

ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH NORTH
REV. C. M. ALEXANDER, PASTOR
COMMEMORATIVE SOUVENIR BOOKLET



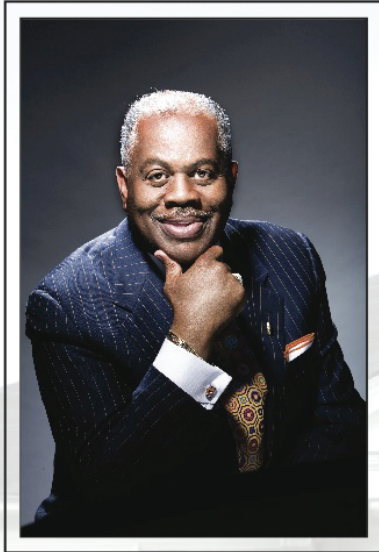
135th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY OBSERVANCE

*"Celebrating 135 years! He's been with us from the beginning...
We've Got a Testimony!..."*
John 15: 27

November 11, 2012 • 7:45AM & 11:00AM Worship Services

**BIBLE-BASED • CHRIST-CENTERED • HOLY SPIRIT-LED • MISSION-BOUND
FELLOWSHIP • EVANGELISM • DOCTRINE • STEWARDSHIP**

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Willie A. Watkins

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theme

Celebrating 135 Years - He's been with us from the Beginning. We've got a Testimony.

John 15:27

CONGRATULATIONS
TO **ANTIOCH**
FOR **135** YEARS AND
OUR **FIRST FAMILY**
FOR **43** YEARS



Rev. and Mrs. Cameron and Barbara J. Alexander
Trustee Eric (Pam) Alexander, Dea. Greg (Zephoria) Alexander,
Rev. Kenneth (Lisa) Alexander, and (Ray) Maria Hunter
Grand Children and Great Grand Children

"The Family is God's Secret Weapon against the Devil"

An Anniversary Message From the Pastor

November 11, 2012

My Brothers, Sisters, and Community Friends:



Today as the Congregational Family of the Antioch Baptist Church North gathers for worship and for the celebration of its 135th Church Anniversary, the occasion provides a glorious opportunity for us all to give praise and thanksgiving for the many abundant blessings that God has bestowed upon our congregation.

For a century and three and a half decades, the Antioch Congregation has anchored this community as a mighty fortress for serving God. Since 1877, our worship and our outreach services to God's people from this same community have made Antioch a cherished place of refuge for the spiritual and social needs of God's people who long for the goodness and the absolute joy that comes with God's saving Salvation.

As pastor, I remain humbled by the great history of this historic congregation and its gracious generosity in Christian Service for the building of God's kingdom. Antioch's long legacy of charitable Christian Service continues to demonstrate to the world that **He's Been With Us From The Beginning...and We've Got a Testimony!**

For all of us at Antioch, today is a special day for remembrances. Today, we celebrate the sacrifices of service that the members of this church have provided for the vitality of our congregation which has been evident through six generations of families and newly added members; starting with those eight former slaves who founded the Bethursday Prayer Band that evolved into our beloved Antioch Missionary Baptist Church North. As pastor, I stand proudly on the shoulders of gospel giants who provided sustained scripture-based spiritual leadership for this congregation long before I was called to the Antioch pulpit. For their service and for their "toiling in the vineyards," I am deeply indebted.

We are honored today to have as our very special guest preacher, the Reverend Andrew Young. Known internationally for his former public service as a United States Congressman, United States Ambassador to the United Nations, and Mayor of the City of Atlanta, Reverend Young views his highest calling as that of a God called preacher.

My heart felt thanks is extended to our Anniversary Committee for the exemplary planning and execution of our 135th Anniversary Celebration. Their leadership and their tenaciousness deserve our gratitude for a job well done.

