

# Dazzling audiences with his poetry

Reed Dorthy had what he described as a revelation.

Bro. Dorthy was reading a book in his one-room apartment one evening about a decade ago when the words charged his fingertips like lightning bolts.

"It was scary," Bro. Dorthy said, recalling that fateful night. "I literally threw the book on the floor. I felt God was taking me on a journey."

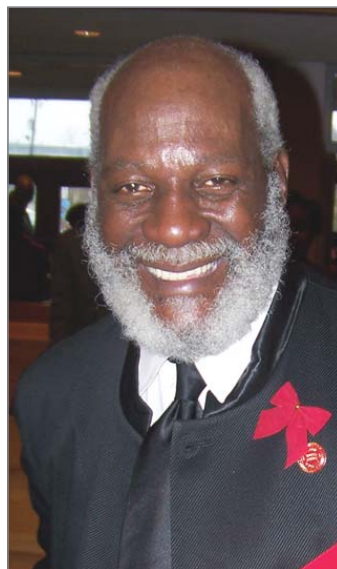
The journey was deep into the world of Langston Hughes, the classic African-American poet, novelist, and playwright whose work Bro. Dorthy recites with uncanny passion and precision to audiences across Atlanta.

Bro. Dorthy, an Antioch member, was inspired by a book filled with Hughes' work. That night, he was reading *The Negro Speaks of Rivers*.

I've known rivers: I've known rivers ancient as the world and older than the flow of human blood in human veins.

Bro. Dorthy remembers being in line last year with a group of new Antioch members when Rev. Cameron Alexander asked him what he was going to bring to the church. Bro. Dorthy told pastor about his gift. In December, Bro. Dorthy displayed his skills for the church membership. Much of the congregation stood on their feet.

He speaks like a poet.



Bro. Reed Dorthy

Hughes to students at public schools.

"I go to Heaven with the kids. I get to be a kid again," Bro. Dorthy said.

At Antioch, there's a different feeling.

"At Antioch, I experienced depths in spirituality that I didn't feel before," he said.

Bro. Dorthy has focused on bringing Langston Hughes' words to life. So far, it hasn't translated into a lucrative career. His goal is to do a tour of Historically

Black Colleges and Universities, primarily in Louisiana, reading the work of Hughes. Bro. Dorthy notes Hughes, who spent most of his adult life in Harlem, made a similar tour of the South in 1931.

Bro. Dorthy has memorized 43 of Hughes' poems.

"They just grow in me," he said.

(If you're interested in booking Reed Dorthy, he can be reached at reedbsimple@yahoo.com)

The voice is lyrical; the eyes dance.

Not what you'd expect from a former nurse and corrections officer.

Bro. Dorthy, 60, said he was a good speaker from childhood. He admits he was naïve about his gift.

Like most of us, the Louisiana native lived a dream deferred. He worked jobs in which he didn't utilize his true talents. He was working 12-hour shifts at the fearsome Angola state prison (it's now called Louisiana State Prison) when an inmate introduced him to Langston Hughes.

Because Dorthy was known as someone who liked to read, the inmate gave him a book of Hughes' poetry. Today, Bro. Dorthy shares it with others.

He carries his Bible and a thick copy of the book *The Life of Langston Hughes, Volume 1: 1902-1914* in a black briefcase. He recites

**The Church at Antioch Newsletter Staff**

**Advisor**  
Sis. Barbara J. Alexander

**Managing Editor**  
Gracie Bonds Staples

**Design Editor**  
Reggie Tolbert

**Writers**  
Betty Jo Cooke  
Vivian Edwards  
Karen S. McKinney  
Olivia Rencher  
Holly Speed  
Eric Stigus

**Photographer**  
Darryl Speed

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540 Kennedy St. NW • Atlanta, GA 30318  
404-688-5679 • www.antiochnorth.org

**INSIDE**

- 2 From the Pastor's Desk
- 4 Sisters Remind Antioch...
- 7 Vacation Bible School
- 9 Ring "dem" Bells
- 10 Antioch Members-Key Positions

**YOUTH DIVISION**  
JULY-SEPTEMBER MARK 10:13-15  
**FELLOWSHIP**

Connecting People to Christ



# The Church at Antioch

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

July 2010 (Quarterly - January-June)

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## Antioch girls loving some basketball

Nine-year-old Jayla Walker stood at one end of the basketball court, sporting a T-shirt that read "Girls Have More Fun."

