

Continued from cover: Parrish family thankful to the church

though, is Daniel's story.

He is the fifth of six sons born to Dwight and Princess

They had many questions.

"We didn't know what to expect, but we knew we'd work



Dwight and Princess Parrish with Daniel and his brothers

Parrish. His brothers are Dwight Jr. (30), Dwayelle (28), Dwytree (who went to glory at age 18), Jeremiah (13), and Stephen (8).

Dwight Sr., the son of Ethel and the late Deacon Frank Parrish, grew up at Antioch North and he's bringing his sons up the same way.

And so it is no surprise Daniel has always loved God, the church and Rev. Alexander.

"Sometimes we have to sit in the balcony just so he won't go to the pulpit," said his mother Princess Parrish.

Just four months before Daniel was born, the Parrishes would learn something that would forever change their lives and the lives of this family of eight. He was born with mild Down syndrome, a chromosomal disorder.

"I was five months pregnant and we knew nothing about Down syndrome," said Princess Parrish.

She wondered whether or not Daniel would make it.

dition that presents some challenges, but with care and support, most children with Down syndrome grow up to have healthy, happy, productive lives.

"He's a normal kid and we try to keep things as normal as possible," said Dwight Sr. "But we're protective because we know his limitations."

In one way or another, the condition has changed the entire family.

"God blessed us with Daniel because before Daniel, and until I started understanding things, I thought people [with Down syndrome] would never function on a normal level," said Jeremiah, Daniel's brother. "Now I understand that he's a regular person."

Daniel is a fourth grader at University Community Academy. He's working on improving his speech but he makes it known that he loves to eat noodles and he loves to sing. His favorite song: "Thank you

Jesus."

Dwight and Princess Parrish say they have the same big dreams for Daniel, the same as they have for all their children.

"We want them to be the best they can be. We want them to be real. We want them to get an education because education is key," said Dwight Sr. "One day a teacher told us that Daniel would grow up and be able to work at Kroger, but I see more than that for him."

Princess says she wants her sons to not be considered "endangered species."

"I want them first of all to be saved. I want them to be strong young black men who can take care of themselves and their families," she said. "I want them to be leaders."

And what about Daniel; what does he want?

Well, he wants to be as close to Pastor Alexander as possible.

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Happy 131st Church Anniversary!



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November 2008

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DON'T FORGET TO VOTE! TUESDAY, NOV. 4



Daniel Parrish, 11, wants to be as close to the pastor as possible.

The story behind the smile

You can see the smile in his eyes when Pastor Cameron Alexander calls him out from the congregation to the pulpit.

On this particular Sunday – the last in September – Alexander called for Daniel Parrish and it wasn't at all unusual. It was what Daniel did that Sunday, however, that would become a moment etched in the minds of all who attended services that day.

Casually, and without a second-thought, Daniel, 11, took

a seat in the pulpit. Not just any seat — Pastor's seat.

It was a tender moment embraced by the church with light laughter, a picture of love and one few will ever forget.

Even if you don't know his name, many at Antioch have some knowledge of Daniel, his sweet spirit, smile and bright eyes. He is no stranger to the hearts of the Antioch or her guests.

What members may not know,

Two men who soar

Two men of Antioch were recently honored by a women's magazine for their community service.

Women Looking Ahead gave Antioch trustees Bill Clement and Barney Simms two of its 10 "Men Who Soar" awards on October 11 at a black-tie affair at the Intercontinental Ballroom in Buckhead.

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Mission becomes Baptist Church

While the physical church was not filled to overflowing on this historic occasion, the Holy Spirit overflowed, and the sanctuary was saturated with joy as the Antioch Loving Spirit Mission officially became Antioch Loving Spirit Missionary Baptist Church, and the Rev. Ervin L. Richards was installed as its first pastor.

For years, the mission had moved from place to place. Now it has a permanent home.

Continued on page 5

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



My Brothers and Sisters:

As a congregational family, all of us should be excited as we prepare to witness the celebration of our 131st Church Anniversary. I feel so privileged and so honored to have been called almost 40 years ago to pastor this great, historic church.

