



Auburn First Baptist Church

Volume 7 Issue 119

Building Community, Serving Community

January 1, 2024

WORSHIP

January 7

Baptism of the Lord
Deacon Ordination
Mark 1:4-11
Acts 19:1-7

January 14

Second Sunday after Epiphany
1 Samuel 3:1-10
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Lay Worship Leader for January:
Ashley Randle

REMINDERS

Committee Night

Sunday, January 7, 6:15 p.m.
Locations to be announced.

All committee members are asked to participate in this kick-off event for a new committee year. Committee rosters and locations for each committee will be posted Sunday morning, January 7.

(Childcare will be provided.)

Quarterly Business Meeting & Potluck

Thursday, January 25
Fellowship Hall
Dinner at 5:15 p.m.

Business Meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Agenda Items: 2023 Financials, 2024-2025 GMO Budget, 2024 Nominating Committee Members, Life is Calling, Grant and Establishment of College Ministry Trust Fund

Where to Begin?

By: Tripp Martin

It can be difficult to know where to begin! We might stare at a blank computer screen unsure about what to write for the first sentence of our essay due for school. We might look at a blank canvas with a paint brush in hand unsure about where to put the first brushstroke. Beginnings are hopeful, and a gift; but they can also cause us uncertainty.

We need to remove the fear from beginning again, which is the gift of routine. We can begin again by relying on life-giving practices and weekly rhythms, which connect us to what is good. We find some of these practices and rhythms in community with one another. It is the gathering and going of the church!

It is as that wonderful African proverb says, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." We begin again by going together! It is the shared journey of Deacon Ordination, Committee Night, Round Table, and Connecting Faith and Family. It is the rhythms of Children's Choir, Youth Group, and College Bible Study. It is the connection we form through worship, prayer, and Sunday School.

One of the ancient pictures of the Church is a ship. We find this image drawn in Christian art and on the walls of ancient catacombs. We can imagine the winds of the Spirit filling the sails of this ship, carrying it forward. Our practices and rhythms allow us to gather in the boat and to spread out our sails.

We do not set out on a new journey alone. We join others, so we can discover the steadfast love of God. We overcome the fear of beginning again in these routine ways. We can write the first line of the essay or apply the initial brushstroke by joining hands with others!

The beginning of the year affords us many opportunities to join with others, where the winds of the Spirit can carry us forward. We find strength, hope, and grace through this journey!

Auburn First Baptist Church • 128 E Glenn Avenue • Auburn, AL
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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.

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

Round Table

Sunday's, 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

"Five Books for the New Year"

Led by Tripp Martin

Resumes January 7

"A Child Shall Lead Them:

Theology of Children's Books"

Led by Tripp Martin

January 21 & 28; February 4 & 11

Connecting Faith and Family

Sundays, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m., Seekers Classroom

Resumes January 7

We are reading *Practicing Changing Yourself to Change the World* by Kathy Escobar. If you would like a book, please email Leah Duzy at aduzyofalife@gmail.com. All are welcome!

FELLOWSHIP

Advent De-decorating

Saturday, January 6, 9:00 a.m.

The Flower Committee will take down and put away all of the Advent decorations and need as many helpers as possible. Please plan to join them if you can!

Building Hope Weekend

February 16-18

Alabama Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Together for Hope are partnering with Alabama Rural Ministries for a weekend of serving in Macon County. Together for Hope started with a commitment to the twenty poorest counties in America and has now expanded to include all 301 counties of persistent rural poverty. The Building Hope weekend is an opportunity for us to join with people from around our state to serve our neighboring county. Our church will host some of the meals and a worship service for all participants. We will continue to share information as we receive it from AL CBF. Please make plans to participate in this exciting weekend!

THURSDAYS

Thursday Evening Activities

Thursdays, 5:45 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Resumes January 11

"Fear Not: What If We Were Not Afraid?"

Led by Tripp Martin

Available on podcast on website.

Quarterly Business Meeting & Potluck

Thursday, January 25, 5:45 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

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:

2024 Financials, 2024-2025 GMO Budget, 2024 Nominating Committee Members, Life is Calling Grant, and Establishment of College Ministry Trust Fund.

