

ALEXANDER

45 60

The Lord has done Great things for us

PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

August 3, 2014

7:45AM & 11AM Worship Services

Antioch Baptist Church North

Rev. C. M. Alexander, Pastor

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

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A Message from the Pastor

My Brothers and Sisters:



When I ponder the fact that God has blessed me to serve as pastor of this great church family for the past 45 years, my heart is filled with great joy and unbridled happiness. As a congregation, you have demonstrated to my family and to me the true meaning of unrestrained love. The delight of your friendship and the respect that you reveal to me as pastor, coupled with the grace of God, have given me a renewed desire and a burning passion to keep our Antioch Fellowship as God desires it to be: Both faithful and fruitful.

As your pastor, I pray constantly that through my preaching, teaching, leadership, and service that the Antioch membership is as proud to have me as its spiritual leader as I am to have each of you among the flock that I am charged to lead to heaven.

It is not often that a preacher can celebrate the longevity of such a remarkable journey as ours! Our legacy of service gives us a lot to recall...a lot to reminiscence about...and even more to be thankful for. God has been gracious and exceptionally generous in showering His richest blessings upon Antioch. As a pastor, I thank God for the wonderful privilege of being His under shepherd at one of His best churches. As I look to the future, it is my prayer that we will continue to work at finding solutions to heal the brokenness of our society and work even more aggressive to provide support and resources that give hope to those who are counted among the least, the less, and the lost.

My heart is especially warmed today as we welcome two of my “sons in the ministry” to preach the Anniversary Sermons: The Reverend Rodney K. Turner and the Reverend Johnny Flakes, III. Both are sons of Antioch and have become spirit-anointed servant leaders with a genuine heart of love for all people. Their presence and their remarkable growth as ministers is a testament of what God can and will do for the believer.

Let us all enjoy the festivities of the day, appreciating our past as we envision an exceptional future in serving God’s people.

Yours in God’s service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cameron M. Alexander', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Reverend Cameron M. Alexander

THE PASTORATE

by the late Rev. Levi Terrill

Roman 10:15 states: “And how shall they preach, except they be sent?” as it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” This lyrical scripture states eloquently the mode of transportation of the early preachers. Our pastor, cut from the same mold, has served the pastorate well by bringing the good news to us in our sick rooms, during our lonely hours, during moments of despair, and during our times of confusion.

In Psalms 66:9, God is praised for not suffering our feet to be moved. Those who occupy the pastorate must forever be “steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord...” Reverend Alexander has stood in the gap for forty-five years resisting the wiles of the devil while teaching us to be strong in the Lord. His feet have not moved.

Isaiah 52:7 states: “How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, thy God reigneth!”

The man who sits in the seat of the pastorate must always bring the good news and keep the peace and lead the way to heaven. Our pastor has certainly done that! Reverend Alexander’s forty-five years at Antioch North have been years of peace, joy, prosperity, and obedience for those who dwell herein. His sounding of the good news has pointed the way to salvation for thousands. Our pastor has kept his “feet” shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.

The Pastorate requires strong feet, for the shepherd must lead the flock on the long journey. May the feet of this occupant of Antioch’s Pastorate remain strong, steady, straight, and solid. As his strong voice continues to proclaim God’s Eternal Truth, may his feet forever remain in the “paths of righteousness.”

From today’s vantage point, it is extremely difficult to imagine where our beloved Antioch would be if it had not been for the Lord sending one of His best under shepherds to our pulpit at a time when we needed him most. Just like a tree planted by rivers of water, Reverend Alexander has nurtured within the hearts and souls of the Antioch congregational family a strong belief and persistence that everything having to do with “Church” must be Bible-based, Christ-centered, Holy Spirit-led and Mission-bound. Having abided by that basic principle, today Antioch stands tall as a place of refuge, a stalwart and an uncompromising beacon of hope that sheds a true light of promise in Atlanta at the corner of Northside Drive and Cameron M. Alexander Boulevard.

45TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY
WORSHIP SERVICES

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

The Call to Worship

The Devotion.....Deacons' Ministry

The Special Anniversary Processional.....Youth Dancers, Pastor & Family, Special Guests,
and Pastoral Anniversary Committee

The Hymn, #411.....**Lift Him Up**.....Congregation

The Gloria Patri

The Pastoral Tribute from the Music Ministry

7:45AM - Antioch Choir, BWT Verse Speakers, Vessels of Praise Dance Ministry

11:00AM - Antioch Choir, Adult Hand Bell Choir, Teen Dance Ministry

The Announcements & Recognition of Visitors

THE LITANY OF PRAISE

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

MINISTER: *We are...*

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

MINISTER: *We stand on...*

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

MINISTER: *So, let us...*

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

Psalm 100

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

The Offertory Prayer

O God, our Father, we gather this morning to thank you for sending to our congregation a strong and compassionate pastor, the Reverend Cameron M. Alexander. We ask, O Lord, that you will forgive our indifference and neglect and make us responsive to thy call to serve. Help us, Lord Jesus, to remember your blessings to us as we share them cheerfully for the building of your Kingdom on earth. Amen.

The Tithes & Offerings.....Deacons & Ushers' Ministries
The Special Presentations.....Deacons Ministry and Ministers Alliance (7:45 a.m.)
District Attorney's Office, Pastor's Support and 45/60 Anniversary Committee (11:00 a.m.)

