

AUBURN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



June 15th, 2017

Vol. 6 Issue 84

REFLECTIONS by Tripp Martin

With the change of each and every season comes a shift in our attention. In the fall, we are focused on the beginning of school, the first kickoff of football, or our busy season at work. The winter brings more time inside and less yard work. In the spring, we are racing towards the end of school. During the summer, we feel a little freer, even though we are still busy.

Throughout these changes, which are beneficial to our lives, we are grateful for the rhythms of the church, which give us a center of gravity.

We are grounded in the ways of Jesus through the routines of our faith no matter what else is happening around us. They give us a center around which we can move back-and-forth between the changes.

There are also many types of seasons throughout the year unrelated to the weather. We might face upsetting news, whether it is heartache in our family or the outbreak of violence in the world, bringing with it a heavy season of sadness. Anxiety from the news or concerns about our children can upset our days, bringing a season of uncertainty. We yearn for a center of gravity, so that we can endure the ups and downs around us.

Our faith can help us see the seasons of life differently. We can develop a double vision, seeing things “from here” and “from there,” as Miroslav Volf, professor of theology at Yale Divinity School, writes. We can see the current season from various perspectives. “From here,” we might see our concerns from a narrow view, consumed by our immediate fears; but as we look “from there,” grounded in our faith, we might also see more than our fears. We might see how we are never alone.

With this double vision, we see not only the comfort of the loving presence of God “from there,” but we also see the experience of others, which broadens and informs our perspective. We are able to gain a clearer understanding, anchored in the rhythms of our faith, informing our fears, guiding our words, and fostering discerning actions.

We are thankful for our center of gravity, anchored in our faith and shaped by the church’s rhythms. As the seasons change around us, shifting the ground beneath our feet, we are able to broaden our vision to include more than fear. We are able to see the endurance of faith and the relentless mercy of God.

-Tripp

Brasil Mission Trip
Remember to bring items
for the children in Brasil.
*See the list in the
newsletter!*



***Auburn First Baptist Church • 128 E Glenn Avenue • Auburn, AL • auburnfbc.org
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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.

VBS: Light of the World

From June 4-8, our church once again joined with Cross Road Baptist Church for Vacation Bible School. We had around 40 children from preschool through fifth grade participate in VBS and over 50 adult volunteers helping us prepare weeks in advance and leading during VBS. One evening during last summer's VBS several of us were inspired to write our own VBS curriculum for this year. After many months of work, we developed our own light and glow themed VBS entitled, "Light of the World." It was so exciting and meaningful to see it come to life during VBS, as children were encouraged to be a light for others, to be an example for others to see, to encourage and show love to each other and to stand up and use their voice to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

Each evening, we began with worship, where we sang songs, read scripture, prayed and thought of ways we can be light in the lives of others. In Bible Study, children studied passages from Matthew, John, and Isaiah and learned that when we share God's light with others, it grows and expands. In craft time, children were able to get creative with several light-themed projects. A lot of fun was had with glow in the dark games during recreation, and we shared the light each night in closing worship, cracking glow sticks and ultimately lighting our lighthouse.

Our VBS missions offering this year went to four different local ministries. Each night of VBS focused on one of these organizations, and the children had an opportunity to learn more and ask questions about these groups. The children learned about our church's Benevolence Fund, the Christian Women's Job Corps, Habitat for Humanity, and Big House. We are very proud to say that our children raised over \$270, which will be divided amongst these organizations, so they can continue their important work in our community.

We are extremely appreciative to everyone who helped in the weeks leading up to VBS with volunteer recruitment, planning, writing curriculum and music, preparing of material, snacks, and decorating. We are also very thankful for those who were able to be here during VBS, working directly with the children. Each of you worked so hard to make VBS a success and more importantly a meaningful time for the children involved. VBS is certainly not possible without wonderful volunteers, and we consider ourselves extremely fortunate and blessed to have so many talented and caring people in our church family. We would also like to thank all of you, our church family, for your support and prayers during VBS week.

Thank you for all of your help and support. We hope that you will be able to join us for another fun week of VBS next summer!

With Thanks,

Cindy Cleveland & Cathy Summers - Elementary VBS Directors

Ruthie Spiers & Sue Walker - PreSchool VBS Directors

A Note from the Library

Did you know we have a church library? We have a large range of books for children to adults and everyone in between. The library is located next to the church office off of the walkway next to the courtyard. Please remember to check out your book before leaving the library. The Library Committee will be in the library to help you on Sundays between Sunday School and Worship from 10:30-11:00 a.m. Books checked out should be returned in two weeks.