COLLEGE

Meals for Tuesday Night Bible Study

Thank you for always supporting our college ministry. This important mission and ministry of our church could not happen without the support of our entire congregation. One of the most meaningful things we do is offer students a meal and opportunity for fellowship to begin each Tuesday night. If you are interested in sponsoring a dinner or preparing a home-cooked meal for our College Tuesday Night Bible Study this spring, please email Laura at laura@auburnfbc.org or call her at 334-233-2267.

Bible Study & Breakfast

Sundays, 10:15 a.m.

College Room (Activities Building)

College Tuesday Night Bible Study

7:00 p.m., Activities Building

Resumes January 16

PrimeTimers

Tuesday, January 16, 11:a.m. Fellowship Hall

Start your New Year with fellowship, food, and fun by joining everyone for a Potluck and Bingo. Please bring a dish to share (meat, side ,salad, or dessert): drinks and paper goods will be furnished. Play some Bingo to win some great prizes.

YOUTH

Youth Choir
Sundays, 5:00 p.m.
Choir Room
Resumes January 7

Youth Sunday Nights
Sundays, 6:00 p.m.
Youth Room
Resumes January 21



Meet at AFBC at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, January 12.
Return at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 14.

Passport

Converse University, Spartanburg, SC
June 30 - July 5, 2024
Cost: \$500
Let Laura know if you'd like to register!

CHILDREN

Passport Kids Camp

Rock Eagle 4-H Center
Eatonton, GA
July 14-17, 2024
Students 3rd - 5th grades
\$50 deposit, \$375 total (includes deposit)

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

Sundays, 5:00 p.m., Education Building
*We ask that all attendees be potty trained.
Resumes January 7

Bible Encounter (1st – 5th graders)

Sundays, 6:00 p.m., Education Building
Resumes January 21

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.

Monday - 1st

Church Office Closed

Tuesday - 2nd

Church Office Closed

Thursday - 4th

Mission Committee Meeting Library 5:30 p.m.

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

Sunday - 7th

Children's Committee Meeting...Library 12:00 p.m.

Youth Committee Meeting Activities Building 12:00 p.m.

PrimeTimers Committee Mtg.... Library 12:00 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 & Family Seekers' Room 5:00 p.m.

Committee Night TBA 6:15 p.m.

Wednesday - 10th

First Bells Choir Room 12:30 PM

Thursday - 11th

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

Friday - 12th

Winter Youth Summit Departs... Gay St. Lot 3:00 p.m.

Sunday - 14th

Winter Youth Summit Arrives... Gay St. Lot 4:00 p.m.

Deacon Ordination & Installation

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

Committee Night

Sunday, January 7, 6:15 p.m.
Locations to be announced.



Auburn First Baptist
Church

128 E Glenn Ave.

Auburn, AL 36830

MISSIONS

Missions in 2023

We are grateful for the commitment of the church to missions. In 2023, the church gave generously and worked faithfully to care for the needs of others. We supported missions locally, regionally, and globally. The numbers do not completely tell the story of the impact of these efforts and service. We pause at the beginning of the year to reflect on these gifts from 2023 and their impact, giving thanks for our opportunity to serve others! We could never name everything that took place through the missions of the church, but we are thankful for this work as well as everything that took place behind-the-scenes.

Global Ministries Offering, March 2023	\$23,131.00
Benevolence Offering in 2023	\$ 6,646.77
Loaves & Fishes	\$380.00
Brazil Missions	\$8,000.00
Children's Sabbath Mission Offering (Esperanza House)	\$605.00
CBF Missions	\$33,378.31
Missions in General Fund	\$5,420.00
Total	\$77,561.08

Serving the Month of January

Greeters: Dee Williams, Kellie Wilson

Sound & Light: David Sutton, Chad Parish, Gary Cantini

Visitors: Ray & Shirley Brown

Serving January 7, 2024

Extended Session: Ryan Thompson, Anna Randle, and Betty Tatum

Serving January 14, 2024

Extended Session: Lynn Eden

Ministerial Staff

Dr. Tripp Martin
Pastor

tmartin@auburnfbc.org

Laura Edgar
Associate Pastor for Youth,
College and Young Adults
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Support Staff

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