Eight-year-old Thomesia Allison was at the other end of the court, in her maroon "Antioch Panthers" jersey.

In between the two young ladies were boys. All boys. About 10 of them.

Does this bother the girls? No way, they say. Their coach, Bro. Fred DeVaughn, just wishes there were more of them on the Antioch basketball team of kids 10 years old and younger.

"It's just really hard to get girls involved," said Bro. DeVaughn, who runs the church basketball program.

Bro. DeVaughn wants to get more girls playing sports at Antioch, but the task has been tougher this season. He noted it's always been more difficult to keep girls in the church sports leagues. For example, he said high schools prohibit student-athletes from playing on church teams. That usually takes away the best female players.

Continued on page 6



Men of Alpha Phi Alpha perform at Men Division Culmination



Male verse speakers perform

## Culminating service a time of rejoicing

For three months, the men of Antioch Baptist Church North hosted programs designed to strengthen the church's evangelistic outreach.

They held the third annual Taste of Antioch, the pastor's barbecue and honored the mothers of the church with a special dinner theater, events that captured the talent and heart of the church family.

"The months of April, May and June will go down in the annals of our church's history as a remarkable quarter in our efforts to bring new converts to Christ," the Rev. Cameron Alexander wrote in a message to the congregation. But so, too, will the June 27th services.

From the choir stand to the pews, worshippers sang and clapped, praising God.

"This is the day. Be glad in it," sang the 100-voice male chorus. "Rejoice."

Thus began a rousing and spirit-filled Men's Division culminating celebration.

Continued on page 2

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Brothers and Sisters,

Spiritually, I remain emotionally ecstatic about the wonderful Men Division Culminating Worship Services held on Sunday, June 27, 2010. As fishers of men, the Men of Antioch really demonstrated their collective beliefs in the genuine power of Evangelism, which was our major focus during the Second Quarter of Vision 2010. Under the very capable leadership of Deacon Calvin Booker, Deacon Milton Dodson, and Brother Darryl Speed, the Men Division's programs and activities during the quarter were praise worthy and definitely on point for the dissemination of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I am personally grateful to the Men Division leaders for leading by careful example with very humble attitudes.

As we move into the Third Quarter of Vision 2010, I am optimistic that the Youth of Antioch are anxious and ready to exercise their leadership potential in guiding our Congregational Family with zealous enthusiasm as we focus our attention on Fellowship, another important pillar of our Church.

Our young people will need our support and encouragement during this quarter for the successful completion of their Charge. When you are called upon for service, advice, and/or recommendations, I pray that you will respond in very positive ways so our youth will know that "we have their backs!"

If and when our young people get weary, it is my prayer that all of us will work to ease their burdens and give them encouragement to continue the work that they have been called upon to do. Assure them when they have doubts, console them in times of apparent failure, and join me in rewarding them with heartfelt praise for their successes. In so doing, we will be encouraging the hearts of our boys and girls who are "new to the business" of serving God's people.

During this quarter wherein our measured attention will be focused on Fellowship, I challenge every member of Antioch (new and veteran) to get to know at least five members that you do not already know. Getting to know someone means more than a casual acquaintance! Learn who they are...their spiritual background...why they are excited about membership at Antioch...and how our Congregational Family and our church ministries can better serve their individual and their family spiritual needs. By so doing, we will heighten our fellowship and strengthen our connections as Christian believers.

