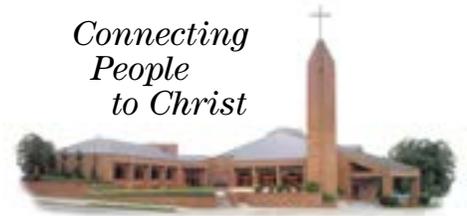


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Happy Birthday
Sis. Lisa

Connecting
People
to Christ



The Church at Antioch

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

October-December 2019

Volume 9, Issue 4

Antioch Celebrates 142 Years

Antioch Baptist Church North gathered in grand celebration Nov. 10 to mark 142 years of history.

Since its founding in 1877, members were reminded that the church has stood as a beacon of hope and place of refuge and today is building on that legacy.

"The journey hasn't been easy but certainly rewarding," Sis. Sonya May Calvin said.

Calvin, first lady of Solomon Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church and a former Antioch member, paid tribute to Antioch's history, recalling its beginning as a prayer group in Atlanta's Fifth Ward.

Of particular note, she said, was the leadership of the late Rev. Cameron Madison Alexander, who led Antioch for nearly 50 years, the longest tenure of any pastor in the church's history. Under

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Lyric Janee' Barrett, pictured left, and Whitney Pittman, both active members of Antioch Baptist Church North, were featured in popular Christmas productions in 2019. Lyric, 11, was casted in "A Soulful Christmas" and Whitney, 9, was one of 24 girls chosen to perform in "Madeline."



Wednesday a good time to refuel

If you're not in attendance on Wednesday nights at Antioch, you're missing a glorious opportunity for a mid-week refueling.

In addition to dinner and a prayer service, three Christian Education classes for adults were offered on Wednesday nights during the fall semester. Christianity, Cults & Religions explored

the beliefs of various religions classified as cults and emphasized how to witness to those one might encounter who held beliefs or scripture interpretations contrary to the Word of God. The Spiritual Warfare class was designed to help believers understand that they are daily under attack from the three dimen-

Continued on page 2

Pioneer Day: 'What are you willing to do to get better?'

The story of the leper who was told to wash seven times in the Jordan River for his cure provided backdrop Nov. 3 for Antioch Baptist Church North's annual Pioneer Observance.

The story from the fifth chapter of 2 Kings 5, the Rev. Kenneth Alexander said is a favorite because not only is it packed with practical wisdom, he sees so much of himself and the congregation in its pages.

"Many of us are at a crossroads, dealing with grief, substance abuse and health issues," he said. "We're tired of being the way we are."

Some, he said, are tired of being angry, tired of being depressed, looking for what's wrong instead of celebrating what is right in our lives.

But challenges come to all of us – the rich and the poor, the popular and well not and

Continued on page 7



A Message From The Pastor

My brothers and sisters, Antioch finished 2019 - and the decade - strong. Our church family was more engaged than ever before, coming out in record numbers for a calendar jam-packed with events. From our first Young Adult Block Party through our 142nd Church Anniversary Celebration to our AUMI Celebration Luncheon and Christmas Toy Giveaway, Antioch enjoyed tremendous fellowship.

My wife Lisa and I were overwhelmed by the love shown as you showed up and showed out for the “Pearls and Pumps Brunch” celebrating her birthday. Our sincere thanks to all those involved in the planning; we were heartened by how so many different ministries and individuals came together to make this a stellar celebration. All the participants, especially our daughter Ashley, were superb, and we thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship of so many of our Antiochians.

I also thank the large number of Antioch members who came to support me when I preached in the Moderators/Ministers Division of the General Missionary Baptist Convention Annual Session. When I looked out in the audience, I felt right at home. I truly appreciate the sacrifice you made to join me on a Monday morning.

