



# God's News for Antioch

November 2024

Antioch Covenant Brethren Church

23502 Senedo Road, Woodstock, Virginia 22664

(540)459-3661

George Bowers, Senior Pastor

## Broken Shells and Broken Lives

### Schedule:

**8:30 a.m. Early Worship**

**9:45 a.m. Sunday School**

**11 a.m. Worship**

**Nursery Provided &  
Children's Church**

**Senior Pastor: George Bowers**

**Associate Pastor for Youth and Visitation:  
Dale Bennett**

**Pastor Administrative Assistant/Clerk:  
Becky Leland**

**Treasurer/Bookkeeper: Dorothy Boyer**

**Deacons: Don Sherman, Jr., Chair**

**Phill & Sue Noel, Co-Chair**

**Becky Leland**

**Benny & Tammy Andes**

**Tim & Kathy Cooper**

**Norma Doman**

**Penny Adams**

**Tom Brower**

**Matt & Brenda Wendling**

**Noah & Amy Hepner**

**John Anderson**

**Building & Grounds Chair: Jay Swartz**

**Pastoral & Worship Chair: Diane Pence**

**Finance Chair: Doug Doman**

**Discipleship Chair: Stephanie Chapman**

**Church & Family Fellowship Chair:**

**TBD**

**Mission & Witness Chair: Jon Ryman**

**Sunday School Superintendent:**

**David Sherman**

**Church Board Chairman: Bernie Adams**

**Church Board Co-Chairman: Doug Doman**

**Moderator: Keith Zirkle**

Many people enjoy scouring the beach for seashells. What a prize it is to find a new one freshly washed up from the depths when its former occupant needs it no longer. I've got a modest collection of these amazing creations and each one clearly illustrates God's infinite creativity even in providing for creatures deep in the oceans that are rarely seen by humans.

Beaches, however, are also cluttered with many broken shells. There are far more of these than complete ones since some are cracked in half, others are missing an end, and still others are only fragments. Except for very rare specimens, most collectors aren't interested in the broken ones, only the "good" ones.

And yet, each of these broken shells has its own story. A story about where it lived, how long it housed a resident, and what others lived around it. How did it get broken and how long ago did it happen? The questions go on and on.

So too, each of us has a story that includes how we have been broken for we all are in some way or the other. Sometimes we've been cracked by other people but most of our damages are self-inflicted.

As sinful human beings born in Adam's line, some of us are broken with an addiction to drugs or alcohol. Others are broken sexually by adultery, promiscuity, or pornography. Many times those who appear to be "perfect specimens" are horribly damaged by guilt, greed, or pride. Still others are shattered by worry, cowardice, or bitterness.

We can scour the cities and countryside the world over searching for a perfect representative of the human race; one who is not broken in some way, and we will come up short. Until we find Jesus. He is the only One who is unflawed, unmarred, and unbroken.

As we bring to Him our brokenness and all our damaged pieces, He is able to reconstruct something beautiful of our lives. He can fill in the holes where parts

are missing and recreate a life of beauty, purpose, and use.

As He does His work of renewal, He listens to our stories and heals our hurts. He invites us to confide in Him and to trust Him with our deepest secrets.

But even after He heals us, we must remember where we've come from. We must not forget what we were like when we came to Him. We must also recall how we got broken, for those sinful tendencies remain. Where others have hurt us, we do well to establish wise boundaries to prevent future pain especially if those individuals are still in the breaking business.

Although Jesus was and is the only perfect human being, He too knows what it's like to be broken. Throughout His ministry, His reputation was attacked, His motives were maligned, and ultimately His body was destroyed and broken by fists, nails, and staffs.

And yet His spirit and soul remained whole as He blessed those who hurt Him and even prayed for those who nailed Him to His instrument of execution. Amazingly, even though His body was cruelly broken, like a geode, His inner beauty then became even more apparent. After His resurrection, He was lovelier than before and remains so today.

My prayer is that those of us who have been saved and reconstructed by Him will worship and glorify Him for His work of skill, compassion, love, and grace. I also pray that we will cherish and value all those around us who have likewise been broken or still are, including those who have been healed, those who are in that process, and those who are still lying in pieces on the beach.

The next time we go shell hunting, may those broken ones remind us of who we were and are, and may we cherish the most perfect One of all.

Blessings, *George*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### REMINDER REGARDING CHARITABLE GIVING RECEIPTS FOR THOSE USING THE ANTIOCH PAYPAL LINK ON THE WEB PAGE:

Please make sure you print the receipt from PayPal to use for your charitable giving receipt for income tax purposes. The donations given using the PayPal link are not included in recording that is done from tithes and offerings collected during the regular church offering.

