



# Antioch Connection

## PROVISIONAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE (PLC) November Update

The PLC continues to work on ensuring smooth church operations during our transition. As we approach the end of this calendar year, the PLC is focused on bringing forward two priority matters for decision at the December 15th All Saints meeting. First, after much prayer and deliberation, the PLC will bring forth a recommendation for Antioch's Transitional Pastor. Second, the Finance and Budget Subcommittee will present the 2023 ABC budget for approval.

## PASTOR SELECTION COMMITTEE (PSC) November Update

The PSC hosted its final focus group sessions with our Millennials (college age) and Youth (Middle and High School) during November. Our youth and college aged students provided great perspectives on what they need in our next shepherd leader. It is often said that from the mouth of babes comes truth in its purest form.

We look forward to sharing more information at our upcoming All Saints meeting.



## Antioch All Saints Meeting December 15th 7:00pm



**Congratulations** to Antioch Dancers, Colleen Allen and Michelle Griffith, on becoming The Eagles Network (TEN) 2022 graduates of TEN NoVA, MDEast, DC & WV. Colleen and Michelle completed Dance Year One which includes a five-module curriculum, earning a certificate in the ministry of dance over a ten-month period. Each module is 4 hours, (2 hours of theological study and 2 hours of technique study).

The theological component focuses on building the biblical understanding of the worship arts ministry, while the technical component is intended to work on the physical skill set of their dance as ministry.

These two ladies completed the curriculum with excellence! Congratulations and thank you for being willing to spread your wings!

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

### "HOPE"



Our focus for the month of December is "Hope". As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, we recognize His amazing gift of grace and the reason we have hope. During this joyous season, join us in daily prayer as we meditate on these scriptures:

**12/04:** Romans 15:13, Romans 12:12, Hebrews 11:1

**12/11:** Romans 8:24-28, Hebrews 10:23

**12/18:** Romans 5:3-4, Psalm 31:24, Psalm 25:5

**12/25:** Psalm 33:22, Psalm 130:5, Jeremiah 29:11

Unite with us on Tuesday mornings from 7:00am to 7:30am for prayer (701) 802-5047, the access code is 1846260 and on the third Wednesday each month at 6:00pm via the ABC website.

## Spiritual Gifts Assessment

Throughout the Bible, there are many examples where God uses the spiritual gifts of humble servants to do great things. Do you know what your spiritual gifts are? Your talents are the tools God has equipped you with to serve Him and to serve others. Complete your spiritual gifts assessment and determine where you can serve at Antioch. The spiritual gifts assessment can be found on the ABC website under Other.



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## ANTIOCH GIVES

The Lord has been faithful to Antioch in ways too numerous to count. We are grateful for His love, kindness, and mercy. Although we can never repay Him, we can “pay it forward” in our local community and around the world.

As December is National Giving Month, we would like to recognize the generosity and volunteerism of our members and ministries. This page is titled Antioch Gives not to boast about how wonderful you are but to highlight where we are actively sharing the Goodness of God and giving back.

It’s been said that “Being Thankful is an Attitude” which should be displayed 365 days a year -- not just at Thanksgiving. Perhaps, “Giving is a Matter of the Heart” and should be performed daily as well. We are grateful for your support and encourage you to continue using your time, talent, and resources to make a difference in the lives of others and bring glory to our Father.

### Carried To Full Term (CTFT)

CTFT provides long-term housing to pregnant and homeless women. Their goal is to invest in stabilizing women and their families. In November, Antioch provided gift cards to CTFT in collaboration with the NoVA Business and Professional Women’s Club to support acts of kindness.



### Thanksgiving Outreach Project

This Thanksgiving, Antioch provided gift cards to **120 families** in the NoVa area and donations to **FACETS, Capital Area Food Bank, the Lamb Center, Katherine Hanley Women’s Shelter, and Embry Rucker Shelter.**

### Antioch’s Christmas Giving Tree

The 2022 Christmas Giving Tree efforts will provide gifts to a number of individual families as well as families at **Freedom High School (HS), Woodbridge HS, Key Middle School (MS), Luther Jackson MS, and Rose Hill Elementary.** Organizations include **INOVA Juniper, Prince William County’s Clinical Behavioral Health Program, Youth for Tomorrow, Key Center, and Birmingham Green Nursing Home.** **Please consider supporting Antioch’s Christmas Giving Tree.**



### Women’s Ministry

This year, Antioch Women’s Ministry has remained focused on their “Commitment to Service” by helping sisters in need.