Our Fall Revival Concert took us over the top. Both our combined choirs and our guest choir from Springfield Baptist Church, where the Rev. Wendell Eric Lee is pastor, set the house on fire giving us the perfect foundation for our revival. My fellow yokesman and friend, son of Antioch, Rev. Rodney Turner, pastor of Mount Vernon Baptist Church, was our revivalist. Using Rev. Cameron M. Alexanderisms as titles of his sermons, he uplifted the memory of our beloved Pastor, at once exhorting, exciting and challenging us.

Our Christmas Door Decoration Contest was new this year. In addition to our beautiful decorations by Sisters Marsha McCracken and Kathleen Corley, the door decorations gave the entire church a festive look. I observed true Christmas spirit as the ministries were decorating. There was a spirit of joy, fellowship, and friendly competition as ministries shared supplies and ideas back and forth.

At our AUMI Recognition Luncheon, we were privileged to thank all the people who work so hard to make all the different ministries of AUMI function at a level of excellence. While we honored the individuals who have boots on the ground daily, it is you, Antioch, through your giving, that enables us to help change the lives of the least, the less and the lost. Thank you for your active faithfulness.

Yours in God's service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth Alexander". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

Reverend K. L. Alexander, Pastor

Wednesday Night Continued from cover

sions of the forces of darkness: the world, the flesh and the devil. Most importantly, the class provided members with the tools to be victorious against these daily attacks of Satan.

Preparation for Sunday school teachers for the upcoming lesson is offered each semester, and those who may not be able to attend Sunday worship and classes are also encouraged to attend. Youth classes focus on the major events and personalities of the Bible. Creating Financial Peace, a financial literacy class based on Dave Ramsey's book, *Financial Peace*, was also offered on Thursday nights.

Pastor Kenneth Alexander taught a series on Spiritual Body Building throughout the fall, offering an in-depth study of both Psalm 51 and John 4:1-29. Looking at the lives of David and the woman at the well, he gave offered insights for developing healthy spiritual bodies.

For example, he said, “our enemies may be keeping us sharp.”

As long as David was engaged in battle—with Goliath, Saul, and various armies who were attacking Israel—he stayed in close relationship with God. It was during his idle time that he sinned with Bathsheba.

CDs of Pastor Kenny's Wednesday night teaching are available through the Media Ministry.

OCTOBER

Dr. English opens Mt. Hermon session

Antioch Baptist Church North had a strong showing at the 79th annual session of the Mt. Hermon Association held in October at Chapel Hill Baptist Church.

Dr. Vanessa English, an assistant Sunday School Superintendent and assistant dean of the Mt. Hermon Mission Institute Retreat, gave the meditation on opening day reminding those gathered that the mission Jesus left for all believers is impossible.

Our orders will not self-destruct and we will never be disavowed by our leader and left on our own, for God is always with us, she said.

Jesus's last instructions to his disciples are found in Matt. 28:19-20. She stated,



Dr. Vanessa English

“last words spoken by relatives and friends take on major significance, and what has become known as The Great Commission is a mandate to all believers.

Each of us has been given a gift - smiling at people, seeing the people that others

overlook - and we must go and use it. As a child of God, each of us has a mission. It may be as close as in the church; it may be under a bridge, or it may be in a foreign country. Wherever our Great Commission sends us, our purpose is to lead the lost to Christ.”

The remaining days were devoted to the business of the association, including reports from each auxiliary leader and preaching of the word.

The Annual King and Queen Musical featured youth from the member churches who displayed their gifts and talents.

Two young people from each member church, including Antioch, receive scholarships to help cover the cost of college.

Block party a big hit

Despite threatening weather, dozens of Antioch Baptist Church members turned out Oct. 5 to partake in the Young Adult Ministry Block Part.

They played games, they bounced in the bouncy house and took turns sliding down the slide.

And boy, did they sing and dance? Yes, indeed.

As if that weren't enough, they matched wits playing rounds of Spades.

Some even shopped, satisfying their cravings at various vendor booths.

What fun!

5th District makes large donation to hurricane victims

The GMBC Fifth District has donated more than \$4,300 and badly needed items for victims of Hurricane Dorian, the most intense tropical cyclone on record to strike the Bahamas.

