

# AUBURN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

December 1, 2017

Vol. 6 Issue 94

## REFLECTIONS by Tripp Martin

With the beginning of December comes the start of Advent, which is a time of preparation for the birth of Jesus. Advent is the start of the next Church Year, which feels awkward to us since we are in the last month of the calendar year, but perhaps that describes God's initiative. When we do not expect it, God is at work, creating all things new.

Our theme for Advent is "A Time of Renewal." By renewal, we mean having rest from the restlessness around us. We are talking about the renewal of our souls and our work. We are referring to renewal for ourselves and for the world. We are focused on the renewal of hope, peace, joy, and love. Advent is about renewal because it awaits the coming of Jesus and the message of the kingdom of God.

Through Jesus' words and actions, he focused on renewal, as he fed the hungry, healed the sick, welcomed the stranger, and forgave the sinner. Jesus initiated renewal because he was a peacemaker, and he loved his neighbor. He cared about renewal because he stepped away in order to pray, and he engaged people in their lives. Jesus brings renewal because he brings the grace of God.

During Advent, we prepare for the birth of Jesus by focusing on God's renewal. We will allow the sounds and songs of this season to transform our thoughts, so we can hear again God's calling for making all things new. We will listen to the words of scripture, which have shaped the church for centuries, and we will imagine the world the way that Jesus saw it. We will gather in fellowship around the Table, and our many tables, fostering community, which reflects God's hope, peace, joy, and love.

Even though Advent is about preparation, it is also meant to surprise us. We prepare in Advent by becoming more attentive to our faith. This allows us to stay awake, so we might sense the surprise of God's hope, peace, joy, and love. If we listen and look for God's renewal, we might be surprised by God's presence, experiencing renewal ourselves.

## A Season of Music

### Family Night at Christmas

Sunday evening, December 3, 6:15 p.m.

with music from our  
Preschool and Children's Choirs,  
and Youth Choir

Followed by our renowned *Cookie Fellowship*  
*Bring your favorite cookies to share!*

### "The World Born Anew"

Sunday morning, December 10, 11:00 a.m.

Led by our Sanctuary Choir with First Bells,  
Youth Choir, and Brass Ensemble

### Christmas Potluck & Special Called Business Meeting

December 14th, 5:15 p.m.

Coleman Fellowship Hall

*\*Note: We have moved our Business Meeting to  
December 14th as we prepare all of the agenda  
items. Please change it on your calendar.*

Please bring a dish to share (meat, side, or dessert) for this potluck meal. The drinks and paper products will be provided.

#### The following items will be on the agenda:

A report from the Committee on Committees, a report from the Stewardship Committee (2018 budgets), election of deacons, and recommendation from the ad hoc Accessibility Committee for the Sanctuary (seating).

*All year end gifts for 2017 need to be in the  
church office by Friday, December 29th or  
postmarked by December 31st.*

**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.

## Youth Christmas Party

Sunday, December 17

2:30 - 4:00 p.m. at Sparkman Neighborhood

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Edens' House

Our youth will host a Christmas party at the Sparkman neighborhood of the Auburn Housing Authority. Our church enjoys partnering with our friends at Sparkman throughout the year, and our youth have had a great time celebrating Christmas at Sparkman in recent years. We'll play games, make crafts, decorate a tree, and eat snacks together as we enjoy the holiday season. Please join us afterwards, at the Edens' house, for a Christmas celebration.

## Mission Committee

### Community Market - Baby Items

One of the important needs of the Community Market is for babies. At the Community Market, the baby closet offers *infant dry cereal, baby food (jars), baby wipes, and diapers or pull-ups (all sizes)*. These are needs that are ongoing. The Mission Committee would like to focus on collecting these items for the Community Market. There is a basket outside of the church office, where these items can be placed. Then they will be delivered to the Community Market. Thank you for caring for the youngest amongst us and supporting families in our community, as they care for their children.

