

AUBURN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



June 15, 2016

Vol. 6 Issue 62

REFLECTIONS by Tripp Martin

Sitting in my office is my nametag from Vacation Bible School, and one thing that I noticed during last week and all throughout VBS was all of the helping hands. There were hands coming together in order to help in countless ways. I noticed during the week that they were all “open hands.”

There were hands welcoming the children on the first night, and there were hands serving dinner plates. There were hands opening up the Bible and reading stories, and there were hands doing motions, as we sang wonderful songs. There were hands giving directions, and there were handshakes and high-fives all throughout the week. It is difficult to do all of those things with closed hands.

The church does well to have “open hands.” They are the best hands for welcoming and supporting, encouraging and comforting, giving and receiving from one another. They are the hands of Jesus, feeding the five thousand, comforting the sick, welcoming the children, teaching the disciples, and joining in prayer.

The church is called to have “open hands,” whether that is the helping hands of Vacation Bible School or the helping hands of the Community Market. It is more than handshakes or high-fives; it is the connections formed through building community within the church or serving the community around the church.

The church calls us to open our hands to each other as we gather for worship, so we might practice living with “open hands” when we are sent forth. They help us to reach over our divides or to offer help to those who are hurting. They are the type of hands that allow us to carry the love of God with us and to others.

We will see this next week as well when churches throughout the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship gather in Greensboro, North Carolina for their annual meeting. There will be connections made as churches come together around missions and ministry. There will be extended hands, greeting one another and working together.

We continue to see this each Lord’s Day when we gather. We can watch as hands are extended to one another, sharing stories and prayers, joining to worship and serve, building community and serving community, as the church is called to have “open hands,” as the body of Christ.

-Tripp

Potluck Dinner with Cross Road Baptist Church

Wednesday, June 15 6:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

No Evening Activities Thursday, June 16.

**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.

Sparkman Ministry Summer Food Service Program

We have been invited to participate again this summer in a feeding program through a regional food bank. We will serve a free meal provided by the food bank and spend some time playing with the children at the Sparkman neighborhood of the Auburn Housing Authority. On each Tuesday during June we need a few volunteers to serve a meal at 10:00 a.m. and play games with the children afterwards. If you are interested in helping, please email Laura Edgar (lauraedgar@mindspring.com).

Sparkman Neighborhood: Sparkman Drive, off Commerce Drive, Auburn

REACH

REACH is a Respite Care Ministry for the community, which will be located at AUMC. Reach will be offered on the third Tuesday of each month this summer (June 21, July 15, August 16) from 10:00 - 2:00 p.m. with lunch provided. The cost is \$30/day and is for persons with early to moderate memory issues. Please contact Rev. Julie Hare at 334-826-8800 ext. 232 or julie.hare@aumc.net with questions or to sign up.



Building Sanctuary

We are grateful for the commitment and generosity of the congregation. It's not too late to give to Building Sanctuary. Gifts can be placed in the offering plate or brought to the church office.

The work on the sanctuary is going well, as the contractor has been careful to protect the pews and to prepare the room. They have built the scaffolding, giving them a platform from which to work. They have removed much of the previous ceiling, preparing to start installing the new ceiling.

A Note from the VBS Directors

From June 6-9, our church joined with Cross Road Baptist Church for Vacation Bible School. We had more than 65 children from preschool through fifth grade participate in VBS and over 60 volunteers helping us prepare weeks in advance and leading during VBS week. The theme this year was "Have You Seen", and we had an amazing week, as our children were encouraged to look for God's fingerprints or see God's work around them and to join in that important work. Not only did all of our children and volunteers have a great time, but it was also a very meaningful and sacred week in which all had the opportunity to enter into a deeper relationship with God, to worship God, to learn about Jesus' ministry and interact with God's word through Bible stories, crafts, games, mission activities and prayer.

Each evening, we began with dinner prepared by some of our wonderful volunteers before a time of worship. In worship we sang songs, read scripture, prayed and learned more about our missions offering. In small groups, children discovered God's fingerprints in our community and world by engaging with Bible stories such as Jesus healing the blind man, Nehemiah leading his community to rebuild the wall to protect Jerusalem, Jesus calling us to be the light of the world, and Namaan's healing. Craft time gave children the chance to draw upon their creativity and Missions was a significant time learning about medical missionaries in Senegal and volunteers who helped rebuild their community after Super Storm Sandy.

Our VBS missions offering this year was the Jail Ministry. During worship, children learned more about this important work being done in our own community by some of our very own church members. We are extremely grateful that some of the women involved with Jail Ministry, including Helen Brown and Mary Joe Howard, were able to come and spend some time with the children during the Missions Rotation. They were kind enough to tell the children a little more and answer their questions about the Jail Ministry. We are very proud to say that our children raised \$300 for the Jail Ministry which will be used to purchase Bibles for each participant and help prepare Christmas boxes for the holiday season.

