



Happy Birthday Sis. Alexander!
We Love You



The Church at Antioch

Bible-based, Christ-centered, Holy Spirit-led, Mission-bound • Fellowship, Evangelism, Doctrine, Stewardship

April 2008

Volume 1, Issue 2

“He is risen”

Passion Week closed with a powerful word

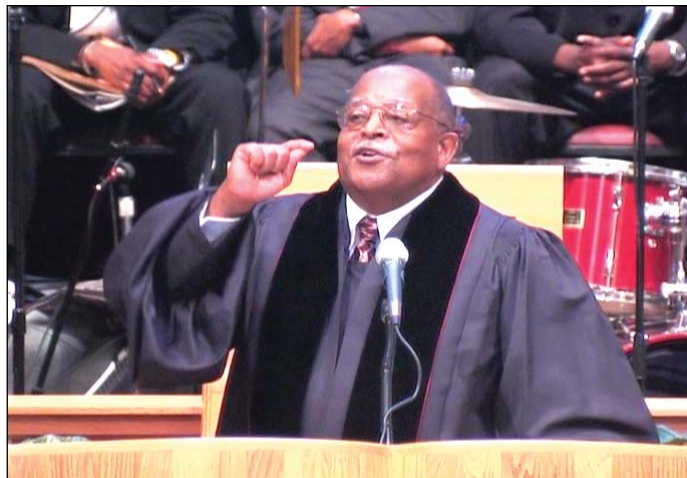
On the holiest day of the Christian calendar, Antioch was reminded that the foundation of her hope is “wrapped in the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ.”

It was a fitting end to Passion Week, when Antioch members participated in fasting, preaching and street corner evangelism.

Passion Week, also known as Holy Week, is the time between Palm Sunday and Easter, when Jesus rose from the grave.

That is, indeed, the good news recorded in Matthew 28:6: “He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. He is risen.”

“Those three words,” said the Rev. C. M. Alexander, “embody the hope and foundation of our faith. They counteract three other words: He is Dead.”



But there had to be, Pastor Alexander said, the shedding of blood by God’s son who’d already said, “destroy this body and in three days I’ll raise it up again.”

“It sounded like just a boast,” Alexander said. “No one had ever died and got up except by the order of Jesus himself.

“Now, Jesus is dead. The grave is secure. Hell is having a banquet. Heaven is poised

to do something.”

Somewhere between Friday and Jesus’ burial, he said to applause, spirited Amens and people standing, “faith turned into sight.”

“The tomb was empty,” Alexander said. “Early Sunday morning Jesus got up with all power.”

It was a fitting end to a week-long celebration of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Spirit In Song

Showcasing gospel music

To celebrate the rich tradition of Gospel music that uplifts and inspires, Antioch kicks off another season of an “Inspiration Celebration Concert.”

If you thought the 2007 broadcast was amazing, you don’t want to miss this year’s offering of the world’s best gospel talent, as well as secular artists who welcome the chance to showcase their spiritual roots. The 2008 “Inspiration Celebration Concert” kicks off at Antioch on 5 p.m. Sunday, April 27. This year’s theme is “Spirit

Continued on page 2

It started with just silver dollars

Antioch scholarship ministry helps make dreams come true

In the 1950s, the Rev. D. T. George would give each graduating high school student of Antioch Baptist Church North a silver dollar, from his own pocket. It was a way of encouraging students to continue to pursue their education and to reach their goals with assistance from their church family. That practice continued for many years.

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Connecting People to Christ



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I am excited to be able to share the news of our blessings with you through this medium, our church newsletter, The Church at Antioch.

We have attempted to chronicle the major events of the first quarter and to share with you the joy and excitement of each event. Each occasion demonstrates the strength of our four pillars: Fellowship, Evangelism, Doctrine, and Stewardship.

Under the leadership of the Sis. Barbara Alexander and others, the Women's Division has successfully led us through the implementation of the 10 & 10 initiative and the Birth Month Fellowships, both of which are growing steadily every week. This growth is essential to our spiritual health and exemplifies our obedience to our Lord and Saviour. Because fellowship is the union of Christian believers sharing the Christian experience, it is every Christian's responsibility. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we must come together to share, to learn and to gather strength from one another. Christians cannot grow in isolation.

Therefore, participation in the fellowships is not only our "duty to do," it is the means by which we build our relationship with God and with each other. Consequently, if you have not attended the Birth Month Fellowships, you are encouraged to do so, to get involved, and to work toward the support of this great Christian gathering. In addition, your gifts in support of the 10 & 10 Free Will Offering serve as a testament to your faith and commitment to this fellowship and to our God.

