

ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH NORTH
144TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY



Virtual
Pioneer Sunday!

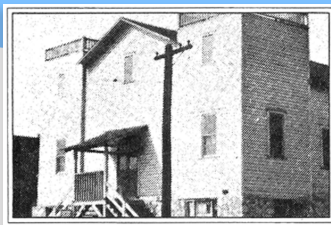
10:00 AM · November 7, 2021

“Keep Pressing On”

Philippians 3:14

144th
Virtual
**Anniversary
Celebration**

10:00 AM · November 14, 2021



Antioch Baptist Church North
Rev. Kenneth L. Alexander, Pastor

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

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AN ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

November 14, 2021

Greetings Antioch Family



Jesus said in Matthew 16:18, “And I say unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” We celebrate that God has allowed His church, Antioch Baptist Church North to serve, worship and praise for 144 years. Antioch’s humble beginnings as the BeThursday Prayer Group began from the desire of former slaves to worship and praise God. That first Prayer Group named itself BeThursday simply because the meeting would be on Thursdays. The focus of those first meetings was the simple and magnificent opportunities to commune with God through prayer.

They did not meet on Sunday for worship service. They didn’t have a pastor, deacons, choir, ushers, or any of the many other auxiliaries that we benefit from now, but they had a deep desire to take their cares, burdens, and hopes to God in prayer. We find ourselves many times wondering what we should do regarding situations we are in or how best we can serve the Lord, especially in times like these. I offer this to you: there are times when it’s best to go back to the basics. Prayer is not the last thing that we should do. Prayer is the first thing. Prayer is not what we do when all else has failed, even though it will still work then. Prayer is what we should do always.

Three words found in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 tell us to “Pray without ceasing.” The next verse, 5:18 tells us, “In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” We praise God today for the prayers of all those who came before us. We are ‘Antioch Strong’ because of the deep abiding faith of our former pastors, deacons, mothers, auxiliaries, and all our members who sacrificed, prayed, and trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ. They fought a good fight, and they finished their courses and laid a spiritual foundation built on the solid rock, Jesus Christ.

Each age has its challenges. Those who came before us had theirs and we have had and are having ours. Our recent challenges have not broken us because the Lord is with us. We have been hit hard by this world’s troubles, but we stand rejuvenated, revitalized, and recharged. Amid the pandemic, social injustice, racism, and hatred, we continue to engage, edify, and encourage each other and the world in the name of Jesus. Jesus has endued us with power from the Holy Ghost and allowed us to take His passion and pivot in the new normal and press on and see what the end will be.

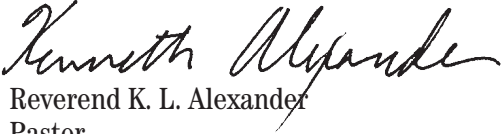
Our congregation has grown in services that we offer for members and social ministries that address the teachings of Jesus Christ in Matthew 25:35,36: “35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.” As we battle the discomfort of not being able to gather and fellowship the way we are accustomed, God is renovating our edifice and updating it to serve this present age. People are accepting Christ as their savior and renewing their relationships with God through the platforms and outlets God has given us. Much like the early church when it was forced to scatter, we are now reaching more people than we were before. So, I ask you, after 144 years, what say ye? If God be for us, who can be against us?

As we celebrate 144 years, let us not be weary in well doing. Let us “bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:2). We must not let the storms of life separate us from the love of God or each other. Paul encouraged Timothy to endure afflictions and do the work of an evangelist. We strive to continue to develop ways to connect to each other and reach the masses. “The world is hungry for the living bread. Lift the Savior up for them to see. Trust Him and do not doubt the words that He said, I’ll draw all men unto me.”

Paul told the Philippians in chapter 3:14, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Paul, while facing great adversity, wrote these words to the believers at Philippi to encourage them. Though the adversities we face today are great, we must remember to continue to encourage others. The adversities are great, but our God is greater, so let us Press On. Press on through the storms. Press on through the trials. Press on through the grief. Press on through sickness.

Yes, we press on after 144 years of pressing. We press on because those who came before us pressed on. We press on because we know something at the end is waiting for us. We press on because Romans 8:18 tells us, "For I **reckon** that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." We're pressing on the upward way, new heights we're gaining every day, still praying as we're onward bound, Lord plant our feet on higher ground.