The money was raised during GMBC's quarterly Fellowship Worship Service held Oct. 1 at Greater Fairhill Baptist Church, where the Rev. Dr. Patrick K. Latimore is pastor. Water, underwear and socks were also collected.

The Rev. Daniel Dickson, pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church in Joyland, encouraged those in attendance to “Know Your Purpose” based on Matthew 25:31-46.

“Jesus Christ is the church, but he set up local establishments so his will would be done through us,” Dickson said. “There is no need for the church not to do what God says to do, for Jesus has given us the perfect example.”

Then drawing parallels between how essential water is to the body and the effects of physical and spiritual dehydration, the Rev. Latimore reminded members that for both the physical and the spiritual, living water will replenish and restore.

Latimore drew his message from John 4:7-15, saying like the woman at the well, we should never leave the presence of Je-

sus empty. While you can buy structured water for the body, you cannot buy the living water of Jesus Christ. It is freely given to anyone who wants to receive it, fresh each day.

When a physical well begins to run dry, one just has to prime the pump, and the water taps into the aquifer in the rock and fills the well. We have everlasting water inside of us, but we have to prime the pump by reading the word and praying.

“Most importantly, when we are blessed, we must show grace and mercy and bless someone else,” Latimore said. “We simply dip into the artesian well that is the Holy Spirit, and we are replenished.”



Added Members told 'don't be a ship without a sail'

Antioch's Added Members' Outreach Ministry were asked to show their happy face, their game face and their praying face as they gathered Oct. 5 for its annual meet and greet.

In fact, the Rev. Kenneth Alexander encouraged them find someone who looks like he or she knows how to pray

and get a prayer partner, who can pray them through the storms of life.

"Don't be a ship without a sail," the pastor said. "Become a member of a Sunday School class, come to Bible Study on Wednesdays and join an auxiliary."

He also urged the added members to become active in one of Antioch's min-

istries and follow Jesus's mandate to "serve the least of these" as detailed in Matthew 28:38-46

The meet and greet is a chance for added members to meet ministry leaders, get information and sign up for ministries they believe their gifts, interests and abilities.

Senior luncheon grows to include 20 churches

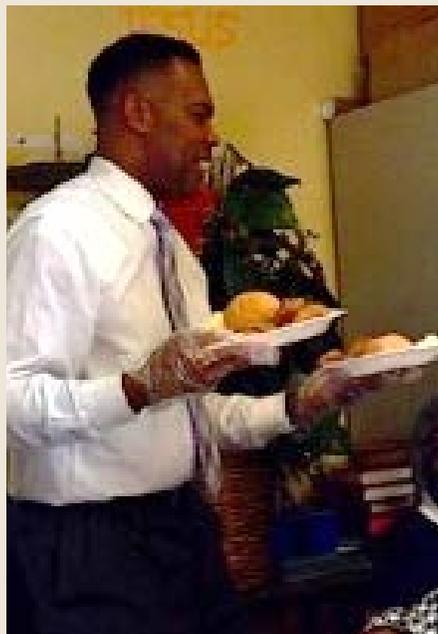
Seniors from more than 20 area metro Atlanta churches, including Antioch Baptist Church North, turned out for the annual luncheon sponsored by Antioch son Eddie Bright, pastor of Mt Zion Baptist Church.

The luncheon was held Oct. 17 at Mt. Zion Baptist Church where Rev. Bright serves as pastor.

"I'm a senior now, and I thank God for being a senior," Rev. Bright quipped before launching into his sermon. "I probably embarrass my sons, but wherever we go, I ask for the senior discount."

Bright said that no one had to tell those assembled that God is good, for they have lived long enough to have witnessed His goodness in their lives and tell where the Lord has brought them from.

Taking his text from Exodus 16:11-



Rev. Bright helps serve dinner

21, Rev. Bright preached "A Taste of Heaven," noting God showed His glory in the wilderness, doing what only He could do, keeping His promise and providing for the Israelites.

