

As We Serve...

Deacon of the Week

3/5—3/11 Lewis Snider
3/12—3/18 Alan McCarty
3/19—3/25 Chuck Jennings
3/26—4/1 Jimmy Cruse

Counting Teams

3/5 Stan Barger
3/12 Jim Jumper
3/19 Bettie Gunnells
3/26 Everett Martin

Parking Ministry

Ken Fields
Jack Glassco
Everett Martin
Troy Vickers

Team Meetings & Special Events

Please see calendar enclosed with the newsletter.

*For current changes/updates made to the calendar, please look at our church web site at:

www.annistonfbc.com

And click on the calendar tab at the top of the page.

Worship Services

Sunday Morning

Meet your Teacher & Fellowship...8:30 AM
Bible Study/Sunday School...9:30 AM
Morning Worship...10:30 AM

Wednesday Evening

Supper 5:30
Prayer Service...6:00 PM
Youth...6:00PM
Choir Rehearsal...6:45 PM

Return Service Requested

Anniston, AL 36205

851 Morton Rd

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
AT McCLELLAN
ANNISTON, ALABAMA
"A SAFE HARBOR, BEAMING GOD'S LOVE"



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The Messenger

March 2017

A Monthly Publication to Inform, Promote and Encourage

AFBCM STAFF:

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You can also visit us on
Facebook

Office Hours:
Mon—Thurs 8 AM-4 PM
Fri 8 AM—12 Noon

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR:

My Friends,

How do you deal with change in your life? Most people struggle a little when their familiar routines get interrupted, me included. The last month has been a whirlwind of change in my life and in our church. Y'all are adjusting to a new pastor and I'm adjusting to a new congregation. One thing is for sure- we are all together in a clear time of change!

For my part, I couldn't be more excited about the opportunity I've been given. I am genuinely excited to come to work. I'm enjoying the getting to know each of you. I especially look forward to our Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings together.

So, where do we go from here? What might God have planned for us next? What comes after this transitional time? Let me say something here that I deeply, fully believe is true: **I believe that AFBCM has a rare and exceptional opportunity to do and be something special in our community in the days to come!** In a time when so many churches are struggling, if we're faithful, I'm convinced that we have a chance to be exceptional. Jesus promised us that "The gates of hell won't prevail against His church" and I believe Him!

Maybe you've noticed a lot of new faces around our campus. These are folks who simply want to find a place to belong, plug in, and do their part. Add those folks to a bunch more who have been faithful to this church in good times and bad. I just believe we have a powerful combination for serious Great Commission work.

Ponder this passage as you prepare for our time together Sunday: "I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, love one another. By this all people will know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13: 34-35 HCSB

I look forward to seeing you Sunday.
I'm one call away if you need me before then.

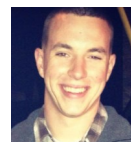
Blessings-

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Special Prayers For Our Members...

McClellan Assisted Living: Dot Vaughn
 Fairhaven Retirement Center, B'ham: Sarah Saxon
 Lineville Health & Rehab: Grace Lindsey
 Aspire Rehab Center: Patsy Johnson



Staff Anniversary

March 11, 2017 will be Alex Chesnutt's 2 year anniversary as our Student Leader, please take a moment to thank him for all he does!



WEDNESDAY

EVENING TIME CHANGES:

With daylight savings time approaching (3/12/17) and ease for our working members, please note we are changing back the Wednesday evening times.

Covered Dish Supper Nights: 5:30 PM
 Prayer Service/Business Sessions: 6:00 PM
 Choir Practice: 6:45 PM

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Donnie, Lori, Alex & Jack Sills

Don & Zandra Sills

Jennifer Kreh

Matt Nelson

Have recently joined our Church, please join us in welcoming them to our Church Family!

NURSERY/PRESCHOOL WORKERS NEEDED
 Please see sign-up sheet.