Happy Anniversary Antioch Baptist Church North!


Reverend K. L. Alexander
Pastor

A TRIBUTE TO ANTIOCH PIONEERS

By: Kaylan Johnson



My name is Kaylan Johnson, a senior attending St. John's University located in New York City, but most importantly I am a direct product of the countless guidance, lessons, prayers and unconditional love that I have received from the pioneers at Antioch, my church home.

The dictionary defines the word "pioneer" as *a person who is among the first to explore, settle and build a solid foundation in any given area*. This truly defines our pioneers of Antioch. For 30, 40, 50 even 60 or more years of membership, our pioneers have stayed steadfast and unmovable. Can all my pioneers say Amen? Say Amen for keeping each and every single generation that has walked through Antioch's doors, including myself, grounded. Grounded so that we too can explore and maintain the solid foundation of our beloved Antioch. Bible-based, Christ-centered, Holy Spirit led, and Mission bound. It is because of your faithfulness and your sacrifices that we can say "***Selah! my my my, what about that?***"

On behalf of all future pioneers and the entire church family, **WE LOVE YOU** and are **SO** very thankful for each and every single one of you.

TODAY WE CELEBRATE YOU THE INCREDIBLE PIONEERS OF ANTIOCH!

HIGHTLING PIONEERS & FUTURE PIONEERS



Gilbert Robinson

Member since 1995

Family members and the church being in neighborhood of the “Bluff” are what led Gilbert to Antioch. His aunt, Deborah Mallory invited him to join her for a Sunday service and the rest is history.

Gilbert has fond memories of working with Mother Miles and several Deacons visiting and serving communion to the sick and shut in.

Gilbert is an active member of the CMA Male Choir, M.A.N., and SWAT (Saints with A Testimony). He works faithfully in the AUMI Food and Clothing Bank on Saturdays. He is honored to be asked by the deacons to help serve at the Communion Table.

His longevity at Antioch can be attributed to the “family feeling” at Antioch and the many auxiliaries that keep members engaged at Antioch, i.e., Bible Study, Food Bank, SWAT, etc.



The Brights

Julian Member since 1994

Ashley member since 1997

Aubrey

Growing up at Antioch

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” -Proverbs 22:6. This scripture has a very profound impact in both our lives, because it was instilled in us by our phenomenal late pastor Reverend Doctor Cameron Madison Alexander. Because of his vision and love given to us both, we knew how to follow God’s path that he prepared for us. Even if the path wasn’t always clear, our pastor and church family taught us to pray and never lose faith.

Growing up a preacher’s kid carried with it a standard that we had to maintain. It took some time to realize that while those expectations can be tough, God has his own expectations for us. Expectations that we have to aspire towards if we are to follow the path he has for us. Whether it be through the bell choir, the quartet, various other choirs, and ushering; just being of service in the church helped me to be intentional in my giving and empathetic to those who struggle with sin in the same way I do. Church showed me how deep love can go when they went above and beyond as they supported my family as I was recovering in the hospital. I even met my wife Ashley in the church, and the loving encouragement from all the members who watched us grow up helped us as our love continued to evolve. To the point now where we are celebrating the addition of our daughter to our loving family. As Christians, we are all a part of the body of Christ and as they support me, I will be there for them also, because that is what growing up in the church has taught me.

Throughout my life experiences I strongly believed if it wasn’t for the lord, my loving grandparents, and amazing church family on my side, I wouldn’t be the woman I am today. My involvement in the youth ministry has truly helped me find my passion for teaching children. I make it my mission to teach my students daily about the love God has blessed us with. Whether it’s a new math problem, reading a book, or learning how to write your name, nothing is ever too hard with God in your corner. True love is always celebrated in our church; through the relationship between our pastor, the late Reverend Doctor Cameron Madison Alexander and the late Mrs. Barbara J. Alexander, or Wedding Anniversary Sunday, it is something only possible through God and constant effort from both man and wife. I grew up with my husband Julian in the church, but God did not reveal that to either of us until much later. God reveals blessings to us when we are ready to receive them. Our marriage and the birth of our daughter Aubrey are proof of what God can do.