When this congregation was founded in 1877, just twelve years after slavery, violence against Blacks was still the norm along with disenfranchisement, segregation practices, and economic exploitation. Democratic participation for Blacks was still alien in too many places. While some seeds of liberty were sown, it would take many years for those seeds to come to fruition during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950's and 60's. With this month's historic national elections, we must not forget from whence we have come!

Even with the strains of the intimidating climate of 1877, the eight brethren who founded the Bethursday Prayer group which evolved into our beloved Antioch Baptist Church North were not deterred. They heard the voice of God saying, "Upon this rock I will build my church," and their hearts, souls, and minds remained faithful, trusting, and courageous. Their staying power is the impetus for our anniversary celebration.

As a congregation, we have come a mighty long way since 1877...from a modest "borrowed" butcher shop for worship and prayer...to a multi-million dollar worship center. Such a journey should make us humble and uplift our spirits as we celebrate our Antioch pioneers, especially since their spiritual roots can be traced to a powerful legacy of charitable Christian service that has become the hallmark of our congregation. The willingness of our founders and our pioneers to "watch, wait, and witness" should serve as a barometer for all of us to be vigilant stewards of that which has been entrusted to us as we march to Zion.

As pastor, I look forward to our glorious 131st Church Anniversary on Sunday, November 9, 2008. We will celebrate His love for us and give thanks for His continued protection and provision. During our remembrances, we will acknowledge the tenaciousness of those former slaves who founded this congregation and whose faith weathered the storms of bigotry and indifference. We will also pay special tribute to those spiritual giants (Rev. Timothy S. Saine, Rev. Timothy H. George, Rev. D. T. George, Rev. Marcus Williams, and those whose names history has since forgotten) whose leadership and service were key to the preservation of the Antioch fellowship.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. (Psalms 118:23)

Yours in God's service,

Rev. Cameron M. Alexander, Pastor

ADDED MEMBERS

Antioch added 18 members to the family, including 12, who were Baptized. The members, listed with their birth month, are:

- Taylor Lewis, February
- Ketara Davis, November
- Kiana Varnado, December
- Javon Savage, October
- Lydia A. Jackson, February
- Cannon Butts, August
- Elijah O. Barkley, December
- Joshua E. Johnson, October
- Gillian Johnson, February
- Ivette Grissom, December
- Kia Carlisle, January
- Jmal Carlisle, December

The following persons received the Right Hand of Fellowship under Christian Experience

- Oreta Timmons, August
- Amelia Ann Pinkston, July
- Michael H. Carlisle, May
- DeDe Carlisle, December
- Kelvin Lewis, September
- Tirrell Bennett, November

There will not be a Baptism in November. It will be held on December 17.

A salute to strong black women

There are examples of strong black women throughout Antioch Baptist Church North but recently two of them were honored publicly for who they are and how they're known.

Linda M. Harper was selected "Woman of the Year" and Nivek Anderson "Young Woman of the Year," representing Antioch in the Salute to Black Mothers by the Concerned Black Clergy of Metropolitan Atlanta.

They were honored at a luncheon Oct. 25 at the Marriott Hotel.

Harper, a mother of three and grandmother of two, has been a member of Antioch for over 28 years. She is married to Jerry L. Harper.

During her years at Antioch, she served with the Anthem/Acappella Choir, Women's Missionary Society, Fisherman's Ministry, Christian Education and Antioch School of the Bible, and as a Sunday School teacher. Currently, she is the coordinator of the AIMM (Antioch's International Macedonian Missionaries) Ministry.

She has served as the direc-



Sis. Linda Harper



Sis. Nivek Anderson

tor of the NCEI Employment Resource Center, Coordinator, Development and Planning, and currently holds the position of assistant to the director of human resources at Antioch North.

Prior to joining the Antioch/AUMI staff, she taught in the DeKalb County school system, and worked in other capacities across the community, including positions at Emory University Hospital.

She is a member of the Board of Directors, Antioch Urban Ministries, Inc., former member of the National Association of Fundraisers, current member and former officer of the Gamma Sigma Sigma National Service So-

rarity Alumni Association, former member of the National Association of Public School Educators.

Anderson, daughter of Dea. Clarence and Deborah Anderson, is a junior at the University of Georgia, where she is majoring in Child and Family Development.

The former Tri-Cities High School valedictorian has twice been named a presidential scholar at UGA. The honor recognizes students who have earned a 4.0 grade point average and 14 hours of credit during the preceding semester.