Wednesday Night Supper

This month our covered dish nights will be:

March 15—Soups and Salad

March 29—Potluck,

bring your favorite covered dishes and/or desserts to share!

"If you hear a voice within you say you cannot paint, then by all means paint and that voice will be silenced."



Vincent van Gogh

Or you can come and clean doors, baseboards, putty/sand, move furniture or provide snacks and beverages for workers.

We are going to be painting several classrooms/areas in the church 3/18 and 3/25. Please see sign-up sheet if you can help in any way.



The Bosom Buddies Cancer Support Group Will meet March 2, @ 6:00pm.

Women who have been diagnosed with cancer, survivors and caregivers are invited to attend the monthly meeting.

OUR STUDENT MINISTRY:

My Family of the Faith,

I am humbled to be writing this column. It has been a long year with many questions of what the future will hold for our church, and I admit that my patience has been tested in waiting for the gift the Lord has promised us. This past year the church's youth ministry has seen many ups and downs, while the Gospel of Christ was preached faithfully, I found myself for the latter part of the year a shepherd without sheep. Many had been turned aside by the pressures of the world today, and have scattered; losing interest in our church. I found myself questioning the purpose to which I had been called, if our student ministry had made a difference, and what to do next. Though I found myself in as much as a loss as the disciples upon Good Friday, my faith desperately held onto the promise of new life for our Church.

The scripture laid upon my heart and a testament to our church can be found in Isaiah 40:31, "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount upon wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." We have waited, and the Lord has heard our cry, and has answered us faithfully. Our Church not only has a new Shepherd that is excited to serve, guide, and grow with us; but also in recent weeks our family has seen a massive influx of believers seeking to join with us in our walk with Christ. This can only have been done through God working in the life of our church. Our student ministry, has been renewed. My prayer and dream that young people might be lead to this church that are hungry for the word to build a foundation for our future has been answered! In recent weeks we have had a steady growth in the youth Sunday attendance, in a way that this church has not seen in a long time, and they have been eager to be here any time the doors are open. We had a game night this past Sunday evening in which 25 students came. Many of these students are excited at the prospect of coming back and experiencing the gift that Christ has in store in our church.

I am excited to have hope and purpose; moreover I am humbled at our God's sovereignty and how perfectly His hand works in the life of our church. I earnestly ask you to keep our Student Ministry and our church in your prayers in this time of change, and as I begin to prayerfully plan where to lead our young people in the coming months. None of what our ministry does would be possible without you, and so I say thank you to my faithful brothers and sisters in Christ.

Sincerely,
Alex Chesnutt



SPRING FORWARD!

Don't forget to move your clocks forward an hour before going to bed Saturday, March 11.



Signs of Health for the month of January

THE PEOPLE GAVE:

General Offering.....\$ 18,225.16
 Sav-a-Life.....120.00
 Baptist Children's Home.....85.00
 Lottie Moon.....75.00
 Partnership Missions.....37.00
 Youth.....260.00
 BL Brooks/Max Butler Childrens Fund.....34.00
 "Securing The Future" 685.00
 TOTAL GIFTS.....\$ 19,521.16

Attendance for the month of February

THE PEOPLE CAME:

Average Weekly BIBLE STUDY Attendance 74
 Average Weekly WORSHIP Attendance 120

"Securing The Future" Campaign:

Pledge amount for 2017\$ 13,051.00
 2017 Money received thru January \$ 685.00



Men's Prayer Breakfast every Wednesday morning at 7:30 @ JACK'S in Lenlock. Please join us for a casual time of fellowship!

***WE HAVE JUST STARTED A NEW STUDY, PLEASE JOIN US IF YOU CAN!**



Ruby Spence Prayer Group
 Every Tuesday Morning at 10:00
 All ladies are invited to be a part of this vital ministry.

Important Newsletter

Information:

Please submit your events to be printed in the April Newsletter to the church office by noon, March 27 Thank you.