

# AUBURN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

March 1, 2018

Vol. 6 Issue 99

## REFLECTIONS...

### Wilderness Wandering

by Tripp Martin

During the season of Lent, we find ourselves in the wilderness with Jesus, which can feel like an uncomfortable place. In scripture, the wilderness is a desert-like place, where we feel uncertain and unprepared. When Moses led the people of God out of Egypt, they wandered through the wilderness for forty years. After his baptism, Jesus wandered in the wilderness, wrestling with the difficulties of this world, for forty days. Throughout these forty days of Lent, we wonder what it means to wander.

The wilderness could be caused by grief, adjusting to a life that feels unfamiliar because of a loss. It could feel like a rug has been pulled out from underneath us because of a job transition or sudden diagnosis. We might question ourselves, wondering what we did to cause such heartache, even though the wilderness is not always the result of our decisions.

We also live in a world with unrest and heartache all around us. We hear about division and turmoil, even between friends and family. We mourn the loss of student's lives in a school shooting. We read more about war than we do about peace. We see people struggling to survive the burdens of extreme poverty.

In the midst of the wilderness, we can lose sight of the beauty, goodness, and truth of God. We can even lose our "Alleluia." We can struggle to celebrate or to see God around us. The wilderness of Lent takes us on a journey to Easter, where we discover the "Alleluia" of the Church again.

One tradition of Lent, which the children of the church participated in this year, is burying the "Alleluia." At the beginning of Lent, they wrote down their "Alleluia" on a piece of paper and placed it in a jar, hiding it outside the church. We bury our "Alleluia" during Lent, so we can reclaim it at Easter, where we proclaim that God's love is stronger than death. The steadfast love of God can carry us through the wilderness, renewing our "Alleluia" by hearing it proclaimed again on Easter, so we can see the beauty, goodness, and truth of God.

## Global Ministries Offering Sunday

Sunday, March 4th

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.

Pledge cards can be found in the pews or online at <https://form.jotform.com/80534441844153>

## GMO Celebration Dinner Potluck

Thursday, March 1 at 5:15 p.m.,  
Fellowship Hall

The Mission Committee is planning a Celebration Dinner for our Global Ministries Offering. The church will provide the chicken and the drinks, and everyone is invited to bring food to share for this potluck dinner.

We will learn about the ministries supported in the GMO Budget 2018-2019, and we will also welcome Colleen Burroughs, founder of Watering Malawi, as our speaker.

## VBS Volunteers Needed!

June 4-7, 2018

"Under Construction"

If you would like to volunteer, please notify  
Gwynne Lovelady.

## Brasil Mission Trip

July 6-20 (or 6-14), 2018

Cost is about \$2,000

If you are interested, contact Wallace Baldwin or  
Mike Bumgardner.

**Auburn First Baptist Church • 128 E Glenn Avenue • Auburn, AL • [auburnfbc.org](http://auburnfbc.org)  
334.887.8506 • [auburnfbc@mindspring.com](mailto: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.

## **Bible Study Needed for Christian Women's Job Corps Needed: Bible Study Leader**

The Christian Women's Job Corps begun in Birmingham nearly twenty years ago by our own Baptist WMU, and it has spread to more than 200 sites across the country. It aims to help women out of poverty by teaching them the skills necessary to get and hold a "middle-class" job. While the courses taught vary with local needs and resources available, all offer instruction in computer skills, how to look for a job (preparing a resume, doing an interview, dressing appropriately, developing a work ethic), and include, as a requirement of the program, Bible study.

That is why I am writing this article. CWJC came to Auburn via the Auburn United Methodist Church's Mercy Ministry, led for many years by Janice Saidla, who directed the program until her death two years ago. AFBC has been involved with CWJC from the start in several ways, one of which is providing the Bible study leader.

I have been the Bible teacher for CWJC since its beginning, but as I celebrate my 89<sup>th</sup> birthday, I am aware that we should be looking for and training my successor. Baptists have a history of commitment to Bible study. I hope that our church will provide that successor. Here is what she (or he) would do: Lead a Bible study for an hour one morning a week for eight weeks during each of the ten-week sessions offered each year. The thrust of the study is to use the Bible as part of the student's preparation to succeed in the workplace. I have developed a pretty effective curriculum, but another teacher would be free to do something different.

