



Antioch Connection: SPECIAL EDITION

TAYLORED TALK a message for His people



MORE THAN CONQUERORS!

One of my favorite scriptures that will guide our thematic thrust for the next two months is Romans 8:37. It states, **“No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us”**. The apostle Paul acknowledged that we shall face tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, and danger but these things shall not separate us from the love of God. Moreover, he encouraged the saints by reminding us that we are more than conquerors through the Lord Jesus Christ.

This month we celebrate women of faith and women of color who are more than conquerors. In a world in which women have been oppressed, marginalized, objects of sexual sins (molestation, incest, rape, pornography, human trafficking), and the constant fight for equality in pay and rights; women of faith and color have been and are trailblazers, trendsetters, and innovators.

We celebrate to name a few:

Women of the Bible

- Eve
- Rahab
- Hannah
- Elizabeth
- Mary

Pioneers

- Harriet Tubman
- Shirley Chisholm
- Mary McLeod Bethune
- Kamala Harris
- Oprah Winfrey

Trailblazers

- Bishop Vashti McKenzie
- Deborah Gibbs
- Reverend Rochella Marable
- Loretta Penn
- Kiah Spinks

Additionally, Antioch Baptist Church honors and celebrates the many women who have made contributions to our 35-year church history. We proudly affirm women in ministry. Moreover, we invite and welcome women to use their spiritual gifts for the glory of God and edifying of the body of Christ.

As we celebrate and invest in women all month, remember the following words, “Don't follow the crowd, let the crowd follow you.” — Margaret Thatcher.

You are more than CONQUERORS!

Pastor T

2024 “Shift...Greater Is Coming!”

³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? - Romans 8:35

In This Edition

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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

Family Bible Study: Wednesdays 12 Noon

In Person Only; 7:00PM Dinner, Homework

Stations and Bible Study In-Person and Virtual

SonRise Bible Study, Thursdays 6:00PM

Friday Morning Bible Study, 9:30– 11:00AM



More Than Conquerors



Antioch Connection

LENT TO PENTECOST

The Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ warrants celebrating the Easter Season. This year, we recognized **Lent** which began on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Lent includes 40 days of solemn observance and preparation (prayer, fasting, and almsgiving). We commemorated **Palm Sunday**, Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. On **Maundy Thursday**, we reflected on Jesus' Last Supper with His apostles. On **Good Friday**, we remembered Christ's sacrificial death on the cross. We retreated silently on Saturday in preparation for Easter. Then on **Resurrection Sunday**, Hallelujah, we celebrated Our Risen Savior. This season culminates on the **Day of Pentecost**, May 19th, as we repent and turn to Jesus for salvation. This is truly a season for gratitude and thanksgiving. Let us remember to give thanks each day.

A TRIBUTE TO MOTHERS

For all the times that I forgot to "thank you,"
For all the special, little things you do,
For all the words that have gone unspoken,
Mom, I need to say, "I love you!"

I love the way you stop and listen,
And your kind support throughout the years,
Thank you for teaching me compassion,
And for sharing in my triumphs and my tears.

If at times, I seem ungrateful,
Please forgive me this day,
For nothing you've done has been forgotten,
I love you more and more each day.

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. This is the last round of the Trivia Pursuit game. This edition of the Antioch Connection includes questions and clues that you can go to the Antioch website to answer. Whoever submits the most correct answers will be treated to dinner with the Pastor.

Trivia Questions Round 6:



R6 Q1&2: What is your favorite past time?

R6 Q3&4: Where is one place you've always dreamed of going?

R6 Q5&6: What is your favorite form of exercise?

Trivia Answers for Round 5:

R5 Q1&2 What was the last book you read? Q1: Pastor Taylor: B. Astonished by the Word by Brian Russell; Q2: Lady Leona A. I need to do better; **R5 Q3&4** What are

you most excited about for the future? Q3: Pastor Taylor: C. Leaving a spiritual and educational legacy;

Q4. Lady Leona C. More grandchildren; **R5 Q5&6:** What is your all-time favorite food? Q5 Pastor Taylor

C. Brown stew chicken; Q6 Lady Leona A. Caribbean food

Go to www.antioch-church.org to answer questions for the final round—Round 6



Pastor Taylor and Lady Leona Trivia Pursuit

Clues for Round 6 are in this edition. Can you find them?

