A Message from Pastor

Congratulations on the completion of another year of study. I join with your parents, family, church family and friends in celebration of your achievements, awards, accolades and accomplishments. You put in the hard work, overcame obstacles and persevered, praise God! Being a successful student is both a challenge and a privilege. What a blessing it is that you have the resources of teachers, staff, materials, etc. provided so that you can discover more and gain new skills. There are many people in this world who long for such an opportunity for formal education.

We thank God for the teachers, professors, administrators and staff who taught, guided and assisted you. We, your church family, are grateful to have had the honor and privilege to support your academic pursuits and spiritual growth this academic year. We wish you God’s continued blessings.

Keep working with your future in mind. Your labor will yield great rewards. Serve the Lord with gladness remembering that we all are blessed by God to be a blessing in God's work. To our graduates, I hope you enjoy and appreciate the commencement exercises and all that accompanies the celebrations. We are proud of all of our students and graduates. May God bless you and keep you.

Love,

Pastor Merle D. McJunkin

Graduates
God has blessed us with many high school and college graduates.

Newsworthy
Take a look at all the wonderful things our students do throughout the year.
High School Graduates

ANDREW BROWN

Andrew will graduate from Fox Lane High School on June 25th, 2019. As a student, Drew has always maintained honor/high honor status. He was accepted at every school that he applied. During his time at Fox Lane, Drew was a member of the Wind Ensemble as a percussionist. His love of music is part of the fabric of his life. Andrew is the drummer for the Chancel Choir, Men’s Chorus and Cherub choirs here at Antioch. He faithfully attends all rehearsals and plays for the morning worship services and any additional church services.

A teacher once said, “Drew is a quiet and respected leader among his peers.” He showed his leadership skills early on and was named the Captain of the Fox Lane Varsity Football team in both his junior and senior years. As a student athlete, Drew was heavily recruited for football and has received many athletic awards, honors and scholarships. He was named All County, All Section Co-league MVP, All League and Honorable Mention All New York State. He was Fox Lane Football’s Teams MVP 2018 & 2019 and for his career, rushed for 2500 yards. Drew was given the Fox Lane Booster Club Senior Athletic Scholarship, the Craig Johnson Scholarship from the Mt. Kisco Maroons and was chosen to play in the NYS (north) All Exceptional Senior Game. To keep himself busy in the Spring, Drew played Varsity Lacrosse as well. Drew was given the nickname “The Hammer” by his peers because he was always the hammer never the nail.

After a lengthy recruiting process, Drew has decided to attend Denison University in Granville, Ohio where he will continue his football career (GO BIG RED). At Denison, Drew plans to major in Physical Therapy and hopes to one day work for an NFL team as a head trainer.

Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. This is Drew’s favorite bible verse and you will find it engraved on his Football cleats. He truly believes and trusts in God’s word. He is aware of where his blessings come from and is grateful to the Antioch Family for being the “Village” that has formed his life.

NICHOLAS GIBSON

Nicholas is graduating senior from Yorktown High School and will be attending the University of Tampa this fall as an incoming Freshman. He was recruited to play lacrosse and said he would have gone to Tampa even if he was not recruited. He has received the University of Tampa Minaret Scholarship for Community Service and the Academic Achievement Award. Nicholas is an avid lacrosse player and enjoys the game so much that it was icing on the cake that he will be playing in college. Nicholas was recently honored by receiving the Student Citizenship Award from Yorktown High School. He also received the Donald R. Kellogg Memorial Scholarship and was recognized as New York State Scholar Athlete. Nicholas continues to make his family proud as he is spending his summer working as a Sales and Service Consultant.
High School Graduates

SHAGARI HODGE
Shagari will graduate from Fox Lane High School on June 25. This year, Shagari spent half of his school day at BOCES studying Auto Mechanics, while this meant he had to give up a Studio Art class, he knew it was best for his career path and he still draws in his free time. Shagari played tackle on the varsity football team and in the spring threw shotput, discus and javelin for the varsity track team.

Shagari has logged over 200 hours of community service in his four years of high school. He has traveled to Colcord, West Virginia every summer since the 8th grade on the work/mission trip with the Bedford Presbyterian Church and has enjoyed volunteering at the Westchester Christmas Dinner at St. Mary’s in Katonah and at the Fox Lane Senior Citizen Prom. Shagari has received several awards and scholarships recognizing his altruistic character and service in the community; the Martin Luther King Jr. Youth For The Dream Award from Antioch, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Award and the Community Service Award from Fox Lane; Mt. Kisco Rotary Scholarship, Bedford Presbyterian Church Christa Kuusisto Honorary Scholarship and the Donald R. Kellogg Memorial Scholarship.

