



Antioch Connection

TAYLORED TALK a message for His people

CHRIST and LENT

As we prepare spiritually for Easter, let's take time to reflect on Christ's suffering; His sacrifice, life, death, burial, and resurrection; all for the redemption of our sins.

Lent is a 40-day season (excluding Sundays) of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that began on Ash Wednesday, February 14th, and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday, March 28th. Lent is more frequently seen as a time of solemn observance and preparation as Jesus turns toward Jerusalem through His triumphant entry that goes from crucifixion to the celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter.

On Palm Sunday, March 24th, we will commemorate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem with the blessing of palms. On this day, we will remember Christ's sacrificial death on the cross, praise God for the gift of salvation, and look expectantly to the Lord's second coming.

On Good Friday, March 29th, we will mourn the sorrowful behavior of the religious leaders who condemned Jesus and sentenced Him to crucifixion. Then He was beaten, nailed to the cross by His wrists and feet, where He hung until He died. Our Lord rose on Easter Sunday for the forgiveness of our sins, promising those who believe in him eternal life. We will celebrate His resurrection on Easter Sunday, March 31st.

Lent is a time to read and reflect on the Gospels and assess our commitment to carry our crosses daily as commanded by Christ. Luke 9:23 states, ²³ And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me". During our 21-Day Daniel Fast, March 6th - 28th, one of our goals is to grow closer in our relationship with Jesus Christ.

As we sacrifice for 21 days, please know that we are being Christlike. Christ fasted and prayed in Matthew 4:2. Christ entered the world as the sacrificial lamb of God in John 1:29. Lent reminds us of the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus made so we could be in fellowship with God. I encourage you to use this time as a time of purification and spiritual renewal.

Shifting Gears,
Pastor T



2024

"Shift...Greater Is Coming!"

"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

- John 11:25-26



*Death could not hold Him.
Rejoice in the
Resurrection of Jesus Christ!*

For God so loved the world that he made the ultimate sacrifice; the gift of eternal life through His son Jesus Christ. Jesus so loved His Father that He hung, bled and died for our sins. We shall love the Lord Our God with all our hearts, our souls, and our minds. Let us thank God for His indescribable gifts.

Join Us For



- Tuesday Morning Prayer** 7:00-7:30am.
Dial (945) 218-0090, access code 1846260.
- Churchwide Virtual Prayer** Third Wednesday each month at 6:00pm
- Pastor's Bible Study**, Wednesdays 7:00pm
- SonRise Bible Study**, Thursdays 6:00am
- Friday Morning Bible Study**, 9:30- 11:00am

Christ and Lent



Antioch Connection

Getting to know Pastor Taylor and Lady Leona

Pastor Taylor and Lady Leona invite you to participate in their Trivia Pursuit game as a fun and interactive way to get to know them better. Over the next several months, each edition of the Antioch Connection will include facts, clues, and/or questions that you can go to the Antioch website to answer. Whoever submits the most correct answers will be treated to dinner with the Pastor. We asked Pastor Taylor and Lady Leona the following questions for Round 4.



Pastor Taylor and Lady Leona Trivia Pursuit

Clues for Round 4 are in this edition. Can you find them?

Trivia Questions Round 4:

- R4 Q1&2: Who inspired your journey (spiritually or professionally)?
- R4 Q3&4: Which phone app do you use the most?
- R4 Q5&6: What are you most grateful for in life?

Trivia Answers for Round 3:

R3 Q1&2 What is your favorite childhood memory?

Q1: Pastor Taylor: C. Attending the World’s Fair in New Orleans; Q2: Lady Leona A. Performing on TV for the Superintendent’s Ball; High School; **R3 Q3&4** What was your first job? Q3: Pastor Taylor: B. Winn Dixie bag boy; Q4. Lady Leona C. Cashier @ Eckerd Drug Store; **R3 Q5&6:** Name a female in the Bible you admire, why? Q5 Pastor Taylor A. Mary Mark because she is an unsung hero; Q6 Lady Leona C. Esther: she used her influence to help others and not for personal gain

Go to www.antioch-church.org to answer questions for Round 4

MARCH IS WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH ♀

Voices from the Garden: The Virginia Women's Monument : Maggie Lena Walker



The Virginia Women’s Monument, Voices from the Garden located in Richmond, VA , acknowledges the brave, creative, and wise contributions of Virginia women represented in 12 bronze statues and over 200 names listed on the glass “wall of honor”. The monument is a metaphor for the often unrecognized voices that have been responsible for shaping our culture, country, and Commonwealth for more than 400 years. One of the women recognized was Maggie Lena Walker. As we celebrate Women’s History Month, let’s remember pioneers such as Maggie Lena Walker, born in Richmond, Virginia in 1864. In 1903, Walker became the first African American woman to charter and become president of the St. Luke Penny Savings Bank. Walker during her lifetime was an educator and editor of a newspaper, *The St. Luke Herald*.