Community Health *By Deloris Witcher*

"Do not forsake the assembling together." Heb. 10:25a

God never intended for us to be alone. The COVID-19 pandemic caused many people to stop attending church in person for the sake of health. However, returning to in-person worship is vital for remaining healthy. Clinical research proves church attendance is associated with longevity, less depression and smoking, improved cardiovascular and cancer disease survival, and greater meaning in life. Our health is not just the product of genetics but also the community of people with whom we keep. The next time you are tempted to attend Bedside Baptist Church remember the warning in scripture found in Hebrews 10:25 regarding forsaking assembling. In church, we are reminded of God's promises in scripture and can be stirred in matters of faith and health. It is time to return to church service in person, the Bible says so and it will improve your health.



Cycling



Antioch Connection

New Beginnings... Greater is Coming

“Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” – Isaiah 43:19a

Antioch Baptist Church **FairFaX** has a rich 35-year history. Antioch’s purpose is Loving God, Loving Others through attending **Worship**, studying the **Word**, volunteering to **Work** in ministry, and reaching the **World** for Jesus Christ. We remain committed to Antioch’s purpose as identified in our seal. →



However, our seal does not identify who we are. We must be consistent and deliberate in letting the world know that we are Antioch Baptist Church of Fairfax Station, VA. We must be bold ambassadors for Christ, unashamed of the Gospel. Our new logo states who we are and it is Christ centered.



John 14:12 tells us, “Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these...” In order to achieve greater, we will be doing a number of new and different things which will require us to **STRETCH** and **SHIFT**; to embrace change.

Greater is Coming means — greater service, greater praise, greater worship, more souls saved, and more families ministered to. **Greater is** taking the four pillars of our seal and putting them into action. **Greater is** coming together to worship; it is family Bible Study; it is serving in a ministry or volunteering in the church office; it is telling more people about the goodness of the Lord and inviting others to know Christ. We must be assertive about being a Christ centered, six generational church—a church of Builders, Boomers, Gen X, Millennials, Gen Z, and Gen Alpha. More importantly, we want the world to know that Antioch C.A.R.E.S. A church that is **C**haritable **A**dapts **R**elational **E**vangelizes and **S**erves.



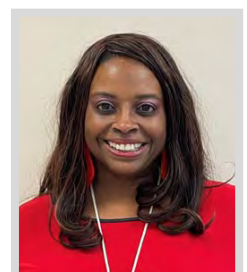
ANTIOCH WELCOMES!



Welcome! **Reverend Bernard Corbett**, Antioch’s new Minister of Music and Arts. “I was looking for a change in this season of my life and wanted to relocate to a new area, but more importantly, I was looking for a New Beginning, said Reverend Corbett. Then, I saw the posting for the Minister of Music and Arts position at Antioch. After reading the position description, I felt a new passion for how God would impact my life for His glory at Antioch.

Just as God is shifting Antioch for greater, He is also shifting the Music Ministry for greater. 1 Corinthians 2:9 reads, But as it is written, “Eyes hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him”. It is my prayer that our discipleship will touch the souls of the men, women, and children worshipping at Antioch, and they will cry out, what must I do to receive Christ in My Life? I look forward to getting to know this wonderful church.

Welcome! **Sister Suzanne Russell** is one of the newest staff members of Antioch and joins the team serving as the Director of Finance. A graduate of NOVA Community College—Annandale and Virginia State University, Sister Russell has a background working in accounting in private industry and family owned companies. She owns a travel agency, STR Vacations, and is a seasonal Senior Tax Preparer at Jackson Hewitt. Sister Russell just celebrated 23 years of marriage. She has one son who is a senior in high school and two bonus young adults who live in Indiana. She enjoys spending time with family and friends and appreciates some good R&R (rest & relaxation).



Maldives



Antioch Connection

MEMBER RECOGNITION

Congratulations! **Sister Felecia Myers DeLoatch**, President and CEO of the Growth and Health HUB on being recognized as the Best New Business of the Year for 2024. Celebrating its first year anniversary, the HUB successfully provided mental health support to hundreds of people in our community.

Sister DeLoatch believes that now more than ever, we need easily accessible, affordable mental health care. Investing in mental health support is an investment in the overall well-being and prosperity of our society. She is a long time member of Antioch and an enthusiastic and dedicated advocate for health and healing. To learn more about The HUB, go to www.gandhi.org.



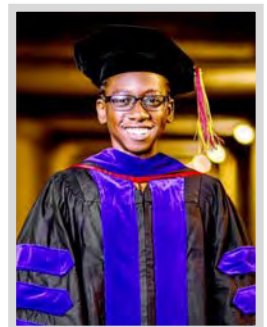
Congratulations! **Sister Rhonda Luss**. On Friday, April 12, at the 71st Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Rhonda Luss received the Jennifer King Congleton Servant Leadership Award. The Servant Leadership Award recognizes a leader within the region who displays exemplary service and demonstrates what it means to be a servant leader.