Yours in God's service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cameron M. Alexander". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Reverend Cameron M. Alexander
Pastor

P I O N E E R S O B S E R V A N C E

W O R S H I P S E R V I C E

S U N D A Y , N O V E M B E R 4 , 2 0 1 2 • 1 1 : 0 0 A M

I like the silent church before the service begins. by Emerson

- The Call to Worship
- The Devotion.....Deacons Ministry
- The Glori Patri
- The Processional - 11:00am.....VOP Dance Ministry, Pastor, Ministers, Deacons, and Pioneers
- The Morning Hymn, #223.....*Solid Rock*.....Congregation
- 7:45am - M.A.D.D. for Christ Choir, Teen Dance Ministry, and Youth Verse Speakers**
- 11:00am - C. M. A. Male Chorus, Youth Dance Ministry, and Sunbeam Choir**
- The Announcements & Recognition of Visitors
- Pioneers Observance 11:00am Service
- Wedding Anniversary Recognition

THE LITANY OF PRAISE

MINISTER: *Let us stand for our Litany of Praise*

MINISTER: *We are...*

CONGREGATION: *Bible-based, Christ-centered, Holy Spirit-led, and Mission-bound*

MINISTER: *We stand on...*

CONGREGATION: *The four pillars, Fellowship, Evangelism, Doctrine, and Stewardship*

MINISTER: *So, let us...*

ALL: *Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the LORD he is GOD: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the LORD IS good; HIS mercy is everlasting; and HIS truth endureth to ALL generations.*

Psalm 100

The DOXOLOGY.....*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

The Offertory Prayer

Heavenly Father, deliver us from vanity, selfishness, and conceit. Touch our hearts, and help us to exercise the grace of sharing and giving. Lead and guide us, O Lord, as we offer our gifts. It's in the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen!

- The Tithes & Offering.....Deacons & Ushers' Ministries
- The Sermon Hymn.....Congregation
- The Sermon.....Rev. C. M. Alexander, Pastor

The Invitation to Discipleship

(Please refrain from walking during the Invitation to Discipleship)

Til We Meet Again



CELEBRATING 135 YEARS! ANNIVERSARY WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2012 • 7:45AM & 11:00AM

I like the silent church before the service begins. by Emerson

The Call to Worship

The Devotion.....Deacons' Ministry

The Glori Patri

The Processional.....The Pastor, Guest Preacher, Church Anniversary Committee, The Dance Ministry

The Morning Hymn #222.....*We've Come This Far By Faith*.....Congregation

7:45am - **Adult Choir, Vessels of Praise Dance Ministry, and BWT Verse Speakers**

11:00am - **Adult Choir, Youth Dance Ministry, and Hand Bell Choirs**

The Announcements & Recognition of Visitors

135th Church Anniversary Committee presentation: "I Have A Testimony"

THE LITANY OF PRAISE

MINISTER: *Let us stand for our Litany of Praise*

MINISTER: *We are...*

CONGREGATION: *Bible-based, Christ-centered, Holy Spirit-led, and Mission-bound*

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The Tithes & Offering.....Deacons & Ushers' Ministries

The Sermon Hymn.....*Amazing Grace*.....Congregation

Continued on next page

The Anniversary Sermon.....Reverend Andrew Young
Former United States Ambassador to United Nations, Former US Congressman, Former Mayor of Atlanta

The Invitation to Discipleship
(Please refrain from walking during the Invitation to Discipleship)
Special Anniversary Recessional

‘Til We Meet Again



135th Church Anniversary Reception - Fellowship Hall

Our Foundation-The Four Pillars

Fellowship is the union of Christian believers sharing their Christian experience, which is every Christian's responsibility. As Christians, we must assemble ourselves together to share, to learn and to gather strength from one another. Members are asked to attend all activities such as workshops, special services, etc., during special days or special events. (Hebrew 10:25), "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

Evangelism is the means for Christians to spread the news of God's goodness. Jesus commands us to evangelize and to be fishers of men. During special events and activities, members are asked to witness to at least one unchurched person and bring that person to our special activities. John 15:15, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain; that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, He may give it to you."

Doctrine is the system of teaching by which Christians must advocate the Word of the Lord. It is a set of Biblical principles and laws by which we are governed. As prophets, it is imperative for us to understand and proclaim the basic beliefs, practices and principles that make us unique as Baptists. Revivals, special activities, and other learning experiences are available to strengthen our beliefs. In addition to our ongoing Sunday School and Nurturing Baptist Church classes (Baptist Training Union), other services are provided in an effort for us to learn more about Baptist Doctrine. Mark 4:2, "and he taught them many things by parables and said unto them in His doctrine..."

