

"Continue to Do the Work"
2 Timothy 4:5 (KJV)

Sunday, November 12, 2023 10:00 am

## **Antioch Baptist Church North**

Rev. K. L. Alexander, Pastor

BIBLE-BASED • CHRIST-CENTERED • HOLY SPIRIT-LED • MISSION-BOUND EVANGELISM • FELLOWSHIP • DOCTRINE • STEWARDSHIP 540 Cameron M. Alexander Blvd. NW • Atlanta, GA 30318 • 404.688.5679 • www.antiochnorth.org

### 146TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY PASTOR'S LETTER

November 12, 2023

Greetings Antioch North Family,



"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times....it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness," the beginning of Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*, well describes the city of Atlanta in 1877 when eight former slaves organized the Bethursday Prayer Band. There was no church in the Fifth Ward "colored quarters," and because Atlanta was "two cities," the danger of traveling through the white quarters of Atlanta to get to the nearest colored church was treacherous. While we celebrate the progress that has our own Honoarable Andre Dickens serving as mayor, we recognize that there is still a long way to go to unite the two cities of Atlanta. 146 years after her founding, Antioch continues to be a beacon of light in the season of darkness that surrounds her.

On October 7, 1918, the City Council of Atlanta ordered "all schools, churches, movie theaters, vaudeville houses, dance and billiard halls closed for two months." We are not sure whether Rev. Jerry Davis, Rev. B.T. Harvey, or Rev. Alfred C. Williams was pastoring Antioch in 1918 when the Spanish Flu became the deadliest disease in American history, but I stand on their shoulders. Knowing that Antioch survived that epidemic, I knew that she would survive the Covid-19 pandemic. I am eternally grateful to our Covid-19 Task Force that guided us through those difficult days with prayer, factual information, and wisdom in implementing the best practices to keep our Antioch congregation and surrounding community safe. We continued to worship and serve our community without a major outbreak because of their diligence.

Antioch has a long tradition of "doing the work." The congregation and community literally helped build our first church building nail by nail under Reverend Timothy Saine. When one of the calamities of the Great Depression was the loss of the church property to foreclosure, Rev. Timothy George and the congregation did the work to quickly recover it. To maximize the use of the gifts and talents of the congregation, Rev. D. T. George organized a number of auxiliaries, some of which continue to do the work today. Rev. W. Marcus Williams expanded that work by organizing a credit union and a daycare center. The Rev. Dr. Cameron M. Alexander changed the fiscal operation of the church to strict adherence to the biblical mandate of tithes and offerings. Through the faithfulness of the congregation and his stellar leadership, Antioch expanded her property holdings and programs to do the work of ministering to the needs of a larger membership and wider community. Today, our territory has been enlarged as we continue to serve this present age well beyond our walls, "going into all the world."

Thank you to our phenomenal Church Anniversary Committee for your visionary leadership. Spiritually—and physically—my heart has been pumping with excitement. We have enjoyed the stroll down memory lane that has involved all generations and look forward to upcoming events as we celebrate by "continuing to do the work."

Reverend K. L. Alexander

**Pastor** 

## ORDER OF SERVICE

## Celebrating 146 Years - A Homecoming Celebration

## "Continue to Do the Work!"

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2023

The Ringing of the Bell Bro. Donovan, Sis. Lisa, Bro. Blake, Sis. Logan, & Sis. Channing Kirkland
The Ringing of the Bell
The King Family: Bro. Geoffrey, Sis. Charlin, Sis. Alyse, Bro. Greyson, Sis. Cassidy, & Sis. Savannah
The Collins Family: Rev. Walter, Sis. Joy & Sis. Joanna Collins
New Members: Sis. Erma Davis, Sis. Rani McIver, Bro. James Coley & Bro. John Pollard
Entrance of the Word
The Call to Worship
Devotion
Scripture/Prayer
Song
Visitors Acknowledgement
Memorial Video
Baby Dedication Ceremony
Selection
Occasion
Homecoming "Half-Time"Drum Majors/Praise Team Dancers/KLA Step Team
Tithes & Offerings
Selection
Introduction of Speaker
SelectionAdult Choir
SermonRev. James S. Hill
Pastor, Pilgrim Baptist Church
The Invitation to Discipleship
Late Tithes & Offerings
Closing Remarks
Benediction

Dinner will be served downstairs in Fellowship Hall after service.

## **OUR SPEAKER**

# REV. JAMES S. HILL PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH



Reverend James S. Hill, M.Div. is a native of Valley, Alabama. He is the youngest of two sons born to the union of the late Mr. James C. Hill, Jr. and Mrs. Tolandra M. Hill. Reverend Hill accepted Jesus Christ at an early age. He was seven years old when he skipped down the aisle of Rehobeth Baptist Church (Valley, AL) under the preaching and pastoring of the late Rev. L. M. Smith.