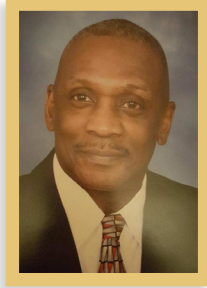
We grew up together in the church and fell in love with each other before we knew what the word meant. God shows us that kind of love everyday, oftentimes when we don’t deserve it. Our church taught us to appreciate God’s blessings and to pass them on to the least of these. We plan to instill in Aubrey the same life lessons that our families and church passed on to us. So that when she is older, she will know who God is for herself.



Ida Allen

Member since 1976

Ida Allen was invited to attend Antioch by the late Ethel Smith. The two worked together for the City of Atlanta, and Ms. Smith always spoke positively about her church family. Ida decided to attend service and she never left. Ida joined Antioch in 1976. Ida is a member of the Anthem and Adult choirs and Sunday School. Ida said that Antioch is a great church of fellowship and is family oriented. You are treated so warmly and feel as if you are a part of a big family.



Dale Sams

Member since 1994

Dale was led to Antioch by an acquaintance. He needed a church on the bus route at the time and he was "seeking spiritual understanding" and Antioch was just what he needed.

Dale works with the AUMI Food and Clothing Bank, SWAT, CMA Male Choir and serving at the Communion Table.

Dale attributes his longevity at Antioch to "the way the Word was taught." He says that the way the Word is taught has helped him grow into becoming the man God wants him to be. He also says that at the time he joined ABCN, he didn't realize how dynamic Rev. C.M. Alexander was in Atlanta until he started attending the retreats at the Land of Promise.



Gwen Williams

Member since 1947

Gwen Williams comes from a family of Antioch pioneers. Her mother, Annie Saylor, was a member of Antioch along with her uncle, Deacon Thomas Wilcher. Ms. Williams has been a member of Antioch for seventy-four years. As a child, she could hear the late Deacon Noble Fleming ringing the church bell for Sunday school. Her family lived on Kennedy Street so she could hear the bell ringing from home; she knew that meant it was time for Sunday school.

Gwen has been involved in many auxiliaries; WMW Choir, Service and Cultural Guild, 1st Timothy, the Junior Verse Speakers, the Adult Choir and ASK ministry. "When I think of Antioch, I always think of the great choirs and the fellowship among everyone. You never meet a stranger at Antioch."



Bruce Marshall

Member since 1991

A friend invited Bruce to come to Antioch on several occasions. Although that friend is no longer a member of ABCN, he is glad he made the decision to keep coming. Having been raised in the CME church, he was attending a United Methodist church in Atlanta before settling at Antioch, but after attending ABCN several times, he made the decision to join.

Bruce is a member of the CMA Male Choir, M.A.N. and the AUMI Food and Clothing Bank where he serves every Saturday that his schedule permits.

Antioch's commitment to community outreach and its never-failing spirit to help the neighborhoods close by is what stands out to Bruce, which he feels attributes his longevity at ABCN.



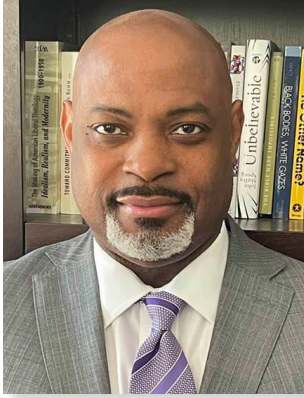
Louanna Nix

Member since 1985

On December 29, 1985 Louanna Nix was led by the Holy Spirit to attend Antioch Baptist Church North, this would be her first visit. After listening to the WMW Choir sing and our late Pastor Rev. C. M. Alexander preach, she knew without a doubt this would be her new church home. Louanna is a member of several auxiliaries: ASK Ministry, Care and Comfort Ministry, Health Ministry and the Adult Choir. When asked what factors that contributed to her longevity Louanna says, "God placed me at Antioch because this is where he needed me to be, so my spiritual growth can be rooted and grounded in God's word. Antioch is also special to me because of the friendships. I'm close to many and a servant to all because in this life true friendships are very few."