After graduating from UGA, she plans to attend graduate school.

Antioch Baptist Church North extends congratulations and best wishes to the following couples:

September 20: Shatavia Alexander and Borquaye Thomas, Mr. & Mrs. Borquaye Thomas

September 27: Lanika Hawkins and Kerry Blackmon, Mr. & Mrs. Kerry Blackmon

October 4: Shandana Bronson and Lenward Daniely, Mr. & Mrs. Lenward Daniely

October 18: Dana Caldwell and Wayne Pleasant, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Pleasant, Jr.

October 25: Deiadra Queary and Frederick Sawyer, Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Sawyer



Scholarship deadline approaching

Attention all high school sophomores, juniors, seniors, college students and graduate students. Memorial Scholarship and Book Scholarship Applications for the 2009 Spring Semester are available until Nov. 16.

See members of Scholarship Ministry or Scholarship Advisory Board for details and an application.

NOTE: Parents of out-of-city students may contact scholarship ministry. All applications must be returned by Nov. 30.

Bible Quiz Hidden Books

If you look carefully at these sentences, ignoring punctuation, you'll be able to find the names of some books of the Bible. There's only one to a sentence.

1. HE PLAYS BANJO BADLY, BUT SINGS WELL.
2. TIPS, ALMS, INHERITANCES: ALL ARE TAXABLE.
3. MAN NAMES EUGENE. SISTER NAMES JUDITH. NO FURTHER INFO.
4. I'M AT THE WINDOW LOOKING OUT ONTO THE LAWN.
5. I AM A FRANCOPHILE, MONSIEUR, ET VOUS?
6. NUR EINMAL? ACH! ICHBIN ENTTAUSCHT!
7. HE NEVER WENT OUT WITHOUT TAKING A WALKING STICK.

BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS: 1. Job 2. Psalms 3. Genesis 4. Matthew 5. Philimon 6. Malachi 7. Kings

Managing our time

It's not often that we think about children needing to manage their time.

Time management is typically something that an adult must deal with. These days, though, children have to do more multi-tasking with homework, sports, music rehearsals, entertainment activities, social life and Antioch activities. And so it begs the question: how are they getting it all done?

Children have to be taught time management and the best way to teach is by example, experts say. Here's a look at some ways to help improve parent and child time management skills:

- Get plenty of Rest: Schedule a set bedtime for everyone. Children, especially, need a lot of sleep — at least 8-10 hours.
- Eat a balanced diet: Plan proper meals for you and your children. Proper nutrition is essential for a healthy brain.
- Allocate physical activity: Everyone needs some form of physical activity.
- Create a to-do-list: Write down all tasks and set.
- Plan using planners or journals: It is important to keep track of all activities. If necessary, set up a chart of daily and weekly activities.
- Prioritize activities: Look at all activities and determine which are most important and have to be done right away.
- Organize your surroundings: You will save time if you don't have to step over and look through clutter.
- Don't procrastinate.



Another Antioch star

Some high school students find it tough to manage their time between school and extra-curricular activities.

It's not unusual for students at Antioch to juggle staying current on homework, competitive in soccer, band, and orchestra and participate in church functions. This sounds overwhelming, but there are some students who are doing even more, attending both high school and college.

Take for instance, Ashley Nicole Phillips, daughter of Eric and Cynthia Winins.

At 16, the high school junior spends two days a week at the New Schools of Carver and the rest of the week at Georgia State University, where she enrolled in September.

It's hard work that should pay off for Ashley. After passing all her high school and Georgia State classes, Ashley will graduate with a high school diploma and a two-year Associates Degree. She will be able to attend any other college with only two years to complete.

"So far my grades and feedback received from my professors speaks volumes to my ability to function in areas beyond the regular high school classroom," Ashley said.

This summer, Ashley's dedication led to what she considers one of her most rewarding experiences. She had the opportunity to travel and study abroad for two weeks in Japan where she learned how the Japanese live and the difference between American and Japanese culture.

Ashley's dedication also extends beyond the classroom. She is a member of the Beta-Club, Honor Roll and the Debate Team. And, she was recently nominated for the Maynard Jackson Youth Leadership Academy and the Governors' Honors Program. In her spare time, she said she loves to cook, shop, travel, help others and mentor younger children.