Stewardship reminds us that as Christians, we are responsible for managing God's property. Stewardship involves Christians contributing, managing their time, talents, money and resources in doing God's work. We must recognize the fact that "the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof and they that dwell therein..." (Psalm 24:1). As owner, God will come back expecting us as Christians to give a report of our stewardship. As we wait for His return, we must demonstrate our commitment through our gifts of time, talent, and tithes. Members are encouraged to tithe consistently and cheerfully. Luke 12:42, "and the Lord said, who then is that faithful and wise steward who his Lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them portion of meat in due season?"

Antioch Baptist Church North works aggressively to serve this present age as a rock that is:

Bible-based: 2 Timothy 3:16, 17; Psalm 119:105

Christ-centered: John 14:6; Revelation 17:14; John 1:1; Matthew 28:18

Holy Spirit-led: John 16:7-14; Galatians 5:25

Mission-bound: Matthew 25:31-46

OUR 135TH ANNIVERSARY SPEAKER

Reverend Andrew Young

Former United States Ambassador to United Nations, Former US Congressman, Former Mayor of Atlanta



Andrew Young has always viewed his career through the lens of his first career—that of ordained Minister. His work for civil and human rights, his many years in public office as Congressman, United Nations Ambassador and Mayor, his leadership of the Atlanta Olympic Games, his advocacy of investment in Africa through GoodWorks International, and the establishment of the Andrew J. Young Foundation are all a response to his call to serve.

Ambassador Young brings a unique perspective formed by his wealth of experience in national and global leadership to his focus on the challenges of this era. He confronted segregation with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr and galvanized a movement that transformed a nation through non-violence. Young was a key strategist and negotiator during the Civil Rights Campaigns in Birmingham and Selma that resulted in the passage Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

He was elected to the U.S. Congress in 1972, the first African-American elected from the deep South since Reconstruction. He served on the Banking and Urban Affairs and Rules Committees, sponsoring legislation that established a U.S. Institute for Peace, The African Development Bank and the Chattahoochee River National Park, while negotiating federal funds for MARTA, the Atlanta highway system and a new international airport for Atlanta. His support for Jimmy Carter helped to win the Democratic Party nomination and election to the Presidency. In 1977, President Carter appointed him to serve as the nation's first African-American Ambassador to the United Nations, where he negotiated an end to white-minority rule in Namibia and Zimbabwe and brought Carter's emphasis on human rights to international diplomacy.

Ambassador Young's leadership as Mayor of Atlanta took place during a recession and a reduction in federal funds for cities. He turned to international markets for investments in Atlanta attracting 1100 new businesses, \$70 billion in investment adding 1 million jobs to the region. He developed public-private partnerships to leverage public dollars for the preservation of Zoo Atlanta.

Ambassador Young led the effort to bring the Centennial Olympic Games to Atlanta and as Co-Chair of the Atlanta Olympic Committee, he over saw the largest Olympic Games in history- in the number of countries, the number of athletes and the number of spectators. He was awarded the Olympic Order, the highest award of the Olympic Movement.

Ambassador Young retired from GoodWorks International, LLC, in 2012 after well over a decade of facilitating sustainable economic development in the Caribbean and in Africa to the business sector.

Ambassador Young has received honorary degrees from more than 100 universities and colleges in the U.S. and abroad. President Jimmy Carter awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom and France awarded him the Legion d'Honneur, the greatest civilian honor in each nation. He recently received an EMMY for Lifetime Achievement and in 2011; his portrait will become part of the permanent collection of the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. President William J. Clinton appointed him the founding chair of the Southern African Enterprise Development Fund. He serves on a number of boards, including: the Martin Luther King Center for Non-Violent Social Change, Barrick Gold, the United Nations Foundation and the Atlanta Falcons, the Andrew Young School for Policy Studies at Georgia State University and Morehouse College.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 2, 2012

I am pleased to congratulate you on your anniversary.

Throughout our Nation's history, places of worship have been a cornerstone of our communities. On this occasion, we are reminded of the abiding truth that each of us has the power to create a better world for ourselves and our children when we do God's work here on earth. As you celebrate this important milestone, I hope you will look back on your achievements and contributions with joy and pride.

I wish your congregation continued success and blessings in the years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", written in a cursive style.



STATE OF GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ATLANTA 30334-0900

November 11, 2012

To: The Antioch Baptist Church North

GREETINGS:

It is a great pleasure to extend my warmest regards to the Antioch Baptist Church North as you celebrate the 135th anniversary of your church.

