



Antioch Connection

TAYLORED TALK *a message for His people*

CONSECRATION

The new year is a time for new beginnings, resolutions, vision boards, and fresh starts to name a few. At Antioch, 2024 will be a time in which we are 'shifting gears' because greater is coming. To help us shift gears, January will be a time of **corporate consecration**. Before Joshua and the people of Israel crossed over into their greater (promise land), they **consecrated** themselves.

⁵ *Then Joshua said to the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you."*

"Consecrate" means to sanctify, to render holy, to prepare, to dedicate oneself to God, or to set apart by spiritual disciplines. Hence, January is to be a time in which we are intentional about dedicating ourselves to God and deepening our relationship with God through spiritual disciplines. From January 10 - 31, 2024, I will be leading Antioch through 21 days of life changing prayers at 6:00am via our prayer line. Please prioritize prayer and connect with us at 945-218-0090, access code 1846260.

Moreover, I will be preaching all month on other spiritual disciplines to help us grow spiritually and draw closer to God. To top it off, after enjoying all the turkey, ham, chicken, dressing, yams, greens, desserts, and beverages of choice, it's time for a good **STRETCH!** Starting Wednesday, January 17th, I will be teaching our 6:00pm Bible Study from the book of James. The Bible Study is entitled "**STRETCH**".

*What better way to start 2024 than **SHIFTING** and **STRETCHING!***

Pastor T



2024

"Shift...Greater Is Coming!"

"Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work". - 2 Timothy 2:21

35th Anniversary

Join us as we celebrate Antioch's 35th Anniversary on January 14, 2024. We will move **"Forward in Faith, Standing on the Promises of God!"**

God is continuing to do great things here at Antioch and we look forward in exultation to receive what God has in store for us. No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no heart has imagined, what God has prepared for those who love Him.—1 Corinthians 2:9

Antioch Baptist Church was founded by the late Reverend Dr. John Q. Gibbs on January 8, 1989. Pastor Gibbs along with his wife (Deborah), his sister (Mrs. Virginia Carter), and close friends (Dr. William and Mrs. Kim Ryals) are founding members.

Pray with Us

January 10—31st at 6:00am for 21 Days of Prayer . Dial (945) 218-0090, access code 1846260. **Tuesday Morning Prayer 7:00-7:30am. Churchwide Virtual Prayer Third Wednesday each month at 6:00pm** via the ABC website.



Consecration



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Antioch celebrates 35 years with Reverend Dr. Weaver Blondin as Guest Preacher



Reverend Dr. Weaver Blondin will be the guest preacher for Antioch's 35th Anniversary Celebration on January 14, 2024. Dr. Blondin is a native of Philadelphia, PA. He is the Senior Pastor at Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church of Winter Park, Florida and the Executive Director for Hearts for Ministry Foundation, Inc. He was baptized and ordained at Antioch. We are delighted to welcome this son of Antioch to deliver God's word.

We will host two services, an 8:00am worship service and an expanded anniversary celebration at 10:00am filled with inspiring memories, joyful music, and lasting fellowship. Immediately following our 10:00am worship service, there will be an Anniversary reception which will include more celebrations and presentations. Registration is required to attend the Anniversary Reception.

Getting to know Pastor Taylor and Lady Leona

Pastor Taylor and Lady Leona invite you to participate in the Pastor Taylor and Lady Leona 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 2.



Trivia Questions Round 2:

R2 Q1&2: If you could choose to do anything for a day what would it be?

R2 Q3&4: Who is your favorite male in the bible and why?

R2 Q5&6: What skill have you always wanted to learn?