-Library Committee

AFBC Parking

A few months ago, the ad-hoc parking committee of the deacons reported to the church the results of a parking survey among members. The survey revealed that parking is most challenging for our members on Sunday morning, which is not a huge surprise.

From that survey and subsequent discussions, the committee recommended to the trustees, deacons, and the church that the trustees enter into an agreement with a local towing company to provide assistance with towing cars from the church lots between 2:00-5:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Per local and state guidelines, signs similar to others around town will be posted at each entrance stating that parking is monitored. The agreement will not affect anyone attending or visiting our church, since it will only affect those persons who leave their cars overnight on Saturday night. We will, of course, communicate with the towing company NOT to tow on weekends where there are youth retreats or other events where church-related vehicles will be in the lot overnight on Saturday night. The church approved this recommendation at its Business Meeting on April 27th.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

No Thursday Evening Activities

June 15th

Senior Adult Lunch

Tuesday, June 20th, 11:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Hostess: Lisa Stone

Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday, June 20th, 6:30 p.m., Seekers' Classroom

Senior Adult Dinner Out

Wednesday, June 28th, 5:00 p.m., Good Ol' Boys



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



July 2-7, 2017
 Greensboro College, Greensboro, NC

YOUTH SOS

June 25
 Location TBA

Thursday Evening Activities

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

June 22 - Morris Driggers
"Celebrating Grace: Hymns Old and New"

June 29 - Mark Wilson
"St. Sergius of Radonezh: What a Russian Orthodox Monk can Offer to Thursday Night Baptists"

July 6 and 13 - Tripp Martin

July 20 - Laura Edgar

July 27 - Quarterly Business Meeting



Bible Study & Breakfast
Sundays, 9:45 a.m.
College Room (Activities Building)
Fellowship. Service. Special Activities.

Sparkman Ministry Summer Lunch Program

We have been invited to participate again this summer in a feeding program through a regional food bank in the Sparkman neighborhood. We will serve a free meal provided by the food bank and spend some time playing with the children. On each Tuesday during June, we need a few volunteers to serve lunch at 12:00 p.m. and play games with the children after lunch. If you are interested in helping, please email the church office at kristinahickman@mindspring.com. Location of Sparkman Neighborhood: Sparkman Drive, off Commerce Drive in Auburn.

Brasil Mission Trip

This will be the 30th annual trip to Brasil for members of Auburn First Baptist, people from surrounding churches, and other states. We hope you are interested in being a member of this team!

The dates for the trip are July 7-21. Total cost has not yet been determined, but the best estimate is about \$2,200.

If you are interested in being a part of the team, contact Wallace Baldwin, Bob Stevenson or Mike Bumgardner.

Below is a *list of items* they will need for the children of Brasil. Please place donations for this project in the bucket provided in the hallway outside the church office.

Items needed include: coloring books and crayons, pencils, small pencil sharpeners, ball point pens, six inch rulers, individually wrapped chewing gum, bubble gum and hard candy (no chocolate), baseball type caps, stickers (smiley faces, etc), quart size zipper storage bags.



PASSPORTkids CAMP

July 9th-12th, Converse College
 Total Cost \$275

If you have questions, please contact the church office or Genesee Cook.

Spark Adventure

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

Helpers:

June 22nd: Katharine Martin
 June 29th: Mary Virginia Moore & Mary Joe Howard





**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 - 18th

No Evening Activities

Tuesday - 20th

Senior Adult Luncheon Fellowship Hall 11:00 p.m.
Sparkman Lunch Sparkman 12:00 p.m.
Deacons' Meeting Seekers' Class 6:30

p.m.

Thursday - 22nd

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 - 25th

Youth S.O.S. Activities Building 6:00 p.m.

No Evening Activities

Wednesday - 28th

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

Thursday - 29th

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.

Serving the Month of June

Greeters: Gina Cantrell & Brenda McCord

Visitors: Michael & Julie McClanahan

Offering: Seekers

Loaves & Fishes: Sojourners

Serving June 18, 2017

Counters: Dwayne Beckett, Lois Graves, Bill Faurot

Sound & Light: Lindsay Crosby

Extended Session: Shane Dunn, Lee Alice Johnson, Ruthie Spiers, Suzanne Parish, Lynn Eden

Serving June 25, 2017

Counters: Flarcie Hopkins, Alice Lumpkin, Lavaughn Johnson

Sound & Light: Andrew Yohn

Extended Session: Carole Zugazaga, Jay Spiers, Lesley Odom, Cathy Summers, Steven Eden

Ministerial Staff

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