This summer, Shagari will once again travel to Colcord, WV. When he returns from Colcord, he will look for summer employment. Shagari is active in Sunday School and the Youth and Media Ministries. He also gave a moving performance as Jesus in the Maundy Thursday Tenebrae service. In September, Shagari will be attending SUNY Morrisville pursuing a Bachelor of Technology in Automotive Technology.

College Graduate

MICKI BUCHANAN
Micki Buchanan graduated magna cum laude from State University of New York at Purchase with a bachelor’s degree in Humanities on May 17, 2019. Micki was awarded the Richard Maas Prize in American History for her senior research project, Witnessing Tzedakah: The Alliance Between Jews and Blacks for Civil Rights. Micki presented her senior project at the SUNY Purchase Humanities Symposium. Micki plans to spend the summer reading for pleasure and exploring Westchester and NYC with Howard, Andrew and Matthew.
Masters Graduate

AMBER KINUI

Amber received the English MA with DLS Certification from Tulane University. Amber was a Presidential Fellow and worked in the office of Tulane President Micheal Fitts. Her job duties included identifying buildings and rooms that were named after members of the Confederacy and spearhead a campus wide effort to replace them with outstanding individuals that reflect American diversity. Amber also worked in the Newcomb College Institute at Tulane, Newcomb is the first degree-granting coordinate college for women in the United States. Amber worked on Special Events that advocated student organizations for women and a gender-integrated curriculum. She also worked at the Amistad Research Center working on a major project digitizing original materials that reference America’s ethnic and racial history, the African Diaspora, Human relations and civil rights. She is the daughter of Mike and Sheila Kinui.

Doctoral Graduates

MINISTER DOCTOR KAREN BLACKS

Dr. Blacks embraces life with drive, energy, and focus. A natural leader and multi-tasker, her motto may very well be “let’s keep it moving!” She entered the military, was granted a top-secret security clearance and went on to serve two distinguished enlistments in the United States Army. After being honorably discharged she enjoyed a successful career with several well-known companies in the broadcast media and communications industries.

Karen was led by God to transform her lifelong passion for communication and administration into a ministry of service. Responding to her call to ministry she completed a master’s degree at New York Theological Seminary in 2016. In April 2019 she earned the Doctor of Ministry degree from New York Theological Seminary where her dissertation delved into the use of digital, electronic and social media for the expansion and continuity of the church.

Dr. Blacks is the founder of “Women of God in the World Online Faith Community” a Facebook group where more than 8,000 women from all over the world come together to support and encourage each other in their Christian faith.

Dr. Blacks was born and raised by Christian parents in Baltimore, Maryland. She currently works at a non-profit agency that serves New York’s homeless population in 17 health clinics located throughout the city. She has one son and enjoys spending time with her biological family, as well as her church family. Her hobbies include writing devotional materials, creating digital and electronic media, singing and music editing. She also enjoys New York Yankee baseball.
Doctoral Graduates

SHANE ROGERS
Shane graduated from Columbia University Law School in May 2019.

Scholarship Ministry Activities

CARE PACKAGES
In collaboration with the Women’s Ministry, we were able to distribute care packages in October 2018 and February 2019 to our college, graduate and boarding school students as well as to those serving in the military. The recipients are always very thankful for the bountiful care packages and appreciate the ongoing support from the Antioch church family.

BOWLING PARTY
On January 4, 2019 the college students and high school juniors and seniors along with the mentors, had a fun-filled bowling outing at Grand Prix, Mt. Kisco. We are thankful for Pastor McJunkin and Sister Karla who are always encouraging our youth.

Coming Soon! SUMMER BBQ July 27, 2019
(College students and high school upperclassmen)
See any member of the scholarship ministry for more information
Current College Students

JOSHUA AGEE
Parent: Kerrick and Tallula Agee
Mentor: Adam Berry
School: Stony Brook University
Major: Finance

PROSPERITY ANTIONE
Parent: Boaz and Deborah Antione
Mentor: Crysta Jones Matthews
School: Westchester Community College
Major: Liberal Arts and Humanities
During this school year, at Westchester Community College, Prosperity joined the Philosophia Honors Club, The Event Board, and participated in the events on campus. Being in the Honors College has allowed her to present in the 2018 fall Symposium, America Today, where she spoke about the differences between men and women’s communication in the workplace. Prosperity states that her professors have taught her lessons that she will continue to use both in and out of the classroom. Being around her friends have made her realize who she is and who she wants to be. Her summer internship at Regan Development is giving Prosperity an opportunity to figure out what she want to do, while enhancing her professional skills in the workforce.

