Big Bethel AME Church Celebrates

Veterans Day Service

Sunday November 08



Guest Speaker

Colonel Julian C. Gaither, DMin

Chaplain, US Air Force

Big Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

The Right Reverend Michael L. Mitchell, Presiding Prelate, 6th Episcopal District

Mrs. Cordelia Mitchell, Episcopal Supervisor, 6th Episcopal District

The Reverend Kimberly McMichael, Presiding Elder, North Atlanta District

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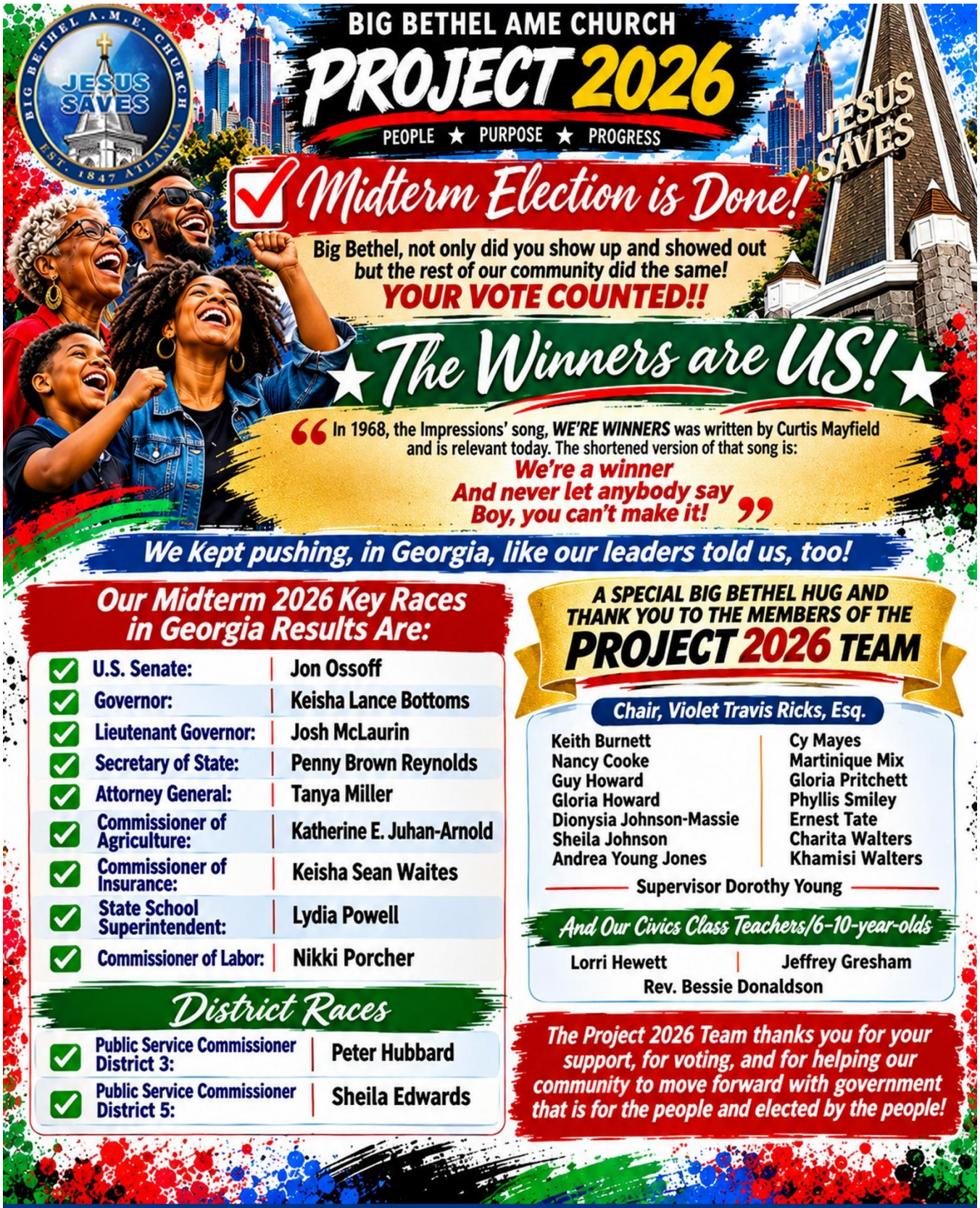
The Reverend Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine, Senior Pastor

FOLLOW US!

