



# Auburn First Baptist Church

Volume 7 Issue 138

*Building Community, Serving Community*

November 1, 2024

## WORSHIP

November 3

*All Saints' Day*  
John 11:32-44  
Psalm 24

November 10

*Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*  
Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17  
1 Kings 17:8-16

Lay Worship Leader for November  
Jeremy Stokes

## REMINDERS

### **All Saints' Day**

*Sunday, November 3, 11:00 a.m.*  
*Worship*

### **Blessed Are Those Who Mourn**

*Service for Grief and  
Hope Near the Holidays*  
*Thursday, November 7, 5:45 p.m.*  
*Fellowship Hall*

### **Annual Churchwide Thanksgiving Meal**

*Thursday, November 21, 5:15 p.m.*  
*Fellowship Hall*  
RSVP by November 7  
[frontdesk@auburnfbc.org](mailto:frontdesk@auburnfbc.org)

### **Advent Family Workshop**

*Sunday, November 24, 6:15 p.m.*  
*Fellowship Hall*

We will gather for dinner and for families to create a craft for the Advent season!

### *Thankful*

*By: Tripp Martin*

As we enter the month of November, we look forward to cooler weather and family gatherings. We will celebrate Thanksgiving later this month with family and friends. Along with family traditions and particular recipes, it is an opportunity for giving thanks and sharing gratitude!

One particular gathering will be Thursday, November 21 at 5:15 p.m. when we will gather as a family of faith in the Coleman Fellowship Hall. The smell from the kitchen and the fellowship around the table will be gifts to us all. Everyone is invited, and there is no cost. We are invited to RSVP by November 7 to the email: [frontdesk@auburnfbc.org](mailto:frontdesk@auburnfbc.org).

We express our gratitude because we are thankful, but our gratitude also leads us to the love of God. Karl Barth, the well-known theologian from the twentieth century, says that grace and gratitude belong together like heaven and earth. Grace leads us to gratitude, but gratitude can lead us back to grace.

We are thankful for the grace of God we find in community as a family of faith. This grace leads us to gratitude for the church. Our gratitude, though, leads us back to God's love, where we discover even more grace. It is like the rhythm of the tides. The water recedes, but then it returns. Grace and gratitude move back and forth in our lives always revolving around the steadfast love of God.

We will celebrate this gift, which we find in the family of faith, by gathering to eat, fellowship, and give thanks! We will gather around the table and celebrate communion, where we will remember the love of God and where we will experience the love of God. We will express our gratitude for one another, which will lead us back to God's grace yet again!

*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.

## Deacon Biographies

*Deacon Elections will be held at the Special Called Business Meeting, December 5th, 5:00 p.m.*

**Tom Conner Brown**, and his late wife, Judie, have been members of Auburn First Baptist Church since 1974. He first served as an active Deacon in the late 1970's. He has been a member of numerous church committees. Tom and Judie taught children's Sunday School in the 1980's. Tom and Judie have two children who were raised in the church and two grandchildren. Tom's family joined Auburn First Baptist Church in 1963. Tom retired from Ware Jewelers in about 2010. In retirement, Tom drove buses on the Auburn University campus.

**Belinda Cantrell-Wright** and her wife, Pooie, have been members of Auburn First Baptist Church for 20 years. They have two children, Lynli and Tucker, both raised with the help of the church community. Belinda has previously served as an active Deacon. She has also worked with the Van Committee, the Music Committee, the Ordinance Committee and the Committee on Committees. She currently helps with the Children's Choir and is a member of First Bells. Belinda retired in July 2024 after 40 years in public education as a band director.

**Lynn Eden** and her husband, Steve, have been active members of AFBC since 1994. Lynn has served on many committees and has been ordained as a Deacon previously. They have four children, two grandchildren, and another grandchild on the way. Steve has owned the Garden of Eden Nursery, Inc. for 40 years and Lynn is currently the Clinical Nutrition Manager at East Alabama Health and has worked there for over 30 years. Lynn graduated from Miami of Ohio with her Bachelor's degree and the University of Alabama at Birmingham with her Master's degree.

