

The ABC Quarterly

A N T I O C H M I S S I O N A R Y B A P T I S T C H U R C H

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- We had SIX new members added to the body of Christ this month! May we **embrace** those baptized in the month of July and **support** their growth in the Lord.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

There is no other topic that I could write about in this newsletter other than our Vacation Bible School for the Summer of 2013. I cannot remember when an event brought me more encouragement and joy as a pastor. This year we held our sessions from June 17th through June 20th. Our director was Mrs. Rocharda Morris, who our church is blessed to have serving in this ministry. Not only her, but all the staff and teachers were just dynamite! In an amazing way, each teacher well managed their respective classrooms, refreshments were served in a timely and organized fashion and, to conclude, on Thursday night we took the older youth on a fishing trip. The bus ministry was integral in taking us to and fro; for that we were grateful.

Vacation Bible School allowed Antioch Baptist Church to minister to all age groups. Theologians call this orthopraxy. **Orthopraxy** simply means having right beliefs and living those right beliefs out. During this Vacation Bible School, not only did we share knowledge of our one and only Savior, Jesus Christ, to both the saved and unsaved, but we also had the chance to meet some of the needs of our surrounding community— the need for physical nourishment, through refreshments, and the need for encouragement. We served children from a variety of backgrounds. This is the mission of the church; to minister its Lord and serve those in need.

Finally, I am already looking forward to next year. Hopefully, we can reach more families that come for Vacation Bible School in the summer of 2014 and bring them into the fold. The Lord blessed us with one family who has chosen to join our church and I am excited to welcome more.

Rev. Justin C. Kidd

Pastor, Antioch Missionary Baptist Church



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UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

July 12—Semi—Annual Church Meeting - starts at 6:00 p.m.

ALL members invited to participate and share concerns and/or ideas.

July 21—TRIP - departure immediately after church service

Shrine of Christ's Passion (Bring a snack and funds for a meal at Steak and Shake.)

July 24—26: Annual Revival - starts at 7:00 p.m. nightly

Guest Preacher: Rev. Robert Smith, New Bethel Baptist Church, Detroit, Michigan

August 18—Annual Sunday School Picnic / Outdoor Church Service - 10:45 until ?

The community is invited to worship and fellowship with the members of the church.

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them. *Matthew 18:20*

C H U R C H M I N I S T R Y H I G H L I G H T : Y O U T H

The Fellowship of Youth is a ministry of our church that seeks to guide children in their walk with Christ and provide opportunities for participation and interrelationship with others in the same age group. Children of all ages are encouraged to participate in worship on second Sundays, through devotion, singing, and prayer. When our church has special programs or is invited to worship with other churches, youth are given the opportunity to serve in some capacity. There are also times during the year that the youth get to take trips and have fun with each other outside of the church walls.

Children, however, are not just relegated to second Sundays and “special” days for participation in worship services. The church wants to remind youth that they can serve the church as ushers, nurses, musicians (drums, etc.) **AND** are more than welcome to sing in the choir **every** Sunday. We are all a part of the body of Christ—young and old. Youth - the adults of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church support you. Our church has a rich history, in which youth who served diligently while young continued to serve the church, its members and the outside community as adults. Look around! Many adults you see from Sunday to Sunday were once youth members too! Older church members *want* to pass on the songs, practices and procedures that keep the church going and make it a comfortable place in which to encounter Christ. At the same time, they want to know what motivates youth to join in and participate in higher numbers. As a popular gospel song says, “*I need you. You need me. We’re all a part of God’s body. I love you. I need you to survive.*” Let us continue to worship and praise the Lord **together**, today during Youth Day and *beyond*. while also learning from each other.



Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6

Ms. Tonia Craig, ABC Quarterly Newsletter Editor

A M E S S A G E F R O M O U R Y O U T H L E A D E R S

*And whose shall
receive one such
little child in my
name receiveth me.*

Matthew 18:5



The leaders for the Fellowship of Youth are Ms. Tanisha Leonard and Ms. Minnie Phillips. Tanisha was once a youth member of the fellowship and has transitioned to spearheading the group. Ms. Phillips began to work with the youth under the leadership of Mrs. Margie McCutcheon and Mrs. Marie Brooks. Now, she helps to mentor the growing group of youth, which includes her grandchildren. Both ladies passionately promote youth for service in the church, along with the help of advisors Dr. Marlon Mitchell and Mrs. Jacquetta Mitchell—Sharp, .

