

King celebrated: Antioch remembers Haiti earthquake victims

One by one, the children shared their dreams.

The first boy said he wants to be a lawyer. The second child has dreams of becoming a pilot. The third spoke of owning a law firm. And on and on they went, 15 children in all, speaking boldly about their career goals during a rousing Martin Luther King Day celebration at Antioch Baptist Church North. More than 100 church members and others gathered for the two-hour program honoring the Atlanta native and human rights pioneer.

The other children spoke of becoming a neurologist, a dentist, a plastic surgeon, an actress, a doctor, a musician, an electrical engineer, a teacher, a music producer, a football player, an entrepreneur and the last one said he wants to be a baseball player.

Through song, speech and solemn prayer, those involved in the service reflected on Dr. King's vision of a beloved community while challenging each other to do more to make his dream a reality.

"There is more work to be done," said Bro. Courtney English.

Bro. English, sworn in earlier this month as a member of the Atlanta Board of Education, spoke of Dr. King's goal to level



the economic disparity in America. He noted the United States is currently ranked 25th in education. The former teacher told the story of a young man who was disruptive in class one day. Bro. English took the student outside the classroom to talk. The student said it was hard to concentrate because he was focused on where he would sleep that night.

"For as long as students like (him) exist, there is work to be done," Bro. English said.

Soon afterward, the words of Dr. King echoed inside the Antioch sanctuary in chilling fashion. Min. Brendan Jenkins read excerpts from King's famed "I Have A Dream" speech. More than 46 years after Dr. King delivered that speech, many

of the same issues he mentioned still persist. Dr. King spoke of police brutality. He spoke of people moving from "a smaller ghetto to a larger ghetto."

With everyone around him, Min. Jenkins' voice rose amid shouts of "amen" and "yes" and "well" as he read Dr. King's speech.

"No. No," Min. Jenkins said. "We are not satisfied and we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream."

Earlier that weekend, Pastor Cameron M. Alexander celebrated Dr. King and his brother, Rev. A.D. King at a screening of a documentary on A.D. King's life

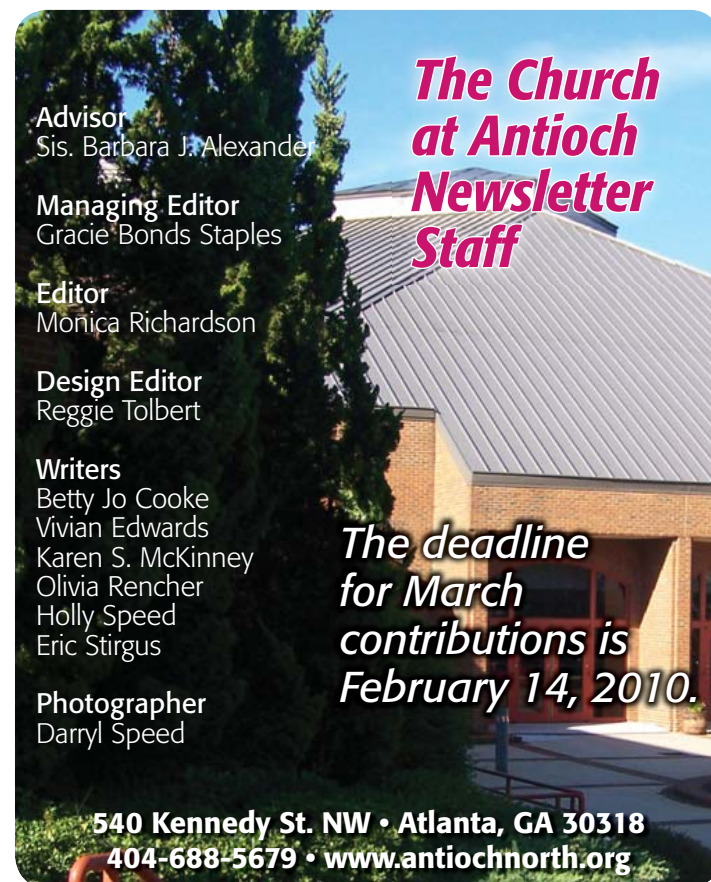
at Morehouse College. Rev. Alexander was interviewed in the documentary.

Several speakers remembered the people of Haiti during Antioch celebration. Deacon Joe Beasley said he was planning to visit the island to help with humanitarian relief efforts.

"We're one people," he said. "When one of us are suffering and hurting, all of us are suffering and hurting."

At the end of the service, everyone linked arms and sang "We Shall Overcome."

"Deep in my heart," the audience sang. "I do believe. We shall overcome someday."



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Happy Birthday!