Reverend Hill was educated in the Chambers County, Alabama public school system. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Alabama State University (1999) and a Master of Divinity degree in Pastoral Care and Counseling from the I.T.C. Morehouse School of Religion (2009) in Atlanta, Georgia. Reverend Hill is currently a doctoral candidate in the Doctor of Ministry degree program at Liberty University (Virginia).

Reverend Hill answered God's Call into the preaching ministry in 2001 and was licensed to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ on March 31, 2004 at Antioch Baptist Church North (Atlanta) by the late Rev. Dr. Cameron Madison Alexander. Reverend Hill was ordained in December 2014 by Rev. Dr. C.M. Alexander. Reverend Hill served at Antioch under the leadership of Dr. Alexander until December 2016 when he was called to pastor Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Beulah, Alabama.

Reverend Hill served as the pastor of Pleasant Hill from December 2016 until January 2022. Under his visionary leadership, several of Pleasant Hill's ministries were either implemented or restored and many men, women, and children accepted Jesus Christ in response to Pastor Hill's powerful, pointed, and poignant preaching and teaching.

In 2022, God had another assignment for him. In September of that year, God spoke to the membership of Pilgrim Baptist Church in the historic English Avenue neighborhood of Atlanta, and Reverend Hill was called to be their eighth pastor!

Reverend Hill is extremely passionate about preaching and teaching the Word of God and reaching those who have been marginalized by the mainstream. Pastor Hill believes that for the church to have its greatest impact in the local setting and the larger society, it must be dynamic not static, proactive not reactive, upwardly focused, inwardly attentive, and outwardly engaged. The church must be a collective body of Believers who are on the move for Christ. Reverend Hill unapologetically and unashamedly believes the major mission of the church is to "GO". Go and make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20). Go out into the highways and hedges to reach with the gospel of Jesus Christ those who are faithful, on the fringes as well as those who have been forgotten (Luke 14:16-24).

Reverend Hill is married to Mrs. Jasmin L. Hill. God has blessed their union with two children, Joshua James and Jadyn Adaya.

# Historical Highlights of the Antioch Baptist Church North

by: The Late Brother Barney Simms updated Highlights from 2010-2014 Highlights updated by Sis. Karen McKinney Holley - 2022

ince 1877, the Antioch Baptist Church North has stood in Atlanta as a beacon of hope and a place of refuge. For six generations, the congregational family has nurtured thousands of persons who have been counted among the least, the last, and the lost. As a church family, we celebrate our 146th Anniversary with a renewed commitment to build upon the remarkable record of charitable Christian service that has made Antioch one of God's best churches. The journey from 1877 to 2023 has not been easy, but it certainly has been rewarding! Those rewards and God's promise of eternal life give our ever-growing congregation inspiration and meaning to continue the journey "to see what the end will be."

The Congregation remembers those eight former slaves who, in their search for a safe and secure place to praise God, loosely formed a prayer band that eventually evolved into our beloved Antioch Baptist Church North, an Atlanta landmark known nationally as a flagship church in the struggle for human dignity and the plight of the less fortunate and the unsaved.

The Antioch Congregation's earliest meetings and worship services were held outside under the stars and in shanty one-room structures that our founding brethren called home. To fully appreciate the historical significance of the Congregation's founding, one must remember all the unsettling circumstances that were happening in Atlanta during the 1880s when the Antioch Congregation was founded. President Abraham Lincoln had recently freed the slaves when he signed the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863.

In 1864, General William Sherman destroyed and burned every important building in Atlanta during his vivid march across Georgia during America's infamous Civil War. With their new freedom gained at the end of the Civil War, thousands of former slaves with only the rags on their backs began to relocate to Atlanta from the great cotton plantations of rural south and central Georgia. Included in those numbers were the founders of our congregation. They, too, were traveling north in search of the new promised land.

One hundred and forty-four years ago, Atlanta was not the important city that it is today. The city was beginning to rebuild from the ravages of the Civil War. It was certainly not a city too busy to hate. Atlanta merchants and builders took advantage of the cheap labor and services of black people; knowing that they had worked as slaves with no compensation, they would hire four to five blacks for the wages of one white person. As a result, of this practice, Atlanta's poor white citizens were resentful and began terrorizing these former slaves for taking jobs away from them.