**Gerald Johnson** has been a member of AFBC since 1970. During that 54-year period, Gerald has previously served terms as a Deacon and in multiple committee and leadership positions. He currently is a Student Leader in the Seekers Sunday School Class and in the English as a

Second Language program. Gerald is an Auburn University Emeritus Professor of Political Science. He, and his late wife, Nadine, have three children, seven grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren. He is active in multiple community service activities and programs.

**Drew Smith** has been an active member of Auburn First Baptist since childhood. He has served in many roles in the church including Deacon and Sunday School Director and has served on many committees. He and his wife, Beth, were married at AFBC and raised their children, Andrew and Katherine, while attending AFBC. They also have a daughter in law, Jo Helen, and one grandchild, Andrew Oxford Smith IV (Ford). Drew is currently employed by East Alabama Health as the Practice Manager for East Alabama Pulmonology.

**Jay Spiers**, originally from Wiggins, MS, came to Auburn in 2008 to begin his faculty position in the Horticulture Department at Auburn University. Jay has been a member of Auburn First Baptist since 2013. He has served as an active Deacon, a member of several church committees, and taught the Youth Sunday School class since 2014. Jay and his wife, Ruthie, have three children, Annie (15), Millie (11), and Francie (9), that have been raised in the nurturing environment of Auburn First Baptist.

**John K Jones** and his wife, Jo R Jones, have been members of Auburn First Baptist since the second Sunday after Tripp Martin became our Pastor. Our former church was the First Baptist Church of Oak Ridge, TN. I was ordained as a Deacon while we were members of ORFBC. I was previously elected to serve as a Deacon at AFBC. I have also served as teacher of the College Bible Study on Sundays. Most recently, I have served as a member of the AFBC Mission Committee.

### THANKSGIVING

## Annual Churchwide Thanksgiving Meal

*Thursday, November 21, 5:15 p.m.*

*Fellowship Hall*

Come and join us for our annual Thanksgiving meal. Be sure to email [frontdesk@auburnfbc.org](mailto:frontdesk@auburnfbc.org) or call the church office to RSVP no later than *Thursday, November 7* to make your reservation. *(No charge for this meal.)*

## Poinsettia Orders

Poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary for the Christmas season. You may order these flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one by completing the information below and returning it to the church office with your check by November 15th. The cost per plant is \$15.00. Poinsettias may be picked up after the Christmas Eve service.

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

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

By: \_\_\_\_\_

### SUMMER MISSION TRIP

## Summer Mission Trip

*Touching Miami with Love*

*June 15-21, 2025*

Deposit: \$100

Touching Miami with Love serves children, youth, and their families. We will drive the church bus to Miami on Sunday, June 15, and teach classes Monday through Friday, driving home on Saturday. Families are welcome to participate with children who are at least 14 years old. Due to the size of the classes and programmatic needs, we will take a group of 13-15 church members. The deadline to sign up will be February 1. The cost depends on occupancy in the hotel room.

|                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Single occupancy      | \$1500/person |
| Double occupancy      | \$875/person  |
| Family of 3 in a room | \$675/person  |
| Family of 4 in a room | \$575/person  |

This cost includes two meals per day, lodging, travel, and supplies. Each person will pay for dinner each day, incidentals, or additional activities on our day off. We will meet in the Spring to plan our lessons and organize our work. If you would like to sign up, or have any questions, please contact [tmartin@auburnfbc.org](mailto:tmartin@auburnfbc.org).

## YOUTH

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

**Prayer Breakfast**  
*Thursday, November 7, 7:00 a.m., Panera*

**Auburn Sustenance Project**  
*Monday, November 11, 12:00-2:00 p.m.*  
*Activities Building*  
 We'll eat lunch and volunteer together!

## CHILDREN

**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*

**Passport Kids Camp**  
*Montreat Conference Center*  
*Montreat, NC*  
 Students 3rd- 5th grades  
*June 30 - July 3, 2025*  
 Cost: \$50 deposit, \$400  
 Email [tmartin@auburnfbc.org](mailto:tmartin@auburnfbc.org) to sign up.

## SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

**Round Table**  
*Sundays, 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall*

“Auburn Sustenance Project”  
*November 3, Caroline Purvis*

“The Gifts of Pilgrimage”  
*November 10*  
*Peter Burgess, Rector*  
*Holy Trinity Episcopal Church*

**Connecting Faith and Family**  
*Sundays, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m., Seekers Classroom*  
 We will be reading *Now What?: How to Move Forward When We're Divided (About Basically Everything)* by Sarah Stewart Holland and Beth Silvers.  
 All are welcome!

