

## Antioch North history: Part 4

After the passing of his father, the Rev. Dormitory T. George was called to pastor Antioch, serving from the 1940's to early 1960. It was during this time that Antioch turned its façade from Lambert Street, now called Northside Drive, to Kennedy Street.

Rev. George led the congregation through the beginnings of a cultural, political, and socio-economic transition that only the Holy Spirit could have orchestrated. Each decade represented a different trial or new triumph. In 1948, Rev. George joined the NAACP and the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity in sponsoring a voter registration drive; in 1955, the Civil Rights Movement was launched and in 1960, sit-in's at Woolworth lunch counters spread across the nation.

Consistent with the times, Rev. George reorganized Antioch auxiliaries to ensure maximum participation in the congregation. The Deaconess became the Deacon's Wives; the Matronets, the Matron's Ministry, and the Fisherman's Club, the Service Guild.

Many considered the Rev. George a "giant" among men. He served from 1943 until 1962.

*Continued from cover*

ship services.

The Youth Division leadership included a family revival, the American I Am field trip, brunch with the Rev. Cameron M. Alexander, and a mini retreat and lock-in.

The youth are thankful for having grown in God during their time of service and leadership.

And, oh yes, the children did lead.



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Dr. Frank Ray

Fall Revival  
October 26-28

Connecting  
People  
to Christ



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# The Church at Antioch

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

October 2009

Volume 2, Issue 10

## Antioch North history: Part 1

Antioch Baptist Church North was born in 1877 during what historians described as a tense atmosphere of racial hatred, ignorance and fear. It was a time when the black community became isolated to individual living wards, areas known as colored quarters.

It was in the midst of this turmoil that Antioch was born in the area that became the Fifth Ward. It started with Oscar Young, Miles Crawford, Jordan Beavers, Lem Wright and four other former slaves who organized the Bethursday Prayer Band.

They went from house to house, having prayer meetings. This mighty band of Christian soldiers purchased a dilapidated basement structure on Wallace Street and named it Antioch Baptist Church.

Robert Craddock emerged as an influential member and assumed leadership responsibilities. He stressed pastoral excellence as well as being a "called" preacher.



The Youth Division Choir sings during the Youth Division Culmination Celebration

## Youth Division gets CRONKed!

And a child shall lead them. And lead is exactly what the youth and children of Antioch did during the Youth Division's church-wide celebration on September 27.

Through song, skits, spoken word, dance, step, instruments and music, the Youth Division's service was filled with triumphant praise as the youth and children got "cronk" for Jesus.

It was a service for Antioch's history books. The choir was

not only full in number but also full in spirit and energy, little voices lifting God's name in a big way.

One unforgettable moment came when the youth performed a skit "Never Shall Forget." The skit displayed some significant historical moments of the civil rights movement, starting with the story of 14-year-old Emmett Till. In a segment of the skit "Oh Freedom Over Me," the youth told the story of Rosa

Parks. They also told the story of the 1960 lunch counter sit-ins at Woolworth, and the story of Martin Luther King Jr. It was an inspiring skit to remind the congregation that the youth would never forget and neither shall we.

The youth passed the torch to the Family Division for the final quarter of Vision 2009, followed by powerful sermons from sons of Antioch in both the 7:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. wor-

*Continued on page 8*



**Pastor inducted into HBCU Hall of Fame**

Pastor Cameron M. Alexander was inducted late last month into the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Foundation.

Rev. Alexander was one of 10 HBCU graduates honored at a ceremony at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta. The foundation was created in 1985.

Pastor Alexander earned a bachelor's of arts degree from Morehouse College and has a Master of Divinity degree from the Morehouse School of Religion.

Past inductees include the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Oprah Winfrey, singers Leontyne Price and Lionel Richie, former Grambling University football coach Eddie Robinson, National Football League Hall of Famer Walter Payton, Atlanta businessman Herman Russell, Black Enterprise publisher Earl Graves, civil rights icons Rev. Dr. Joseph Lowery, Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker, Dr. Benjamin Mays, Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin and two of her predecessors, Maynard Jackson and Ambassador Andrew Young.