The rich history of Antioch Baptist Church is marked by the loyal and dedicated service of its congregation, and you can take great pride that you are continuing the traditions of this Christian institution that has so enriched the community.

You have my best wishes as you celebrate this milestone in your church's history.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nathan Deal". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Nathan Deal

ND:ph



KASIM REED
MAYOR



CITY OF ATLANTA

55 TRINITY AVE, S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30335-0300

TEL (404) 330-6100

November 11, 2012

Greetings:

As Mayor of the City of Atlanta, I am pleased to congratulate the entire congregation of The Antioch Baptist Church North, as you celebrate your *135th Anniversary*.

The faith community symbolizes a tower of strength in our city. Your commitment to service and dedication to others help fortify the spiritual heritage of Atlanta. I want to thank the pastors and members of The Antioch Baptist Church North for your unrelenting efforts.

As you mark your *135th Anniversary*, remember that your generous contributions are never in vain because you symbolize shining examples for all to follow. While you work collectively to inspire the youth, the elders and the communities around you, be encouraged and know that we appreciate your labor of love.

Congratulations again on this special occasion. On behalf of the people of Atlanta, I am proud to extend best wishes for many more years in ministry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kasim Reed". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Kasim Reed



Dr. Clarence Moore, President
P.O. Box 92340
155 Joseph E. Lowery Boulevard, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30314

October 31, 2012

Rev. Dr. Cameron M. Alexander, Pastor
Antioch Baptist Church North
540 Cameron M. Alexander Blvd., N. W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30318

Dear Dr. Alexander and Antioch Baptist Church North,

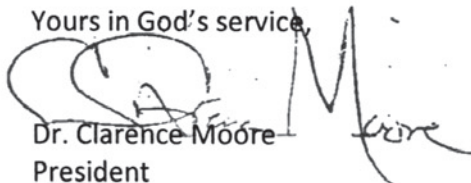
I am pleased, as President of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, Inc., and a son of Antioch, to extend my congratulations to you as you celebrate your 135th Church Anniversary. You have long-served as a beacon of light in this community, the state and the nation through your dedicated efforts to improve the lives of people through committed Christian service.

We are indeed facing some difficult times and in times of difficulty, people look to the church for spiritual guidance. You have always been there with an open door, an open ear, and outstretched hands.

Pastor Alexander, you have influenced the lives of many through your witness, preaching and teaching, and you are to be commended for your exemplary leadership and distinguished service. I am confident that the same love for Christ, enthusiasm and dedication that have characterized your ministry thus far will mark your future service.

"By grace through faith we have come this far." (Ephesians 2:28) May your actions and works continue to be guided by the Holy Spirit. You have my best wishes for a successful celebration.