OUR ANNIVERSARY SPEAKER

THE REVEREND FREDRICK D. ROBINSON



Rev. Robinson is the former Interim Pastor of Holy Covenant United Church of Christ in Charlotte, NC and former Executive Director of Mecklenburg Ministries, Charlotte's oldest interfaith network. He is also a former member of the Charlotte Clergy Coalition for Justice and a life-time member of the NAACP where he served as First Vice President for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Branch.

Rev. Robinson earned advanced degrees from Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary (Master of Arts in Religion and Christian Thought), and Chicago Theological Seminary (Master of Sacred Theology in Social Transformation). A 2014 Fellow of the Black Theology and Leadership Institute at Princeton Theological Seminary, he was recently selected as an "Emerging Theologian" for the Freedom Center for Social Justice's 2018 conference on Liberating Theologies. He is currently working on his Doctor of Ministry from Emory Candler School of Theology in Atlanta, GA.

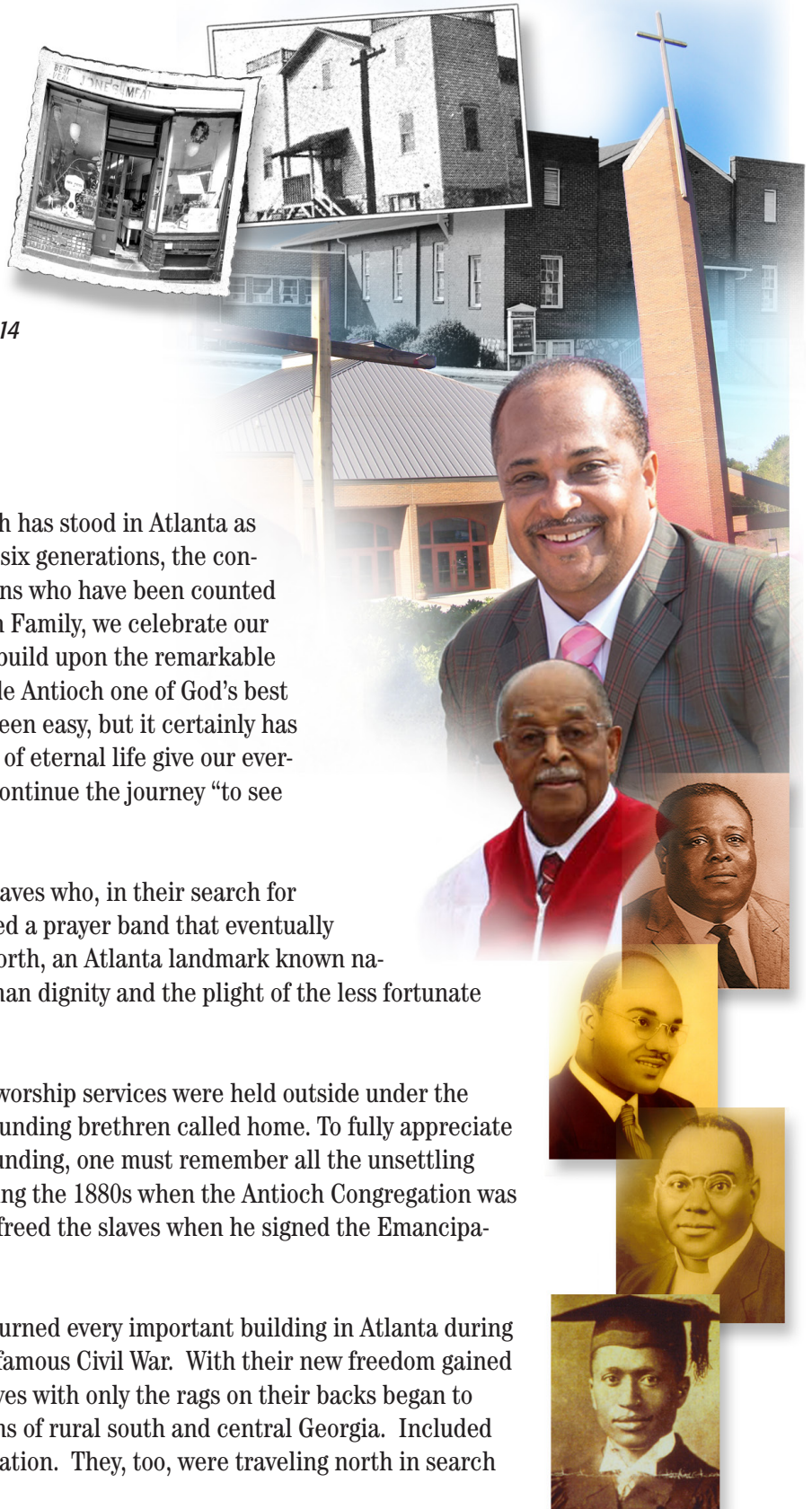
Rev. Robinson is also the former pastor of the Mount Gilead Missionary Baptist Church in Atlanta as well as the former Moderator for the Cabin Creek Missionary Baptist Association. Prior to arriving at Mt. Gilead in May 2006, he served as the 11th pastor of the Mt. Zion First African Baptist Church in Cordele, Ga., as well as the chairman of the Gum Creek Missionary Baptist Union, a division of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, Inc.