*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](mailto:gstaples@ajc.com).*

ADDED MEMBERS

*Antioch added 25 members to the family in September, including 12, who were Baptized.*

*The members, listed here with their birth months, are:*

- Keith C. Parker, October
- Donovan Garner, December
- Richard McAllister, September
- Isaac Holmes, August
- Jennifer L. Brown, April
- Anayah Ponder, January
- Shundrola Fuller, December
- Sania Martinez, May
- Antonio Martinez, June
- JeRhonda Clark, December
- Desiree Bowen, June
- Nedera Harris, January

*The following 13 members received the Right Hand of Fellowship under Christian Experience:*

- Brenda Drayne, September
- Genna Simmons, November
- Douglas White, April
- Susa W. Smith, April
- Sheryl Blackmon, March
- Patricia Ellis, February
- Alice Turner, October
- Sherry Lewis, March
- Leonard Linsey, July
- Timothy Richardson, May
- Sharla Bowen, September
- Catherine Lewis, April
- Shannon Gregg, January

Source: Sis. Bonita Hammond

**Baby dedication: the heart of New Arrivals Ministry**

On the second and fourth Sunday of each month, Antioch's newest arrivals are dedicated to God.

The service was an idea born in 1996, when the Rev. Cameron Alexander said he realized the importance of having a forum through which the parents could ask questions and receive instructions on why they were dedicating their child instead of christening or baptizing.

A year later, on the second Sunday in February 1997, the New Arrivals Ministry was born.

The mission of the ministry is to nurture expectant families in the celebration of their baby's birth through Christian education and love.

The ministry provides: A dedicatory class, taught by a member of the ministerial staff, to guide parents through the dedicatory ceremony. (Minister Kelvin Turner is the special ministry minister and does a fantastic job of imparting the word to the parents

who attend the classes).

On -going contact with the family after the dedication to offer support and encouragement.

In addition to those duties, members make sure families are aware of classes and their scheduled dates and times. They welcome guests in Burden's Rest on Dedication Day, capture the day in pictures and pray with the families before escorting them into the service.



**New Arrivals Ministry Members:**

- Christopher Calhoun
- Brenda Chavis, Coordinator
- Sandra Clark,
- Collis Clark
- Collis Clark Jr.
- Isabella Copridge
- Essie Fuller, Christine Goodwin
- Shirley Harris
- Jessie Hood
- Joyce Lyde, Coordinator
- Philip Lyde, Coordinator
- Shirley Monroe
- Joan Parks, Lisa Peck
- Donald Robinson
- Trudy Robinson
- Dee Shannon
- Min. Kelvin Turner

**BIBLE QUIZ**

*The Woman at the Well Wordsearch*

D J D S N A T I R A M A S X C  
 E V E R L A S T I N G A A D H  
 P R E H C T I P D J T U L E I  
 P A P A F O R W I G N I V I L  
 I H S I X T H A S R K N A R D  
 H C G S A B C T C N I E T A R  
 S Y F S Z A J E I I F T I E E  
 R S T E H P O R P I T F O W N  
 O D O M G O D L L E W Y N I W  
 W M E L A S U R E J L O A O F  
 N A E S D N A B S U H T M A U  
 L R R A R N T W X U N Q T A O  
 M H X U T S E C F U S H A A N  
 T B O C A J L L O A E E K J C  
 T H I R S T J M P R M L J E J

- CATTLE
- CHILDREN
- CHRIST
- CITY
- DEEP
- DISCIPLES
- DRANK
- DRINK
- EVERLASTING
- FATHER
- GIFT
- GOD
- HOUR
- HUSBANDS
- JACOB
- JERUSALEM
- JESUS
- JEWS
- LIFE
- LIVING
- MEAT
- MESSIAH
- MOUNTAIN
- PITCHER
- PROPHET
- SALVATION
- SAMARITAN
- SAT
- SIXTH
- SPIRIT
- SYCHAR
- THIRST
- WATER
- WEARIED
- WELL
- WOMAN
- WORSHIPPED

See the correct answers on the Antioch web site: [www.antiochnorth.org](http://www.antiochnorth.org)  
 Go to the "In The News" section on the home page. Click on the Newsletter link.