@BigBethelAMEChurch


Welcome To
Big
Bethel AME Church
"The City Hall of Sweet Auburn"
Worship Times:
10:00 am Traditional
2:00 pm Contemporary
220 Auburn Avenue, NE
Atlanta, GA 30303
T: 404.827.9707
BIG BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH
JESUS SAVES
EST. 1847 ATLANTA
www.bigbethelame.org
The Right Reverend Michael L. Mitchell
Presiding Prelate, 6th Episcopal District
The Reverend Kimberly McMichael
Presiding Elder, North Atlanta District
The Reverend Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine
Senior Pastor
@BigBethelAMEChurch
Pastor Jay and
Leading Lady Michelle Burks Augustine


BIG BETHEL AME CHURCH
PROJECT 2026
PEOPLE ★ PURPOSE ★ PROGRESS
JESUS SAVES
Midterm Election is Done!
Big Bethel, not only did you show up and showed out
but the rest of our community did the same!
YOUR VOTE COUNTED!!
The Winners are US!
In 1968, the Impressions' song, WE'RE WINNERS was written by Curtis Mayfield and is relevant today. The shortened version of that song is:
We're a winner
And never let anybody say
Boy, you can't make it!
We Kept pushing, in Georgia, like our leaders told us, too!
Our Midterm 2026 Key Races in Georgia Results Are:
U.S. Senate: Jon Ossoff
Governor: Keisha Lance Bottoms
Lieutenant Governor: Josh McLaurin
Secretary of State: Penny Brown Reynolds
Attorney General: Tanya Miller
Commissioner of Agriculture: Katherine E. Juhan-Arnold
Commissioner of Insurance: Keisha Sean Waites
State School Superintendent: Lydia Powell
Commissioner of Labor: Nikki Porcher
District Races
Public Service Commissioner District 3: Peter Hubbard
Public Service Commissioner District 5: Sheila Edwards
A SPECIAL BIG BETHEL HUG AND THANK YOU TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PROJECT 2026 TEAM
Chair, Violet Travis Ricks, Esq.
Keith Burnett
Nancy Cooke
Guy Howard
Gloria Howard
Dionysia Johnson-Massie
Sheila Johnson
Andrea Young Jones
Cy Mayes
Martinique Mix
Gloria Pritchett
Phyllis Smiley
Ernest Tate
Charita Walters
Khamisi Walters
Supervisor Dorothy Young
And Our Civics Class Teachers/6-10-year-olds
Lorri Hewett
Jeffrey Gresham
Rev. Bessie Donaldson
The Project 2026 Team thanks you for your support, for voting, and for helping our community to move forward with government that is for the people and elected by the people!
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220 Auburn Avenue, NE, Atlanta, GA 30303
www.bigbethelame.org
Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine
Senior Pastor
Michelle Burks Augustine
Leading Lady



Colonel Julian C. Gaither, D.Min

Chaplain, Colonel Julian C. Gaither, D.Min., a native of Atlanta, Georgia, serves as the Chief, Plans and Programs Division in the Office of the Chief of Chaplains, Department of the Air Force at the Pentagon. He advises the Air Force & Space Force Chief of Chaplains on enterprise-level plans, policies, and strategic initiatives supporting 700,000 Airmen and Guardians and 2.3 million family members worldwide. He leads the implementation of the Chaplain Corps Strategic Plan, oversees policy development, and directs resource production for 2,100 Chaplain Corps personnel across the Total Force.

An ordained minister in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Chaplain Gaither entered active duty in 1999. His career includes assignments in medical, operational, joint, academic, and strategic environments, with deployments to Turkey, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates. He has served as Executive Officer to the Chief of Chaplains, Joint Base Senior Chaplain at Andrews, Wing Chaplain in the CENTCOM AOR, Senior Chaplain at the U.S. Air Force Academy, and pastored the Vogelweh Gospel Service in Ramstein, Germany.