The Musical Tribute to our Pastor.....Rev. Eric Jackson (7:45 a.m.)
Minister Tracey Harris, Gospel Tribune Magazine (11:00 a.m.)

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

The Sermon.....**7:45am – Rev. Rodney K. Turner**
Pastor, Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA

11:00am – Rev. J. H. Flakes, III
Pastor, Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church, Columbus, GA

The Invitation to Discipleship

The Late Tithes and Offerings.....Deacons' and Ushers' Ministries

The Recessional

(Please refrain from walking during the Invitation to Discipleship)

'Til We Meet Again



OUR 7:45AM SPEAKER

Rev. Rodney K. Turner



Reverend Rodney Kirk Turner was born November 27, 1957, in Atlanta, Georgia. He attended Berean Junior Academy and graduated from the Frederick Douglas High School. Following his graduation, he obtained his college education at the historic Morehouse College as a sociology and criminology major. While pursuing his education at Morehouse, Rev. Turner became a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and served as president of the fraternity for two years. He furthered his biblical education at Carver and Beulah Heights Bible Colleges. For nine years he served as the Pastor of Canaan Missionary Baptist Church in Roanoke, Alabama and is presently, the Pastor of Mount Vernon Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. He is a proud father and the loving husband to former State Representative LaNett L. Stanley of Atlanta, GA.

While attending Antioch Baptist Church North, Rev. Turner served as a spiritual son and student, under the leadership of Reverend Cameron M. Alexander. Rev. Turner committed himself as a staff member for 17 years as Antioch's Substance Abuse, AIDS, Prison Ministry and Outreach Coordinator. He was the director of Antioch's first recovery residence for men, the Ananias House, and Antioch's first recovery residence for women, Ruth's Place. Rev. Turner is the Founder, President and CEO of Product of the Power Ministry, a faith-based non-profit organization which addresses, through his biblically based 7-step model, the needs of those suffering with substance abuse problems and other spiritual behavioral disorders.

Reverend Turner presently works with Clark Atlanta University and the Fulton County Judicial system as the senior counselor for Project Redirection, a special program designed to provide alternatives to incarceration for Fulton County non-violent offenders. In addition, he has worked with Juvenile offenders in DeKalb and Fulton County. Currently, he is a chaplain for the Fulton County Sheriff Department, and a member of the Georgia Sheriff Association Chaplain's Division.

Rev. Turner served on the Governor's AIDS Task force, the SCLC Wings of Hope Anti-Drug Task Force, and was chosen to participate in a one-year internship at Atlanta West Drug and Alcohol Treatment Center and Methadone Clinic. Rev. Turner also served as the Substance Abuse Coordinator for the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, as a member of the Board of Directors for CARP and as a board member for the CHEM Lab (Creating Healthy Empowered Minds). He currently serves as a board member for Antioch Urban Ministries and is a member of Atlanta Ministers Union.

Reverend Turner has received several awards including: The Atlanta Dairy Association's Movers and Shakers Award, Antioch Baptist Church North's Man of The Year and Community Service Award, the 2004 Antioch Urban Ministries Mighty Faith Award, the Concerned Black Clergy's Community Service Award, recipient of the 2006 Gospel Choice Chosen Award and recipient of the 2012 God's Trombone Award from Rainbow PUSH. Reverend Turner has authored six books to assist those recovering from sin and substance problems. Many churches around the nation seeking to start Christian based recovery programs have used his seven-step model and the material from his books. He has also taught recovery classes in the urban ministries department at Beulah Heights Bible College and the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia (GMBC) where he also teaches in the ministers and youth divisions of the GMBC Congress of Christian Education. He is a faculty member of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, Auxiliary to the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. Currently, he is a columnist for the nationally published magazine Recovery Solutions.

With over twenty-six years of Christ-centered recovery work. Rev. Turner has helped countless men and women come to Christ, knowing and understanding that to be a Product of the Power is not just a matter of becoming clean and sober, but one having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ which leads to a successful and productive life. He is an advocate for the disadvantaged, the hungry and the homeless in the community, always sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. Reverend Turner's motto is, "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new," 2nd Corinthians 5:17.

OUR 11:00AM SPEAKER

Rev. Johnny H. Flakes, III



Reverend Johnny H. Flakes, III is the second child of the three siblings born to the late Reverend Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Flakes, Jr. He is married to the lovely Jacqueline Denise Flakes. They are the parents of two children, a daughter, Braya; and son, Kevin.

Educationally, Reverend Flakes received his elementary and high school education from the Muscogee County School system. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Tuskegee University (Alabama), a Master's degree from the University of Iowa Iowa City, and a Master of Divinity degree from the Morehouse School of Religion at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia.

Reverend Flakes earned the distinction of being one of twenty one students, to be nominated by the Interdenominational Theological Center, for inclusion in Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities.

Prior to becoming the Senior Pastor of the Forth Street Missionary Baptist Church, Reverend Flakes served as Pastor of the Mount Gilead Missionary Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. Additionally, he served as Co-Pastor of both Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church of Columbus, Georgia, and the Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Phenix City, Alabama.

