

Inside this issue:



Hello Bethel family and readers!

As you read this edition, you will recognize some *Bethelites* and see what is happening in our church and A.M.E. community. We are “Destined to Win!” Our wonderful Pastor Jefferson, Sr. has and is preaching and providing spiritual opportunities for us to “WIN!” Take advantage of all that is available so that we can

“WIN” together!!

I’d like to thank all of the *Bethelites* that have helped to make our newsletter awesome! So many to name, but I want to say a special **Thank You** to Mary Vick and Yolanda Hinton!! They have helped me since the first edition and I appreciate all of their help!! We are excited about what Bethel is up to! Read on and enjoy this newsletter!! There is something in here for

everyone!! Thank you!

HOME / DICTIONARY / THANK YOU

THANK YOU

To sign thank you, extend your fingers and thumb. Touch you fingers to your chin and bring your fingers forward. It is almost like you are blowing a kiss out, to thank the person - but the sign is a bit lower.



Raquel Cox
A Bethelite

SCRIPTURE OF THE CONFERENCE YEAR

I John 5:1-5 NKJV

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?



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RED FLARE AWARDS EVENT

Take a look at our Bethel family!! They represented Bethel very well!! Look at our award recipients and the adults that supported them!! This year past local Women's Missionary Society presidents were honored and the youth for their dedication to the Young People's Department (YPD)! Reverend Void and her daughter Olivia were both recipients! An awesome mother and daughter duo!! Congratulations to all!!



Reverend Tashara Void
Pastor, Campbell's Chapel AME Church



Faye Wilson



Donna Hill



Olivia Williams-Davis



Leilah Elliott



Chris Travis



Lucy Overton



Kara Travis



Christian Travis



Isaiah Irving



Saniyah Berry



Stephonn Berry

BETHELITE SENIOR VOICES!

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

By: Reverend Dr. Evelyn Johnson

Reverend Dr. Evelyn Johnson provides us with the pleasure of her sign language during the church service and this year's Christmas program. We enjoy and are learning some sign language, but now we have the opportunity to take lessons! Read below to learn more!

COMING SOON!

***American Sign Language (ASL)
Beginners' Classes***

Fridays:

7:00 p.m.- 7:45 p.m.

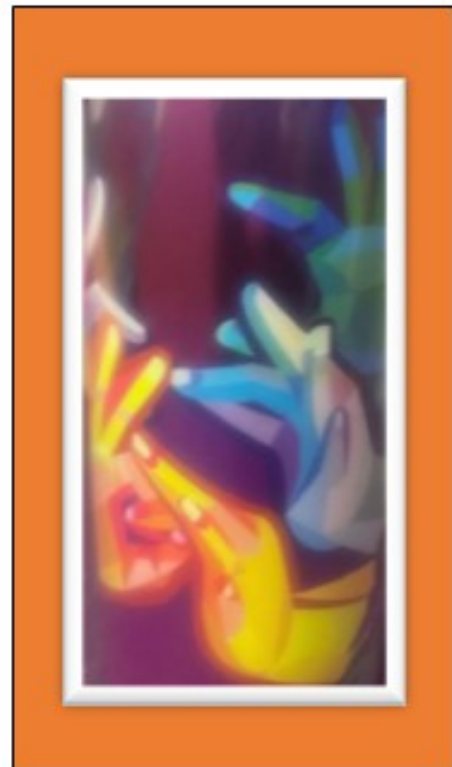
Let us **CONNECT!**

*It is never too late to learn.
Adults and Young People are
welcome!*

Contact: Rev. Dr. Evelyn
Johnson revej2003@yahoo.com
(757) 768-2635

Zoom:

449 351 8304
K2qSiT



BETHELITE TEENS!

By: Sister Priscilla Chanel

Teen Topic: Integrity



Teens, we care about you and we see integrity in you all! Take a look at this “Teen Topic of Integrity!! There are six scriptures below. Please read the scriptures in your bible and write your responses for the six scriptures below. Give me your responses. You may even use these scriptures during your Sunday School time on Saturdays!! Looking forward to your responses!!

