

## 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









Big Bethel AME Church 220 Auburn Avenue, NE Atlanta, GA 30303 www.bigbethelame.org









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Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine Senior Pastor Michelle Augustine Leading Lady



## Rev. Cassandra A. Henderson

Rev. Cassandra A. Henderson is the Executive Director of the Interfaith Children's Movement (ICM), a child advocacy organization whose mission is to build a multi-faith grassroots advocacy coalition that works to create a Georgia where all children thrive. Rev. Henderson's journey with ICM began in the fall of 2012 as a volunteer while in seminary. After a few years of faithful service, she was invited to serve on its board and did so for seven years. Rev. Henderson's dedication led to an invitation to be the Interim Executive Director in the spring of 2022. By the fall of that year,

she was later elected as the Executive Director. Under her leadership, the organization has grown from having a single full-time staff person to a team of four in addition to nine contract, part-time, and seasonal hires. They have formalized, active, and collaborative partnerships with a combined total of 75 faith communities, denominations, and organizations in Georgia. In less than two years as Executive Director, Rev. Henderson has raised just under \$1 million for the growing movement.

Additionally, Rev. Henderson is an active member of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Pan African Koinonia (PAK) group and serves as a mentor the RISE Together Women of Color in Ministry National Mentoring Network. During the fall semesters, Rev. Henderson is an Adjunct Instructor at Emory University's Candler School of Theology, assisting with the Introduction to Preaching course and a first-year seminar course, Learning Communities.





## Rabbi Michael Bernstein

Rabbi Bernstein welcomes you to Congregation Gesher L'Torah, a vibrant and dynamic Synagogue community where Judaism is personal and each person's story is embraced. Michael Bernstein was ordained as a conservative Rabbi at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York in 1999 and came to GLT in 2009 to serve as spiritual leader. He has always had a special interest in finding new ways to experience the ancient and timeless wisdom of our tradition in contemporary and impactful ways. For Rabbi Bernstein, the most important goal of a synagogue community is to foster a meaningful connection to being Jewish for every participant,

whether in religious services, marking significant moments in life, or in getting together with family or friends. Rabbi Bernstein and his wife Tracie along with children Ayelet, Yaron and Liana look forward to seeing you at GLT in the near future!



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

Prior to leading Big Bethel, for six-years, Augustine 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, Augustine served as senior minister at Historic St. James AME Church (New Orleans, LA) the oldest predominantly Black, Protestant congregation in the Deep South, while also 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 appear in publications including, the University of Richmond Law Review, Howard Law Journal, Connecticut Public Interest Law Journal, Louisiana Law Review, Southern California Interdisciplinary Law Journal, and Theology Today, among others.

Augustine serves as chairman of the board of the Agora Strategy Council of the Payne Center, a research-based "think tank" and affiliate of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund. He also serves as a member of the board of directors of Partners Global, Inc., a non-profit organization headquartered in Washington, DC. He has been invited to lecture, internationally, in Heidelberg, Germany and Accra, Ghana; and has been nationally featured on C-SPAN Book-TV. His leadership was also nationally profiled in March 2024, on the front page of *USA Today*.

A gifted and nationally celebrated communicator, Augustine 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 African Methodist Episcopal 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). He also won the fraternity's Belford V. Lawson National Oratorical Scholarship (1994). As an emerging leader, Augustine 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). He is an active member of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity (Alpha Tau Boulé).

After graduating from Howard University, with a degree in economics, Augustine served as a decorated infantry officer in the United States Army. He subsequently earned his law degree at Tulane University and served as a law clerk to Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice (then-Associate) Bernette Joshua Johnson, before practicing law and serving in both publicly elected and gubernatorially appointed offices. He earned his 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 a candidate for the Doctor of Education degree at The University of Alabama. Dr. Augustine is married to his partner and friend, Michelle Burks Augustine. They are the proud parents of two college students, Mason and Jillian.