### It Is Not Too Late To Donate! JAIL MINISTRY PROJECT 2017

A \$15 donation covers the cost of one box for an inmate. That box includes: "The Joy of Christmas," a devotional book, inspirational book, 10 envelopes, 2 pens, a pad of paper, 5 stamps, 5 Christmas cards (to send), a game book, a deck of playing cards and candy.

Checks should be made to AFBC (notation: Jail Ministry Christmas Project.)

#### PRODUCTION LINE

9:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 12th

Fellowship Hall

VOLUNTEERS ARE VERY, VERY WELCOME!

#### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT THE JAIL

Wednesday, December 20th

The program is repeated all day for groups of prisoners. For a real Christmas blessing, please plan to attend. Seating is limited. If you wish to attend, give your name to Mary Joe Howard.

*If you still have shoe boxes you are wrapping for the Jail Ministry project, please return those to the church office no later than Sunday morning, December 3rd. We are preparing final counts for our Production Line in December.*

## 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:

Mel & Mary Jo Christy  
Bill & Ruth Alford  
Andrea Acker & Drew and Beth Smith  
Our Church staff & the Seekers SS Class  
Dr. & Mrs. Wayne Flynt  
Morris & Dawn Driggers  
Leigh Anne Chambliss  
Tripp & Katharine Martin  
J.D. & Hunter Martin  
Camry, Alexis, & Nicholas  
Our Pastors & Staff

Dartie Flynt  
Our Families  
Walter & Mary Lynn Porter  
Delaine Dendy  
Katharine Martin & Cindy Cleveland  
Dartie Flynt & Charlotte Ward

### In Memory of:

Johann & Berta van Santen  
Zane & Lorene Burleson  
Larry G. Cooper, Sr.  
Paul & Clois Shoffeitt  
Our Parents

Those who have gone before

Grace Casey  
Sarah Nichols  
Tom & Carolyn Eden  
Ralph & Marie Andrew  
Charles Potter  
Curtis Ward  
J.W. Bearden  
Inez & Walter Sowell  
My Parents & Brother  
Jo Randall & John and Jeanette Jeffers  
Claude H. Moore  
Frances & Gilbert Rollins  
Doug Rollins  
Ruth Marie Stevenson  
Jonnie Dee Riley Little  
Dr. W. Albert Smith & Annie Grace Smith  
Homer & Mae Ellis Flynt  
Bob Stevenson  
Ralph Sherer  
Walter H. Porter  
Walter Porter  
Our Parents

### Given by:

Edzard & Vicky van Santen  
Gary & Brenda Cantini  
Oxford & Phyllis Smith  
Oxford & Phyllis Smith  
Pilgrims SS Class  
Sanctuary Choir  
Mary Joe Howard  
Milton & Kathy Martin  
Pops & Kaki  
Grandmom  
Mary Joe Howard  
Wayne Flynt  
Dale & Libby Peterson  
Roy & Deborah Broughton  
Wallace & Barbara Baldwin  
Friends  
Friends

### Given by:

Edzard & Vicky van Santen  
Gary & Brenda Cantini  
Nadine Cooper  
Jean, Paul, & Mary Hoffman  
Stuart & Penny Popwell  
Christine Boylen  
Candace Enkeboll  
James Nichols  
The Steve Eden Family  
Malcolm & Jan Dailey & Family  
Mary Ann Potter, Clifford & Charlann  
Charlotte Ward  
His Family  
Their Family  
Mary Ann Dell  
Mary Virginia Moore  
His Family  
Their Family  
His Family  
Bob & Frances Stevenson  
The Ted Little Family  
Wayne & Dartie Flynt  
Wayne & Dartie Flynt  
Wallace & Barbara Baldwin  
Vetra, Gail, & Wayne  
Ted Little  
Dale & Libby Peterson  
Dale & Libby Peterson

*Poinsettias will be available to take home after the Christmas Eve service at 6:00 p.m.*

## Children's Caroling

Children in grades K-5 are invited to Christmas carol as a group from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 20. We will depart from the church in the church vans at 5:30 p.m., sing carols for an hour, and then head to the home of Teresa Vest (2180 Canary Drive, 334-826-6699) for hotdogs. Siblings with parents are welcome to attend. If parents do not attend, please plan to pick up your children at Mrs. Teresa's house at 7:30 p.m. Wear your favorite Christmas shirt or sweater! If you have any questions, please contact Mark Wilson.