Yours in God's service,


Dr. Clarence Moore
President

Historical Highlights of the Antioch Baptist Church North

By Brother Barney Simms

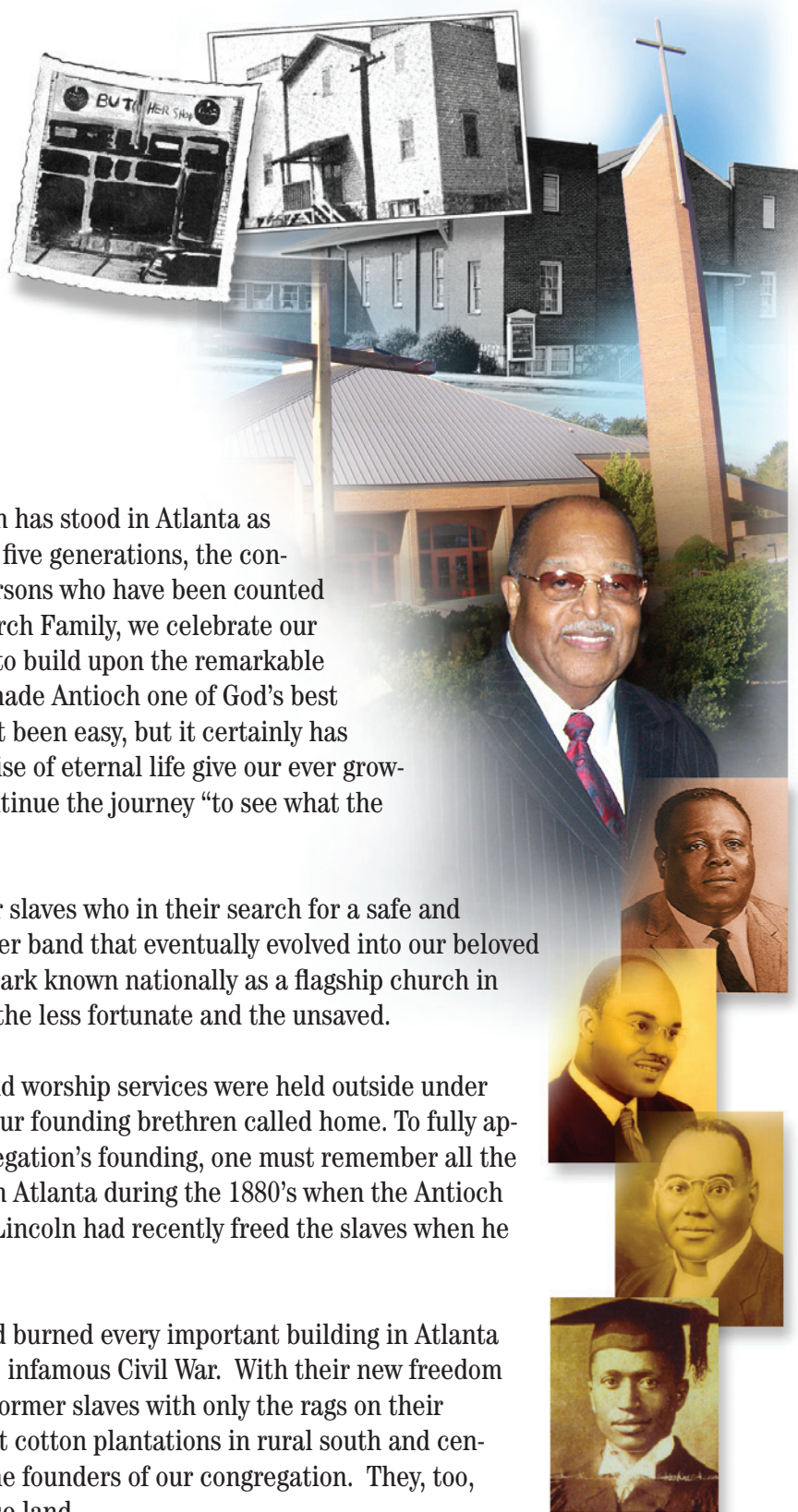
Since 1877, the Antioch Baptist Church North has stood in Atlanta as a beacon of hope and a place of refuge. For five generations, the congregational family has nurtured thousands of persons who have been counted among the least, the last, and the lost. As a Church Family, we celebrate our 135th Anniversary 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 2012 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 or 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 1880's when the Antioch Congregation was founded. President Abraham Lincoln had recently freed the slaves when he signed the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863.

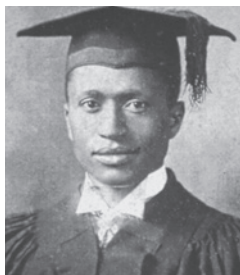
In 1864, General William Sherman destroyed and burned every important building in Atlanta during his vivid march across Georgia during the infamous Civil War. With their new freedom gained at the end of the Civil War, thousands of former slaves with only the rags on their backs began to relocate to Atlanta from the great cotton plantations in 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 promise land.

One hundred and thirty-five 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 labor and services of black people; knowing that they had worked as slaves with no compensation, 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 numbers 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 congregation 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 2012. They wondered how would they 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 spaces that have become over-crowded and too small?"



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 1920's, 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 of 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.

Antioch: 1922-1927

In 1922, the Reverend Timothy Saine was called to Antioch and guided the young congregation through the 1920's. 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 fellowship hall.

Having been trained at Hampton and Tuskegee Institutes, Reverend Saine encouraged the membership 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.

Antioch: 1927-1943

In 1927, Reverend 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 their 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.

Antioch: 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.

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 Matronetts, the Fisherman Club, the Service Guild, the Nurses Aid, the Male Chorus, the Progressive Garden Club, and choirs numbered 2 and 3, and the D.T. George Gospel Chorus all of which have grown into the Antioch Choir. Rev. George was impaired by a stroke and retired in 1963.