He gave them instructions to see if they would obey, and they failed the test. Not only did they disobey, they murmured to Moses and Aaron, but there complaining was really against God.

Like the Israelites, when God blesses us, especially in abundance, we end up complaining. Unfortunately, for many of us, "God is only as good as the last thing He did for us. As soon as something else comes along after God blesses us, we seem to forget about the fact that we are better off than we were, and we start focusing on what we don't have instead of what we have and what hurts rather than what about us is healthy. The Lord is still doing for us what He did for the children of Israel, feeding us daily. With all that He has done for me, "I Won't Complain."

ACE hosts third prayer brunch/expo

Bill Bolling, founder and past president of the Atlanta Food Bank, was the featured speaker at the third Annual Antioch Council of Entrepreneurs Prayer Brunch held Oct. 26 in Fellowship Hall.

Bolling said that that more and more small businesses, social organizations and non-profits are joining together to solve social issues, such as hunger but Antioch was at the forefront of that social movement.

“Antioch has been a huge partner in addressing hunger and poverty not only in this community but across the city from the beginning,” Bolling said. “Many other churches and organizations followed Antioch’s lead, and we have been able to impact those most in need.”

Following brunch, attendees were able to meet and patronize a wide variety of business owners within Antioch’s church family, including original art work, wedding planning, books, health foods, travel services, vintage hats and accessories, real estate agents, beauty products and home care support services.

One member said, “I’m fairly new here, and it is really helpful to know what businesses our members own because I know I can trust them.”



Malachi fun day: Members of Antioch’s Malachi Ministry were treated to a fun day at the Riverside Epicenter in Douglasville, compliments of a local chapter of Jack and Jill Inc. Twenty youth were able to attend and receive a snowman filled with toys, clothes, electronics, and Adidas sneakers. The outing was made possible by Sis. Jan Hildreth, her husband Randall and son Noah. The Malachi Ministry, is an arm of AUMI, Inc. and is headed by the Rev. Lester Duncan, who works to provide at-risk youth a range exposure to educational and cultural events, tutoring, spiritual and life training.

GriefShare comes to Antioch North

A new ministry entitled GriefShare began at Antioch in October and ran for 13 weeks on Thursday evenings.

GriefShare is a support group to help and encourage people after the death of a spouse, child, family member, friend or other loved ones. A Bible-based program, it features video seminars narrated by experts on grief and recovery as well as everyday people who have experienced grief. Small group discussions are led by facilitators who were trained through the leadership materials and our own Dr. Margaret

Weaver. Workbook-based personal study and reflection at home provided for additional growth and support in between the weekly meetings.

The ministry was offered at Antioch North after Sisters Pamela Alexander and Maria Hunter attended the program and felt strongly that Antioch and community members would benefit as much as they had.

Antioch members gave the national program their seal of approval as well.

“The fellowship and realizing that others are going through the same experience

was helpful,” one participant said. “I gained strength knowing that we are all grieving, even though we are at different stages. It gave me strength to be around caring and nurturing believers.” Some said they appreciated learning techniques for handling grief, nuggets that could be shared with others and having an increased prayer life.

Overall participants confirmed that they were able to experience joy in the pain and appreciated the laughter as they shared in their groups.

NOVEMBER

Milton Aaron receives NAACP award

Bro. Milton Aaron, a member of the Antioch Council of Entrepreneurs and the Male Chorus, was honored Nov. 5 by the Cobb County Branch of the NAACP.

The owner of Aaron's Automotive, Bro. Aaron received the Business Award in recognition of his "commitment to giving back to the community." The award was presented during the 34th Annual Oscar R. Freeman Freedom Fund Awards Banquet held at the Atlanta Marriott North-west at Galleria.

Aaron, affectionately known as the "car whisperer," says his entrepreneurial jour-

ney began very early in life.

"At the age of 5, I was helping my sister sell Fuller Brush Products," he said. At 8, I sold fishing worms and ran a paper route. During the Christmas season, I sold mistletoe."

