

Bethlehem Baptist Church

September 2026 Newsletter

"Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us." ~ 1 John 4:11–12 (KJV)

BBC Deacon's Corner:

By: Deacon Celess Squirewell

In the world today, we seem to forget the greatest two commandments as mentioned in the Old Testament, Deuteronomy 6:5 and several times in the New Testament, Matthew 22:37, Mark 12:30, and Luke 10:27 says, **"and Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine Heart, and with all thy Soul, and with all Thy Might"**. This means surrendering to him completely. It is to subject yourself to what His words say. It is to decide to do His will even though you have the freedom of choice. Those who truly love God are willing to sacrifice themselves day by day.

Jesus also stresses this in the New Testament as mentioned in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. He's asking us to love Him with all our heart, He wants us to have a heart that obeys Him. **With all your soul** means that our love for God must be with devotion and discipline, for the soul represents the human desires. **With all your mind** means loving the most High with our minds, continually thinking about His Word, so that we do not sin against Him. **With all your strength** means loving God with intensity and a willingness to seek His presence, as noted in the books of Mark and Luke. God's love is perfect, intense, and sacrificial (John 3:16). John 3:16 says this, **"For God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."**

Jesus and Paul talk about the second greatest commandment, **"Love thy neighbor as thyself."** This means treating people with the same respect, whether they are rich or poor, or their social status. Whosoever respects people because of their social status commits an offense against human law, above all, God's law. Therefore, when Christians show favoritism, they commit sin. 1 John 4:20 says, **"If a man says, I love God, and hate his brother, he is a liar: for he loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?"** References to love thy neighbor as thyself are first in Leviticus 19:18, then in Deuteronomy 6:5, 10:12, 30:6, then Jesus and Paul repeated and reiterated it throughout the New Testament, Matthew 5:43-44, 19:19, 22:39, Mark 12:30-31, Luke 10:27, Romans 13:9, Galatians 5:14, and James 2:8 who refers to it as the Royal Law. These scriptures are to better help us love and serve others.

If we love God by putting Him first in our lives and loving our neighbors as ourselves, we wouldn't have so much robbing, killing of each other, or dislike for our neighbors. We need to put God first, stay continuously in prayer, and remember to keep God's Word in our hearts as we obey the greatest of all His commandments.

October 18, 2026

Pastor. Anthony McCallum and First Lady Angela are pictured with Dawn Moore, the wife of Wes Moore who is the 63rd Governor of the state of Maryland. He is Maryland's first Black Governor in the state's 246-year history and is just the third African American elected Governor in the history of the United States. She spoke to us to encourage us to exercise our right to vote.



VOTE! November 3rd



Nov 1st

The church had a visit from South Carolina House Representative Dr. Jermaine Johnson. He hopes to become South Carolina's first Democratic governor in more than two decades



Pastor McCallum is with Vincent Brian Coe, candidate for South Carolina State Treasurer's office

JUST FOR FUN



Meet BBC's Newest Member

Contributor: Randy Gilbert



Shebretia Rush















Clergy Appreciation Day ~ October 11th



🎄 **Save the Date!** Join us for our Church Christmas Celebration on **Saturday, December 12, 2026**, as we come together for a joyful celebration of fellowship, fun, and the spirit of Christmas!

Senior's Trip To The State Fair ~ October 22nd





Senior Banquet: Shining For His Glory! ~ October 24th





TECH ZONE:

By: *Deacon Randy Gilbert*



Tech Tip: Why Video Freezes Despite "Full Bars"

Have you ever wondered why your device shows "full bars" while your video keeps freezing? The answer comes down to how your device uses two distinct wireless systems: Wi-Fi and Cellular Data.

Wi-Fi Signal: Your Local Home Base

Wi-Fi acts like a private radio station inside your home or a local shop. The source is a router plugged into your home internet line, and the range is short, typically reaching about 150 feet. Full bars mean a strong connection to your router, not necessarily fast internet speeds. If your service provider has an outage, your pages will not load. Additionally, thick walls, metal appliances, and neighboring networks can easily cause interference.

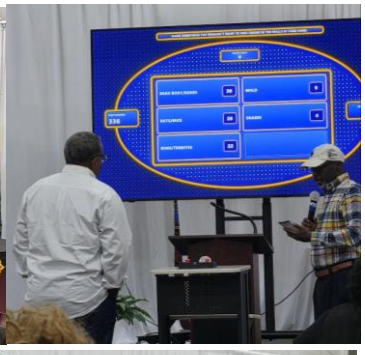
Cellular Signal: The Long-Distance Traveler

Cellular signals connect you directly to large towers spread across town. The source comes from cell towers managed by your carrier, and the range is massive, extending across several miles and handing off connections seamlessly as you move. Bars indicate the strength of the connection to the nearest tower, and these licensed frequencies are protected from cross-device interference. However, long-range signals struggle to penetrate deep inside large buildings, basements, or heavy metallic structures.