Reverend Flakes' Ministerial and civic affiliation:

Served as executive board member of the Metro-Atlanta Baptist Minister's Union

Served as First Vice President of the Fifth District of the Congress of Christian Education

Served on the Executive board of the Atlanta Chapter NAACP

Chairman of current events

Chairman of the political action committee

Co-Chair of the Fellowship of churches committee

Served as a member of the "Concern Black Clergy" of Atlanta, Georgia

Served as the chairman of the publicity committee for the 2005 National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc, GMBC Host Committee, Atlanta, Georgia.

Helped to develop and implement the Atlanta Baptist Minister's Union Institute

Served as a member of the John Amos Cancer Center Advisory Board

Serves as a faculty member of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education

Served as Vice-President of the East Alabama Association of Congress Education

Served as Chairman of the General Missionary Baptist Congress of Christian Education State of Georgia Chapters

Served as President of the Muscogee County Clergy Association

Served as a board member of the Enrichment Service Program of Columbus, Georgia

Serves as secretary of Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance

Serves as member of the Turner Ministry Resource Center Advisory Board - Pastoral Institute

Serves on the "right from the Start" Marriage Initiative Advisory Board - Pastoral Institute

Serves on the Columbus Regional Foundation Board

But more importantly, Reverend Flakes serves as the Senior Pastor of the Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church, where his father, the late Reverend Dr. J. H. Flakes, Jr., served as pastor for fifty (50) years.

Reverend J. H. Flakes, III, is a doctrinal teacher and preacher of the Gospel of Jesus the Christ.

A SERVANT OF GOD!

There Is A Man In Town!

The Leadership Legacy of Dr. Cameron Alexander at the Antioch Baptist Church North

By Brother Barney Simms

As a Church Family, we have been blessed for the past 45 years to have as our beloved pastor, the Reverend Dr. Cameron Madison Alexander. His long and lasting legacy of Christian Service to our congregation and to the greater Atlanta community has been both magnificent because of his many accomplishments and awe-inspiring because of his tireless efforts to bring new converts to Christ. Today all of Antioch is extremely overjoyed to commemorate this historic milestone and also the 60th Anniversary of his preaching ministry.



During the late spring of 1969, the Antioch Congregation was ending an extensive pastoral search and had focused on five final candidates from which to select a pastor to fill the vacant Antioch pulpit. The young Reverend Alexander was invited as a “guest preacher” that Sunday Morning so none of the final candidates would have an edge on the voting process to be held the following Monday evening. His first sermon at Antioch was entitled “There is a Man in Town!”

In retrospect, no one knew then that God in His infinite wisdom had already chosen and brought “the man” to town to fill the void in His pulpit at Antioch. After 45 remarkable years of servant leadership, the “man” is still in town...still preaching the Gospel, baptizing new converts, marrying couples, dedicating babies, celebrating home goings, and caring for “the least of these,” while developing and mentoring ministers, church leaders, and feeding God’s flock.

Always following the lead of the Holy Spirit, Pastor Alexander has led our congregation on an incredible spiritual journey during the past 45 years. That journey thus far has been astounding in its spiritual rewards, extremely beneficial to the causes of Jesus Christ, and to the building of God’s kingdom on earth.

Pastor Alexander’s servant leadership, steeped in strong traditional Baptist values that are Bible-Based, Christ-Centered, Holy-Spirit Led and Mission Bound, has had a profound impact upon the growth and the vitality of our congregation. Born in Atlanta, the son of an “old-fashioned” preacher, Pastor Alexander was educated in the Atlanta Public Schools; graduating from Booker T. Washington High School. He attended Florida A & M University and graduated from Morehouse College where he earned his baccalaureate degree and the Morehouse School of Religion where he earned his Masters of Divinity Degree. When he accepted the Call to Antioch in 1969, he was well prepared for the myriad of difficult challenges that he would face at a church of historical significance faced with a decline in membership.

Even as a young minister, Pastor Alexander knew if Antioch was to be restored into a healthy, strong church, he had to spend time retooling and strengthening its foundation; clarifying in the minds of everyone involved—deacons, trustees, lay leaders and members—exactly why the Church exists! The healing power that our congregation gained from Pastor Alexander’s teachings and preaching during his first five years of leadership were phenomenal. It united us in purpose and prepared us for the most ambitious growth and building programs in our church’s 136 year history.

Pastor Alexander's impact at Antioch was felt immediately upon his arrival! He wasted little time in reuniting the Church's dwindling membership; fostering morale, instituting numerous innovative and varied programs to enlist the entire congregation in Christian works appropriate to interests and specializations. During the early 1970's, he provided leadership for the congregation to amass parcel after parcel of land surrounding the church building for future growth and to accommodate the vision for his exemplary outreach ministry that would holistically address the needs of the congregation and surrounding Fifth Ward Community.

In 1986, when he believed the congregation was ready to build a new worship center, Pastor Alexander commissioned a demographic study which recommended the relocation of Antioch to a more suburban community away from the challenges of the inner city. The study underscored facts that the majority of the membership, which had grown from less than 500 that were here when he arrived to more than 6,000, now resided away from Atlanta's urban core. However, Pastor Alexander decided then that for Antioch to be effective, the Church had to be near the people in need of help and not down some shady tree-lined suburban lane.