Dea. Calvin Booker and Bro. Darryl Speed, coordinators of the Men's Division, are preparing to lead us through even more exciting and eventful fellowship activities over the next three months: Church-wide Prayer Breakfasts, the Spring Revival Concert and Revival, Mother's Day, Father's Day, the Pastor's Barbeque, the Stone Mountain Gospel Fest, the Charlie Ward Basketball Camps for Boys and Girls, the Youth Achievement Banquet, and more. You are encouraged to attend any and all of the fellowship offerings that are being planned for your edification and spiritual growth.

Should you have a desire to share some outstanding developments in your personal, spiritual, or professional lives, please contact our editor, Sis. Gracie Staples. Sharing is also an acceptance of your responsibility to this union of Christian believers.

Thank you for your stewardship. May God continue to bless you and keep you forever in His care.

And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch. Acts 11:26

*Yours in God's service,
Rev. C. M. Alexander, Pastor*

continued from cover: Spirit in Song

in Song," and there's plenty of both this year.

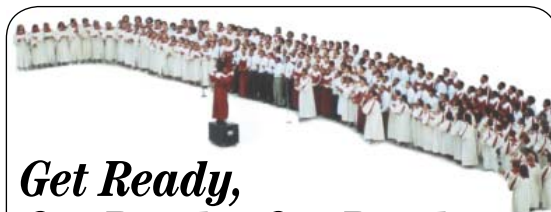
Gospel music speaks to everyone. Tracing its roots back to the days of slavery, Gospel music developed as a uniquely American art form that has had a profound impact on faith-loving Americans in all regions and on performers in all genres of music.

And now you, too, can be moved by its grace and beauty here at Antioch whenever you like. Gospel music has its own style that encompasses solo singers that have stepped out from the choirs and have become popular in their own right. From these ranks comes the likes of Zeb Ellis, Carlos Simon and the greatest director of all churches, Otis Byrd.

Today, Gospel music remains as vibrant as ever. Not only that, some of our greatest contemporary singers acknowledge that they will always owe a debt of gratitude to Gospel music. So whatever style you favor, there is sure to be a song here at Antioch that lifts your spirits and speaks to your soul.

Brother Otis Byrd, who directs the Adult Choir, Male Chorus and Youth Choir said members and guests can expect a variety of music, including contemporary, traditional, anthems, and hymn and spiritual arrangements. This concert will feature the combined choirs of the church to include all entities of the music ministry joining together in harmony to create glory through song, dance, and other areas of the performing arts.

Byrd's mission is to create a healthy balance of intelligent singing and sincere delivery so that the people of God may be ministered to and receive what God has for them.



Get Ready, Get Ready, Get Ready

WHAT: Here we come – the greatest Combined Choirs of all

WHO: The choirs of Antioch

WHEN: 5 p.m. Sunday, April 27

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord; Praise Ye the Lord!

Members participate in Black History Month celebration

The letter from the Federal Bureau of Investigations took Sis. Mary Hicks by surprise but she was relieved to find the agency only wanted her to share some good news.

Hicks was one of two Antioch members invited to participate in the agency's annual Black History Month program, also hosted by the U. S. Government Accountability Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

The program quickly turned into a spiritual experience when Sister Diane Williams, president of the Antioch adult choir, opened with "Precious Lord."

Hicks followed with a presentation on Carter G. Woodson and the Origins of



Dr. Mary Hicks

Multi-Culturalism. Her life, she said, in some ways, parallels Woodson's life. Woodson, who graduated with honors in 1903 from Berea College, a unique college in the slave state of Kentucky. A year later, Hicks said, the "Day Law" was passed, which prevented white and African-American students from being in the same classroom or school community together. Integrated schooling became illegal. The pernicious "Day Law" was actually enforced for nearly half a century, a fact that was not lost on Woodson in his writings

about the social customs and laws that served as obstacles to the progress of "the Negro race."

Six decades later, Dr. Hicks would enter Vanderbilt University, where all but one student and the professor immediately left the class in protest of her presence. The one student who remained had just transferred from the University of Mississippi. "No matter what," the student told her, "she was going to stick and stay."

But years would pass before Hicks discovered like Woodson that she was also experiencing the enforcement of "The Day Law."

APRIL BIBLE QUIZ

Pick one of four in each of these questions.