Connecting People to Christ



The Church at Antioch

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

February 2010

Volume 3, Issue 2

Briefs

Head usher

Sis. Brenda Eason has been named vice president of ushers for the National Baptist Convention. In addition to heading the ushers at Antioch Baptist Church North, Sis. Eason is also coordinator of ushers for the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia.

Remembering our legacy

Black History month will be celebrated with presentations on our history, acknowledgements of Civil Rights legends, dramatizations and re-enactments, guest speakers, displays, and a Black Heritage Festival featuring our Youth Ministry.

Pastor's Birthday

A Spiritual Happy Hour: Celebrating the Art and Heart of A Man: Pastor C. M. Alexander, Friday, February 12, 7:00 p.m., at the
Continued on page 3



Collapsed building behind the orphanage in Haiti

Antioch school destroyed in Haiti

Dea. Beasley heading delegation there

The Antioch Baptist Church North school was among the casualties in the recent earthquake that left Haiti in ruins early last month. Its clinic, however, was left in tact, said the Rev. Cameron Madison Alexander, church pastor, during the 8 a.m. worship service on January 8.

He assured the congregation the school will be rebuilt and a delegation of Antioch members will soon travel there to assess the needs and help restore a sense of normalcy

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Building the next generation of witnesses

Youth church meets every fourth Sunday

For years, the Rev. Charles Walker wrestled with his call to the ministry.

Then on April 25, 1999, he said, the Lord made him realize that it was “His calling, His ministry, for His glory.”

He remembers that revelation every fourth Sunday when he stands to teach Antioch’s youth.

“Youth church,” said Walker is a way “to take the church out of the four walls” and encourage them to take Christ with them everywhere they go.”

“The Lord is looking for a witness and I believe that young people can be the best ones,” said Rev. Skip as he is fondly called.

The Youth Church first gathered five years ago in the church PEP Center. Rev. Walker has headed the services for the last two years in the church chapel where youth ages 13 to 18 gather every fourth Sunday.

“It is a blessing to see how they participate freely in the service while developing a solid spiritual foundation,” said Sis. Shawn Oates, who serves with



Rev. Charles Walker with members of Youth Church

Rev. Walker. “I thank God that (Pastor Cameron) Alexander’s vision for Youth Church has come alive.”

Some youth said they enjoy the open fellowship so much they’d like to see the services expanded.

“We can share our opinion openly and our voices really matter,” said Nadja Marks.

“I also get a lot out of the discussions. We talk about things that happen in everyday life.”

In addition, she said the service helps her to navigate the tough teenage situations she often faces.

Ditto, said Elexis Neal.

Nicolette Williams said Youth Church is a good experience for teens.

“It helps us deal with problems” in a Christ-like



manner.

Walker, who has been a member of Antioch Baptist Church North since 1991, said he believes teens are becoming more grounded.

“Youth Church is not only helping to prepare the youth to become stronger in their personal walks

with the Lord,” he said, “it is a good training ground for them.”

“Soon, they will be adult members and charged to pick up the torch and run with it,” Walker said. “I just believe that they’ll be ready.”

Stay tuned: time to apply for 2010 college scholarships

Another round of Antioch Baptist Church North youth will soon graduate.

With that in mind, the Scholarship Ministry will be accepting applications for financial aid. All high school seniors who plan to enroll in an institute of higher learning, college or vocational school are eli-

gible.

Seniors and their parents and/or guardians are encouraged to meet with the scholarship ministry leaders in March. The time will be announced at a later date.

Applicants must be active members of Antioch Baptist Church North or one of the

Antioch Mission churches.

Sunday, March 4, 2010 has been set aside for the membership to make a special offering, above their regular tithes and offering, in support the 2010 graduating class. Graduating seniors and others moving up their grade levels will be honored during services in

May.

It is not too late to apply for other available aide that can be found on the internet connections.

Please look for future announcements in the Sunday bulletins and The Church at Antioch newsletter.

Youth Basketball Announcements/Schedule:

Tuesday, February 9, 2010 - Week 5

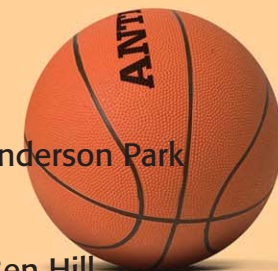
17 & Under: ANTIOCH vs PAL-SULLIVAN 6:00PM Anderson Park

Thursday, February 11, 2010 - Week 5

8 & Under: ANTIOCH vs BEN HILL TIGERS BLUE 6:00PM Ben Hill

Saturday, February 13, 2010 - Week 6

8 & Under: ANTIOCH vs SACA 10:00AM Ben Hill
 10 & Under: ANTIOCH vs BEN HILL TIGERS RED 12:00PM Ben Hill
 17 & Under: ANTIOCH vs EAST POINT 9:00AM Anderson Park
 16 & Under: ANTIOCH vs SPRINGFIELD BAPTIST 1:00PM West Hunter



Let FITatudes lead you to total wellness in the way God intended.