## Antioch History: Part 3

In 1927, The Rev. Timothy George was called to Antioch, leading the membership through the Great Depression.

Many members found themselves unemployed following the famous stock market crash as Atlanta banks, businesses, and companies closed. The church property was foreclosed and sold, but through the membership's faith and the leadership of Rev. George, the property was quickly recovered.

The church purchased property at the corner of Kennedy and Lambert

streets. It relocated from Gray Street to Lambert.

While Antioch struggled through the Depression, foreclosure, recovery, eminent domain, and relocation, World War II began and presented more challenges.

Despite this, Rev. George remained spiritually committed and did much to enhance membership growth. He helped organize the Mt. Herman Association in which Antioch is still active, and served as the first moderator. He served Antioch for 17 years.

## Revival, relief effort set

Antioch Loving Spirit Missionary Baptist Church invite you to their *Revival & Flood Relief Effort* on Wednesday, September 30, Rev. Ervin Richards, Antioch Loving Spirit, M.B.C; Thursday, October 1, Rev. Charles Weems of Simpson Road Missionary Baptist Church; Friday, October 2, Rev. Daniel Dickson of Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church. Services will begin at 7pm each night.

Please come and worship with us and assist us in our Flood Relief Efforts. We have identified some families that are in need of assistance because of the recent flooding. The following items are needed: Cash Donations, Lowe's Gift Cards, Dehumidifiers,

Home Depot Gift Cards, Dry Food, Canned Goods



Rev. E. L. Richards, Pastor

We will be collecting at the church each night. Please come out and assist us to help those in need.

Antioch Loving Spirit is located at 6280 Britt Road, Mableton, GA 30126.

## Youth turnout for annual retreat and lock-in

An estimated 100 Antioch youth spent September 25 getting C.R.O.N.K. (Christian Rejoicing Over News from the King) for Jesus in a youth retreat and lock-in that lasted through the night.

It was a chance for youth aged 5 to 18 to have fun but also to rejoice over the good news of the king as C.R.O.N.K. implied.

Rev. Charles Walker, a parent and youth minister at Antioch, said the youth exhibited the same level of excitement for Jesus as they do other things.

"This was a great evening for our youth," said Walker. "I wanted them to be able to be who they are but at the same time show how much Jesus means to them."

From all accounts, they did exactly that.

Nicolette Williams, one of the youth in attendance, said she was able to "get even more excited and C.R.O.N.K. for Jesus."

Charles Collier agreed.

"This was great," he said. "Not only was I able to come out and enjoy my friends, I learned more about Jesus."



## Antioch North history: Part 2

By the early 1920's, Antioch's membership had grown tremendously.

It was during this time that the Rev. Timothy Saine was called to Antioch's pulpit in 1922, at the onset of the exciting, yet contradicting, Roaring Twenties. The Negro National Baseball League was founded in 1920; blacks were barred from tennis, golf, basketball, football, and the Olympic Games; and the Harlem Renaissance started. Terms like moralist, fundamentalist, religious conservative, traditionalist, and Puritanism began to influence legislation.

Rev. Saine guided the young Antioch through the next five years and built our first sanctuary in 1924. The cost: \$3,000.

Trained at Hampton and Tuskegee Institutes, Rev. Saine's teachings fostered an atmosphere of encouragement and hope, a legacy which characterizes the spirit of our congregation even today.

