



ANTIOCH CONNECTION

An Antioch FFX Publication

VOL. 3 | ISSUE 4

TAYLORED TALK

a message for His people

The Resurrection of Christ: A Glorious Victory

As we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we are reminded of the powerful hope we have through His triumph over death. In the Gospel of Mark, we find a poignant and profound account of the moment that changed the world forever. Mark's Gospel, though brief in details, paints a vivid picture of Christ's victory, showing us the unwavering faith and boldness required to believe in the miraculous.

Mark 16:1-8 records the moment when Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome visit Jesus' tomb, expecting to find His body. To their astonishment, the stone has been rolled away, and an angel tells them that Jesus has risen. The message of hope is clear: Jesus is no longer in the grave! He has risen, just as He said He would. This victory over death affirms our salvation and gives us the promise of eternal life through Him.

In this season of resurrection, let us reflect on the power of Jesus' sacrifice and His victory over sin and death. The resurrection is not just a historical event, but a present reality that gives us hope, peace, and the strength to walk boldly in faith. As we look to Jesus' example, let us remember that we too are called to fulfill our purpose. Just as Jesus fulfilled His purpose at Calvary, we are to remain focused on fulfilling the purpose God has placed in our lives. **God has made us for more.**

A Heartfelt Thanks

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you at Antioch Baptist Church. Your love, support, and generosity during my first Pastoral Anniversary have touched me in ways I cannot fully express. I am truly blessed to serve alongside such a dedicated and faithful congregation. Together, we are making an impact in the Kingdom of God. May we continue to grow in faith, love, and unity as we walk this journey together.

I love you, and there is absolutely nothing you can do about it!

In Calvary's Bond,

Pastor T



2025 FOCUS:

FULFILLING OUR PURPOSE!

Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly.

Mark 8:25 ESV

Inside this edition:

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Join Us For Prayer & Bible Studies

Tuesday Morning Prayer: 7:00am—7:30am | Dial (945) 218-0090, access code 1846260

Sunday School and C.A.R.E.S. Small Groups | 9:30am—10:15am

Wednesday 12Noon and Family Bible Study | 7:00pm

Thursday SonRise Bible Study | 6am and Friday Morning Bible Study | 9:30am



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The Journey of a Risen King

Holy Week is a celebration of the last moments of Jesus' life and His resurrection. From Palm Sunday to Resurrection Sunday, the last week of Jesus' life takes Christians through a story of humility, suffering, grace, and celebration. So, what is there to celebrate? We celebrate how God's grace sent us a King who was willing to give His own life so that we may have everlasting life. As we celebrate God's grace and Jesus' act of love, let's take a moment to journey with Jesus through this magnificent week.

One Sunday morning, Jesus humbly entered Jerusalem on a donkey. This day is referred to by Christians as Palm Sunday. This day, thousands of followers and disciples waved palms in joyous praise of Jesus, the King of Kings, and they laid palm branches and their cloaks on the road before Him. The people shouted "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." (John 12:13 NIV) Hosanna means "O save us" in Hebrew.

As the week goes on, Jesus spent much of His time in the temple teaching his followers and preparing the disciples for what was about to happen in a matter of days. Jesus shared many parables and lessons as the chief priest looked on in anger. The priests were angry with Jesus' popularity. They did not believe Jesus was Who He said He was. Although Jesus was about to suffer an unimaginable death, He continued to teach His followers the way.

Maundy Thursday is the day that Jesus celebrated the last Passover (better known to most as the Last Supper) and washed the feet of the disciples. Even as Jesus was about to make the greatest sacrifice, Jesus showed us His humility and loving nature by washing the feet of the disciples. Why would the King perform this great act of love and humility? Because of Who "He" is. As Jesus washed the disciples' feet, He commanded the disciples to "love one another as I have loved you." (John 13:34 NIV)

And then there's Good Friday—the day Jesus laid down His life for us on an old rugged wooden cross. They crucified our Lord on trumped-up charges, and yet Jesus forgave them as He stated, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34a ESV) Many may wonder why did Jesus do it. Love! It's that simple. He did it out of love for us. He gave His life so that we could live our lives free of sin. But the story doesn't end here.

Early Sunday morning, Jesus woke up, moved the rock aside that enclosed the tomb, and walked out with all power in His hands. Jesus defeated death. And for that reason we may live with Jesus in Heaven forever. Every Christian should celebrate! Resurrection Sunday is recognized and celebrated on Easter Sunday. But in reality, we should celebrate Easter every single day. Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice because of His love for each one of us. On this day and every day, we should do as He commands – Love others as Jesus loves you. Happy Easter!