Yours in God's Service,

Rev. C. M. Alexander, Pastor

*Continued from cover: Culminating service*



### *Men Division Culmination Choir*

At the early morning service, Bro. Bill Clement blessed the congregation with the lessons of the three Bs: The Book, the ballot and the buck, saying knowledge is king, that no single act can do more to eradicate racism than to vote and that personal and business assets are essential to our fiscal responsibilities.

"But we at Antioch know that there's a fourth B, the Bible," he said.

Dr. George Brown, owner of Brown & Brown Dentistry in Peachtree City, was the featured speaker at the 11 a.m. service.

The messages were the bread of the services marked by hours of jubilant worship that has become the hallmark of culminating services over the past years.

The congregation stood as Dea. Clarence Anderson led them in a stirring rendition of "A Charge to Keep," in memory of Dea. William Harding and others who are now among that great cloud

of witnesses mentioned in the book of Hebrews.

The men of Kappa Alpha Psi, Alpha Phi Alpha, Phi Beta Sigma and Omega Psi Phi stepped out loud.

"Like blind Bartimaeus, we too were blind," Rev. Darrell Arnold told the church as he led the Alpha in their poetic demonstration of faith. "We cried out and the lord had mercy on us. He brought us out of the darkness into the marvelous light."

Then Antioch's youth filled the aisles as they came to bear witness of the passing of the torch to them from the men.

That wasn't all. The Vessels of Praise danced like David danced, Nathan Speed was baptized at 8am and Sister Tawan Hill at 11am and then finally, when it was all said and done, Pastor Alexander recognized Deacons Calvin Booker, Milton Dodson and Darryl Speed for their leadership.

"You out did yourselves," he told them.

# Youth Banquet



*Antioch's Youth Ministry along with the Men's Division hosted the 6th annual Youth Achievement Banquet on June 3. The theme for this year's banquet was "Just Do it". Over 250 Church members and friends were in attendance. This year a total of 135 youth, graduates and retirees were recognized.*

## Get a new FITatude

For some time now, Pastor Cameron Alexander has been teaching and providing S.N.A.C.K.S. each Wednesday night to guide Antioch toward spiritual fitness.

In March, Sis. Tonja Harding Ward, Sis. Diana Patton, and Bro. Charlie Ward came to extend Antioch's fitness through biblically-based health reform.

"This is not a diet, but a change in lifestyle so that you can be the best you God planned for you to be," said Ward.

Ward, daughter of the late Dea. William Harding and Sis. Wendy Harding,

remembered "growing up with a lot of food, especially in the summer when her father loved to grill and grow vegetables.

"Food, family, and fellowship went together," she said. "That hasn't changed."

What has to change is why we eat and what we eat because that can lead to overeating and eating the wrong foods, which contribute to high rates of diabetes, heart attacks and strokes.

In a high energy, no holds barred presentation, Sis. Ward and Patton explained why we need to get



*Bro. Charlie Ward, Rev. C. M. Alexander, Sis. Tonja Harding Ward, Sis. B. J. Alexander and Sis. Diana Patton*

rid of some concepts that we hold dear, such as "the clean plate club" because they contribute to poor eating habits. Walking the packed Fellowship Hall through the nine biblically-based FITatudes, they gave easy steps for change.

Instead of overhauling

everything, they suggested picking one thing that can lead to a healthier lifestyle and do that first. Members wanting to continue the process to a leaner, healthier body can attend the 12-Week FITatudes Immersion Program at 6:15 p.m. Wednesdays in Room 3.

Several Antioch Baptist Church North members were recently recognized as strong black fathers and young men of accomplishment by Concerned Black Clergy of Metropolitan Atlanta, Inc. The winners were announced during the annual Salute to Black Fathers luncheon, June 19, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

They are:



*Shawl Pryor, Sr.  
Man of the Year*



*Jeremy Spikes  
Young Man of the Year*



*Rev. Craig M. Johnson  
Overcoming Man of the Year*

## Antioch members appointed to key NBC positions



*Sis. Karen McKinney*



*Sis. Brenda Eason*

Sis. Brenda Eason and three other members of Antioch Baptist Church North were appointed to four prominent positions recently within the National Baptist Convention, USA Inc.

