the Caring Hands ministry, making beads and knitted items, which can be taken to those dealing with grief or health problems. We give thanks when church members greet or befriend a college student or visitor on Sunday morning after worship. We are thankful for benevolence gifts, as we were able to provide food recently to families with immediate needs in the midst of crises.

We are grateful for the jail ministry, which recently received a letter from a person who received a Christmas box, but who needed reading glasses in order to read the Bible, which was part of the box, and how this ministry provided those glasses. We are thankful on Thursday nights, when the church gathers for study and prayer, calling out names and needs, as we join our hearts together prayerfully. We are thankful for the work of the two search committees, as they continue their discernment.

One other way in which we are grateful is for the first Claude H. Moore Lecture Series, which will be on Sunday, February 8. We are grateful to the family of Claude H. Moore for enabling the church to have these lectures, which will be presented by Dr. Bill Leonard, professor of church history and previous interim preacher at Auburn First Baptist.

We are grateful for the commitment of the congregation, for its generosity and ministry, and for all the ways in which the church enlivens the shared journey of faith.

Tripp

Claude H. Moore Lecture Series

**Sunday, February 8th with Dr. Bill Leonard
Lecture: The Gospel and the "Nones":
Retelling the Jesus Story**

During the Sunday school hour, all youth, college and adult classes will be invited to join together to hear Dr. Leonard teach in the fellowship hall. Bill will also join us during the worship service as the guest preacher. Please bring your favorite **breakfast dish** to share as we gather.

**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.

Stewardship Moment

by Brian Ledbetter

As we move into a new calendar year, the Stewardship Committee would like to take this opportunity to give you an update on the final budget report for 2014. Last year, our income exceeded our expenses, which created a surplus of \$15,742 for the year. This decreases the deficit we carried forward from 2012, reducing it from -\$41,000 at the beginning of 2014 to -\$25,000 at the beginning of 2015. This is a great accomplishment as our giving has exceeded our expenses for two years in a row. The deficit from 2012 was originally over -\$70,000. Thank you for your faithfulness and your generous gifts.

Moving into 2015 presents a unique opportunity for us as a church. We anticipate adding two new staff positions at some point this year, and we have accounted for these salaries in the 2015 budget. In the time before hiring these positions, we have an opportunity to further decrease the lingering debt. During this time, our expenses will be limited and our gifts will be maximized. The 2015 budget does account for these salaries, but until they are hired, we can further reduce our deficit and bolster our financial situation.

Together we have accomplished a great deal in the last two years as a church. The church staff and all committees have remained diligent in keeping expenses low, and we have also taken necessary steps to reduce our overall expenses, while planning our budget each year. Moving forward, we still have work to do. If we can be diligent in our giving as a church family, we will continue to reduce our debt and achieve a healthier financial state, as we grow into our budget for the years to come.

Church-wide Invite!

FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER



Tuesday, February 17th
6:00-7:30 p.m.
Coleman Fellowship Hall
Mardi Gras music, face painting,
kids' fun
Hosted by our college ministry

Financials as of December 31, 2014:

Budget	769,111.02
Contributions	658,658.75
Expenditures	642,916.29
Year-to-date	15,742.46

Mark Your Calendar

Children's Committee Meeting

Sunday, February 1st, 12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Youth Committee Meeting

Sunday, February 1st, 4:00 p.m., Youth Room

DayFriends

Tuesday, February 3rd, 11:45 a.m., Taziki's

Caring Hands

Tuesday, February 10th, 5:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall

CDC Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 10th, 5:30 p.m., Library

Stewardship Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 12th, 5:00 p.m., Library

Sunday Evening Adult Classes

Renewing What is Old:

The Testimony of the Old Testament

J-Term Class, by Tripp Martin

Sundays at 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Financial Peace Class

Sundays at 5:00 p.m.