Adding to the confusion, the newly organized Atlanta newspapers began to distort and sensationalize feelings between Atlanta's blacks and whites. As a result, black people became too frightened to travel distances. By 1877, black people in Atlanta had become isolated in individual living wards and areas called "colored quarters." In the quarters that became known as Fifth Ward, there was not a church close to where our founding members lived for worship and rejoicing. A trip across town, through white quarters, to the nearest colored church was like putting one's life into the hands of the devil.

Out of this fear and the need to serve God, Oscar Young, Miles Crawford, Jordan Beavers, Lem Wright, and four other former slaves organized a prayer group, calling themselves the Bethursday Prayer Band because the "meetin' be on Thursdays." As the meetings grew in regularity, so did the number of persons attending. The meetings moved from house to house until the group was able to use space in a butcher shop where one of the members worked.

Eight years later in 1895, the members of the Bethursday Prayer Band borrowed \$200 from the Southern Home Building and Loan Association and purchased its first property, a dilapidated basement structure at number seven Wallace Street. It was a stretch, but the group agreed to pay back the loan at \$1.20 per month. While many of today's congregational members may get a smile from this fact, it was an unbelievable amount of money to be entrusted to uneducated, former slaves without any collateral.

The initial loan to purchase the Wallace Street property was paid off in record time in 1899. The congregation then, more than a century ago, faced the same challenge that the Antioch Congregation faces in 2023. They wondered how they would address and serve the needs of their growing membership in spaces that had become over-crowded and too small even though they had just purchased the property five years earlier.

Their dilemma in 1899 was a cause of great concern as they questioned their preparedness for serving God's people at the start of the 20th Century.

Today, the Antioch pastor, deacons, trustees, and membership face some of the same challenges and ask some of the same questions that the Bethursday Prayer Group asked. "How will we address the needs of an ever-growing membership and a community challenged by economic restraints during a struggling economy?"

In 1899, at the dawning of the 20th Century, the Bethursday Prayer Band renewed that initial loan and remodeled its basement structure to adequately serve its members. In addition, they changed their name and identity from the Bethursday Prayer Band to Antioch Baptist Church and moved into the 20th Century with jubilant enthusiasm and great excitement.

The founders should be commended on their choice of the name Antioch. It was a fine choice for it was at Antioch that the term "Christian" was first given to converts to the new faith, and it was Paul's point of departure on his missionary journey.

By the early 1920s, the Antioch membership had grown tremendously and now included a few property owners, skilled laborers, and a few other persons who had been exposed to education; some could even read and write. This was a time of rapid growth and expansion for our young congregation.

The names of the very early ministers who nurtured and served as pastors of the young Antioch congregation were never chronicled in written historical documents; however, oral histories and conversations with Antioch Pioneers identify the names of Rev. Jerry Davis, a Rev. Harris, a Rev. Briscoe, Rev. B. T. Harvey and Rev. Alfred C. Williams as early ministers who served at Antioch. These preachers are warmly remembered for courageously proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to our young congregational family.



1922-1927

In 1922, the Reverend Timothy Saine was called to Antioch and guided the young congregation through the 1920s. His leadership stressed the dignity of work and honest labor. He is especially remembered today for his leadership in the construction of Antioch's first "new" building. In 1924, the congregation borrowed three thousand dollars to build its "new" church using its recently acquired properties at Wallace and Gray Streets as collateral.

Antioch's first church building was no architectural wonder, but it was a fine example of civic architecture of the day wherein everyone in the congregation and community helped to build it. It was a stark clapboard structure housing the sanctuary atop a tall stone foundation that served as the first





Having been trained at Hampton and Tuskegee Institutes, Reverend Saine encouraged the members to prepare themselves and their children for opportunities in teaching, railroad employment, carpentry and other skilled jobs. His teachings fostered at Antioch an atmosphere of encouragement and hope and accounted for a remarkable level of family solidarity and the upward mobility of the young church.



1927-1943

In 1927, Revered Timothy George was called to lead Antioch. He provided guidance and leadership during the Great Depression when large masses of the congregational family found themselves unemployed following the famous stock market crash as Atlanta banks, businesses, and manufacturing companies closed. It is seldom talked about, but the young congregation could not meet its financial obligations and maintain the day-to-day financial operations of the church during this very difficult time. As a result, the church's property was foreclosed upon and sold on the steps of the Fulton County Courthouse. That was a sad time in the Congregation's history, but because of the membership's determined stewardship and faithfulness and the effective leadership of Rev. George,

the property was quickly recovered.

By 1940 when the City of Atlanta proposed building federal public housing in the community, Antioch had regained its anchor and its voice as leader of the community. The congregation was elated about the idea of decent public housing for the area, not knowing at the time, however, that Herndon Homes would displace the church building.