The fall term runs from mid-September to early November and the spring term is from February to early April. The last two weeks of each session involve preparing for and serving an internship with a local business.

I hope some of you who read this will either know of someone who would be interested or feel called to do it yourself. I will be happy to provide training, an internship, and whatever help I can to assure that the women who attend future sessions get sound instruction in the Bible.

-Charlotte Ward

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### **Easter Lilies**

If you would like to place Easter Lilies in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, your order, accompanied by a check payable to Auburn First Baptist Church (note Lily), must be in the church office by *March 15th*. The cost is \$10 per plant.

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

## **CBF Celebrating Excellence**

*Sunday, April 8 at 6:00 p.m.*

*The Regions Room at the Brock School of Business, Samford University*

Alabama CBF is honoring several persons who have made significant contributions to Baptist life. Dr. Wayne Flynt will be honored in this group. This event will also raise funds for Alabama CBF to continue this tradition and to support ministerial scholarships for young Baptists. The other honorees are Catherine Allen, Dr. Sigurd and Sarah Bryan, Dr. Bob Ford, and Joe and Frances Jones.

### **Brasil Mission Trip**

Plans are beginning for the 2018 Brasil Volunteer Mission Trip. This will be the 31st 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 6-20. We will offer dates of July 6-14 for those that cannot stay the total time. The total cost should be about \$2000.**

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

### **The Round Table**

*Sundays at 5:00 p.m.*

**"Spiritual Disciplines for Baptists Like Us"**

*Led by Mark Wilson*

March 4 and 18

*(Not Meeting March 11)*

Christian history is filled with colorful characters. We will discover the Desert Mothers and Fathers, Benedict of Nursia, Thomas Merton, Teresa of Avila and others.

### **Lenten Lunches**

*Wednesdays at 12:00-1:00 p.m.*

*Fellowship Hall*

**"The Journey to Jerusalem"**

*We will limit our time together to the lunch hour.*

Lent is a time of reflection and preparation as we look towards the meaning of Easter morning. We will provide a sandwich lunch from Amsterdam's for \$3.00, or you can bring your own lunch. If you would like the meal from Amsterdam's, please RSVP to the church office, [kristinahickman@mindspring.com](mailto:kristinahickman@mindspring.com), so we can plan accordingly.

### **Weekly Schedule**

March 7 - Telling Stories: Jesus' Parables and Our Story  
March 14 - Not Meeting, Spring Break  
March 21 - Looking at Holy Week with Zacchaeus  
March 28 - Good Friday and Easter



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

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

**Youth Sunday Nights**  
Sundays, 6:00 p.m., Youth Room

**PASSPORTchoices.**

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

**Upcoming Dates:**

March 4: Youth Parents Night  
March 9: Big Youth Event- meet in the Gay Street parking lot at 5:30 p.m.

**Connecting Faith and Family**

*Sundays, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m., Fishers' Classroom*

Discussion and support about parenting and personal spiritual growth. We will discuss *The Price of Privilege* by Madeline Levine to facilitate discussion topics. All are welcome.

*(Not meeting March 11)*

**College Choir Reunion**

May 25-27, 2018

Registration at [www.auburnfbc.org](http://www.auburnfbc.org)

*Help us spread the word, please!*

**VBS Volunteers Needed!**

Join us June 4-7 (Monday - Thursday evenings) as we explore "Under Construction", learning Bible stories and how we can serve today. Whatever your gifts and talents are, they can be put to use! Whether you want to be hands-on with the children or behind the scenes, we have a place for you. Contact Gwynne Lovelady ([gslovelady@bellsouth.net](mailto:gslovelady@bellsouth.net)), volunteer coordinator, if you would like to help. We are grateful for Cathy Summers and Lynn Eden for directing VBS this year.