To the chagrin of the demographers, Pastor Alexander accelerated his building plans by acquiring 42 additional parcels of land, demolished the existing houses on the properties, and led the congregation in building Antioch's current multi-million dollar worship center and adjoining administrative wing at its same location at 540 Kennedy Street (now named Cameron M. Alexander Boulevard), the very location that the demographers had deemed economically depressed. The new worship center was dedicated in 1990, twenty years after the promise that he made to the congregation shortly after his arrival as pastor. He had made believers of those who were his naysayers.

Pastor Alexander understood clearly that the city and community knew Antioch as "a rock in a weary land" and as a catalyst for change. Since Antioch believed in the intrinsic value and future vitality of its neighborhood location, other viable corporate entities have been built in the area including the Georgia Dome, the enlargement of the Georgia World Congress Center, and the international headquarters for The Coca-Cola Company. Additionally, Antioch has partnered with the Atlanta Development Authority to develop the Northyards Business Park. The City's leadership has since thanked Pastor Alexander for spurring redevelopment in what is often called a depressed area so close to downtown Atlanta.

Under God's direction, Pastor Alexander has been blessed to grow Antioch into a wonderful example of a strong Church that stands as a beacon of hope and an anchor in its community. His ministry combines the trained eye of the academician, the imagination and resourcefulness of the missionary, and the empathetic understanding of the loving pastor. His pulpit style has been described as captivating! Our pastor has both the power and gift of persuasion. The Atlanta Tribune Magazine has described his theology as a "possible collaboration between Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X, from a fusion of their respective emphasis on divine love and divine justice."

Since the early days of his ministry at Antioch, Pastor Alexander has been serious about healing what he calls "the broken society." His compassion for the poor and overlooked has been chronicled and praised in local and national publications. He has been fearless in his efforts to serve those who are all too often counted among the least, the less, and the lost.

In 1991, Pastor Alexander provided visionary leadership for Antioch to acquire the 12-story Walton Hotel in downtown Atlanta for one million dollars and transformed it into apartments for the working homeless. Originally called the Walton House, it has since been renamed the Madison House as a tribute to Pastor Alexander's works for the poor and the disenfranchised. Also in 1991, Pastor Alexander established his nationally acclaimed Antioch Urban Ministries, Inc. as the cornerstone of his outreach ministry. A non-profit, charitable organization inspired by the six ministries in the Book

of Matthew, AUMI provides housing and a variety of supportive services for recovering addicts, and persons with AIDS or who are HIV positive and persons with noninfectious tuberculosis.

Committed to the revitalization of the English Avenue Community where the Antioch congregation has worshipped for the past 136 years, Pastor Alexander established the Bethursday Development Corporation in 1994 as a community development extension of the Antioch Baptist Church North. This non-profit, named to commemorate the Bethursday Prayer Band that was founded by eight former slaves that evolved into our beloved Antioch Baptist Church, has become a major stakeholder and real estate developer in the English Avenue community. The corporation provided leadership in the building of the Gateway Apartment complex, 261 affordable units which features fantastic views of downtown Atlanta, an Olympic size swimming pool, fitness center, and a business center with a 400 car parking deck. The Bethursday Corporation is marketing and selling 38 market rate town homes that it developed on Elm Street, just three blocks from the Antioch campus. These two-story homes feature 2 and 3 bedroom units with detached 2-car garages enclosing outdoor courtyards. Other Bethursday developments and partnerships addressing the affordable housing shortage are scattered across the city.

In 1997, Pastor Alexander led the congregation in purchasing the Selig business plaza (located on Northside Drive adjacent the worship center) to house the offices and administrative staff for AUMI, the Bethursday Corporation and the Church's Human Services Department.

In 1999, Pastor Alexander encouraged the congregation to purchase surrounding property and a multi-purpose building at 590 North Avenue. Known to the congregation as "the 590," the building hosts a variety of congregation events and is used most frequently for youth activities.

In 2001, Pastor Alexander provided leadership for Antioch's purchase of an additional eleven "prized" acres of land located between Simpson and Kennedy Streets. The purchase was considered a prize inasmuch as several major developers wanted the property. Also, four additional adjacent acres were purchased from the CSX Railroad. These additional acres have expanded the immediate Antioch campus holdings into 38 valuable downtown acres that will support future church growth and prevent the Church from becoming land-locked in the community where the Church has called home for 136 years.

While many congregations, especially those that are as old as Antioch, often split and reorganize for a variety of reasons, under Pastor Alexander's leadership, Antioch has successfully established nine missions, four of which have become strong, thriving congregational churches. These new congregations serve as living testimonies that Pastor Alexander's commitment to the spread of the Gospel and God's teachings are important to him as a person and especially to him as a minister.

Pastor Alexander has become one of the nation's best known ministers. He is a former vice president of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. and is the president emeritus of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, Inc. where he served as the body's illustrious president for 29 years. During his long and distinguished legacy of leadership with the GMBC, he served as Host and the General Chairman for the 1985, 1992 and 2005 National Baptist Conventions that were held in Atlanta. In 1994, he served as the Co-Chair for the Reverend Billy Graham's Atlanta Crusade. Also in 1994, Pastor Alexander was a key player and major sponsor in bringing former South African President Nelson Mandela to Atlanta, his first American visit following his release and long ordeal from a South African prison. As his official host, Antioch honored Mandela with a special luncheon in fellowship hall with a guest list that included national and international dignitaries from all walks of life from around the world.

