



### CHURCH STAFF

Dave Atwater, Pastor  
Daniel Howell, Associate Pastor for Student Ministries  
Harold Greene, Interim Minister of Music  
Denise Lloyd, Ministry Assistant

### 2024/2025: DEACON MINISTRY

Greg Bronson	Dale Hammond	Miles Temple
Mike Cherry	John McGuire	Ray Thompson
Tim Dameron	James Parrott	Karen Whitfield
Pam Durham	Mark Phillipie	

## A Message From The Pastor:

### A CHANGE IN PLANS

Have you ever found yourself stranded in some bus terminal, train station, or airport as all your travel plans fell completely apart? Maybe the weather forced a delay. Or perhaps a computer error lost your reservation. Sometimes, for reasons you never understand, the flight just got cancelled. You planned well in advance, and attended to all the details, but something went terribly wrong.

But travel isn't the only thing that forces a change of plans. You might even say that complications are a metaphor for life itself. Someone once said that life is what happens while you are waiting for something else. There are all sorts of inconveniences. Unexpected. Unavoidable. And they may change the rest of our lives. Things like sickness, reorganizations, layoffs and (eventually) even death. Life is a perpetual compromise between the ideal and the possible.

Our eventual success or failure typically depends on how we respond to such changes in plans. We can rage against God, bad luck, other people, the organization or fate. We can have a "pity party" and lament our victimhood. We can accept changing circumstances as a challenge and learn to "*improvise, adapt and overcome.*" But if we are people of faith, we need to consider the larger context. A "*happenstance*" might just be a hidden message.

Sometimes God uses circumstances to show us our need, to remind us that our supposed control is just an illusion. Perhaps to draw us closer and teach us to lean on His resources. Or maybe to use those "closed doors" to point us in an entirely new direction. That, for example, is how God led me to become a Navy chaplain!

The New Testament book of Acts offers a profound example of such guidance. Verses six through ten of chapter sixteen describe how the Apostle Paul attempted to take his ministry north into the province of Asia, but was "*prevented by the Holy Spirit.*" Next, he turned toward the province of Bithynia, but that opportunity was denied as well. Finally, in a vision, he saw a man from Macedonia begging "*Come over and help us.*" So he accepted that call and headed west, to the Balkan peninsula.



That account records one of the most important events in the history of the Christian Church. It was at that point that the Gospel was first carried out of Asia Minor (which would later fall to the followers of Islam) and into Europe, which would preserve and propagate it throughout the world. There was no way Paul could have anticipated that impact. But he submitted himself to God's bigger vision, changed his plans, and the rest is history.

Life usually doesn't give us our first preference. There are many detours, delays and disruptions. Sooner or later we are all forced to make "*course corrections.*" Those changes may even test our faith. We should never discount, however, the possibility of a larger message. Disappointment and failure may just lead to possibilities we could never have imagined. That is, if we are open to God's leading. Hold out for the best.

Blessings. – Pastor Dave

Antioch Calendar of Events

YouTube Channel: Antioch Baptist Church Chapel Hill - 11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Services

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 OFFICE CLOSED NO Night Activities	2	3	4
			5 Sunday Lunch Noon 4:00-5:30 p.m. AWANA 4:00-5:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study	6	7 Women's Bible Study 9:00 a.m.	8 6:00 p.m. Supper 7:00 p.m. Missions Journey Kids, Youth, Adult Bible Study 8:00 p.m. Choir
12 Sunday Lunch Noon 4:00-5:30 p.m. AWANA 4:00-5:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study	13 ECA: 10:00 a.m. Parlor	14 Women's Bible Study 9:00 a.m. <b>Young at Heart 11:30 a.m.</b>	15 6:00 p.m. Supper 7:00 p.m. Missions Journey Kids, Youth, Adult Bible Study 8:00 p.m. Choir	16 <b>Newsletter submissions due</b>	17	18 (FHR) Entire Day
19 Sunday Lunch Noon 4:00-5:30 p.m. AWANA 4:00-5:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study	20 <b>7:00 p.m. Deacons' Mtg.</b>	21 Women's Bible Study 9:00 a.m.	22 6:00 p.m. Supper 7:00 p.m. Missions Journey Kids, Youth, Adult Bible Study 8:00 p.m. Choir	23 Ronald McDonald House Meal	24	25 (FHR) Entire Day
26 Sunday Lunch Noon 4:00-5:30 p.m. AWANA 4:00-5:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study	27 7:00 p.m. Budget & Finance Comm. Mtg.	28 7:00 p.m. Safety & Security Comm. Mtg.	29 6:00 p.m. Supper 7:00 p.m. Missions Journey Kids, Youth, Adult Bible Study 8:00 p.m. Choir	30	31 6:00-10:00 p.m. Youth Friday Fun Night (FHR)	