Sis. Eason, who has served in the Usher's Ministry at Antioch for more than 20 years, was named vice president of the Usher's and Nurses Auxiliary.

In addition to Eason, Sis.

Karen S. McKinney was re-appointed director of the Southeast Region Young People's Conference; the Rev. Calvin McKinney, a Son of Antioch and pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Garfield, NJ., was named general secretary; and the Rev. Clarence Moore, a Son of Antioch and president of the GMBC, Inc., was appointed vice president of the NBC's Southeast Region.

## GMBC raises \$150,000 for earthquake victims

The Adjourned Session of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, Inc. recently raised more than \$150,000, including a donation of \$10,000 from Antioch Baptist Church North, to help victims of the Haiti earthquake.

The money will go directly to support the immediate needs of the residents of Tapio, Haiti, a small town

in the mountains about seven miles from Port-Au-Prince. Devastated by the hurricane last year, the residents were just beginning to recover when the earthquake took its toll.

As a mission-minded body, the major thrust of this year's Adjourned Session was a response to the crisis in Haiti. Rev. Ronald Toney, another son of Antioch and coordinator of

Foreign Mission has been working closely with the Rev. Bien Amie to provide essentials, including clean water, electricity, a medical clinic and a school in Tapio.

The second major GMBC project well on its way is the new headquarters building. The new building will be erected on the site of the previous headquarters at 155 Joseph E.

Lowery Blvd. and is expected to be completed in late spring. This will allow for the establishment of an Atlanta Extension School of the Bryant Theological Seminary, the main educational arm of the GMBC.

The adjourned session convened in mid-February at Israel Missionary Baptist Church, where the Rev. William Smith is pastor.

## Pastor's Birthday



A D D E D M E M B E R S

**January Baptized**  
Raymond Lee  
Christopher Guyton  
Zion Calhoun  
Jordan Williams

**Right Hand of Fellowship**  
Gordon Williams  
Katrina Blunt  
Margaret Brooks  
Kiara Brooks  
Tyler Williams  
Andre Williams  
Jordan H. Williams

**February Baptized**  
Veronda Lockett  
Quashawn Davis  
Donatella Garner  
Veronica Mobley  
Mei Tei Smith

**Right Hand of Fellowship**  
Stacey Bailey  
Melvin Hibbler  
Tavaris Rachel  
Eddie Grissom  
Andrea Lewis  
Brian Christian

**March Baptized**  
Robert Jones

**Right Hand of Fellowship**  
Alvin Porter  
KaSandra Clary  
Jonathan Gaines  
Myron Hicks

**April Baptized**  
Debra Hunt  
Justin Butler  
Tiamya Butler  
Tiaira Butler  
Lorenzo Butler

**Right Hand of Fellowship**  
Bettye Logan  
Sarah B. Howard  
Jemeka Smoak  
Michael Smoak  
Veronica Conner-Davis  
Sheila Butler  
Bernard E. Futch

**May Baptized**  
Deedra Johnson  
Julian Dudley  
Gabrielle Dudley  
Nolan Shelton  
Essica Jolley  
Daniel Jolley

**Right Hand of Fellowship**  
Crystal Martin  
Renee L. Dennis  
MaDonna Wireman  
Linda Clayton  
Minister Daryl K. Odom

**June Baptized**  
Philippe Louis  
Kyra Vandiver

**Right Hand of Fellowship**  
Rosa J. Fowler  
Vivian B. Johnson  
Synethia Holyfield  
Enrika R. Hardeman

Source: Sis. Bonita Hammond

## Sisters remind Antioch “silence is not an option”

It was as Pastor Cameron Madison Alexander said: something special.