Ashley, whose favorite scripture is John 3:16, contributes her success to God, her supportive family and the Rev. C.

M. Alexander.

"I am motivated by my siblings and other children that are in my life," she said. "They motivate me to set an example for them, so they can have someone to look up to, other than people they see in the media," Ashley said. "Furthermore, my peers and teachers motivate me to be the best that I can be."

Ashley says that one of her strongest role models is her grandmother, Sis. Dianna Smith. "She has raised me all 16 years of my life. She taught me to never give up, always reach for the stars, also that it is important to be yourself," Ashley said. "Don't let others influence you to do the wrong thing, but most importantly keep God first."

After graduation, Ashley plans to attend Xavier University of Louisiana, Tuskegee University, or Ohio State University. She plans to double major in Nutritional Science and Food Science. Her goal is to become a successful nutritionist in less than three years and a published author in the field of nutrition.

"I hope to inspire others to make a lot healthier decisions about not only the way they eat, but also the way they do other daily activities," she said.

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Getting "Fit to Function"

Antioch members were encouraged last month to regularly contact their representatives to offer opinions and stay abreast of current issues.



The advice was part of a Wednesday night "Fit to Function" session held to bring members up to date on the recent Wall Street bailout.

African Americans are not taken seriously when issues impact them because they are seldom in tune with the issues of the day, said Bro. James Boyd, an investment banker and Antioch member. Boyd offered \$100 to any one who could name one bill currently before the State Senate. No one in the audience could offer an answer.

That lack of knowledge might also explain why many don't understand the significance of the recent bailout, said the Rev. Herman Cain, entrepreneur and host of The New Herman Cain Show, which airs nightly on 750 AM WSB Radio.

What happened on Wall Street, Cain said, has a significant impact on Main Street where we live. Without the bailout, many more jobs would be lost as businesses would have to lay employees off or close, he said.

Cain and Dea. Danny Cameron, with 37 years in the banking business, told the crowd that banks are not interested in foreclosing on their homes; they are not interested in holding collateral but want money.

According to Dea. Rodney Floyd, the Mortgage Aid Program to prevent foreclosure went into effect with voluntary participation from Citigroup, Bank of America, Wells Fargo, and J.P. Morgan and Company and is now available to those who need it.

Homeowners, he said, have to have owned their home prior to January 1, have a minimum of 31 percent of your income going toward paying your mortgage, and have had a minimum of six payments on time prior to having trouble making mortgage payments.

"And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence."
Colossians 1:18

If you have an Adjustable Rate Mortgage (ARM), you have an opportunity to re-set your loan rate. Talk to reputable experts, he said. Finally, Chapter 7 Reorganization is at your disposal and may be a way to hold on to your mortgage as a last resort.

Then teaching from Colossians, Pastor Cameron Alexander reminded members that there is a bank in the sky that has never had a foreclosure.

"We are more than citizens of the United States and customers or clients at a bank," he said. "We are fitted in the body of Christ so the body can function."

"Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering."
Colossians 3:12

He said that we must be "spiritually fit to walk through this valley and not park in it. We've come too far to be sidetracked by this."

Quoting Colossians 1:18, he said the Apostle Paul teaches us not to get distracted and remember that everything, including our homes and the land it sits on, belongs to God. Although Paul was in jail, Pastor Alexander said the apostle realized he was more than his predicament and that storms pass over.

Then finally quoting Colossians 3:12-15, he said Paul reminds us that we have been chosen by God to be members of Christ's body. "In this new life, Paul says we need to dress up in the wardrobe God has picked out for us. Compassion, put that on; kindness, put that on; humility, quiet strength and discipline.

"We are fit to function because we are members of the body of Christ and he has preeminence over the bank, the senate, the congress and the law," pastor said.