Sister Luss is a charter member and chartering President of the Alpha Beta Alpha Omega Chapter, serving the communities of Springfield and Lorton, VA. Rhonda is passionate about mentoring students. She started the Ivy AKAdemy, a youth mentoring program that builds students' confidence and self-esteem while nurturing emerging leadership skills.

This program earned an award from South County Middle School for producing a highly effective and impactful mentoring program.

Paris

Congratulations! **Brother Joshua Luss**. Joshua passed the Virginia Bar Exam. Joshua is now a licensed attorney. Joshua's journey began with achieving his Bachelor's and Master's of Science in Criminal Justice from Virginia Commonwealth University. He then earned his Juris Doctor from the University of the District of Columbia. The Admission Ceremony to the Virginia State Bar will be held on Tuesday, June 4th at 12:00p.m. at the Greater Richmond Convention Center. In his spare time, Joshua is an avid studier of God's Word. He also enjoys Star Wars books and rapping. Joshua is the son of Jerry and Rhonda Luss.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ANTIOCH'S HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS!

On June 2nd, Antioch will recognize our members who are graduating high school this year. Each Antioch high school senior who completed the **John Q. Gibbs Service Scholarship** application will receive a graduation gift amount. Through the benevolence of members and other organizations, Antioch will also extend additional awards. These scholarships acknowledge academic excellence, perseverance, commitment to service, and active participation in both church and community activities. Please join us in congratulating the following seniors:

• Calla Coleman	• Jonathan Edwards	• Serena Edwards	• Aston Evans	• Nicholas Fuller II
• Morgan Giles	• Tzipora Kahrs	• Isaiah Murphy	• Lillian Perkins	• Wayne Williams II
• Deon Young II	• Carmell Beamon	• Camille Harris	• Jordan Hymes	• Kayla Luss
• Mickhaila Murray	• Laila Simpson	• Aubrey Smith	• Sean Streeter	



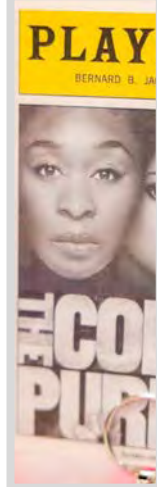
Antioch Connection

LADIES NIGHT OUT WITH LADY LEONA

APRIL 18TH
MINISTRY CENTER
MPR 7:00PM



Ladies Night Out with Lady Leona was filled with love and laughter. From our youngest to our most senior, Antioch's ladies gathered for great food, fun, friendship, and fellowship in celebration of Lady Leona! A wonderful time was had by all!





Antioch Connection

PASTORAL INSTALLATION GALA



Christ was at the center during our first-ever Pastoral Installation Gala as we welcomed Senior Pastor, Dr. Kevin B. Taylor, First Lady Leona Taylor, and their family. Rev. Dr. William H. Curtis delivered a powerful message.





Antioch Connection

PASTORAL INSTALLATION GALA

On Friday, April 19th, Antioch family, friends, local officials, ministers, and pastors from around the country filled the International Ballroom at the Hilton McLean Tysons Corner in celebration of Dr. Kevin B. Taylor as Antioch's 3rd Senior Pastor. Guest artist Negleatha "drj" Johnson, Merlon Devine and Antioch's Installation Celebration Ensemble helped to make the evening unforgettable.




DONOVAN ANGEL FOUNDATION

DARRELL DAVIS, CEO | VEVE DAVIS, COO

The Donovan Angel Foundation is dedicated to illuminating the path towards understanding and supporting children with special needs and disabilities. We're helping these XtraSpecialKids, like Donovan Davis, who has Fragile X syndrome, around the country to receive services of Occupational, Speech, Equestrian, Music, and Play Therapies by providing funds donated by our supporters through charitable contributions and events. Additionally, we support a yearly summer camp. Through advocacy, education, and support, we strive to elevate the quality of life for these children, nurturing their holistic development and creating a compassionate network that champions their journey towards a brighter future.

Web: donovanangelfoundation.org
Phone: 703.861.8483

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

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-  X (formerly Twitter) twitter.com/AntiochFFX
-  YouTube www.youtube.com/antiochfairfaxstation



Antioch Connection

PASTORAL INSTALLATION SERVICE



Pastor Taylor and Lady Leona led the processional for the Installation Service. Psalmist Ronnette Rollins lifted her voice in praise.