Saturday, March 13th, 10AM Fellowship Hall

FITatudes is about the powerful transformation that occurs when “FIT” – that’s **Feeling Inspired Together** – collides with a Godly “Attitude”. The result: **FITatudes**. A Health and Wellness Program that will be presented by our own Sis. Tonja Harding Ward.



NDI Banyi A Family Gathering

Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010-both worship services
 Come and celebrate “the family,” God’s secret weapon, in praise and worship. All members are asked to wear African attire in acknowledgement of our heritage.

Mon-Tues. (March 1-2) - FAMILY TUNE UP
 Sunday, March 7 – Family Covenant Ceremony

Beasley leads Antioch delegation to Haiti



Some of the children from the orphanage



Joe Beasley, Father Bien Aime, Director of Orphanage, and Sis. Bien Aime.

Homegoing Celebration

JANUARY

Sis. Ruby Woodard, January 12, 2010

Sis. Debra Newsome, January 23, 2010

Sis. Callie DuBoise, January 30, 2010

Until we meet again . . .

Antioch School of the Bible equipping the saints

In the second chapter of II Timothy believers are admonished to “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needed not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

To fulfill this mission, the Antioch Baptist Church North School of the Bible regularly offers instruction in Biblical Studies, Music and Performing Arts, Preaching (Prophets), Human Resources Development, Economic Development, Missions, Youth Development, and Discipleship Ministries.

According to Dea. Vernon Woods, president of the ministry, the curriculum is built upon Antioch’s four pillars: Stewardship, Doctrine, Evangelism, and Fellowship. “The goal,” he said, is to teach members about Christ so that they are able to live a Christian life and become better equipped to serve the Lord. Ultimately, students will become living examples of the Bible-based, Christ-centered, Holy Spirit-led and Mission-bound theology of our church, and stronger, more knowledgeable witnesses for our Lord.”

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

- Train its disciples to be effective witnesses for Christ, “rightly dividing the Word of Truth.
- Create knowledgeable and informed disciples for Christ.
- Provide a full understanding of the eternal truths of the Bible to serve as a safeguard against false teachings and cults.
- Help members discern God’s purpose for their lives.
- Equip members for Christian discipleship
- Enhance Christian growth and faith

Antioch added 11 members to the family in January 2010, including 7, who were Baptized.

The members are:

Raymond Lee
Christopher Guyton
Zion Calhoun
Jordan H. Williams
Andre Williams
Tyler Williams
Jordan Williams

The following 4 members received the Right Hand of Fellowship under Christian Experience:

Katrina Blunt
Margaret Brooks
Kiara Brooks
Gordon Williams

Source: Sis. Bonita Hammond

Continued Briefs

Porter Sanford III Performing Arts and Community Center.

Sweetheart Banquet

The United Couples of Antioch North Ministry (UCAN) will kick off the

2010 year on February 19th with a Sweetheart Banquet. UCAN is dedicated to providing Christian-based networking and bible study events designed to enrich married life. Bro. Darnell and Sis. Anthea Evans, and

Continued from cover: Haiti

there.

“We got kinfolk in Haiti,” said Pastor Alexander. “We need to be reminded that there is sunlight behind these clouds. In the midst of what’s happening in Haiti and our lives, we need to keep in mind that no matter what, you can trust in the Lord.”

Rev. Alexander said news of the devastation and lost lives there left him grief-stricken.

“I hope you will pray for those families,” he told the congregation. “Help and resources are on the way. Our prayer is that they arrive on time.”

Days later on January 22, Dea. Joe Beasley led a delegation to Haiti to assist with the humanitarian relief efforts and to meet with the island’s political leaders. Beasley also hopes to gather information about the devastation in Haiti and to use that information to develop a plan for Antioch support. While there, delegates will visit some of the remote areas that have not



Dea. Joe Beasley

gotten any relief. They will also deliver badly needed funds to Father Bien Aime, Director of the orphanage, to provide relief to the children in his care. (See pictures on page 6)

Pastor Alexander said he found it ironic that as the nation prepared to celebrate the birthday of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., it was learning more about its Haitian neighbors. “God moves in mysterious ways,” he said.

The attention to Haiti’s plight would not be there had the earthquake not happened but “God has a way of bringing good things out of bad,” he said.

new your covenant with God and your family.

Ndi Banyani

Celebrating the family through prayer, worship, and fun and fellowship, February 28 – March 7.

Family Covenants

Please remember to re-

Limping into the promised land

And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.

And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.