January Usher Schedule

- Sun. 5th:** Miles Temple, Caeton Florence, Mike Cherry, Angela Cherry
- Sun. 12th:** Dale Hammond, Ray Thompson, Lyndon Whitfield, Karen Whitfield
- Sun. 19th:** Mark Lloyd, Joel Lloyd, Bill Heizer, Branam Hackney
- Sun. 26th:** Tommy Cecil, James Parrott, Sammy Parrott, Josh Cecil

January Nursery Schedule

- Sun. 5th:** Lisa Upchurch, Lucy Upchurch
- Sun. 12th:** Lyn Lloyd, Keri Carwile
- Sun. 19th:** Pat Cecil, Dawn Blake
- Sun. 26th:** Lisa Upchurch, Cindy Durham



January  
Pat Tayloe  
Kim Dunn





## OUR MISSION PROJECTS THIS MONTH:

If you would be willing to assist, please contact Robin Farrell (919) 323-2528, call or text. e-mail: [rpf0321@hotmail.com](mailto:rpf0321@hotmail.com)  
You may also call the church office at (919) 929-2230.



Smiles and hugs were seen and felt this past year because of your donations and volunteer efforts during 2024. It's amazing how you are always willing to be there for whatever and whenever your assistance is needed. We know you do this without wanting praise but know how much the lives that you touch will not forget your actions.

Remember you are Jesus' love in motion!

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-- Ronald McDonald House Meal -- Prepare and serve the evening meal for the residents on January 23rd. Anyone who would like to volunteer, please contact Robin Farrell or the church office.

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."  
Matthew 11:28 NIV*

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-- N. C. Study Center Meal -- time and date TBD

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Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. for Sunday School.

Classes are offered in a variety of age groups and allows an opportunity to learn more about the Bible and Christianity.

Classes:

- Grades PreK-2nd
- Grades 3rd - 5th
- Grades 6th - 12th
- College & Career
- Co-ed Adults
- Median Adult Women
- Median Adult Men
- Senior Faith Class

### 5 reason to attend Sunday School

- ♥ *Learn more about God*
- ♥ *Find a mentor*
- ♥ *Make friends*
- ♥ *Form good habits*
- ♥ *Have fun!*

Show me your ways, Lord,  
teach me your paths.

Psalm 25:4

# News and Opportunities

BE THE ONE. Tell someone about JESUS!

## “Sunday Lunch” / All Are Welcome to Stay!

Each Sunday we celebrate each other by sharing lunch in the fellowship hall following the Morning Worship Service.

If you are able, bring a covered dish and favorite beverage to share, eat a delicious meal and spend time with friends.

If you have any questions reach out to Lisa Upchurch, Judy Tripp, or Robin Farrell.

## “Sunday Morning Prayer Rally”

Please join us for a time of prayer. Lifting up the needs and blessings here at Antioch and the surrounding community, as well as our nation, government and leaders.

Along with prayers for international peace.

## Online Tithing Available

Our online giving vendor is Vanco and their site may be accessed through our website:

[www.abccommunity.com](http://www.abccommunity.com)

**An easy way to give ... there is an option to set-up a recurring donation.**

## Sunday Morning Altar Flowers

The Flower Committee would like to take this opportunity to encourage each of you to participate in placing altar flowers on Sundays to remember a loved one, celebrate a special occasion or to give thanks.

There is a sign-up board for 2025 located in the common area behind the piano.

*The beauty and creativity you bring to the sanctuary is enjoyed and appreciated by everyone!*



## BUSINESS MEETINGS

**Upcoming: 02/09/2025**

Our business meetings are a **gathering of a quorum to discuss ideas, goals and objectives that concern Antioch**. It is a formal event that usually involves a set agenda, and can be used for a variety of purposes, such as decision-making, problem-solving, brainstorming, or project planning.