- The robe Jesus wore as the Roman soldiers taunted him was?
 - scarlet or purple
 - red
 - many coloured
 - black
- According to Proverbs, the beginning of knowledge is?
 - fear of the Lord
 - knowledge of the Lord
 - knowledge of thyself
 - concern for all mankind
- "The living know that they shall die," but what do the dead know?
 - "that they shall be reborn"
 - "the presence of God"
 - "what the living knoweth not"
 - "not any thing"
- Judas indicated to the crowd who Jesus was by?
 - pointing to him
 - kissing him
 - kicking him
 - laying figs at his feet
- "There is no peace, saith my God, to the?"
 - warriors
 - wicked
 - weary
 - Israelites



The Church At Antioch is looking for you!

*Proud of the job you do or want to nominate your sister or brother in Christ to be featured in an upcoming issue of **The Church At Antioch**? E-mail your story idea to Sis. Gracie Staples at gstaples@ajc.com.*

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continued from cover: **Sending Antioch members to college**

When the Rev. C. M Alexander became pastor in 1969, he formed a Scholarship Committee that offered scholarship assistance to high school students and honored all graduates and retirees at a banquet.

Today, the Scholarship Committee has become the Antioch North Scholarship Ministry. Though the name has changed, the goals have remained the same: to provide financial assistance to church youths trying to further their education. Alexander's vision for the Scholarship Ministry to do more than present scholarships to graduating high school seniors, with funds from the general budget, led to the birth of the Scholarship Advisory Board.

The purpose of the advisory board is to work with the scholarship ministry in its efforts and initiatives to expand the ministry, and to make it more inclusive of all the young adults in the church pursuing higher education goals. God

has led both the scholarship ministry and advisory board into a brighter future as they work to assist our youth in their challenge to reach higher goals.

Scholarship Sunday was celebrated on the second Sunday in March. At both services, members were encouraged to give generously and unselfishly to support the scholarship ministry. On the fourth Sunday in May, during the 11 a.m. service, graduates, retirees and members completing requirements at the Christian Mini-Congress will be recognized and honored for achieving personal, professional and Christian Education goals.

Recently, members of Antioch who are also members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., connected as a means to get to know other members of the church. It was then that the sorority decided to do something for the youth of the church and provide scholarship assistance. On March 9, the Deltas presented the Scholarship Committee with a \$1, 100

donation. The Deltas encouraged other members of Greek letter organizations to join in raising funds for the Scholarship Committee. The men of Kappa Alpha Psi and Alpha Phi Alpha have already pledged to match or exceed their donation.

The ministry has seen a lot of growth over the years. God has brought the church from silver dollar gifts to generous awards and scholarships through the general church budget, donors of Memorial Scholarships, and the newly added Book Scholarship Fund supported by members, groups and organizations of the church.

High school seniors interested in applying for a scholarship from the church may contact a member of the Antioch Scholarship Ministry. Sister Wendy Harding encourages students to take advantage of the scholarship program and attend the meetings scheduled for students and parents.

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Deacon's ministry committed as leaders, past and present

The Bible ordains only two offices in the church: pastor and deacons. The Deacon's Ministry at Antioch, chaired by Deacon William Harding, is a model of service and leadership.

At the beginning of each year, the Deacon's Ministry combines both leadership and one of the four pillars of Antioch: fellow-



ship, by hosting a gathering in which they honor their wives. The men make all the arrangements and bring everyone together for fellowship. This year, the ministerial sons and their wives, the Mother's Ministry, and the families of deceased ministers and deacons were included in the celebration, held in the 590 building.

The fellowship began, of course, with devotion, the duty with which Antioch members most associate the deacons. The 13

recently ordained deacons and their wives were introduced followed by bringing the junior deacons, those who will carry the torch forward, to the forefront.

The highlight of the program was the historical perspective Deacon Harding presented on the deacons and their families and how this leadership role — much like that of the tribe of the Levites, the priestly tribe in the Bible — has generational roots.

No one becomes a deacon just because his father or grandfather served as a deacon, but because these men have been beacons to their families, their church, and their commu-

nities. Their male offspring follow in their footsteps to become upstanding, spiritually mature men who also become ordained deacons or, in some cases, ministers, and their female offspring have become part of the Mother's Ministry and Missionary Ministry. In his unique way, Deacon Harding framed the presentation by recalling the favorite hymns of our present and the former pastors of Antioch, sons of the church, and the deacons. As he called the roll, the history

of Antioch was laid out, and many in attendance could be heard humming a few bars of one of the favorite hymns or calling out a favorite phrase or saying.

