

Antioch Christian Church

The Lamp

Volume 14, Issue 9

October 2008

COMING UP

Board Meeting

Sunday, Oct 5, 12:30pm

Happy Hearts

Thursday, Oct 9, Noon

Consecration Sunday

Sunday, Oct 26, 11am

Adult Bible Study

Sundays, 9:45am

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Antioch's New Parsonage

On September 16th, Antioch took possession of its new parsonage in Francis Young Estates.

This has been the culmination of a year-long effort negotiating with Sekas Homes to exchange the existing parsonage for a new parsonage in Francis Young Estates.

The new development has been named after our beloved Francis Young, a life-long Antioch member who passed away in 2006 at the age of 92.

The former parsonage tract has been incorporated into the residential development, along with the former Dyer home-site.

Regional Assembly, October 17-18

Don't miss the Regional Assembly of the Christian Church Capital Area, October 17-18, at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Frederick, Maryland.

The Assembly consists of interest group meetings on Friday afternoon and evening. The Business

Meeting is on Saturday. Guest speakers include Bill Lee and Dick Hamm. This is your opportunity to get involved in regional planning and events.

You can also register online at www.faithandlove.cccadisciples.org.

Pastor Gene Retires

Sunday, August 31st, was Pastor Gene Buie's last Sunday as Antioch's pastor. He served Antioch faithfully since April 1994. He and Jo have moved to Harrisonburg, Virginia, where they own a home purchased several years ago for their retirement, as does Pastor

Gene's sister. Gene and Jo's new address is:

Gene and Jo Buie
790 Vine Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22802
Cell: 703-380-5291

Creatively Made...

by Eddy Efaw, Secondary Bible Teacher, Harding Academy, Memphis TN

If there's one thing I've learned from several years of teaching visual arts and Bible, it's this: We are all creative. I know what you may be thinking: "How does that connect with the Bible?" or perhaps, you're thinking "Not me. There's no way. I don't have a creative bone in my body!"

My belief in the statement wasn't initially based on general observation of humanity at large, because at first glance, not everyone seems to be creative. People in fact generally appear non-creative. In addition, most people are creatures of habit (the opposite of creativity). We take the same routes to work. We eat the same breakfast. We have the same bedtime routine. We do things the same old ways, day in day out. How then can I say that we're all creative? It's because my conviction is based not on observations but on scripture.

You see, in the beginning God created. And He created us in His image!

The writer of Genesis lays that out from the first sentence. At his innermost being, from square one, God is a creator. Just a short while later in that same book of Genesis, where this concept of God's innate creativity is preeminent, we find another statement. After God had done all of his warm-up creating, He got to the main event, the big finish, the icing on the cake of Creation. The writer says, "Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness.'"

Now, the only glimpses we have into what that image or likeness of God might contain is the fact that He's a creator. To this point in the story, God has made only things. Nevertheless, if we're made in God's image and if He's a Creator, then we are all creative as well. We have to be creative because God made us in His image, and the foremost aspect of His likeness is that He is a creator - end of story (actually beginning of story!)

So what does that mean? In other words, how are we to integrate this information into our everyday lives?

A small portion of the people in the world are recognized for their ability to create in the 'arts' as writers, artists, singers, dancers, etc. But let's take a look below the surface of what we have traditionally viewed creativity as being without limiting God's view of creativity. Whether it's organizing a living room or a dinner party, making a slide show of family pictures or a scrapbook of a beach trip, we are all creative. We even create laughter with a perfectly timed punch line, joy with a note of encouragement, and peace by seeking to talk things out rather than add to an argument. When we look below the surface, we are all creative...because we are made in God's image, the ultimate Creator of us all.

And then God went a step further in our creation. In order to make us into the creative beings that we are, God gave us something that none of the other things He created possessed: free will. As the pinnacle of His creation, the Creator gave us the ability to choose relationship with Him. And what did we do with this creative license? We took our creativity and went about creating a world of our own. We set out to make a world that revolves around us. We buy what we want, do what we want, go where we want. We created rebellion. We sinned and that mistake had to be paid for.