Trivia Answers for Round 1:

R1Q1) Pastor Taylor's favorite scripture, Answer C: Acts 20:24, R1Q2) Lady Leona's favorite scripture, Answer B: Romans 8:38-39

Go to www.antioch-church.org to answer questions for Round 2



Lady Leona and I wish you and your family a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. An Extraordinary Life and Legacy of Service and Love



The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. spoke often about the power of love, the importance of service and the value of both to the nation:

"Everybody can be great ... because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

As we celebrate Dr. King's life of service and pursuit of justice, we are called to remember his humility, courage, compassion, kindness, and fearlessness. But we also must acknowledge that his work is not done. Despite what seems like monumental setbacks of

hard-won civil rights and hostility toward the pursuit of a fair and just country, we can't be discouraged. Each one of us has an obligation to work toward Dr. King's goal of equal opportunities for all people.

"If I can do my duty as a Christian, or if I can bring salvation to a world once wrought, if I can spread the message as the Master taught, then my living will not be in vain, ... But I just want to be there in love and in justice and in truth and in commitment to others so that we can make of this old world a new world." Dr. King, *The Drum Major Instinct*, 1967



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DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



Women’s Ministry Christmas Fellowship. This year, the Antioch Women’s Ministry and the Modern Maturity Ministry hosted a combined Christmas Fellowship. With heartfelt portrayals of seven Women of the Bible, sisters of the Modern Maturity Ministry reminded Mary who they were and what their roles were. Reverend Yolanda Darden delivered a powerful message of hope and praised the Lord in a mighty way.



December Worship Services. From sacred baptisms to the soulful spirited rendition of Silent Night by the Antioch Male Chorus; the wonderful appreciation event for our Transitional Pastor Gaines and Lady G; and the generous Christmas Giving Tree donations, December was a month of joyful celebrations but none like the celebration of the birth of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Dr. Kevin B. Taylor, our Senior Pastor-Elect, shepherded in the holy day with gratitude and grace. He invited us all to **close the year with Him on December 31st at 10:00am and 6:00pm for two New Year’s Eve services you don’t want to miss.**

Knitting and Needlework Fellowship



Antioch’s first Knitting and Needlework Fellowship was held on December 3rd. Deaconesses, Cindi Blair-McManus and Lynell Brackett, led this wonderful fellowship which was enjoyed by over thirty participants. Some members worked on projects they brought while others were taught basic knitting stitchers. Deaconess Brackett said, “it is my desire to donate hand-made hats and scarves to those in need while promoting fellowship.”





Antioch Connection

MEMBER RECOGNITIONS



Congratulations Reverend Daniel Simpkins and his wife Natasha on their early Christmas gift, the birth of their baby boy, Noah Daniel-Garvey Simpkins. Noah entered the world on December 1, 2023 at INOVA Fair Oaks Hospital. His weight was 7 pounds and 4 ounces. Big sister, Jordan greeted baby Noah with love upon arrival home. Join us in welcoming Baby Noah and congratulating the Simpkins family.



Congratulations Reverend Langston Lafade Scott, II and Dr. Sherry Agnew Wilson were joined in marriage on November 7, 2023. The two met through a mutual interest surrounding organizational leadership, a deep friendship and eventually an undeniable love interest blossomed. After a fairly short courtship, Rev. Scott asked for Sherry's hand in marriage in the presence of their families. Reverend and Dr. Agnew-Scott are now the proud parents of 5 children: Jhazmyne Renee-Diane Scott (29), Janai Denece Scott (28), Nathaniel Koffi-Ujini Scott (19), Victoria Monét Wilson (28), and Taylor Alexis Wilson (26).

Change Your Mind *by Deloris Witcher*

"Be transformed by the renewing of your mind." —Romans 12:2b

In January many decide to give up habits they have honed and cultivated over the past twelve months. New Year's resolutions are made to extinguish those big bad habits. However, research has proven that by February the resolve in the "resolution" has ended. Most resolutions are made with the "Go big or not at all" mentality. However, drastic lifestyle changes are difficult to keep. Lasting changes to unhelpful habits require discomfort for an extended period. It is easier to make a smaller rather than larger change over an extended period. To succeed, start by changing your mind about your resolutions. Choose one small goal that you can consistently keep for at least 60 days. Congratulate yourself then add another goal. If you keep it going by the end of the year you may have tackled that unhelpful habit.



