



Auburn First Baptist Church

Volume 7 Issue 140

Building Community, Serving Community

December 1, 2024

WORSHIP

December 1

First Sunday of Advent (Hope)
Psalm 25.1-10
Jeremiah 33.14-16

December 8

Second Sunday of Advent (Peace)
Philippians 1.3-11
Luke 3.1-6

December 15

Third Sunday of Advent (Joy)
Sanctuary Choir Music

December 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Love)
Hebrews 10.5-10
Luke 1.46b-55

December 24

Christmas Eve
Carols, Communion, & Candlelight

December 29

First Sunday After Christmas
Laura Edgar, preaching

REMINDERS

Welcoming Advent and Cookie Fellowship

Sunday, December 8, 6:15 p.m.
Fellowship Hall
Please bring cookies to share!

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 5:30 p.m., Worship

No Sunday School

December 22 & December 29

I Haven't Missed It!

By: Tripp Martin

In the classic Christmas story, *A Christmas Carol*, Scrooge wakes up the morning of Christmas, disoriented and uncertain. He is emerging from a dream and his journey into Christmas past, present, and future. He swings open the windows of his bedroom, trying to determine what day it is. He asks someone on the street, and when the person proclaims it is Christmas Day, Scrooge exclaims, "I haven't missed it!"

It is the question we might find ourselves asking throughout the Advent and Christmas season, "Have we missed it?" We celebrate the birth of Jesus every year. We look forward to it, and we plan on it. But the arrival of the Light of the World and the presence of God can feel elusive. We go looking for it, wondering if we have seen it.

This is not a new phenomenon! We share this experience with those who have come before us. John Jeffers begins his sermon from December 15, 1985 by saying, "The meaning of Christmas is subject to being diminished by the peril of the familiar." If we are not careful, we will miss the meaning of Christmas because it is so familiar. We might miss the coming of God's hope, peace, joy, and love because they come to us in ways that do not always stand out.

We find them in the ordinary. We experience them in familiar ways such as friendship, forgiveness, kindness, hospitality, and encouragement. We underestimate the power of these gifts! We might not see the presence of Christ in them at first. They seem too small and too fragile to convey God's love, but perhaps, so did an infant in a manger.

We celebrate the small familiar gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love. We keep our eyes open for them, so we do not miss them. When we see them, we give thanks for them! We give thanks for the gifts of Advent and Christmas as familiar as they can be.

*All year end gifts for 2024 need to be in the church office by Sunday, December 29th or postmarked by December 31st.

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.

Poinsettias

The poinsettias placed in our sanctuary and throughout the church for Christmas are placed in memory or honor of those listed.

In Honor of:

Tripp & Katharine Martin
J.D. & Hunter Martin
Merle Bass
Scarlett Shiels
Gwynne Lovelady
Julia Morgan
Julie McClanahan
Sue Walker
Merle Bass
The Martins
The Driggers
Laura Edgar & Seth Kochera
Auburn First Baptist Church Family
Tripp Martin
Laura Edgar
Morris Driggers
Dale Peterson
Scarlett Shiels
Dawn Driggers
Clois Shoffeit
Tripp Martin & Family

Given by:

Milton & Kathy Martin
Pops & Kaki
A church member
A church member
A church member
A church member
A church member
A church member
A church member
A church member
A church member
Mary Lynn P
Candy Enkeboll
Candy Enkeboll
Candy Enkeboll
Candy Enkeboll
Candy Enkeboll
Jean, Paul, & Mary
Dale & Libby Peterson

In Memory of:

Lennart van Santen
Our Parents
Robert Earl & Edna Christmas
Lois Graves
Bill Faurot
Charles Potter

Gayleen Faudree Andrews
Olin N. Andrews, III
Mignon Mallette Andrews
Olin N. "Bill" Andrews
Lucyle Mallette
Paul Shoffeit
Inez & Walter Sowell
John Jeffers
My Brother, David Potts
Our Parents, Charles & Louise
Peterson and Earl &
Louise Potts
Dartie Flynt
Mae Ellis Moore & Annie
Grace Smith

Given by:

Edzard & Vicky van Santen
Laura & Keith Reinstette
Edna Earl Christmas
A church member
Ellen Faurot
Mary Ann, Cliff, & Charlann
Potter
Olin Andrews
Olin Andrews
Olin Andrews
Olin Andrews
Olin Andrews
Jein, Paul, and Mary
Their Family
Dale Peterson
Libby Potts
Dale & Libby Peterson

Wayne Flynt
Wayne Flynt

COLLEGE

College at Randle Farms

Tuesday, December 3, 6:30 p.m.

We will meet in the Gay Street Lot at 6:30 p.m. to ride together.

Finals Study Hours

December 8 - December 12, 5:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Activities Building

We pray for our college students as they finish the semester and take final exams.

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

Round Table

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

Final Meeting December 8

"A Rational Approach to Science and Theology

December 1 & 8, Mike McClanahan

Connecting Faith and Family

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

Final Meeting December 8

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!