**Antioch Little Duckling Preschool continues to** enroll children. If you or someone you know is interested, have them call the Preschool at 459-9486. The preschool is always looking for donations of stickers, crayons, craft kits (35), treats, and paper products. If you would like to donate to the preschool scholarship fund. Checks can be sent to the church or added to the offering. In the memo line it can be earmarked for the scholarship fund. Blessings, Amy Babcock, Director/Teacher, Antioch Little Ducklings

### **Ongoing needs of Family Promise include:**

Dishwashing liquid Air freshener Toilet bowl cleaner Shower/bath cleaner Deodorant (men & women)

### **SPREAD THE WORD**

Please spread the word! Antioch's Sunday Worship Services are available on YouTube and you can find them by typing YouTube into your browser and then searching for AntiochCBC. Past services and Bible Studies are there as well. In addition, you can find out more information about Antioch at [www.antiochcbc.org](http://www.antiochcbc.org) including upcoming events, sermon note sheets, ministries, mission opportunities, children's activities, Antioch's history, how to meet Jesus, and much more!

### **Sign Your Child Up For Free Bible Classes!**

Weekday Religious Education Classes are being held this school fall and are open to all 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> graders. Go to [www.Biblebreak.com](http://www.Biblebreak.com) and click on Sign Up! Share with your friends and spread the word! All 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome but every participant needs to register and have a signed permission slip. See Pastor George or Dale for any questions.

### **Join Antioch's Choir!**

The Antioch Choir has started practicing! Practices are on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. and the group will lead worship and provide sharing of gifts for both services once a month on 4th Sundays. If you are interested in joining the Antioch Choir or have questions, please contact Nancy Bowers in person or at [gabowers@shentel.net](mailto:gabowers@shentel.net).

### **Meals Ministry Opportunity!**

Would you be willing to provide a meal for a church family in need? A Meals Ministry team is being formed to help church members when a need for a meal(s) arises due to a surgery or extended illness. We would like to comprise a list of people who would be willing to provide a meal if called upon. You don't have to be a "Betty Crocker" in the kitchen to help out. A casserole, soup and salad, or a pizza and salad, etc. can easily feed a family. Could you pick up a rotisserie chicken, some potato salad and rolls and drop it by someone's house if called upon? Are you comfortable calling DoorDash? Please prayerfully consider if you could lend a hand and be a part of this outreach. Please contact Leslie Helsley by text or phone at 540-325-7127 or by email at [slbcj@yahoo.com](mailto:slbcj@yahoo.com) and she will be able to answer your questions and get you on the list. You can also call Yvonne Ryman on her cell 540-333-4035 or by text. We recognize that many in our church are already addressing this need but are hoping to reach others who may also have a heart for this ministry. A sign-up sheet will also be available on the table in the fellowship hall.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Antioch's Theme Verse for 2024:

Pastors George and Dale invite you to memorize, meditate, and live out the following verse for 2024. It will be our "Theme Verse of the Year" and this will be special emphasis in worship, sermons, outreach events, etc.

**Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.**  
**Matthew 28:19-20**

### Becoming a Member of Antioch Church

If you would like to become a member at Antioch by baptism or transfer or have questions, please see Pastor George or Pastor Dale. We plan to receive new members and celebrate Baptism on December 1.

### What Is Your Gift?

Do you have a musical talent? Do you play the guitar? The violin? The harp, harmonica, or banjo? We are looking for musicians to join AWE. We would love to have you join us! Please reach out to Amy Hepner at 540-323-0171 or talk to anyone in the AWE Team.

### Church Nursery Help Needed

Nursery volunteers are needed for both services. Please, if you are able, consider volunteering in the nursery. Thanks in advance!

### Disaster Work:

Samaritan's Purse is constantly looking for volunteers to go on Disaster Mop up and rebuild trips. See Pastor George if you are interested in either.

### Donations Needed:

#### The Shenandoah County Pregnancy Center has an immediate need for the following:

Newborn diapers	Finger nail clippers (baby)	Pacifiers and clips	Lotion & baby wash
Nasal Aspirators	0-3, 3-6 onesies	Small baby books	Premie clothes
Diaper Bags	Similac Soy Formula	Baby Bottles	Teething rings
Small hand held toys	Similac Advance Formula		
Infant and Toddler Tooth brushes and tooth paste			

## Congratulations to....

**Congratulations to Taylor Leland** whose goat placed third in the Shenandoah County Fair Weight Gain contest.

**Congratulations to Kim Miller** on her new position as Administrative Assistant for Student Services for Shenandoah County Public Schools.