### October Events

Real Talk	Sat, Oct 17	10am-12pm	Fellowship Hall
Communion Sunday	Sun, Oct 18	7:45am & 11am	Sanctuary
Pre-Revival Concert	Sun, Oct 25	5pm	Sanctuary
Fall Revival	Oct 26-28	7pm	Sanctuary

### November Events

Pioneers' Observance & Torch Ceremony	Sun, Nov 1	7:45am & 11am	Sanctuary
Antioch Christian Entrepreneurs (ACE) Meeting Topic: Community Outreach	Thurs, Nov 5	6:30pm	Fellowship Hall
Homecoming Dinner	Sat, Nov 7	11am	590 Building
132nd Church Anniversary Celebration	Sun, Nov 8	7:45am & 11am	Sanctuary
Birthmonth Tea/Fashion Show	Fri, Nov 13	7pm	590 Building
Communion Sunday	Sun, Nov 15	7:45am & 11am	Sanctuary
Pioneers' Brunch	Sat, Nov 21	11am	Fellowship Hall
Pastor & Sis. Alexander's Wedding Anniversary Observance	Sun, Nov 29	7:45am & 11am	Sanctuary

### 132nd Church Anniversary Celebration – November 8, 2009

THE CELEBRATION BEGINS NOW AND WILL CONTINUE THROUGH DECEMBER!

**Theme: Selah! My, my, my. What about That?** - Connecting the Dots of Antioch

- Antioch – The History – Segments of our history presented each Sunday morning prior to worship (starting in September).
- Pioneers Observance – Sunday, November 1, 2009
- Antioch – From VHS to DVD – Services from the old church will be converted to DVD and CD and made available to the membership
- The Antioch Museum – Former pastors, deacons, members, and memorabilia
- "Our Church" - Wednesday Night Fireside Chat with long-time members
- Birthmonth Club Fashion Show/Tea Revisited
- Special Envelopes to recognize this momentous occasion

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.

# Providing care and comfort

The Care and Comfort Ministry at Antioch North is important for so many people and for so many reasons. To know just what it means and to understand its significance is to know two things: Jesus cares and we care. Here's more about the ministry: Scripture for the ministry:

**Caring:**

*In times of need (sorrow, distress, physical sickness, depression or the passing of a loved one), you may ask the question, "Does Anyone Care?" "Cast all of your care upon him for he careth for you." I Peter 5:7*

**Comfort:**

Not only does God care for us but he also comforts us. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort who comforts us in all our tribulation that we may be able to comfort those



(Left to right): Sis. Louanna Nix, Sis. Redelle Doyle, Sis Joan Leavell, Sis. Cheryl Dixon, Min. Scott Copeland (seated)

who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God." II Corinthians 1:3

**Mission of the ministry:**

The Care and Comfort ministry at Antioch North, envisioned by Pastor C.M. Alexander, is a vessel through which God ministers to those who have become spiritually and physically weakened by life's

circumstances. Through this ministry the following services are available:

- Visits to members who are sick
- Communion taken to members with lengthy illnesses
- Prayer through telephone contact, support groups
- DVD's of church services provided to convalescing members

- Transportation to church on a quarterly basis
- Support groups for families in bereavement
- Senior care
- Emergency food/clothing

**Service of the ministry:**

- Ask Ministry (Senior Care)
- DVD Ministry (Taking a DVD of the church service to the Sick & Shut in members)
- Good Grief (Caring for members going through bereavement or a difficult time)
- Monday Night Mission (Weekly visits to the Sick & Shut In)
- Sick & Shut-In Calling Ministry (Talking and praying with the Sick & Shut members over the telephone)

Minister Scott Copeland is the Ministry Leader, and Sis. Redelle Doyle is the Coordinator. To learn more about the Care and Comfort Ministry, call 404-522-4673.

## Join federal campaign, donate to AUMI

Antioch members can now make donations to Antioch Urban Ministries through the Combined Federal Campaign now through December 30, 2009.