Pastor Alexander played a key role in working with the campaign to elect Atlanta's first African American Mayor, the Honorable Maynard Jackson, who appointed him to serve as the Chairman of the Atlanta Religious Mobilization Against Crime in 1978. Pastor Alexander has served as president of the Rainbow Coalition in Georgia, and president and treasurer, respectively, of the Morehouse School of Religion and a trustee of the Morehouse School of Medicine. To celebrate the advent of the new millennium, Pastor Alexander implemented the Community of Faith March through downtown Atlanta (1999) which brought together diverse religious communities.

In recognition of his illustrious ministerial career, Pastor Alexander has been awarded honorary Doctor of Divinity Degrees from the United Theological Seminary (1978), the Interdenominational Theological Center (1991), and from the Carver Bible College (2007). In 2000, his alma mater, Morehouse College, honored him with its prestigious Bennie Award, the highest recognition that the College gives to its most distinguished alumni. His portrait hangs in the Hall of Great Preachers in the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel on the Morehouse College campus. On July 22, 2008, the Atlanta Business League inducted Pastor Alexander into its Legends Hall of Fame. The distinguished honor recognized the significance of Reverend Alexander's influence, good deeds and trailblazing impact on Atlanta's vitality as a great city.

During 2009 a variety of well deserved major recognitions were given to Pastor Alexander as further testament to his influence on the quality of life for citizens in Atlanta and all across Georgia and the nation. In January 2010, he was inducted onto the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame. In February 2010, the Georgia General Assembly honored him with a Resolution. In March 2010, two of his sermons were placed in the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

In April 2010, a documentary on Pastor Alexander's "Spiritual Journey" was profiled by the Atlanta Interfaith Broadcast. In July 2010, our own Brother Hank Stewart honored Pastor Alexander during his Eighth Annual White Linen Affair. In September 2010, he was inducted into the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame. In December 2010, the Atlanta City Council approved the re-naming of Kennedy Street to Cameron M. Alexander Boulevard to recognize Pastor Alexander's historical legacy of leadership within the city. Most recently, he was appointed to the Global Advisory Board for the National Center of Civil and Human Rights. As in years past, presidents, governors, senators, mayors and other elected officials continue to seek his counsel and wisdom regularly.

Looking back on his 45 years of servant leadership at Antioch, Pastor Alexander says he is proud of the loyal and consistent support that he has received from his family; especially his beloved wife of 60 years, Barbara (affectionately called "Mrs. A"), and their four children. And of course he dotes on his nine grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Pastor Alexander is keenly aware of the historical record of strong pastoral leadership that preceded him at Antioch. He is quick to give special recognition to all of the courageous pastors who preceded him as trailblazers upon whose shoulders he proudly stands. He is careful and always vigilant to give God the credit for the wonderful opportunity to serve as His under shepherd at Antioch; saying passionately, "It wasn't me. It was God working through me. God deserves the credit and To God be the glory!"



‘For whatever reason, the Lord has kept us here’

By Gracie Bonds Staples
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution
Originally posted online: Friday, July 11, 2014



The Rev. Cameron Madison Alexander, who will mark 60 years of preaching and 45 years of pastoring Antioch Baptist Church North on Aug. 3, talks with addicts at the church's Land of Promise, a recovery ministry in Culloden, GA. "I'm excited to get to see how the Lord is going to take care of all the people left in the wake of the moving of the two churches," the Rev. Alexander said. "These were very powerful churches. Mt. Vernon had awesome outreach. Friendship was a historical anchor." PHOTO/DARRYL SPEED

In a few weeks, the Rev. Cameron Madison Alexander will celebrate 60 years of preaching the gospel, 45 of those at Antioch Baptist Church North.

In all that time, Antioch has stood as a beacon of hope in a community beset with all manner of blight, from poverty to joblessness to racism. And it has been Alexander who has tried, always leading by example, to do the often stressful work of ministering to the least, the less and the lost in Atlanta's Fifth Ward.

I know because my family and I have been the beneficiaries of that ministry since arriving in Atlanta 14 years ago. While 45 years isn't as significant as, say, 50 or 100 years, this anniversary comes at an especially significant time, marked by upheaval and testing. The community has been stung by the demolition of two of its houses of worship - Mount Vernon Baptist Church and historic Friendship Baptist - to make way for the new Falcons stadium.

So, when I invited Alexander to look back over his ministry, the 82-year-old pastor's eyes were fixed on the future, on those left to fend for themselves and why Antioch must remain for the long haul.

"The bank is there to help people transact money, schools are there to educate the children," he said. "I believe a church ought to have reasons for occupying the space that it does. It needs to ask what is it doing to represent the Lord."

For Antioch, that has sometimes meant walking a lonely road. When other religious leaders said AIDS was a curse from God and turned their backs on victims of the deadly disease, Alexander made the unpopular decision to stand with them, to see to it that they got the care they needed.

Not only did he start support groups at Antioch at the height of the epidemic, he eventually opened Matthew's Place, named for one of the 12 apostles who's credited with writing Matthew 25:35: "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: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me."

For years, Antioch has provided food for the hungry, shelter and support services to those struggling with substance abuse, clothing for the naked, scholarships totaling some \$1.5 million and, when necessary, advocacy for those facing injustice - both her members and the English Avenue community where the church has stood for more than 135 years.