An accomplished, award-winning journalist, he has over 20 years of experience as an editor and writer where he has covered the following issues: Faith and values, the family, the black church, state and local taxes, business development and entrepreneurship, the criminal justice system, education, politics, and welfare reform. He has been published in numerous newspapers and magazines, including *Patheos*, *Black Enterprise*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *CNN*, *Atlanta Constitution*, *The Los Angeles Times*.

A native of Atlanta, he has been married to Felicia Renee Williams for 32 years. They have three children, Fredrick Daniel Jr., 29; Kyra Ashley, 23; and Jordan Michael, 20.

Historical Highlights of the Antioch Baptist Church North

By: *The Late Brother Barney Simms – 2010*
Bro. Simms updated *Highlights of History from 2010-2014*



Since 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 144th 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 2021 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 "meet-in' 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 2021. 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.

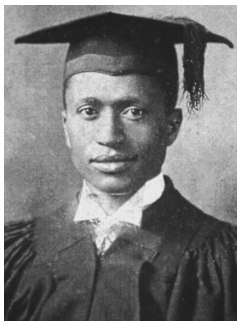
Today, the Antioch pastor, deacons, trustees, and membership face some of the same challenges and ask some of the same questions that the Bethursday Prayer Group asked. "How will we address the needs of an ever-growing membership and a community challenged by economic restraints during a struggling economy?"

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 fellowship hall.



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, 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 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 excess 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 multi-purpose 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

As the sixth pastor of Antioch Baptist Church North, Rev. K. L. Alexander is 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 lead to the completion of several major church and Antioch campus renovation projects.

Focusing on the health and well-being of our congregation at a time when high blood pressure, diabetes heart disease and other illnesses plague our community, Pastor Alexander co-lead our first 40-Day Turn-Up in partnership with the founder of the program, Dr. Joseph Williams. The biblically based program focused on healthy eating, exercise as well as weekly teachings and support. The impact was significant with 135 members participating in the program and a total of 2035 pounds lost.

This year, Pastor Alexander has demonstrated an unprecedented measure of leadership in response to COVID-19 including the launch of Antioch Baptist Church North Network (ABCNN) led by a production team dedicated to keeping our church family and friends connected VIRTUALLY via Facebook, YouTube and our church website. Throughout the week members and friends experience the following virtually:

- Daily Morning Devotion
- Noonday Service
- Sunday School
- Sunday Worship Service
- Thursday Night Bible Classes and Bible Study
- Various Ministry Activities

Rev. Alexander is committed to ensuring that the Antioch membership receives the WORD of God. This is evidenced in the church having Vacation Bible School, Youth In Action Sunday and Fall Revival virtually.

To ensure that our church and the services provided through AUMI are compliant to guidelines during COVID-19, Pastor Alexander established the COVID-19 Taskforce, a team of medical professionals and church leaders charged with providing recommendations, counsel and strategy for managing our essential church operations. The COVID-19 Taskforce is also monitoring all data from the Centers for Disease Control as well as state and local guidelines.

In the community, Antioch continues to serve as a beacon of hope within the metro-Atlanta community and beyond. During the pandemic, AUMI provided over \$100,000 in small business loans. Additionally, through our partnership with Fulton County, we have provided more than \$350,000 in rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to residents.