HOLY WEEK AT ANTIOCH



Maundy Thursday Service

**April 17th
7PM**



**Rev. Dr. Henry
P. During, Jr.**
Senior Pastor, Star Bethlehem
Missionary Baptist Church



Good Friday Service

**7 Last Sayings of
Jesus Christ
April 17th
12 Noon**



*Friday Fellowship
for Teenagers*

**April 17th
7PM– 11PM
Ministry Center**



*Easter Egg
Hunt*

**April 19th
11:30 AM—2:00 PM**



*Resurrection
Sunday*

**8AM & 10:30AM
Worship Services
April 20th**



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MISSION FOCUSED: SERVE DAY—SPRING 2025

S may be the last letter in Antioch's C.A.R.E.S. values, but it is first in our hearts as God commands us to serve others. As a Church, we continue to represent a spirit of generosity, compassion, community, and engagement. Pastor Taylor has challenged our congregation to not only serve globally but to also serve our local communities. That challenge was accepted and executed on Saturday, March 29th.

Approximately 150 Antioch members and friends gathered to embark on a single day of cleaning and beautifying area parks. Antioch worked in collaboration with local park personnel at: Braddock Park, Rolling Valley West Park, Stringfellow Park and Greenbriar Park in Fairfax County; as well as Locust Shade Park and Basil Newman Park in Prince William County and Loudoun County, respectively. Our servants recognized that clean, well-kept parks invite people to come, relax, and play in a safe and cared-for environment.

Deacon James McCall, Missions Advisory Committee Chair, stated, "This was a successful exhibition of Antioch's endeavor to be a church that serves. This is just the beginning — there is more to come. We would love to see the overall participation in churchwide initiatives double to 300 for our next SERVE Day." Rev. Michael Coppedge, Associate Pastor, Antioch's Missions and Outreach said, "We've heard from several of the parks, and they are very appreciative of our efforts." For 2025, our goal is to have 50% of our



Braddock Park, Fairfax County



Greenbriar Park, Fairfax County



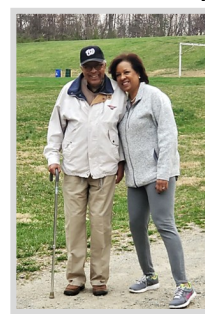
Locust Shade Park, Prince William County



Rolling Valley West Park, Fairfax County



Stringfellow Park, Fairfax County





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MISSION FOCUSED: SERVE DAY—SPRING 2025



Basil Newman Riverfront Park, Loudoun County



active membership serving in a ministry and/or mission. Help us reach this goal by serving.

Antioch is blessed to have access to so many parks in our neighboring counties. A huge **Thank You** to all the volunteers who came out to make the Spring 2025 SERVE Day a tremendous success. To God be all the glory!

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS



The month of March was packed with excitement. Antioch's Music & Arts Ministry hosted their first Podcast Series on March 14th.



Our Intergenerational Sunday was a true blessing. Our children and youth sang from the heart, and Bro. Dreland Turner delighted us with his smooth cello.



Our Pastor was on fire — unashamedly running for Jesus. We had a record month in the number of people who choose to unite with Antioch, several baptisms and Right Hand of Fellowships.



We celebrated Sis. Gwen King and gave her flowers for a job well done. We are so grateful to her for 20 years of dedicated service as lead servant for the Praising Saints. We wish her all the best as she retires from this role. **THANK YOU, Sis. King!**



Four powerful women of God preached the Word of God during Women's Emphasis Month. We had our first ever Women's Revival Services on 5th Sunday. If you didn't hear these sermons, you missed a treat. Go to our website or YouTube channel to listen. ♀



Pastor Danielle Bridgeforth
The Church at Clarendon
Arlington, VA



Pastor Danielle Brown
Shiloh Baptist Church
Plainfield, NJ



Min. Negleatha Johnson
Antioch Baptist Church
Fairfax Station, VA



Rev. Rochella Marable
Antioch Baptist Church
Fairfax Station, VA



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LIFE AT THIS STAGE *by Negleatha Johnson*

He Understood the Assignment

Growing up in Kinston, NC, I recognized, at an early age, the importance of understanding the details connected to my homework assignments. Things like knowing the word count, the assignment deadline, and the desired format were all important pieces of information. I rarely made assumptions about an assignment as a kid, and at this stage of my life, I run far from the chaos that assumptions have been known to cause. To successfully *complete* the assignment, you must first *understand* its demands.