SIMISOLA AWOGBEMILA
Parent: Olufolake Awogbemila
Mentor: Adam Berry
School: Villanova University
Major: Nursing

SUNMISOLA AWOGBEMILA
Parent: Olufolake Awogbemila
Mentor: Hercules Jones, III
School: Manhattanville College
Major: Computer Science

SORVINA CARR
Parent: MaryAnn Carr
Mentor: Beverly Blount
School: Northeastern University
Major: Sociology and Political Science
Sorvina had a very exciting year! Sorvina continues pursuing a degree in Sociology, Communications, and Political Science while also finding some time for fun: she was the President of Northeastern's Women's Club Basketball Team, the host of her very own radio talk-show, and a new member to Songwriting Club (where she had many performances on campus). Finishing the fall semester with a 3.7 GPA, she moved on to the next phase of her academic year, which was completing a full-time internship at Campus Movie Fest - the world's largest student film festival. During her time with CMF, Sorvina spent four months traveling the country to make film equipment accessible for students everywhere to share their stories. She's very grateful for the opportunity she had to work for such an awesome company and is looking forward to this July when she travels back to Ghana, West Africa where she will be a Program Assistant for students study abroad.
Current College Students

CARRIE KINUI
Parent: Michael and Sheila Kinui
Mentor: Loretta Pyatt
School: Fordham University
Major: Theater
Carrie Kinui is looking forward to starting her Junior Year at Fordham University Lincoln Center in the fall. She completed her Sophomore year playing leads in productions, "Conversations with Stars" "Erotophobia" and several student directed productions. Carrie also worked on the NBC Drama "The Blacklist".

SHAYLA MCJUNKIN
Parent: Pastor Merle and Karla McJunkin
Mentor: Eleanor Glenn
School: Simmons College
Major: Psychology and Music Performance
Minor: Business Management
Shayla McJunkin just finished her sophomore year at Simmons University. She spent this year playing the flute in the Colleges of the Fenway (COF) Orchestra, singing in the COF Chorus, and dancing in the Simmons University Dance Company. Shayla also spent her spring break on a marvelous trip in Paris where she learned about how French history—especially French music—has impacted the world we live in today. She finished off this year with a 3.9 GPA and has officially declared double majoring in Psychology and Music Performance with a minor in Business Management.

ALISON MOKY
Parent: Joe and Prisca Moky
Mentor: Tonya McLaughlin
School: Tufts University in Boston MA.
Major: Biology, Pre-Med Track
Alison Moky is a rising senior at Tufts University. She had a great year academically and made dean’s list. She runs for the Tufts Track & Field Team and had a great season. Alison has walked into many leadership roles at Tufts as she is a pre-orientation leader welcoming the incoming Tufts students, President of Athletes of Color, and head of Diversity and Inclusion of SAC(Student-Athlete Advisory Committee). In addition, Alison takes part in multiple clubs. She is a dancer on COCOA(Children of Culture of Africa), and an active member of MAPS(Minority Association of Pre-health Students). This summer Alison will be working as a research assistant at the Nathan Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research using immunohistochemistry/optogenetics to look at how top-down inputs to specific olfactory areas modulate odor processing in rats.
Current College Students

ABIGAIL WALTERS
Parent: Marcia Phillips
Mentor: Jennifer Gray
School: Binghamton University
Major: Psychology/Pre-Med
Abigail Walters is an upcoming senior at Binghamton University and is a psychology pre-med student. This academic year she participated in Binghamton’s Caribbean student Association’s annual carnival and African Student Organization’s fashion show. She attended the Student National Medical Association’s American Medical Education Conference in Philadelphia. She was also elected as president for Charles Drew Minority Pre-health Society. She hopes to finish her last year strong and find a post-baccalaureate program for when she graduates.