NEW YEAR'S EVE
Worship Services
SUNDAY
DECEMBER 31ST
10am & 6pm
BOTH SERVICES ARE IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL
WWW.ANTIOCH-CHURCH.ORG

6pm
Special Music Guest
Sam Robert & Levites Assembly

Pastor-Elect
Dr. Kevin B. Taylor

New Year, New Beginnings

As the new year begins, you may be reflecting on last year and all it meant to you. Weddings, new babies, graduations, retirements, health scares, sickness and death are all a part of life. The beginning of a new year brings a sense of renewal, excitement, and anticipation. As we look ahead, we are thankful for how far God has brought us and we feel hopeful for what's to come and for all the future holds.

Happy New Year Antioch family!

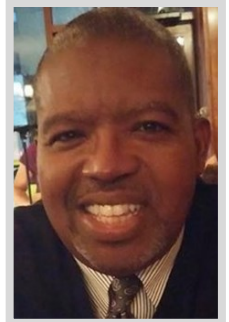


Antioch Connection

Where Two or More are Gathered - Partners In Prayer

The Partners In Prayer Ministry at Antioch Baptist Church is a ministry dedicated to the church's mission of "Loving God, Loving Others". Led by Brother Keith Yancey, the Partners In Prayer Ministry receives and prays for concerns and requirements from individuals, ministries, and the congregation. The Ministry supports planned and ongoing church events and activities and is available to pray with those in need of prayer. It identifies and supports future opportunities that align with the church's mission and vision.

Prayer is essential in our everyday lives. Brother Yancey states, "prayer alone with the Lord is powerful but prayer with a community is powerful, for the Lord himself said, "where two or three are gathered in my name I am in the midst of them" - Matthew 18:20. This scripture is what guides the Partners In Prayer Ministry. The Partners in Prayer Ministry provides members an opportunity to fellowship with those who have a strong desire to fellowship with God on behalf of the church.



Lawrence Ewing, Judith Ewing, Joyce Harris, Gretchen Briggs, Keith Yancey, & Ericka Wong
Not pictured: Donna Jackson

Brother Yancey was led to serve the ministry after graduating from Antioch Bible Institute in the Summer of 2022. He was invited to participate and lead the Partners in Prayer Ministry by Reverend Michael Coppedge and encouraged to find ways to promote and support prayer and fasting within the Antioch family. The ministry is open to anyone who loves the Lord and wants to join. Brother Yancey says, "this ministry is important because committing to pray with a prayer partner provides accountability for your prayer life. You're committing to pray for and with others. A prayer partner relationship will provide the added accountability to not skip your prayer time, but instead make it a priority. We pray continuously for each

matters that warrant God's attention. We also come together to identify events and activities that support Antioch's purpose through prayer and fasting." Partners in Prayer will hold this year's first **Quarterly Prayer Breakfast on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7:00am in the Ministry Center Multi Purpose Room.** For more information on the ministry, contact Brother Keith Yancey at kyrideon@yahoo.com or 703-927-4421.

Save the Dates:

- Jan 8: Quarterly Prayer Breakfast 7:00 AM Ministry Center MPR**
- Jan 8: Minister of Music & Arts Virtual Town Hall 7:00PM**
- Jan 14: Antioch 35th Anniversary 8:00AM**
10:00AM Reception immediately afterwards
- Jan 15: Martin Luther King Jr. National Holiday**
- Jan 27: Men's Forum**
- Feb 3: ABC Congregation Meet & Greet w/ Minister of Music & Arts 10:00—11:30AM Sanctuary**
- Feb 4: Minister of M&A leads Music components of Worship Svcs 8:00AM & 10:00 AM**
- Feb 22: Quarterly Business Meeting 7:00PM Sanctuary**
- 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**



Antioch Fairfax (FFX)

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X (formerly Twitter)

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<https://www.instagram.com/antiochffx>