

BIG BETHEL AME CHURCH

MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE



“CONTINUING THE LEGACY WITH NEW VITALITY”

“IN THE SAME WAY, LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE OTHERS, THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD DEEDS AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN.”

MATTHEW 5:16

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025



BISHOP MICHAEL L. MITCHELL, PRESIDING PRELATE, 6TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT
MRS. CORDELIA MITCHELL, EPISCOPAL SUPERVISOR, 6TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT
REVEREND KIMBERLY MCMICHAEL, PRESIDING ELDER, NORTH ATLANTA DISTRICT
REVEREND JOHN FOSTER, PH.D., SENIOR PASTOR
220 AUBURN AVENUE, NE, ATLANTA, GA 30303
PHONE NUMBER (404) 827-9707 FAX NUMBER (404) 223-3060
WEBSITE: WWW.BIGBETHELAME.ORG EMAIL: JESUS.SAVES@BIGBETHELAME.ORG



Big Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

REVEREND JOHN FOSTER PH.D., SENIOR PASTOR

MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE DAY

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025 - 10:00 AM

THEME: Continuing the Legacy with New Vitality

16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. ~Matthew 5:16

WORSHIP LEADER: REV. JOYCE C. YOUNG '00 CO-CHAIRPERSON

THE PRELUDE

BRO. PHILIP SKERRETT, JR.

*THE DOXOLOGY

#647

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 CALL TO WORSHIP

REV. JOYCE C. YOUNG '00

Minister: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord!" Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem! (Psalm 122:1-2)

People: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness (Psalm 84:10).

Minister: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good (Psalm 122:9)

People: They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God. (Psalm 92:13)

Minister: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells (Psalm 26:8)

People: But the Lord is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him (Habakkuk 2:20)

Minister: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my Rock, and my redeemer (Psalm 19:14)

ALL: O Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things! I will sing of loyalty and of justice to you, O Lord, I will sing. (Psalm 98: 1,4)

THE HYMN OF PRAISE "WE ARE OFTEN TOSSED AND DRIVEN" ~AME HYMN #394 DR. OPAL WALTERS KNOWLTON, '93

1. We are often tossed and driv'n on the restless sea of time, somber skies and howling tempest oft succeed a bright sunshine; in that land of perfect day, when the mists have rolled away, we will understand it better by and by

Refrain: By and by, when the morning comes, when the saints of God are gathered home, we'll tell the story, how we've overcome, for we'll understand it better by and by.

2. We are often destitute of the things that life demands, want of food and want of shelter, thirsty hills and barren lands; we are trusting in the Lord, and according to the Word, we will understand it better by and by. **[Refrain]**

3. Temptations, hidden snares, often take us unawares, and our hearts are made to bleed for any thoughtless word or deed; and we wonder why the test when we try to do our best, but we'll understand it better by and by. **[Refrain]**

THE INVOCATION

REV. GWEN SENATLE '81

THE WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC

BIG BETHEL CHORALE

THE RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE

PSALM 27:1-9 (NIV)

Sis. Cornelia Thomas Jordan '73

Leader: ¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

People: ²When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh-- my adversaries and foes-- they shall stumble and fall.

Leader: ³Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

People: ⁴One thing I asked of the LORD; this I seek: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

Leader: ⁵For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

People: ⁶Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

Leader: ⁷Hear my voice when I call, Lord; be merciful to me and answer me.

People: ⁸My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, Lord, I will seek.

ALL: ⁹Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper

THE PREFACE TO THE DECALOGUE

(IN THE TUNE OF #258)

"From all that dwell 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

Bro. Reginald Dye '01

And Jesus, said to him, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

THE GLORIA PATRI

AME HYMN #626

"Glory be to the father, and to the son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen."

