



Auburn First Baptist Church

Volume 7 Issue 53

Building Community, Serving Community

December 1, 2020

WORSHIP

The Perseverance of Christmas

By: Tripp Martin

December 6th

Second Sunday of Advent
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
Mark 1:1-8

Each year, Christmas arrives with anticipation and a surprise! We look forward to it, but it always catches us off guard because of the depth of its meaning. It invites us again into God's steadfast love and faithfulness! We are overwhelmed by the tenderness, gentleness, and strength of God's love.

December 13th

Third Sunday of Advent
Psalm 126
Luke 1:46-55

We prepare for Christmas by checking off a long to-do list. We get the decorations down from the attic. We put up the tree and place a wreath on the door. We wrestle with the lights and bake our family's favorite dessert.

December 20th

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
Luke 1:26-38

We prepare by turning our attention to the most important things in this world. We renew our commitment to faith, offer generous assistance to others, and give thanks for the goodness of God in our lives. We cherish the hymns of this season. We engage in the depths of prayer. We return to the stories of scripture.

December 24th

Christmas Eve
Carols, Candles, and Communion

We prepare, and we are prepared by these things! With so many aspects of life altered in 2020, and admitting that our energy is waning and our fatigue is growing, we give thanks that Christmas does not depend on our preparation. Jesus is not born because the star is on the tree, the to-do list is finished, or the cake is in the oven.

December 27th

First Sunday of Christmas
Mark Wilson preaching

Christmas surprises us! It surprises us because Jesus is born in Bethlehem despite the challenges of a census, the threat of Herod, or the unlikely events involved. God's steadfast love and faithfulness perseveres, and as we anticipate the coming of Christmas this year, we welcome it!

REMINDERS

Worship

Our worship service is live streamed on the website each week.

AuburnFBC.org/Live

Midweek Reflections

Bread for the Traveler

After December 2, the reflections will resume January 6.

AuburnFBC.org/Sacred

We are renewed by the perseverance of love. It allows us to find new ways forward! It places hope, peace, joy, and love in front of us. It reminds us that we are on this journey together. Around the manger, we see how the love of God connects us to one another, which gives us strength to persevere ourselves.

***All year end gifts for 2020 need to be postmarked by December 31st.**

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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
John French
Our Staff

Given by:

Milton & Kathy Martin
Pops & Kaki
Candy Enkeboll
Dale & Libby Peterson

In Memory of:

Inez & Walter Sowell
Dorothy Smith
Brother John
Charles Potter
Our Parents
Paul & Clois Shoffeitt
Gil & Fran Rollins
Doug Rollins
My Parents, Robert Earl & Edna
Christmas
My Parents, Lamar & Grace
Casey

Given by:

Their Family
Kathy Smith Martin
Joe & June Spooner
Mary Ann Potter
Dale & Libby Potts Peterson
Jean, Paul, & Mary
Marcia King
Marcia King
Edna Earl Christmas
Candy Enkeboll

FELLOWSHIP

PrimeTimers on the Move

There will not be a meeting in December. Our schedule remains to be determined.

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

Sunday School

During this time of social distancing, Sunday School classes are finding ways to remain connected. Teachers are sharing lessons, and classes are meeting virtually. We are thankful for these connections!

BUSINESS MEETING

As we continue the ministry of the church during this season of life, Committees and the Deacons have presented Business Meeting agenda items to the congregation. An email was sent to the congregation, presenting these items. An opportunity for questions will take place over Zoom, or on a conference call.

After those opportunities this week, the business items will be emailed to the church on Monday, December 7 in a survey-style format in order to vote. For church members, who do not have access to email, a hard copy of the agenda items was mailed to them, and they are able to call to ask questions and to vote.

MIDWEEK REFLECTIONS

Sacred Words: Reclaim, Redefine & Rediscover

Each Wednesday, posted at 12:00 p.m.

Led by Tripp Martin

Final post will be December 2.