Antioch: 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.



Antioch: 1969-Present

The Rev. Cameron Madison Alexander accepted the Call to Antioch in 1969. After 43 years of incredible service, his tenure as pastor has been the longest in Antioch's history. Under his dynamic and visionary leadership, the congregation has grown from less than 500 persons to a membership that currently exceeds 14,000. The Rev. Alexander has been the driving force in the congregation's acquiring 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 has grown

from slightly more than thirty thousand dollars when he arrived as pastor to an access of 5 million dollars 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 has grown 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 has organized to service the needs of the membership.



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 1970's, 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 1980's under Pastor Alexander's leadership, the congregation began a strategic acquisition of

additional properties and 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 540 Kennedy Street 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 his outreach ministries ten-fold to meet the needs of new members and those continually coming to Antioch for help and for directions.

Inspired by the six ministries in the Book of Matthew that outline the Church's responsibility to the less fortunate, Pastor Alexander established Antioch's Urban Ministries in the early 1990's. In 1991, as Chairman of the Board for AUMI, Pastor Alexander provided leadership in acquiring the 12-story Walton Hotel in downtown Atlanta. Valued at the time of purchase for more than 15 million dollars, the hotel was transformed into apartments for the working homeless and persons with noninfectious tuberculosis. The hotel was renamed the Madison House as a fitting tribute to the pastor whose middle name is Madison.

In 1992, the Ananias House was opened as a temporary home for recovering addicts and in 1994; Ruth's Place was opened for women dealing with similar problems. Also in 1994, Matthew's Place was opened as a home for those who are HIV-positive or living with AIDS. 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 to youth who struggle and live within at risk environments.

In 1997, Pastor Alexander led the Congregation into purchasing the Selig business plaza located adjacent the worship center to house the offices and administrative staff for the Antioch Urban Ministries. In addition, the old Danzig Motel that was located in Northeast Atlanta on Chapel Road was purchased, renovated, and at one time served as the home for Matthew's Place to better serve more persons who are HIV-positive.



In 1999, again under Pastor Alexander's leadership, the Congregation purchased a multi-purpose building at 590 North Avenue. Known to the Congregation as "the 590," the building hosts a variety of congregation events and is used most frequently for youth activities.

In 2001, Pastor Alexander, as Chairman of 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. Four and half acres of railroad right of way were later 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 Bethursday Development Corporation. The apartment community provides 261 units of quality affordable housing fronting Northside Drive. The complex is welcomed as the precursor for continued and aggressive development of the English Avenue Community. Complementing the apartment homes is a 400 car parking deck, an 8,000 square foot retail component, full sized swimming pool, and interior courts with wonderful green spaces. In 2008, Bethursday Development Corporation completed the first phase of twenty-eight town homes on Elm Street, just two blocks west of the Church.

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; five of which 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.

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.

Today, no one can predict all the challenges that the Antioch Congregation will face during the 21st Century. But as members of the body of Christ known and loved as Antioch, our Congregation will use the observance of its 135th Anniversary to reflect upon our past and make a collective pledge that our membership will stand strong on God's promises and remain receptive to the move of the Holy Spirit. We will continue to pray that our beloved Antioch will remain anchored to the traditions of our founding brethren in our spirit and in our commitment to God's Word.

As a congregation, we will all work aggressively to keep Antioch as a symbol of hope...a place of refuge...and a living testament to the greatness and goodness of God. In so doing, we will continue the journey and build upon a legacy of strong Christian Service worthy of continued emulation as a very special place close to our Savior's throne.

*Happy
Anniversary
Antioch!*

Theme

Celebrating 135 Years - He's been with us from the Beginning. We've got a Testimony.
John 15:27

Antioch Baptist Church North Salutes its Pastor and First Lady



Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Alexander

A Charge to Keep I Have and A God to Glorify,
Who gave His Son my Soul to Save and fit it for the Sky
To Serve the Present age my calling to fulfill,
Oh may It all my pow'rs engage To do my Master's Will

Do you Know Him? Have you tried Him? Is He Alright?