Who can forget Deacon Lemuel Bowie's favorite word, "OBEY" and favorite phrase, "We're together," and Deacon J.D. Wideman's, "WALK" ringing out whenever someone was making his/her way to the front of the church? Some of those who grew up in the community, became junior deacons and later ordained deacons were influenced by Deacon Willis Flemming who would say to the boys when they got in trouble, "I am gonna tell your daddy and make him burst your britches."

There are many connections between the godly men who have served and are serving as sons and deacons of this church and members of the congregation who are serving the Lord in various ways.

One historical note: The Rev. Timothy H. George, second pastor of Antioch, was followed in the pastorate by his son, the Rev. Dormitory T. George. The late Deacon Luther Cain was the father of the Rev. Herman Cain and brother of Deacon Nesbit Cain. Deacon Eddie Wilburn was granduncle of Deacon Keith Morton.

Visitors Ministry welcomes all

Since the beginning of the year, Antioch's Visitors Ministry has greeted more than 600 visitors to the church. The ministry meets once a month on the Tuesday after the third Sunday at 6:30 p.m. The group does more than welcome guests to Antioch; members also foster fellowship within their own ministry. One way of doing this is by having monthly meetings and quarterly functions and fellowships. There are currently 30 active members in the ministry and the group is always excited to get new members. In addition to supporting church-wide functions and initiatives, the ministry is a faithful supporter of Antioch's Ruth's Place ministry and provides sustainable support to Ruth's Place year-round.



April Calendar at a glance

Churchwide Prayer Breakfast	Saturday, April 7
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting	Wednesday, April 9
Youth Dance Clinic	Saturday, April 12
Women's Spring Retreat	April 19-20



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FROM PALM SUNDAY

The “Seven Last Words” *Their meaning to us, for us, in us*

These were the seven topics covered in the last words of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ before His death on the Cross. The seven last “words” of Jesus Christ on the Cross are actually seven phrases that he spoke before his death. Seven sons of Antioch delivered powerful accounts of these last words of Jesus Christ during Passion Week.

Minister: Rev. Craig Johnson

Word: **FORGIVENESS**

Scripture: *Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. Luke 23:24*

Message: Forgive them was Jesus’ final prayer and petition for all mankind. Even though Jesus was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities, he still asked God to FORGIVE THEM!

Minister: Rev. Scott Copeland

Word: **SALVATION**

Scripture: *And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise. Luke 23: 42-43*

Message: Jesus was saving souls all the way to the cross and even while on the cross when the thief asked, “Lord, remember me.” And Jesus, while on the cross, acknowledged the sinner and told him that he will be with Him in paradise. We need to ask, and He will answer!

Minister: Rev. Terry Ladd

Word: **AFFECTION**

Scripture: *Now there stood by the cross of Jesus with his mother and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home. John 19:25-27*

Message: Here Jesus depicted the deep love and affection of a mother for her child. Jesus recognized his mother’s presence at the cross and made provisions for her before He died. Jesus transitioned from being her son to being her Savior. God will also take care of us!

Street corner preaching reaches many

100 Bibles, the Word went out; two Souls came to Christ

“Ye Must Be Born Again.”

That was the message spread through the area of Atlanta known as “The Bluff”.

On March 22nd at 11 a.m., 10 ministers, the Antioch S.W.A.T. (Saints With A Testimony) Team, and other members took to the streets of “The Bluff.”

At 10 sites, each minister preached from John 3:7, “Ye Must Be Born Again.” At the corner of Griffin and Meldrum Streets where Minister Lester Duncan preached, a mother, who lives in the community said, “I needed this word from the Lord today. This is my son’s birthday, and I didn’t have any money to send him a card.” She related how her son had multiple problems when he was born and wasn’t expected to live. Through many surgeries and the prayers of the righteous, he was healed. He still needs prayer as he is confined to a maximum security prison in Alabama. She was thankful for the Bible that she carried away to feed her spiritually and for the sack lunch to feed her physically. A total of 100 Bibles and sack lunches were distributed that day.

Rev. Eddie Bright



When everyone gathered at the corner of Kennedy Street and James P. Brawley Drive, a man in a brown Chevrolet driving through with blaring music, immediately turned it down in respect for the spirit-filled, “I Love to Praise Him.” Pastor C.M. Alexander reported that when he and Deacon Ronald Smith drove through the neighborhood about two hours after the ministers and SWAT Team left, The Bluff was quiet; there was no one hanging on the corners and no sign of drugs being sold.

