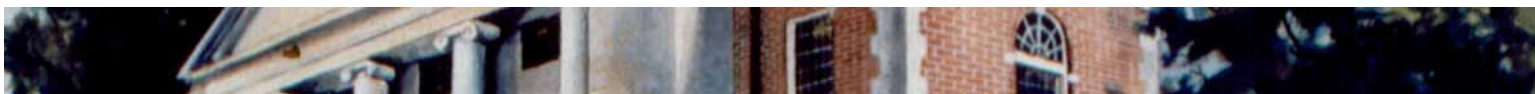


AUBURN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



July 15, 2017

Vol. 6 Issue 86

REFLECTIONS by Tripp Martin

During these last weeks of summer before the beginning of school for our children, youth, and college students, we are probably not counting down the days like we were before the end of school and the beginning of summer. We are not daydreaming about the first day of class. We want to remain immersed in these days of less homework and more vacation.

If we glance down at the calendar, though, the days of August will come whether we are counting down or not. Whether we will be starting another year of school ourselves or simply watching from the sidelines, it is a time of transition. The temperature outside will not change anytime soon, but the routines and rhythms around us will shift, starting another season of the year.

Around the church, weekly Sunday evening activities will begin, committees will meet and initiate work, and energy will gather around certain ministries, which do not meet in the summer. There will be schedules to plan, tasks at hand, and work to be done. It is a time of vitality for the ministry of the church.

It reminds us of Harry Emerson Fosdick, the preacher at the Riverside Church in New York City, who said, “We Christians need to keep ever more in our minds the fact that Christianity began in a carpenter’s shop, surrounded by the common tools of daily life” Our faith mirrors the activity of a carpenter’s shop. The grace of God is hands on, like the daily tasks of life.

As these last weeks of summer come to a close, we can be mindful of the opportunities before us. There are various ways to join our hands with the grace of God at work. We can minister to others through providing meals for Loaves and Fishes on Tuesday mornings, volunteering with the Conversational English Class on Wednesday mornings, or supporting the Jail Ministry on Thursday mornings. We can offer our time to the children ministry, youth ministry, or college ministry. We can participate in caregiving through Caring Hands or serving the hungry through the Community Market. We can swing a hammer for Habitat for Humanity, support others through the Christian Women’s Job Corp, or volunteer through the REACH respite ministry.

We can also practice our faith by forming relationships with those around us in worship, renewing our study of scripture through Sunday School, or gathering with others around the table on Thursday evenings. In simple, practical ways, we can join our hands with the grace of God at work. We can count down the days to such opportunities.

-Tripp

**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.

Looking Ahead...

Promotion Sunday
August 13th

Pancake Breakfast
9:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Bibles, Trees, & Backpacks
11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Discipleship Training Fall Bible Study

“The Letter to the Romans: A Vision for Peace”

Five-week study

Beginning Sunday, August 13

A quick review of history reveals that we have always lived in a world full of division and debate. The church has always pursued the peace of God in such a world. As we navigate the world in which we live and the fractures around us, we can take notes from Paul on how he addressed the divisions and debates in front of the Romans.

Paul faced the steepest division the church has ever faced, the tension between Jews and Gentiles, by relying on scripture, tradition, and experience. The vision Paul had for the church, and the world, was the peace of God, which remains our hope today. We yearn for the peace of God, healing our wounds and redeeming the world's brokenness. Through these words in Romans, we can discover the seeds of peace, as we navigate turbulent waters around us.

Thursday Evening Activities

5:15 p.m. - Brown Bag Meal Time

6:00 p.m. - Prayer and Bible Study

July 20 - Laura Edgar

July 27 - Quarterly Business Meeting

August 3 - Tripp Martin

August 10 - Brasil Mission Trip Report

August 17 - Passport Report

Thursday Evening

“Public Theology: Reading Bumper Stickers in Traffic”

Beginning Thursday, August 24

Public theology is how our faith engages the world around us. It is how we live or talk about our faith, interacting with others. It calls for dialogue and discernment, conviction and humility. In the public square, we can share our convictions, and we can learn from listening to others.

One place we encounter theology in the public square is when we are sitting in traffic, reading the bumper stickers around us. They are usually short quips or brief responses to people's questions about God. They usually do not adequately examine the convictions of our faith in the face of life's real challenges, but perhaps we can consider the questions behind them. We can consider these questions, talking about them with more breadth and depth, as we think about how we talk about our faith in the public square.

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

Sanctuary Choir will not meet for rehearsal during July.

Practice will resume on August 3rd.

AFBC Parking

On April 27, the church approved a towing policy to help maintain the use of our parking lots. The trustees have entered 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. 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 have posted the tow away zone signs in our Gay Street parking lot. The signs for the College Street parking lot will be placed on the posts, where the city has its signs related to our lease agreement with them. The city will post our signs on their posts for us. We will begin to implement the towing policy of the church once all of the signs are in place.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday, July 25th, 6:30 p.m., Seekers' Classroom

Senior Adult Dinner Out

Wednesday, July 26th, 5:00 p.m., Good Ol' Boys

Quarterly Business Meeting

Tuesday, July 27th, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Preschool Pool Party

Saturday, July 29th, 10:00 a.m., Solamere Pool



Thursday Nights

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

YOUTH S

6:00 p.m.