Those verses from the 32nd chapter of Genesis formed the basis of a sermon Jan. 10 on what the late Bro. Jethro English called struggling strength, the kind of strength that distinguishes winners from losers.

As indicated in the scripture, the Rev. Ronald English, a Morehouse man and head of the Charleston Black Ministerial Alliance, said there was a wrestling match going on in which the angel touches the hollow of Jacob's thigh.

Instead of quitting, English said Jacob kept wrestling.

"He didn't use the excuse of his limp to quit," English told a rapt congregation. "In fact, it seems like the limp might have given him struggling strength."

Instead of quitting, Jacob told the angel he wouldn't let him go until he blessed him.



Rev. Ronald English

Although we too often fail to see the purpose in our pain, English said that misery has a message.

The part of this story we often don't dwell on is after all this went down, English said, Jacob left with a limp. "A limp has a legacy," he said.

African-Americans, English said, were brought into this country in chains, packed in slave ships like sardines.

"We showed up here limping," he said just as President Barack Obama limped into the White House and Martin Luther King Jr. limped into the pages of history as a civil rights leader.

In his prophetic last words, English said King told us that he may not get there with us "but we as a people will find the struggling strength to limp into the promise land."

Valentine's Day tribute: Keeping the fire burning

Whether you have been married 60 years, 10 years, or two weeks, your marriage is a ministry that needs nurturing and attention.

For married couples, February or "Love Month," is a time to think about ways to keep the fire burning in your marriage.

Here at Antioch there are many Christian examples of healthy marriages in which Christ is the center.

One such couple is the Rev. Cameron and Sis. Barbara Alexander, who have been married for 55 years.

"You cannot go wrong if you constantly focus on making the other person happy," said the Rev. Alexander during a recently counseling session with engaged couples.

Deacon and Mrs. Nesby Cain, who recently celebrated their 56th anniversary, said that prayer, trust and a willingness to forgive has helped sustain



Dea. and Mrs. Nesby Cain

their marriage.

The couple raised four sons while working full-time jobs -- one at night and one during the day -- yet even during difficult times they never separated.

"Always keep prayer in your heart," said Dea. Cain. "And be sure to keep other people out of your business."

(See more couples on page 5)

What keeps the fire burning?



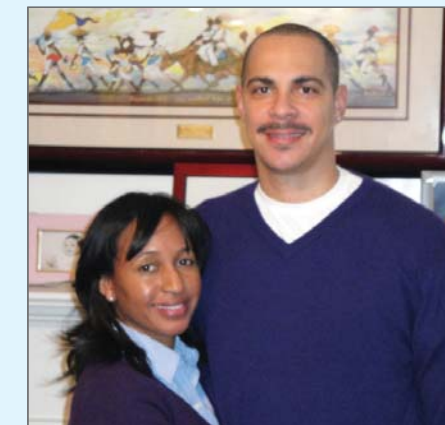
Eric & Yvonia Henderson
Married 12 yrs

"Being equally yoked in our commitment to Christ, constantly communicating with each other regardless of whether we agree, and affection."



Darnell & Anthea Evans
Married 5 yrs

"Love, respect for each other, and constant communication"



Kevin & Teresa Landry
Married 9 yrs (February 17)

"Having a date night once per month (without the children)."

CALENDAR

February Events

- 7 7:45 & 11AM Morning Worship Services, Pastor's Birthday Recognition
- 10 12:30PM ASK Valentine Appreciation
- 12 6:30PM Pastor Alexander's Birthday
- 14 7:45 & 11AM Morning Worship Services, Valentine's Day
- 17 6:30PM Baptism/Right Hand of Fellowship
- 19 7PM UCAN's A Sweetheart Affair
- 20 11AM Auxiliary Recognition
- 21 7:45 & 11AM Communion Sunday
- 27 10AM Youth Ministry Black History Event
- 28 7:45 & 11AM NDI Banyi Family Gathering

March Events

- 1-2 6:30PM Family Tune Up
- 6 8:30AM Leadership Workshop
- 7 7:45 & 11AM Family Covenants Observance
- 13 10AM FITatudes/Churchwide Prayer Breakfast
- 14 7:45 & 11AM Morning Worship Services, Scholarship Sunday
- 17 6:30PM Baptism/Right Hand of Fellowship
- 26 7PM Sis. Alexander's Birthday Celebration
- 28 7:45 & 11AM Sis. Alexander's Birthday Recognition
- 28 7:45 & 11AM Women's Churchwide Celebration/Passing the Torch
- 28 7:45 & 11AM Palm Sunday

School of the Bible classes are held every Wednesday, 6:15pm - 7pm

Wednesday Prayer Meeting every Wednesday, 7pm

The Good Grief Ministry meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 6:30pm for families in bereavement.

ANTIOCH FAMILY!

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.