By an act of easement, the Housing Authority of the City of Atlanta paid the congregation \$8,300 for its Gray Street property. Not wanting to relocate from the area where the Congregation had been conceived, nurtured, and allowed to grow, Rev. George, the deacons, and the trustees agreed to purchase available property beginning at the southwest corner of Kennedy and Lambert Streets for sixteen hundred dollars. Antioch moved its wooden sanctuary from its Gray Street stone foundation to a newly-built foundation on Lambert Street. With the remaining funds, the Church made a few minor cosmetic changes to the building, but the warm-spirited feeling of the

congregation remained as it was.



1943-1963

Rev. T. H. George's son, the charismatic and energetic, Rev. D.T. George served as pastor of Antioch during the 1940's, 50's, and early 60's. During his pastorate, the church facilities were drastically renovated. Instead of relocating the Congregation during the Northside Drive expansion as the State Department of Transportation had suggested, Antioch remained at its location, turned its façade from Lambert Street, now called Northside Drive, to Kennedy Street, which has since been renamed Cameron M. Alexander Boulevard.

Rev. D. T. George restructured the organization of the congregation because he did not want just a church full of Sunday worshippers. He organized a number of auxiliaries to ensure the maximum participation from all segments of the congregation.

Many of those organizations are still in existence today and are important to the vitality of the Antioch Congregation. Included are the Deaconess, the Matronettes, the Fisherman Club, the Service Guild, the Nurses Aid, the Male Chorus, and the Progressive Garden Club. Choirs numbered 2 and 3 and the D.T. George Gospel Chorus have grown and merged into the Antioch Adult Choir. Rev. George was impaired by a stroke and retired in 1963.



1963-1969

The Rev. W. Marcus Williams became pastor of Antioch in 1963. He was young, energetic, and only 36 years old when he became pastor of the church. Rev. Williams was an excellent, yet controlled speaker, but is most often remembered at Antioch for his magnificent tenor voice.

Having found the Church in sound fiscal health, and having a keen interest in sociology, Rev. Williams geared the congregation's attention toward social programs that would benefit the membership. He organized a church credit union and a daycare center. In 1969, he resigned the Antioch pulpit and accepted a new challenge.



1969-2018

The Rev. Cameron Madison Alexander accepted the Call to Antioch in 1969. After 49 years of incredible service, his tenure as pastor was the longest in Antioch's history.

Under Pastor Alexander's dynamic and visionary leadership, the congregation grew from fewer than 500 persons to a membership that currently exceeds thousands. The Rev. Alexander was the driving force in the congregation's acquisition of more than 87 separate parcels of land to facilitate the daily operations of Antioch and to enhance future growth needs. Antioch's annual operating budget grew from slightly more than thirty thousand

dollars when he arrived as pastor to an access of \$5M based not on raffles, bake sales and gimmicks, but strictly upon the congregation's generous tithes, offerings, and gifts.

To maintain the many programs associated with Pastor Alexander's ministry and his vision for Antioch's future spiritual and economic development and growth, the Church staff grew from the one part-time employee who worked when Pastor Alexander arrived to 45 full- and part-time staff members. These employees manage church administrative services, plant operations, the transportation fleet, the Antioch Urban Ministries, the music program, the worship services, and the other various outreach activities and services that Pastor Alexander organized to service the needs of the membership and community.

Pastor Alexander is credited with providing visionary leadership for the planning and the execution of the most ambitious building and land acquisition program in the Antioch Congregation's history. During the late 1970s, he led the Congregation to purchase 28 acres of beautiful, wooded land in Southwest Atlanta in the Adamsville Community. It was to become the site of the Congregation's new worship complex. However, the Holy Spirit directed Pastor Alexander to change all of the relocation plans for moving the congregation to Southwest Atlanta when more pressing needs for serving God's people remained in our current inner-city location where the congregation has served since 1877.

During the late 1980s under Pastor Alexander's leadership, the congregation began a strategic acquisition of additional properties, purchasing single parcels of land surrounding the church facilities. To the surprise of many, and especially to the Atlanta business community, Antioch built its new multi-million-dollar worship center, which was dedicated in 1990, and its new administrative wing the following year at its current location. The land that the church purchased in Southwest Atlanta was eventually sold and became the site of a subdivision.

Most congregations experience membership decline during large building and acquisition programs, but under Pastor Alexander's guidance, the Antioch membership quadrupled causing him to expand the Church's outreach ministries ten-fold to meet the needs of new members and those continually coming to Antioch for help and for direction. Inspired by the six ministries in the



Book of Matthew that outline the Church's responsibility to the less fortunate, Pastor Alexander established Antioch Urban Ministries Incorporated (AUMI) in the early 1990s.