10 Tips to weather the storm

- Do not stop paying your mortgage or other bills; you will not get a bailout.
- Do not skip a payment; talk to your creditor and try to re-structure or re-set your mortgage or loan.
- The financial crisis will affect retirement plans and credit card limits, but do not panic. The market will eventually move out of the negative into the positive.
- If your bank is bought out by another bank, your accounts will be all right. Do not withdraw your money. Make sure your accounts are FDCI insured (NCUA if in a credit union).
- *Do not make any more debt unless absolutely necessary.
- Contact only HUD-Approved housing agencies.
- Prioritize your spending; pay your mortgage before paying credit cards. Pay your tithes and offerings.
- Use your assets—you may have jewelry lying around in drawers that you can pawn or things you can sell on EBay.
- Check your life insurance policy, and get cash from your cash surrender value; do not give up the policy itself.
- Think positive; there is power in faith and in prayer.

Sources: Rev. Herman Cain and Deacon Ed London. For more information, visit www.hermancain.com.

Continued from cover: Two men

"I thought it was remarkable that two of the 10 [winners] were from Antioch," said Bro. Simms, chairman of the trustee ministry. "That speaks to [Pastor Alexander's] impact on us to be servant leaders."

Other recipients included Benjamin DeCosta, manager of Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport; Milton J. Little Jr., president and chief executive officer of the United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta; funeral home owner Willie Watkins and state Senator Kasim Reed.

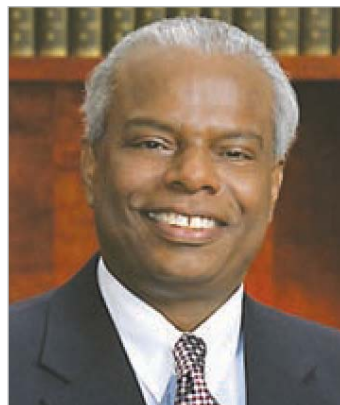
Bro. Clement, president and chief executive officer of the Atlanta Life Financial Group, gave the praise for his award to others before him at the legendary company, located on Auburn Avenue.

"It was not about me. It was about them," he said. "They are the founding fathers of Atlanta Life and the work that they've done. We're just building on their shoulders."

Women Looking Ahead is published six times a year and claims an audience of 150,000 readers. It began in 1993.

In addition to his work at Antioch, Bro. Simms is vice chairman of the board of the Atlanta Development Authority, which works with builders and business owners to bring housing for mixed-incomes and other projects to help the city grow. He's also chairman of the neighborhood planning unit that serves a portion of southwest Atlanta.

"I was flattered by [the award] because I was in great



Bro. Bill Clement

company," said Bro. Simms, who is also senior vice president of the Atlanta Housing Authority.

Bro. Clement has long been a community servant. He was a founding member of 100 Black Men of Atlanta, which provides college scholarships for high school students and provides after-school tutor-



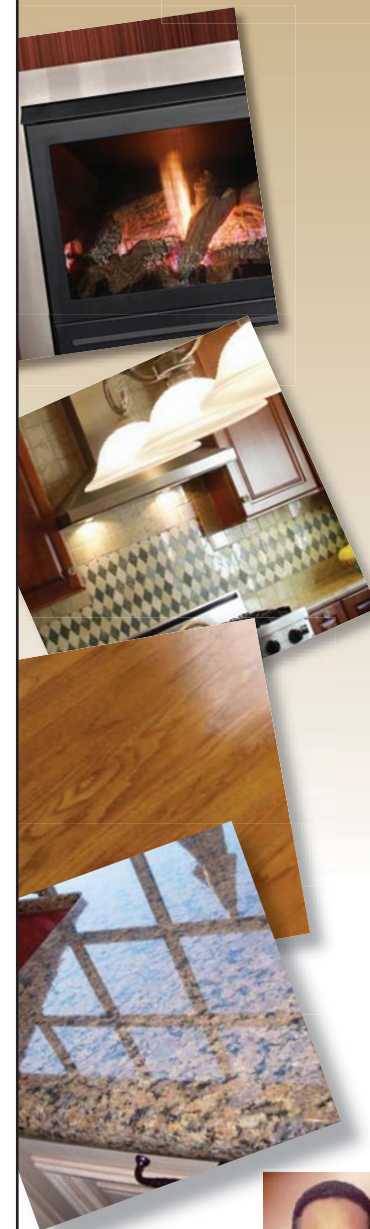
Bro. Barney Simms

ing. He is also a trustee of the Maynard Jackson Youth Foundation, which teaches young people leadership skills and encourages them to give back to the community. Bro. Clement sponsors Antioch Urban Ministries annual Christmas party and contributes to its food and clothing bank.