We are extremely appreciative to everyone who helped in the weeks leading up to VBS with the planning, preparing of materials, and decorating as well as those who were able to be there during the week, working directly with the children. Each of you worked so hard to help make this year a success. VBS is not possible without great volunteers, and we are blessed to have many incredible ones in our church family. We would also like to thank you all, our church family, for your support and prayers during VBS week.

As we said, it was a fantastic and meaningful week for everyone who was involved, and we are already excitedly making plans for next year's VBS. We hope that you will be able to join us for another fun week next summer.

With Thanks,
Tiffany Myrick and Cathy Summers
Sue Walker and Ruthie Spiers
VBS Co-Directors



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

Not Meeting June 16
Regular Thursday
Evening Activities
Resume June 23

YOUTH SOS

June 26th

The Wilsons' House

Passport Camp

July 10 - 15, 2016

Greensboro College - Greensboro, NC

PASSPORT

Empowering Students • Embracing the World • Extending Grace

Thursday Evening Activities

5:15 p.m. Brown Bag Meal Time

6:00 p.m. Bible Study

Listening to the Silence

Often times, silence means the lack of communication, where nothing is said; but other times, silence says something profound and poignant.

June 16: No Meeting

(Potluck 6/15 w/ Cross Road Baptist)

June 23: A Baptist You Ought to Know: TB Matson,
led by Mark Wilson

June 30: Listening to the Silence

A Note from the Ordinance Committee

One of our pieces from the Silver Communion Set has been misplaced. The Chalice has been missing recently. It is most likely stored in a different spot in the church or possibly being cleaned or polished. If you have noticed it somewhere in the church or happen to have been cleaning it, please let the church office know.



Bible Study & Breakfast

Sundays, 9:45 a.m., College Room

Looking Ahead...

Be on the lookout for College Ministry summer activities!
Dates and locations coming soon!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Changed
Wednesday, June 15, 7:00 p.m., Choir Room

No Evening Activities
Thursday, June 16

Blood Drive
Sunday, June 19, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
College St. Parking Lot

Deacons' Meeting
Tuesday, June 21, 6:30 p.m., Seekers' Classroom

Senior Adult Dinner Out
Wednesday, June 29, 5:00 p.m., Good Ol' Boys

Informal Senior Adult Luncheon

Newk's on South Gay Street

Tuesday, June 21

Arrive about 11:15 a.m.

Order and Pay for Your Own Lunch at Entrance
Sit in Reserved Area
Enjoy Table Fellowship!

Newk's has soups, salads, sandwiches,
and other items on the menu.

Parking is easy, handicapped places near door.



PASSPORTkids!

Camp

July 5-8

Spark Adventure
Thursdays @ 5:50 P.M., Ed. Bldg.

Helpers:

June 23rd: Kelly Meeks

June 30th: Julie McClanahan





**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.

Wednesday- 15th

Potluck w/Cross Road Baptist Fellowship Hall 6:00 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Choir Room 7:00 p.m.

Thursday- 16th

No Evening Activities

Sunday- 19th

Blood Drive College St Parking Lot 8:00 a.m.

No Evening Activities

Tuesday- 21st

Senior Adult Luncheon Newk's 11:15 a.m.
Deacons' Meeting Seekers' Classroom 6:30 p.m.

Thursday- 23rd

Youth Hangout Gym 5:45 p.m.
Spark Adventure Education Building 5:50 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Choir Room 6:45 p.m.

Sunday-26th

Youth SOS The Wilsons' House 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday- 29th

Senior Adult Dinner Out Good Ol' Boys 5:00 p.m.

Thursday- 30th

Youth Hangout Gym 5:45 p.m.
Spark Adventure Education Building 5:50 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir Rehersal Choir Room 6:45 p.m.

Serving the Month of June

Greeters: Todd Miller, Dick Graves

Loaves & Fishes: Sojourners

Offering: Seekers

Visitors: Fred and Sherry Weaver

Serving June 19th

Counters: Dwayne Beckett, Lois Graves, Bill Faurot

Sound & Light: Andrew Yohn

Extended Session: Kathleen Sabo, Leah Duzy, Mary Ann Dell, Lee Alice Johnson, Tiffany Myrick, Mark Wilson, Stephen Eden

Serving June 26th

Counters: Flarcie Hopkins, Alice Lumpkin, Lavaughn Johnson

Sound & Light: David Sutton

Extended Session: Suzanne Parish, Ruthie Spiers, Cindy Cleveland, Carolyn Thompson, Kathleen Sabo, Lesley Odom, Benjamin Wilson

Ministerial Staff

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

Laura Edgar
Associate Pastor for Youth,
College and Young Adults
lauraedgar@mindspring.com

Morris Driggers
Associate Pastor for Music
morrisdriggers@mindspring.com

Dale Peterson
Minister of Music Emeritus/
Composer in Residence

Support Staff

Bryan King
Organist
kingbry@auburn.edu

Trista Slaughter
Office Manager
tristaslaughter@mindspring.com

Milissa Clowers
CDC Director
milissaclowers@mindspring.com

Sydney Sellers
& Grace Friedenreich
Administrative Assistant
auburnfbc@mindspring.com

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