

BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PASTORAL

Appreciation

HONORING PASTOR BRANDON L. AND
FIRST LADY SHANDRA THORNTON

"GRATITUDE FOR FAITHFUL SERVICE" - 1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-13

Appreciation Service

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19TH AT 10:30AM

REVEREND JOHN L. DEES, JR.

PREACHER EMANUEL A.M.E. CHURCH (MOBILE, AL)

ATTIRE: SHADES OF BLUE

BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH

714 SAVANNAH ST, MOBILE, ALABAMA 36603

REV. BRANDON L. THORNTON, PASTOR

The Order of Worship

Rev. Pamela G. Irby, Worship Leader

Theme: "Gratitude for Faithful Service"

The Prelude The Musicians

The Doxology "Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow"

Praise God from whom all blessing flow: Praise Him all creatures here below: Praise Him
above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

The Call to Worship Rev. Irmatine Chastang

LEADER: Gracious and eternal God, you have stirred within us a holy curiosity – about
creation, our ourselves, and about all that is yet unknown.

PEOPLE: **Keep alive in us a spirit of wonder for the world you have made, and keep us
all in for learning and living your truth.**

LEADER: God of Abraham and Sarah, you open new understandings when we least expect
them.

PEOPLE: **Remind us that Bethel, no one is too young, too old, or too wise to keep growing
in faith.**

LEADER: God of the prophets, you call us to speak truth in love to a weary world.

PEOPLE: **Give us courage to examine ourselves, wisdom to receive teaching, and strength
to live out the mission you've entrusted to us.**

LEADER: God of the rich young ruler, you love us even when we resist the challenge of
discipleship.

PEOPLE: **Teach us to surrender our wills so that our lives reflect your grace and our
church moves faithfully from maintenance to ministry and mission.**

LEADER: Everlasting, ever-loving God – our Teacher, our Creator, our Giver of wisdom and
freedom.

ALL TOGETHER: **Grant that we might always use your gifts to build a world where
peace, justice, love, and hope reign in wisdom and in truth. Amen.**

The Morning Hymn of Praise.....The Mass Choir and Congregation

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine" – No. 525

(Leaning on the Everlasting Arms)

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, Leaning on the everlasting arms; What a blessedness,
what a peace is mine, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, Leaning on the everlasting arms; O, how bright the
path grows from day to day, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, Leaning on the everlasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:

Leaning, leaning, Safe and secure from all alarms; Leaning, leaning. Leaning on the everlasting arms. Leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus, Leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus.

The Morning Invocation & PrayerRev. Dr. Olivia Martin

The Choral ResponseThe Mass Choir & Congregation

I Can Hear My Savior Calling – No. 235

Refrain:

Where He leads me I will follow, Where He leads me I will follow, Where He leads me I will follow, I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.

Selection.....The Mass Choir

The Scripture ReadingSis. LaTonya Heard

1Thessalonians 5:12-13

The Prelude to the Decalogue *From All That Dwell Below the Skies* Hymn No. 69

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 Decalogue BRO. GREG MCGLASKER

LEADER: Let us express our commitment to keep God's law.

PEOPLE: God of our salvation, only You are God. We will make no idols. We will not invoke with malice Your name, O God. We will remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy. We will honor our father and our mother. We will not commit murder. We will not commit adultery. We will not steal. We will not be a false witness. We will not covet anything that belongs to our neighbor.

SING: NEARER MY GOD TO THEE!

LEADER: Jesus said: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.

PEOPLE: Jesus also challenged us with a sacred commandment which is like the first: We shall love our neighbor as our self! On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets. (THE ANVIL, 2018)

The Gloria Patri

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. Amen.

Litany for Pastor Appreciation

Leader: Gracious God, we gather today with thankful hearts to honor our pastor, whom you have called to lead and serve Your church.

Congregation: Thank you for his faithfulness in teaching Your Word and for the diligent way he ministers to us.

Leader: We pray for Your Holy Spirit to empower him, to strengthen his hands for the work, and to steady his heart for the battles he face.

Congregation: Lord, may his ministry flow like rivers of living water, bringing hope and restoration to those in need.