AKIAH WATTS
Parent: Kevin and Rosetta Watts
Mentor: Walterine Clayborne
School: Dartmouth College
Major: Psychology
Minor: Microeconomics

A Prayer for our Students
By Jennifer Gray

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, oh how sweet the name. The sweet precious name of Jesus is above all other names. It is in that name every knee shall bow and every tongue must confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Lord, we thank you for another school year you granted our youth. We thank you for the safety and protection against many things seen and unseen. You kept and protected them in all their doings, the ups and downs of everyday life.

We thank you dear Lord for equipping them with the talents and tools they needed to finish another school year. We pray a special prayer for those graduating and entering the workforce. We asked for your supernatural covering over them and an enlightened pathway especially in this world of turmoil. We pray that you will continue to guide them in all they do and say. We come this far by faith leaning on you, lord, and we trust that your grace and mercy will continue to preserve our youth.

Lord we pray for the release of the cares of this world of their young minds. Fill them with your peace and joy. Help them to find rest in your promises and enjoy the fulfillment and blessing you have in store for our youth and graduates. Teach them to share your goodness and love those around them today and always.

Blessed all those who contributed to their success and supported them another year. Lord, from the least among them to the most influential, we give you the highest praise. Blessed their homes (parents), schools (teachers), churches (Pastor), plays (peers). All honor and glory be to you our God and father. On behalf of our youth and the world at large - we praise you and give you thanks amen.
Newsworthy

SHANEAKA ANDERSON, our student under watch care, had a successful year at Edwards College in Florida. She was involved in various campus activities such as SGA, Foundation for Furtitude and Pre Alumni Council. In addition, she was crowned Miss Freshman and represented the college in a women's summit in Jacksonville. Sheaneaka was able to maintain a 4.0 GPA and as such, became a member of the Theta Psi Chi Honors Society. During the summer, she has an internship at the University Of Delaware where she will be working on RNA in situ hybridization.

NAOMI GIBSON is a rising Junior at Berkshire School in Sheffield Massachusetts. This is her first year at boarding school and it has been an amazing year. She is excelling in her academics and is a high honor student. In addition, she played three sports last year; volleyball, ice hockey and lacrosse. She was the lacrosse goalie for two teams this past spring so she has done a prenominal job of balancing academics and athletics. We are all so proud of Naomi who will continue to work on her studies and athletics this summer as she prepares for her junior year at Berkshire.

NSEYA HODGE successfully completed the 10th grade at Emma Willard School in Troy, NY. In her first year at Emma Willard, she enjoyed her first acting class where her acting teacher commented that she saw potential for great range and “truly enjoyed discovering Nseya as an actor” Being in a new environment, Nseya decided to try a new sport. She tried out for and made the winter varsity track team. She began competing in shotput, discus and javelin, frequently improving her personal best. Nseya continued throwing on the spring track team and qualified for sectionals in both shotput and discus. Nseya was also a member of the Black and Latinx Student Union and participated in their Black History Month presentation for the entire Emma Willard community. Nseya was nominated to be an Emma Wellness Advocate or “Wellie” next year. Wellies are student leaders that go through comprehensive training with the Health Center and faculty advisors in order to promote the well-being of the Emma community by developing creative and appropriate programming, such as workshops, outreach, and events. This summer Nseya will be working at the Summer@RCS camp and looking forward to her junior year at Emma Willard. Nseya is a member of the Youth and Nursery Ministries.

AKIRA LEMON completed 3rd grade at the Bedford Hills Elementary School on June 21st. During the winter and spring session of the Bedford Hills Elementary After School Programs, Akira participated in the following classes: Multi-Sports, Hollywood Film Making, Hip Hop Dance, and Arts & Crafts. She also participated in the Town of Bedford Recreation Department After School Winter/Spring Programs: Cooking, Arts & Crafts and Challenge Game Night. For winter and spring school vacation breaks, Akira participated in programs provided by the Boys and Girls Club in Mt. Kisco. This summer, Akira will attend the Town of Bedford Recreation Summer Camp at the Bedford Hills Park.
To our surprise, Akira was chosen to receive this year’s Bedford Hills Elementary School P.E. President Award. Those who receive this Award consistently demonstrate the BHES C.A.R.E. model, which stands for Cooperation, Accountability, Respect and Effort in the school’s Physical Education classes. It’s all in the family. Akira’s grandmother, Renae Levine and uncle Maurice Reazer won the same award when they were in high school.

Akira and other students from the Bedford Hills Elementary School participated in marching in the Bedford Hills Memorial Day Parade on May 27th, holding up their school banner.