A 1995 graduate of Howard University, he holds advance d degrees from United Theological Seminary, Air Command and Staff College, National War College, and a Doctor of Ministry from Wesley Theological Seminary, where he also serves as an Adjunct Professor. He is a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and a 1993 initiate of the Beta Chapter.

Chaplain Gaither is married to Dr. Lesley Edwards-Gaither. They have three sons: Jonathan, Joshua, and Gabriel.

Across three decades of service, Chaplain Gaither has distinguished himself as a strategic thinker, compassionate pastor, educator, and trusted advisor to senior leaders. His career reflects a deep commitment to the spiritual resilience, dignity, and well-being of Airmen, Guardians, and families across the Department of the Air Force.

Veterans Day Observance @ Big Bethel AME Church
The Order of Liturgy
Sunday, November 8, 2026 @ 10:00 AM
The Reverend Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine (U.S. Army), Presiding Liturgist

Worship in Music.....The Johnson-Schofield Male Choir
Brother Kelvin Thompson, Director

The Presentation of Colors.....Brother Joseph Patterson (Army)
Brother C. Henry Adams (Marines)

The National Anthem.....Brother Christian Johnson

The March Out.....Brothers Patterson (Army) & Adams (Marines)

The Doxology……..……..…….AME Hymn #69……..All Worshipers (standing)
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Opening Hymn.....AME Hymn #572 Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory.....Sister Elizabeth Smith (Air Force)

The Prayer of Invocation…….....….Brother Mike Brown (Army)
(Prayer chant)

Worship in Music……...…… The Johnson-Schofield Male Choir

The Responsive Scripture Reading...… Isaiah 40:29-31 ESV ….....Brother Keith Halford (Air Force)

Leader: [29] He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

People: [30] Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted;

ALL: [31] but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

The Preface to the Decalogue…….AME Hymn #258
From all that dwells below the skies, let the Creator's praise arise
Let the Redeemer's name be sung, through every land by every tongue.

The Summary of the Decalogue…….....…..... Brother Halford (Air Force)

Minister: Hear what Christ our Saviour saith, thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

The Gloria Patri……..……AME Hymn #627
Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Veterans Litany.....LCDR Jennifer C. Smith (US Public Health Service (Ret.)

Leader: Almighty God, Sovereign Creator of all, we gather today to express our deepest gratitude for the men and women who have answered the call to serve. For their bravery, their unselfish sacrifice, and their dedication to defending our communities, we lift our voices in praise.

People: God our Father, we thank You for the lives and the legacy of our veterans.

Leader: We recognize the heavy burdens borne by those who have stood in harm's way. We remember the pioneering trailblazers who fought for freedoms abroad while still seeking equality at home, teaching us the true meaning of resilience and courage.

People: Christ our Redeemer, look with favor upon those who have sacrificed, and grant them Your perfect peace.

Leader: We pray for the veterans in our pews, our neighborhoods, and throughout the world who still carry the invisible wounds of warfare. For those battling physical injury, emotional trauma, moral injury, or homelessness, we demand justice and pledge our active care.

People: Holy Spirit our Comforter, pour out Your healing balm upon their minds, bodies, and souls. Bind up every broken heart.

Leader: We lift up military families who have kept the home fires burning, enduring lonely nights, anxious deployments, and the painful grief of empty chairs. May they feel the embrace of a church community that stands as a fortress of support.

People: Shield them with Your grace and let them never feel forgotten.

Leader: We pray for the day when swords will finally be beaten into plowshares, and nations will study war no more. Remind us that our ultimate allegiance is to a kingdom of righteousness and love.

People: Humankind our Family, we commit ourselves to being instruments of Your peace.

Leader: Together, let us love the warrior while working tirelessly to erase the tragic costs of war. May we match our prayers with our actions—advocating for the neglected and honoring the living.

ALL: Grant us the strength to pass on the torch of freedom, justice, and faith. We honor our veterans, we praise Your Holy Name, and we move forward in hope. In the name of the Triune God, Amen.

The Presentation of the Veterans.....Sister Jennifer Smith

Project 2026.....Sister Violet T. Ricks, Esq.