The campaign, which began in September, promotes and supports philanthropy through a program that is employee focused, cost-efficient, and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

According to the Rev. Terry Hightower, AUMI provides comprehensive substance abuse recovery services; low-income, HIV/AIDS and TB Housing, food/clothing, job assistance, and counsel-

ing/social support services in Atlanta.

It has participated in the federal campaign for more than five years.

Hightower said the non-discretionary funds allow AUMI to continue providing for the disenfranchised of Atlanta and surrounding communities.

"Your continued support will assist programs such as Dreaming Out Loud, Ruth's Place, Luke's Place and Matthew's Place to continue in their

mission," he said.

For more information, you can call Rev. Hightower at 404-635-0088 or contact your local CFC Campaign Manager within your federal agency or United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta.



# Thankful for so many things

Sis. Betty Jean Harris refuses to let anything destroy her joy.

"I believe that nothing is impossible for God for He has my health, wealth and everything that I need," she says.

And while God is blessing Sis. Harris, she is blessing others. The residents at Nurse Care of Buckhead get a special treat on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

That's when Sis. Bettye Jean Harris plays the piano to the delight of residents' ears.

Sis. Harris, the widow of the late Deacon P.D. Harris, the sister of the late Deacon William Harding is one of the pioneer members of Antioch Baptist Church North.



Sis. Betty Jean Harris

The retired school teacher, also a member of the trustee board and a member of the Deacon Wives Ministry, is always playing the tambourine during worship service.

Among her many talents and her giving to the church, she

was the first hand bell choir director, receiving training from a music center in Toccoa, GA.

Sis. Harris' work has been never ending. She is the former director of the junior and the youth choirs. She also worked in the Antioch Food and Clothing Ministries with Karen Jackson, Maggie McCullough, Angela Allen and others.

After undergoing knee surgery, Sis. Harris moved to Nurse Care in Buckhead. There she plays the piano from 11 a.m. to noon on Mondays and Wednesdays and ev-

ery first Saturday at 11 a.m. It's a treat for the residents and it uplifts her spirit, allowing her to continue blessing others with one of her many talents.

Sis. Harris has two children; Pamela who lives in Lithia Springs, GA and son Perry lives in Bonaire, GA and is in the Air Force Reserves.

Sis. Harris is thankful for so many things. Deacon Ronald Smith makes sure she gets to church. Sis. Harris also thanks Pastor Cameron Alexander for the DVD Ministry and the church van for our members.

*I love you and I thank God for you.*

-Bettye Harris

## State and national conventions meet

Delegates to the National Baptist Convention voted overwhelmingly September 13 to elect the Rev. Julius R. Scruggs to lead the nation's largest African-American religious organization.

Scruggs, pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church in Huntsville, AL, and the group's vice president-at-large, received more than 80 percent of the vote. Scruggs succeeds the Rev. William Shaw.

"I gladly gave my support to Dr. Scruggs and am heartened by the election process and what I see as a bright future for the convention," said the Rev. Cameron Alexander, pastor of Antioch Baptist Church North.

In mid-August, delegates to the General Missionary Bap-



Rev. Julius R. Scruggs



Attendees gather at the National Baptist Convention

tist Convention of Georgia were treated to an array of workshops and updates from the organization's president. The annual leadership workshop was held Aug. 14 and 15 in Macon, where the Rev. Clarence Moore, president of GMBC and a son of Antioch, laid out the organization's fu-

ture plans.

Those plans call for, among other things, building a new headquarters on Joseph E. Lowery Blvd. and making improvements to the C.M. Alexander Land of Promise in Culloden, GA. Land of Promise is a treatment center for men

struggling to overcome drug and alcohol addiction. Moore said he also hoped to apply for accreditation of Bryant Bible College and Theological Seminary, the educational focus of GMBC, Inc. that provides training for Baptist ministers and leaders.