Akira continues to attend Antioch’s Sunday School, Sunday School Programs and this year’s Youth Ministry Friday Nights Fellowship. She is also a member of Antioch’s Cherub Choir and has assisted in being a devotional leader for the morning worship service.

**XAVIER LEMON** As a 9th grader at Fox Lane High School, Xavier participated in the spring High School Musical Play “Alice in Wonderland.” He was one of the Royal Card Guards. He also participated the winter Musical High School Play, “Rent – School Edition”. Xavier played one of the homeless characters. Other times during the school year, Xavier joined the back stage crew to set up and break down bleachers/music stands for instrumental concerts. Xavier also participates in a middle/high school students club called CATCH (Conversations About Tolerance, Civics, and Humanity). Xavier will continue to attend Fox Lane High and become a 10th grader in the Fall.

Xavier continues to be a member of the Boys and Girls Club of Northern Westchester in Mt. Kisco and participates in their after school programs and evening “Teen” programs. This summer he will be attending the Town of Bedford Recreation Summer Camp at the Bedford Hills Park as a C.I.T.

Xavier continues to attend and participate in Antioch’s Sunday School, Sunday School Programs and this year the Youth Ministry Friday Nights Fellowship program.

**JASON LOVELACE** completed his second year at Alliance Theological Seminary, where he is currently pursuing a master’s degree in Biblical Studies. He also completed his first year with the Israel Institute of Biblical Studies, where he is studying biblical Hebrew. His academic interests include literary approaches to Old Testament interpretation, biblical theology and the use of the Old Testament in the New. Jason holds an undergraduate degree from Columbia University, a master’s degree from Princeton University, where he was a Woodrow Wilson Fellow, and a Certificate in Theology and Ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary.

**MEAGAN MOKY** is an 11th grader at Fox Lane High School who continues to excel in academics as an Honor Roll student. She is a great athlete who has won All-League for both Lacrosse and Cross Country this season. Meagan participates on the Track & Field and Cross Country team where she is the top runner, and has been on the Varsity Lacrosse team since her 9th grade year. Meagan also plays club Lacrosse with Gold Coast in Wilson, CT where she will be attending the following tournaments: The Grind at PA, Project 120 at LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ and the Capital Cup at North East, MD.
The Scholarship Ministry

The purpose of our Scholarship Ministry is to:

- Encourage young people to continue their education at the level after high school – stressing the need in today’s society for well-prepared citizens.
- Provide information regarding financial aid, availability of additional scholarships, and various educational opportunities.

Annie Y. Fisher Scholarship

Scholarship criteria:

- Applicants must be members in good standing at the Antioch Baptist Church.
- Applicants must be continuing their education upon graduation from high school and have proof of acceptance at an accredited institution.

The Scholarship Ministry is committed to:

- Functioning in accordance with the rules and regulations as provided in The Constitution and By-Laws of the Antioch Baptist Church.
- Maintaining an up-to-date roster of all students in college (undergraduate and graduate) with our primary focus on undergraduates.
- Assigning a mentor to each college student.
- Making available all information pertaining to available scholarships.
- Conducting parent-student information programs.
- Recommending the amount of scholarship aid given to high school graduating seniors at Antioch.
- Recommending any additional financial request of Antioch students enrolled in institutions of higher learning.
- Ensuring high school students are aware of college fairs and encourage attendance.
- Maintaining an up-to-date roster of high school students beginning with the 10th grade.

The Scholarship Ministry Mentorship Program provides support and mentors act as liaisons between students and the church. The program has been very successful due to its one-to-one approach of keeping in touch with students. Over the years, this positive approach has been instrumental in letting students know that we care for them both educationally and spiritually.

MENTORS

Adam Berry
Deaconess Beverly Blount
Waltherine Clayborne
Deaconess Silence Dessaurer
Eleanor Glenn
Jennifer Gray
Hercules Jones, III
Tonya McLaughlin
Crysta Jones Matthews – Chair
Loretta Pyatt – Vice Chair
Thanks For Your Support

The Scholarship Ministry extends their gratitude to those who have supported us in various ways over the years.

- The Martin L. King Jr. Memorial Scholarship Banquet Committee for their continued financial support.
- Renae Levine for assisting with printing the newsletter.
- Editors – Deaconess Beverly Blount, Walterine Clayborne and Tonya McLaughlin.

Newsletter Designed by Crysta Jones Matthews

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