Auburn First Baptist Church

Building Community, Serving Community

VOLUME 7 | ISSUE 179 NOVEMBER 1, 2026

WORSHIP

November 1
All Saints' Day
Matthew 5:1-12
1 John 3:1-3

November 8
Twnety-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Amos 5:18-24
Matthew 25:1-13

November 15
Twenty-fifth week after Pentecost
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:1 4-30
Lucas Dorion Preaching

Lay Worship Leader for November:
Beth Smith

REMINDERS

Blessed Are Those Who Mourn
Thursday, November 12, 5:45 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Family Campfire
Friday, November 13, 6:00-8:30 p.m., Eden's Farm

Thanksgiving Meal
Thursday, November 19, 5:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Advent Decorating
Sunday, November 22, 3:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Advent Family Workshop
Sunday, November 22, 6:15 p.m., Activities Building

A Season For Everything

By: Tripp Martin

If we are still enough and quiet enough, sitting in the hallways and rooms of the church, we might be able to hear the echoes of the prayers and celebrations, which take place at this place. We are accustomed to gathering for worship, saying the responsive reading, and hearing the benediction. We have gathered for funerals, baby dedications, and baptisms so many times that their impact does not feel as significant as it once did. But when we gather for such occasions, they hold a tremendous weight in our lives!

It is the shared journey of faith, where we mark the highest joys and the deepest hurts in our lives together. We will gather in November to mark our gratitude and our losses. We will begin the month with *All Saints' Day*. We will call out the names of saints, who have preceded us into the nearer presence of God over the last twelve months. We will also gather on Thursday, November 12 for a *Blessed Are Those Who Mourn* service. We will recognize the grief, which many of us feel prior to the holidays.

Then on Thursday, November 19, we will celebrate joyfully at our annual Thanksgiving meal. We will give thanks for one another, for the goodness of life, and for the grace of God! Around the table with each other, we will laugh, share our gratitude, and celebrate communion. Over the course of this month, we will mark our highest joys and share our deepest hurts.

There is a season for everything. But there is also the family of faith for every season. We travel this journey together! We gain strength from the presence of each other. We benefit from the wisdom of those who travel the path with us. We celebrate together, making our joy richer and deeper; and we comfort one another, making our struggles a little lighter to carry.

If we listen carefully, we can hear the echos of the prayers and the celebrations of the church. We can offer a hand to each other for support, thanksgiving, and grace.

Auburn First Baptist Church | 128 E Glenn Avenue, Auburn, Alabama
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Connect with us | @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 4th, 5:00 p.m.

Jeannie Bumgardner and her husband, Mike, have been members since the early 80's. Their three children, Michael, Leslie and Stephanie, grew up with the love and support of AFBC, and now their youngest granddaughter, Alexis, is a member of the Children's Department. Jeannie has served in the nursery and with the children and youth departments. She has been a member of the Board of Trustees, Stewardship Committee, Deacons and numerous committees. Currently, she is a member of the Memorials, Crisis, and Grounds Committees. In 2014, Jeannie retired from Auburn University as Director of Cash Management.

Cindy Cleveland, and her husband, Jimmy have been members of AFBC since 1989. She has been an active deacon, a member of numerous committees, and served in various ways with our preschool, children, and youth ministries. Cindy worked in the field of education. She and Jimmy have 3 children who were raised in our church family. They have 2 granddaughters.

David Cline and his wife, Tracy, became members in 2005. David has served the church through the Ushers, Grounds, Van, and Committee on Committees, as well as a backup on lights and sound. Their son, Michael, grew up in the church and has been nurtured by many members of the congregation. David has served with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System since 1994 and is an Associate Extension Professor at Auburn University, specializing in aquaculture. Through his work, he has helped students, educators, and community members gain a greater appreciation for aquaculture and water resources.

Anna Coxwell has been a member since 2013. She has served as a Deacon, a Trustee and on several committees. She currently enjoys teaching youth Sunday School. Anna has two boys, William (14) and Joseph (10) that also enjoy getting involved at AFBC. Anna has spent her career in industrial supply chain and also volunteers significantly with the arts throughout East Alabama.

Brian Ledbetter-Dunn has been a member since 2008. He currently serves as Treasurer and is an ex-officio member of both the Trustees and Stewardship Committee. His involvement has also included serving as a Deacon, participating in the Sanctuary Choir and the Sojourners Sunday School Class, and taking part in activities for youth and children. Outside of church, Brian is a Senior Financial Advisor with Corebridge Financial. He and his spouse, Shane Ledbetter-Dunn, are the parents of two children, Liam (13) and Weslyn (8).

Caroline Purvis has lived in Auburn for 6 years and has been a member since 2023. Caroline and her husband, DeWayne, have three kids, Kennedy (10), Grant (8), and Carter (6). Caroline is faculty in the Department of Human Development and Family Science and currently serves as the Undergraduate Coordinator. Caroline served as the interim youth director from 2025-2026. She also serves on the Preschool and Children's Committee, Outreach Committee, and attends the Sojourners Sunday School class. Caroline previously served as a Deacon at First Baptist Church of Gainesville, Florida and is extremely honored to serve as a Deacon of AFBC.

Betty Tatum has been a member for over 40 years, served on numerous committees, sang in the choir for over 30 years, and plays handbells. She has taught in the preschool Sunday School Department for over 30 years. She also served as Wedding Coordinator for 21 years. She has two sons, who were raised in this church. Kevin, who lives in Opelika, and Brian, who lives in Charleston, SC. Betty retired in 2008 from AFBC, after serving as Office Manager.