Leader: We ask for fresh oil upon him —oil of gladness, wisdom, and breakthrough.

Congregation: Protect him and his family, and may his home be a sanctuary of peace and rest.

Leader: Grant him Your strength, Your vision, and Your peace, that he may continue to serve with a healthy heart and soul.

Congregation: May his legacy be a testimony of Your power and love, and may his name be remembered in Heaven as a faithful servant. In Jesus' name, amen.

Selection.....The Mass Choir

The Welcome & Occasion.....Sis. Mary M. Turner

The Bringing of the Tithes and Offering.....Sis. Barbara Johnson

**Introduction of the Preacher.....Miss Jordan A. Dees
Emanuel A. M. E. Church, Mobile, AL**

**SoloSis. Terri Woods
Emanuel A.M. E. Church, Mobile, AL**

The Preached WordRev. John L. Dees, Jr.
Emanuel A. M. E. Church, Mobile, AL

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The Affirmation of Faith

I believe in GOD the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. The third day He arose from the dead, He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of GOD the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Church Universal, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

Remarks.....The Steward Board

The Benediction.....Rev. John L. Dees, Jr.

The Postlude The Musicians

Known Sick and Shut-In

Sis. Margaret Clark	Home with Family	251- 689 -7807
Sis. Ann Coleman	Crowne Health Care of Mobile	251- 473-8684
Sis. Latasha Hall	Kensington Health Rehab, 550 Congress St	
Sis. Lillie Johnson	1201 Bascombe Street, Mobile, AL	
Sis. Anita Lewis	1563 Lois Dr., Mobile, AL 36605	
Sis. Deborah Mack	1921 Seale Street, Mobile, AL 36617	251- 457- 4619
Bro. Ulysses McNeail	1459 E. Barkley Drive, Mobile 36606	251 - 478 -7144
Sis. Carolyn Oliver	Elmcroft, 3440 Hillcrest Road, Mobile -	
Sis. Geneva Williams	Crowne Health Care- Navco Road	251-473-8684
Sis. Viola Wills	8002 Grelot Rd., Mobile, AL 36695	251-634-8002

Prayer List

Rev. Brandon L. Thornton and First Lady Shaundra Thornton

Sis. Ardelia Andrews	2904 Starlit Drive, Mobile, AL 36693	251-665-5578
Sis. Amelia Cade Bacon		
Sis. Mary Bennett	1619 Lyrick Street, Prichard, AL 36610	251-452 -8648
Bro. Ronnie Blackmon		
Sis. Emmer Bryant	461 Cedar Ave., Mobile 36603	251-680 -4877
Rev. Irmatine Chastang		251-545-5952
Sis. Annie G. Cockrell		
Bro. Chris & Sis. Lenor Drexler		
Sis. Vernett Giles		251-454-5292
Sis. Rosa Gordon		
Bro. Claude Hollings, III		
Sis. Julia James	Rev. Donna James' Mother	
Sis. Faydene Morris	1257 Leo Street, Mobile, AL 36605	251-433-7776
Bro. Tamyrick Nunn		
Sis. Jackie Erskine-Porter		
Sis. Nicole Rucker		
Sis. Aquilla Rush		
Bro. John Rush		
Sis. Tataneshia Rush		
Sis. Diane Smith	1159 Seneca Street, Mobile 36604	251- 433-7217
Bro. Eddie Smith	1159 Seneca Street, Mobile 36604	
Sis. Yurlean Sykes		
Sis. Omega Taylor		
Sis. Katherine Parker-Williams	959 Summerville Street, Mobile 36617	251-455-9566
Bro. Charles Wills, Jr		
Sis. Donna Wills		
Bro. Ronald Witherspoon		
Sis. Vanessa Young-Dickerson		

Bereavement

Please keep the following families in prayer:

Sis. Elaine Goubil Family
Rev. Charles Lewis, Presiding Elder Family
Bro. Leviticus Thomas Family

Rev. John L. Dees, Jr. Family
Sis. Maudette C. Weatherspoon Family
Bro. Claude Dixon Family

Sis. Shirley Jones Family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly Activities