All four leaders would like to encourage parents to bring their children to **Fellowship of Youth meetings and choir practices**, which are held together, starting at **6 pm**, every month on **the Wednesday prior to youth Sunday** (the second Sunday of every month). It is at the monthly meetings when children can volunteer to participate in segments of the worship service. Also, the youth come together as a group to practice songs for youth Sunday *immediately after* the meeting. Ms. Leonard and Ms. Phillips welcome any parents and other church members with a sincere desire to help and lead youth to attend the meetings and choir practices as volunteers. Suggestions are also welcomed.

C L A S S O F 2 0 1 3 : G R A D U A T I N G S E N I O R S

This year will mark one of new beginnings for three of our young church members: **Xavier Johnson, Ariel Stokes** and **Kawann Short**.

Xavier Johnson graduated from **Morton Senior High School** and will be attending **Vincennes University** in the fall. He will also become a reservist in the National Guard.

Ariel Stokes also graduated from **Morton Senior High School**. She will be attending **Ivy Tech Community College** in the fall.

Kawann Short graduated from **Purdue University (West Lafayette)** this year. He participated in the NFL Draft and was chosen by the **Carolina Panthers**.

We as a congregation want to congratulate these three students, along with **ALL** others who have graduated from elementary, junior high, high school, undergraduate and graduate college programs. The sky is the limit! Choose to be the best you can be with the guidance and help of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



Congratulations

*I can do all things
through Christ which
strengtheneth me.*

Philippians 4:13

Internet Inspiration “The Homeless Person” Author Unknown

The parking lot filled rapidly on Sunday morning as members of the large church congregation filed into church. As usually happens in a church that size, each member had developed a certain comfort zone - a block of space within those four church walls that became theirs after the second or third sitting. It was as much a part of their church experience as the recliner was to the television at home. Some of the older members had been sitting in the same row on the same side for several decades. A team of oxen could not have moved them to the opposite side of the church.

One morning a stranger stood at the edge of the parking lot near a dumpster. As families parked cars and piled out, they noticed him rummaging through the trash. "Oh no! I don't believe it," whispered a lady to her husband. "That's all we need - a bunch of homeless people milling around here." One worried little girl tugged on her dad's sleeve. "But Daddy..." Daddy was busy sizing up the bearded stranger, whose baggy, outdated trousers and faded flannel shirt had dusted too many park benches. "Don't stare at him, honey," he whispered, and hurried her inside.

Soft music filled the high-ceiling sanctuary as churchgoers settled into their usual spots. The choir sang an opening chorus, "In His presence there is comfort ... in His presence there is peace...". Sunlight suddenly flooded the center aisle. The double doors swung open and the homeless man, sloppy and stooped, headed toward the front. "Oh no, it's him!" somebody muttered. "What does he think he's doing, anyway?" snapped an incredulous usher.

The stranger set his bagful of dumpster treasures on the very first pew which had been upholstered in an expensive soft teal fabric just three months ago. The music stopped. And before anyone had a chance to react, he ambled up the stairs and stood behind the fine, handcrafted oak podium, where he faced a wide-eyed congregation.

The disheveled stranger spoke haltingly at first, in a low, clear voice. Unbuttoning and removing his top layer of clothing, he described Jesus, and the love He has for all people. "Jesus possesses a sensitivity and love that far surpasses what any of us deserves." Stepping out of the baggy old trousers, the stranger went on to describe a forgiveness that is available to each and every one of us...without strings attached. "Unconditionally He loves us. Unconditionally He gave His very life for us. Unconditionally and forever, we can have the peace and assurance that no matter who we are, where we've come from, or how badly we may have mistreated others or ourselves, there is hope. "In Jesus, there is always hope."

"You see, my friends, it is never too late to change," the man continued. "He is the Author of change, and the Provider of forgiveness. He came to bring new meaning to 'life'." Men and women squirmed as reality hit them like an electrical current. The stranger tugged at his knotted gray beard, and removed it. "I'm here to tell you that we are loved with a love far beyond human understanding, a love that enables us to accept and love others in return." Then tenderly he added, "Let's pray together." That wise pastor - under the guise of a homeless "nobody" - did not preach a sermon that day, but every person left with plenty to think about.