**Congratulations to Norma and Doug Doman** on becoming great grandparents. Knox was recently born to their granddaughter.

**Congratulations to Taylor Leland and Karissa Jones** for being on the first place FFA Forestry team at Central winning the Federation and Area contests!

If one part of the Body suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.  
1 Corinthians 12:26

## Gospel Music and Trips Update

Go to [SONshineMinistriesVA.org](http://SONshineMinistriesVA.org) to find out more about other concerts and bus trips as well as a listening schedule for WBTX and ministries sponsored by SONshine Ministries.

### November/December 2024 -- Special Christmas Trip

Details are being finalized soon on a special Christmas trip for 2024. Call Jean Kelley at 540-476-5211 or Dustin Kline at 540-810-6236 to request more information when it becomes available.

## Antioch Church Financial Summary through 3rd Quarter 2024

Total Expenses		\$280,327.90
Total Income		\$345,366.20
Over/Under Diff	+	\$65,038.30
Paid on Debt 3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR		\$33,162.11
Amount to pay on Debt		\$462,869.88

In addition, annual anticipated needs for BLAST is \$12,720 for the full year and praise God we currently have \$16,072 in the BLAST account! Thanks to all who have donated for this ministry!

### **Special Opportunity To Support Antioch With Tax Advantages For You:**

If you are over 70½ years of age, the tax laws allow you to donate all or part of your IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to a church or charity and you won't have to pay any taxes on the amount you give. A Qualifying Charitable Distribution (QCD) allows you to donate up to \$100,000 per year directly to your church or qualified charity from your IRA and exclude it from your income, and thus your tax liability. The donation has to go directly from your IRA to your church or charity and cannot come to you and then be given. It must go directly. The money or stocks must be drawn directly from an IRA and must go directly from the IRA institution (Schwab, Fidelity, Wells Fargo, etc) to the church or charity. You, the account holder, should never touch the money.

**Example:** Jane is an active and generous 73 year old who gives to her church regularly. After retiring a few years back, she has a substantial nest egg in her IRA. The Required Minimum Distribution from her IRA (the minimum amount the government requires her to withdraw and pay taxes on this year) is \$30,000. Jane will use \$20,000 toward her living expenses but wants to donate the rest to her church. She will send the funds directly from her individual IRA to her church to make her donation. Since the funds go directly from her IRA to the church, it never hits her bank account and therefore it is not included in her annual adjusted gross income, thus giving her a nice charitable deduction and she is able to advance Jesus' work as well. If you have questions, speak to your financial advisor or tax consultant.



## How Can I Be Saved?

It is very easy to have your sins forgiven, be saved, and go to heaven. There are three basic steps:

1. Admit. Admit to God that you are a sinner (that you have disobeyed Him and His plan for your life). Romans 3:23 "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

2. Believe. Believe that God loves you and that He sent His Son, Jesus, to take the penalty for our sin and to pay our price. John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

3. Confess. Confess with your mouth that "Jesus is Lord" of all and that God raised Him from the dead. Romans 10:9 "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

Just pray right now, tell God that you are a sinner, and ask Him to forgive you through Jesus' blood. Tell Him you want Jesus to be Lord, the Leader of your life.

If you have never prayed to God or it has been a long time it may be hard to know where to start. While you can tell God whatever is on your heart, the following prayer may help you get started if you don't know where to begin.

"Dear God, I know I am a sinner and I want to stop. I'm sorry for my sins and I'm asking you to forgive me because of Jesus' death on the cross. I believe Jesus is Your Son and I believe You raised Him from the dead. I want Him to save me and to lead me. Thank you for doing this. I give myself to you. In Jesus Name, Amen"

Now What?

If you have been saved and want to follow Jesus, begin to read His Word, the Bible, and pray every day. Begin attending a Bible believing church where you can grow in your faith and learn to be all that God has planned for you. We'd love to have you join us at Antioch but there are many wonderful churches. What is important is that you are involved somewhere. May God bless you as you serve Him.



Go with us to Baltimore!