When he moved from Birmingham to Atlanta, he set up an auto repair shop in his garage. Through word of mouth he quickly became popular in the community for his skill and experience in servicing luxury cars.

"With the support and blessing of my wife Carol and my pastor, Dr. C.M. Alexander,



Milton Aaron

I was able to secure a large enough space to open a repair shop in 2010."

Antioch Celebrates 142: *Continued from cover*

his leadership, the membership grew from just 500 to thousands, six mission churches and Antioch Urban Ministries were formed.

"Antioch's story presses on under the leadership of the Rev. Kenneth Alexander," she said.

Alexander, preaching from Acts 16 that morning, said that for 142 years the church has witnessed over and over again that God can take "you from hard times to hallelujah" and, in fact, give you a hallelujah in hard times.

"I believe in order to really celebrate and give God the glory we've got to know just how far God has brought us," he said, recalling a recent church outing to see the movie Harriet. "Our early church didn't start with planning committees. The freedom we enjoy now is the result of sacrifices."

Worship services, he said for instance, were conducted on slave plantations and members came at the risk of their lives.

And so, he said, we pause now to thank God for those eight former slaves who, despite threats to their lives, founded Antioch.



Through them and others, he said, we've been taught that trouble don't last all ways.

Then turning to the scripture, Alexander cited the story of Paul and Silas, who had been thrown in prison.

"It looked bad for them" he said, "... but what the devil meant for bad, God meant for good."

Lying on the floor of the prison, it would've been easy to doubt God, Alexander said of Paul and Silas. At midnight they could've quit, thrown as pity party but they prayed and sang praises so much so the prisoners heard them.

"I know you can praise him when

you've been up but can you praise him when you've been down?," he asked.

Paul and Silas praised Jesus even while they were hurting, they got loud with their praise and immediately the doors were opened.

"When God sets you free, he sets others around you free," he said.

Not only was the prison guard saved, his whole house was saved.

"That's why we praise him to today," Rev. Alexander said. "For 142 years, we've been praising God because one Friday, Jesus died for you and me."

It was proof, he said, that God's got getting up power.

Antioch women gather to celebrate Sis. Lisa's birthday

The women of Antioch gathered Nov. 16 to celebrate the birthday of First Lady Lisa Alexander.

Billed as the Pearls & Pumps Birthday Brunch, the event was described as a labor of love in which Antioch members were able to show their love and respect for Sis. Lisa.

"The Womanhood Ministry is thankful to our Pastor, Rev. Kenneth L. Alexander, for kindly allowing us the opportunity to recognize and honor his beloved," Sis. Johnie Thomas said "It was a true delight to see all who attended in celebration of Sis. Lisa."

Special tributes were given by daughter Ashley Alexander who shared a heartfelt and humorous glimpse into



what it was like growing up under her mother's watchful eye and Pastor Kenny who broke out in song as he talked about meeting and wooing the love of his life.

By the time she blew out the candle on the birthday cake, the First Lady was bursting with love and gratitude.

Pioneer Day: *Continued from cover*



the not so popular.

"Everybody's got problems but God is faithful," he reminded those who gathered that morning. "The problem is you have to decide you want to get out."

With that, Alexander reminded the congregation that we're called to bear one another's burdens.

"The Bible tells us don't be weary in well-doing," he said.

In the 2 King story, Naaman

was described as a great and honorable man but he was a leper.

Too many of us, Alexander said, come to church burdened but act like nothing is wrong.

Naaman was ready for deliverance but when told to go dip in the Jordan, he believed it was a set-up because God didn't do what he thought he should.

"Healing might come

through obedience," Rev. Alexander said. "How many of us miss our blessings because they don't come the way we think?"

Praise God Naaman had a servant who could talk some sense into him. Don't get too important, too frustrated while waiting for God to turn things around, he said. Your help may not come from a pretty river, because you have money or health insurance.

When Naaman dipped the seventh time in that dirty river, he came up restored, a new man.