- **Sunday Church School** – 9:00 AM
- **Bible Study** – Wednesdays
 - 6:30 PM (Zoom ID: 282 060 9533)
- **Communion for Sick & Shut-In** – Mondays after 1st Sunday.
Call the church office to schedule:
251-206-0013

Church Office Hours

- Tuesday–Friday | 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Contact: 251-206-0013

Community Outreach:

Upcoming Annual Days (During Worship)

-



Pastor's Upcoming Engagements



Key Contacts

- **Facility Needs** – Sis. Dorothy Crittenden | 251-391-2810
- **Announcements** – Sis. Emma Prince | 251-554-6259
- **Admin Office** – | 251-206-0013
- **Pastor** – Rev. Brandon L. Thornton | 334-614-9217

Information for Memorial Board, Windows, and Altar, please see Sis. Annie Cockrell or Sis. Ann Brown. The Annual Memorial Board is now accepting names for inclusion in this year's Memorial Day Program, which will be held on Sunday, November 16th.

- If you wish to have your loved one's name included in the program, the cost is \$10.00 per name.
- To have a name placed in the church windows, the cost is \$200.00 per name.

Please submit all names and funds by Sunday, October 19th to Sis. Annie Cockrell or Sis. Ann Brown. We appreciate your continued support as we honor the memory of our loved ones.

All men are asked to return to the L C Harris Church School – Men's Class.

Bethel YPD is asking for volunteers and donations to help make this year's Hallelujah Night an evening of fun, food and fellowship! We are asking all Boards, Auxiliaries, Ministries, and members of Bethel to sign up to Serve, Participate, and Donate! We need volunteers service to work food and activity booths for this carnival theme event, lots and lots of vehicles along with their appropriately decorated trunks, lots of treats along with the owners, donation, donations and more donations, we will need prizes for all ages to give for our games as well as additional treats. Please see Sis. Morgan Peterson to sign up, donate and or any questions **ALL PERSONS THAT ARE VOLUNTEERING FOR AND DONATING TO HALLELUJAH NIGHT, PLEASE MEET WITH SIS. MORGAN PETERSON IMMEDIATELY AFTER SERVICE TODAY IN THE SANCTUARY. THANK YOU!**

The National Montford Point Marines Association, Inc. – Mobile Chapter, requests the pleasure of your company at our 16th Annual Marine Corps Ball as we celebrate the 250th Marine Corps Birthday and Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony, November 8, 2025, honoring the Late Major General J. Gary Cooper who the Mobile Chapter is being named for. For additional information, please contact Bro. Walt Dickerson, 251-367-0336

Bethel's College Students

Pray for their Success

Kennedy Black,
Alivia Cannon,
Chelsea Cooper,
Khelsea Cooper,
Sarah Fair
Kellen Fairley,
Marlon Fairley
Jazzlyn Gaillard,
Kierra Giles,
Samiah Morris,
Ethan Oliver
Jalen Prince-Woodland,
Winston Salter,
Wynstonee Salter,

BETHEL HIGHLIGHTS

Happy Birthday this week October Birthdays

Goubil, Bro. Forrest “Tony”	October 21
Howard, Sis. Alberta	October 22
Howard, Bro. Bernard	October 22
Bacon, Sis. Amelia C.	October 22
Mason, Sis. Delores C.	October 22
Williams, Sis. Amicale	October 22
Black, Kennedy	October 25
Blackwell-Gaston, Sis. Davolyn J.	October 25

**REVEREND
JOHN DEES, JR.
PREACHER**
 PASTOR
 EMANUEL A.M.E. CHURCH



ALL MEN ARE INVITED TO ATTEND
**S.O.A.
NIGHT**
 AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
 WEDNESDAY EVENING
OCTOBER 22, 2025
6:00PM (CST)

SAMUEL CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH 717 W PRICHARD AVENUE, MOBILE, AL 36610
 BRO. TERRY JONES, SOUTHWEST ALABAMA COORDINATOR

FRIDAY
Oct 31
 5:00PM-7:00PM

BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH PRESENTS



**Halloween
Night**
 & TRUNK OR TREAT

714 SAVANNAH ST. • MOBILE, AL 36603
 WWW.BETHELAAMECHURCHMOBILE.COM | @BETHELCHURCHMOBILE | @BETHELCHURCHMOBILE9
 REVEREND BRANDON L. THORNTON, PASTOR

