



in partnership with



# CLIMATE REVIVAL

*Atlanta*

HOST  
**REV. DR. JONATHAN C. AUGUSTINE**  
SENIOR PASTOR OF  
BIG BETHEL AME CHURCH

**REV. DR. GERALD DURELY**  
PASTOR OF PROVIDENCE  
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

**REV. BRUCE CARROLL**  
GREEN THE CHURCH  
NATIONAL FIELD DIRECTOR

10:00 AM – 2:30 PM  
SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

## 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

The Reverend Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine, Senior Pastor



@BigBethelAMEChurch





*Welcome*

to

**BIG BETHEL**

*"The City Hall of Sweet Auburn"*

**Worship Times:  
10:00 am Traditional  
2:00 pm Contemporary**



**Pastor Jay and  
Leading Lady Michelle Burks Augustine**

**220 Auburn Avenue, NE  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
T: 404.827.9707  
www.bigbethelame.org**

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# #SocialJustice #EnvironmentalJustice

 Sunday, April 26, 2026  
 10:00 am

Guest Speaker  
**Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis**

President, National Newspaper Publisher's Association;  
Former National President, NAACP



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Atlanta, GA 30303  
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# Let There be **Light**

**Mobilizing Black Clergy for Environmental Leadership-Worldwide**

Reviving People, **Property**, and the Planet!

**Green The Church** exists to educate and empower Black Church clergy to serve as bold leaders in the global environmental and sustainability movement—advancing justice, resilience, and community healing from the pulpit to the public square.

Green The Church’s vision is to realize the Beloved Community on earth, with Black churches at the forefront of a global movement for environmental justice, economic resilience, and communal restoration.

Green The Church equips its members to operate at the intersection of environmental justice, sustainability, and Black Church advocacy. Over the past 15 years, we have built a growing repository of congregations engaged in the climate movement. Our work focuses on three core pillars:

Amplifying  
**Green  
Liberation  
Theology**

Promoting  
**Sustainable  
Practices**

Building Power  
**for Political  
and Economic  
Change**

## Reverend Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine



Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine (a/k/a **Pastor Jay**) serves as senior pastor of Big Bethel AME Church, the oldest Black congregation in Atlanta, GA, and as a member of the inaugural faculty at the Hampton University School of Religion. He is an accomplished author, sought-after speaker, and internationally recognized academic leader.

Prior to leading Big Bethel, for six-years, Pastor Jay led St. Joseph AME Church (Durham, NC), while serving on the faculties of North Carolina Central University Law School and Duke University Divinity School, where he was a member of the Board of Visitors and chaplain to the Duke Football Team. For the four years prior to leading St. Joseph, he led Historic St. James AME Church (New Orleans, LA) the oldest predominantly Black, Protestant congregation in the Deep South, while teaching at Southern University Law Center. He also served eight years as the general chaplain of his beloved Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

An accomplished author, his most recent books are *When Prophets Preach: Leadership and the Politics of the Pulpit* (Fortress Press, 2023) and *Called to Reconciliation: How the Church Can Model Justice, Diversity and Inclusion* (Baker Academic, 2022). His scholarly articles also appear in publications including, the *University of Richmond Law Review*, *Howard Law Journal*, the *Southern California*

*Interdisciplinary Law Journal*, and *Theology Today*, among others.

An active member of the Atlanta community, Pastor Jay is a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. (initiated 35-years-ago, at Howard University's Beta Chapter and now active with Atlanta's Eta Lamda Chapter); a silver life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); and a member of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity (Kappa Boulé). Pastor Jay serves as chairman of the board of the Agora Strategy Council of the Payne Center for Social Justice, a research-based "think tank" and affiliate of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, and as a member of the board of directors of Partners Global, Inc., a peace-building non-profit headquartered in Washington, DC. He has been invited to lecture, internationally, in Oxford, England; Heidelberg, Germany; and Accra, Ghana; and has been nationally featured on C-SPAN Book-TV. His leadership was also profiled on the front page of *USA Today*.

A gifted and nationally celebrated communicator, Pastor Jay was inducted into the Morehouse College Martin Luther King, Jr. Board of Preachers (2024) and elevated to serve as vice president of the Judicial Council (Supreme Court) of the AME Church. He was twice awarded the President's Lifetime Achievement Award for Volunteer Service (2024 & 2017), and previously named "Outstanding Alumni Brother of the Year," by Alpha Phi Alpha (2017). As an emerging leader, he received the Ten Outstanding Young Americans Award, from the U.S. Jaycees (2004) and was named to *Ebony Magazine's* "30 Leaders of the Future" (2001).



After graduating from Howard, with a degree in economics, Pastor Jay served as a decorated infantry officer in the United States Army and subsequently earned his law degree at Tulane University. He served as a law clerk to Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice (Ret.) (then-Associate) Bernette Joshua Johnson, before practicing law and serving in both publicly elected and gubernatorially appointed offices. He earned a Master of Divinity degree at United Theological Seminary, completed a fellowship at Princeton Theological Seminary, and earned his Doctor of Ministry degree at Duke University. He is currently in dissertation phase, as a PhD candidate, at The University of Alabama, and is married to Michelle Burks Augustine. They are the proud parents of two soon-to-be college graduates, Mason and Jillian.