Rev. Dr. Phillip L. Pointer, Sr. from Saint Mark Baptist Church in Little Rock, AR, delivered the installation message.



Antioch ministers along with visiting clergy laid hands on Pastor Taylor and Lady Leona. Bishop Dwayne Debnam of Morning Star Baptist Church, Baltimore MD prayed for Pastor Taylor's discipleship and strength as he leads Antioch into her next chapter.



Deacons Tujuanna Williams and Bernard Holmes presented Pastor Taylor with his pastoral robe. Pastor Taylor pictured below with a number of the attending clergy.





Antioch Connection

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES



On Sunday, April 20th, the Installation Weekend ended with two dynamic Pastors. Reverend William L. Watson delivered a message from Matthew 9:35-38 titled, "Lord, Send Forth Laborers" at the 8:00a.m service. He reminded us that the harvest is great, but the workers are few. He challenged us to be committed to God's commission and to be workers in the fields. Dr. Torin T. Dailey preached from Acts 16:11-45, a message titled, "Sharing Christ Is Lit!" at the 10:00a.m. service. He challenged us to go get some more; to be like Lydia, willing to share the goodness of Jesus Christ— to be disciples.



HELP BUILD GOD'S KINGDOM, VOLUNTEER TO SERVE

Volunteering at Antioch benefits the members of our congregation and our church staff. It is simply not possible for our pastor and staff members to meet all of the needs within or outside our church. Therefore, volunteers are essential to sustain healthy ministries, to serve our congregation, and to serve our local community and the world around us. Without volunteers and servant leaders, much of the work we are called to do as a church would go undone.

Pastors are called to equip and train people to minister. Volunteering at Antioch is an excellent way to identify your gifts and develop a heart for serving others. Our mission is to reach the lost and serve people through the love of Christ. Jesus commands his followers to "go and make disciples." Whether you serve in one of our thirty plus ministries or you assist in the administrative office, your willingness and availability are what's important.

In the words of our Pastor, we need "Lottie, Dottie, and Everybody" serving in a ministry or using their spiritual gifts in some capacity. There are no unimportant jobs or roles within our church, each job is uniquely necessary. Whether you can serve a few hours a week or a month, we need you. Please go to the Antioch website to see which ministry might benefit from your gifts. You can also take the spiritual gifts survey to see where you might fit.





Antioch Connection

Antioch’s Women’s Ministry: Joy in the Journey

The 2024 theme for Antioch’s Women Ministry is “Joy in the Journey” based on Romans 15:13: *May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.* “We believe joy is given to us by God and will sustain us beyond any happiness the world tries to define for us,” said Sister Kenya Savage, the new Women’s Ministry lead servant. “We began our bible study fellowship by Defining Joy and What God says Joy Is. Other topics throughout the year will include: How to Find Joy in Life and Be Joyful; How to Keep Your Joy; Ways to Share Your Joy; and How to Get Back Your Joy!”



Dancing

We are praying about a Fall 2024 on-campus retreat and a Spring 2025 women's conference. The ministry’s mission is to equip women with biblical knowledge and encourage them to be strong, godly women. The ministry’s vision is to be Christian women who exemplify God’s standard of womanhood while fulfilling His purpose and making a difference in the lives of others. “Life isn't about rushing to the finish line, it's about enjoying the journey, allowing ourselves to be free, and not forfeit the lessons God is teaching us along the way,” said Sister Savage.

When Pastor Taylor asked me to consider serving as the Women’s Ministry Leader, I immediately gave him reasons why I could not! I began comparing myself to other women, and then said, “Ok Pastor, I will pray about it!” During our church-wide prayer and Daniel Fast, I leaned in more to hear from God. God said, “Kenya, I didn't ask you to be anyone but yourself. You are created in my image to do my will and I promise to be with you always.” That was so profound to me. I believe that God will do exactly what He said He will. I realized it really was not my decision. It was God's decision and design. I believe God equips those He calls and I agreed to serve.

Sister Savage said, “I am excited to journey with the women of Antioch as we endeavor to find sustainable joy with Jesus Christ as our center. We will support one another, study and grow in God's word, and serve our local church and our community. As we Shift and Stretch, we will also have fun fellowshiping”.

The Women’s Ministry meets on the first Saturday of the month from 10am-12pm, February through June; and September through December for Bible Study or Fellowships. Women 18 years and older are invited to join us. To learn more, contact Sister Kenya Savage at 703-618-6353 or KSavage@antioch-church.org.