From the choir’s stirring rendition of Hosanna to Sis. Margaret Weaver’s story of Esther to Sis. B.J. Walker’s plea to the congregation to ask hard questions, the presence of the Holy Spirit was evident.

Something special happened at Antioch Baptist Church during the culminating service of the Women’s Division.

Weaver, the keynote speaker during the 7:45 a.m. service, told a packed house silence was not an option.

“God has been too good,” she said.

Weaver said that silence can lead to injury and injustice, mayhem and madness and even destruction and death.

And for those who feel their voice won’t matter, she said that history proves otherwise.

Frederick Douglass was one voice as was Sojourner Truth, Martin Luther King Jr. and yes, Queen Esther of the Bible.

“Hers was one voice but look what happened,” said Weaver referring to Esther. Because Esther was able to set aside her fear and approach the King on Mordecai’s behalf, she saved him from the gallows on which



*Rev. and Mrs. Alexander lead the procession of the Women Division Culmination*

Haman intended to hang him.

Because Esther spoke up, Haman was hanged and Mordecai was paraded through the city streets on a royal horse, clothed in a royal robe.

Silence was not an option for Esther and so it should be for us when we look around and see how God has blessed us, said Weaver. Then at 11 a.m. Walker, commissioner of the Georgia Department of Human Services, took issue with why so many people are angry about passing the Universal Health Care Bill.

“I assure you, if they are angry about all of us having health care, they’ll be

angry about all of us having justice, about all of us doing everything we can to make sure every child graduates from high school, so they can have a job and support their families,” said Walker. “They’ll be angry about finding homes for the homeless.” Walker said her comments had nothing to do with politics but admonished those who called themselves Christians to take the time to think about who they really are and what they stand for.

“We must ask the hard questions because as Dr. Weaver said this morning, “silence is not an option,” she said. “Do we have the audacity and courage to

stand up in the face of anger and apathy and not just care but take the lead?”

Walker challenged the packed congregation to remember that “we ourselves have not always been found.”

Not only do we have an unpaid debt we have an unpayable debt, she said.

Visibly moved, Pastor Alexander said he thought the time he spent protesting was over, left to a new generation.

“But it’s time for Antioch to get in the streets,” he said. “We’re going to find a date and go down and speak on behalf of the people who don’t have an option,” he said.

## Antioch choir ringing ‘dem’ bells

For centuries, bells in church towers have signaled the beginning of worship or special events.

As churches built towers with multiple bells, bell ringers began to form choirs.

At Antioch, they date back some 30 years ago when Sis. Bettye Harris introduced the art and formed the church’s first bell choir, said Sis. Sylvia Lester.

Under the leadership of Sister Harris, three Hand Bell Choirs were organized. Around the late 1990s, Sis. Parish served as Sis. Harris’s assistant. She and her brother, William, often complemented the choir by surprising the congregation with a variety of percussion instruments, to include the maracas.

Lester, the choir’s current director, said that until her health prevented her from continuing to serve as the director, Sis. Harris was dutiful to her calling for many, many years.

Sis. Lester accepted the torch in 2004, when Sis. Wendy Harding taught her how to play the bells the night before her first rehearsal.

“She taught me every thing I know



*Youth Bell Choir performs*

in 20 minutes on Kindermusik’s choir chimes,” she said.

The choir, Lester said, is currently made up of some 15 members, who rehearse from noon until 2 p.m. on the 2nd and 3rd Saturdays of each month.

Each person in the choir is usually responsible for two notes and their sharps and flats. Ringers at the upper and lower ends sometimes have additional notes.

Bell music is printed in full score fashion (like piano music) and each ringer is responsible for finding and playing his or her notes. A pianist uses all ten fingers to play the keys of a piano. When a bell choir rings, each indi-

vidual is like one finger, each working together to play the right notes at the right time. Thus, ringing Handbells requires coordination and teamwork like an orchestra. When one ringer is absent, that person’s notes are missing.

