

AUBURN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



January 15, 2017

Vol. 6 Issue 75

REFLECTIONS by Tripp Martin

I hear it often said during this time of year, “I am ready for a routine again.” Coming off of the holidays and before the beginning of school or work, we might get anxious, or restless, about getting back into a routine. We yearn for steady schedules and reliable plans. We have enjoyed immensely the time away from our routines during the holidays, but the time comes when we are ready for them again.

In these first couple weeks of a “routine,” we can embrace what is most life-giving about steady schedules and reliable plans. A routine might sound mundane and uneventful, but the repetition of our days can reveal something more. There is freedom in a routine.

I can relate it to the routine of worship. When we gather in the sanctuary for worship, there is a particular routine—when we stand to sing, when we join our voices to pray, when we pause to listen. The pattern of worship does vary, but it also has a routine. Tom Long, who is a retired professor of preaching at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University, once compared the routine patterns of worship to the routine steps of a dance. A person learns the steps of a dance, and their pattern, so they do not have to think about what to do with their feet when they hear the music, while they are dancing. Instead, we can just listen to the music and really “dance.” There is freedom in a routine.

The routine of worship frees us, so we do not have to think about every step. We can simply worship. Our routine in each week can free us as well. We might allow it to free us, so we can listen for the presence of God around us, notice the needs of others that we can meet, or just say “thank you” for what is good in our lives.

The weekly routine of the church can also allow us to “dance.” We can fall into the weekly rhythms of worship or study on Sunday mornings and evenings. We can pause during the middle of the week to gather around a table with others for a meal and prayer on Thursday evenings. We can seek an opportunity to serve others in various ways, whether it is with the Conversational English Class each week or Loaves and Fishes at different times throughout the year. We can let the different routines of the church shape our lives, teaching us to “dance.”

We might even come and sit in the sanctuary during the week when it is quiet, finding stillness and seeking God in the middle of the week. We can let the freedom of our routine teach us to “dance”, as we learn the steps that to set us free.

-Tripp

Quarterly Business Meeting
Thursday, January 26th, 6:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall
Agenda Items: 2016 Financials, 2017 Nominating Committee Members

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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.



Telling Our Story

It is a simple question with multiple answers, when we ask, "Where are you from?" This simple question can have a simple answer, "I am from Auburn." We can also give multiple answers by telling our stories. We can tell stories about Toomer's Corner or famous wins for the Auburn Tigers. We can explain traditions that have emerged in this place. We can express how we feel about its character and its history, commenting on the significance a place has in our lives. Those are our stories.

The life of a congregation has similar stories. Like the place where we are from, a church has shaped our lives because of those stories, which echo the story of God's grace. Since there are so many stories happening throughout the church, it is hard to know them all, so we will tell some of them each month in the newsletter in this section, "Telling Our Story." It will include local stories from Auburn First Baptist as well as stories from some of our partners in ministry, like the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. This section cannot tell all of our stories, but it will tell some of them. We are thankful for all the stories of this place.

Global Ministries Offering

Each year, 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, supporting global missions, providing shelter, addressing local and world hunger, cultivating theological education, and assisting with disaster relief. The church council will be working on the proposed GMO budget in the upcoming weeks, so 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. The Global Ministries Offering Sunday will be in March.



Over the holiday weekend, many of our youth will participate in a special event called Faith in 3D. Sponsored by three different

denominational groups, Faith in 3D is an opportunity for youth to come together as the larger Body of Christ, to unite with other students from all over the country in worship and growing in their faith. Students will be challenged to share their faith, act courageously, and change the world around them for the better. Faith in 3D only happens once every few years, and many of our youth have looked forward to going since they came into the youth ministry. Please pray for them and their chaperones as they participate in this exciting opportunity.



Blood Drive
Sunday, February 5th
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

2017 Thursday Evening Activities

5:15 p.m. - Brown Bag Meal Time
6:00 p.m. - Prayer and Bible Study
"What They Saw"

We will begin a series of conversations about several minor characters in scripture. By minor, we do not mean less important, but rather, less examined. We will look at several stories of scripture from their perspective, standing in a different place within the story ourselves and seeing what we discover. We will talk about Bilhah, Miriam, Joanna, Martha of Bethany, and Andrew. Through their eyes, we will take a look and see what we discover.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Brotherhood Breakfast

Sunday, January 15th, 8:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Church Office Closed

Monday, January 16th

Senior Adult Luncheon

Tuesday, January 17th, 11:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Stewardship Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 19th, 5:00 p.m., Library
(Moved to 3rd Thursday for the January Meeting Only)

DayFriends

Tuesday, January 24th, 11:45 a.m., Moe's BBQ

Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday, January 24th, 6:30 p.m., Seekers' Classroom

Business Meeting

Thursday, January 26th, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall



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

Faith in 3D
 January 13-16
 Orlando, FL
 Total Cost: \$430

Sunday Nights
Will Not Meet January 15th
Youth Choir 5:00 p.m., Choir Room
Bible Study 6:00 p.m., Youth Room



July 2-7, 2017
Greensboro College
Greensboro, NC
Total Cost \$425.00

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.

