

AUBURN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

December 1, 2015

Vol. 6 Issue 50

REFLECTIONS by Tripp Martin

As we begin to anticipate the stable this Advent, we will gather and listen in ways that help us anticipate. The gift of music during this time of year is paramount, as it engages our minds, hearts, and souls, opening us up to anticipate the hope, peace, joy, and love of God. We will join our voices together as well as listen reverently to our choirs sing, which will help us hear the presence of God around us.

On Sunday evening, December 6, the children's choirs and the youth choir will offer their music they have been preparing. During this service, we will give thanks for their voices amongst us, as they start to tune our hearts to hear God's grace. We will light the Christmon trees for the first time in the sanctuary after we adorn them with the symbols of our faith. It is a time to start listening, as we start to hear Advent happening around us.

The following Sunday on December 13 we will gather in the sanctuary for worship, as the Sanctuary Choir and hand bells lead us in "Rejoicing at the Manger." Through their voices, we will hear the joy of Mary and the awe of Joseph and the good news of Christ. We will stand beside the manger in order to remember what the hope, peace, joy, and love of God sound like, so we can better anticipate it during Advent. It will lift our souls and center our lives.

Finally on December 24, we will come together for our Carols, Communion, and Candlelight service, where music and communion will guide us into Christmas. After weeks of anticipating the stable, we will stand in it and give thanks for Emmanuel, or God with us. We will sing and then gather around the Table to celebrate communion. Then we will take the light of Christ at the center of the Advent wreath, and we will pass its light one to another, sharing the good news of Christmas with each other as well as taking it out into the world.

Once we hear the good news of Christmas, will take it to all of the dark places around us, offering to others some of the hope, peace, joy, and love that we have discovered by standing in the stable. Our music and worship will guide us through the journey of Advent and Christmas, and it will send us out into this world, renewed and strengthened, called and led, by what we sing and hear along the way. Advent is here, and Christmas is coming. Let us sing together.

-Tripp

Family Night at Christmas
December 6th, 6:15 p.m.
Music by our Youth & Children's Choirs
Followed by our renowned
Cookie Fellowship
Bring your favorite cookies to share
Sanctuary Choir Christmas Program
"Rejoicing At The Manger"
December 13th, 11:00 a.m.
Presented by our Sanctuary Choir

Annual
Christmas Eve
Service
December 24th
6:00 p.m.
Sanctuary



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.

Thursday Evening Activities, December 3rd

5:15 p.m. - Soup with Edzard

6:00 p.m. - Special Called Business Meeting

The Following items will be on the agenda: A report from the Committee on Committees, a report from the Stewardship Committee (2016 budgets), and election of deacons.

Thursday Evening Activities resume January 7th with:

Hyperbole: Serious Words about Faith

When we read the many stories and parables of Jesus, we discover hyperbole. We find exaggerated words used to make a particular point. Hyperbole is often thought of as non-serious speech, but just the opposite. Exaggeration places a magnifying glass over our words, putting emphasis on them. They slow us down as we are reading, so that we do not skim over what is essential. During these conversations, we will slow down to hear these serious words and what they might say.

Adult Sunday Evening Activities

Last Meeting for 2015 is December 6th

Sunday Evening Activities will resume January 10th

Connecting Faith and Family

Sundays, 5:00 p.m., Fisher's classroom (new location)

Discipleship Training

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

Meals for Tuesday Night Bible Study

Thank you to all who volunteered to bring supper for the college students during the fall semester! Your acts of service and caring made each Tuesday night a wonderful time for our college group. It's hard to believe, but it's already time to sign up for the spring semester. Please support our college ministry by signing up to bring a meal for our students one Tuesday night this spring. Thank you!

If you are interested in preparing a home cooked meal for our College Tuesday Night Bible Study this spring, please email Laura at lauraedgar@mindspring.com.

Mark Your Calendars

Senior Adult Luncheon

December 15th, 11:00 a.m., Chicken Salad Chick

Guests are invited! The cost is \$10 a person. Have your \$10 in cash ready to give at the door of the dining room. Devotional will be followed by lunch. Meet at Chicken Salad Chick on Opelika Road in Auburn.