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

**Sparkman  
Christmas Party**  
Sunday, December 17,  
2:30 - 4:00 p.m.,  
Sparkman Neighborhood

**Youth Choir**  
Sundays, 5:00 p.m., Choir Room

**Winter Youth Summit**  
January 12-14, 2018

**Youth Christmas Party**  
Sunday, December 17,  
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.,  
Edens' House

**PASSPORTchoices.**  
July 8-13, 2018  
\$50 deposit due now

### Thursday Evening Activities

Resume January 11  
Rediscovering the Apostle Paul  
*January 11, 18, and February 1*  
Led by Tripp Martin

Many of the earliest writings about the life of Jesus are the letters of the Apostle Paul. Paul was writing to churches, as they strived to follow the ways of Jesus together. We will look at Paul's life, letters, and theology, which will help us rediscover what the early church experienced.

On Thursday, January 25, we will have our first quarterly Business Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

### Deacon Ordination

*Sunday, January 7, 11:00 a.m., Worship*

### Extended Session

We are looking to add a few more people to the Extended Session rotation. If you would be interested in keeping children in the nursery during the worship service please contact Alison Crosby at [suttali@gmail.com](mailto:suttali@gmail.com) or by phone/text at 334-728-0911. Thank you!



### Bible Study & Breakfast

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

### College Tuesday Night Bible Study

*Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m., Activities Building*  
**Fellowship. Service. Special Activities.**

### Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve

As we enter the season of Advent, we note that Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve both take place on a Sunday, so Sunday School will not meet on those days. On Sunday morning, December 24, we will gather at 11:00 a.m., recognizing the fourth and final Sunday in Advent by lighting the Candle of Love as our final preparation for the birth of Jesus. In the evening, we will gather at 6:00 p.m. for our Carols, Candlelight, and Communion service, celebrating the birth of Jesus and lighting the Christ Candle. It will mark the end of our Advent journey and the beginning of the season of Christmas. On Sunday morning, December 31, we will gather for worship as we continue to celebrate the joy of Christmas and anticipate the first days of another calendar year. We look forward to these opportunities to mark our lives by the seasons and routines of the church.

### J-Term Class

Words Shape Worlds: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
*Sundays at 5:00 p.m.*  
*January 21, 28, and February 4*  
Led by Tripp Martin

This year we remember the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by revisiting his life and words. We will look at the events of his life and the words of his sermons and speeches, which were born out of the civil rights movement. We will reflect on the power of words to shape our world, and the power of faith to shape our lives.



### Passport Kids Camp

July 7-10, 2018  
Converse College, Spartanburg, South Carolina  
Students 3rd-5th grade, Deposit:\$75  
Total: \$275 (includes deposit)  
*Email church office to sign up!*  
[kristinahickman@mindspring.com](mailto:kristinahickman@mindspring.com)

### Children's Choirs (2\* year olds – 5th Grade)

*Sundays, 5:00 p.m., Education Building*  
\*We ask that all attendees be potty trained.

**Bible Encounter (1st – 5th graders)**  
*Sundays, 6:00 p.m., Education Building*

### Spark Adventure

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

### Helpers:

*December 7th: Dawn Driggers*  
*December 14th: TBA*  
*No other meetings in December*  
*Resumes January 11th, 2018*







Auburn First Baptist Church  
 128 E Glenn Ave.  
 Auburn, AL 36830

**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.

**Saturday - 2nd**

Cookie Walk ..... Grace UMC 8:00 a.m.