METROPOLITAN A.M.E. CHURCH



120
Church
 ANNIVERSARY
 NOV. 9TH, 2025
 2:30 p.m.

GUEST SPEAKER
 Rev. Brandon Thornton



750 MARTIN LUTHER
 KING, JR. AVE
 MOBILE, ALABAMA





Bishop Julius H.
McAllister, Jr.,



ANNUAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE 2025



Supervisor Deana
Young McAllister

SIXTEENTH SESSION OF

ALABAMA RIVER REGION *Annual Conference*

SATURDAY **AUG 16** | TUESDAY **AUG 19** | WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY **AUG 20-22**
YPD ANNUAL DAY | WMS ANNUAL DAY | BUSINESS SESSIONS & WORSHIP SERVICES

HOST CHURCH

ST. JOHN'S A.M.E. CHURCH

807 Madison Avenue // Montgomery, Alabama 36104

HOST PASTORS
The Reverend Roosevelt &
The Reverend Shelia Williams

HOST PRESIDING ELDER
The Reverend Dr.
Jacquelyn L. Densons

NORTHWEST ALABAMA *Annual Conference*

SATURDAY **SEPT 6** | TUESDAY **SEPT 9** | WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY **SEPT 10-12**
YPD ANNUAL DAY | WMS ANNUAL DAY | BUSINESS SESSIONS & WORSHIP SERVICES

HOST CHURCH

BRYANT CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH

3125 Spaulding Street SW // Birmingham, Alabama 35221

HOST PASTOR
The Reverend
Damien Littlejohn

HOST PRESIDING ELDER
The Reverend
Gloria A. Hall

SOUTHEAST ALABAMA *Annual Conference*

SATURDAY **SEPT 20** | TUESDAY **SEPT 23** | WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY **SEPT 24-26**
YPD ANNUAL DAY | WMS ANNUAL DAY | BUSINESS SESSIONS & WORSHIP SERVICES

HOST CHURCH

ST. JOHN A.M.E. CHURCH

901 Dale Road // Eufaula, Alabama 36027

HOST PASTOR
The Reverend
Carlton Worthen

HOST PRESIDING ELDER
The Reverend Dr.
Frederick D. Sherrod, III

NORTHEAST ALABAMA *Annual Conference*

SATURDAY **OCT 4** | TUESDAY **OCT 7** | WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY **OCT 8-10**
YPD ANNUAL DAY | WMS ANNUAL DAY | BUSINESS SESSIONS & WORSHIP SERVICES

HOST CHURCH

SAINT LUKE A.M.E. CHURCH

1308 Auburn Street // Opelika, Alabama 36801

HOST PASTOR
The Reverend
AMonique Summers

HOST PRESIDING ELDER
The Reverend
Raymond B. Swafford

SOUTHWEST ALABAMA *Annual Conference*

SATURDAY **OCT 18** | TUESDAY **OCT 21** | WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY **OCT 22-24**
YPD ANNUAL DAY | WMS ANNUAL DAY | BUSINESS SESSIONS & WORSHIP SERVICES

HOST CHURCH

SAMUEL CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH

717 W Prichard Avenue // Prichard, Alabama 36104

HOST PASTOR
The Reverend
Vernon McLeod

HOST PRESIDING ELDER
The Reverend
Charles Lewis

Ninth Episcopal District **PLANNING MEETING**

THURSDAY - SATURDAY
NOV 20-22

VENUE

RENAISSANCE HOTEL

Montgomery, Alabama

SERMON APPLICATION

HEARING GOD'S WORD IN THE SERMON

Since we forget 90% of what we hear, it has been suggested that note-taking will double the percentage of what we may receive during the hearing of God's Word.

PARTICIPATE IN THE SERMON

SERMON SCRIPTURE: _____

SERMON TITLE: _____

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES: _____

THE OUTLINE OF THE MAIN POINTS:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

WHAT WAS GOD SAYING SPECIFICALLY TO ME DURING THE SERMON?