The congregation numbers doctors and lawyers and even a former candidate for the president of the United States, Herman Cain among its members. But you will also find the poor and uneducated, the unemployed and underemployed.

“For whatever reason, the Lord has kept us here,” Alexander said. “And the members keep coming – I think because they’re committed to the missionary endeavors we have.” That commitment endures even though Antioch’s is largely a drive-in congregation, with members as far away as Cartersville and Griffin.



But Alexander wonders, especially now with the relocation of Mt. Vernon and Friendship, how his flock will meet the needs. “These were very powerful churches. Mt. Vernon had awesome outreach. Friendship was a historical anchor.”

Still, the pastor is not without hope.

“I’m excited to get to see how the Lord is going to take care of all the people left in the wake of the moving of the two churches,” he said.

Some people are drawn to Antioch to be a part of the tradition it represents. Some simply by its physical beauty. My husband and I were drawn to Antioch because of Alexander’s ability to rightly divide the word, his generosity of spirit, and compassion for people. We have not been disappointed.

Over and over across the years, we’ve watched him turn away from the instinct to judge and to punish, turning toward the impulse to give to the least. Choosing to model community the same way Jesus did seems second nature to this self-described “paper boy,” who has been delivering God’s word for 60 years now.

More importantly, he has shone the light of faith into people’s lives.

And so it is not surprising or unusual for his flock, even without the benefit of an anniversary, to offer him applause when he stands in his pulpit.

I asked him about that, and he said he doesn’t know what to make of it.

“I don’t understand it, because in most instances after a certain time, nobody’s glad to see you,” he said, laughing. “To be appreciated after 45 years, I think, is the greatest present that a pastor can receive from his membership. It gives me an added incentive to be better as a pastor and preacher.”



The congregation will officially mark his anniversary with a special worship service Aug. 3.

Looking forward, he said, he’d like to see Antioch develop the 38 acres of land it had accumulated under his leadership.

Sometimes, he envisions building a new sanctuary, sometimes a family life center, a senior citizen facility, or “first class” health clinic and magnet school.

All he knows for sure is that God will make a way for Antioch to continue to care for His people.

The greatest challenge, as he sees it, is to provide for the community in terms of spiritual growth.

The Falcons, he said, have invested \$1.3 billion in football.

“I believe there has to be a spiritual investment,” he said. “The recreational part is temporary. The spiritual is eternal.”

Antioch Baptist Church North will celebrate its pastor, the Rev. Cameron Madison Alexander, at its 7:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. services Aug. 3. Alexander, a self-described “paper boy,” for the Lord has been pastor of the English Avenue church for 45 years and preaching for 60 years

DEAR PASTOR ALEXANDER



Congratulations on 45 years of most effective Pastoral care and leadership at Antioch and 60 years in ministry. I am very confident of the effectiveness of the ten years between 1981 - 1991, because those were the years I was there. Those years were the time of healing from corporate and business world transition, recovery from marital separation and divorce as well as growth in the faith of my father and family to faith in the FATHER and of my own.

I remember the first time I attended a service at Antioch after many invitations from Deacon Charles Griggs, as I stepped into the sanctuary from the foyer of the “old building”, I felt a swirl of air come down upon my head, as if from a ceiling fan. I realized several weeks later, when thinking of that experience, that there were no fans in the foyer of that building. I realized it was the confirming presence of the Holy Spirit that I stepped into and not anything stirred by a fan.

I began this letter of thanks with this important experience because the welcoming presence of the Holy Spirit within a service is absolutely invited and ushered in by the Spirit of the Pastor. I thank you Pastor Alexander for always allowing the Holy Spirit to rule and reign in the services at Antioch.

The direction of my assignment at Antioch was very strategic and timely. Little did I know, that there was a pastoral calling upon my life. I did know I needed to know and experience REAL Church and not just ceremony and service that was more social than Christ glorifying.

Each sermon whether delivered by Pastor Alexander or one of the many Sons of Antioch, met a specific need in my life at the time, and I still remember key messages and often refer to them in counseling or discussions.

Antioch was the place I was directed to for recovery and healing from my early marriage and business wounds; as with any good hospital, the treatments enabled me to resume some very vital aspects of life. My wife, Natalie, and I grew there by the Word, during our dating and engagement and were married there after a Sunday morning Service before the entire congregation. Our son was born while attending Antioch and dedicated by Pastor Alexander. We were blessed and anointed to leave in 1991 when the company of my employ promoted and transferred us to Washington, DC.

My overall appreciation of you Pastor Alexander and your pastorate during the 10 years we were there, can be compared to the life of an eagle.. it is said that eagles shed their feathers at certain periods of their life. The process is an extensive one and takes some time to complete. The process is the result of years of flying, diving and hunting against weather, winds and rain. The feathers become tattered, and will make a whistling noise as they descend upon a prey at a high rate of speed. To have the feathers renewed, the eagle ascends to a high, isolated place ; they then pluck out each feather from its body and remain at that isolated place until new feathers have grown upon the entire body to replace each of the old worn feathers. When all new feathers are regrown the eagle resumes a life of hunting, building and growing.

The comparison to the eagle is parallel with my life at Antioch under you Pastor Alexander... my faith feathers were very worn and tattered when I arrived; Antioch and you Pastor were the rock and high place that I rested in while each of the sermons, services, messages, words of encouragement both removed damaged “feathers” in my life and replaced them with new feathers of faith.