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Community Meet Deacon Johnny Jones... tradition continues

Hundreds of Atlanta residents are expected to turn out for the 10 a.m. Community Thanksgiving Service Nov. 27 at Beulah Baptist Church, 170 Griffin Street N.W., Atlanta. The Rev. William Cottrell is pastor.

The service, now more than 60 years old, was hosted last year at Antioch Baptist Church North.

In addition to Antioch, participating churches will include First Corinth Baptist Church Greater Springfield Baptist Church, Lindsay Street Baptist Church, Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, New Springfield Baptist Church and Pilgrim Baptist Church.

As we approach Thanksgiving, let's all remember what it's about — to celebrate the harvest and other blessings of the year.

God commands us to be thankful. Why? Look no further than the Bible for the answer.

- It is good for us.
- It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord.
- It is a mighty tool in ushering us into the presence of God.
- Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving.
- Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.
- Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy name: the upright shall dwell in thy presence.

Although a recent stroke has hampered his ability to talk, Deacon Johnny Jones always manages a smile the moment Antioch and the Rev. Cameron M. Alexander's names are uttered. Jones' love for his church and pastor, his family believes, is the foundation of service. His wife, Sister Delaware Jones, who continues to serve with the deacon's wives and Anthem/A Cappella Choir, had this to say on his behalf:

Q. How long has Deacon Jones served as a deacon?

A. His tenure began at First Baptist Church in Thomasville, GA, where he was ordained. When he and his family moved here over thirty years ago and joined Antioch, he and the late Deacon William Harding were brought onto the Deacon's Ministry at



Dea. Johnny Jones

the same time.

Q. What is his favorite Scripture?

A. He loves the Psalms, especially the 23rd Psalm. When he was still talking, I would say, "Jones, help me remember, 'The Lord is my shepherd . . .'" and he would finish it.

Q. What is his favorite hymn?

A. "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross" is one his grandfather used to sing a lot, and he loves it, also.

Q. How long have you been married, and what has kept you together?

A. On March 9th, we celebrated our 62nd anniversary. We believe that you have to put God first. Secondly, you must compromise. Everything can't go your way all the time. You are a bigger person if you can sit down and talk when you disagree.

Q. What are your children's names, and how did you raise them?

A. We have a son, James, and a daughter, Gwen; 5 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. You must teach them right from wrong at home; everything starts at home. Then you must bring them up in the church. Our children were very active in the church, and both have remained in the church.

Continued from cover: Mission becomes Baptist Church

On Oct. 5, the Antioch family was witness to the Petition for Church Organization, the call of the pastor and the appointment of its deacons.

Following the motion to organize the church, the Rev. Cameron Alexander asked, "who seconds the motion?"

"All of us," the church shouted.

The Rev. Richards said the installation service was the Lord's business.

"I'm just glad he chose us to do his business," he said.

It was a moving moment in which the Rev. Sean Smith, presiding minister of Antioch North Mission and close friend of Richards, testified to the fortitude and dedication of the pastor and Loving Spirit's

members.

"You have overcome a hill of challenges with your mountain of faith," Smith told members.

The mission purchased its current home, an edifice and 2.5 acres of land in Mableton, last summer.

Loving Spirit was the first mission out of Antioch in 16 years to be organized into a church. The last one was New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, where the Rev. Gabriel Miller is pastor.

Miller advised his friend Richards to listen to and heed the words of pastor Alexander.

"When God starts a church, he never stops a church," Miller said, quoting Alexander.



Rev. Ervin Richards

"He may reorganize a church or re-direct the pastor, but he never stops a church."

The Holy Spirit permeated the service. Pastor Alexander allowed the Spirit to speak in his stead.

"The sermon has been preached throughout these proceedings," he said, "for the Lord has been in the preparation and the execution."

'God wanted me to do this'

One day while sitting at home looking out of her window, Charlotte Kemp started thinking about some of Antioch's older members, people who were the pioneers of the church.

Kemp wanted to do something special for those founding members. She thought about planting a magnolia tree in their memory, but finding the tree wasn't easy. She then considered mounting bricks with member names on it, but that idea didn't work out either.