Teen Topics Integrity

Source: minibiblelessons.com

The Issue:

Integrity refers to a willingness to do what is right in any situation. A person of integrity does not do what is right for the purpose of impressing people or avoiding trouble, but rather, they do right simply because it is the honorable thing to do. Integrity is an issue of character that demonstrates our faith is real and our desire to obey God is genuine. Let's see what Scriptures has to say about the topic of integrity.

What does the Bible say?

Note what these verses say about the importance of integrity:

- > Prov. 5:21 - _____
- > Prov. 21:3 - _____
- > Luke 16:10 - _____

Note what these verses say about the benefits of integrity:

- > Prov. 11:3 - _____
- > Titus 2:7-8 - _____
- > Psalm 18:20; Matt. 6:4 - _____

What should I do?

Integrity is a choice. It is a choice to be truthful, even if it means you may get in trouble. It is a choice not to cheat on a test, even when no one is watching. It is a choice not to watch an inappropriate video, even if people around you think it is no big deal. As we do what God wants of us at all times, in all circumstances, and at all costs, we will become people of integrity. Acts of integrity are what God has “required of us” (Micah 6:8), and it is through such acts that we demonstrate true Christian maturity. May our faith be proven to be genuine as we live lives of integrity!



“Integrity is a choice.”



**BETHELITE
SHOUT OUT!!**



Meet Sydney Meeks!!

Sydney is the first child to complete the Black History passage ~ Richard Allen! She received some beautiful, soft gloves for these cold times. Keep your hands warm Sydney! More Black History passages to come! Thank you Sydney!



New ~ Submit your answers to the Black History passages on line! Go to the Bethel A.M.E. Church site at (bethelhome.com) to find the articles and submit your answers. There are five total articles~yes Richard Allen's article is still available. I look forward to getting your answers, but more importantly that you will learn about African Americans that paved the way for so many!

BETHEL MINISTRIES AT WORK



BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH
COMFORT MINISTRY

- ◆ Submitted by: Sister Sandra Myers
- ◆ On behalf of the Comfort Ministry
- ◆ Reverend Gail Henderson ~ Comfort Ministry Lead



Comfort Ministry Christmas Fellowship

“who comforted us in all our tribulations, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.” (2 Corinthians 1:4, KJV).

During the holiday season, it can be very painful for those who have lost loved ones during the year. The loss can be a past or recent death. Nonetheless, it can still bring back sad memories during the holiday season. Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church’s (BAMEC’s) Comfort Ministry was honored to serve those members in our congregation who had lost loved ones in 2023. *“Getting Through the Holidays When You’ve Lost a Loved One” CareNote* by Darcie D. Sims, Ph.D., pamphlets were mailed to seventy-seven Bethel members. BAMEC’s Comfort Ministry ensured that additional pamphlets were available to members by placing them on the literature racks located in the Narthex.

On Saturday, December 16, 2023, BAMEC’s Comfort Ministry celebrated another successful year of ministry. Sister Sandra Myers hosted a holiday luncheon in her home. Special guests included BAMEC’s First Lady Sister Tracey Jefferson, Sister Janice Ricks-Turner, a friend of Sister Dianne Downing, and Sister Vanesa Hill, daughter of Rev. Gail Henderson. We enjoyed ourselves with delicious food, fun, laughter, gifts, and fellowship.



COMFORT MINISTRY

Locate ministry details at

<https://www.bethelame.com/ministries>

BETHEL MINISTRIES AT WORK



BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH STEWARDESS MINISTRY

- ◆ Submitted by: Sister Sarita Alston
- ◆ On behalf of the Stewardess Ministry
- ◆ Sister Eliza Mackey ~ Stewardess Ministry



Special Stewardess Moment

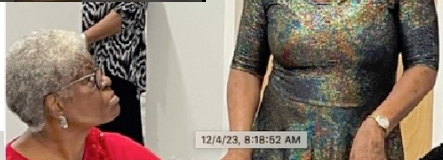


Stocking Stuffer Fun

December 2, 2024

When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. Matthew 2:10

The Bethel Stewardess Ministry members were delighted to come together in Christ. We shared, snacked, and loved one another. It was the laughs that we enjoyed the most. Proverbs 17:22 reminds us that a cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones. Family, always remember to smile and never stop laughing!



