

Auburn First Baptist Church

Volume 7 Issue 38

Building Community, Serving Community

April 1, 2020

WORSHIP

Community of Faith

By: Tripp Martin

April 5th

Palm Sunday Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 21:1-11

April 12th

Easter Sunday 1 Corinthians 3:1-4 John 20:1-18

Lay Worship Leader for April: Benjamin Wilson

REMINDERS

Holy Week Services

Please join us online for these services.

http://www.auburnfbc.org/live-streaming/

Palm Sunday

April 5th at 11:00 a.m.

Good Friday Tenabrae Service April 10th at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday *April 12th at 11:00 a.m.*

The word *community* is quite powerful! In these days, where we have had to say the word *cancelled*, abandoning in-person gatherings, we have focused on the word *connected*. As we talk about the *community of faith* in the absence of gatherings, we are reminded of its deep value! We carry the connections of the community of faith with us during this time we are apart.

As we value the community of faith even more, looking forward to the time when we are able to gather again, we are cultivating ways to stay connected. We are thankful to many church members, who have assisted with technology and streaming, or setting up connections between church members for delivering groceries. It is the community of faith at its best!

It reminds us of the cornerstone of the community of faith, which is *solidarity*. Solidarity benefits from proximity, but it is not required for it. We continue to be bound to one another by our prayers, God's grace, and the practical grace of phone calls, written notes, and online connections.

During this time of distance, we remember the importance of cultivating a quiet soul, our inward spirituality; while also engaging the wider world around us. In the midst of constant change, it is more difficult to cultivate a quiet place in our lives, where we can listen for God's presence. Walking, reading, and silence can help us calm our thoughts and open our hearts.

As we nurture the roots of our faith, we must also remain engaged with the wider world, which is also difficult when we are so focused on the constant changes right in front of us. If we remain open to it, though, we might stumble upon ways we can cast God's grace into the world. Our prayers, written notes, or online connections can allow us to speak a word of grace or offer a gesture of kindness, letting light push against darkness.

In our isolation, let us realize how connected we are. The hopes and struggles of this world affect us all. We are all like branches on a vine. We might be isolated, but we are never alone. We are connected by something more, as Jesus says in the gospel of John, "I am the vine, you are the branches." We abide in God's presence, knowing that even if we cannot gather in person, we are never separated from one another, or from God.

As we are limited by social distancing, we will not have our usual display of Easter Lilies in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Please email Kristina Hickman (<u>kristina@auburnfbc.org</u>) if you would like a refund or if you would like to apply the \$10 to another fund.

Auburn First Baptist Church • 128 E Glenn Avenue • Auburn, AL auburnfbc.org • 334.887.8506 • frontdesk@auburnfbc.org

Connect with us on Facebook @AuburnFirstBaptist

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.

Sundays at 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall Our schedule remains to be determined.

Connecting Faith and Family

Sundays, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m., Fishers' Classroom Our schedule remains to be determined.

THURSDAYS

Thursday Evening Activities

5:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall, Brown Bag Dinner

We will resume our conversations about "Creating Sacred Space in our Lives" once the church is able to meet again. In the meantime, we will create sacred space in our homes and neighborhoods. We will practice prayer, enjoy time with our loved ones, and stay connected to those who live alone. We can write letters and make phone calls. We will find ways to stay connected to one another during this time we are apart.

CBF General Assembly Registration

Atlanta, GA, June 22-26 Registration: www.cbf.net/assembly

ONLINE GIVING

Our Stewardship Committee and Deacons have been working on an online giving option. It is now available on the website. The primary option is to give to the General Fund via credit card. One aspect of this option is a 3% transaction fee by the company, which handles the secure transaction. Each giver has the option to include the fee in his or her gift. If this option is not chosen, the church will need to cover the fee. The giver can also set up a recurring monthly gift if it is preferable. We hope this will be a helpful option for the congregation, especially during this time we are apart.

A giver can also give through an ACH, entering a bank account number and pertinent information.

This is only an additional option for giving! Everyone can continue to give as they have given in the past. Checks can be mailed to the church. If you have any questions about online giving, please email Kristina Hickman, kristina@auburnfbc.org.