Shared from www.heavensinspirations.com

CHRISTIAN “CLICKS”

The following **websites** may provide **uplifting devotionals and testimonies** to guide you through each day:

Our Daily Bread – Daily devotions online : <http://www.odb.org/>

Strength for the Journey - Daily Devotions Online: <http://getmorestrength.org/daily/latest/>

Today's Christian Woman—Online Christian magazine: <http://www.todayschristianwoman.com/>

Men of Integrity—Online Christian Magazine/Newsletter: <http://www.christianitytoday.com/moi/livebyhispower/controlmyactions/busting-myth-of-self-made-man/>



Smartphone Apps (Applications):

Church Caster—Podcasts of recognized pastors (Joel Osteen, Joyce Meyer, Rick Warren, TD Jakes)

Morning Prayers Daily Devotional—Daily prayer and a scriptural reference to each prayer w/ space for personal notes



COMMUNITY EVENTS (Northwest Indiana / Indianapolis)

JULY 2013

- 7/12–22 **Indiana Black Expo Summer Celebration**
Indianapolis, IN
www.indianablackexpo.com
- 7/17–21 **Festival of the Lakes**
Wolf Lake, Hammond, IN
(FYI - \$15 parking fee)
festival.gohammond.com/index.php
- 7/26–28 **Pierogi Festival**
Downtown Whiting, IN
www.pierogifest.net

AUGUST 2013

- 8/2–11 **Lake County Fair (Carnival/4H Fair)**
Crown Point, IN
www.lake-county-fair.com
- 8/08 **First Day of School for EC Lighthouse Charter School**
- 8/09 **Community HealthNet Back to School Health Fair for K–12 students**
@ Franklin Academy from 10 am–2pm
Call 219-886-8980 for more info.
- 8/12 * **First Day of School for ALL School City Of East Chicago schools**
* **First Day of School for EC Urban Enterprise Academy**

SEPTEMBER 2013

- 9/6 - 8 **Midwest Zest Fest**
Highland, IN
Main Square Park, Ridge Rd.
midwestzestfest.com
- 9/07 **Valparaiso Popcorn Festival**
Valparaiso, IN
www.valparaisoevents.com
- 9/21 **Bizarre Bazaar**
Downtown Hammond, IN
www.downtownhammond.org
- 9/27 - 29 **Covered Bridge Harvest Fest**
Crown Point, IN
www.coveredbridgeharvestfest.org

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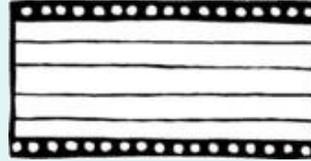
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**We are:
The church that praises God and serves
human needs.**

CHURCH SIGNS ACROSS AMERICA:



Free trip to heaven: Details inside.

Feed your faith and your doubts will starve to death.

Keep your words sweet. You may have to eat them.

Give God what's right, not what's left.

God wants spiritual fruits, not religious nuts.

**For passers by, they're the right
message at the right time.**

CHURCH TRIVIA THIS ISSUE'S TOPIC: DENOMINATIONS

Can you answer these questions about Christian denominations?
Each question has ONE correct answer.

Check the announcements bulletin board
after church today and all next week for the
answers!



1. What is a denomination?
A an amount of money given C a group or branch of any religion
B part of the choir D a message of hope
2. How many different Christian denominations exist in the world, according to a 2010 official count from the Center for the Study of Global Christianity (CSGC)?
A about 100 B about 40,000 C about 5,000 D about 200,000
3. What are the THREE major Christian denominations?
A Christianity, Judaism, Islam C Baptist, Catholic, Pentecostal
B Lutheran, Baptist, Methodist D Protestant, Catholic, Orthodox
4. Choose ONE: Baptists are _____.
A Catholics B Protestants C Orthodox D Pentecostal
5. According to *Christian Post* and the *Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches*, which Protestant denomination has the LARGEST amount of members?
A Southern Baptist Convention B Church of God in Christ (COGIC)
C Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC) D United Methodist Church

The NEXT issue will be printed for an **October 2013** release. If you have any:

- **Announcements** (birth, wedding, exciting news, etc.)
- **GREAT, catch-your-attention church signs** that you've seen in the NWI area (please write the FULL slogan and share the church's name, too)
- **Ideas for Christian trivia topics**
- **URLs of helpful Christian websites**

Please **submit them in written form** to our church secretary, **Ms. Wilsetta Mitchell** or **Ms. Tonia Craig** by **Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013**. Thank you.

Newsletter Team: Pastor Justin Kidd,
Ms. Tonia Craig, Ms. Wilsetta Mitchell