In 1991, as Chairman of the Board of AUMI, Pastor Alexander provided leadership in acquiring the 12-story Walton Hotel in downtown Atlanta. Valued at the time of purchase for more than \$15M, the hotel was transformed into apartments for the working homeless and persons

with noninfectious tuberculosis. The apartments were renamed the Madison House as a fitting tribute to the pastor whose middle name was Madison. The Church sold the building in 2012 to expand its ever-growing outreach ministries.

In 1992, the Ananias House was opened as a temporary home for recovering addicts. In 1994, Ruth's Place was opened as a temporary home for women recovering from addiction and Matthew's Place opened a home for those who are HIV positive or living with AIDS. Additionally, Pastor Alexander provided the leadership for the establishment of Project Redirection as an alternative to incarceration for first-time offenders, and Project Youth Redirection, a ministry for youth struggling and living in at-risk environments.

In 1997, Pastor Alexander led the Congregation in the purchase of the Selig business plaza located adjacent to our worship center for purpose of establishing the administrative offices of AUMI. Additionally, the former Danzig Motel in Northwest Atlanta on Chapel Road was also purchased, renovated, and at one time served as the home for Matthew's Place and to expand our service to

HIV-positive persons.



In 1999, the Congregation embraced Pastor Alexander's vision to purchase a multipurpose building at 590 North Avenue. Known to the Congregation as "the 590," the building became a central point of fellowship for congregational events, youth, and community activities.

In 2001, Pastor Alexander, as Chairman of the Bethursday Development Corporation, provided leadership in the purchase of more than eleven, "prized" acres of land located between Joseph E. Boone Boulevard and Jett Street. The purchase was considered a prize inasmuch as several developers wanted the property and its proximity to the Georgia World Congress Center. Later, four and a half acres of railroad right of way were purchased from the CSX Railroad. These acquisitions would become the canvas for redeveloping the English Avenue community.

In 2004, Antioch joined in celebrating the opening of the wonderful Gateway Apartment Community, a neighborhood development partnership opportunity spearheaded by the Bethursday Development Corporation. The apartment community provided 261 units of quality, affordable housing fronting Northside Drive. The complex was welcomed as the precursor for the continued and aggressive development of the English Avenue Community.

Continuing to focus of the development and revitalization of the English Avenue Community, the Bethursday Development Corporation completed the first phase of twenty-eight townhomes on Elm Street, just two blocks west of the Church in 2008.

In 2010, the City of Atlanta changed the name of Kennedy Street, NW to Cameron M. Alexander Boulevard as a tangible way for

the City to honor Pastor Alexander for his long and dynamic legacy of community service and civic leadership to the vitality of the City of Atlanta.

At the 2014 Annual Church Conference, the Reverend Kenneth L. Alexander was formally voted in as Co-Pastor. With pastoral experience, service as executive director of AUMI and trusted advisor to Pastor C.M. Alexander on matters relating to AUMI, Bethursday Development and real estate acquisitions, Rev. K. L. Alexander accepted the clarion call, uniquely qualified to serve this present age alongside Pastor Alexander.

While many congregations as old as Antioch often split and its members and leadership reorganize or struggle with leadership directions, under Pastor Alexander's vision, Antioch has successfully established eight missions: New Hope Mission, the Viking Mission, Lakemont Mission, Antioch Lakewood Mission, Antioch Madison House Mission, Antioch North Baptist Mission, Antioch Lithia Springs Mission, and the Antioch Community Mission at John's Creek. Of the eight missions, five have become strong, thriving congregational churches: Lakemont Missionary Baptist Church, New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, Faith Missionary Baptist Church, Loving Spirit Missionary Baptist Church, and New Horizon Baptist Church. During his long tenure as the illustrious president of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, Inc., Dr. Alexander provided the leadership for the establishment of the Land of Promise Mission. All of these new church congregations serve as living testimonies that Antioch's commitment to Christian Service is as strong, as dedicated, and as much needed today as it was in 1877 when eight former slaves came together for the first time in what would eventually evolve into our beloved Antioch Missionary Baptist Church North.

2019 - Present

Rev. K. L. Alexander, is the sixth pastor of Antioch Baptist Church North, and the son of the late Reverend Dr. C. M. Alexander and Dr. Barbara J. Alexander. A third-generation Baptist preacher, Pastor Alexander exhibits strength, courage, and transparency in his call to preach the gospel and addressing some of life's most pressing challenges and needs of the church. His powerful voice and strong ability to lead with a servant's heart was cultivated and nurtured at Antioch during his 50+ year membership.