Arthur Jackson

Walker was also affiliated with The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), The National Association of Colored Women, the National Urban League and National Negro Business League, and the United Order of Tents. She dedicated her life to civil rights improvement, economic promotion, and educational opportunities for African Americans and women. Pride and progress were her legacy.

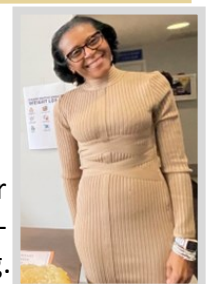


Shifting Gears: SHIFT MY FAST Daniel Fast March 6—28, 2024

Antioch friends and family will spend time meditating, praying, and fasting to connect spiritually with our Lord and Savior.

Antioch’s Pound-a-Thon Weight Loss Challenge

has been extended through March 24th. It’s not too late to join in. There are 76 members participating and in the first 2 weeks lost 75 pounds. See Sister Deloris Witcher in the church foyer on Sundays of sign up at www.antioch-church.org.





Antioch Connection

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

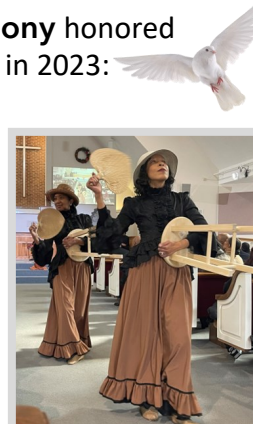


Antioch welcomed the Northern Virginia National Pan-Hellenic Council on Sunday, February 11th. In a sea of vibrant colors the Antioch sanctuary was filled with members and friends who came to praise and worship Our Lord and Savior. Senior Pastor-Elect, Kevin B. Taylor, delivered a powerful message from Galatians 5:16-26 entitled, "Shifting Gears: Shifting My Walk". He challenged us to live by the Spirit, to keep in step with the Spirit, and to yield when the Holy Spirit blows a whistle or puts a STOP sign in our lives.



Wall of Remembrance Ceremony honored members who gained their wings in 2023:

- ◆ Sister Barbara Goins
- ◆ Brother Phil Julien
- ◆ Sister Dorothy Goins-Graham
- ◆ Brother Otis Elam
- ◆ Sister Deborah Johnson
- ◆ Sister Lauretta McKenzie



Minister of Music and Arts Finalist led the Feb 4th Worship Services musical components. Many past and current choir members, musicians and dancers participated.



It was great to have youth on site to actively assist those who wanted individual help.
- Ashley Clark



Black History Month
Antioch history in the making!



Digital Engagement Workshop Antioch young adults shared their skills /expertise with ABC's young at heart, helping them to download apps, follow and like us on various platforms.



Antioch Connection

MEMBER RECOGNITION

Congratulations! Chase Beasley was named Staff Member of the Month at Liberty High School (LHS) for February 2024. School officials noted that Chase, as School Counselor has made a major difference by “building strong relationships with students and becoming a confidante to many. He is also willing to go the extra mile to help students succeed. This reflects his commitment to student’s best welfare and academic accomplishment. His positive and smiling disposition is displayed in his approach to work and interaction with others”. Please join us in congratulating Brother Chase on this highly respected honor!



Congratulations!

Sister Deborah Johnson on being elected President of the Board of Trustees for Joe Gibbs Youth For Tomorrow. Deborah previously served two terms as Vice President. The mission of Youth For Tomorrow is to provide children and

families with the opportunity to focus their lives and develop the confidence, skills, intellectual ability, spiritual insight and moral integrity—each based on Godly principles, resulting in positive changes to the benefit of the child, the family, the community and the nation. Deborah has been a member of Antioch for 25+ years. Deborah’s term began on January 1st.

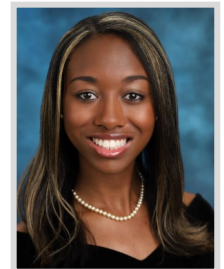


Congratulations!