When the ten year process was complete, the Lord by the Holy Spirit sent me and my family away to soar in faith and establish a ministry place to be a refuge for others who are worn and weary from the “hunt”.

I am forever grateful to have you Pastor Cameron Maddison Alexander as a mentor, teacher, role model, man of faith, teacher, leader, trainer, and Christ like example in my life.

Always,
D. Garvin Byrd
Pastor, Word of God Fellowship
6255 Old Warwick Road
Richmond, VA 23224

The State Senate
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

VALENCIA SEAY
District 34
420-B State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-2000
Tel: (404) 656-5095
Fax: (404) 657-9728

COMMITTEES:
Appropriations
Government Oversight
Public Safety
Science and Technology
Transportation

August 3, 2014



To: Reverend Cameron Madison Alexander

It is with great joy and honor that I extend a heartfelt thanks and congratulations to my pastor, Rev. Cameron Madison Alexander for his 45 years of service to our church and 60 years of preaching the gospel. 1 Timothy 5:17 best describes the labor and honor of a great leader, "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in the word and doctrine." I join with the members of the State Senate and the Great State of Georgia in honoring Rev. Alexander, a pillar and shepherd in our community.

I am blessed to celebrate my pastor, who is loved and well known nationally and internationally His dedication and commitment to serving the Lord has been an inspiration to our church and the community. I am proud of his teaching and preaching for my family and I for 45 years. I credit him for his prayers, guidance and direction to Joe Beasley in my political life for 22 years.

My family joins me in congratulating Rev. Alexander for 60 years of preaching the gospel and 45 years at Antioch Baptist Church North, where I accepted my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I love you and God Bless you and the entire Alexander family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Valencia Seay". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

*Your State Senator
District 34*

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FULTON COUNTY

FULTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER

141 PRYOR STREET SW

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

Robert L. "Robb" Pitts
COMMISSIONER
District 2 At-Large

TELEPHONE (404) 612-8210
FACSIMILE (404) 730-7285



August 3, 2014

Reverend Cameron M. Alexander
Antioch Baptist Church North
540 Cameron M. Alexander Blvd, NW
Atlanta, GA 30318

Greetings,

I am honored to extend my congratulations to you, Reverend Cameron M. Alexander, on the occasion of your 45th anniversary at Antioch Baptist Church and your 60th pastoral anniversary. What a celebratory occasion for your congregation!

Among your many accomplishments, I have to particularly acknowledge Antioch Urban Ministries, Inc. (AUMI), which stands out as a pillar of outstanding service to the Vine City and English Avenue communities. The landscape of this neighborhood has truly been changed for the better, thanks to your and AUMI's commitment to help more than 15,000 individuals and families achieve better lives.

On a personal note, my mother, Louise Phillips, was a long-time member of Antioch, and I know that she would join me in extending deepest congratulations on this momentous anniversary.

Reverend Alexander, I applaud your life-long commitment to service and ministry. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robb Pitts", with a long, sweeping underline.

Robb Pitts

robb.pitts@fultoncountyga.gov

Serving the least of these...

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

HUMAN SERVICES MINISTRY

For the week ending July 26, 2014, 550 food boxes were distributed. The value of the groceries was \$12,620. A total of 7,636 pounds of food was received for distribution, 489 meals served to AUMI residents, and 331 community meals served.

CLOTHING BANK

Thirty-three (33) families received goods through the Clothing Bank.

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School Ministry requests your presence at Sunday School. Today's lesson is ***"Does Anyone Care?"*** The scripture comes from **II Corinthians 1:3-11**. We have classes for every age group, so we look forward to seeing you in Sunday School at 10:00am today. All college students are encouraged to attend the College Student's class in room 4. The lesson for next Sunday will be ***"Restored Relationships"***, **II Corinthians 1:23-24; 2:1-11**.



IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL TIME!

The Annual Back To School event will be held on Saturday, August 9, 2014 from 10:00 am – 1:30 pm at the 590 North Building. Enjoy the game truck and other fun activities as we prepare our Youth for another school year. Also planned is a Youth vs. Deacons basketball challenge! This is something YOU don't want to miss!

The Youth Ministry is in need of back to school supplies for the youth of Antioch and the surrounding community. If you would like to donate, please drop your items off in the bins located on the fellowship hall level and the main sanctuary level, each Sunday after worship service or during the week. Please remember our youth of ALL ages from Pre-k through college. **ANTIOCH WE NEED YOU!!!! LET'S ALL TURNUP FOR JESUS....**

For further information about this event and to register please see Sis. Chelsi Lester, Bro. Micah Arnold, Sis. Rachel Henderson, Sis Autumn Lewis, Sis Athena Manning or Bro Kentrell Porch.



The 7th Annual Cameron M. Alexander Golf Classic is fast approaching. There is still time to sign up. If you are not a golfer, you can still join in the fun. This year, we are hosting a special golf clinic for those of you who want to learn the game. The clinic will be taught by expert golfers and will allow you to practice your swing,, learn which club to use and a lot more. This exciting event will be held on **Saturday, August 16, 9:00 a.m.** at the Eagles Landing Country Club. Beginners to expert golfers are invited to attend. Each year, the Classic benefits the Antioch Urban Ministries. Don't miss this Great Event! To sign up, register your team, or for more information, please contact Dea. Benny Williams in the church office at 404-688-5679.