STEWARDESS BOARD

Locate ministry details at

<https://www.bethelame.com/ministries>

BETHEL MINISTRIES AT WORK



BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH INTERCESSORY PRAYER MINISTRY



- ◆ Submitted by: Sister Cynthia Speight
- ◆ On behalf of the Intercessory Prayer Ministry
- ◆ Sister Cynthia Speight ~ Intercessory Prayer Ministry Lead



INTERCESSORY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
"The Intercessory Ministry gathered for a Christmas Celebration on December 16th at the home of Sister Priscilla Channel. Great food, great fun and great fellowship was had by all in attendance. "



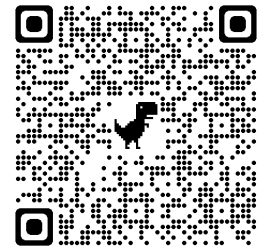
INTERCESSORY PRAYER
Locate ministry details at
<https://www.bethelhome.com/ministries>

BLACK HISTORY IS EVERY MONTH so
...LET'S BEGIN with.....

THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

History is continually being unearthed with dynamic stories! These stories open up our eyes, hearts and voices to those heroic people and their actions that helped the Civil Rights Movement. Do you know the following 7 people and their contribution to Civil Rights Movement?

1. Willie Pearl Mackey King ~ Dorothy Cotton
2. Charles Person
3. Fred Gray ~ Claudette Colvin
4. Clarence B. Jones
5. Gordon "Gunny" Gundrum
6. Joan Trumpaur Mulholland
7. Myrlie Evers-Williams



I have to admit that some names I truly didn't know and a few I did! I belong to AARP and they did in my opinion a great job of portraying the before mentioned people in an article entitled *Unsung Heroes of the Civil Rights Movement Along with legendary champions, thousands sacrificed during the era of change. Here are a few of their stories* written by A. J. Baime ~ an American author, journalist and public speaker. He is a regular contributor to the Wall Street Journal and author of *White Lies: The Double Life of Walter F. White*.

Please click the QR code and read the AARP article of remarkable stories of these heroic people!



BETHELITES KNOW BLACK HISTORY!

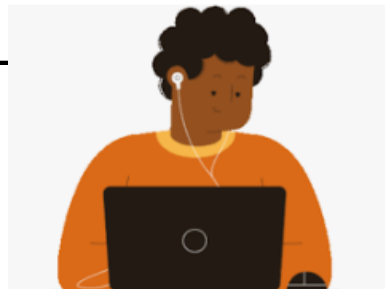
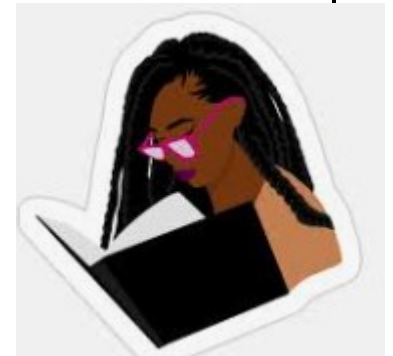
Our Black History Passages are online!! Please read below details about the Black History Passages and let's get submissions coming in!!

On the following pages, you will find a passage to read and questions about the passage. This is for adults and children (but mainly children). The goal is to increase our knowledge about African Americans that have contributed to our history. I also want to increase student's comprehension skills. The passages will be added each newsletter and now they are online. After you read the passage, complete the comprehension question and click submit!! Your answer sheets will go directly to Sister Raquel Cox! Your answers are due by **Saturday, March 2, 2023. Your work will be honored!!** Richard Allen was our first article!

Go to the Bethel A.M.E. Church site at (**bethelhome.com**) to find the articles and submit your answers.

Thank you to Nateisha Harvison for preparing the passages on line and making this possible!!