"Your prayer may not be answered the first time or the third or fourth time, but dip again," he said. "Pain and sorrow may look like its there to stay but dip again. You've been to rehab before. Go ahead and dip again."



Antioch attends ‘Harriet,’ a black history lesson on screen

As part of the 142nd Church Anniversary celebration, dozens of Antioch Baptist Church members enjoyed a special private showing of the film *Harriet* at Phipps Plaza in November.

“*Harriet*” chronicles the life of Harriet Tubman.

Born a slave in 1820, Araminta “Minty” Ross was 57 when the Bethursday Prayer Group established Antioch in 1877. By that time, she

had risked her life as a conductor on the Underground Railroad, leading slaves from the South to freedom in the North. She had also served as both a nurse and a spy in the Civil War. As Antioch was beginning, Harriet Tubman was an ardent advocate for the rights of Black people and women, demanding equality and respect.

Pastor Kenneth Alexander called attention to two

scenes set in the church. In the first, he said movie directors seemed to be kowtowing to the white master, who oversaw the church service, monitoring the preaching. It was clear that a double language was being spoken; the white master heard what he wanted to hear—encouragement to be obedient—but the slaves understood the message of freedom in the Lord. That second message

is underscored when Harriet is sent by her father to the pastor as the most able person to help her escape to the North. Both scenes show the central role the church has played in the lives of African Americans. He noted that we were singing “Hold On” along with the congregation in the film.

The fellowship benefited Antioch Urban Ministries, Inc.

Fifth District membership increasing

In addition to a good financial report, church membership has increased substantially in the Fifth District, officials reported in November.

Much of the increase has come from evangelism teams, both from individual churches and the Fifth District as a whole, witnessing to those in the surrounding communities. The Rev. Antonio Wyatt, who serves as Evangelism Coordinator for the Fifth District, has been

providing training in individual churches and to the district’s auxiliaries.

The Fifth District Soul Bowl was held Nov. 19-20 at Calvary Temple Missionary Baptist Church, where the Rev. J. O. Jackson, Fifth District Vice President, is pastor.

Rev. John Rosser, pastor of Holy Springs Baptist Church, lectured on “God’s Love” based on Psalm 136. This Psalm could have been a responsive reading because ev-

ery verse includes “His mercy endureth forever.” The main message is that God has endless, unconditional love for mankind; he blesses us even when we deserve punishment, Rosser said. Even when we, like the Israelites, murmur and complain after God brings us through our Red Seas God still shows us mercy. Because God has mercy on us, we ought to have mercy on our fellow human beings.

Rev. J.O. Jackson, preached

from Acts 16: 25, 29, “What Do You Do When the Lights Go Out In Your Life.”

Light is a very important element, Jackson said. When God stepped out on nothing, the very first day of creation, He thought it was so important, He said, “Let there be light.” When we, like Paul and Silas, find ourselves in dark places, we must atune our hearts to God, who is the embodiment of light. “God’s light always dispels the darkness.”

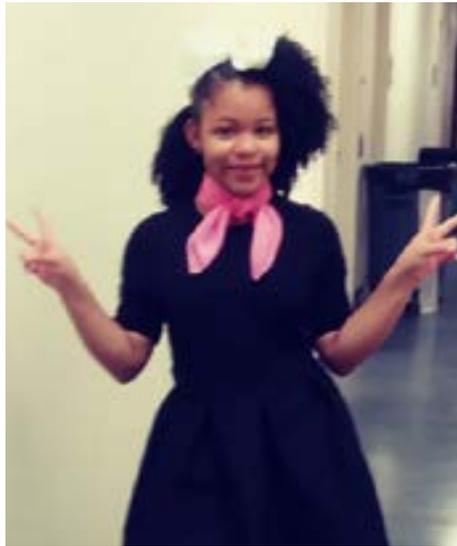
DECEMBER

Lyric Barrett gives commanding performance in 'A Soulful Christmas'

For as long as she can remember, Lyric Janee' Barrett has dreamt of performing on stage.

