

The Tidings

Antioch Baptist Church

Serving God and our Community since 1776

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From the Pastor's Desk

Failure Is Not an Option

The signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776 signaled a point of no return. The colonies now were not trying to change the mind of the crown, they were fighting to break away from Great Britain. They wanted to birth a new vision and a new country. If they failed the names on that document would have been tried and hung for treason. Failure was not an option. Trying to birth something new will be risky, will experience growing pains, and living as if failure is not an option.

Another birth also happened in 1776 Boar Swamp Baptist (Antioch) was born. In the midst of the Revolutionary War a risky vision to bring the gospel to the area east of Richmond was born. There have been, through the years, many growing pains including the burning of the building twice. The church also changed her name, but never her mission. Why? Change was necessary for the mission of church to continue. If failure is not an option, then change must be at some point.

What happened in those very early years shaped the life of our country and our church. The newly formed Boar Swamp Baptist believed in reaching unbelievers with the gospel. They took risky steps to ensure they were faithful to their mission. Two things stand out as both representative and foundational. First, a group of fourteen went into Richmond to plant a church that other unbelievers would have the opportunity to hear the life saving gospel. That church is now First Baptist Richmond. Second, they joined with other local churches to form a local association for the equipping and sending of missionaries. The Dover Baptist Association is still active in supporting missionary efforts in our community and around the world.

The core identity of Antioch's beginnings has been mission and ministry. Calling forth and sending out. Bringing the gospel to those who do not yet know the life-changing hope of the gospel. Let's continue to fulfill our mission to bring Christ to the world starting in our own community. Looking back at our birth, remembering our mission, we can now look at our present time to ask, are we still participating in the mission with which it was birthed? How can we do that better and more effectively in the future? Is it risky to ask these questions? Yes. Will there be growing pains if change is needed? Yes. Can we live and lead into a new future with a commitment to mission? YES, if we believe failure is not an option! If we don't believe failure is an option, then change must be.

Blessings,
Pastor Greg Sout

Chronic Illness/Caregivers Support Group: Wellness Matters at Antioch Program (WMAP)

In May, the Chronic Illness/Caregivers Support Group, led by Amy Martin, concluded its in-depth study of James McDonald's DVD and workbook series, *When Life is Hard: Turning Your Trials to Gold*.

After a lot of discussion and prayer, I have decided to adapt the support group into a more encompassing program that can more greatly benefit the entire congregation and better broaden the definition of health. I am calling it the "Wellness Matters at Antioch Program" (WMAP). Caregivers and those suffering with chronic illness are important to me and will not be forgotten, as I will remain a mentor and on call for those with chronic illness (I can be reached at 804-868-9032 or liltheatredirector@yahoo.com) and Mary Dick will be a mentor for caregivers (she can be reached at 804-837-6253). The group is looking for more mentors and volunteers who will be announced as they come forward to help. Mentors will be available for fellowship, guidance, and one-on-one chats.

Some short and long-term ideas for WMAP include, adding a health section to the current church library - I have started adding a few from my collection, arranging health-related guest speakers, hosting paint nights (art therapy), karaoke nights (music therapy), a multi-church health fair, participating church-wide in Relay for Life, providing shut-ins and/or sick members with Antioch blankets, creating and delivering care packages for mothers and fathers of cancer patients/NICU babies, creating and delivering lunches (with church and Bible materials) to homeless men and women, and creating a ramp downstairs for youth, young adults and senior access.

I am really excited about the momentum of the church and feel the Holy Spirit moving in us. I hope you're as excited as I am about the potential that this new program has for both our congregation and the community as a whole.

Amy Martin

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Happy Birthday to everyone celebrating in the month of JULY: Ronald Wilson(1), Virginia Carter(2), Juanita Meacham(2), Amy Moretz(2), Bill Corey(3), John Dean(3), Robin Moretz(4), Christine Johns(6), Jane Dunmire(9), Elizabeth Bullard(26) , Debbie Parsons(31)

(If your birthday has been inadvertently left off the birthday list or entered incorrectly, please contact the Church Office.)

WMU – WOMEN’S MISSIONARY UNION

WATCHWORD: “My dear friends, stand firm and don’t be shaken. Always keep busy working for the Lord. You know that everything you do for him is worthwhile” (1 Cor. 15:58, CEV)

OUR MISSION: TO INFORM AND INSPIRE Christians to influence their world for Christ.

“Praying for the Saints” – Enjoy the privilege of praying for others. What about the word INTERCESSOR? From the book of Romans and the book of Philemon, Paul was powerful in intercession. Paul’s prayer models for us how to pray for the saints. THANKSGIVING (Eph. 1:15-16) Paul never stopped giving thanks for these believers. INTERCESSION (Eph. 1:17-19) Paul began by praying specifically that God’s Spirit would make the believers wise and reveal God to them. PRAISE (Eph. 1:20-23) Paul concluded his prayer with focus and praise for Christ’s resurrection power. Is it your time to pray without ceasing? Be sure to read this article in the July Missions Mosaic magazine.

Our July mission project will be a love offering for Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North and South Dakota. If you would like to donate to this mission, please give to Pat Chalkley.

“After all, it is our attitude toward life that bring us joy in living.” – May Rowland, Magic of the Word
Joyce Adams, Reporting for WMU

Growing in the Son: Casual Discussions on Church Growth (June-August)

Please join Amy Martin, Mary Dick and Greg Soult as they hold casual roundtable sessions about how we do things at Antioch, if you would prefer to continue to do them, and/or if you would like changes in the future. Bring your creative ideas on how we can run a more effective mission-minded church and how we can prayerfully follow God’s lead. We encourage everyone to come out. We are holding each session twice (Thursdays and Wednesdays) so everyone can try to have a chance to be heard. Note: This is just a brainstorming informational session only. Reference Materials: *Who Moved My Pulpit? Autopsy of a Deceased Church* – both by Thom S. Rainer

- Session 1: How Do We Pray? How Do We Communicate?** Thursday, June 27 @ 7pm & Wednesday, July 3 @ 6:30pm
 - Session 2: How Do We Worship? How Do We Educate?** Thursday, July 11 @ 7 pm & Wednesday, July 17 @ 6:30pm
 - Session 3: How Do We Serve? How Do We Minister?** Thursday, July 25 @ 7 pm & Wednesday, July 30 @ 6:30pm
 - Session 4: How Do We Maintain Facilities? Misc.** Thursday, August 8 @ 7 pm & Wednesday, August 14 @ 6:30pm
- Contact Mary Dick @ 804-837-6253 or Amy Martin 804-868-9032 for more information.

Antioch Children/Youth News

We are looking for adults to help with children beginning September during Sunday School and Worship time. Please let us know if you can help in any way big or small.

July and August

There will be meetings for girls ages 4 to 12 once a week.

Promotion Worship Service date is August 18th.

2019 Sunday School promotion attendees will begin new class September.

Beginning September 2019

Boys and girls in 4th grade and up will remain in the Sanctuary for Worship time.

We hope they will participate in Sunday Sanctuary tasks; such as handing out bulletins, take up offering, read Bible verses, check pew supplies, light candles, ring the bell and more with Pastor and Deacon approval.

- ❖ **First Sunday of each month** boys in 4th and 5th grades will meet during Worship time as a group, leader Alicea Sanders.
- ❖ **Third Sunday of each month** boys in 6th grade and up will meet during Worship time as a group, leader Alicea Sanders.

Please contact Alicea Sanders for more information or if you have a talent to share with the children and youth.

(W)804-527-7706 (C)804-439-1420 alicea.sanders@markel.com

Thank you for sharing your child with us at Antioch Baptist Church.