Eventually, through her efforts and the efforts of other church members, Kemp said the idea for a Prayer and Praise Garden was born. She envisioned how she wanted this garden to be — something peaceful for family members to visit and meditate. She wanted to provide seating for them and to have a beautiful surrounding. So Kemp and her husband, the late Deacon Gordon Kemp, did a lot of the preparation.

So many pioneers who had a strong hand in the foundation of Antioch have gone on to glory. Kemp often thinks about her parents Tom and Sibyl Garvin; along with her parents and other pioneers she wanted them to be recognized. The original pioneer committee started with



Sis. Charlotte Kemp

the late Timothy Bouie, Ethel Grier, Amanda Robinson and Deacon Leroy Raglin.

While in preparation for the church anniversary some years ago, it was suggested that the Memorial Garden be used as a climax for the anniversary activities. Members began requesting information to add names to the wall.

The Memorial Garden was dedicated 12 years ago on Dec. 7, 1996. Today committee members include Jacque and Milton Dodson, Joyce English, Donald George, Charles Harden, Nedrick Kemp, Barney Simms, Angel Taylor, Rosa Jean Tomlinson and Dianne Williams.

The Memorial Garden, located on the south wing of the sanctuary, provides a lasting memorial to members who have passed on. For a nominal fee of \$100, a plaque bearing their name is mounted in the garden.

The Memorial and recognition of family service is held on the Sunday before the church anniversary. Kemp, who has been a member of Antioch for 76 years, said she is proud of the garden and what it represents. To date, 205 family members have been memorialized there.

"God wanted me to do this," she said.

Let's go to heaven together

As Christians, we often find ourselves in dilemmas that can't be resolved by corporate or traditional means.

The situations sometimes lead to emotional distress and spiritual uncertainties that cause us to ask: "Is God listening?" Whether you have found yourself in that place or not, there's an answer to that and it can be found at Antioch's Wednesday night prayer meetings.

"Let's Go to Heaven Together

– Packing for the Journey" is a series of lessons designed to help believers cope with the challenges of everyday life and thus prepare for heaven. Classes include:
Fit to function (Stay Focus) I Cor. 12-27
Train to Triumph (He got up - one way or the other!) 2 Tim. 2:15; Prov. 22:6; 2 Cor. 2:14
Equip to Endure (Too equipped to be whipped.) Eccl. 9:11-13; James 1:12

Grace to Go (I can go on.) 2 Cor. 12:9; Matt. 28:18-20

Members who attend six classes between October 1 and December 10 will receive a certificate at the Baptism and Right Hand of Fellowship service on December 17. Members who joined between October 1, 2007 and October 15, 2008 and attend the six classes will receive an Antioch Pin at the December 21, Candlelight Communion. God is listening. Are you?

In Memoriam Kalaya Reedy 1985 – 2008



Funeral services for Kalaya Reedy were held October 20. Sis. Reedy, 23, died of lupus, an autoimmune disease that can affect various parts of the body, including the heart, lungs and brain.

She graduated in 2003 from North Atlanta High School and went on to attend Georgia Southern University.

She was an excellent student but an even better person, family members said. She will be best remembered for her personality and a smile that could light up the darkest of days.

Sis. Reedy received Christ on November 15, 1997, under the Rev. Cameron Madison Alexander.

Prior to her illness, Sis. Reedy was an active member of the adult choir and attended many conferences with the church.

She is survived by her parents Bro. Eddie and Sis. Emma Mae (Guice) Reedy, both of Atlanta; grandparents George and Bessie Reedy and Willie Singleton; three sisters, JoAnn Guice, Keely Reedy (Rice, Sr.) and Musetta Reedy; two brothers, Rodney Guice and Anthony Tate; and a host of relatives and friends.

She will be missed.

He's been around the world with his music

Atlanta native Derek Scott is a self-taught musician.

During his early years of high school, which he started at age 11, his best friend suggested that he ask "Santa" for a guitar so he could play in his friend's band. It was that gift that would be the start of Scott's incredible music career.

Scott, who plays guitar as part of Antioch's talented instrumental team, came to the church in the mid-1990s. Eric Alexander, Myra Walker and William Green, who Scott knew from attending Morehouse College, had invited him to Antioch.

Scott, who was just 16 when he entered college and 20 when he started graduate school, earned his bachelor's



Bro. Derek Scott

degree in Psychology from Morehouse. Then he went on to get a masters degree from the University of Georgia and his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, also from Georgia.