The ministry held a food drive and provided goods to the **Lorton Community Action Center Food Pantry** earlier this year. They are currently providing women and children at the **Patrick Henry Family Shelter** in Falls Church with greatly needed laundry pods and dishwashing liquid. The ministry is also collecting decorative holiday bags with a small personal item or items to bring a little joy to the women at the **Domestic Violence Center.**

The Women’s Ministry will hold their annual Christmas celebration on Saturday, December 3rd with our own Sister Brenda Gaines as the keynote speaker. **Please consider supporting the Antioch’s Women’s Ministry holiday gift bags.** For more information or to make a donation, contact Sister Sandra Streeter at [skstreeter23@gmail.com](mailto:skstreeter23@gmail.com)

### Modern Maturity Ministry

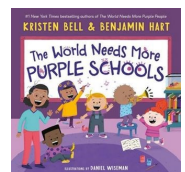
**Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO)** provides food and financial help to people with short-term emergencies and provides clothes and household items to people with low incomes.



Antioch’s Modern Maturity Ministry held three food drives and collected hundreds of food items benefiting many ECHO individuals and families.

### Generation for Christ (Gen C)

The Gen C Ministry (*formerly Millennial Ministry*) collected 453 books for the **Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.** The books will be used by the Kids Bench to provide reading materials for kids.



### Save The Dates

**December 4 = Communion**

**December 11—Christmas Worship Service 8am & 11 am**

**December 25—Worship on Christmas Day—1 service at 9:30am**

**December 31—New Year’s Eve Broadcast at 10:00pm (virtual)**

**January 1—Worship on New Years Day—1 service at 9:30am**



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## Antioch Parking Ministry



Over the years, Antioch's congregants have been recipients of invaluable services provided by the ABC Parking Ministry – judicious parking, deliberate traffic flow and safely directing member movement across our campus.

We've noticed that the Antioch Parking Ministry is usually the first to arrive for church programs and activities — often going above and beyond the call of duty. They are a bold and courageous team of five that volunteer to serve as requested or required. They take their jobs very seriously and are more than qualified -- retired military officers, a lawyer, federal law enforcement, and budget analysts.

We reached out to Brother Clarence Taylor, who heads the ministry, for a few comments. Brother Taylor said any church member 18 years old or older is welcomed to join the ministry, our responsibility is “parking cars in an efficient and safe manner to enhance the workshop experience of members.” He said the most challenging part of the ministry is assisting members who do not want to follow instructions but that staying calm and insisting—and assisting—they in following directions helps resolve any issues.

His suggestion for members wanting to help improve the parking experience: “Be kind, patient and follow the instructions of the Parking Ministry.”

A few observations give rise to the following humble reflections:

- If you love the Lord and just want to serve, then the Parking Ministry needs you.
- If you believe no job is beneath you and every job has worth, then the Parking Ministry needs you.
- If you are levelheaded and can stay calm when you are ignored while trying to keep everyone safe and direct traffic, then the Parking Ministry needs you.
- If you can shake your head in disbelief as others disrespect you, then the Parking Ministry needs you.
- If you can praise God, smile, and respond as Jesus would to rude comments, then the Parking Ministry needs you.
- If you are willing to work and you don't care about recognition or a simple thank you, then the Parking Ministry needs you.

**In summary, if you have the patience of Job, a kind heart, and a willing spirit, the Antioch Parking Ministry needs and wants you!** Please contact Brother Clarence Taylor Jr. at [757hokiect@gmail.com](mailto:757hokiect@gmail.com)

## Did Stimulus serve as a disincentive to employment? See what Cody concludes...

Equilibria is a premiere Duke University publication which seeks to promote innovative interdisciplinary research in economics. The most recent Edition includes an article written by one of Antioch's own, Mr. Cody Taylor, titled Extended Pandemic Unemployment Benefits: Effects on Unemployment and Labor Force Participation. This article examines whether recovery from the Great Recession and the COVID Recession is hampered by the extended unemployment benefits provided. It assesses whether workers are disincentivized to rejoin the workforce.

In the article, Cody showcases his proficient analytical skills and his ability to articulate complicated statistical data in a manner average readers can comprehend. Many articles are presented to this journal for publication but only a select few make the cut. We applaud Cody's incredible accomplishments as he continues his graduate studies. Cody is the son of Sister Shirley Norman-Taylor and Brother Clarence Taylor. To read the full article, paste the link to your browser or click on the link provided in the email received with the newsletter.

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