The selections rendered on each Communion Sunday range from time-tested hymns to soulful gospel music.

“The beauty of the bells is truly inspired by the breath that gently flows from the Holy Spirit,” said Sis. Lester. “All it takes is a little bit of rhythm and a whole lot of spirit to “Ring ‘dem Bells.”

## Youth Congress July 19-23 in Columbus

The Georgia Missionary Baptist Convention’s Congress of Christian Education and Youth Convention are just two ways Antioch Baptist Church North youth get to use their talents and grow as Christians at the same time.

Youth who are interested in attending these events are encouraged to sign up now.

Their involvement can help enhance the spiritual and educational teachings of the Four Pillars: Fellowship, Evangelism, Doctrine and Stewardship, said Sis. Irene Hudgins.

The Congress of Christian Education, for youth aged 9 to 16, will be held July 19-23 in Columbus, GA. Youth ages 9 -16 are afforded the opportunity to attend the

Congress.

The Youth Convention, for those 16 to 26 years old, is scheduled for December 27-29. The location will be announced at a later time.

To be considered as a delegate for either Congress or the Youth Convention, youth must adhere to the following criteria:

- Be an active participant in the Ministry/Division,

including Sunday School, Wednesday BTU, Children Church, Youth (Teen) Church, Choir, and other programs and activities.

- Demonstrate Christian behavior at all times.

Only one youth per family will be considered per trip. For more information, please contact Sis. Irene Hudgins at 404-688-5679.

# UCAN holds sweetheart affair



# Families sign covenant

In a letter to the congregation a month ago, the Rev. Cameron Madison Alexander asked members to read, sign and return their Family Covenant, a vow to love one another unconditionally.

It was the third time in as many years, the Antioch Baptist Church North pastor had charged Antioch families to harness the strength that has pulled them out of crisis and reclaim its children and neighborhoods.

"We will use the covenants to celebrate the Christian family," he wrote.

Pastor Alexander launched the effort to re-

inforce the sanctity of the family, he said, after becoming disturbed about the high divorce rate and the problems that families were experiencing.

"After much prayer and meditation, I was led by the Holy Spirit to do something about it," Pastor Alexander said.

He said that one of the main problems he found was family members were not talking to each other except in the time of crisis. Those talks more often than not resulted in arguments, he said.

And, in some instances, divorce.

According to a recent Gal-

lup report, Baptists have the highest divorce rate of any Christian denomination.

Only non-denominational Christians have a higher divorce rate among Christian groups, with 34 percent divorced. Among Christians who describe themselves as born-again, the divorce rate is 29 percent. Only 21 percent of Lutherans have been through a divorce. The Jewish divorce rate is 30 percent, while divorce among atheists and agnostics is relatively uncommon: 21 percent.

Divorce rates among different ethnic groups vary sharply, with 9.8 percent of whites divorced, com-

pared with 11.3 percent of African-Americans, and 7.6 percent of Hispanics.

What's more, couples who move in together prior to marriage have a far greater chance of divorce than couples who do not.

How much higher is that risk? Some studies suggest couples who co-habitat before marriage, divorce at a rate as high as 85 percent.

Pastor Alexander said that having families sign the covenant encourages them to communicate instead of debate.

"We must do whatever we can to strengthen the family, God's secret weapon," he said.



*Dancers perform during the Women's Culmination.*

# Women's service one to remember

The Women's Division Culminating Service began as all Antioch Baptist Church North services do – with the Bible being slowly carried to the pulpit.

But what began as a routine service was anything but ordinary. It was a musical extraordinaire starting with the Verse Speakers who proclaimed the Triumphant Entry of Christ into Jerusalem – Palm Sunday - and ending with the benediction nearly three hours later.