## 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.

**Sunday - 3rd**  
 Children's Committee Mtg..... Fellowship Hall 12:00 p.m.  
 Youth Committee Mtg ..... Youth Room 12:00 p.m.  
 Children's Choirs ..... 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 Nights..... Youth Room 6:00 p.m.

**Tuesday- 5th**  
 College Bible Study..... Activities Building 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday - 6th**  
 First Bells..... Choir Room 12:30 p.m.  
 Conversational English..... Activities Building 5:30 p.m.

**Thursday - 7th**  
 Youth Prayer Breakfast..... Panera 7:00 a.m.  
 Service of Grief & Hope..... Fellowship Hall 5:45 p.m.

**Sunday - 10th**  
 Children's Choirs ..... 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 Nights..... Youth Room 6:00 p.m.

**Tuesday - 12th**  
 College Bible Study..... Activities Building 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday - 13th**  
 First Bells..... Choir Room 12:30 p.m.  
 Conversational English..... Activities Building 5:30 p.m.  
 CDC Committee Mtg ..... Fellowship Hall 5:45 p.m.

**Thursday - 14th**  
 Stewardship Committee Mtg..... Fellowship Hall 5:00 p.m.  
 Sanctuary Choir..... Choir Room 6:45 p.m.

## COLLEGE

**Auburn Sustenance Project**  
*Tuesday, November 12, 7:00 p.m.*  
*Activities Building*

**Bible Study & Breakfast**  
*Sundays, 10:15 a.m.*  
*College Room (Activities Building)*

**College Tuesday Night Bible Study**  
*7:00 p.m., Activities Building*  
 Fellowship. Service. Special Activities.



Auburn First Baptist  
Church

128 E Glenn Ave.

Auburn, AL 36830

## FELLOWSHIP

### ***PrimeTimers Gathering***

*Tuesday, November 19, 10:00 a.m.  
Fellowship Hall*

The Senior Adults at Auburn First Baptist Church want to extend an invitation to join us for coffee and breakfast pastries. We will be hosting local writers, Katie Jackson and Jay Lamar, to discuss their new book, "Old Enough: Southern Women Artists and Writers on Creativity." We hope you can join us with our neighboring churches in our community. (Parking is available in the parking lot on the corner of Gay/Glenn. To avoid being towed by the city, please do not park in the parking lot bordering College Street unless you have a handicap parking sticker.)

### **Serving the Month of November**

**Greeters:** Dee Williams, Dale Peterson, and Kellie Wilson

**Sound & Light:** David Sutton, Chad Parish, Gary Cantini, Clay Ritenbaugh

**Visitors:** Carolyn Grimes

### **Serving November 3, 2024**

**Extended Session:** Charlotte Sutton, Ronda West, Katharine Martin

### **Serving November 10, 2024**

**Extended Session:** Lyndsay Deal, Ashley Randle, Lee Mcinnis



**Online Giving**

## SERVICE OF GRIEF

### **Blessed Are Those Who Mourn**

Service for Grief and Hope Near the Holidays

*Thursday, November 7, 5:45 p.m.*

*Fellowship Hall*

As we anticipate the holidays, we remember the grief that can surround them. We gather to find comfort in the presence of God, and in the support of others, remembering the hope we find in the steadfast love of God.

### **Ministerial Staff**

Dr. Tripp Martin  
Pastor  
tmartin@auburnfbc.org

Laura Edgar  
Associate Pastor for Youth,  
College, and Young Adults  
laura@auburnfbc.org

Morris Driggers  
Associate Pastor for Music  
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Dale Peterson  
Minister of Music Emeritus  
dalepeterson@charter.net

### **Support Staff**

Scarlett Sheils  
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toddsheils@msn.com

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ivorytrklr@bellsouth.net

Milissa Clowers  
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milissa@auburnfbc.org

Lynley Stricklin &  
Chase Bentley  
Administrative Assistants  
frontdesk@auburnfbc.org

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Apple Podcasts: AuburnFBC.org/ApplePod