



Auburn First Baptist Church

Volume 7 Issue 120

Building Community, Serving Community

January 15, 2024

WORSHIP

January 21

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Mark 1:4-11

Psalms 62:5-12

January 28

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

Lay Worship Leader for January:

Ashley Randle

A Cast of Thousands

By: Tripp Martin

In the wake of Committee Night, and at the beginning of another year, I am thankful to God for the church, thinking about all of the lay leadership which takes place every week. Whether it is the work of committees, Sunday School teachers, or volunteers, there are countless people, who serve the church in numerous ways! Without this lay leadership, the life of the church would become anemic.

Some of these efforts take place out front, where we can see it happening. We can express our thanksgiving! Other tasks take place behind-the-scenes, where it is never seen, but always felt. We are grateful for all the lay leaders and volunteers guiding the ministry of the church, like the actors and stage crew of a play.

Lillian Daniel writes, "Christianity was originally written for a cast of twelve . . . but it has since been adapted to accommodate men, women, the talented, the untalented, the graceful, the klutzy, the rich, the poor, the wise, the silly, the brokenhearted, the joyful, the brave, the quiet, and the shy. In other words, Christianity has been adapted to accommodate a cast of thousands." When we consider the bond that is shared between the actors and stage crew, as they work together to create something engaging and beautiful, we see a reflection of the church.

It is one of the reasons I am thankful that we gather for a meal whenever we come together for a Business Meeting. It feels more like a family of faith tending to its life together instead of conversations inside a stuffy conference room. It is more like the gathering of actors and stage crew, tending to the logistics and preparation of the play as they bring a story to life. It is born out of a common purpose and the sacred journey we share!

The ministry of the church is practical and beautiful, like the production of a play. It is engaging and cumbersome, life-giving and tedious. It is why I am so thankful for the lay leaders and volunteers of the congregation, tending to the ministry and business of the church!

REMINDERS

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

College Sunday

Sunday, February 25, 11:00 a.m., Worship

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

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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

Sundays, 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

“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

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

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!

PrimeTimers

Tuesday, January 16, 11:00 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.

THURSDAYS

Thursday Evening Activities

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

“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:

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

COLLEGE

College Sunday

Sunday, February 25, 11:00 a.m., Worship

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

Fellowship. Service. Special Activities.

YOUTH

Youth Choir **Youth Sunday Nights**
Sundays, 5:00 p.m. *Sundays, 6:00 p.m.*
 Choir Room Youth Room
Resumes January 21

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

Building Hope Weekend
February 16-18

CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH

Conversational English
Resumes January 24

During the Fall Semester 2023, we registered twenty-four student from twelve different countries. Thank you to the church, teachers, and workers for helping with our success!

LIFE IS CALLING

Life is Calling

We are thankful for the work of the Life is Calling Committee! They received an initial grant of \$30,000. From this grant, we commissioned our new communion table and *Preparation for the Table*, commissioned a custom VBS Curriculum on calling, installed our Peace Pole, planned our storytelling event, installed lighting for the courtyard, created *A Place at the Table* graphic identity and car magnet, and purchased picnic tables for the courtyard as well as banners/signs for our facilities. We also planned events with the Exceptional Foundation, a seminar on calling for adults, and a Medical Debt Forgiveness Panel Discussion.

The Center for Congregational Resources at Samford University invited the committee to apply for an additional grant. They applied for the grant under the same theme, *A Place at the Table: Building and Serving Community*, and we have been awarded \$26,800 for another list of projects. The Life is Calling Committee will present its report and discuss the projects for their additional grant at our Business Meeting on January 25.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Every Sunday	Every Thursday
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.	Brown Bag Dinner 5:15 p.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.	Prayer & Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

Monday - 15th

Church Office Closed

Tuesday - 16th

Tuesday Night Bible Study Activities Building 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday - 17th

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

CDC Committee Meeting..... Library 5:45 p.m.

Thursday - 18th

Stewardship Committee Mtg. .. Library 5:00 p.m.

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

Sunday - 21st

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.

Bible Encounter Education Building 6:00 p.m.

Youth Sunday Night Activities Building 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday - 23rd

Deacons' Meeting..... Fellowship Hall 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday Night Bible Study Activities Building 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday - 24th

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

Conversational English..... Activities Bldg 5:30 p.m.

Thursday - 25th

Business Mtg & Potluck Fellowship Hall 5:15 p.m.

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

Sunday - 28th

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.

Bible Encounter Education Building 6:00 p.m.

Youth Sunday Night Activities Building 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday - 30th

Tuesday Night Bible Study Activities Building 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday - 31st

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

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)

Register by January 31 by emailing Tripp Martin

Children's Choirs (3* 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



Auburn First Baptist
Church

128 E Glenn Ave.

Auburn, AL 36830

MISSIONS

Missions in 2023

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

THANK YOU

The Margaret and David Perry Foundation has provided grants for AFBC to help build our accessible walkway in the courtyard and to renovate the bathrooms in the Activities Building, so they are accessible. At the end of 2023 the foundation awarded AFBC a grant of \$10,000 for our Benevolence Fund. We use this fund to offer assistance for food, shelter, and other basic needs. We are grateful for the continued support of the Margaret and David Perry Foundation!

Serving the Month of January

Greeters: Dee Williams, Kellie Wilson

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

Visitors: Ray & Shirley Brown

Serving January 21, 2024

Extended Session: Lyndsay Deal, Mary Ann Potter, Katharine Martin

Serving January 28, 2024

Extended Session: Kelly Meeks, Emily Wilkins, Anna Thompson

Ministerial Staff

Dr. Tripp Martin
Pastor

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