On Sunday, March 31, 2019, the Reverend Kenneth L. Alexander, a resolute and God-fearing man of God was Consecrated as Pastor of the historic Antioch Baptist Church North. Reverend Alexander has remained steadfast in delivering messages of hope, encouragement, and redemption to all of God's people.

Carrying out God's directives given in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20), Pastor Alexander is more committed than ever to the pastorate and honoring the legacy of serving the least, the less and the lost. In 2019, his visionary leadership led to the completion of several major church and Antioch campus renovation projects. In 2022, he oversaw a critical sanctuary upgrade, including the installation of a state-of-the-art audio-visual system, new flooring, lights, and pew padding. Additionally, after storm damage, the roof was replaced. A Sanctuary Rededication Service and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was the lead-in to the 146th Church Anniversary Celebration.

Led by the Holy Spirit, Pastor Alexander demonstrated an unprecedented measure of leadership in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, keeping the congregation and community safe by moving to virtual worship service on the 3rd Sunday in March 2020, prior to government-issued shelter-in-place orders. Under his leadership, Antioch Baptist Church North Network (ABCNN) was launched, led by a production team dedicated to keeping our church family and friends connected virtually via Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and our church website. He established the Covid-19 Taskforce, a team of medical professionals and church leaders who were charged with providing recommendations, counsel and strategy for managing essential church operations and providing data-based guidance for the return to in-person worship. A phased-in re-entry with all safety protocols in place was begun on Resurrection Sunday, April 17, 2022. Worship services and Wednesday Night Bible Study continue to be streamed on social media platforms and many church worship, Christian education, outreach and fellowship opportunities continue virtually throughout the week: • Daily Morning

Devotion • Noonday Service • Sunday School • Sunday Worship Service • Thursday Night Bible Classes and Bible Study • Various Ministry Activities

Reverend Alexander is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Antioch Urban Ministries, Inc. (AUMI). AUMI serves as an advocate agency providing essential support to families in need, comprehensive substance abuse recovery services, housing for persons living with HIV, a program for seniors, and youth mentoring. The AUMI Food Bank provides for over 400 families each week through collaboration with the Atlanta Community Food Bank. AUMI nearly tripled its distribution of food during the height of the pandemic with over 30,000 clients receiving over one million pounds of food. Our food service program also expanded to include prepared hot meal distribution 3 days a week and food delivery to seniors. The Apparel Shoppe (formerly the Clothing Bank) distributes donated apparel, toiletries, shoes and other necessities to men, women and children weekly.

Antioch continues to serve as a beacon of hope within the metro-Atlanta community and beyond. Through partnerships, AUMI served as a designated Covid-19 testing site and continues to provide Covid vaccinations. The inaugural Antioch Urban Ministries' Recovery Walk in 2022 raised awareness about substance abuse and funds to combat it. AUMI also partnered with Morehouse School of Medicine on several initiatives in 2022, including a health fair, where basic vital health checks, such as blood pressure and cholesterol levels, healthy cooking demonstrations, educational and support materials were available free of charge.

Pastor Alexander co-led the first 40-Day Turn-Up in partnership with the founder of the program, Dr. Joseph Williams. The biblically-based program focused on healthy eating and exercise as well as weekly information and support sessions. The successful pivot to online sessions at the outset of the Covid-19 pandemic spawned an online program that now reaches thousands.

Concerned about the whole person, Pastor Alexander has been proactive providing mental health awareness events. He issued a call for mental health professionals in the congregation to establish a Mental Health Ministry. The ministry raises awareness about mental health issues and provides seminars and information on resources.

Pastor Alexander serves on several boards and committees specifically representing Antioch Baptist Church North and AUMI and focused on protecting the interests of our church, our members and those perceived as the least of these throughout the community:

• Westside Future Fund Board of Directors • Church Mutual African American Advisory Board • City of Atlanta Use of Force Advisory Council • Bethursday Development Board Chair • Treasurer of the Morehouse School of Religion Board of Trustees • General Missionary Baptist Convention, Inc.

Celebrating our 146th Anniversary as members of the body of Christ headquartered at Antioch North, like our founding Bethursday Prayer Band, we gather to collectively praise God. As stated in Hebrews 4:16, we will continue to go to God's throne. The church marquee, which was dedicated during Pioneers' Observance Sunday in 2019, stands as a welcoming beacon of light. As we continue to rely on God's grace and mercy, we will show grace and mercy to others, lighting the world as a symbol of hope, a place of refuge, and a living testament to the greatness and goodness of God.