ADVENT

Cookie Walk

Saturday, December 7, 8:00 - 12:00 p.m.

True Deliverance Holiness Church

Fundraiser for WeHelp Coalition

The address is 936 N. Donahue Drive. It will be in their gymnasium.

A Season of Music

Sunday evening, December 8, 6:15 p.m. –

Welcoming Advent in Story & Song

with music from our

*Preschool and Children's Choirs,
and Youth Choir*

Followed by our renowned *Cookie Fellowship*
Bring your favorite cookies on a plate ready to serve!

Sunday morning, December 15, 11:00 a.m. –

"The Work of Christmas"

Led by the AFBC Music Ministry.

Deacon Installation

Sunday, January 5, 11:00 a.m., Worship

Committee Night

Sunday, January 12, 6:15 p.m.

Locations to be announced.

YOUTH

Youth Choir

Sundays, 5:00 p.m.

Choir Room

Final Meeting December 8

Youth Sunday Nights

Sundays, 6:00 p.m.

Youth Room

Final Meeting December 1

Youth Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, December 5, 7:00 a.m., Panera

Youth Christmas Party

Sunday, December 15, 2:00 - 7:00 p.m.

We will meet in the Activities Building at 2:00 p.m. to distribute food with the Auburn Sustenance Project. Dinner and a Christmas party will take place at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Teresa Vest.

Winter Youth Retreat

Callaway Gardens

January 15-17, 2025

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

Caroling for the Children

Thursday, December 19, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.,

Gay Street Parking Lot

We will depart at 5:30 p.m. in the church bus to go caroling, visiting church members and assisted living facilities in Auburn. We will come back to the Activities Building for pizza. Pick up will be at the church.

THURSDAYS

Christmas Potluck &

Special-Called Business Meeting

Thursday, December 5, 5:00 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:

A report from the Committee on Committees, a report from the Stewardship Committee (2025 budgets), and election of Deacons.

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.

Sunday - 1st

Mission 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- 3rd

College at Randle Farms.....	Gay Street Lot	6:30 p.m.
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Wednesday - 4th

Exceptional Foundation.....	Sanctuary	1:00 p.m.
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Thursday - 5th

Youth Prayer Breakfast.....	Panera	7:00 a.m.
Business Mtg & Potluck.....	Fellowship Hall	5:00 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir.....	Choir Room	6:45 p.m.

Saturday - 7th

Cookie Walk.....	True Deliverance	8:00 a.m.
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Sunday - 8th

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.
Welcoming Advent.....	Sanctuary	6:15 p.m.
Cookie Fellowship.....	Fellowship Hall	7:15 p.m.

Sunday - 15th

Youth Auburn Sustenance Project.....	Activities Building	2:00 p.m.
Youth Christmas Party.....	Teresa Vest's Home	5:00 p.m.

No Evening Activities

Tuesday - 17th

PrimeTimers Gathering.....	Fellowship Hall	11:30 a.m.
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Thursday - 19th

Caroling for the Children.....	Gay Street Lot	5:30 p.m.
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No Evening Activities

Sunday - 22nd

Worship.....	Sanctuary	11:00 a.m.
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No Sunday School or Evening Activities

Tuesday - 24th

Christmas Eve Service.....	Sanctuary	5:30 p.m.
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Church Office Closed

Wednesday - 25th

Church Office Closed

Thursday - 26th

Church Office Closed

Friday - 27th

Church Office Closed

Sunday - 29th

Worship.....	Sanctuary	11:00 a.m.
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No Sunday School or Evening Activities

Monday - 30th

Church Office Closed

Tuesday - 31st

Church Office Closed



Auburn First Baptist
Church

128 E Glenn Ave.

Auburn, AL 36830

SUMMER MISSION TRIP

Touching Miami with Love

June 15-21, 2025

Deposit: \$100

(Adults and ages 14+)

TML serves children, youth, and their families. Due to the size of the classes, we will take a group of 13-15 church members. The deadline to sign up will be February 1. 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

Costs includes everything, but dinner each night, day off activities, and incidentals. If you would like to sign up, or have any questions, please contact

tmartin@auburnfbc.org.

Serving the Month of December

Greeters: Mike Aston, Anne Adrian, Dale Peterson

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

Visitors: Julia Morgan

Serving December 1, 2024

Extended Session: Marcie Smith, Anna Coxwell, Ashley Randle

Serving December 8, 2024

Extended Session: Mark Wilson, Ashley Aston, Betty Tatum



[Online Giving](#)

JAIL MINISTRY PROJECT

It is time to turn our attention once again to the Christmas bags for the jail ministry. Donations of \$15 are welcomed to cover the cost of items in the bags. The \$15 covers the cost of a devotional book, ten envelopes, stamps, two pens, one pad of paper, five stamps, five Christmas cards to send, a game book, a deck of playing cards, and candy. If you would rather donate Forever Stamps instead of money, please make sure they are rolled stamps since we must cut them apart. Thank you for your help in this ministry.

Charlotte Sutton
Christmas Project Chair

Ministerial Staff

Dr. Tripp Martin
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