And so it was no surprise when the 11-year-old auditioned for and was casted in Stepp Stewart's "A Soulful Christmas" late last year.

"A Soulful Christmas" is a high energy story about a sister and brother, Destiny and Julius, who find an old magical pocket watch while visiting their grandparents for Christmas. The magic from the pocket watch takes them on a journey back in time to 1542 for Christmas Eve at the Cotton Club. From there it takes them to the 50's for Eartha Kitt's "Santa Baby", the 60's for the Temptations "Silent Night" and the 70's with the Jackson 5's "Santa Claus is coming to Town" and "Give Love on Christmas Day."



Lyric Barrett

Lyric, a sixth-grader at Luella Middle School and active member of Antioch Baptist Church North, walked the red carpet Dec. 8 at the Porter Sanford Performing Arts and Community Cen-

ter dressed in a dazzling Broadway inspired black, white and silver outfit and hat designed by her mom, Tecia B. Hackney.

She performed in "Candyman", "Rocking Around the Christmas Tree", Charlie Brown's "Christmas Time is Here" and TLC's "Sleigh Ride."

Her performance in "A Soulful Christmas" meant a lot, she said.

"It was my first time working with Stepp who has performed on Broadway," she said. "Hopefully it will open doors to even greater opportunities."

Stewart, an Emmy nominated playwright, is best known as the Dance Fitness Star of The Dr. Oz Show.

As for Lyric, she's looking forward to a busy summer, hopefully studying on Broadway with "Camp Spotlight."

Antioch's Whitney Pittman featured in 'Madeline's Christmas'

"In an old house in Paris that was covered with vines lived twelve little girls in two straight lines," begins the story of Madeline. This holiday season will be unlike any other for Madeline and her friends. While on their morning walk with Miss Clavel, the girls come down with the flu, and as they take to their bed, many wonder if they will be able to go home for Christmas. With the arrival of a mysterious stranger, Madeline and the other girls get a holiday adventure beyond their wildest dreams.

Adapted from Ludwig Bemelmans' delightful book of the same name, "Madeline" was a holiday treat for the whole family and particularly Antioch's Whitney Pittman, one of 24 girls chosen from a casting call of 250.

The nine-year-old was the only cast member chosen from Greater Atlanta Christian School, performing along-



Whitney with her fan club

side professional actors to deliver this beloved Atlanta tradition and holiday must-see.

Last year marked the 12th year the play, in collaboration with the Atlanta Children's Theatre Company, has been

performed at the Atlanta's Horizon Theatre.

Whitney played Ann, who repeats what everyone says and happens to be Madeline's number 1 fan. As part of the green cast, Whitney's audition included choosing an instrumental and monologue to perform and providing headshot of herself. She sang "Me Too" by Meghan Trainor and converted the song "Queen of Mean" from Decedents 3 into a monologue.

In her second call-back, Whitney performed scenes, songs and dance steps from the play. October, November and December were filled with rehearsals and 18 performances.

"I was way too excited at first but after much practice was able to get comfortable," she said.

As she relaxed, she breezed through each performance.

UCAN gathers for Christmas fellowship

Dozens of Antioch married couples gathered to break bread together Dec. 10 at the annual Christmas fellowship hosted by United Couples of Antioch North.

During dinner, Rev. Eugene Scott provided “the Marriage Minute” in which he shared a memory from a television show he had watched. One couple, he said, had been married for 73 years. After all those years, the wife admitted still getting angry with her husband.

“You’ll never be perfect, nor will your marriage, but



UCAN members gather for a photo at the event

we must simply love each other,” Scott reminded those gathered. “Marriages must be based on respect, forgive-

ness and compromise. Following 1 Peter, no matter what trials and tribulations you have in your marriage,

we must forgive as God has and does forgive us.”

In other activities, UCAN members attended the Nov. 17 Premier Red Carpet Production of *A Life to Choose* during a limited tour scheduled by an Antioch member. The movie, subtitled, “Few Take the Straight and Narrow” is currently available on video.