Happy Reading!!



SUBMISSION DATE!!

Your Black History answers are due online by

March 2, 2024!!

RICHARD ALLEN

How did an important American church begin?



RICHARD ALLEN was born in 1760 on a plantation near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Like many black Americans born at that time, he was a slave. His master was kinder than most; the Allen family was kept together and Richard was sent to school. But life under slavery was hard, even with a kind master. Richard Allen earned money for his work, and he saved it. Finally he gave his hard-earned money to his master in exchange for his freedom.

Now Richard Allen became a traveling preacher. His sermons, or religious talks, were well-liked by both blacks and whites. In 1783, Reverend Richard Allen was called to St. George Church in Philadelphia. Soon many people of both races began to attend the church.

As the attendance grew larger, there was an argument over seating arrangements. White members wanted the Negroes to sit separately. Rather than accept this, Richard Allen led all of the black people out of the church. He organized an all-Negro church.

Soon Allen began to organize black churches in other cities. These churches followed the same kind of service as his church in Philadelphia. In 1816, they joined together to become the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Reverend Richard Allen was appointed bishop. This denomination, or religious group, has over a million members today. It supports almost 6,000 churches and many fine colleges.

Reverend Richard Allen was also interested in civic matters. In 1793, a disease called yellow fever spread all over Philadelphia. There were not enough doctors or nurses to help the sick. Richard Allen and his friend Absalom Jones learned how to care for those with yellow fever. They trained other Negroes to help the sick and bury the dead. During the War of 1812, they raised an army of 2,500 black men to protect Philadelphia from the British. Richard Allen's fame as a civic leader was added to his fame as a minister. Just before his death in 1831, Reverend Allen wrote: "This land, which we have watered with our tears and our blood, is now our mother country." Bishop Allen is remembered today both as the founder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and as a dynamic American.

Working On Your Own

DIRECTIONS: After you have read the story, read the questions below. Find the best answer to the question and shade in the circle in front of your answer. One question asks the meaning of a word in the story. This word has been underlined in the story to help you find it quickly.

- Richard Allen was born on a _____, which was a kind of farm.
 station plantation planet partition
- He earned money so that he could _____ his freedom.
 sell buy invest in investigate
- When he was free, Richard Allen became a
 teacher soldier doctor preacher
- In this story, the word spread means
 bedcover put food on extended over a large area buttered
- A good title for this story would be "_____."
 Church Founder Yellow Fever Black Soldiers Mother Country
- The main idea of this story is that Bishop Allen is remembered both as a religious leader and a
 military doctor slave college president civic leader
- The fourth paragraph tells us that the word _____ means "a religious group."
 plantation arrangement denomination sermon
- All of these words have something to do with religion except
 preacher minister bishop pasture
- Another word for a religious talk is a
 serial sermon serious series

BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH

2521 N. Armistead Ave | Hampton, VA
23666

Church Office: 757-723-4065

Church: 757-723-7716

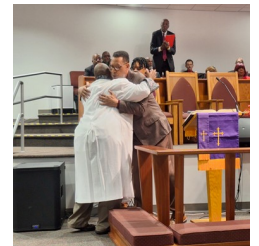
Fax: 757-723-1940

Email: church@bethelamehamptonva.com

Pastor's email: revandre1@aol.com

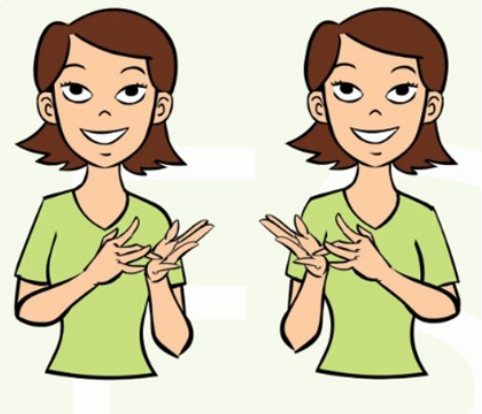


Pastor André & Mrs. Jefferson are smiling!! Our Steward Pro tem Brother Dwight Elliott is showing off his smile too!! Bethelites with a smile!! We Love you all and appreciate all that you do to make our church great and The Church with a Smile!!