Though not a gospel musician by profession, Scott has worked with a number of artists and musicians in the gospel music industry. In fact,

each of Antioch's musicians has experience that extends beyond the church, enabling them to learn from each other.

For Scott, each musical experience usually leads to another. He has taken his talent across the world, having performed internationally in places including Japan, Greece, Singapore, South Africa, Amsterdam, Switzerland, Hawaii, the Caribbean Islands, Indonesia, France, England, and Germany.

And, that's not all.

Some might say Antioch has its own superstar in Scott. He has appeared on the David Letterman Show, Craig Kilborn, Soul Train, That Comedy Show, Carson Daly, Smokin' Grooves Tours, and played on Tom Joyner Cruises

and various other festivals.

Although he has met the likes of the late Miles Davis, the legendary Kenny Burrell, Pat Martino and George Benson, he counts it an honor to have met less famous men at Antioch – people like Pastor Cameron Alexander, Deacon Clarence Hicks and the Deacon William Harding.

Because he's done so much with his own music career, we asked Scott to share with us some of the talented artists that he has had the opportunity to meet or work with:

GOSPEL

Ann Nesby, Bebe and Cece Winans, Kim Burrell, Tramaine Hawkins

JAZZ

Khat Phud, Waymon Tisdale, Mike Phillips







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What are you thankful for?

Thanksgiving often becomes just another reason to over-eat, watch football and get ready for the biggest shopping day of the year.

We may or may not remember the story of the Pilgrims and Native Americans holding a three-day feast to commemorate the immigrants' survival.

But who remembers Abraham's Lincoln's Thanksgiving's proclamation in 1863 - in the midst of the War Between the States - that thanked God for our nation's bounty despite the conflict and nationally set the holiday?

For years, research has indicated there are health benefits to gratitude. Scripture tells us to be thankful in all things.

And so as Thanksgiving approached, we asked Antioch members to share what they're grateful for this holiday. More than a dozen responded.



Bro. Dennis Trimble

"I'm thankful for God who's always in the midst of everything I go through. I am thankful for my family, particularly my mother and father, Deacon and Mrs. Jerome Trimble. They are my heroes. I am thankful for making it to my junior year at Morehouse College."



Sis. Jeanette Williams

"I'm thankful that my mom is alive and has good health and strength, for a home, a job and transportation; to have a family and good friends who love and care for me."



Sis. Charlotte Lowe

"I'm thankful for being on top of the ground instead under the ground. I'm thankful God saved me and hears my prayers."



Sis. Sharon Cobey

"On June 16, 2007, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. I am thankful to God that it was detected early and had not spread throughout my body. I am thankful to my family and friends for their support, love and prayers and thank God for his healing power."



Bro. George Greene

"I am thankful for my family and friends; for each waking moment for life is precious; for a sound mind, the strength to endure the ups and downs, the peaks and the valley, the joys and sorrows."



Sis. Elexis Neal

"I am thankful for a family that loves me and the Spirit of God that is thrust upon me each day. I am also thankful for all the people that have helped me along the way."



Bro. Jeremy Wallace

"I am thankful to be graduating from Douglass High School this school year on, I thank HIM first."



Sis. Belinda Johnson

"I am thankful for the health and well being of my family and for being able to have the things that are often taken for granted-employment, food, clothing, shelter and life."



Sis. Barbara Cochran

"I am thankful to God for life, health and strength. I am most thankful for my children, grandson, parents, family and friends."



Sis. Catherine Huit-Johnson

"I'm thankful for having had a fulfilling career that allowed me to retire in Atlanta; for the love of family and friends; and to be able to work at Antioch with the Scholarship Ministry."



Sis. Trunetta Reese

I am thankful for my job, a home and a fully stocked freezer! While these things are great, I am most thankful for the well-being of my family and my wonderful husband. And lest I forget, I am also thankful for the Alabama Crimson Tide's winning football season!



Bro. Zebulon Ellis

"I am thankful for the gift of music. When words fail me, God has given me another way to express myself. And with this form of expression, I thank HIM first."



Bro. Derek & Sis. Karyl Clayton

We are thankful that God is our saviour; for family and friends and for each other.