

Antioch Update



Pastor's Note



In Acts 1:8 we see that we are called to be God's witnesses "...in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." The call is for us to be God's witnesses in our local spaces (our Jerusalem), and spread from where we are to the end of the earth (our Judea and Samaria, to the end of the earth.) God is calling all of us to be engaged in the missionary effort spreading the gospel. We must let the world know that Jesus saves those who trust in Him. All of us may not be able to go beyond our Jerusalem's. However, we can all pray for missionaries, such as Richard and Karen Lee. We also can provide financial support for those who surrender and sacrifice to go forward as missionaries. Antioch helps support some 4,000 missionaries through our cooperative missions giving. Our little bit added to other's little bit—is a whole lot of bits that provide funding for missionaries. In that way we are able to partner with mission efforts around the world. Thank you for your mission support for those who share the gospel around the world beyond our Jerusalem. Thanks for being mission minded—and God credits you for your support of His missionaries.

Mission Focus: Reaching The Lost

Matthew 28:19 (ESV) "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,"

FIRST-PERSON: African American churches are finding missionary connections (IMB picture, IMB missionaries Richard and Karen Lee serve in Tanzania)



Often, when African American Southern Baptists picture missionaries, they think about the pictures of missionaries that they've seen and few look like them. Many of our churches don't associate International Mission Board missionaries with being African American, so they are pleasantly surprised when they meet us. Church Connections has allowed us to show African Americans they have a place and role to play in the missionary task.

When our churches see missionaries who look like them, they feel more represented. And what we tell them is, "There is a place for you. God is calling you; you can be a part of reaching the world, and He wants to use you and your church." African American Southern Baptists aren't the only people who've been surprised to meet us. When we moved into our house in Tanzania, our neighbors wanted to know where the missionary was, and why Muslims moved in next door. "I have lived here for 40 years, and no one like you has ever lived in this mission house," a neighbor said. Tanzanian Christians celebrated our arrival.

"Where are our other brothers and sisters? You're the first ones that we've seen that looked like us," Tanzanian Christians have asked us. We still hear that, 20 years after we arrived in the country. African American missionaries have tremendous opportunities to make deep connections on the mission field.

Through Church Connections, we have the opportunity to help churches to think about what those opportunities might look like working with us in Dar es Salaam, the capital city, or working with the IMB in other countries. Our churches are well-connected to one another, and forming connections with one church opens doors for connecting with other churches. **To read entire article click: [Richard/Karen Lee](#)**

(Please pray for missionaries Richard and Karen Lee. Article from Baptist Press, July 26, 2021)

Live & Online Worship at 8am and 11am; 2 pm online only.

Bereavements:

–Loretta Penn, passing of her Mother, Helen Medlock (98 years young)

TUESDAY AM PRAYER CALL: 7:00 a.m. to 7:30 am, call (701) 802-5047, access code is 1846260.

Stay Connected: Follow Pastor on Twitter @MAusberry.

Follow Twitter @AntiochFFX, on Facebook [antiochffx](#), and on Instagram [antiochffx](#).

VIRGINIA DEP. OF HEALTH

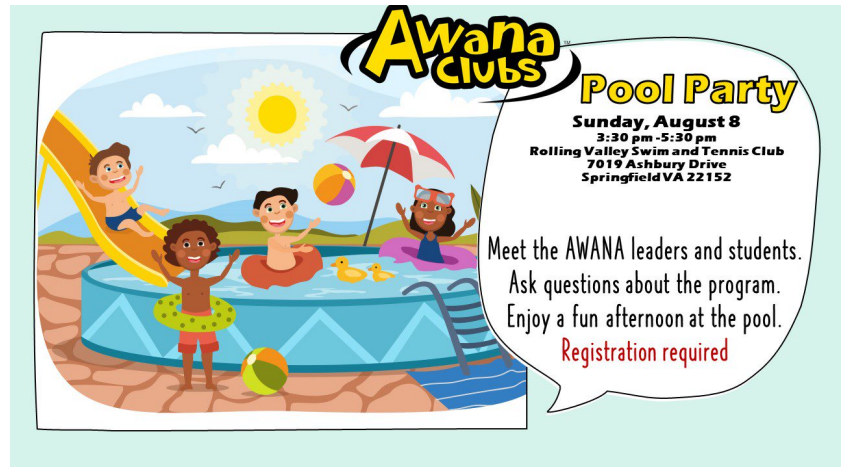
Click here for access to Virginia's COVID-19 statewide pre-registration system: **VA COVID-19**

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CHURCH-WIDE PRAYER every third Wednesday at 6pm, as we take everything to the Lord in prayer!

**CrisisLink: 703-527-4077
Suicide Prevention: 800-273-8255
Crisis Text: "855-11"**

There is power in prayer, because of the One to Whom we pray! Remember the power of a Praying Church.



Prejudice and Forgiveness

By: [Arthur Jackson](#)

(published in Our Daily Bread digital edition)

I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism.

Acts 10:34

After hearing a message about correcting injustice, a church member approached the pastor weeping, asking for forgiveness and confessing that he hadn't voted in favor of calling the black minister to be pastor of their church because of his own prejudice. "I really need you to forgive me. I don't want the junk of prejudice and racism spilling over into my kids' lives. I didn't vote for you, and I was wrong." His tears and confession were met with the tears and forgiveness of the minister. A week later, the entire church rejoiced upon hearing the man's testimony of how God had worked in his heart.

Even Peter, a disciple of Jesus and a chief leader in the early church, had to be corrected because of his ill-conceived notions about non-Jewish people. Eating and drinking with gentiles (who were considered unclean), was a violation of social and religious protocol. Peter said, "You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with or visit a Gentile" (Acts 10:28). It took nothing less than the supernatural activity of God (vv. 9-23) to convince him that he "should not call anyone impure or unclean (v. 28).

Through the preaching of Scripture, the conviction of the Spirit, and life experiences, God continues to work in human hearts to correct our misguided perspectives about others. He helps us to see that "God does not show favoritism" (v. 34).

*Consider the Antioch Bible Institute to grow in your walk with the Lord. Register on-line; orientation August 16 at 6pm.

*Looking for an in-person worship experience? Antioch is open on Sunday's for in-person worship at 8am and 11am.

*Please pray for the lost. Pray for your lost neighbors, family, and friends. Pray that they would come to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Represent God well so you can attract and engage with the lost. You are God's best witness to the lost!