So what did God do? He created again. He created someone perfect who could take our place on death row. Jesus. And what did Jesus do while he was here? You guessed it. He created. He made new eyes for the blind, new skin for the lepers and new legs for the paralytic. He created calm seas, water from wine and an all-you-can-eat buffet of fish and bread from a sack lunch! He created a right mind for a chained up madman and dignity for a Samaritan woman. God did in the form of Jesus what He's been doing since the beginning of time-- He created.

We have God's creative spark within us. We have the breath of the Creator of the Universe moving through our lungs. We can turn tears into laughter, despair to hope, discord to harmony. With a touch, a word or a look, we can create the same things that Jesus did while he was here on earth. We are all creative, and we are now the hands of Jesus here on earth. So let's get busy and do what we were designed to do. And we can do it together. Let's create.

Pulpit Committee seeks Interim Minister

Antioch's Pulpit Committee continues its search for our next pastor. In the meantime, it has focused its efforts on selecting an interim minister.

In September, the congregation has had the opportunity to hear several candidates for the interim position.

Selection of the interim minister will be announced early in

October with the intention of his service to Antioch beginning on October 26th, our Consecration Sunday. Please come and greet him then. Stay for the luncheon that will be provided after the service.

The Pulpit Committee will resume its search for a new pastor next month.



Pastor Retires after 14 Years

Eugene Buie leaves Antioch Christian Church.

By [Donna Manz, The Connection](#), Wednesday, September 03, 2008

Fourteen years after he first stepped up to the pulpit at Antioch Christian Church in Vienna, the Rev. Eugene Buie stepped down.

"Tomorrow is the first day in retirement," said Buie, as he spoke to his congregation for the final time. "It came with relentless insistence, whether I was ready or not."

Every morning, it's time to turn around and face the future, he said.

Approximately 90 Vienna-area residents belong to Antioch, the small white country-style church on Beulah Road.

"I'm wearing black because I'm in mourning because you are leav-



ing," Lola Wayland of Vienna told Buie. Lola Wayland and her husband, Leonard, have been members of the church for two years, and wish they had found it earlier.

"I'll truly miss his sermons," said Leonard Wayland. "Rev. Buie tells it like it is. He talks straight."

No new pastor is yet assigned to the church. A new parsonage has been built in Francis Young Estates, abutting church property. When the Buies leave the old parsonage, a modest brick rambler, it will be razed.

The congregation presented farewell gifts to Buie and his wife, Johannah, at a church luncheon after the service on Aug. 24.

Buie and his wife have no plans beyond the move to Harrisonburg.

"We will wait to see what happens," Buie said. "We are all in God's hands. We must go forward in faith ... waiting to see what comes next."

ANTIOCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH

1860 Beulah Road
Vienna, VA 22182

Phone: 703-938-6753
Fax: 703-938-3594
E-mail: office@antiochdoc.org
On the web at www.antiochdoc.org

Don't miss...

*Consecration Sunday
Greet our new interim
Minister!*

Sunday, October 26th

*Luncheon immediately
after worship*

Elder & Deacon Service Schedule

DATE	ELDERS	DEACONS	READER
10/5	Donna Hunter John Holley	Ed Mella Charles Donkor, Jr.	Neil Romstedt
10/12	Kevin Wiggs Mary Beck	Yaa Donkor Evelyn Donkor	Marcia Wilke
10/19	Terry Wigglesworth Karen Curtis	Charles Donkor Mark Sherwood	Jeanne Mella
10/26	Vivian Cruz Neil Romstedt	Marcia Wilke Marjorie Blank	Tom Wigglesworth
11/2	Bill D. Wilke Bill W. Wilke	Kevin Curtis Rebecca Curtis	Ed Mella