## 146th Church Anniversary Committee

"Continue to do the work"

## Thanks to all those that made the 146th (Anniversary a success!!!

Deacon Van Twyman Sister Cheryl Twyman Sister Autumn Lewis Deacon Randy Williams Sister Michelle Williams Sister Deidre Brown -Vitalia Sister Gloriaphine Bailey Brother Robert Bailey Sister Algenon Roberts

Program and Banner Graphics Brother Reggie Tolbert Deacon Trimble
Sister Karen Jackson
Sister Regina Fuller
Sister Bonita Williams
Reverend Terry Hightower

### **ABCN COVID-19 TASK FORCE**

Rev. Kenneth L. Alexander-Pastor Dorothy P. Wiggins MD, FAAP-Chair Robert Bailey II, MPH Mother Dellia Collier Jesse Hood ScD MPH Autumn Lewis PharmD Lucretia Lyttle MBA, MSM Andre Mackey, PharmD Timothy Simon MD, FACS, FASCRS Johnnie Thomas, RN, BSN

#### **COMMUNICATIONS-COMMITTEE**

Sis. Fran Carter-Chair
Sis. Janet Boyd
Sis. Maria Hunter
Bro. Ray Hunter
Sis. Karen McKinney Holley
Sis. Myra Reeves
Sis. Karen Jackson
Bro. Reggie Tolbert

## LEGAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT-COMMITTEE

Rodney Floyd-JD-Chair Sonya Madison-JD Sheryl L. Heron MD, MPH, FACEP Deacon Clarence Anderson

#### **OPERATIONS-COMMITTEE**

Deacon Jerome Trimble-Chair Bro. Eric Alexander Deacon Clarence Anderson Bro. Lee Baker Bro. Bob Brown Brenda Eason PHD Bro. Allen Pendergrass Sis. Dianne Williams

#### **FACILITIES-COMMITTEE**

Bro. Lee Baker-Chair Bro. Eric Alexander Bro. Tracy Bulloch Dea. Bob Jones Bro. Danny Smith

#### **SECURITY-COMMITTEE**

Bro. Julius Simmons-Chair Bro. Lee Baker Bro. Bob Brown Bro. Milton Dodson Bro. Ray Hunter

#### AUMI

Rev. Terry Hightower-Chair Rev. Lester Duncan Rev. J. Scott Copeland

#### **RE-ENTRY TEAM**

A Huge thanks to the reentry teams for the support you rendered, time spent, talents and efforts in ensuring that our Congregation was welcomed back to in-person Worship safely.

You are Truly Appreciated.

ABCNN
Security Ministry
Audio/Visual
AUMI
Band
Choirs
Health Ministry
Deacons Ministry
Mothers Ministry

Ushers Ministry
Culinary Ministry
Volunteer Servers
Hospitality Ministry
Visitors Ministry
Added Members Ministry
Christian Education Ministry
Womanhood Ministry
Man Ministry

Griefshare Ministry
Facilities Ministry
Church Office Staff
Sunday Pastor Support
Care and Comfort Ministry
Youth Ministry
Finance Ministry
The Church At Antioch Newsletter Staff

# VIRTUAL ACTIVITIES DURING THE WEEK

**MORNING DEVOTION** 7:30 A.M.

NOONDAY SERVICE 12:00 NOON

#### **TERRY WEST BIBLE STUDY**

Every Wednesday 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

> THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS 7:00 P.M.

> SUNDAY SCHOOL



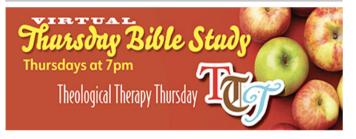
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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy Birthday Lady Lisa

You wear so many hats and you do it so gracefully. You are strong, beautiful, wise, priceless, unique and valuable. A woman of God, a sister, a friend, a loving wife, a mother, and a grandmother.

We Love You.

She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.

Proverbs 3:15











## WAYS TO GIVE

#### **Text to Give:**

Text ABCN to 73256 plus the amount you would like to give. (Example ABCN 50 to give \$50.00)

### **Givelify.com**

(Search for Antioch Baptist Church North on the App)

### **Online Giving - ACS**

http://www.antiochnorth.org/tithes.html

### Checks can be sent directly to:

Antioch Baptist Church North | P.O. Box 93219 Atlanta, GA 30377

Cash App - \$AntiochBCN

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Baptism and the Right Hand of Fellowship** will be held on Sunday, November 26th during the 10 am Worship Service.

Antioch, we are excited about this year's **2023 Toy and Food Drive**. Please bring your toys and non-perishable donations to the church on or by Tuesday, December 12th. Drop off bins are in the corridor outside Fellowship Hall.

**Calling all members with 29 years of service or less!** On Sunday, December 3, 2023, we would like to recognize your membership at the beloved Antioch Baptist Church North. Please stay tuned for further details.