The Announcements and Welcome to Big Bethel.....Sister Kimberly D. Eason, Sr., Esq.
(Everybody, Hug Somebody)

The Big Bethel Ministry Moment....."Come On Home For Christmas"

A Special Presentation for Pastor Jay.....Sister Shirley Simmons & Brother Floyd Baxter

The Pastor's Perspective.....Pastor Jay Augustine



Christian Stewardship Worship in Giving..... Brother Keith Burnett (Marines)

The Choral Response.....**All Things Come of Thee**.....AME Hymn #644

"All things come of Thee, O Lord; and of Thine own have we given Thee." Amen

The Presentation of the Preacher.....Pastor Jay Augustine

Worship in Music….....The Big Bethel Mass Choir

The Proclaimed Word..... "God Will Provide".....Colonel Julian C. Gaither, D.Min.
(1 Kings 17: 1-7, NRSVUE) Chaplain, US Air Force

The Invitation.....The Reverend Jessica N. Buford

The Doxology…….……AME Hymn #69……...All Worshipers (standing)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Benediction……..……..…….....…… Colonel Gaither

~Sermon Notes~

"...you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church..." Matthew 16:18

Points/Topics:

Visitors, please register your attendance on the Big Bethel Guest Registration Form by scanning the QR code to the right. Thank you for worshipping with us. You are always welcome!!!!

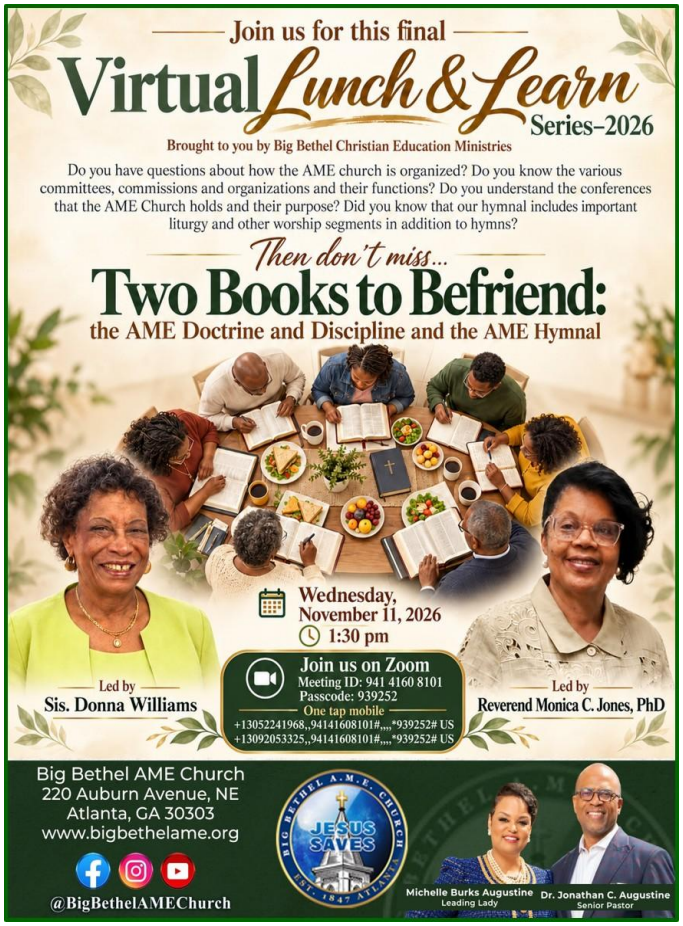
VISITOR REGISTRATION

Join us immediately following the worship service for birthday cake and punch downstairs in Bishops Hall.

Saluting Our Veterans

Christopher Henry Adams	Marines
Robert Aikens, Jr.	Air Force
Rev. Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine	Army
Sean Alexander Bogan	Air Force
Joel Boykin, III	Navy
Michael Brown	Army
Brandon Brownlee	Army
Keith Burnett	Marines
Herman O. Chandler	Air Force
Keith Halford	Air Force
John Henry, Jr.	Army
Gregory Hood	Air Force
Marion Hopkins	Air Force
Gary Johnson	Army
Tony Jones	Army
Tony Jones, Jr.	Navy
John Jordan	Air Force
Gregory Kendall	Army
David Lewis	Army
Marshal McCloud	Army
Charles Wesley Moore	Army
Camille Nelson	Army
Leslie Page	Army
Dr. Christopher Parker	Marines
Joseph Patterson	Army
Joseph Purter	Army
James Rudd	Air Force
Elizabeth Smith	Air Force
Jennifer Smith	US Public Health
Michael Stephens	Army
Ronald Thomas	Air Force
Vanessa Williams	Army
Jarius Wilsom	AirForce




