

The Tidings

Antioch Baptist Church

Serving God and our Community since 1776

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MMXX No. 1

Happy New Year

January 2020

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dawn of the Decade 20/20

We are not only starting a new year but a new decade. Moving into this new year and decade we should reflect on the decade and year gone by. Take inventory of the last decade personally and as the people of God. Where has God brought you? What difficulties have you been through? What celebrations have been meaningful? What relationships brought you joy? Can you see the hand of God at work in your life over time? At the beginning of the last decade you had dreams and plans and did those work out? Did the last decade include a focus on your relationship with Jesus? Did your plans include following Jesus and seeking his direction?

At the dawn of this new decade we cannot change the past, but we can reflect, repent, refresh, refocus, and revision with an honest look to the past and a hopeful view to the future. This new year and decade start with the year 2020. When I think of the date of the year 2020, I also think of writing it this way 20/20. 20/20 is a description of vision acuity or accuracy. It means at twenty feet away things will look as if they twenty feet away. If a person has 20/100 vision that person will have to be as close as twenty feet to see what normal vision can see at one hundred feet.

When our eyes can see properly, we can understand the world around us much more safely. When reflecting on the past decade, do we see it for what it was and celebrate where possible, repent where necessary, and thank God for *the grace that has brought us safe thus far*. When we can honest look at the past, we are better able to step into the future with hope. What hopes and dreams do you have at the start of this decade? Do they include God and walking with Jesus? Only Jesus knows the future plans God has instore.

At the dawn of this decade starting in 2020, do we have spiritual 20/20? Does the year and decade ahead include seeking Christ to lead and guide us personally and as a people? Proverbs 29:18 cautions us, "where there is no vision, the people perish." We must become people of vision. Looking to an uncertain future trusting Christ to guide and give vision. If not people of God will cease to be God's people if they can no long see him and have a vision of Christ's movement in our midst.

When we do trust faithfully and look longingly, the prophetic words of Joel encourage us, "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions." Is it our prayer that God will pour out his spirit on all flesh, sons and daughters, men and women, young and old that they will dream dreams and see visions?

Are we a people of vision, forward looking, and promise filled? In 2020 and beyond do we personally and as the people of God see with spiritual 20/20? If not, what corrective measures need to be taken? In all things remember to be grace filled and graceful in the living out of our faith. Embrace the words of the timeless hymn *Amazing Grace*, that reminds us *'Tis grace hath brough me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.*

Blessings, Pastor Greg Soult

SENIORS GROUP

The Antioch Baptist Senior Group will celebrate the new year on Monday, January 13 at 10:30 a.m. with fun and games including GRAB BAG BINGO! If you want to "regift" anything, you are welcomed to contribute to the prize table! Covered dish luncheon to follow. New members are always welcomed.



Reminder: Dues of \$15 for 2020 are due in January!

ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH
3868 ANTIOCH CHURCH ROAD
SANDSTON, VIRGINIA 23150

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Happy Birthday to everyone celebrating in the month of JANUARY: Chris Gordon(2), Joyce Corey(5), Aubrey Adams(7), Bud Sanders(9), Patricia Chalkley(14), Barbara Cottrell(14), Arthur Eberhard(17), Bradley Bickerton(18), James Hardee(30),

(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

Happy New Year

There is a very interesting article in the January Missions Mosaic entitled “One. More. Child.” The legacy of Florida Baptist Children’s Homes. “Some people call Florida “paradise”, but for five-year-old Juanita, her world was bleak and uncertain. She along with her twin sisters and brother, was an orphan.” Jerry Haag, president/chief executive officer of One More Child, states “Although we now are able to help hundreds of thousands every year, we would do it all again for One More Child like Juanita who needed a loving, stable home and the love of her heavenly Father. This is a very heart-warming article and I urge you to read it to see what is being done to help these children.

The WMU wishes to thank all of you who prepared Christmas Child Shoeboxes and to Pat Chalkley for going to North Carolina and working in the warehouse to make sure the boxes were properly filled. Antioch filled 222 Boxes.

A reminder to all the ladies that our annual “TEA” will be held in February 2020. Date will be announced later.

The Antioch Woman’s Missionary Union wishes each of you a very Blessed, Happy and Healthy New Year.

Joyce Adams, Reporting for WMU

A WORD OF THANKS,

Dear Antioch Family,

We would like to thank each of you for the joy you brought our family this Christmas season. Thank you for the many cards, gifts, sweet treats, and joy filled greetings that make Antioch such a wonderful place to be and belong. We look forward to the year and decade ahead.

God Bless,

The Soult Family, Greg, Maryanna, Josiah, and Hannah

“SOUPER BOWL FOR FISH”

Bring in your cans of soup for the “Souper Bowl” WHO: Antioch Sunday School Classes

WHAT: Soup **can** of any kind

WHERE: Antioch Bradley Fellowship Hall

WHEN: From January 5 to January 26 until 10:00am

All cans of soup will be donated to FISH to help the hungry in Henrico County.