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.



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)

Resumes January 17th

Fellowship. Service. Special Activities.

Lunch On Campus

Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 Resumes January 18th

J-Term Class, by Tripp Martin

Sundays Beginning January 22nd

5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Sabbath: More Than A Day

Throughout the history of the church, the practice of Sabbath has shaped the life of faith, but the “shoulds” and the “oughts” of Sabbath have clouded its meaning. During a time when we feel the frustrations of an overcrowded calendar with less gaps and more demands, the gift of Sabbath can help us regain our perspective of each week. We might feel as if multitasking is as natural as breathing, but it can also feel like we are chasing life, instead of receiving each day. The practice of Sabbath is not an easy solution, but it is a deep well, full of guidance. Each week, we face homework and tests, meetings and catch-up work, unwritten demands and unsaid expectations, calendar reminders and forgotten tasks. Reclaiming the meaning of Sabbath, which is more than a day, can restore our posture towards these pressures.

Communion

The deacons of Auburn First Baptist take communion to those who cannot be with us in worship, as we are all bound together by the grace of God. If you know of a church member who might benefit from this ministry, please contact the church office.



PASSPORTkids!

July 9th-12th
Converse College

Children's Choir(2* year olds - 5th Grade)

Will Not Meet January 15th
Sundays, 5:00 p.m., Education Building
 *We ask that all attendees be potty trained.

Bible Encounter (1st – 5th graders)

Resumes on January 22nd

Spark Adventure

Thursdays @ 5:50 P.M., Ed. Bldg.
 January 19th: Oyette Chambliss
 January 26th: Cathy Summers





**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 - 15th

Brotherhood Breakfast Fellowship Hall 11:00 a.m.
No Evening Activities

Monday - 16th

Church Office Closed

Tuesday - 17th

Senior Adult Luncheon Fellowship Hall 11:00 a.m.
TNBS College Room 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday - 18th

Conversational English Education Building 9:00 a.m.

Thursday - 19th

Handbells Choir Room 12:30 p.m.
Stewardship Committee Mtg Library 5:00 p.m.
Youth Hangout Time Youth Room 5:45 p.m.
Spark Education Building 5:50 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Choir Room 6:45 p.m.

Sunday - 22nd

Children's Choir Education Building 5:00 p.m.
Youth Choir Choir Room 5:00 p.m.
J-Term Fellowship Hall 5:00 p.m.
Bible Encounter Education Building 6:00 p.m.
YSN Youth Room 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday - 24th

DayFriends Moe's BBQ 11:45 a.m.
Deacon's Meeting Seeker's Room 6:30 p.m.
TNBS College Room 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday - 25th

Conversational English Education Building 9:00 a.m.
Senior Adult Dinner Out Good Ol' Boys 5:00 p.m.

Thursday - 26th

Handbells Choir Room 12:30 p.m.
Youth Hangout Time Youth Room 5:45 p.m.
Spark Adventure Education Building 5:50 p.m.
Business Meeting Fellowship Hall 6:00 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Choir Room 6:45 p.m.

Sunday - 29th

Children's Choir Education Building 5:00 p.m.
Youth Choir Choir Room 5:00 p.m.
J-Term Fellowship Hall 5:00 p.m.
Bible Encounter Education Building 6:00 p.m.
YSN Youth Room 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday - 31st

TNBS College Room 7:00 p.m.

Serving the Month of January

Greeters: Nancy Roberts, Brenda McCord, Ted Little

Visitors: Carolyn Grimes, Nancy Roberts

Loaves & Fishes: Seekers

Offering: Adult 4

Serving January 15, 2017

Counters: Wallace Baldwin, Donna Bennett, Hazel Lee

Sound & Light: David Sutton

Extended Session: Leah Duzy, Jay Spiers, Shane Dunn, Victoria Eden, Katharine Martin, Julie McClanahan, Alan Walker

Serving January 22, 2017

Counters: Aaron Greene, Bill Webster, James Nichols

Sound & Light: Chad Parish

Extended Session: Mary Ann Dell, Patrick White, Kellie Wilson, Cathy Summers, Addison Meeks, Jo Jones, Pat Wade

Serving January 29, 2017

Counters: Dwayne Beckett, Lois Graves, Bill Faurot

Sound & Light: Addison Meeks

Extended Session: Peggy Johnson, Lynda Weidenbach, Amber Berry-Moore, Suzanne Parish, Lynli Cantrell-Wright, Cynthia Smithart, Sue Walker

Ministerial Staff

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