THE WELCOME TO BIG BETHEL

PHILIPPIN MINISTRY

THE WELCOME OF SPECIAL MORRIS BROWN ALUMNI

SIS. BRAUNWIN HOWELL CAMP'89

THE MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE PRESIDENT

Dr. Kevin E. James
19th President—Morris Brown College

The Worship Through Creative Expression

Signs of Praise Mime Ministry

The INTRODUCTION OF THE GUEST SPEAKER

SIS. KARON AMMONS STEPHENS,
MISS MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE 1986-87

THE WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC

BIG BETHEL CHORALE

THE SERMON

REV. DR. HERMAN "SKIP" MASON, JR. '84
INTERIM PRESIDENT
INTERDENOMINATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTER
MORRIS BROWN ALUMNUS

****Visitors may register their attendance online on the Big Bethel Guest Registration Form. Thank You for worshipping with us and feel free to come again!!**



³³ Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things (food, clothing, drink) will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

THE WORSHIP IN GIVING: TITHES & OFFERING

THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PROGRAM CHAIRPERSONS

SIS. M. PAULYNE MORGAN WHITE, '58
RICHARD MARION '64
REV. JOYCE CARPENTER YOUNG '00
REV. JOHN FOSTER, PH.D.,
SENIOR PASTOR AND MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THE MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE ALMA MATER

LYRICS-MILTON RANDOLPH, MUSIC-E. WAYMON HATHCOCK

Alma Mater, pride of earth, Gav'st to me another birth,
Haven for all hungry souls, Feeding them shall be Thy goal,
Ever let thy banner be, Emblem of the brave and free,
A welcome true to everyone, Until Thy work is done.

Hail to Thee, maker of men, Honor to The once again,
Sacred truths on firmest ground, Hail to Thee, Dear Morris Brown.
To thy precepts praise accord, To them may we e'er be bound,
And bow and thank the gracious Lord, for dear Ol' Morris Brown.

THE BENEDICTION

REV. DR. HERMAN "SKIP" MASON, JR. '84

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS				
Fifth Sunday in Lent	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
March 16, 2025	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	Psalm 27	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

 *Let us remember our sick and shut-in with our prayers & calls.* 

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

SERVING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP EXPERIENCE			
Acolytes	~~~~~	Stewards	Sam Stephens
Choir	Big Bethel Chorale ~Tamika Kelly, Director	Trustees	Floyd Baxter
Worship & Arts Creative Expressions	Signs of Praise Mime Ministry ~Jory Young, Director R.T. Bussey & Eva Watson Stewardess Ministry	Philippians	Sis. Jakeilla Rouse
Stewardesses	Sheila Henry-Lee & Clarissa Robinson	Ushers	Samuel H. Giles Usher Board
Finance Team	James Rudd, John Jordan, Stanley Pritchett, & Joseph Patterson	AV Ministry	Phyllislorena Smiley & Brandon Collins



Rev. Dr. Herman "Skip" Mason, Jr.

Rev. Dr. Herman "Skip" Mason, Jr. is the Interim President of the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) located in the Atlanta University Center. He also serves as the senior pastor of Historic West Mitchell Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Atlanta, Georgia. A proud native of Atlanta and an honors graduate of the Atlanta Public Schools, Dr. Mason matriculated and graduated from Morris Brown College. He continued his education at Atlanta

University (now Clark Atlanta University) and earned master's degree in library and information science with a concentration in African American Studies. He is also a graduate of the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta where he obtained the Master of Divinity and the Doctor of Ministry degrees respectively in African American Church History, Social Justice, and Outreach.

Dr. Mason, a seasoned educator for over 25 years has served as professor of history, college archivist, director and dean of students and Vice President of Student Services at both Morris Brown College and Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia and as the Director of Library Service and Assistant Professor of African American History and Religion at Voorhees College in Denmark, South Carolina. He is a former Archivist and Librarian at the Atlanta Fulton Public Library Black Studies Collection (now Auburn Avenue Research Library).