July 16 - Meeks
July 23 - Cooks

July 30 - Kellie Wilson & Terri Wood

JAIL MINISTRY

CHRISTMAS PROJECT 2017

It's time to turn our attention to our church's involvement in the Lee County Detention Center's Christmas boxes. Please survey your home for empty shoe boxes you might contribute. Boxes must be at least 6 inches wide and have removable tops (please, no fold over tops this year.)

Several churches share the work of preparing 400 boxes (total inmates). Auburn First Baptist and Opelika United Methodist each prepare 150 boxes; several small churches in Auburn and Opelika prepare the rest. This is the 3rd year that Central Baptist Church will join us with our 150 boxes. Please bring them to the table in the church library.

Mary Joe Howard and Teresa Vest
Christmas Boxes Project Chair and Co-Chair

Meals for Tuesday Night Bible Study

The fall semester at Auburn University is fast approaching, and that means college Tuesday night Bible study will be starting soon! Please support our college ministry by providing a meal for our students. Help us welcome students to our church and invest in their lives by signing up to bring supper this semester. Thank you!

If you are interested in preparing a home cooked meal for our College Tuesday Night Bible Study this fall, please email Laura at lauraedgar@mindspring.com or contact the church office at 334-887-8506.



Bible Study & Breakfast

Sundays, 9:45 a.m.

College Room (Activities Building)

Fellowship. Service. Special Activities.

Youth Bibles

Our youth Bibles are an important part of our youth ministry at AFBC. Youth receive a new Bible when they enter 6th grade. They use these Bibles throughout their time in the youth ministry of Auburn First Baptist, studying them during Sunday School and Youth Sunday Nights, taking them along to camps and retreats, making notes in them as they learn and grow in their faith. When students graduate from high school, they are presented with their youth Bibles to take with them as they continue their journey of life and faith. We hope these Bibles will represent a sense of rootedness in faith for our young people.

As we approach a new school year, we invite our church family to purchase Bibles for the new group of students joining our youth ministry. Students will receive a letter letting them know who sponsored their Bible. They will know that you and your family have chosen to support their faith journey by providing a Bible for them. In this way, the Bibles will serve as an intergenerational connection point among members of our church. The Bibles will be NRSV, bonded leather, and will have the student's name on the front cover. Total cost is \$30.00 per Bible. Please prayerfully consider providing a Bible for one (or more) of our youth. Thank you!

Names for the Bibles:

Madison Tausch

Olivia Parish

Loaves and Fishes

We still have a few remaining spots to be covered on our July calendar for "Loaves & Fishes". A vegetable dish and bread are still needed for July 18. Please call the office to sign up if you can help out. Many thanks for supporting this ministry!



Preschool Pool Party

Saturday, July 29th
10:00 - 12:00 p.m.

Solamere Subdivision Pool
(Located off Hwy 14)



Spark Adventure

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

Helpers:

July 20th: Julie McClanahan

July 27th: Oyette Chambliss





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

Every Sunday		Every Thursday	
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.

Sunday - 16th

Youth S.O.SMeeks' House 6:00 p.m.

No Evening Activities

Thursday - 20th

SparkEducation Building 5:50 p.m.

No Sanctuary Choir

Sunday - 23rd

Youth S.O.S.Cooks' House 6:00 p.m.

No Evening Activities

Tuesday-25th

Deacons' MeetingSeekers' Class 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday - 26th

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

Thursday-27th

Quarterly Business MeetingFellowship Hall 6:00 p.m.

Youth Hangout Time Youth Room 5:45 p.m.

SparkEducation Building 5:50 p.m.

No Sanctuary Choir

Saturday-29th

Preschool Pool PartySolamere Pool 10:00 a.m.

Sunday-30th

Youth S.O.S.Town Creek Park 6:00 p.m.

No Evening Activities

Serving the Month of July

Greeters: Pat Randle and Martha Evans; **Visitors:** Vikki and Todd Miller; **Offering:** Pilgrims

Serving July 16, 2017

Counters: Dwayne Beckett, Lois Graves, Bill Faurot; **Sound & Light:** Addison Meeks; **Extended Session:** Charlotte Sutton, Lynda Weidenbach, Dean Myrick, Katharine Martin, Anna Parish; **Loaves & Fishes:** Chris Boylen, Dee Williams

Serving July 23, 2017

Counters: Flarcie Hopkins, Alice Lumpkin, Lavaughn Johnson; **Sound & Light:** Gary Cantini; **Extended Session:** Beth Smith, Patrick White, Kelly Meeks, Victoria Eden, Anna Parish; **Loaves & Fishes:** Penny Popwell, Teresa Vest

Serving July 30, 2017

Counters: Wallace Baldwin, Donna Bennett, Hazel Lee; **Sound & Light:** Lindsay Crosby; **Extended Session:** Peggy Johnson, Carolyn Thompson, Jason Summers, Tiffany Myrick, Addison Meeks

Ministerial Staff

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