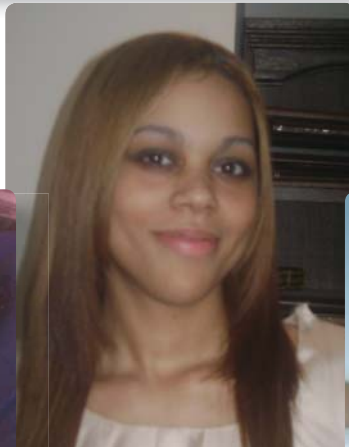
TRASH TO TREASURE IS BACK!

Place this event at the top of your weekly list. Tack it to your refrigerator, calendar or place a note around your wrist. Do whatever it takes to help you remember...your donations will be too late if you wait until September. Mid-August is the deadline for accepting donations. Please place your donations in the designated bins throughout the church. For more information, please call the church office at 404-688-5679.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL TOUR

Seeking Respite, Rejuvenation, and Renewal of Mind and Spirit!!! Women's International Historical Tour to Niagara Falls-Ontario, Canada on Thursday, April 16 -Sunday, April 19, 2015. Prepare to have an awesome adventure as we tour the following places: the Pen Centre in St. Catharine's, the St. Catharine's Museum which displays the permanent Black History exhibit ***"Follow the North Star"***, Niagara-on-the-Lake, BME Salem Chapel, Welland Canal Centre, a day in Toronto, Casa Loma, shopping at the Eaton Centre Mall (the largest mall in Canada) & so much more. A payment plan will be available beginning with your down payment on Sunday, August 10, 2014. Space is limited. Please see the Women's Division Representatives today in the narthex after each service for details.

The Alexander Family



45th Pastoral Anniversary Events

Easter



A Taste of Antioch



Youth Achievement Banquet



Pastor's Bar-B-Que



CMA Golf Classic



Spring Revival



Churchwide Birthmonth



Care & Comfort Ministry Sick & Shut-In List

Members in Hospitals

Sis. Linda Harper – Northside Hospital, Rm 462

Members in Nursing Homes & Rehabilitation Centers

Sis Alice Arline – Signature Healthcare of Buckhead, Rm 218
Bro. Thirius Brinkley – Manor Care of Decatur, Decatur, Rm 149
Sis Robertine Bryant – UniHealth Post-Acute Care, Decatur, Rm 216
Bro. Freddie Chesson – Peregrine’s Landing at Peachtree Creek, Smyrna
Mother Mattie Chivers - Summerset Assisted Living, Atlanta Rm 1C
Bro. Louis Durald – Quest Village, Atlanta, Apartment 7
Sis. Lillian Edinburgh – Genesis Healthcare, Riverdale, Rm W16
Bro. Collier Glover – Dekalb Medical Long Term Acute Care, Rm 402
Sis. Bettye Harris – Nursecare of Buckhead, Atlanta Rm 205
Sis. Billie Hartley – College Park Healthcare Center, Rm 215
Mother Mary Hood – Signature Healthcare of Buckhead, Rm 406
Mother Elizabeth Johnson - Manor Care of Decatur, Decatur, Rm 235
Mother Ernestine Shaw - Manor Care of Decatur, Decatur, Rm 214
Sis. Rosalie Thomas – Summerset Assisted Living, Atlanta
Bro. Dallas Tucker – Sadie G. Mays Rehabilitation Center, Atlanta, Rm C21
Mother Lula West – Traditions Health and Rehab
Bro. James Williams – Nursecare of Buckhead Rehab, Rm 410
Sis. Roselle Wright – UniHealth Post-Acute Care, Fairburn, Rm 211

Members Convalescing at Home

Sis. Zeporia Alexander	Sis. Gwendolyn Johnson	Sis. Catherine Smith
Sis. Rosa Ashe	Sis. Rebecca Johnson	Mother Rosa Smith
Bro. Lewis Brown	Bro. Rufus Kelly	Mother Marie Walker
Dea. Nesby Cain	Bro. Phillip Lyde	Sis. Mae Weaver
Bro. Henry Claybrook	Bro. Micheal Martin	Sis. Annette Webb
Sis. Deborah Cleveland	Sis. Sylvia McClain	Mother Lillie Willis
Sis. Miriam Crawford	Sis. Ramona Moore	
Sis. Arnecia Curtis	Dea. Garry Mott	
Sis. Doris Dennis	Sis. Cynthia Price	
Sis. Minnie George	Sis. Ruby Rhodes	
Bro. Paul Graham	Sis. Tomiyko Roberts	
Sis. Pearla Holmes	Bro. Fred Samuels, Jr.	
Bro. Donald Hutson	Sis. Candace Scott	

Worship Service Coordinator:

7:45am & 11am - Bro. Rodney Thompson

Security Chiefs on duty:

7:45am-Bro. Larry Parks

11am-Bro. Julius Simmons

Trustees on duty:

7:45am-Bro. Lee Baker

11am-Sis. Aisha Murray

Health Professionals on duty:

7:45am-Dr. Dorothy Wiggins

11am-Sis. Carol Thomas

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

3 John 1:2