**Meetings play a crucial role in our church for the following reasons:**

- 1. Open communication:** Meetings facilitate communication among church members.
- 2. Decision-making:** They provide a structured opportunity for members to share ideas and brainstorm solutions.
- 3. Alignment of goals:** Meetings help align organizational goals.
- 4. Team building:** Strengthening each other and fostering collaboration.
- 5. Brainstorming:** Inviting participants to share new ideas and solutions.

Every church member and attendee is invited to regularly attend the scheduled meetings, with only church members having a vote on proposals and official church business.

**Your input is important to the success of Antioch!**

As always, a copy of the meeting minutes are available upon request from the church office.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

Our website has an **EVENTS tab** on the **HOME page** that will link you to current church calendars. View updated dates & times of all activities that are calendared.

Also, see what dates are available for future bookings. [www.abccommunity.com](http://www.abccommunity.com)

# News and Opportunities

BE THE ONE. Tell someone about JESUS!



January 14th  
@ 11:30 a.m.  
Antioch Fellowship Hall  
~ Potluck Lunch ~

food, fellowship & BINGO

*Come One,  
Come All & Bring A Friend!*



We  
welcome  
**Daniel  
Howell**  
as  
**Associate  
Pastor for  
Student  
Ministries.**

Daniel already has his Master of Divinity from Southeastern Seminary, and he is currently working on his Doctor of Ministry. He has served on several committees with either Lifeway (curriculum) or other youth related groups. Daniel's interest is in preparing youth to become disciples who are well grounded in scripture and can use it to make wise decisions. He has revitalized at least one youth program, and is already asking the right questions about how to proceed here at Antioch. In addition, he is knowledgeable of and committed to Southern Baptist polity. Just as importantly, it's obvious that he is a team player who knows he can't manage this program alone. Please help us welcome Daniel to the Antioch team with love and support.

## NOTES FROM THE CONGREGATION

### Pecans 2024

Antioch sold \$576.00 worth of shelled pecans this year. The GOOD NEWS is the combined Orange / Alamance churches sold a record of \$17,450.00 ... for a profit of about \$8,000.00 going to the Prison Ministry. Thanks to the great leadership of Mrs. Kris Zyczkiewicz's ten-year leadership!!

*A. Gordon Neville*

### November 26, 2024

At the recent Thanksgiving Service, I was "blown-away" with the excellent Christian testimonies of Jody Witt, Larry Colie, Haide Corchado, JC Underwood, Crawford Dameron, and the piano performance of Ms. Moffitt from Terrells Creek. They were all outstanding and much appreciated by the audience. Now, Byron Tripp can take his Christian Speakers Bureau on the road to other churches.

Also, Kim Dunn gave her own testimony; plus, Pat Tayloe's annual report on the Samaritan's Purse Ministries around the world ... and how it is so well supported by the Antioch women and other members/workers of the church.

Glad I attended, *A. Gordon Neville*

### Antioch Leaf Raking ~ December 07, 2024

Once again, the Antioch men (over 20) responded, and we were able to "clean the yard" in a little over an hour ... despite the very cold temperature of about 25 degrees F. A BIG thanks to Tommy Cecil & Mike Bowden for bringing their tractors & scrape blades. I thought about postponing the date until next Saturday ... but there is a chance of rain scheduled for mid-week and leaves don't rake good WET. Also, a BIG thanks to Danny Long for his John Deere blower that cleaned out the ditches along the highways. Also, a special THANKS to all the teenagers and everyone who showed up!!

Sincerely, The B&G Team

### "God's Great Love"

I just wanted to thank everyone involved with the Christmas cantata. That was the loveliest, most meaningful, joyous event I've ever attended.

*Beth Sappelt*

# From a child's perspective.

Antioch's Children's Church

How do you plan to show kindness to others in 2025?

By telling people  
about Jesus.

Connor Blake

Giving hugs.

Jase Wagoner

Pushing people on the  
swing when they ask.

Rosie Upchurch

Helping people up if  
they fall.