Join us for this final
Virtual Lunch & Learn Series–2026
Brought to you by Big Bethel Christian Education Ministries
Do you have questions about how the AME church is organized? Do you know the various committees, commissions and organizations and their functions? Do you understand the conferences that the AME Church holds and their purpose? Did you know that our hymnal includes important liturgy and other worship segments in addition to hymns?
Then don't miss...
Two Books to Befriend:
the AME Doctrine and Discipline and the AME Hymnal
Wednesday, November 11, 2026
1:30 pm
Join us on Zoom
Meeting ID: 941 4160 8101
Passcode: 939252
One tap mobile
+13052241968,,94141608101#,,,,*939252# US
+13092053325,,94141608101#,,,,*939252# US
Led by Sis. Donna Williams
Led by Reverend Monica C. Jones, PhD
Big Bethel AME Church
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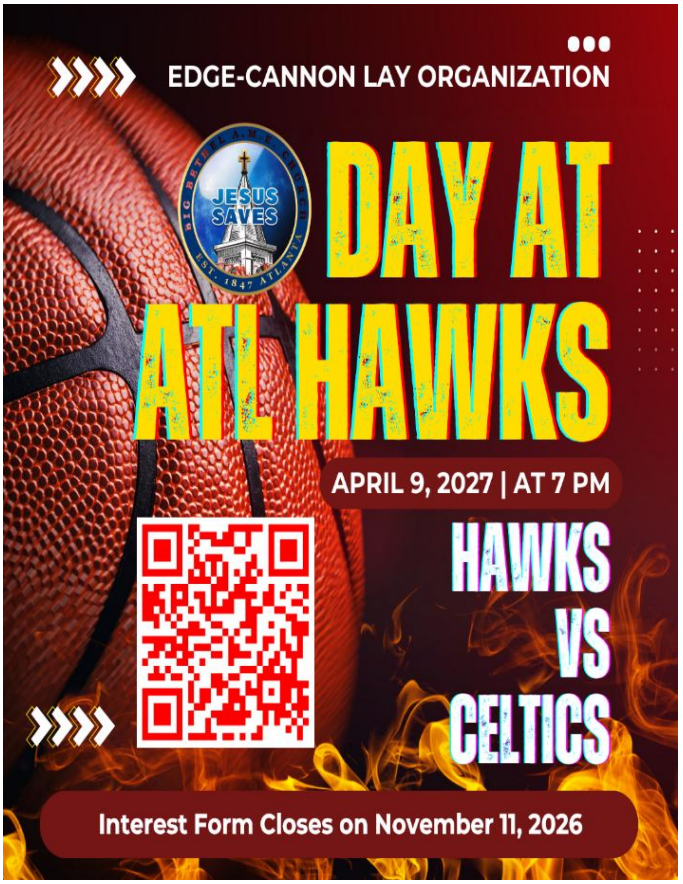
Atlanta, GA 30303
www.bigbethelame.org
@BigBethelAMEChurch
Michelle Burks Augustine Leading Lady
Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine Senior Pastor


ATTENTION Big Bethel Members
Are you missing out on church news & event info?
Perhaps your contact information needs to be updated! Scan the code below or go to the website.
Member Contact Update
www.bigbethelame.org/member services
Be in the know!!


EDGE-CANNON LAY ORGANIZATION
DAY AT ATL HAWKS
APRIL 9, 2027 | AT 7 PM
HAWKS VS CELTICS
Interest Form Closes on November 11, 2026


BIG BETHEL AME CHURCH
Rev. Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine, Senior Pastor
Join us for
NEW MEMBERS COMPLETION SATURDAY
Date(s) : November 14, 2026
8:45 AM - 1:00PM
Registration
All classes offered with Recognition Service upon completion. You may register by scanning the QR Code or go to Member Resources on the church website and click the Discipleship New Members registration button or contact Rev. Charmain Purvis @ crpurvis1@gmail.com.