#### Interfaith Children's Sabbath Observance 2025 The Order of Liturgy

### The Reverend Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine **Senior Pastor and Presiding Liturgist**

Worship in Music		The Bearden-Scott Youth Choir
The Developy (Christian)		Sister Racquel Battle, Director
The Doxology (Christian)		All worshipers (standing)
The Opening Hymn	AME Hymn #226 Amazing Grace	Brother Noah Jones
The Occasion (*Catholic) & (Ismaili Mus		Sister Rae Fortes & Sister Aliza Ali udent Advocacy & Engagement Specialist
The Prayer of Invocation (Christian)	(Prayer Chant)	Brother Arrington Walters
The Kirtan Prayer (Sikh Community)	(played on the Harmonium)	Parminder Singh Guru Nanak Mission Society
The Bahά'i Prayer	Blessed Is the Spot (English & Sp	anish) Lenox Children's Class (Not all children are Bahά'i)
The Sacred Texts Christian	(Ephesians 2:10)	Sister Nala Bivins
Muslim	(From the Quran)	Atlanta Masjid Al-Islam
Worship in Music		Bearden-Scott Youth Choir Sister Battle, Director
Welcome to Big Bethel	Everybody, Hug Somebody)	Brother Joshua Young
Worship in Music		Ismaili Youth Group
The Announcements	Th	e Reverend Dr. Lairalaine M. White
The Pastor's Perspective	Т	he Reverend Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine
Worship in Giving		The Reverend Jessica N. Buford













The Introduction of the SpeakersB	rother Joshua Young
Worship in MusicBeard	len-Scott Youth Choir Sister Battle Director
The Words of Faith	
Interfaith/Multi-FaithThe Reverend C	assandra Henderson
Jewish FaithRabl Congreç	bi Michael Bernstein gation Gesher L'Torah
Christian FaithF Senior Pas	Pastor Jay Augustine stor, Big Bethel AME Church
The InvitationF	Pastor Jay Augustine
The Covenant for Children(Children Altar Call)	All Clergy
The ICM Movement SongCombined Sister Nick	d Interfaith Ensemble loe Chapman, Director
The Doxology and Benediction	Pastor Jay



Join us for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after worship, to welcome guests and celebrate the birthdays of **Sister Azira Hill** and **Brother Charles Moore** 

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!!!!





## THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF BIG BETHEL AME CHURCH

Invites You the

# GRAND OPENING



of the Big Bethel Resource Center and Reading Room



Sunday, October 26, 2025 @12noon - 1:00 pm



Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine, Senior Pastor
The Reverend Monica C. Jones Ph.D.,
Director of Christian Education Chaplain for Big Bethel Village









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## Relationships Miracles eliverance

Moderators









October 28-30 Virtual call-in 6:30-7:30 PM nightly

> virtual call-in number: (605)472-5512 access code #772576

Theme: Rooted in Faith, Rising for Justice

Scripture: He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God

www.bigbethelame.org

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## Calling all Volunteers!



**Big Bethel AME Church** 





Will be hosting a monthly food giveaway beginning in November. We need YOU to help make these events a success. Our first food giveaway is

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2025

from 1:00 pm-4:00 pm.

Please use this QR code to sign up to volunteer

Volunteer training will be held on

Saturday, November 8, 2025, at 10:00 in Fellowship Hall.

For additional information please contact Rev. Lairalaine White or Lisa Johnson Whigham - 404-542-9793

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#### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Daily Morning Prayer Call (1-605-472-5512 Access Code:772576#)	Monday - Saturday, 6:00 - 6:30 am	
Church School	8:45 am	
Traditional Worship Service	10:00 am	
Contemporary Worship Service (THRIVE Next Shift)2:00		
Big Bethel Village Worship By Phone 202-962-1123 673604#		
Wednesday Virtual Bible Study (ID: 847 251 8679 Password: adultclass)	12:00 noon & 6:00 pm	
Love Feast	8:00 am Saturday before First Sunday	
Holy Communion	First Sundays	
Discipleship New Members Class	8:45 am 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Sundays	
Baptism	As Announced	
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS		
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS		

Monday	10:00 am—2:00 pm
Tuesday—Friday	10:00 am—4:30 pm

#### **CHOIR REHEARSALS**

Big Bethel Mass Choir	Wednesday @ 7:00pm and Saturday @ 10:00am before First Sunday	
Johnson-Schofield Men's Choir	2 Saturdays before Second Sunday	
Babcock-Young Voices of Unity/Big Bethel ChoraleWednesday @ 7:00pm and Saturday @ 10:00am before Third Sunday		
Bearden-Scott Youth Choir	2 Saturdays before Fourth Sunday	
Big Bethel Praise Ensemble	2Thursdays @7:00 pm and Saturday before Fourth Sunday	





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