Members clapped and swayed in place to "Hosanna" as Pastor Cameron Alexander and Sis. Barbara Alexander led a 300-voice choir and dancers into the packed sanctuary.

Energy abounded as dancers waved purple and white flags giving life to their movement and the moment.

Although many new members graced the choirs, dance teams, and Verse Speakers, their voices rang out like long-time Antioch members. Indeed, all Antioch – in spirit, word, and deed.

The narrative, provided by the Verse Speakers, was juxtaposed with the music to give clarity and definition to the events of that fateful day. Starting with the triumphant entrance and celebration, the Verse Speakers chronicled the Passion of Christ in word: **"Mary did you know that**

**the child that YOU delivered would one day deliver YOU?"**

Although the celebration was led by the Women's Division, the Men's Choir astounded the membership with their rendition of "Tis Midnight." Their voices were strong and harmonious, leading us to the solitude of the Garden of Gethsemane.

"Calvary" as sung by the Choir and interpreted by the dancers could not have seemed more real as the soloists took the congregation to the place where Jesus died and the dancers interpreted his agony.

As the dancer was lifted into the air to symbolize Jesus on the cross, the

membership exploded with praise.

As if that weren't enough, the dancers returned and as the soloist sang "Oh What Love" they danced the love that Jesus felt for us all as he lay dying on the cross before the choir concluded with a joyous proclamation, "We are not Ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Finally, after two inspirational messages and the benediction given, the church was silent. A voice from afar proclaimed "Jesus Christ of Nazareth is dead."

Then, closing the service Pastor Alexander said, **"But this is not the end of the story."**

Amen

## Continued from cover: Antioch girls loving basketball

The pool of girl players is often smaller, which often leaves fewer girls to take the court.

The two girls pay little attention to their unique status during a recent practice. Most of their siblings are boys who enjoy basketball. The love affair has rubbed off on them. Both girls brag they can dribble better than their brothers. They quickly rattle off the names of their favorite players: Kobe Bryant, Magic Johnson, Michael Jordan, Shaquille O'Neal. They also see basketball as a potential path to a college scholarship.

"I'd like to play basketball so when I go to college, my momma doesn't have to pay," said Thomesia, a third-grader.

Bro. DeVaughn knows plenty of girls who've received scholarships through sports.

"There's so many opportunities," he said.

Thomesia's mother, Erica Jenkins, credits basketball with building her daughter's confidence. She's not as shy, Sis. Jenkins said.

As for her daughter playing with the boys...

"She's not intimidated at all," she said.

During practice on this evening, Thomesia stood behind the hoop, watching her coach tell the boys



Jayla Walker

where to stand on the court. One boy didn't get it.

"Go!," she said, pointing to the right spot to play defense.

The children ran twice around the basketball court and then to the free throw line, where they each took two shots. Thomesia was near the back. Her first shot was an airball. "Baby-girl," as the coach called her, took her second shot. Her arms stretched outward as the ball rose from her hands. It went into the bottom of the net.

Jayla and Thomesia say most of the girls they attend school with have little time to play basketball.

"All they want to do is jump rope," said Jayla, who's also in the third grade. "It's for babies."

Her father, Rev. Skip Walker, watched her on the court. She reminds him of Monica Wright, the character played by Sanaa Latham



Thomesia Allison

in the film "Love & Basketball." Latham's character was beautiful, smart, had long hair and had a scholarship to play basketball at the University of Southern California.

The boys sometimes play rough, occasionally knocking Walker down. She gives as good as she gets, her dad said.

"She's like 'Wait a minute,'" Rev. Walker said.

Minutes later, Jayla was in a scramble on the floor for the ball with the rest of the boys. Her coach pulled her aside shortly afterward to work on the "pick and roll" play with her. Jayla took a shot, but is hit on the arm and missed. Jayla got the ball on the next play.

"Shoot!," one boy yelled. She fired away with her right arm. The basketball went in the hoop.

Jayla raised both of her index fingers in the air - triumphant.