We have sacred words, which belong to our faith. Over time, we need to reclaim, redefine, and rediscover them in order for them to remain meaningful. We will talk about these words and what they mean to our lives.

Bread for the Traveler

Begins January 6

The psalms speak of the emotions and experiences we have in this life. We will listen to them as they give us strength and guidance for the journey.

AuburnFBC.org/Sacred

CHRISTMAS EVE

Our worship service for Christmas Eve will be live streamed at 5:30 p.m. on our website. We will celebrate communion and the coming of the Light of the World!

CHILDREN

PassportKids Camp

July 17-20, 2021

Rock Eagle 4H Center, Eatonton, Georgia

Students 3rd-5th grade

Deposit: \$50 Total: \$300 (includes deposit)

Email kristina@auburnfbc.org to sign up!

Children's Bible Study

Each week we will post a weekly Children's Bible Study, which will be compiled by several church members. It can be watched on Sunday morning or afternoon, or even during the week.

AuburnFBC.org/CBS

Children's Choirs & Bible Encounter

Not Meeting

Spark Adventure

Thursdays, 5:50 p.m., Education Building

Not Meeting

YOUTH

Thursday Nights
Youth Hang Out Time
Not Meeting

Youth Choir
Not Meeting

Youth Christmas Party
Sunday, December 6th, 3:00-5:00 p.m.
1201 Morris Avenue, Opelika

Christmas Congregation Cheer
Sunday, December 13th, 2:00-4:30 p.m.
Activities Building

Passport Youth Camp
July 5-10, 2021
Furman University, Greenville, SC
Total: \$450
Email laura@auburnfbc.org to sign up!

MISSIONS

Cookie Walk 2020

Every year, we are invited to bake cookies and to support the Cookie Walk, a fundraiser for the WeHelp Coalition and Habitat for Humanity. This year the Cookie Walk will look different. Instead of baking cookies, we are invited to make a financial gift. Church members can give to the Cookie Walk through Auburn FBC. Please write Cookie Walk on the memo line. Donations can also be given at the event. The church will also give a donation out of its Benevolence Fund.

COLLEGE

Please pray for students as they finish the semester, take finals, and travel home for the holidays.

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

College Tuesday Night Bible Study
7:00 p.m. in the AFBC Courtyard

Fellowship. Service. Special Activities.

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.

The church office remains closed as our staff is working from home. The email addresses for the staff are found in the newsletter and website. If you need to contact the ministerial staff, Tripp Martin (334-332-4100), Morris Driggers (864-981-0963), or Laura Edgar (334-233-2267).

Social Media

Facebook: [Facebook.com/AuburnFirstBaptist](https://www.facebook.com/AuburnFirstBaptist)
YouTube: [YouTube.com/AuburnFBC](https://www.youtube.com/AuburnFBC)
Twitter: [@AuburnFBC](https://twitter.com/AuburnFBC)

Apple Podcasts: [AuburnFBC.org/ApplePod](https://www.auburnfbc.org/ApplePod)
Google Play: [AuburnFBC.org/GooglePod](https://www.auburnfbc.org/GooglePod)
RSS: [AuburnFBC.org/FeedPodcast](https://www.auburnfbc.org/FeedPodcast)

Serving in December

Our Counters, Sound & Light, and Extended Session volunteers remain to be determined.

Ministerial Staff

Dr. Tripp Martin
Pastor
tmartin@auburnfbc.org

Laura Edgar
Associate Pastor for Youth,
College and Young Adults
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Morris Driggers
Associate Pastor for Music
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Dale Peterson
Minister of Music Emeritus/
Composer in Residence
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Support Staff

Bryan King
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Dawn Driggers
Accompanist
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Milissa Clowers
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Kristina Hickman
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Lakin Coulter
Administrative Assistant
frontdesk@auburnfbc.org

*Listen to the service Sunday mornings
at 11 am on WAUD 1230 AM*