No Sunday School

December 27th

Committee Night

January 10th

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:

Jackie Hundley
Wayne & Dartie Flynt
Katharine & Tripp Martin
Nadine & Gerald Johnson
The Church Staff
Anna, Olivia, & Emma Kate Parish
Camryn, Alexis, & Nicholas Renuart
Tripp & Katharine Martin
J.D. & Hunter Martin
All Choir Leaders
Gerald Johnson
Dartie Flynt
The Church Staff
My Great Big Wonderful Family
Tripp and Katharine Martin
Trista Slaughter
Laura Edgar
Eddi & Jim Riley
Tripp Martin Family
Mike & Julie McClanahan

In Memory of:

Virgil Starks III
Haskell Lumpkin
Our Parents
Gene Stevenson
Inez & Walter Sowell
Our Parents
Dianne Wilson
Harrison
Dianne Wilson
Ron Clark
Riley Clark
Homer & Mae Flynt
Dr. & Mrs. Albert Smith
J.W. Bearden
Grace Casey
Charles Potter
Paul & Clois Shoffeitt
Gilbert Rollins
Frances Rollins
Douglas Rollins
Richard Cizek
Our Parents
John and Jeanette Jeffers
Our Parents
Robert Boylen
Arthur, Zaner, and Lee Swope
Curtis Ward
Richard Cizek
James Phillip Myrick

Given by:

Flarcie Hopkins
The Starks Family
Phyllis & Oxford Smith
Phyllis & Oxford Smith
Betty Tatum
Ned & Delanie Dendy
Grandmom
Milton & Kathy
Pops & Kaki
A Friend
Seekers
Wayne Flynt
Marcie Smith
Helen Brown
Friends
Friends
Mary Joe Howard
Mary Joe Howard
Mary Joe Howard
Mary Joe Howard

Given by:

The Starks Family
Alice & Family
Lois & Dick Graves
Mavis & Family
Their Family
Dee & Steve Williams
Dee & Steve Williams
Cathy, Jason, Elizabeth, Jonathan
Dennis Wilson & Family
Judy Clark
Judy Clark
Wayne Flynt
Wayne Flynt
His Family
Candy & Rick Enkeboll
Mary Ann Potter, Cliff & Charlann
Jean, Paul, & Mary
His Family
Her Family
His Family
Marcie Smith
Dale Peterson & Libby Potts
Dale and Libby Peterson
Annua & Charles Segrest
Chris Boylen
Mary Ann Swope Dell
Charlotte Ward
Teresa Vest
Dean, Tiffany, Layne, Blair, Kennedy

Poinsettias may be picked up from the sanctuary following morning worship on December 27th.

Habitat for Humanity Opportunities

The Missions Committee has created an email group to keep everyone informed about Habitat for Humanity projects. If you are not already receiving emails about these opportunities and would like to be notified about upcoming events and projects, please contact the church office (334-887-8506 or auburnfbc@mindspring.com).



Youth Choir
Sundays, 5:00 p.m., Choir Room
Last practice: December 6th
Will Resume January 10th

Youth Sunday Nights
Will Resume January 24

Winter Youth Summit
January 15 - 17, 2016
Cost: \$150
Payment Due: Dec. 1st

**Christmas Gathering
for Sparkman
Community**
December 13th 4:00-
5:30 p.m.

Be there at 3:30 p.m. to help set up. Rides provided from this event to the party.

Christmas Party
December 13th
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Leigh Anne's Home

Food, fun, and games! Bring a gift of no more than \$10 for Dirty Santa.

J-Term Class, by Tripp Martin

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

Farm to Table: Food, Faith, and the Church

5 week study starts January 10

The church is more like a farm than a factory. As we remember where our food comes from, we remember where our faith comes from as well, learning again what it means to be a part of creation, sustained by God. The practice of farming or gardening teaches us about faith, reminding us it is local, communal, and global. We see what it means to "say grace" with our lives. We also rekindle our understanding of the agrarian stories of scripture, while knowing what it means to gather around the Table of communion. As we connect with the land, we rediscover a great deal about food and our lives, creation and grace, the Table and church.



Bible Study & Breakfast

Sundays, 9:45 a.m., College Room (Activities Building)

College Tuesday Night Bible Study

Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m., College Room (Activities Building)

The last bible study of the semester is December 1st.

We will resume January 19th.

Fellowship. Service. Special Activities.

Lunch On Campus

Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

(Resumes January 20th.)

WMU CHRISTMAS JAIL MINISTRY

PROJECT 2015

Thank you to all who have wrapped boxes and donated money. *If you want to wrap boxes or donate, there is still time. Checks should be made to AFBC (\$15 per box, notation: Jail Ministry Christmas Project.)* Much appreciation to the WMU at Central Baptist Church for their help with wrapping the Jail Ministry Christmas boxes this year.

PRODUCTION LINE

9:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 15th, Fellowship Hall
VOLUNTEERS ARE VERY, VERY WELCOME!