December 7, 2024

Samaritan's Purse

Ages

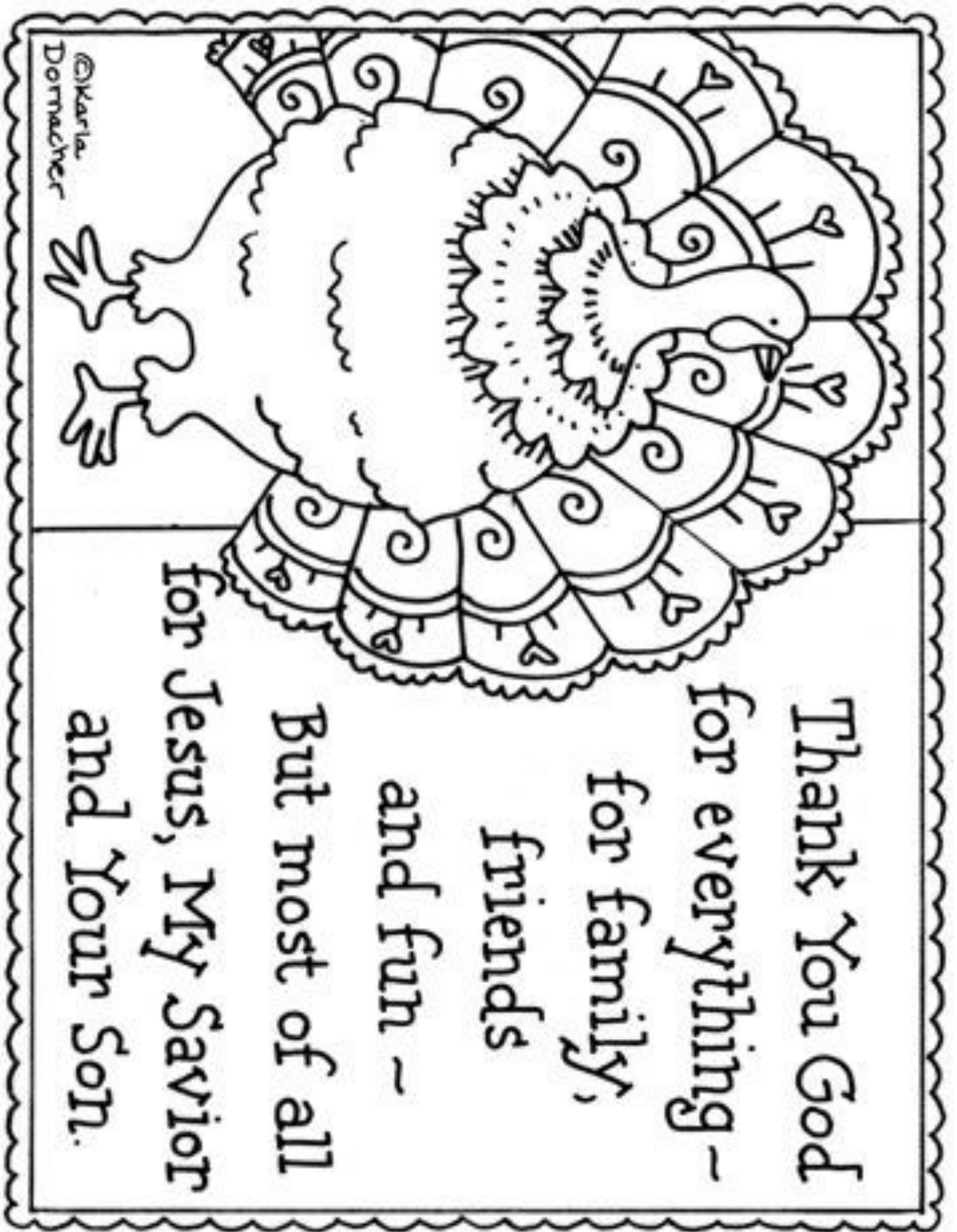
13+

Shoebox Processing Center

Work 9am-1pm



Contact Becky Leland  
if you are interested.



©Karia  
Dornacher

Thank You God  
for everything -  
for family,  
friends  
and fun -  
But most of all  
for Jesus, My Savior  
and Your Son.

# Happy Birthday to our November Birthday People



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Happy Birthday and God Bless You!



# Celebrating Marriages for the Month of November



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# Happy Anniversary!



## 2024 Weekly Prayer Emphasis:

During 2024, the Pastors, staff, and Church Board invite you to join them in weekly prayers for our church. Please spend some time each week, and ideally each day praying about these items:

Week of:

- November 3—Pray for the Faithbuilders Sunday School Class and teacher Liz Mauck.
- November 10—Pray for the Words of Life Sunday School Class and teacher Karen Poff.
- November 17—Pray for the High School Sunday School Class and their teacher Suzanne Clarke.
- November 24—Pray for God to rise up willing servants to keep the nursery for each service each week.