**Green the Church & Auburn Avenue Collaborative**  
**The Order of Liturgy**  
**Saturday, April 25, 2026 @ 10:00 AM**  
**Theme: “Supporting a Resilient Sweet Auburn Community”**

**The Reverend Dr. William Smith, Worship Leader**  
**Wheat Street Baptist Church, Senior Pastor**

Praise & Worship.....The Big Bethel Praise Team  
Brother Cornelius Pettway, Director

Opening Hymn.....AME Hymn #571 “Lift Every Voice & Sing.....The Reverend Dr. William J. Smith  
Wheat Street Baptist Church, Senior Pastor

Call to Worship.....The Reverend Dr. Smith

Leader: The earth is the Lord’s, and all that is in it.

**People: We come to worship the Creator and to seek justice for all creation.**

Leader: Creation groans under pollution, greed, and environmental racism.

**People: Holy Spirit, awaken us to repair, protect, and cherish your world.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God, who is making all things new.

**ALL: We praise you, and we commit ourselves to care for your sacred earth.  
Amen.**

Worship in Music.....The Big Bethel Praise Team  
Brother Pettway, Director

The Prayer of Invocation.....Father Jeffery M. Ott  
(Prayer chant) Our Lady of Lourdes, Senior Pastor

The Holy Scripture Lesson.....The Reverend Dr. Dwight D. Andrews  
First Congregational Church, Senior Pastor

The Welcome.....The Reverend Dr. John H. Vaughn  
Ebenezer Baptist Church, Executive Pastor

The Introduction of Guest Soloist.....The Reverend Dr. Garland D. Higgins  
Big Bethel AME Church, Executive Pastor

Worship in Music.....Sister Alexia C. Brookins

The Purpose.....The Reverend Dr. Gerald L. Durley  
Pastor Emeritus, Providence Missionary Baptist Church

Partnership Opportunity.....The Reverend Ambrose F. Carroll  
Green the Church, Co-Founder

The Introduction of the Preacher.....The Reverend Bruce C. Carroll  
Green the Church, Co-Founder

Worship in Music.....Sister Brookins

The Proclaimed Word .....The Reverend Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine  
Big Bethel AME Church, Senior Pastor

The Invitation .....Pastor Jay Augustine

The Benediction.....Pastor Jay

**FAITH IN PRACTICE: PANEL DISCUSSION & REFLECTIONS**

11:30AM-12:00Noon.....Lunch

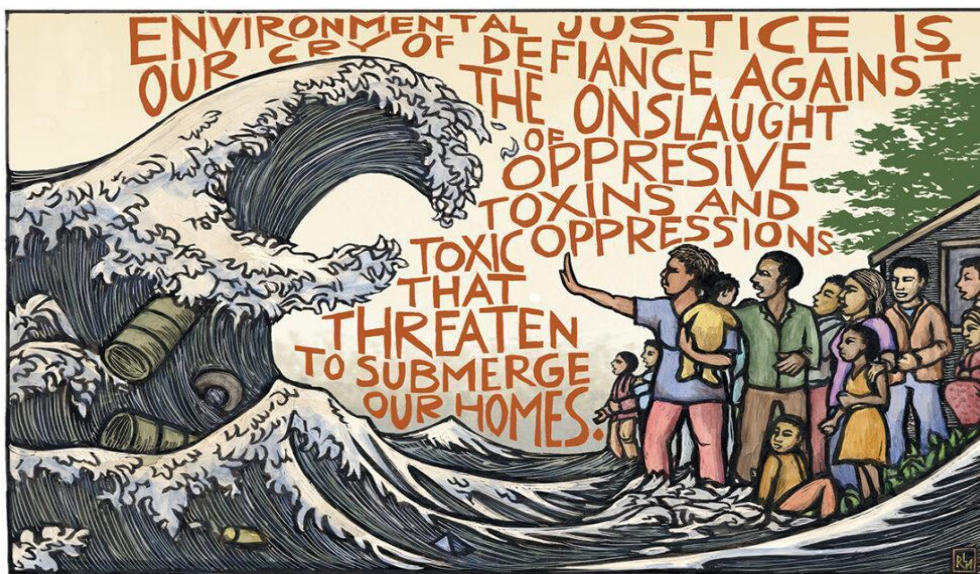
12:15PM-1:45PM.....The Reverend Ambrose F. Carroll  
Green the Church, Moderator

Panel Presentations & Discussion Climate Justice and Community Resilience  
*Impact of Climate Change in Sweet Auburn Corridor*

The Reverend Dr. Bo Barber, Prospect AMEC  
The Reverend Dr. John Vaughn, Ebenezer Baptist Church  
Ms. Chandra Farley, Chief Sustainability Officer  
The Reverend Hodori Williams, New Life  
Rev. Dr. Richard S. Bright, Pastor Emeritus, Atlanta Good Shepherd Community Church

1:45PM – 2:00PM.....Remarks/Closing

2:00PM-2:30PM.....Electric Vehicle Car Show/Book Signing





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