Standing in front of the shell of an old A.M.E. Church, Minister Rodney Reese led the circle of ministers, SWAT Team members, and neighborhood residents in “At the Cross” and

TO RESURRECTION DAY

Minister Bryan Mitchell took the group to the throne of grace in prayer.

It was observed that as the group encircled an old wooden cross that even in the midst of destruction and destitution, the cross still stands. The fact that two souls came to Christ during the Street Corner preaching is testimony to the fact that if we lift Jesus up, He will draw all men.

Light in your darkest hour

Passion week's Communion Service draws a large crowd



The lights dimmed as the Rev. C. M. Alexander began his sermon.

The congregation stared at the ceiling, wondering what went wrong.

It was not an accident. Pastor Alexander was trying

to make a point.

"This is a special Thursday. God's son is getting ready to give all. His life," the pastor said, referring to the Last Supper, when Jesus was delivered into the hands of the Romans.

Pastor Alexander used the dimmed lights to deliver a Passion Week Communion service message of hope, even at the darkest hour.

"It was dim that night and those of us here tonight, we've been through some dim days," the pastor said.

Suddenly, the lights became brighter.

"Thanks be to God because Jesus is the light of the world," said Pastor Alexander. "He turned dark days into the light. Just sit there and wait on him and your dark days will get brighter and brighter."

With that, the deacons marched through the aisles and led communion.

For the body of Christ.

For the blood of Christ.

After communion, Pastor Alexander asked the congregation a question: "Do you know the man?" referring to the son of God.

Seconds later, the deacons led the congregation in song. "Do you know the man? Do you know the man? Do you know the man from Galilee-e-e?"

At the end of the song, Pastor opened the doors of the church. Three people accepted the invitation to come to Christ.

"My, my, my. What about that!" the congregation said.

Minister: Rev Herman Cain

Word: **ANGUISH**

Scripture: *And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice saying, Eli, Eli, La'ma sa-bach-tha-ni? That is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? Matthew 27:46*

Message: Here we get a glimpse of the difference between the man on the cross and Jesus in the man. The man on the cross experienced anguish and cried out to God, "Why hast thou forsaken me?" But the Jesus in the man was able to endure and know that the Will of God was being fulfilled ... Yet not my will, but your Will be done, Jesus prayed. Luke 22:42

Minister: Rev. Eddie Bright

Word: **SUFFERING**

Scripture: *After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled saith, I thirst. John 19:28*

Message: Why is it that Jesus had to suffer but Christians feel they should not? Suffering equals love and produces patience, perseverance, and faith. Rejoice in our own suffering.

Minister: Rev. Darrell Arnold

Word: **VICTORY**

Scripture: *When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost. John 19:30*

Message: This was the finished assignment. Jesus endured and completed it. This one time sacrifice of Jesus, the son of God, is all that is needed for us to be saved from sin. The shedding of His blood was the only way.

Minister: Rev. John Byrdsell

Word: **CONTENTMENT**

Scripture: *And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said this, he gave up the ghost. Luke 23:46*

Message: Jesus Christ's life was not taken, but He commended his spirit into the hands of the Father and "gave up the ghost" voluntarily for man's sin debt was about to be reconciled. "Contentment is internal, not external."

(Recordings of the service may be obtained through the Antioch Audio/Video Tape Ministry. Get a copy for yourself and your friends!)

Were you there?: *Passion play examines relationships with Christ*

Easter Sunday morning is special for many reasons in the life of the Christian. It's a celebration of the resurrection of Christ.

Antioch North celebrated Resurrection Sunday and it was an unforgettable morning — full of unforgettable performances.

The Adult M.A.D.D. (Music, Art, Dance, Drama) for Christ presented "Were You There?" at the culmination of Passion Week.

And for those who missed this year's Easter play following 8 a.m. Easter service, you missed a treat.

Following 8 a.m. Easter service, during the regular Sunday School hour, the youth members of the Sunday School presented the play "Oh, What Love!"

Matthew 13:55 mentions Jesus' brothers and sisters, and the youth play presented how his brothers might have reacted to the events that led up to and

followed their brother's crucifixion and resurrection.

