

The Tidings

Antioch Baptist Church

Serving God and our Community since 1776

3868 Antioch Church Road
Sandston, Virginia 23150
Telephone # (804)737-0500

[e-mail: antiochbaptist@verizon.net](mailto:antiochbaptist@verizon.net)

www.antiochsandston.org

LXVIV No. 3

March 2019

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

March Madness

"Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy." John 16:20

I love college basketball. It is both exciting and frustrating at times. Watching these young men grow throughout the year and then play for conference championships and for some of the best teams a national championship. The big tournament for the NCAA Men's College Basketball Championship has also been dubbed March Madness. It is truly maddening to watch these smaller and larger schools working so hard to become champions.

I am a fan of University of Virginia Men's Basketball Team. In March of 2018 Virginia's team was one of the best in the country earning one of four number one seeds in the tournament. As a number one they face a number sixteen seed in that region. It was a historic tournament for Virginia, but not in the way you may think. They became the first number one seed to lose to a number sixteen seed in the history of the tournament. For Virginia and its fans this was a crushing defeat. However, because of their loss another team had a chance to go further and live their dream.

It does seem like madness for so much to be riding on one game. For some of these young men, it is the last game in their careers, while others will have many long months until they get a chance to try again.

I often wonder, would they want a do over to change things, or to do things differently? In life there are no guarantees or do overs. However, in the madness of life we can find hope of a different kind. It was madness that a good man, an innocent man, healer, teacher, and the Son of God would die so quickly. All of his teachings, healing, and miracles would come to an end.

The madness is, that no matter how good a team is, it is one and done. Is the same true for life? Three days after Jesus breathed his last breath the tomb was empty, and Jesus had risen from the grave. This wasn't a do over, but actually the completion of his work. Not a chance to do the same thing over again, but to have new life beyond the pain of devastating loss.

I cannot speak for any of the players or coaching staff, but my suspicion is they would not want a do over either. My guess is they, like most of us, would want new life and the hope and promise that comes along with it. Whatever this season or season of life may bring, may the hope and promise of new life turn the madness into gladness and sorrow into joy.

Blessings,
Pastor Greg

HAVE YOU AND YOUR SPOUSE BEEN MARRIED FOR 50 YEARS OR MORE?

If so, the Varina community invites you to a special dinner and fellowship on Saturday, March 30, 2019. There will be a social hour starting at 4:30pm followed by dinner at 5:30pm at New Bridge Baptist Church on Elko Road. Dress is church attire. Contact Joyce Adams at 737-2393 asap for more information.

ANTIOCH SENIOR'S GROUP



You don't have to be Irish to be lucky enough to join the shenanigans at our **Senior Fellowship on MONDAY, MARCH 11**

at 10:30 a.m.

Come hear a performance by **PATSY BUTLER**

singing the Gospel message!

Covered Dish luncheon follows the program!



ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH
3868 ANTIOCH CHURCH ROAD
SANDSTON, VIRGINIA 23150

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NUMBER 29

Happy Birthday to everyone celebrating in the month of MARCH: Kimberly Adkins(1), Cindy (V) Falls(2), Milton Bullard(7), Deborah Martin(7), Eddie Burnette(8), Carroll Allen(9), Olive Wyman(9) Teresa Bailey(9), Deanna B. Cosner(10), Owen Jordan(10), Donna Lowry(10), Victor Jordan(10), Chris Moretz(11), Thomas Casey Jr.(13), Stacey Smith(13), Jeff Adams(16), Charlie Vaught(16), Claudia Boggs(19), Lindsey Snoddy(21), Susan E. Kelley(24), Sandra Vaughan(24), Chandler Vaught(24), Chad McKinney(28), James McDonald(29), Vada Roberts(29), Arthur Dean(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.

March 3-10, we will be observing 2019 Week of Prayer for North American Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. The theme is “Sending Hope” and our goal is \$1300.00. All our groups will be meeting during that week and we invite you to attend all of them or any one that you can. Wednesday night, February 27, Carla will be showing a video on the missionaries we will be praying for that week. Also, remember our prayer breakfast on Saturday, March 9 at 9am at Cold Harbor Restaurant in Mechanicsville. All the meetings are important and pray for these missionaries during the week: Jorge & Rebeca Santiago, Philip & Jummai Nache, Rob & Lisa Warren, Chinese Church Planter in Western United States, Muche & Dioamone Ukegbu, Luis & Beatriz Soto, and the people in need of hope.

A reminder for our project for March will be items for Hilliard House. See Pat for a list. April we will be making homemade cookies for the Raceway Ministry.

On Sunday, February 17 we observed WMU Focus Week with our annual “Tea” with 82 people present. Prizes were given out and Amy Ladd was our entertainment. Everything was beautiful and enjoyed by everyone.

“God grant me the Serenity to accept the things I cannot change...the Courage to change the things I can...and the Wisdom to know the difference.”

Joyce Adams, Reporting for WMU

CHRONIC ILLNESS/CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Last month, we continued with the DVD and workbook series, *When Life is Hard: Turning Your Trials to Gold* by James MacDonald. First, we continued our discussion on *Session 2: Why Trials?*, with the in-depth readings done at home. Topics included: re-evaluating the way we look at joy, a supernatural delight not driven by circumstances and the transformational opportunities of trials. Following the discussion, we moved onto the DVD and discussion of *Session 3: What to do with Trials?*, which focuses on 1 Peter 4:1-19. We learned that suffering will come to all who believe in God, citing Jesus as an example, and that God uses suffering to “chisel our character.” We also were reminded to: guard our behavior (trials remind us that suffering will not go on forever and we will get better or bitter), grace our relationships (above all: love earnestly, spread the gospel and encouragement, and use your spiritual gifts), and glorify our God (we should rejoice when God’s glory is revealed in our suffering and to manifest the reality of God’s name in your life).

Next month, on Thursday, March 7 at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall, we are going to review Session 3 and then start the DVD and discussion on *Session 4: What if I Refuse This Trial?*, which focuses on Hebrews 12:12-17 (how without God, trials could lead to bitterness, finger-pointing, denial, shifting blame, “being out of joint (disabled/dislocated),” or disqualified). Anyone interested in joining the group should contact me at 804-868-9032 or liltheatre@director@yahoo.com (I have 1 workbook left!). The group is open to anyone with any diagnosed or undiagnosed chronic illness or symptoms, and caregivers – you are free to join at any time and we would love to hold you up with love and fellowship and give you a place to belong. I’ll see y’all on March 7!

Amy Martin