Saturday
May 18, 2024
9:00AM
Run or walk at Burke
Lake Park
Sign Up! @
www.antioch-church.org

6k
Walk/Run for
Clean Water

Join us for our Annual Walk/Run to bring clean water to families. Consider sponsoring a child. You can be a blessing to a child in need.

Whoever gives to the poor and the less fortunate will not want.
Proverbs 28:27(a)

ABC Vacation Bible Camp: June 17-21



Join us for Vacation Bible Camp Monday, June 17-21, 2024 from 8:00am—4:00pm. Daily activities include fun learning, arts and crafts, science, Bible teachings, a T-Shirt and a Juneteenth celebration. The cost is \$100 for K-6; Grades 7-12 free admission.

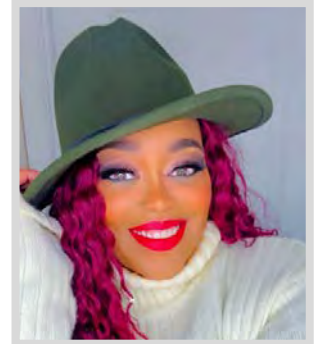
To ensure the camp is successful, we are looking for a few more helping hands. We are also asking that parents register your children early so that we can adequately prepare. Watch for more details in the weekly announcements. For more information contact Reverend Daniel Simpkins at dsimpkins@antioch-church.org.



Antioch Connection

Antioch’s Singles Ministry: Single and Loving It

The Antioch Baptist Church Singles Ministry was originally established in the 1990s and was a vibrant and thriving ministry for many years. Having been on hiatus for quite some time, the newly reorganized Singles Ministry is making a comeback. The Singles Ministry is now under the leadership of Sister Shae Price. A member of Antioch for 23 years, Sister Price is excited about the future plans and goals for the ministry. With a strong Christian foundation, the ministry will provide a chance and opportunity to learn and grow not only within oneself but most importantly deepen one's relationship with God. The mission and vision is “Single and I Love It”. “I believe that fellowship with those that can share testimonies about themselves walking in their singleness can help others see the ups and downs of it. More importantly it serves as a blueprint for those that have been through the mental, physical, and emotional challenges that oftentimes being single can bring,” says Sister Price.



The Singles Ministry is open to single young and mature adults looking to fellowship and connect with others. The ministry is important because it will help to expand minds, fellowship, and have amazing conversations that can help lead us in the right direction and see the beauty in singleness. Sister Price says, “knowing that there’s a safe space to release and be real with yourself is always a comfort and of the utmost importance.”

Singles are encouraged to be on the lookout for an upcoming meeting this month (May) with more events and Sunday School to follow in the future. To join the ministry or learn more, contact Sister Shae Price at sprice@antioch-church.org.

Wordsearches



Mental Health Awareness Month is nationally observed each year in the month of May. Mental Health Awareness Month began in 1949 by Mental Health America and each year the organization remains dedicated and committed to bringing more attention and awareness to mental health. This year the theme is “Where to Start.” With the world constantly changing, many people can find it challenging to adjust to everything going on around them. Although society has made it easier to discuss mental health over the years, it can still be difficult for some to find the starting point when taking care of their own well-being.

This May, Mental Health America wants you to:

- **LEARN** how modern life affects mental health with new resources to navigate our changing world.
- **ACT** by building your coping toolbox so you can manage stress, difficult emotions, and challenging situations.
- **ADVOCATE** to improve mental health for yourself, your friends and family, and your community.

If you or someone you know is struggling with mental health challenges, please GET HELP. You can visit the Mental Health America [website](http://www.mhanational.org) (www.mhanational.org) for more resources. Show your support all month long by wearing green, which is the official color of Mental Health Awareness Month.

Save the Dates:

<p>May 2: National Day of Prayer</p> <p>May 4: Book Discussion—The Power of the Black Vote 10AM</p> <p>May 5: LWM Benefit Concert 5PM at ABC</p> <p>May 18: Walk for Clean Water Burke Lake Park 9AM</p> <p>May 19: Day of Pentecost</p> <p>May 19: RAM—Rising Above Ministry 1PM Virtual</p>	<p>May 23: Quarterly Business Meeting 7PM</p> <p>May 25: Men’s Forum 8:00—9:30AM</p> <p>May 28: ABC Feed the Homeless 205A/B 4:30 & 6PM</p> <p>May 30: Caring for the Caregivers 6:00—7:30PM</p> <p>June 2: HS Grads Recognition Ceremony 11:30AM</p> <p>June 8: ABI 25th Anniversary Celebration 3PM</p> <p>Jun 17-21: Vacation Bible Camp 8AM — 4PM</p>
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