Thanks for Serving the Present Age

WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY

Weekly Prayer Meeting and Bible Study is held at the Church every Wednesday evening. For your convenience, dinner is served at 5pm and Bible classes begin at 6:15pm. These classes provide instructional and training opportunities for us all to gain deeper insights into the teachings of Jesus Christ. At 7pm, Pastor Alexander will lead the Prayer Meeting and provide guidance and spiritual insights into meaningful ways in which we can strengthen our personal relationships with God.

TIS' THE SEASON OF GIVING!

Please start bringing your canned goods and non-perishable items to fill our Thanksgiving boxes so that Antioch can help those less fortunate to experience a joyful Thanksgiving. Receptacles have been placed around the church to receive your donations. Thank you.

SERVING THE LEAST OF THESE...

TELEPHONE HOPE LINE MINISTRY offers prayer and confidential support. The phone number is 404-522-HOPE(4673).

HUMAN SERVICES MINISTRY

For the week ending October 27, 2012, 436 food boxes were distributed. The value of the groceries was \$10,770. A total of 8,925 pounds of food was received for distribution, 695 meals served to AUMI residents, and 346 community meals served.

CLOTHING BANK

Sixty-three (63) families received goods through the Clothing Bank.

Worship Service Coordinator

7:45am & 11am - Sis. Regina Fuller

Security Chiefs on duty

7:45am - Bro. Edward Gilmore, 11am - Bro. Charlie Williams

Trustees on duty

7:45am - Bro. Barney Simms, 11am - Sis. Ollie Cooper

Health Professionals on duty

7:45am - Sis. Felicia Jackson, 11am - Sis. Felicia Jackson

CHRISTMAS TREE EXTRAVAGANZA!

The 8th Annual Christmas Tree Extravaganza and the December Church-wide Birth Month Fellowship will be held on Friday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m. in the 590 Building. Everyone is invited to bring a new toy for ages 0-16 years as we prepare for the Christmas Tree Toy Gathering. Sharing and caring this year, the Antioch congregation family will submit the names of a family that would appreciate receiving a beautifully decorated Christmas Tree.

The decorated box and forms are available in the Northex to submit the names. The drawings will take place on the night of the event.

Ministry participation forms are available in the Northex and the deadline for completion is Sunday, November 27.

Tree Decorating Days are: Tuesday, December 4, from 1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Thursday, December 6, from 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

For more information, please contact Sis. Bonita Hammond, Sis. Joy Rollins or Rev. Terry Hightower at 404-688-5679.



SURVIVORS SUNDAYS

In the continued spirit of celebrating our 135th Church Anniversary... We've Got A Testimony! Antioch is observing its first series of "Survivor Awareness Sundays." In partnership with the American Cancer Society, we are recognizing November as Diabetes Awareness Month. On Sunday, November 25, during both services, members who are true "Survivors" of Diabetes will be recognized and honored through prayer and a testimony. Antioch, We've Got A Testimony! Are you ready to share yours?

EMPOWERMENT OUTREACH

The Empowerment Outreach Employment Ministry (EOEM) meetings are held every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month in Room 2 of the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 PM.

TERRY WEST BIBLE CLASS

Members and friends are encouraged to join the Terry West Bible Class every Wednesday morning, from 10am to 12 Noon in Burden's Rest. Come share in the fellowship and study the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School Ministry requests your presence at Sunday School. Today's lesson is **"Weathering the Storm"**. The Scripture comes from **Acts 27:1-2, 33-44**. The lesson for next Sunday will be **"Helping One Another"**, **Acts 28:1-10**. We have classes for every age group so we look forward to seeing you in Sunday School at 10:00am today.

SHUT-IN'S SUNDAY

In celebration of our 135th Church Anniversary, Antioch's Second Annual Shut-In Sunday will be observed on Sunday, December 9, after the 11:00 Worship Service. The committee is asking all Antioch members to volunteer and participate. Volunteers will visit the sick & shut-in. Please register today after each service in the Northex of the church. A planning and orientation session will be held on Saturday, November 17th. For more information, call the church office at 404-688-5679.