# November 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Please NOTE: Weekly Bulletin Announcements Contain the latest info.</i></p>					1	2
<p><b>3</b> Daylight Savings Time. Turn clocks back one hour</p> <p>Wear orange for persecuted Christians</p>	<p><b>4</b> 4 pm, Grief Support Group in New Base-ment</p>	<p><b>5</b> ELECTION DAY</p> <p>6:30 pm, Bible Study on Prayer</p>	<p><b>6</b> 9-10:30am, Morning Bible Study 11:30am Men's Lunch at Ben's Diner, Women at Woodstock Garden Cafe 3:30-7:00pm, BLAST for youth K-8th</p>	<p><b>7</b> 7pm, Choir Practice</p> <p><i>Custodians cleaning the church</i></p>	8	<p><b>9</b> Blue Ridge CBC Regional Conference</p>
<p><b>10</b> Operation Christmas Child Shoe-boxes due <u>12:15pm, Mission &amp; Witness meeting</u></p>	<b>11</b>	<p><b>12</b> 6:30 pm, Bible Study on Prayer</p>	<p><b>13</b> 9-10:30am, Morning Bible Study 11:30am Men's Lunch at Ben's Diner, Women at Woodstock Garden Cafe 3:30-7:00pm, BLAST for youth K-8th</p>	<p><b>14</b> 7pm, Choir Practice</p> <p><i>Custodians cleaning the church</i></p>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<p><b>17</b> December Newsletter Items due to Sheryl Jett</p> <p><u>First Responder Sunday</u></p>	<p><b>18</b> 4 pm, Grief Support Group in New Base-ment</p>	<p><b>19</b> 6:30 pm, Bible Study on Prayer</p>	<p><b>20</b> 9-10:30am, Morning Bible Study 11:30am Men's Lunch at Ben's Diner, Women at Woodstock Garden Cafe 3:30-7:00pm, BLAST for youth K-8th</p>	<p><b>21</b> 7pm, Choir Practice</p> <p><i>Custodians cleaning the church</i></p>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<p><b>24</b> Community Thanksgiving Service at Community Mission</p>	<b>25</b>	<p><b>26</b> No Bible Study</p>	<p><b>27</b> No Bible Study or BLAST</p>	<p><b>28</b> Thanksgiving</p>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

## Dates for 2024 Antioch Ministry Plan

### God Willing

Every Sunday	Worship of Almighty God
Every Sunday	Sunday School to study and apply God's Word.
BLAST	Most Wednesdays beginning Sept. 18
Morning Bible Study	Most Wednesdays beginning Sept 18
PM Bible Study	Tuesday Evenings
Nov 3	Orange Sunday for the Persecuted Church
Nov 17	First Responder Sunday
Nov 24	Community Thanksgiving Service 6pm at Community Mission
Dec 7	Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Packing Trip to Baltimore
Dec 10	Shen Paco Meal
Dec 10	Jimmy Fortune Concert at Antioch
Dec 15	Christmas Program
Dec 22	Combined Christmas Worship Service
Dec 24	7:00pm Christmas Eve Service
Dec 29	Combined Youth Sunday Worship Service

#### Newsletter:

If you have information for the church newsletter, please send it to Sheryl Jett. Please send her all birthdays and anniversaries so we can recognize those in the church newsletter. Please email her at: [theboys@shentel.net](mailto:theboys@shentel.net) or put it in her mailbox at church.

#### News from the Library:

Please remember to come check out the many books that the Antioch Library has available! There are many Christmas and holiday-themed books to choose from!

Reminder: If you would like to donate books to the Antioch Library, please contact Becky Reynolds ([rwreynolds71004@gmail.com](mailto:rwreynolds71004@gmail.com) or 540.325.4433) to let her know. You can also leave books in Becky's church mailbox. Please do not leave boxes of books in the Library, due to a Sunday School class meeting there every Sunday.

#### Sharing of Gifts and Worship Leadership:

If you are willing to lead worship, lead music, or share a gift during worship for either the 8:30 or the 11:00am service contact any member of the Pastoral and Worship Commission. They are Laurie Eaton, Diane Pence, Matt Wendling, Debbie Cummins, Nancy Bowers, Amy Hepner, and Suzanne Clarke.

## Unholy To Holy

George Bowers  
October 2024

God is holy, we are not,  
We are filled with sin and rot.  
But Christ came down to planet earth,  
Escaped our curse by the Virgin Birth.  
Then lived and preached and loved and served,  
And gave forgiveness none deserved.  
Then died upon a wooden tree,  
To cleanse, release, and set us free.  
No longer stained, condemned, or lost,  
Now made holy by His cross!  
And so we're welcome now inside,  
In the Holy of Holies to abide!  
Unholy sin now all erased,  
Praise God for mercy, love, and grace!