Jesus understood His assignment and only accepted the requirements from God. His will was to execute the will of his Father. His ears were attuned to ONE voice, His strength came from ONE source, and although many assumptions circulated about Jesus and His reason for coming to earth, He remained confident in His ONE purpose: to die on the cross for humanity's sins.

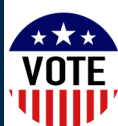
When Jesus cried out "It is finished" (John 19:30a ESV) on the day He was crucified, His assignment was then complete. Had I been on the earth all alone in my sin, He still would have died just for me.

Assignment Understood. Assignment Completed.

Justice Empowerment Ministry: JEMs For You!

VOTE: VIRGINIA PRIMARIES: Early voting: May 2-June 14; Primary on June 17

Most Americans know about elections held in November to fill offices, but how do candidates get on that ballot?



Major parties use primary elections to determine their nominees. The 2025 June primary elections' called offices include the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General as well as Virginia House of Delegate Offices and called local offices. It is important for us to make our voices heard in the primaries. Be sure to cast your vote early or vote on June 17th. Candidate lists for the June 17, 2025 Republican and Democratic Party Primaries will be posted on ELECT's Candidates & Referendums webpage the week of April 14, 2025.

SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL WORKERS AND CONTRACTORS: The State of Virginia, Fairfax County and NOVA have established resources to assist VA residents impacted by the Federal Workforce actions. For more information, click the links below or go to the website listed.



Secretary of the Commonwealth

An official website of the Commonwealth of Virginia

The State has established [a resource page for federal workers](https://www.governor.virginia.gov/constituent-services/federal-employee-resources). Click the link or go to

<https://www.governor.virginia.gov/constituent-services/federal-employee-resources>

Fairfax County has created a dedicated [resource page](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/help-residents-affected-federal-workforce-restructuring). Click the link above or go to <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/help-residents-affected-federal-workforce-restructuring>



Fairfax County Government
NewsCenter



Northern Virginia Community College – NOVA is offering free courses for Laid-off Federal Workers . Click [NOVAnext | No](https://www.nvcc.edu/academics/workforce/novanext/index.html) or go to

<https://www.nvcc.edu/academics/workforce/novanext/index.html>

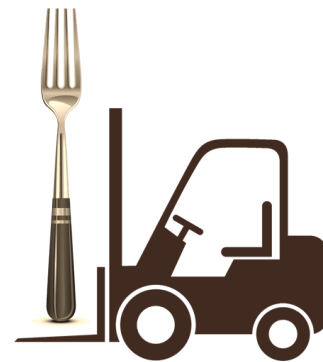


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Forklifts for Building *by Deloris Witcher*

"My house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with your own house. Haggai 1:9b NIV

A power tool for health is inconspicuous. It can build up or tear down. It can energize, reduce blood pressure and sugar levels, and help maintain a healthy weight. It can also cause diabetes, heart disease, and early death. The stainless-steel fork, when lifted, can build up or tear down your temple. Did you know that the original temple in the Old Testament would be worth approximately \$89 billion in today's economy? God provided specific instructions for the materials used in the temple: cedar, gold, and bronze. Guess what? Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Build your temple by evaluating what you put on your fork. Consider the Yuka app. This free app provides the health benefits of any food item with a barcode and suggests healthier alternatives. Then forklift good foods.



John Q. Gibbs Scholarship Application: Due April 20, 2025!



APPLY for John Q. Gibbs Scholarship

All graduating seniors who are members of Antioch and submit an application for the **John Q. Gibbs Service Scholarship** will receive a gift amount for their graduation. Since 1990, the John Q. Gibbs Scholarship Fund has been a beacon of opportunity granting over \$360,000 in scholarships to our graduating high school seniors. An awards and recognition ceremony is held in June each year as a testament to our commitment to nurturing and supporting the youth within our congregation. Also, through the benevolence of members and other organizations, Antioch is able to extend additional awards and scholarships to deserving ABC graduates. These scholarships acknowledge academic excellence, perseverance, commitment to service, and active participation in both church and community activities. The sponsoring organizations also use the John Q. Gibbs scholarship application as the basis for their awards, so please be sure to fill in all information completely. **Download the application at www.antioch-church.org.** Possible, additional awards for 2025 are listed below:

• Antioch Ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha	• Antioch Men of Alpha Phi Alpha	• Antioch Ladies of Delta Sigma Theta	• Antioch Men of Kappa Alpha Psi	• Antioch Men of Omega Psi Phi
• Antioch Men of Phi Beta Sigma	• Curtis B. Taylor, Sr.	• Deborah Kenny	• Desi and Marilyn Crouther	• Dorothy Goines Graham
• Donovan Angel Foundation	• James and Joyce Green Award	• Deacon Howard Boone Memorial		

CALLING ALL ANTIOCH BUSINESS MEN & WOMEN

Antioch Baptist Church is creating resources for our members who are impacted by the Government firings. This will be a multi-pronged process that will start with creating a business directory.

INFORMATION REQUESTED

- Business Name
- Business Description
- Business Contact Info
- Pro Bono Services?

SCAN TO SIGN UP

Call Us 703-425-0710

Visit Our Website www.antioch-church.org

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Antioch is creating resources for members impacted by the mass layoffs of government employees. As we support each other in these challenging times, this multi-pronged process will start with creating an Antioch business directory. If you are a business owner and you would like to participate, please scan the QR code and provide the following information: Business Name, Business email and phone number, and Business description/services, as well as pro bono services you are willing to provide.



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MEMBER RECOGNITION



Congratulations Deacon Lynell Brackett on your retirement after nearly 30 years of Federal service within the U.S. Intelligence Community. Lynell is taking some time for self care and spending time with her wonderful husband of 32 years, Michael, and her daughter and best friend, Lyndsay. Lynell has been a member of Antioch for 30 years and has served as a Deacon for 7 years. Prior to serving as a Deacon, Lynell was a care group leader for 10 years and served in the Feed the Homeless Ministry.

Congratulations Sister Liana "Lili" Baskerville. Lili is in the 15U Metro Volleyball Club. Lili is a right side hitter. Her team recently played in the regional tournaments in Richmond, VA. Lili is an honor student at West Springfield High School. She sings in Antioch's S.A.L.T. Choir, serves on the ABC Human Resources Committee as the Youth representative, and helps with Children's Church and the nursery. She is the daughter of proud parents, Bro. Eric and Sis. Monta Baskerville.



Children, Youth and Young Adults: News You Can Use

As we reflect on March, which was filled with wonderful achievements and memorable moments, we are grateful for all that took place. I want to give shout outs and special thanks to:

- ◆ Sis. Jessica Horne, Sis. Candice Coates, Sis. Trinity Story, Bro. Chase Beasley, and Rev. Corbett for hosting our 1st Express Yourself Podcast
- ◆ Bro. Dreland Turner for playing your cello and being our Rising Star for the month of March
- ◆ Sis. Gwen King for your 20 years of service to our Praising Saints and for your leadership to our S.A.L.T. Choir



We are excited about all that is planned for the remainder of April and looking forward to lots of fun activities.

Please mark your calendars and join us for the following:



Friday, April 18: Friday Fellowship for Teenagers (7pm - 11pm) (Youth Ministry)

Saturday, April 19: "The Joy of the Resurrection" Easter Egg Hunt (11:30am - 2:00pm) (Children's Ministry)

Sunday, April 20: John Q. Gibbs Application Deadline for Graduating High School Seniors (Youth Ministry)

Sunday, April 27: Intergenerational Sunday (4th Sunday is Dress Down Sunday)

Save the Date: Vacation Bible School (Monday, July 7 - Friday, July 11) (Church-Wide)

Save the Dates

Check out the 40 Days of FOCUS
www.antioch-church.org

40 Days of
FOCUS

Apr 17	Maundy Thursday 7PM	Apr 24	Modern Maturity Ministry 12Noon
Apr 18	Good Friday Service 12Noon	Apr 26	CCCSM Workshop
Apr 20	Resurrection Sunday	Apr 26	Men's Forum
Apr 21	Grief Share Virtual 7PM (4/21 & 4/28)	Apr 27	Extraordinary Youth Interest Meeting 12 Noon
Apr 22	Feed The Homeless 4:30PM Prep 6:00 Delivery/Distributions	May 1	National Day of Prayer 7AM (MPR)
Apr 23	Noon and 7PM Bible Study (4/30)	May 17	World Vision 6K Run Walk Roll
		May 22	Quarterly Business Meeting (Members Only)

The Church Office will be closed on April 21st and 22nd. For emergencies, call 703-425-0710, option 4.