Taylor McManus Illustration for providing services and goods that aims to create art and products that uplift, empower, and celebrate women, particularly BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color). Taylor’s services can be

used for book covers, editorials, social media, and any other commercial endeavors. She also sells products such as greeting cards, tote bags, art prints, and bookmarks. Taylor’s goal is to make her art and products for women to feel joyful and empowered! Learn more at:

www.taylormcmanusillustration.com



Congratulations! Kaitlyn Purvis on achieving the Dean’s List for the 2023 fall semester at Virginia Tech earning a 3.83 GPA. Kaitlyn is a freshman majoring in Advertising with a minor in Digital Marketing Strategy. She is also a member of the Black Student Association on the Live Entertainment Committee supporting open mic. She is the daughter of Brother Eugene and Sister Valerie Purvis.



ANTIOCH HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS APPLY BY APRIL 21, 2024!

For the **John Q. Gibbs Service Scholarship**. All graduating seniors who are members of Antioch and submit a scholarship application, will receive a graduation gift amount. There are also opportunities to receive incremental recognition in the areas of study, service and saints awards. Go to the church’s website for more information.

So, I Think I Am by Deloris Witcher

“As a man thinks so is he.” — Proverbs 23:7

The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is in all Christians. For the next 30 seconds think about your worst health habits. Perhaps it is how little you exercise, how much you overeat, your disdain for fruits and vegetables, and how you dread participating in the Daniel Fast. You just became those thoughts because you are what you think. How do you change the bad habits you spend so much time thinking about but not working to reverse? Start by turning your thoughts to Christ who has the power to help change your worst habits. He can help you learn to eat better, exercise more, and complete the Daniel Fast. Instead of focusing on problems and bad habits focus on Him, Jesus Christ who has the power and the solutions to all your problems and worst habits. You are powerful. You are full of power.





Antioch Connection

ANTIOCH YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

Attention Antioch family and friends!

Save the Date for **Antioch's Vacation Bible School**. VBS, this summer, will be held on Monday, June 17th through Friday, June 21st. As we prepare, we need your support in the following areas to make our 2024 Vacation Bible School week a success. We are looking for:

- VBS teachers and Specialty teachers
- Registration and Administrative support
- Hospitality and Snack Assistants
- VBS Store Director and Assistants

All volunteers must complete the youth child protection training by May 31st. You can find the training on the Antioch church website. If you have any additional questions, please contact Rev. Daniel Simpkins at dsimpkins@antioch-church.org. Thanks, and we look forward to seeing you this summer!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Praising God Through Song

Children always bring a sense of joy and happiness, especially to a Sunday morning service. The excitement and anticipation of watching little ones sing praises unto the Lord is one of inspiration and pure delight. The Praising Saints Choir does just that and is one of many choirs at Antioch Baptist Church. Founded in 1990 by Sister Andrea Gibbs, daughter of founding pastor the late Reverend John Q. Gibbs, the Praising Saints is a choir for children ages 4 - 9 years old. We often hear of the scripture, Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he gets old, he will not depart from it." Songs learned are often remembered as a teen and throughout life. The primary purpose of the Praising Saints Choir is to worship God through singing, to assist with learning the Bible through song, and to help kids grow spiritually.



The Praising Saints Choir is guided by Psalm 69:30, "I will praise God's name in song." To praise and worship God through singing is the ultimate goal of the ministry. Parents considering having their child become a Praising Saint should know that it is an outlet for their child to sing praises to God, have fun and be part of a church ministry. It is a way for them to interact with others and establish friendships.

Since 2005, The Praising Saints Choir has been under the direction of Sisters Gwen King and Tiffany Horne after being led by Sister Robyn Ausberry. Both of these ladies have lots of love, patience, and huge hearts for working with children. Sister King states, "I have always had a heart for working with kids and became the director shortly after arriving from Korea where I served as the Children's Choir Director." Sister Horne also states, "I have a gift for working with kids and enjoy serving the ABC kids. We both enjoy working with each other."

The Praising Saints Choir holds rehearsals on the 4th Saturday and sings on the 4th Sunday of the month for Intergenerational Worship Service. They also sing on special occasions and for services such as ABC's Anniversary Celebration, Black History Month, Easter, and Christmas. They will be singing for the upcoming Pastoral Installation Service in April. For more information on the Praising Saints Choir or to sign your child up, please contact Sister Gwen King or Sister Tiffany Horne at abcpraisingsaintschoir@gmail.com.





Antioch Connection

The S.A.L.T. of the Earth - Antioch's Youth Choir

Our youth are truly the future. In a world where uncertainty and confusion are often met with peer pressure and adversity, the youth are in need of more guidance, love, and support. The Antioch Youth Choir has been known to leave a lasting and positive impact on many of the children that grew up in it.