**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.**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**GMO Potluck Dinner**

*Thursday, March 1st, 5:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall*

**Choir Bonus Rehearsal**

*Saturday, March 3rd, 9:00 a.m., Choir Room*

**College Committee Meeting**

*Sunday, March 4th, 12:00 p.m., Library*

**Ladies Lunch Bunch**

*Sunday, March 4th, 12:30 p.m., O' Charley's*

**DayFriends**

*Tuesday, March 6th, 11:45 a.m., Veggies To Go*

**Lenten Lunch**

*Wednesday, March 7th, 12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall*

**Stewardship Meeting**

*Thursday, March 8th, 5:00 p.m., Library*

**No Evening Activities**

*Sunday, March 11th*

**No Evening Activities**

*Thursday, March 15th*



**Drive-In Movie**

Who: Preschool through 5th grade

Where: Fellowship Hall

When: Friday, March 9th, 5:30 p.m.

What: Bring your pillows, blankets, and kiddos for a drive-in style showing of Moana in the Fellowship Hall. Pizza, popcorn, and other snacks will be bountiful.

See you there!

Questions? Contact Katharine Martin at

[katharineymartin@gmail.com](mailto:katharineymartin@gmail.com).

**Passport Kids Camp**

July 7-10, Converse College, Spartanburg, SC

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:**

*March 1: Not Meeting (GMO Dinner)*

*March 8: Kelly Meeks*







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.

**Thursday- 1st**

GMO Potluck Dinner ..... Fellowship Hall 5:15 p.m.

**Saturday - 3rd**

Choir Bonus Rehearsal ..... Choir Room 9:00 a.m.

**Sunday- 4th**

College Committee Meeting ..... Library 12:00 p.m.

Ladies Lunch Bunch ..... O'Charley's 12:30 p.m.

Children's Choir ..... Education Building 5:00 p.m.

Youth Choir ..... Choir Room 5:00 p.m.

The Round Table ..... Fellowship Hall 5:00 p.m.

Connecting Faith and Family ..... Fishers' Room 5:00 p.m.

Youth Parents Night ..... Fellowship Hall 6:00 p.m.

Bible Encounter ..... Education Building 6:00 p.m.

YSN ..... Youth Room 6:00 p.m.

**Tuesday- 6th**

Dayfriends ..... Veggies To Go 11:45 a.m.

TNBS ..... College Room 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday- 7th**

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

Lenten Lunch ..... Fellowship Hall 12:00 p.m.

**Thursday- 8th**

First Bells ..... Choir Room 12:30 p.m.

Stewardship Meeting ..... Library 5:00 p.m.

Youth Hang Out Time ..... Youth Room 5:45 p.m.

Spark Adventure ..... Education Building 5:50 p.m.

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal ..... Choir Room 6:45 p.m.

**Friday- 9th**

Preschool Movie Night ..... Fellowship Hall 5:30 p.m.

Big Youth Event ..... Gay Street Lot 5:30 p.m.

**Sunday- 11th**

*No Evening Activities*

**Thursday - 15th**

*No Evening Activities*

**Serving the Month of March**

**Greeters:** Brenda and Aaron Greene

**Visitors:** John and Jo Jones

**Loaves & Fishes:** Pilgrims

**Offering:** Youth

**Serving March 4, 2018**

**Counters:** Flarcie Hopkins, Helen Bearden, Bill McIntyre

**Sound & Light:** Lynli Cantrell-Wright

**Extended Session:** Carole Zugazaga, Lesley Odom, Dean Myrick, Teresa Vest, Steven Eden, Merle Bass, Stephen Lundy, Mark Wilson

**Serving March 11, 2018**

**Counters:** Wallace Baldwin, Donna Bennett, Hazel Lee

**Sound & Light:** David Sutton

**Extended Session:** Beth Smith, Kathleen Sabo, Patrick White, Chad Parish, Katharine Martin, Amanda Oliver, Benjamin Wilson

**Ministerial Staff**

Dr. Tripp Martin  
 Pastor

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Laura Edgar  
 Associate Pastor for Youth,  
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**Listen to the service Sunday mornings  
 at 11 am on WAUD 1230 AM**