Our response to COVID-19 through AUMI includes a designated COVID-19 testing site with over 5,635 tests administered to date. A total of 279 persons were also vaccinated. In addition to expanding our food service program to include hot meals, AUMI nearly tripled its distribution of food with 29,317 clients receiving over one-million pounds of food.

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
- General Missionary Baptist Convention and the National Baptist Convention, USA Inc. Board of Directors

Today, no one can predict all the challenges that our 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 144th 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.

The church marquee, which was dedicated during Pioneers' Observance Sunday in 2019, represents a welcoming beacon of light for everyone. As a congregation, we will commit to 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
144th
Anniversary Antioch!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIRTUAL ACTIVITIES DURING THE WEEK

MORNING DEVOTION

7:30 A.M.

NOONDAY SERVICE

12:00 NOON

MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY

7:00 P.M.

TERRY WEST BIBLE STUDY

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

THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

7:00 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

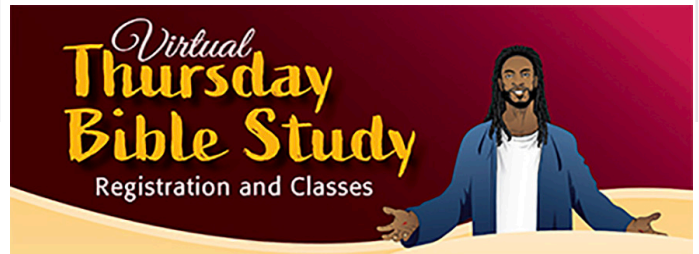
9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.

More info to come.



Visit the Antioch web site for more information about the ads below:

www.antiochnorth.org



ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED



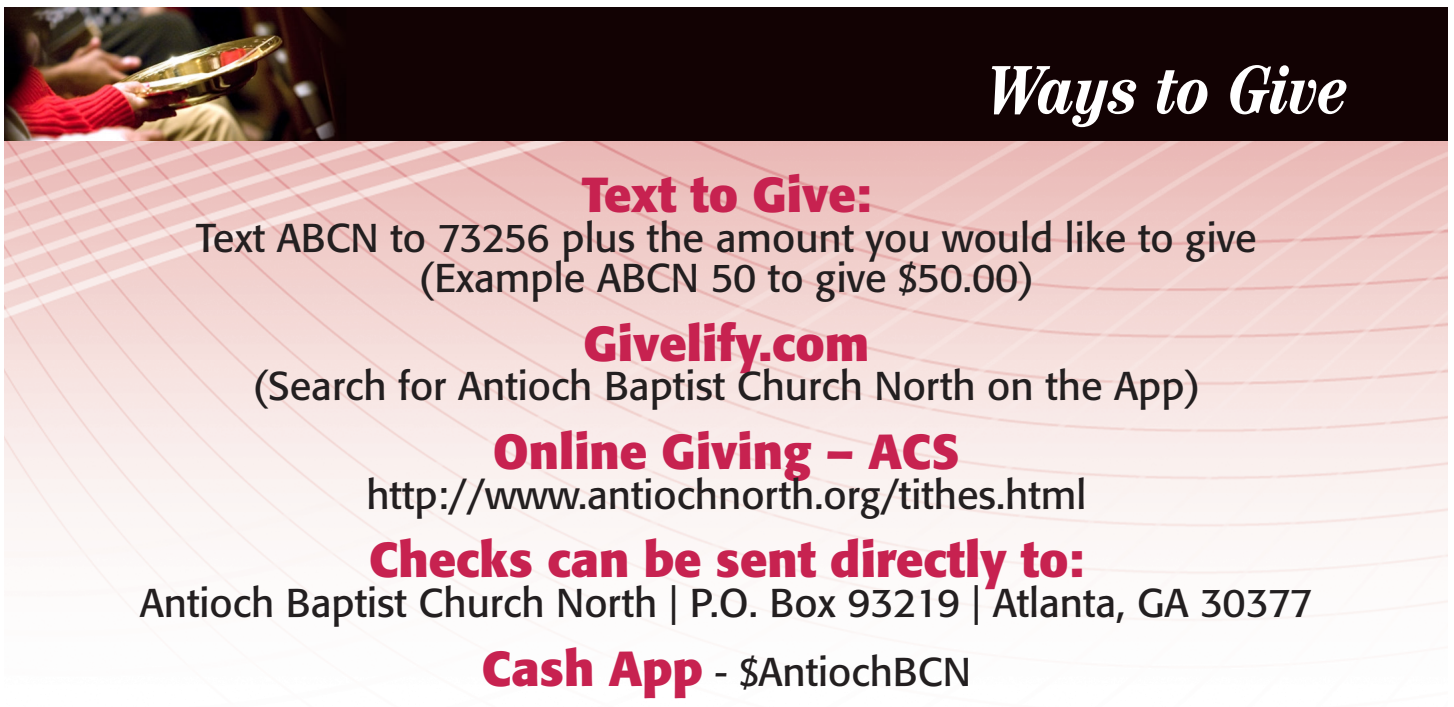
Womanhood Ministry

POWER HOUR
Tuesdays at 7pm
on Zoom

SelfCare SATURDAY
1st and 3rd Saturdays
at 10am on Facebook Live

thankful THURSDAY
Thursdays at 7am
on Zoom

AntiochWomanhoodMinistry@gmail.com



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

144th Church Anniversary Committee

"Still Standing On the Solid Rock"

*A Special Thanks is Extended
to the
144th Church Anniversary Committee!*

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

Proverbs 3:15



*Happy Birthday
Lady Lisa!*

Wednesday, November 17th

Care & Comfort Ministry *Sick & Shut-In*

Members in Nursing Homes & Rehabilitation Centers

Mother Grace M. Brooks – Atria Mableton Senior Living, Austell, Rm. 119
Sis. Miriam Crawford – Bonterra Nursing Ctr, Atlanta, Rm. 126
Sis. Dora Dallas – Sadie G. Mays Health & Rehab Ctr, Atlanta, Rm. D-23
Sis. Catherine George – Anderson Mill Health and Rehab Ctr, Austell
Mother Annie Harris – Douglasville Nursing & Rehab Ctr, Douglasville, Rm. 222
Mother Mary Hicks – Encompass Health Rehab Hospital, Newnan

Members Convalescing at Home

Bro. Daniel Michael Adams	Mother Eunice Harrison	Sis. Sharonda Price
Sis. Zeporia Alexander	Sis. Debra Hodge	Bro. Richard Raglin
Sis. Evelyn Battle	Sis. Pearla Holmes	Mother Beulah Rosser
Dea. Joseph Beasley	Mother Ann Louise Houston	Sis. Marian Russell
Bro. Pleas Sonny Berry	Sis. Elizabeth Johnson	Bro. Fred Samuels, Jr
Bro. John Paul Blanton	Bro. Tony Johnson	Sis. Candace Scott
Dea. Gilbert Bowles	Sis. Denise Jones	Sis. Jessie Stafford
Mother Emma Broomes	Bro. Rufus Kelly	Sis. Barbara Stanford
Sis. Jacqueline Brown	Bro. Phillip Lyde	Bro. Clinton Stanford
Bro. Lewis Brown	Sis. Sylvia McClain	Mother Willie Cookie Tuggle
Bro. Eddie Clark	Bro. Carl McCloud	Bro. Anthony Turner
Bro. Henry Claybrook	Sis. Gloria McWilliams	Bro. Dewayne Walker
Sis. Dorothy Cook	Sis. Annie Moses	Bro. Robert Walker
Bro. Joel Cook	Sis. Cheryl Nelson	Sis. Margaret Watts
Sis. Ruth Dallas	Sis. Gloria Parham	Mother Ellen Wilborn
Sis. Doris Dennis	Sis. Linda Peek	Bro. Joe Wilborn
Bro. Stanley Gaines	Bro. Charles Petherbridge	Bro. Walter Wilcher
Bro. Darryl Gardner	Sis. Roberta Petherbridge	Sis. Annie Williams
Sis. Andrea Godette	Sis. Betty Phillips	Sis. Sallie Williams
Bro. Randall Griffin	Sis. Cynthia Price	Sis. Lillie Willis