The Antioch Youth Choir was established in the early 1990s under the direction of Reverend Yolanda Darden. Over the years, the Youth Choir has been led by Sister Susan Reid, Brother Ernest Massenburg, Sister Tanya Easley, Sister Kim Gordon, and Sister Renee Coates. Since 2014, the Youth Choir has been under the direction of Sister Victoria Parker. In 2024, the name was changed to **S.A.L.T.** (Serving, Abiding, Loving, Testifying). The goal for S.A.L.T. is to be a beacon of light and spread the gospel of Jesus through music by **Serving** God's people, **Abiding** in the word of God, **Loving** one another, and **Testifying** about God's goodness.

S.A.L.T., staying true to "abiding in the word of God" is guided by Matthew 5: 13-16: ¹³ "You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.



This ministry is important because it provides an outlet for young people to express themselves through music. Ms. Vicky, as the choir affectionately calls her says, "there's an opportunity for true ministering to take place through the word of God when we dissect the meaning of what we sing. It is a safe space for kids to be themselves, grow in techniques and musical abilities, and make lasting friendships." Those wanting to join should know that it doesn't matter where you are in your walk with God, this is a group that loves each other, supports one another in and out of ministry, and thrives on fellowship. In addition to ministering to the congregation, they have an ample amount of fun that creates lifetime memories.



Sister Victoria enjoys combining her passions and using them for good. "I've always had a passion for music, young people, and teaching. Putting all three together has been a major role in my life since I was twelve years old. As I began to desire more and wanted to follow the will of God, I was led to Antioch. Now almost ten years later it has been one of the most beautiful and rewarding experiences I have had to date".

S.A.L.T. is open to children ages 10 -18 and ministers on 4th Sundays for Intergenerational Sunday. They also sing the Lord's praises for special occasions and services.

Parents, if you have a child interested in joining **S.A.L.T.**, please contact Sister Victoria Parker at abcyouthchoir1@gmail.com.

"You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless."

- Matthew 5:13





Antioch Connection

HOLY WEEK AT ANTIOCH



Palm Sunday

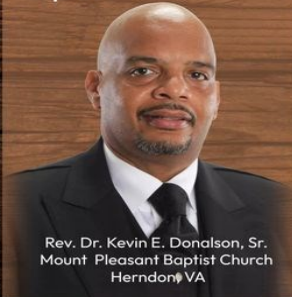
8 am & 10 am
Worship
Services

MAR.24



Maundy Thursday

MAR.28
7 pm



Rev. Dr. Kevin E. Donaldson, Sr.
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church
Herndon VA



Good Friday

7 LAST SAYING
OF CHRIST

12 NOON

MAR.29



Silent Retreat

YOUTH & FAMILIES

11 am - 1 pm
MINISTRY
CENTER

MAR.30



Easter Sunday

8 am & 10 am
Worship
Services

MAR.31

Palm Sunday is the Sunday before Easter. It commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. In many Christian churches, Palm Sunday is marked by the distribution of palm leaves.

Maundy Thursday is the Thursday before Easter that commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the apostles. The significance is derived from the Latin mandatum—A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another as I have loved you, the statement Jesus made in John 13:34. In this passage, Jesus explained to the apostles the significance of His action of washing their feet. Join us as Rev. Dr. Kevin E. Donaldson Sr. blesses Antioch with a message from the Lord on March 28th at 7:00pm.

Good Friday ('good' meaning pious or holy) is the Friday of Holy Week, observed primarily by Christians commemorating the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and his death at Calvary.

Holy Saturday (Silent Retreat) is the day before Easter and the last day of Holy Week in which Christians prepare for Easter.

Save the Dates:

- Mar 6-27: 21 Days of Daniel's Fast & Prayer
- Mar 17: RAM—Rising Above Ministry 1:00PM Virtual
- Mar 23: Men's Forum 8:00am—9:30am
- Mar 28: Maundy Thursday Service Rev. Dr. Kevin Donaldson, Sr. Pastor 7:00PM
- Mar 28: Caring for the Caregivers 6:00pm—7:30pm

Senior Pastor Installation Save the Dates

- Apr 18: Ladies Night to Celebrate Lady Leona
- Apr 19: Sr. Pastor Installation Gala
Hilton McLean Tysons Corner
- Apr 20: Sr. Pastor Installation Services
- May 10: Muzik on a Mission—Italy Team Benefit
Concert at ABC (Life Waters Ministries)
- Jun 17-21: Vacation Bible School—Volunteers Needed



Antioch
Fairfax Station, VA

Antioch Fairfax (FFX)

Help us spread the good news and increase our social media presence.



Facebook

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Instagram

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X (formerly Twitter)

twitter.com/AntiochFFX



YouTube

www.youtube.com/antiochfairfaxstation