JESUS

Jesus is signed by tapping the palm of one hand with the middle finger of the other, and vice-versa. The sign is like you are indicating the stigmata wounds of Jesus.



LEARN TO SIGN THE WORD JESUS



Bethel A.M.E. Women's Season is Here!! Enjoy THIS EVENT!!

We are excited to invite you to our Paint N' Pray event on Saturday January 27th from 2-4PM at Bethel AME in the Fellowship Hall. We are going to Express our Spiritual and Creative selves through painting. Then you'll take your masterpiece home! Paint N' Pray!!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdFbqoPIIkCAYDkqykSnJ8fK57VgPfpT9qewg2IaMQi2YxLv/viewform?usp=sf_link

What wonderful fellowship we're going to have, and the cost is just \$10. You can pay either through the Bethel AME Online Giving and scroll down until you see Paint N' Pray, or in cash to Karis Nwauwa, Evelyn Ligon-Moton or the church office by the deadline of Tuesday January 23rd.



Bethel UPCOMING EVENTS

20
24

<p>12PM CLASS LEADER LUNCHEON</p> <p>1PM YPD MEETING</p> <p>3PM ROAD TRIP TRUE VINE BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <hr/> <p>BETHEL</p> <hr/> <p>21 JAN</p>	<p>WOMEN'S SEASON PAINT & PRAY</p> <p>2 PM</p> <hr/> <p>BETHEL</p> <hr/> <p>27 JAN</p>	<p>12PM STEWARDESS LUNCHEON</p> <p>TAX MINISTRY FEB 3 - APRIL 13 TUES: 9:30-1 SAT: 9-2</p> <hr/> <p>BETHEL</p> <hr/> <p>3 FEB</p>	<p>ROAD TRIP</p> <p>REVIVAL</p> <p>Miracle TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p>7PM</p> <hr/> <p>MIRACLE TEMPLE</p> <hr/> <p>13 FEB</p>	<p><i>Road Trip - February 13, 2024 @ 7pm</i></p> <p>Miracle Temple Baptist Church 617 32nd Street Newport News, VA 23607</p>
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	<p>Women's SEASON SPIRITUAL SPA 10:00AM</p> <hr/> <p>BETHEL</p> <hr/> <p>9 MARCH</p>	<p>DELTA SIGMA THETA WORKSHOP SAT: 2PM MON-FRI: 7PM</p> <hr/> <p>BETHEL</p> <hr/> <p>10 - 16 MARCH</p>	<p>WOMEN'S SEASON</p> <p>WOMEN'S DAY SERVICE</p> <p>10:00AM</p> <hr/> <p>17 MAR</p>
<p>31 MARCH</p>	<p>PRRD PRESIDING ELDER & FIRST LADY RETIREMENT CONCERT 3:00PM</p> <hr/> <p>BETHEL</p> <hr/> <p>13 APRIL</p>	<p>PRRD PRESIDING ELDER & FIRST LADY RETIREMENT WORSHIP SERVICE 3:00PM</p> <hr/> <p>BETHEL</p> <hr/> <p>14 APRIL</p>	<p>12 MAY</p>

UPCOMING RETIREMENT SERVICES:

⇒ **Reverend Dr. Herbert L. Gibbs - Saturday, February 17th, 2024 at 12:30pm**

**Location: Quality Suites Lake Wright/Norfolk Airport
1521 Premium Outlets Blvd (off Northhampton Blvd)
Norfolk, VA 23502**

⇒ **Reverend Gwendolyn Minor - Saturday, March 30th, 2024, at 4 p.m.**

**Location: Main Street Baptist Church/The Williams Mission Center
517 Main Street, Smithfield, VA 23430**



Trip Trivia

Can you guess this location?



Where is this cliffside church?

Croatia

Italy

Turkey

Greece

Check out [Trip Trivia](#) and learn about amazing places!!