AuburnFBC.org/Give

MISSIONS

Brasil Mission Trip

Plans are beginning for the 2020 Brasil Mission Trip. This will be the 33rd annual trip for members of Auburn FBC, from surrounding churches, and other states. We hope you are interested in going! The dates are July 4-18. We will also offer dates of July 4-11 for those who cannot stay the entire 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. Also, we need used suitcases donated to the team to carry supplies.

Loaves and Fishes Volunteers Needed

The Loaves and Fishes program ministers to people in our community by furnishing hot meals every Tuesday to recipients selected by the Salvation Army, our partner in this ministry. If you would be willing to take a week or two and prepare 16 meals for the Loaves and Fishes Ministry, please contact the church office. We currently need volunteers for May 5, 12, 19 & 26 and July 7, 14, 21, & 28. These plans remain tentative as we monitor healthcare concerns.

Global Ministries Offering Update

Goal: \$23,500.00 Pledged: \$9,720.00 Given toward pledge: \$2,890.00 Given unpledged: \$2,212.00

GMO Sunday is over but your opportunity to participate is not! If you did not already pledge or give to the GMO, please prayerfully consider making a monthly pledge or a one time gift. The GMO gifts help in so many ways: locally, state-wide, nationally and internationally. Pledges can be made online at AuburnFBC.org/GMO20 or via pledge cards available in the sanctuary.

COLLEGE

Bible Study & Breakfast

Sundays, 10:15 a.m. College Room (Activities Building) Not Meeting

College Tuesday Night Bible Study

7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Fellowship. Service. Special Activities.

YOUTH

Thursday Nights

5:15 p.m. Dinner 5:45 p.m. Youth Hang Out Time *Not Meeting*

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

Not Meeting

Youth Sunday Nights

Sundays, 6:00 p.m. Via Zoom

Youth Sunday

We will reschedule Youth Sunday for when we can gather in person.

FELLOWSHIP

PrimeTimers on the Move

There will not be a meeting in April. Our schedule remains to be determined.

VBS

Vacation Bible School

"Renew"

Registration will begin May 1st

Join us June 1-4 (Monday - Thursday evenings) as we learn about Bible stories and about missions. Our Directors will be Cathy Summers and Sue Walker. These plans will remain tentative as we monitor healthcare concerns.

CHILDREN



Preschool & Children's Egg-stravaganza

Our Egg Hunt has been cancelled.

Children's Choirs (3* year olds – 5th Grade)

Sundays, 5:00 p.m., Education Building
*We ask that all attendees be potty trained.
Not Meeting

Bible Encounter (1st – 5th graders)

Sundays, 6:00 p.m., Education Building Not Meeting

Spark Adventure

Thursdays, 5:50 p.m., Education Building
Not Meeting

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Every Sunday

Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Every Thursday

Brown Bag Dinner 5:15 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

We continue to practice social distancing until we are able to gather again. We will continue to send updates via email about our schedule, consulting with healthcare professionals and our lay leadership. Currently, the church office remains closed, as our staff is working from home. The email addresses for the staff are found in the newsletter and website. If you need to contact the ministerial staff, Tripp Martin (334-332-4100), Morris Driggers (864-981-0963), or Laura Edgar (334-233-2267).

Serving in April

Our Counters, Sound & Light, and Extended Session remain to be determined.

Ministerial Staff

Dr. Tripp Martin
Pastor
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Laura Edgar
Associate Pastor for Youth,
College and Young Adults
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Morris Driggers
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Dale Peterson

Minister of Music Emeritus/

Composer in Residence

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Support Staff

Bryan King Organist kingbry@auburn.edu

Dawn Driggers
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Milissa Clowers
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Office Manager
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Lakin Coulter & Soraya Gun Administrative Assistants frontdesk@auburnfbc.org

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

LENT

Lenten Lunches

Wednesdays, 12:00-1:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall "Were You There?: Lent and the Spirituals"

While we are unable to gather with one another, we will post videos on the church's website of our Lenten Reflections, thinking about what the Spirituals have to teach us in this season of Lent.