**Sick and Shut-In Sunday** will take place on Sunday, December 10, 2023 immediately after our Worship Service. The Care and Comfort Ministry is seeking volunteers to assist in delivering gift bags to our Sick and Shut- in Members. If you are interested in participating, please see a ministry member in the Narthex or call the church office at 404-688-5679 for more details and to sign up.

**Attention Members**, if you have changed your name, email, phone number, address or have gotten married since you joined Antioch, we need your updated information for our records. Throughout the year we send communications out to the membership, and we want to make sure you receive them. You can update your information on Antioch's website or contact the church office at 404.688.5679.

Antioch's GriefShare is a support group to help and encourage you after the death of a spouse, child, family member, friend, or other loved ones. The virtual sessions are held on Mondays at 7:00pm. If you are interested in participating in the classes, you can sign up by sending an email to griefshare@antiochnorth.org or by visiting griefshare.org and searching for Antioch.

**Join us this week** for Morning Devotions at 7:30 am. and our Noon Day services.

**Birthday Recognition!** If you would like to be recognized on your special day, please visit our website for more information. Happy birthday to Lady Lisa Alexander, Sis. Linnie Williams, Sis. Anthea Evans, Sis. Charlin Miller-King, Sis. Tomeko Hambrick Little, Sis. Gean Jones, Sis. Ernestine Wardley, Sis. Felisia Martin, Sis. Narsha Graham, Sis. Gabrielle "Gabby" Lewis, Sis. Percy Grant, Sis. Luana Cesar, Sis. Beverly Dorsey, Sis. Michelle Williams, Bro. Jamaal R. Brown and Rev. Lester Duncan.

We received a thank you card from Brenda, Cindy, Deobrah & Jesse Jr. Rosser.

Please continue to pray for our members who are in bereavement, receiving treatment in hospitals, being cared for in nursing homes and convalescing at home. If you would like a member from our care and comfort ministry to call and pray with you, please contact the church office at 404-688-5679.

### Welcome Visitors!

Our Pastor, Rev. K. L. Alexander, and the entire Antioch Church Family, welcome you to our Sunday morning worship service. From your visit with us today, we hope you will feel the love of Christ and the sweet fellowship that comes from our love for him. This is our special way of providing for you a rewarding and memorable worship experience. God bless you, and we thank you for your visit.

### Care & Comfort Ministry Sick & Shut-In

#### Members in Nursing Homes & Rehabilitation Centers

Bro. Daniel Michael Adams - PruittHealth - Brookhaven, Atlanta, Rm. 204

Sis. Dorothy Compton - Serenity Empire Personal Care Home, Fairburn,

Rev. Zebulon Ellis, Sr - Fairburn Healthcare Center, Fairburn, Rm. 401

Sis. Catherine George - Anderson Mill Health and Rehab Ctr, Austell

Mother Annie Harris - Douglasville Nursing & Rehab Ctr, Douglasville, Rm. 222

Dea. Clarence Hicks - Governors Glen Nursing Home, Forest Park

Sis. Clara Smith - Decatur Center for Nursing & Healing, Decatur, Rm. 240 Bed B

#### Members Convalescing at Home

Sis. Zeporia Alexander
Bro. Charles Allen
Sis. Evelyn Battle
Sis. Debra Hodge
Bro. Tony Johnson
Bro. Rufus Kelly

Dea. Joseph Henry Beasley
Bro. Sebastian Maddox
Bro. Pleas Sonny Berry
Bro. Michael Martin
Mother Lillie Bowles
Sis. Sylvia McClain
Bro. Carl McCloud
Bro. James McCutchen

Sis. Ritha Cain Sis. Annie Moses Sis. Dorothy Cook Sis. Cheryl Nelson Sis. Rosalyn Curington Sis. Gloria Parham Sis. Denise Curtis Sis. Linda Peek Mother Pernell Davis Sis. Alexia Price Sis. Doris Dennis Sis. Cynthia Price Bro. Isaiah DeVaughn Sis. Sharonda Price Sis. Patricia Edwards Bro. Richard Raglin Sis. Connie Finch Sis. Debra Robinson

Bro. Darryl Gardner
Sis. Marian Russell
Sis. Andrea Godette
Bro. Randall Griffin
Sis. Karen Sales

Sis. Jackie Hines Sis. Candace Scott

Sis. Jessie Stafford Sis. Jennifer Stokes

Mother Willie Cookie Tuggle

Bro. Anthony Turner
Bro. Dewayne Walker
Bro. Robert Walker
Sis. Ellen Wilborn
Bro. Walter Wilcher

Sis. Lillie Willis Bro. Elwood Wilson,

Sis. Annie Williams