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT THE JAIL

Wednesday, December 16th

Deacons Serve Communion at Home

On the first Sunday of each month, our tradition has been to gather around the Table in worship in order to celebrate communion. We give thanks for the communion we share with God and for the community we share with one another. The Table speaks of the grace of God and the life of Jesus, which binds us together. There are church members, who are unable to be with us in worship when we gather, due to health concerns and particular constraints, but they are still part of our community. For those who are unable to be in worship, the deacons will begin to take communion to their homes. They will service communion once a quarter in this way. If you know of a church member, who might appreciate this ministry, you can contact the church office.



Preschool Department's

Birthday Party for Jesus

December 13th, 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

All preschool families and Prayer Partners are invited. If you would like to bring a birthday gift, the toys will be donated to Toys for Tots.

Children's Choirs 5:00 p.m.

Bible Encounter 6:00 p.m.

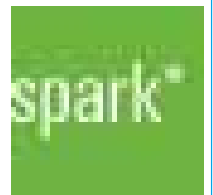
Sundays, Education Building

Our last gathering for 2015 will be December 6th. We will resume Sunday Evening Activities on January 10th

Spark Adventure

Thursdays, 5:50 p.m., Education Building
December 3rd Helper: Julie McClanahan

We will resume January 7th.





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

<i>Every Sunday</i>		<i>Every Thursday</i>	
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.
Tuesday- 1st			
TNBS	College Room		7:00 p.m.
Wednesday- 2nd			
Conversational English	Education Building		9:00 a.m.
Thursday- 3rd			
First Bells Rehearsal	Choir Room		12:30 p.m.
Special Called Business Meeting ..	Fellowship Hall		6:00 p.m.
Spark Adventure	Education Building		5:50 p.m.
Sunday- 6th			
Ladies Lunch Bunch	Country's Barbecue		12:00 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir	Choir Room		3:15 p.m.
Children's Choirs	Education Building		5:00 p.m.
Connecting Faith and Family	Fishers' Classroom		5:00 p.m.
Discipleship Training	Fellowship Hall		5:00 p.m.
Youth Choir	Choir Room		5:00 p.m.
Bible Encounter	Education Building		6:00 p.m.
Family Night at Christmas	Sanctuary		6:15 p.m.
Tuesday- 8th			
Caring Hands	Fellowship Hall		5:15 p.m.
Wednesday- 9th			
Conversational English	Education Building		9:00 a.m.
CDC Committee Meeting	Church Library		5:30 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room		6:00 p.m.
Thursday- 10th			
First Bells Rehearsal	Choir Room		12:30 p.m.
	<i>No Evening Activities</i>		
Sunday- 13th			
Youth Sparkman????????????????			
Preschool Party	Fellowship Hall		5:00 p.m.
Youth Sunday Night	Leigh Anne's Home		6:00 p.m.
Tuesday- 15th			
Jail Ministry Production Line	Fellowship Hall		9:00 a.m.
Senior Adult Luncheon	Chicken Salad Chick		11:00 a.m.
Thursday- 17th			
	<i>No Evening Activities</i>		
Sunday- 20th			
	<i>No Evening Activities</i>		
Thursday- 24th			
Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary		6:00 p.m.
Sunday- 27th			
	<i>No Sunday School</i>		
	<i>No Evening Activities</i>		
Thursday- 31st			
	<i>No Evening Activities</i>		

Serving the Month of December

Greeters: Teresa Vest, Dick Graves, George Crandle

Visitors: Wests

Serving December 6th: Counters: Dwayne Beckett, Lois Graves, Bill Faurot **Sound & Light:** Andrew Yohn **Extended Session:** Alison Crosby, Alan Walker, Suzanne Parish, Ruthis Spiers, Addison Meeks, Terri Wood, MaryLynn Porter **Loaves & Fishes:** Lynn Eden **Offering:** Cook

Serving December 13th: Counters: Flarcie Hopkins, Alice Lumpkin, Gladys Thomas **Sound & Light:** David Sutton **Extended Session:** Beth Smith, Lee Alice Johnson, Katharine Martin, Benjamin Wilson, Kathleen Sabo, Terri Wood, MaryLynn Porter **Loaves & Fishes:** Nancy Webster **Offering:** Eden

Serving December 20th: Counters: Wallace Baldwin, Donna Bennett, Hazel Lee **Sound & Light:** Chad Parish **Extended Session:** Marcie Smith, Tiffany Myrick, Cynthia Smithart, Jay Spiers, Lynli Cantrell Wright, Terri Wood, MaryLynn Porter **Loaves & Fishes:** Porter/Renuart **Offering:** Cantrell Wright

December 27th: Counters: Aaron Greene, James Nichols **Sound & Light:** Addison Meeks **Extended Session:** Amber Moore, Kelly Meeks, Mark Wilson, Ben Wilson, Lynn Eden, **Offering:** TBD

Ministerial Staff

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