The Junior Verse Speakers, Youth Choir, and individual characters were exceptional in their dramatization, but the messengers, the nursery children may have stolen the show when they rushed out and tugged on Pilate's arm and loudly proclaimed: "We brought you a message from your wife. Your wife told us to tell you to leave this innocent man alone." The performance climaxed with a heartfelt interpretation of the song "What Love" by the Youth Dancers.

The Adult M.A.D.D. for Christ presentation was based on the poem "Were You There?" from "God's Trombones," by James Weldon Johnson. The play looked at the crucifixion through the eyes of those who took an active part in the events surrounding it.

We heard from: Black Simon as he carried the cross, Peter as he denied Christ

three times, Judas who regretted his betrayal too late to make a difference, Pilate as he washed his hands of innocent blood, the thief as he realized that Jesus is truly the Son of God, Mary Magdalene as she found there was no need to prepare Jesus' body for the tomb because He was no longer there, and doubting Thomas who believed Christ had risen when he touched the nail-scarred hands and then told others not to doubt Jesus' love.

Assisted by the Anthem/Acappella Choir and the Vessels of Praise dancers, this unique look at the resurrection made people think about what role they might have taken in the events unfolding around the crucifixion and resurrection, but more importantly, what role they are taking in their relationship to Jesus today.

Egg'stra special fun — *Easter egg hunt draws crowd to 590 building*

It was a day that a lot of the children of Antioch had been waiting for during the Easter weekend — the annual Easter Egg Hunt.

The March 22 hunt proved to be full of excitement and fun for nearly 30 children who came with baskets, bags and whatever they could get their hands on to collect as many eggs as possible. This event was held all over the metro Atlanta area, but you can bet most of them provided only plastic eggs containing candy that the kids usually take home and never eat. Antioch's hunt outside the 590 Building was full of real eggs.

Even a few of Antioch's teens wanted to join in on the egg hunt, but this event catered to the little ones only. Parents were only allowed to point out the eggs. The children had to pick them up themselves. Children scrambled over the large grassy area after the "ready, set, go" command was given. There were eggs everywhere.

You had to watch your step as you walked through the grass to avoid crushing them. It was all over in about 10 minutes — everyone's basket full, and the children were happy.



Saving lives — one colon screening at a time

Early screening saves lives.

That's the major message Dr. Dorothy P. Wiggins, chairwoman of Antioch's Health Ministry, hopes will stick with people when it comes to colorectal cancer.



Dr. D. P. Wiggins

Colorectal cancer — cancer of the colon or rectum — is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

And, according to the American Cancer Society, African-American men and women are diagnosed with and die from colon cancer at higher rates than men and women of any other U.S. racial or

ethnic group.

The good news, said Wiggins, who has served as chair of Antioch's Health Ministry for more than five years, is that since colorectal cancer almost always develops from precancerous polyps (abnormal growths) in the colon or rectum, early screening saves lives. Not only can screening tests find precancerous polyps so that they can be removed before they become cancer, they can also find colorectal cancer early, when treatment works best.

Men and women should begin screening for colorectal cancer soon after turning 50, and then continue getting screened at regular intervals. However, you may need to be tested earlier or more often than some other people if:

You or a close relative have had colorectal polyps or colorectal cancer; or
You have inflammatory bowel disease.

"Speak with your doctor about when you should begin screening, and about how often you should be tested," said Wiggins.

The Health Ministry, which ministry meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month, is comprised of church members who use their God-given talents to preserve and promote members' health and well-being.

"Our goal is to ensure that Antioch and the community has critical information on health issues and health-related resources so that they can make positive life style choices and realize their potential for personal health," Wiggins said.

Carpenter, 10, lands first big role

You could say that Joshua Carpenter was discovered in Antioch's fellowship hall.

It was there that he waited on Tuesday nights while his mother attended rehearsal with the Anthem Acapella Choir.

One night while watching the MADD for Christ Drama ministry rehearse two years ago for its annual Black History Month production, Carpenter was tapped to play the role of Travis in "A Raisin in the Sun."

Thus began a budding acting career for the 10-year-old. Carpenter, an avid football player, gave up the gridiron for the stage.

He recently landed the role of Edmund in "Narnia the Musical" at the Blackwell Playhouse Theater.

"It's his first big

role," said his mother, Judi Rawls.

The show runs April 18 through May 10 at the Blackwell Playhouse, 3378 Canton Road, Marietta; 8 p.m. Fridays and 2 p.m. Saturdays.

Tickets are \$14 for youth and seniors; \$16 for all other adults.