Every married couple of Antioch is invited to participate in UCAN, which meets on the second Tuesday of every month. The UCAN Sunday School class meets every Sunday in Burden’s Rest.

GMBC holds annual Soul Bowl

The General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, Inc. held its annual Soul Bowl on Dec. 7 at Lizzie Chapel Baptist Church in Macon, where the Rev. Ronald Toney, a son of Antioch, is pastor. The Soul Bowl brings together churches from all over Georgia who report, by district, the number of souls added to the kingdom through baptism and Christian experience.

The Evangelism Minis-

try, directed by Rev. Ronald Gantt, provides training at every session of the GMBC as well as in each district across the state.

The Rev. James Davis, pastor of the Liberty Hill Baptist Church in Columbus, GA, preacher “The Mission of the Church” based on Matthew 28:19-20. “I served for 20 years in the military, and from the beginning, as a private, I knew the most impor-

tant thing was the mission. The commander would give me the mission, and I did not have the authority to change the mission. Jesus gave us The Great Commission, and we are not to add nor subtract from the word.”

God has not changed His modus operandi,” he said. “He uses ex-sinners to reach sinners. We are all ex-some- things: ex-liars, back biters, whoremongers, ditch dig-

gers.” Romans 3:23 says “All have sinned...,” and somebody who knows your past—especially family—will remind you of it. However, other members of your family and friends would come to the Lord if they could see a change in you.

“The tracks that we make ought to win somebody to Jesus. An unsaved person may never read scripture, but your life will speak volumes.”



ANTIOCH FAMILY!

Proud of the job you do or want to nominate your sibling in Christ to be featured in an upcoming issue of *Church At Antioch*?

E-mail your story idea to Sis. Gracie Staples at: gstaples@ajc.com



AUMI recognized for its work at annual luncheon

Antioch Baptist Church North gathered Dec. 14 to show her appreciation for the many people involved in making Antioch Urban Ministries, Inc. a successful outreach.

While the congregation gets to hear the testimonies of many of the men and women who are helped through the substance abuse rehabilitation arm of the ministry, most have no idea how far-reaching AUMI services extend.

Indeed, people come to Antioch when they are at the lowest point in their lives, and are able to find hope through Jesus and a spiritually-based, practical process to turn their lives - and ultimately the lives of their family and friends as they see their change - around.

AUMI, which was founded by the Rev. Rodney Turner and Antioch Pastor Kenneth L. Alexander, also provides



outreach services to those affected with HIV/AIDS, those who are hungry, those who are in the justice system pipeline, those who are abused, homeless, helpless and hopeless. And through its Malachi Ministry, Antioch is able to be proactive and minister to our youth as well.

During the recognition luncheon, youth received toys, enjoyed lunch, games, face painting, slime making and

other fun activities. It has become a tradition to give away bicycles, gifts awarded to parents and youth whose ticket number were selected.

Also this year, both Rev. K.L. Alexander and Rev. Terry Hightower donated a laptop and tablets to several surprised recipients were blessed to win them.

The best blessing of the day, however, came when two people accepted Christ and

joined Antioch.

Following the program, parents who otherwise would not have been able to provide toys for their children on Christmas were able to go from room to room to select age-appropriate toys for their children. The toys were donated by Antioch members, and the Women's Ministry spent weeks sorting and wrapping the gifts that were provided to over 300 children.



Antioch Delegates to the Sunday School Publishing Conference held December 3-4, 2019

Christmas Door Decorations



In a first, Antioch Baptist Church North ministries transformed doors to reveal the spirit of the Christmas season. There was a spirit of joy and fellowship all over Antioch as members participated in a friendly competition. The winners were: Ushers' and Health Ministry, Deacons and Deacons' Wives and SCAN Ministry, who placed first, second and third, respectively. Special thanks to the volunteer judges from the Fulton County Public Defender's Office.

First place - Ushers and Health Ministry
Second Place - Deacons and Deacons' Wives
Third Place - SCAN Ministry



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