If you have a loved one who is recently deceased and was a member of Antioch for 25 continuous years or more, you are invited to provide a lasting memorial in the form of a Memorial Plaque that will be purchased and mounted in the Antioch Memorial Garden located on the South wing of the church. A nominal fee of \$100 covers the cost of the Memorial Plaque and its mounting. The Memorial Service will be held on **Sunday, November 25, during the 7:45am** worship service. This opportunity is made available only once per year to family and friends who want the memory of their loved ones memorialized at the church. Contact Sis. Diane Williams at 404-688-5679 to request additional detailed information on this most important opportunity.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Attention ALL College students and parents who are members of Antioch and in good standing. Sophomore, Junior, and senior college students and students who are working on their Masters can now apply for a Memorial/Book Scholarship. These scholarships are sponsored through special giving from families and special groups within our church as led by our Pastor. You may secure an application from Sis. Wendy Harding, Sis. Catherine Huilt-Johnson or Dea. Jerome Trimble. Please complete the form and return to a Scholarship Committee member. The deadline for all completed applications is November 25.

AUMI BLACK TIE GALA



The Antioch Urban Ministries, Inc. (AUMI) will celebrate its 20th Anniversary at a Black Tie Gala on Friday evening, November 30, 2012, at seven o' clock. This glorious evening of fellowship will be held in the ballroom of the Atlanta Airport Marriott Gateway Hotel located behind the Georgia International Convention Center at 2020 Convention Center Concourse. Tickets are \$50.00 per person and table seating for 8 is \$400.00. You do not want to miss this extraordinary affair. Members and friends are encouraged to attend.

BIRTH MONTH FELLOWSHIP

The November Birth Month Fellowship will be held on Friday, November 16, 2012. Under the theme, "Thanking God for the Gift," members will prepare a showcase of talent to emphasize the diversity of Antioch but the oneness in the body of Christ. Remember the date!!!



ANTIOCH PANTHERS



SPORTS MINISTRY

The Sports Ministry will host a Parent/Player/Coaches and Cheerleaders Basketball information class on Tuesday, November 13, 6:30 p.m. in the 590 Building. The ministry is in need of coaches, team moms, team managers, and transportation for the 2013 Basketball season. Interested participants are asked to attend this important meeting. If you need additional information, please contact Cheerleader Coach, Sis. Julia Byron, Coach Kentrell Porch or Rev. Charles Walker.

*Happy
Anniversary
Antioch!*

Care & Comfort Ministry Sick & Shut-In List

Members in Nursing Homes & Rehabilitation Centers

Sis. Ozrie Canady – AG Rhodes/Wesley Wood Rehab Ctr.
Sis. Mary Carson – Emeritus Assisted Living
Bro. Henry Claybrook – Life Care Center of Lawrenceville
Sis. Lillian Edinburgh – Riverdale Place Healthcare
Sis. Frances Harden – Triad of Parkview Nursing
Sis. Bettye Harris – Nursecare of Buckhead
Sis. Eunice Harrison – Manor Care Health Service
Sis. Billie Hartley – College Park Healthcare Center
Mother Mary Hood – Signature Healthcare of Buckhead
Mother Earnestine Shaw – Westminster Commons Rehab
Sis. Rosalie Thomas - Summerset Assisted Living
Mother Lula West – Traditions Health and Rehab
Sis. Roselle Wright-Signature Healthcare of Buckhead

Members Convalescing at Home

Bro. John Alexander	Sis. Gwendolyn Johnson	Bro. Jesse Rosser
Sis. Rosa Ashe	Bro. Joseph Johnson	Bro. Fred Samuels, Jr.
Sis. Bernice Brown	Sis. Stephanie Johnson	Sis. Janie Starks
Sis. Robertine Bryant	Bro. Phillip Lyde	Bro. Walter Wilcher
Mother Mattie Chivers	Bro. David McCier	Sis. Anne Williams
Bro. Jesse Davis	Sis. Sylvia McClain	Mother Dorothy Williams
Bro. Bernard Futch	Sis. Ramona Moore	Sis. Ida Williams
Sis. Minnie George	Sis. Sallie O'Bryant	Bro. James Williams
Bro. Carlton Hendrix	Sis. Mary Perkins	
Sis. Shante Holiday	Sis. Cynthia Price	
Sis. Pearla Holmes	Bro. Richard Raglin	
Mother Elizabeth Johnson	Sis. Ruby Rhodes	

*Beloved, I wish above all things that
thou mayest prosper and be in health,
even as thy soul prospereth.*

3 John 1:2





The Coca-Cola Company
congratulates
Antioch Baptist Church North
on its
135th Anniversary



*Committed to uplifting the
Atlanta community*