Joshua, a fifth grader at Berkeley Lake Elementary School in Duluth, also has starred in "The Seduction of King Solomon" with Americolor Opera Alliance and "The Church of the Fruit" with Pneuma Entertainment and Production.

At Antioch, he is active in the Youth M.A.D.D for Christ Choir and the

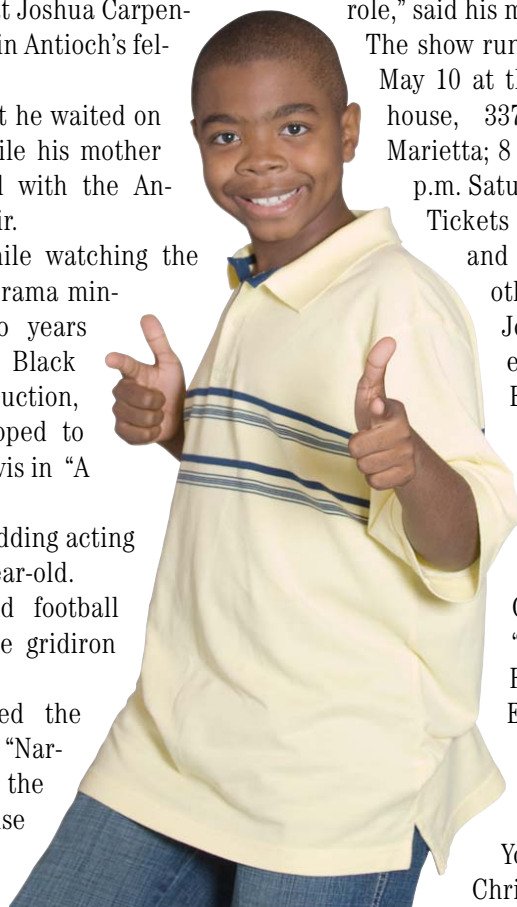
Youth Verse Speaker. He also is a member of the Boy Scouts of America Atlanta 5th Ward-Troop & Pack No. 359.

Rawls said her son has always been a character but it wasn't until he accepted the role in "Raisin" that she realized he was a professional.

"I love acting," he said.

Following is a list of activities and rehearsal times for Antioch youth:

- **Children's Church** - (Ages 5 - 12)
– Sundays both services (except 3rd Sunday is Family worship) - MUSIC ROOM
- **Nursery** - (Ages 2 - 4) - Sundays both services (except 3rd Sunday is Family worship) - ROOM 5
- **Youth Church** - (ages 13-18) - 4th Sunday, 8am in the CHAPEL
- **Choir Rehearsal** - Tuesday, 7pm - SANCTUARY
- **Youth Verse Speakers Rehearsal** - Tuesday, 6:30pm – ROOM 8
- **Dance Rehearsal** - Tuesday, 8pm
- **Orchestra Rehearsal** - Sat., 9:30am
- **Toastmasters** - Sat., 10am



ADDED MEMBERS

Last month, Antioch added **23** members, including 11 Baptism candidates. The following names were Baptized:

- Autumn Glencamp, *June*
- Bridgette Carson, *December*
- David Dickens, *March*
- Danielle Dickens, *June*
- Shanay Long, *February*
- Borquaye Thomas, *January*
- Skylar Pocock Golen, *October*
- LaShaun D. Singleton, *January*
- Taira Bigsby, *October*
- Brittany Bigsby, *November*
- Benjean Cropper, *December*

The following members came through Christian Experience.

- Gino Fitzpatrick, *August*
- Mary L. Cullins, *August*
- Chives Demiris, *April*
- Brenai Dickens, *May*
- Shurby Copeland, *August*
- Sonya Spurlock, *May*
- Jonathan Diamon, *December*
- Cheriese Rice, *October*
- Kasim Qayyoom Smith, Jr., *June*
- William Wayne Howard, *November*
- Joe Richards, *December*
- Ronald D. Beedle, *April*

The next Baptism and Right Hand of Fellowship will be held on April 16.

Tithing Tips

“Bring ye all the Tithes into the storehouse...” (Malachi 3:10)



Mescal Ann Hunt

We here at Antioch are all familiar with that biblical scripture. It is printed on the church envelopes; we talk about it during service; and, many have come before you to share the blessings the Lord has bestowed upon them, myself included. However, some of us are still a little afraid of becoming a Tither.