Family Feud ~ October 23rd

Round One ~ Deacons defeated the Servant Sisters and the YAC won against the Faithful Few .





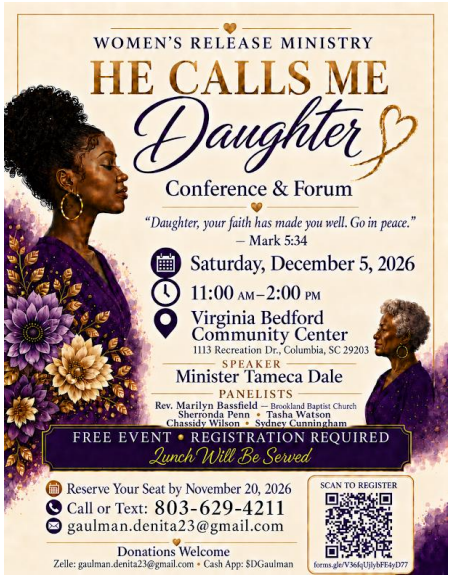






Just For Fun Answer Key









Congratulations to Sister Jennifer Gooden!

Deaconess Gooden received **1st Place** for her Christmas Village Scenic Display and **2nd Place** for her homemade Peanut Brittle at the **2026 South Carolina State Fair**. Congratulations on these achievements!









Junior Ushers Recognize Breast Cancer Awareness Month ~ October 25th



Seniors Celebration Sunday October 25th



WKFLC **Weekly Programs**

- Aerobics: `Tuesdays & Thursdays – 9:00 AM & 6:00 PM
- Children's Church: 2nd & 4th Sundays– 9:00 AM
- Food Pantry Distribution: Fridays – 10:00 AM
- Senior Bingo: 3rd Tuesday - 10:00 AM

Your Health, Your Voice, Our Mission!

Bethlehem Baptist Church – College Place | Health & Wellness Ministry

The Health & Wellness Ministry is dedicated to keeping our congregation healthy, safe, and informed—mind, body, and spirit!

We Need Your Input!

Please take a few minutes to complete our Congregational Survey so we can plan the health topics, screenings, and programs that matter most to you.

- **Paper:** Fill out the survey and drop it in the black return box in the vestibule.
- **Online:** Scan the QR code or visit: https://forms.gle/KVXbbE3HNGz1iWfb7

Health & Safety Updates

We are excited to announce that new Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) are being installed in both the Sanctuary and the Wiley Kennedy Family Life Center (WKFLC). In-person training sessions are being scheduled soon so members can become familiar with their proper use.

Stay Connected

Look out for our 2nd Sunday Health & Wellness PSAs highlighting monthly awareness topics and check your email every week for **Wellness Wednesday** health tips and resources!

Virtual Dementia Dialogues® Training — Nov 17 & 19 (9:00 AM – 12:30 PM)

Caregivers, families, and members are invited to a free 2-part training presented by the University of South Carolina's Arnold School of Public Health. Learn practical tips for supporting loved ones with Alzheimer's and related dementias. Certificate of Completion provided upon finishing all modules.

- **Register here:** https://osa.cventevents.com/vmblky *(or scan the QR code on the flyer)*

Together, we can make Bethlehem a healthier, safer, and stronger church family!
Your Health Matters. Your Voice Matters. Your Participation Makes a Difference!
Bethlehem Baptist Church – College Place
Health & Wellness Ministry





A Quick Look Back as We Move Forward

Bethlehem Baptist Church – College Place | Junior Brotherhood Ministry

Building Christian Men, One Boy at a Time!

What an incredible year of growth, service, fellowship, and achievement for our Junior Brotherhood! We are extremely proud of our young men and the enthusiasm, dedication, and Christian character they continue to demonstrate.

Over the past year, our Junior Brotherhood participated in a **joint camping trip**, enjoyed **monthly training and leadership development sessions**, and completed **quarterly community service projects**, including preparing and distributing free meals to individuals in need. Our young men also participated in the **Living Wax Museum**, bringing history to life while building confidence, communication skills, and leadership abilities.

A special congratulations goes to Junior Brotherhood President Prem Grant and Kyson Rhett, who proudly represented South Carolina at the **Regional Walter Cade Junior Workshop**! We are especially excited to celebrate **Kyson Rhett's Bible Bowl victory, bringing the championship trophy home to South Carolina!** What an outstanding accomplishment and a wonderful example of our young men putting their faith, knowledge, and preparation into action!

Looking Ahead: More Great Things to Come!