Dr. Mason is the author of numerous books on the history of African Americans experience in Atlanta, Georgia and the South including *Black Atlanta in the Roaring Twenties*, *Black Entertainment in Atlanta*, *African American Life in DeKalb County*, *Politics, Law, and Civil Rights in Atlanta*; *Black American Series: East Point, Georgia*. He has curated major exhibitions including the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Centennial Exhibition, *Crowns and Gowns: The Legacy of the Homecoming Queen*, *Hidden Treasures: Black Photographers in Atlanta* and served as a historical consultant on numerous PBS documentaries. Most recently under Dr. Mason's leadership Voorhees College opened its museum documenting the college's history. He also serves as the Archivist and liaison for Museums for the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

Dr. Mason is the 33rd General President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and on the National Board of Directors of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Foundation in Washington, D.C. which led to the completion and dedication of the monument on the mall in Washington, D.C in 2011. Dr. Mason is a member of numerous fraternal, social, and civic organizations, Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity and Prince Hall Masons. An avid genealogist, Dr. Mason enjoys reading, local and international traveling, collecting black memorabilia and photographs, listening to music, and researching his family history. He is the founder of Skip Mason Vanishing Black Atlanta Facebook Page and Book Club. Dr. Mason is the father of two wonderful young adult children, Jewel and Jodari. Most importantly, he gives thanks to God for his journey and the ancestors!



Big Bethel Members who are Morris Brown College Alumni

We Salute You!

Mrs. Juanita Williams Aikens

Ms. Kristal Laran Ammons

Ms. Marie Wainwright Brown

Mr. Andrew Bussey

Ms. Angela Byard

Ms. Marcia Byard

Ms. Sarah Norwood Caldwell

Mrs. Braunwin Howell Camp

Mrs. Geraldine Dodson Chandler

Ms. Marian Council

Rev. George Davis

Mr. Raleigh Durden

Mr. Reginald Dye

Ms. Kim Ammons Fulton

Ms. Inez Greggs

Ms. Tamara Hall

Mrs. Barbara Thomas Johnson

Ms. Cornelia Thomas Jordan

Dr. Opal Walters Knowlton

Mr. Richard Marion

Ms. Grace Terrell McCoy

Mr. Amos McCrary

Mr. Charles Wesley Moore

Mrs. Lucille Williams Neely

Mrs. Annette Gaither Petty

Ms. Tallulah Moore Ragsdale

Mrs. Miriam Jones-Dennis Redding

Rev. Mokgabo Gwen Senatle

Ms.. Karon Ammons Stephens

Mrs. Margarette Paulyne Morgan White

Ms. Linda Williams

Mr. Jory Jamil Young

Rev. Joyce Carpenter Young



LET'S LIFT OUR VOICES AND SEND A MESSAGE!!

****OUR 1ST ACTION:****

Date: February 28, 2025, from
12:00 AM to 11:59 PM

Make sure to prepare in advance.

- DO NOT make any purchases or shop online or in-store: - No Amazon, No Walmart, No Best Buy - No Fast Food - No Gas - No Major Retailers -
- DO NOT use credit or debit cards for non-essential spending. Only necessary buy essentials (e.g., food, medicine, emergency supplies). - If you must spend, ONLY support small, local businesses.

Boycott



****OUR 2ND ACTION:****

Start Date: March 5th - End Date: April 19th

During this period, do not spend money with companies that have discontinued their diversity, equity, and inclusion programs. Please refer to the list (scan code) For the most current information (the list changes daily - see Facebook). Let's continue to advocate for policies that advance our community. Peace, Power, and Purpose,

PMO 2025



BIG BETHEL AVE CHURCH

Persevere in Prayer

SPRING SUMMIT
Prayer
Relationships Miracles Deliverance **2025**

Moderators



Rev. Charmain Purvis

Bro. Chris Parker

MARCH 18-20

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

virtual call-in number: (605)472-5512

access code 772576

www.bigbethelame.org

Rev. John Foster, Ph.D., Senior Pastor





5th Connectional Purple Sunday

Stewardship of the Mind Through Alzheimer's Awareness

Sunday, March 16, 2025

1 p.m. PDT; 3 p.m. CDT; 4 p.m. EDT; 11p.m. GMT+2

Join us and learn about:

- Brain Trust, a new research study taking place in Chicago, Houston and Los Angeles.
- How you can become a Health Equity Champion and provide Alzheimer's education within your congregation
- How you can become certified in Pathways to Dementia Care.
- How to connect your church with the local Alzheimer's chapter.