Madilyn Randall

I plan to show  
kindness in 2025  
by helping others

Blake Tayloe



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



### Awana

derived from the first letters of  
"Approved Workmen Are Not  
Ashamed"

as taken from: 2 Timothy 2:15

TEACHING CHILDREN ABOUT GOD,  
with scripture, games, music and prayer.

(Age groups: PreK - 5th grade)

### Back From Winter Break

January 5th: 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

*Even if your child did not attend the  
Fall session, they are welcome to  
join us now!*

*Stop in any Sunday or register  
on our website:*

[www.abccommunity.com](http://www.abccommunity.com)

## MISSIONS: Kids Around The World

### Missions Journey Kids

Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Age group: PreK - 5th grade

We can teach children about missions  
by helping them: learn about missions....  
pray for missions....give to missions....  
do missions, and....participate in the  
work of the church.

If you would like to know more about

### Missions Journey Kids ...

Contact: Carol Dawson



## ANTIOCH YOUTH 2025!!!

All youth activities at Antioch are open to students in grades 6th - 12th.

### **Sunday School:**

Our youth gather Sunday mornings in the upstairs Youth Room from 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

### **Sunday Bible Study :**

Sunday afternoons during AWANA at 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

### **Wednesday Night Youth Group:**

Currently meets in the upstairs Youth Room at 7:00 p.m.

**LOOKING AHEAD: *Camp Caswell in June.***

### ***“Friday Fun Night” January 31st***

“Friday Fun Night” is a time set aside for socializing and relaxing.

Board games, basketball, movies, fellowship with friends and adult leaders. Everyone meets in the fellowship hall and typically has dinner together before games and activities start.

Various outings are often a part of our activities: bowling, skating etc...

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

### ***Upcoming Fundraiser:***

**STAY  
TUNED!**

***Encourage a young person to become a part of Antioch’s Family!***





# Turning Back the Clock

## RESERVED

We are excited to announce that Byron Tripp, long-time Antioch member, deacon, Sunday School teacher, choir member and servant in numerous project leadership roles; was voted in as Antioch's new Historian in August. Byron's office of Historian became effective with the new church year: October 1st.

"The Voice" has reserved this page for a bit of Antioch History.

We are asking that if anyone has stories of interest or historical subject matter you would love to know more about, please reach out to Byron with your thoughts and suggestions.

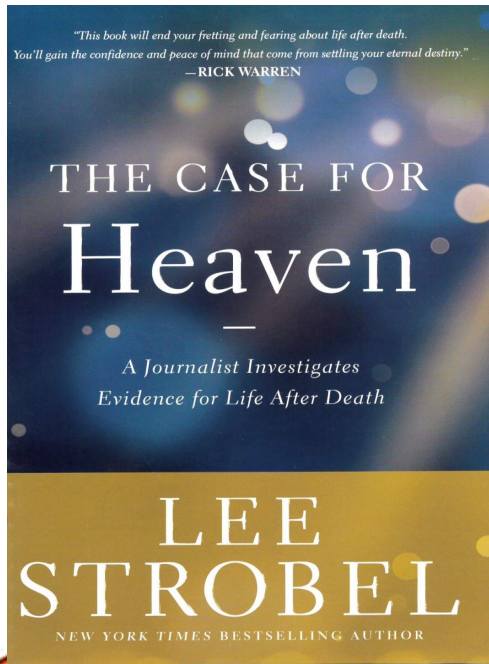
[byrontripp1@yahoo.com](mailto:byrontripp1@yahoo.com)

We look forward, to "Turning Back the Clock"  
and exploring the roots of Antioch!

Byron Tripp, Antioch Historian

## Antioch Library

### January Pick of the Month: literally “check it out” !



“Every human being should have the privilege of reading this book.”

—SHEILA WALSH, author,  *Holding On When You Want to Let Go*

“Lee engages both the mind through convincing evidence and the heart through personal narratives and discoveries.”

—SEAN MCDOWELL, PhD, associate professor of apologetics at Talbot School of Theology and coauthor of *Evidence That Demands a Verdict*

“Lee Strobel answers tough questions, removes obstacles to belief, and gives us confidence in why we can believe that heaven is a beautiful reality we can look forward to experiencing.”

—Bestselling author DERWIN GRAY, lead pastor, Transformation Church

“I plan on getting two copies—one to keep as a reference and one to give to a skeptic.”