**Sunday - 3rd**

Ladies Lunch Bunch ..... Laredo 12:00 p.m.  
 Children's Choir ..... Education Building 5:00 p.m.  
 Youth Choir ..... Choir Room 5:00 p.m.  
 Family Night at Christmas ..... Sanctuary 6:15 p.m.  
*followed by The Cookie Fellowship*

**Tuesday - 5th**

TNBS ..... Randle Farms 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday - 6th**

Conversational English ..... Education Building 9:00 a.m.

**Thursday - 7th**

Handbell Rehearsal ..... Choir Room 12:30 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 - 10th**

Birthday Party for Jesus ..... Fellowship Hall 12:00 p.m.  
*No Evening Activities*

**Tuesday - 12th**

Jail Ministry Production Line ..... Fellowship Hall 9:00 a.m.  
 Dayfriends ..... Little Italy 11:45 p.m.

**Thursday - 14th**

Business Meeting/Potluck ..... Fellowship Hall 5:15 p.m.  
 Spark ..... Education Building 5:50 p.m.

**Sunday - 17th**

Youth Hosts Sparkman Party ..... Sparkman 2:30 p.m.  
 Youth Christmas Party ..... Edens' Home 5:00 p.m.  
*No Evening Activities*

**Tuesday - 19th**

Senior Adult Lunch ..... Fellowship Hall 11:00 a.m.

**Wednesday - 20th**

Children's Christmas Caroling ..... Gay St Lot 5:30 p.m.

**Thursday - 21st**

*No Evening Activities*

**Sunday - 24th**

Worship ..... Sanctuary 11:00 a.m.  
 Christmas Eve Service ..... Sanctuary 6:00 p.m.  
*No Sunday School*

**Monday - 25th**

*Church Office Closed*

**Tuesday - 26th**

*Church Office Closed*

**Thursday - 28th**

*No Evening Activities*

**Sunday - 31st**

Worship ..... Sanctuary 11:00 a.m.  
*No Sunday School or Evening Activities*

**Serving the Month of December**

**Greeters:** Dee Williams, Warren McCord

**Visitors:** Randy and Ronda West

**Serving December 3, 2017**

**Counters:** Dwayne Beckett, Lois Graves, Bill Faurot **Sound & Light:** Lindsay Crosby **Extended Session:** Carole Zugazaga, Kathleen Sabo, Patrick White, Jason Summers, Steven Eden, Alan Walker, Jo Jones

**Loaves & Fishes:** Pilgrims

**Serving December 10, 2017**

**Counters:** Flarcie Hopkins, Lavaughn Johnson **Sound & Light:** Andrew Yohn **Extended Session:** Leah Duzy, Lynda Weidenbach, Kellie Wilson, Katherine Martin, Anna Parish, Pat Wade, Cynthia Smithart

**Loaves & Fishes:** Pilgrims

**Serving December 17, 2017**

**Counters:** Wallace Baldwin, Donna Bennett, Hazel Lee **Sound & Light:** David Sutton **Extended Session:** Beth Smith, Carolyn Thompson, Ruthie Spiers, Addison Meeks, Tiffany Myrick, Sue Walker, Terri Wood

**Loaves & Fishes:** Penny Popwell

**Serving December 24, 2017**

**Counters:** Aaron Greene, Bill Webster, James Nichols **Sound & Light:** Chad Parish **Extended Session:** Shane Dunn, Jay Spiers, Amelia White, Victoria Eden, Merle Bass, Stephen Lundy, Mark Wilson

**Serving December 31, 2017**

**Counters:** Dwayne Beckett, Lois Graves, Bill Faurot **Sound & Light:** Addison Meeks **Extended Session:** Peggy Johnson, Kelly Meeks, Charlotte Sutton, Suzanne Parish, Lynn Eden, Chad Parish, Katharine Martin

**Ministerial Staff**

Dr. Tripp Martin  
 Pastor

trippmartin@mindspring.com

Laura Edgar  
 Associate Pastor for Youth,  
 College and Young Adults  
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Morris Driggers  
 Associate Pastor for Music  
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Dale Peterson  
 Minister of Music Emeritus/  
 Composer in Residence  
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**Support Staff**

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