Please remember our sick and shut-in with calls and prayers

Sis. Patricia Coles (404) 254-4806
Rev. Betty Miley (770) 323-6841
Sis. Brenda Queen (404) 274-0705
Sis. Miriam Redding
Sis. Lillian Taylor (404) 284-6414

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost)	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
November 8, 2026	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 Psalm 78:1-7	Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 **or** *Amos 5:18-24* Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20 **or** *Psalm 70*	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13

SERVING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Acolytes/ Stewards		**Altar Servers:** Brothers Marvin Fleming and Everett Jolly	
Choir	The Johnson-Schofield Male Choir Brother Kelvin Thompson, Director	**Trustees**	Brother Floyd Baxter & Brother Keith Halford
Philippians	Sister Kimberly D. Eason, Sr., Esq.	**Ushers**	Usherette Ministry #2
Stewardesses	*Bussey-Watson Stewardess Ministry* Sisters Alicia Oden & Roxcena Rozier	**AV Ministry**	Sister Phyllislorena Smiley & Brother Brandon Collins

Finance Team | Sisters Linda Williams, Juanita Aiken & Olivia Alston;
Brothers Tony Jones, & Bro. Joe Patterson

BIG BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Bishop Michael L. Mitchell, Presiding Prelate, 6th Episcopal District
Mrs. Cordelia Mitchell, Episcopal Supervisor, 6th Episcopal District
The Reverend Kimberly McMichael, Presiding Elder, North Atlanta District
The Reverend Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine, Senior Pastor
The Reverend Dr. Garland D. Higgins, Executive Pastor
The Reverend Monica C. Jones Ph.D., Director of Christian Education & Chaplain for Big Bethel Village The Reverend Jessica N. Buford, Thrive College & Young Adult Ministry Director

Itinerant Elders
The Reverend Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine
The Reverend Shrala R. Askin
The Reverend Jessica N. Buford
The Reverend Dr. Garland D. Higgins
The Reverend Monica C. Jones, Ph.D.
The Reverend Jeffrey L. Streator, Ph.D.
The Reverend Dr. Lairalaine M. White

Itinerant Deacon
The Reverend Maurice P. Eckstein

Associate Minister
The Reverend Dr. Caarne L. White

Superannuates
The Reverend George Davis
The Reverend Bessie Donaldson
The Reverend Joyce C. Young

Local Elders
The Reverend Betty Miley
The Reverend Evelyn Jones
The Reverend Charmain R. Purvis
The Reverend Gwen Senatle

Licentiates
Sister Ariel Nash

Daily Morning Prayer Call (1-605-472-5512 Access Code:772576#) ……..….Monday – Saturday 6:00 am

Church School.....8:45 am

Traditional Worship Service… .....10:00 am

Contemporary Worship Service (THRIVE Next Shift) ..... 2:00 pm

Big Bethel Village Worship by Phone 202-962-1123 673604#.....3:00pm Sundays

Wednesday Virtual Bible Study (ID:941 4160 8101|Passcode:939 252| Phone +13052241968) ....12:30 pm and 6:00pm

Love Feast.....In-person on Thursdays before Communion Sunday at 6:30pm

Holy Communion .....First Sundays

Discipleship New Members Class……Monthly Specified Saturdays -TBA

Board of Stewards…..... 1st Tuesdays 6:30 pm

Board of Trustees..... 2nd Tuesdays 7:00 pm

Baptism.....As Announced

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS

Monday.....10:00 am—2:00 pm

Tuesday—Friday.....10:00 am—4:30 pm

CHOIR REHEARSALS

Big Bethel Mass Choir.....Tuesdays @ 7:00pm and Saturday @ 10:00am before 1st & 3rd Sunday

Johnson-Schofield Men's Choir.....Mondays, Thursdays & Saturdays before Second Sunday

Bearden-Scott Youth Choir.....2nd Saturdays before Fourth Sunday

Big Bethel Praise Ensemble.....2nd Thursdays @ 7:00 pm and Saturday before Fourth Sunday



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