—ANNE GRAHAM LOTZ, author of *Jesus in Me*

“Let this impressive array of experts impact your life and faith with the evidence for the world to come.”

—Emmy-nominated actress, producer, and *New York Times* bestselling author ROMA DOWNEY

#### DOES PROOF OF AN AFTERLIFE ACTUALLY EXIST?

In this provocative and inspiring book, *New York Times* bestselling author and investigative journalist Lee Strobel scours the fields of science and theology to present a compelling case for the existence of heaven. *The Case for Heaven* answers the questions of your heart *and* mind about heaven, hell, near-death experiences—and how understanding the afterlife makes all the difference in the life you live today.



## CURRENT BIBLE STUDIES

### WOMEN

Leader: *Virginia Ferguson*  
[virginiaiveyferguson6@gmail.com](mailto:virginiaiveyferguson6@gmail.com)

Tuesday: 9:00 a.m.

January 7th:

John 8 & Exodus 3:12-15

January 14th:

John 9

January 21st:

John 10

Please come journey with us  
and get to know Jesus better!

### ADULT

Leader: *Pastor Atwater*  
[atwaterd@nc.rr.com](mailto:atwaterd@nc.rr.com)

Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Beginning in January,

Pastor Atwater plans to begin a study of “What Happens Next” by Max Lucado. Max describes this as “an optimistic, accessible, non-sensational guide to what the Bible says about heaven’s time line that will empower you to face the future with faith.” He believes God wants us to be prepared, not scared; informed, not intimidated.

### YOUTH

Leader: *Daniel Howell*  
[daniel.antiochbaptist@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.antiochbaptist@gmail.com)

Sunday: 4:00 p.m.

We look forward to hearing more about the youth Sunday program in the coming months, as Daniel brings new and innovative methods to learning and studying the Bible.



# OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

send Good News  
and Great Joy

The First Baptist Church of Damascus, VA sits on a famous thoroughfare, as the Appalachian Trail follows the sidewalk leading to the front door. This congregation works year-round to pack Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, but they lost everything when a raging creek swept through their sanctuary.

As church members dealt with the muddy devastation, they also grieved for the lost opportunity to share the joy of Christmas with children on the other side of the world. Then the nearby Glade Spring Baptist Church stepped up, mobilizing neighbors to pack hundreds of additional shoeboxes, making sure that no children would be left out. "We went from devastation to celebration," said Angie Fritz, a church member in Damascus.

Shoebox gifts from a mountain church might seem like a drop in the bucket, but it all adds up. We're still counting all the boxes we've collected through Operation Christmas Child, but it looks like we'll have enough to reach 12 million children around the world. Praise God for His mighty works!

Wherever Samaritan's Purse is working, whether we're preparing shoebox gifts or patching roofs, our priority is to share the hope we have in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who came from Heaven to deliver us from our sins. *"And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21).*

The First Baptist Church in Spruce Pine, NC, embraced Operation Christmas Child as a missions outreach that is also an opportunity for healing. **"When people hurt, the best medicine is giving,"** Pastor Rocky Branch said. The church has been a lifeline for the people of Spruce Pine, where the downtown was wiped out by flooding. The church cranked up its generator to provide the only lights in town, served over 40,000 meals, and turned its sanctuary into a pantry. In the midst of its relief work, the church packed and collected thousands of shoebox gifts for Operation Christmas Child. *(Our own Haide Corchado served in Spruce Pine with Baptists on Mission. One of her tasks was building Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes).*

After such a stormy year, Christmas brings good news: *"And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord'" (Luke 2:9-11).*

***Will you and I step into 2025 with boldness, unafraid of what the future might bring? Can we pack 700 gospel opportunities? I think we can, by the grace of God!***

In **January**, be on the lookout for Christmas items on the clearance aisle. Winter clothing of all kinds is appreciated.

Also, will you set aside \$10 or more every month to contribute to the suggested shipping donation in November?





*Become a part of ours!*

*The Voice* is published monthly to share Christ's love, to keep members and friends informed of programs of the church, and to report news about Antioch's people. *The Voice* is a publication of Antioch Baptist Church, 1707 White Cross Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516-9715, (919) 929-2230, info@abccommunity.com. Editor-in-Chief: Dave Atwater. Managing Editor: Denise Lloyd.