Register in advance for this meeting:
Click Here








After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



Big Bethel AME Church
Edge-Cannon Lay Organization

Easter Lilies for Loved Ones

Help us decorate the sanctuary on the 3rd and 4th Sundays in April by purchasing Easter Lilies for \$25 in honor/memory of your loved ones.
contact: [Joi Stinson, joistinson@gmail.com](mailto:joistinson@gmail.com)
Scan the QR code to place your order by March 30





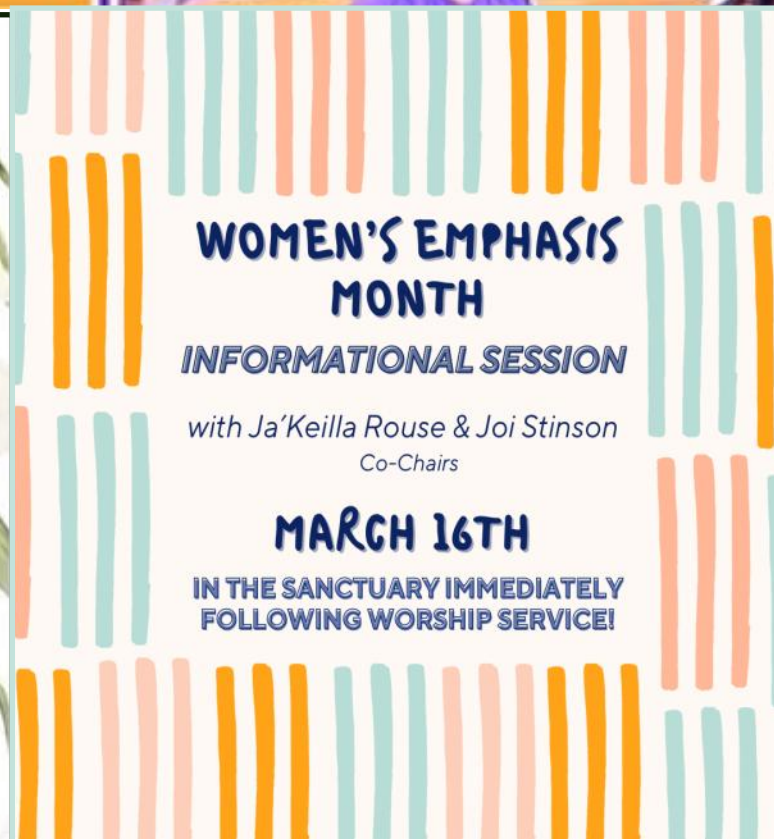
WOMEN'S EMPHASIS MONTH

INFORMATIONAL SESSION

with Ja'Keilla Rouse & Joi Stinson
Co-Chairs

MARCH 16TH

IN THE SANCTUARY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE!



Thrive
GAME NIGHT

GET READY TO HAVE SOME
FUN!

Meet us at the Painted Pickle!
279 OTTLEY DR., ATLANTA, GA

March 21st @ 7pm

RSVP WITH REV JESS NO LATER THAN MARCH 17TH @ 5PM
JBUFGORD@BIGBETHELAME.ORG



Thrive
Rev. Jessica Buford,
Thrive Young Adult Ministry
Director

REMINDER



Rev. John Foster, Ph.D.,
Senior Pastor

Thrive
THE
MARCH 30th 10:00 AM
TAKEOVER
Thrive

**NEXT
SHIFT**

**2 pm service will be postponed
until April 6th**

See you at 10 am March 30th!

220 AUBURN AVE. NE, ATLANTA, GA 30303

www.bigbethelame.org