Emily Wilkins began attending AFBC in 2022. She first became involved with AFBC in 2021 when she was asked to create a visual identity for the Life is Calling grant project "A Place at the Table." She has taught preschool Sunday School and directed VBS, and currently serves on the Committee on Committees and the Outreach Committee. Emily is the Senior Manager for Philanthropy Brand and Visual Design in the Office of Advancement at Auburn University. She and her husband Adam Taylor have one son, Henry, who is a fourth grader.

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

Round Table

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

"Remembering the Saints"
November 1, *Drew Smith*

"Music That Brought Us Together:
Songs of the Civil Rights Movement"
November 8, *Dr. Khari Allen Lee*
Walt and Ginger Woltosz Endowed Professor of Practice & Director of Commercial Music, Auburn University

Connecting Faith and Family

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

THURSDAYS

Blessed Are Those Who Mourn

Thursday, November 12, 5:45 p.m., Fellowship Hall

A service of remembrance for grief and hope.

Thanksgiving Meal

Thursday, November 19, 5:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Be sure to email frontdesk@auburnfbc.org to RSVP no later than Thursday, November 12.
(No charge for this meal.)

YOUTH

Youth Prayer Breakfast
Tuesday, November 3, 7:00 a.m., Panera

Youth Choir
Sundays, 5:00 p.m., Choir Room

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

Winter Youth Retreat
Pigeon Forge, Tennessee,
January 15-18, 2027

Passport Youth
Converse University
June 13-18, 2027

CHILDREN

Passport Kids
Brenau University
July 11-14, 2027

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

Family Campout
Friday, November 13, 6:00-8:30 p.m., Eden's Farm
Join us for food, yard games and fun! You may bring a fishing rod if you would like to fish.

COLLEGE

Bible Study
Sundays, 10:00 a.m., College Room (Activities Bldg)

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

THANKSGIVING

Annual Churchwide Thanksgiving Meal

Thursday, November 19, 5:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall
(No charge for this meal)
Come join us for our annual Thanksgiving meal. Be sure to email frontdesk@auburnfbc.org or call the church office no later than *Thursday, November 12* to make your reservation.

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, NOVEMBER 1
Churchwide Baby Shower, Bungardner's House, 2:00 p.m.
The Round Table, Fellowship Hall, 5:00 p.m.
Connecting Faith and Family, Seekers Room, 5:00 p.m.
Preschool & Children's Choir, Education Building, 5:00 p.m.
Youth Choir, Choir Room, 5:00 p.m.
Bible Encounter, Education Building, 6:00 p.m.
Youth Sunday Nights, Youth Room, 6:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3
Youth Prayer Breakfast, Panera, 7:00 a.m.
College Bible Study, Activities Bldg, 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4
Conversational English, Activities Bldg, 10:00 a.m.
First Bells, Choir Room, 12:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5
Sanctuary Choir, Choir Room, 6:45 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8
Preschool & Children's Committee Mtg, Library, 12:00 p.m.
The Round Table, Fellowship Hall, 5:00 p.m.
Connecting Faith and Family, Seekers Room, 5:00 p.m.
Preschool & Children's Choir, Education Building, 5:00 p.m.
Youth Choir, Choir Room, 5:00 p.m.
Bible Encounter, Education Building, 6:00 p.m.
Youth Sunday Nights, Youth Room, 6:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10
College Bible Study, Activities Bldg, 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11
Conversational English, Activities Bldg, 10:00 a.m.
First Bells, Choir Room, 12:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12
Service of Grief and Hope, Fellowship Hall, 5:45 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13
Family Campfire, Eden's Farm, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15
The Round Table, Fellowship Hall, 5:00 p.m.
Connecting Faith and Family, Seekers Room, 5:00 p.m.
Preschool & Children's Choir, Education Building, 5:00 p.m.
Youth Choir, Choir Room, 5:00 p.m.
Bible Encounter, Education Building, 6:00 p.m.
Youth Sunday Nights, Youth Room, 6:00 p.m.

Auburn
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128 E Glenn Avenue, Auburn, Alabama, 36830

MISSION TRIP TO SPAIN

Mission Trip to Spain
Aguadulce, Spain
July 16-25, 2027
Cost: $2,200 per person (Deposit: $200)
Ages 14+ (rising 9th grade and older with their parent) to adults

We will be working with Eddie Aldape, CBF Field Personnel. Our primary job will be working with children. Additional tasks might include painting, cleaning or carpentry. It will be 2-3 people in a room. There will be additional costs for some meals and sightseeing. We are able to take 18 people on the trip. The final deadline to sign up is January 15, 2027.

Email Tripp with questions or to sign up
tmartin@auburnfbc.org

If a class or church member would like to help someone with the cost of the trip, please contact Tripp.

JAIL MINISTRY

For many years we have supported the jail ministry by preparing Christmas bags or boxes for inmates. This year we are preparing bags for 175 male inmates. Contents of each bag costs at least $20. We are inviting your financial support

You can give money to me personally; you can take it to the church office; or you can put a check in the offering plate designating it for the Christmas jail bags.

Each inmate gets five Christmas cards to send. This year we are low on Christmas cards. If you have any extra cards at your house or see a good deal on cards that you could take advantage of, please drop the cards by the church office. I will get them when we are ready to assemble the bags.

Charlotte Sutton

SERVING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

Greeters:
Jo Jones, Mike Aston, Kellie Wilson

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

Visitors:
John and Jo Jones

Serving November 1, 2026
Extended Session: Ashley Aston, Emily Wilkins, Marcie Smith

Serving November 8, 2026
Extended Session: Caroline Purvis, Ronda West, elaine ridgway

Serving November 15, 2026
Extended Session: Anna Coxwell, DeWayne Purvis, Wayne McInnis

Ministerial Staff

Dr. Tripp Martin
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