Seekers' Classroom

12 Years!

On January 21st, our custodian, **Jada Butler**, celebrated her 12th Anniversary ministering among this family of faith. Jada maintains such a vital role in the life and ministry of this church. She tends to the many daily needs of the facilities with such a loving spirit. She is often called upon to do a variety of different jobs for a variety of different people, in addition to her normal responsibilities. She is always so willing to help. If you have an opportunity to see Jada in the coming weeks, please share with her your appreciation for her or take a moment to write her a personal note and leave it for her in the church office.

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.



Missions Monthly
February 7th @ 11:30 a.m.
Community Market

Thursday Nights
Brown Bag Meal Time
5:15 p.m.
Youth Hang Out Time
5:45 p.m.

Youth Committee Meeting
February 4th @ 4:00 p.m.

Youth Sunday
February 22nd

Sunday nightS

Youth Choir @ 5:00 p.m., Choir Room
Youth Sunday Nights @ 6:00 p.m., Youth Room
"Jesus and Relationships"

Coming Next Month:
Stop Hunger Now meal packaging on March 8th

Passport Camp

July 12th-17th at Greensboro College, NC
Deposit of \$100 due by February 1st.
For info, go to www.passportcamps.org
and click on Youth Camps

Thursday Evening Bible Study

Fellowship Hall, 6:00 p.m.

Thursdays, February 5th

The Church Year:

Keeping Time with the Life of Jesus

Beginning Thursday, February 12th, we will begin a series of conversations entitled, "PicturingLent."



-ing!
Verb your life.

Tuesday Night Bible Study
sponsored by
Auburn First Baptist College Ministry
Tuesdays beginning
January 20th - 7pm.
Free home-cooked meal
followed by Bible study & music

"Hear the word, then act on it!"
- James 1:22

Food Court
Fridays
Student Center
Food Court
11:30 a.m. - 1:00
p.m.

TNBS Meal Sign-Ups
Feb. 3rd: Cindy Cleveland
Feb. 10th: Edzard van Santen

Sign-ups to make meals for the college students are still available for the spring semester, which stretches through April. Contact Leigh Anne Armstrong at leighannearmstrong@gmail.com or 334.332.3040 to reserve your preferred week. Thank you!

Now Serving ATL: transformed

February 6th-7th
\$20 includes meal & t-shirt
CBF college ministry event

MISSIONS MOMENTS

by Charlotte Ward

More than forty years ago, a friend of mine, a Presbyterian minister, was working with a poor community in St. Louis. Once she said to me, "I sometimes think I could do more good with a law degree than as a minister."

More than twenty years ago, a group of Episcopalians in North Alabama came to a similar conclusion. Solutions to many of the seemingly intractable problems of poor people in Alabama lie with government rather than with private charity. Out of the realization, Alabama Arise was born.

Now a coalition of dozens of churches (AFBC included) and hundreds of individual citizens, Alabama Arise is one of the most effective voices for the disadvantaged in the state.

For example, until Arise pushed for legislation, renters in Alabama had no legal recourse if the landlord neglected to fix leaking roofs or faulty plumbing. It took about four years to get the tenants' rights bill through the legislature, but Arise folks don't give up. We have been working even longer to get the tax on groceries removed, and on tax reform in general, and on getting a new State Constitution.

Every winter, Arise sponsors a workshop on current needs in Alabama. I have attended several and found them excellent. Below is the announcement for this year's meeting. I hope some from AFBC will be there, and that even more of us will become members of the much-needed organization.

Join the movement for change Feb. 5 at the Arise Policy Conference!

Meet hundreds of people working toward a better Alabama at the 2015 Arise Policy Conference on Thursday, Feb. 5, at Birmingham-Southern College! Learn about the policy challenges facing our state and how your advocacy can help make Alabama a stronger, healthier state for all.

The Arise conference will feature speeches by Demos President Heather McGhee; State Health Officer Dr. Don Williamson; and UAB's Dr. Michael Saag, a pioneering HIV researcher. We'll also offer a host of workshops examining how better public policies on health care, housing, transportation, tax reform and other issues can help ensure Alabama is a state where everyone has an opportunity to build a better life.

