

**Sunday  
Dec  
21**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**



# LOVE

**CELEBRATING CHRIST'S TIME OF ARRIVAL**

# CHRIST

## **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**



**@BigBethelAMEChurch**







**WELCOME**  
to  
**BIG BETHEL**

*Atlanta's **First** Black Church*

**220 Auburn Avenue, NE**  
**Atlanta, GA 30303**  
**T: 404.827.9707**  
**[www.bigbethelame.org](http://www.bigbethelame.org)**

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

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

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*Christmas on the Ave*  
**A Come on Home for Christmas Event**

*"A Soulful  
Christmas at  
Big Bethel"*

**Dec 21<sup>st</sup> 4:30 pm**

**Light Reception following Concert**

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220 Auburn Avenue, NE  
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**Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine Senior Pastor**  
**Michelle Augustine Leading Lady**



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR DRIVE-UP FOOD GIVEAWAY!**



**Big Bethel AME Church**



*Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service  
Magnolia (GA) Chapter*

**Location:**

**Big Bethel AME Church**

**206 Auburn Avenue**

**(Big Bethel AME Church/Magnolia Links, Inc. Food Pantry)**

**Date:**

**Sunday, December 21, 2025**

**Time:**

**1:00 pm-4:00 pm or While Supplies Last**

**Drive around the front of the church to the location.  
We will continue distributing until we run out of food -  
come early!**

**OPEN TO EVERYONE!**

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**@BigBethelAMEChurch**



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

**Big Bethel AME Church**  
**The Order of Liturgy**  
**December 21, 2025, 10:00 AM**  
**The Reverend Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine**  
**Senior Pastor and Presiding Liturgist**

Worship in Music .....The Babcock—Young Voices of Unity  
Sister Tamika Kelly, Director

The Doxology ..... All Worshipers (standing)

The Opening Hymn.....AME Hymn #112 Jesus, the Light of the World.....The Reverend Jessica Buford

The Prayer of Invocation .....The Reverend Monica C. Jones, Ph.D.  
(Prayer Chant)

The Scripture Reading .....(Matthew 1:18-25,NRSV).....Sister Ariel Nash

Minister: <sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit.

**People: <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly.**

Minister: <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

**People: <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."**

Minister: <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

**People: <sup>23</sup>"Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."**

Minister: <sup>24</sup>When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife,

**All: <sup>25</sup>but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.**

Worship in Music .....The Babcock—Young Voices of Unity  
Sister Kelly, Director

Lighting of the Advent Candle—LOVE  
The Hill and Cooke Families—  
Sister Azira Hill and Sister Nancy Cooke

The Announcements and Welcome to Big Bethel .....Sister Racquel Battle  
(**Everybody, Hug Somebody**)

The Pastor's Perspective .....The Reverend Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine  
Senior Pastor, Big Bethel AME Church

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

Worship in Music .....The Babcock—Young Voices of Unity  
Sister Kelly, Director

The Proclaimed Word ..... **"The Gift of God's Love"** ..... Pastor Jay Augustine  
(Luke 1:46-55, NRSV)

The Invitation ..... The Reverend Gwen Senatle

The Doxology and Benediction ..... Pastor Jay



## ~Sermon Notes~

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

### Points/Topics:

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Join us for fellowship after service as we celebrate our new members who have completed new member orientation.

**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!!!!**







Big Bethel AME Church

# Sunday Worship

December 28, 2025

10:00 am

**Celebration of Kwanzaa**



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# Epiphany Sunday

January 04, 2026

10:00 am

Guest Praecher

**The Reverend Kimberly  
McMichael**

Presiding Elder of the  
North Atlanta District



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Big Bethel AME Church

# Strategic Planning

## Part 1

Saturday, January 24, 2026  
at 8:30 am

# Save the Date



Presenter  
**Dr. LaTonya N.  
McIver Penny**

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Center for  
Black Agency  
and Resilience

THERE IS  
LIFE.  
VIGOR.  
LOVE.  
IN OUR STORIES

C-BAR YouTube Channel

Visit our YouTube Channel for engaging conversations about Black resilience and agency across generations.

## VOICES OF BLACK ELDERS

As part of our mission, we collect and chronicle personal stories of resilience from Black elders over 95 years old.

Stay Connected

To learn more about these project and get updates, follow **C-BAR** on instagram @ctr4bar and visit [www.c-bar.org](http://www.c-bar.org).

Join our mailing list for updates  
at [connect@c-bar.org](mailto:connect@c-bar.org)  
or scan the QR Code.



**MOREHOUSE**  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

CVRI  
Cardiovascular  
Research Institute

THE BUCKHEAD/CASCADE CITY (GA)  
CHAPTER OF THE LINKS, INCORPORATED  
PRESENTS

## KNOW *the* LAW. OWN *your* POWER.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION OF THE SUPREME COURT'S LANDMARK REDISTRICTING CASE  
*Louisiana v. Calais*  
LEARN HOW TO PROTECT YOUR VOTE.



THURSDAY  
**JAN  
29**  
6:30 P.M.

BIG BETHEL AME CHURCH  
220 AUBURN AVENUE

COMPLIMENTARY  
REFRESHMENTS AT 6 PM

PANEL  
DISCUSSION



**Inga Willis**  
MODERATOR  
GEORGIA  
HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES



**Gary Spencer**  
LEGAL  
DEFENSE  
FUND



**Jay Augustine**  
PASTOR,  
BIG BETHEL  
AME CHURCH



Linked in Friendship. Connected in Service  
Buckhead/Cascade City (GA) Chapter

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SPOT BY  
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Senior Pastor  
**Michelle Augustine**  
Leading Lady

## Valentine's Vesper and All that Jazz

Saturday, February 14, 2026  
at 7:00 pm

**Courtland Grand Hotel**  
165 Courtland St NE,  
Atlanta, GA 30303

**Save the Date**  
**\$75pp**

More details to come



## 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 pm
Big Bethel Village Worship By Phone 202-962-1123 673604#.....	3:00pm Sundays
Wednesday Virtual Bible Study (ID: 847 251 8679 Password: adultclass).....	12:00 noon and 6:00pm
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

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 Chorale.....	Wednesday @ 7:00pm and Saturday @ 10:00am before Third Sunday
Bearden-Scott Youth Choir.....	2 Saturdays before Fourth Sunday
Big Bethel Praise Ensemble.....	2 Thursdays @7:00 pm and Saturday before Fourth Sunday

## STAY CONNECTED



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**404 . 827 . 9707**



**jesus.saves@bigbethelame.org**

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