Our proposed 2026–2027 activity calendar is filled with exciting opportunities for spiritual growth, service, and fellowship. **Pending leadership approval**, upcoming activities include:

- **November:** Fishing trip to Patriots Point
- **December:** Christmas caroling and movie fellowship
- **January:** Homeless outreach with Keeping It Real Ministries
- **February:** Soup preparation and distribution along North Main Street
- **March:** Spring camping adventure
- **April:** Regional Track & Field
- **May:** Water safety and swimming education
- **June:** Bible Bowl and Track & Field competitions

We are excited about the opportunities ahead and look forward to seeing our young men continue growing into strong, compassionate, faithful Christian leaders.

Calling All Young Men — Come Join Us!

The **Junior Brotherhood welcomes boys and young men ages 6–17** to become part of this exciting ministry! Through mentorship, Bible study, community service, leadership development, and fun activities, we are building a strong foundation for a lifetime.

Meetings: Second Saturday of each month at 10:00 AM
Location: Bethlehem Baptist Church – College Place, Fellowship Hall
Address: 1028 Eastman Street, Columbia, SC 29203

Registration: Scan the QR code on our Junior Brotherhood recruitment flyer to register or request additional information.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our Brotherhood, church leadership, parents, mentors, and supporters who continue investing in our young men.

The best is yet to come!

Faith. Leadership. Service. Brotherhood.

Rev. Dr. Anthony A. McCallum, Pastor
Reverend Stanley M. Nash, Youth Pastor

Don't let your ministry's efforts or personal accomplishments go unnoticed.
Send your ministry highlights and special moments to **BBCcpNewsletter@gmail.com**

YAC SPOTLIGHT

YAC Celebrates Our Youth!

YAC would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to our youth for their support and for such a strong showing in representing the Gethsemane Association! Having Bethlehem Baptist Church, College Place, serve as the host church was truly a blessing. Additionally, seeing our youth so well represented was the icing on the cake! Our youth participated in the choir, delivered the welcome, and our Junior Ushers served our church family and visiting guests with bright smiles and warm hospitality. We are incredibly proud of their participation, dedication, and willingness to serve!

A HUGE SHOUT-OUT to Prem Grant and Kyson Rhett for representing our church and the great state of South Carolina at the Bible Bowl in Chesapeake, Virginia! Congratulations to Kyson for winning **1st place** and bringing the trophy back home to South Carolina, where it belongs! We celebrate both young men for their hard work, commitment, and outstanding representation.

Finally, to Trustee Simmons and Brother Jonathan Rhett, we sincerely thank you both for all you do to pour into and support our young men through the Junior Brotherhood. Your dedication, guidance, and commitment to their growth do not go unnoticed. Our youth are our future, and it is a blessing to see them serving, growing, and achieving great things!

Girl Scout Troop 1630 Gives Back!
Girl Scout Troop 1630 proudly volunteered at the 36th Annual Prisma Health Midlands Foundation's Walk for Life & Famously Hot Pink 10K + 5K! Our girls cheered on runners and walkers and passed out water to encourage participants along the way. Our troop was honored to show support for breast cancer patients and survivors while helping raise awareness about this important cause. The scouts, with their troop leader, demonstrated teamwork, compassion, and a heart for community service.
Way to go Girl Scouts! We are proud of Troop 1630 for representing!

ATTENTION PARENTS & GUARDIANS!

Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, November 15, 2026!** YAC will hold a meeting immediately following the church service. We kindly ask all parents and guardians to make plans to attend. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our youth!
We look forward to seeing you there!

YAC is proud of our youth and grateful to our Bethlehem family who continue to support and encourage them. Keep shining, keep serving, and keep making us proud!

Sis. Marketa Bennett - YAC President
Rev. Stanley M. Nash - Youth Pastor







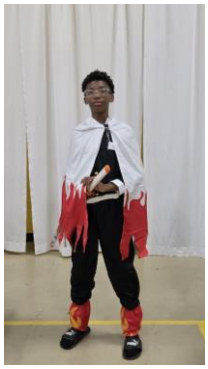
BETHLEHEM
BAPTIST CHURCH
COLLEGE PLACE
Presents
HALLELUJAH
NIGHT
KINGDOM FESTIVAL
For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.
2 Timothy 1:7
OCTOBER 30
6PM - 8PM
FOOD
FUN
GAMES
The Wiley Kennedy Family Life Center
1037 Eastman Street
Columbia, SC 29203
CANDY
Enjoy Hot Dogs, Candy & More!
Join us for a safe, faith based evening of fun!
Rev. Dr. Anthony McCallum
Chief Servant
Rev. Stanley Nash
Youth Pastor


















































SERVE
LEAD
INSPIRE