It'll be an exciting, energetic day, and we hope to see you there! For more information and to register go to www.arisecitizens.org.



Sunday Evenings

Children's Choirs @ 5:00 p.m.
Education Building
Bible Encounter @ 6:00 p.m.
Education Building

Spark adventure
Thursday @ 5:50 p.m.
Education Building





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

Every Sunday

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Every Thursday

Brown Bag Meal Time 5:15 p.m.
Prayer & Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

Sunday-1st

Children's Committee	Fellowship Hall	12:00 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir	Choir Room	3:15 p.m.
Youth Committee Meeting	Youth Room	4:00 p.m.
Youth Choir	Choir Room	5:00 p.m.
Children's Choirs	Education Building	5:00 p.m.
Financial Peace Class	Seekers' Classroom	5:00 p.m.
J-Term	Fellowship Hall	5:00 p.m.
Bible Encounter	Education Building	6:00 p.m.
Youth Sunday Nights	Youth Room	6:00 p.m.

Tuesday-3rd

DayFriends	Taziki's	11:45 p.m.
College TNBS	College Room	7:00 p.m.

Wednesday-4th

Conversational English	Education Building	9:00 a.m.
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Thursday-5th

First Bells	Handbell Room	12:45 p.m.
Youth Hang Out Time	Youth Room	5:45 p.m.
Spark Adventure	Education Building	5:50 p.m.

Saturday-7th

Youth Missions Monthly	Community Market	11:30 a.m.
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Sunday-8th

Sanctuary Choir	Choir Room	3:15 p.m.
Youth Choir	Choir Room	5:00 p.m.
Children's Choirs	Education Building	5:00 p.m.
Financial Peace Class	Seekers' Classroom	5:00 p.m.
J-Term	Fellowship Hall	5:00 p.m.
Bible Encounter	Education Building	6:00 p.m.
Youth Sunday Nights	Youth Room	6:00 p.m.

Tuesday-10th

Caring Hands	Fellowship Hall	5:15 p.m.
CDC Committee Meeting	Library	5:30 p.m.
College TNBS	College Room	7:00 p.m.

Wednesday-11th

Conversational English	Education Building	9:00 a.m.
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Thursday-12th

First Bells	Handbell Room	12:45 p.m.
Stewardship Committee Mtg	Library	5:00 p.m.
Youth Hang Out Time	Youth Room	5:45 p.m.
Spark Adventure	Education Building	5:50 p.m.

Sunday-15th

Sanctuary Choir	Choir Room	3:15 p.m.
Youth Choir	Choir Room	5:00 p.m.
Children's Choirs	Education Building	5:00 p.m.
Financial Peace Class	Seekers Classroom	5:00 p.m.
J-Term	Fellowship Hall	5:00 p.m.
Bible Encounter	Education Building	6:00 p.m.
Youth Sunday Nights	Youth Room	6:00 p.m.

Serving the Month of February

Loaves & Fishes: Adult IV

Greeters: Sharlene McDaniel, Dee Williams, Ned Dendy, Nancy Roberts

Offering: Pilgrims

Visitors: Johnsons

Serving February 1st

Counters: Dwayne Beckett, Lois Graves, Bill Faurot

Sound & Light: Chad Parish

Extended Session: Anna Coxwell, Brad Smithart, Victoria Eden, Kathleen Sabo, Jeannie Eddins

Serving February 8th

Counters: Flarcie Hopkins, Alice Lumpkin, Gladys Thomas

Sound & Light: Addison Meeks

Extended Session: Marcie Smith, Sue Walker, Anna Parish, Suzanne Parish, Denise Stoeckel

Serving February 15th

Counters: Wallace Baldwin, Donna Bennett, Hazel Lee

Sound & Light: Gary Cantini

Extended Session: Beth Smith, Katharine Martin, Benjamin Wilson, Genessee Cook, Adeola Ogundele

Ministerial Staff

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