## Congrats 2010 Graduates

**Kindergarten**  
Phillip J. Green Jr.

**Elementary School**  
Auston Collier  
Justin D. Grundy  
Stephanie Moore  
Chelsi Lester  
Donatella N. Garner  
Isaiah T. Hammond  
Kolby Ellis Morton  
Daniel Ezekiel Johnson  
Aswann Hakim Glover  
Vasheriel Moody  
Jazzmyn A. Parker

**Middle School**  
Alyssia J. Grundy  
Siddharta Hughes  
Chanel Reanne Stribling  
Anore L. Harton  
Freddie L. Ross II

**High School**  
Timothy Eric Branch  
Chelsea S. Daniels  
Jennifer Brianna Hammond  
Darian Hardison  
Abriana LaShaun Harton  
Khala Diane-Jean Jacobs  
Letrice S. Johnson  
Alexa J. Kimbro  
Camilla Nicole Kinsey  
Jonathan Michael Hopson Lamar  
Kaylin Mariah Morton  
Acey Lewis Palmer, Jr.  
Ashley Nicole Phillips  
Jasmin Joi Reeves  
Jamilia Smith-Ware  
Samantha Janeen Thomas  
Chervell Nicole Twyman  
Courtland Lenard Vickers  
Nicolette Williams

## Vacation Bible School: Camp Solid Rock

What comes to mind when you think of a vacation? The beach? A cruise? A resort?

Camping was the choice for Antioch's Vacation Bible School as each class focused on how to set one's life on the firm foundation of Jesus Christ, the solid rock.

Camp Solid Rock was a week-long study of Matthew 7:24-27 that included age appropriate study materials, activities, giveaways, and crafts for each stage of life. The lessons focused on the essentials need for a camping: a compass to set the direction of the study, a map or scripture for our study, binoculars to focus closely on the scripture, and a flashlight to light the



Children participate at Vacation Bible School

pathway to applying the scripture to our lives.

In an effort to make it easier for the more than 100 Antioch members and friends attend, dinner was

served each evening Monday through Thursday prior to the opening assembly.

The hour and a half class time allowed for a much more in depth study of the

scripture than is normally available during Sunday School.

VBS students were able to share the lessons they learned while foolishly building their houses—plans, actions, thoughts—on the shifting sands of education, jobs, relationships and finances, rather than on the firm foundation of Jesus Christ.

Each night ended with the friendly competition with the women and girls vs. the men and boys in the VBS Shout. On Friday night, each class made a creative presentation on the lesson followed by a potluck fellowship that allowed everyone to leave full of the Word, full of delicious food, and full of good fellowship.

## The Vision – investing in the future

Since the early 50's Antioch Baptist Church North has encouraged its youth to pursue higher educational goals.

That has never been more evident than under the leadership of Pastor Cameron M. Alexander, said Sis. Catherine Hurtt-Johnson, secretary of the church scholarship committee.

"Rev. Alexander's vision", she said, "is to assist any member who wants to continue their education after high school."

Today, Antioch has helped more than 115 students attend college and

awarded over \$150,000 in scholarships. All of these funds are the result of generous offerings from the congregation, especially on Scholarship Sunday, the scholarship committee's major fund raising day.

"In the economic times we now face, it is critical that we step up and continue our generosity, as the need is much greater and we have more students desiring to further their education," said Sis. Hurtt-Johnson.

In addition to assisting high school students, Hurtt-Johnson said, upper-classmen and members seeking graduate degrees or to improve their

skills are also eligible for Memorial Scholarships established by families and friends of deceased members.

All candidates must be members of Antioch or a mission church and accepted at an accredited institute of higher learning.

"Our hope and prayer is those who have gone on before, would share their gifts, time and talents with those who are following," said Hurtt-Johnson. "As we seek to do God's Will and carry out Pastor's "vision," we thank the Antioch family for their prayers and continued financial support."