Becoming a Tither is like a child learning to walk. When a child is learning to walk, he holds on to a table, a chair, the wall, another person or anything he feels will keep him from falling. One day he looks up and sees a person standing in front of him with outstretched arms ready to catch him if he should fall. What does he do? He lets go and takes those first steps as he rushes into the arms of the person in front of him.

We as adults have our own tables, chairs, walls, other people and things we hold to that prevent us from becoming Tithers, because we too are afraid that we will fall. If you are that adult holding on to things and still taking those baby steps; lift your head, look in front of you and know that the Lord is there right in front of you and has always been there with outstretched arms ready to catch you if you should fall.

If you are not a Tither; I encourage you today to “Let Go,” “Let God,” “Trust God” and become a Tither ... today.

APRIL BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS:
 1. A (Matthew 27:28, Mark 15:17, John 19:2); 2. A (Proverbs 1:7); 3. D (Ecclesiastes 9:5); 4. B (Matthew 26:48-49, Mark 14:44-46, Luke 22:47-48); 5. B (Isaiah. 57:21)



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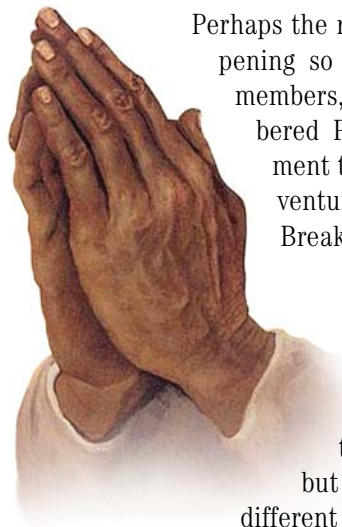
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Prayer breakfast focused on family health

Experts offer tips and advice on healthy living and eating



Perhaps the recent tornado devastation happening so close to Antioch scared some members, but a few hearty souls remembered Pastor C. M. Alexander's statement that "Antioch will not close" and ventured out to the Family Prayer Breakfast on March 15.

Sponsored by the Health Ministry under the Women's Division, the theme was "Know Your Body: Women's Health Issues." Antioch did not have to go outside to bring in experts but had resident experts in several different areas present a wealth of information that was beneficial to men, women, and children.

The meal for the event, which included various healthy food options, prepared by Sister Brenda Tucker and volunteers from First Timothy, was a learning tool as the presentations were made. Participants were encouraged to make healthier choices. Following the devotion and in between each speaker, mini-quizzes on health facts were given with prizes being presented to the winners.

Dr. Dorothy Wiggins, a pediatrician, advised people to read the labels on everything in order to know the nutrition facts and help in making wise choices. She offered lots of tips. For example, she cautioned people not to "drink your calories away." She noted that a 24-ounce Coca-Cola contains about 24 packs of sugar and to remember that a bagel is a carbohydrate, which converts to sugar, and putting jelly on it just adds more sugar — empty calories and little nutritional value. Her main message was not to try to go cold turkey but to use the step-down method; for example, to make it to the goal of drinking more water, replace the Coca-Cola with Crystal Light, and eventually with water.

Autumn Lewis, a Doctor of Pharmacy, explained how to maximize one's pharmaceutical experience. She emphasized the need to know by name what medication you are taking, when you take it, and how it works. She said it is important that you write it on a card, including any drug allergies that you have, and carry the card with you in case you are in a situation where you cannot talk. Also, be sure to let your doctor know about any over-the-counter medication and natural supplements you are taking to ensure that they will not interfere with or cause adverse reactions to the prescribed medication. It is best to have all of your prescriptions filled at one pharmacy so that the pharmacist can see a total picture of your health.

Dr. Robin Dennis, with Resurgens Orthopedics, gave an overview of what to expect at different stages in one's life and

what tests one should have. She stressed the need to maintain an overall healthy diet, learn how to manage stress, maintain good mental health, and develop an exercise regimen at every age and gave practical tips, such as three types of exercise you can do for free.

Dennis also discussed how to maximize your visit to the doctor's office by being early so that you can fill out paper work, having a list of medications with you, being specific about your symptoms, and having your questions ready. Giving the doctor specific information — whether your back hurts when you first arise in the morning, after eating, after walking or standing in line for a certain period of time, or at night after a long day — helps him/her to determine what tests you may need to confirm what the doctor thinks may be the problem.

Remember that you know your body best, and you and your doctor are a team.

If you would like to advertise in *The Church at Antioch*, contact Reggie Tolbert at reggie@tolbertgraphics.com.

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