

CELEBRATE
CELEBRATE
CELEBRATE

September Birthdays


LaDonna Holmes ~ September 11th
F. Marguerite King ~ September 19th
Alvin Williams ~ September 21st
Ezekial Smalls Jr.~ September 21st
Mahki K. Holmes ~ September 25th

Bethesda Herald Newsletter

We would like to place all Anniversaries, Birthdays, Graduations and Special Achievements and church information in the Newsletter, but we need your help. Please submit to church email:

bethesdachristianfellowship36@gmail.com

Sister Barbara Jean Holmes



We Continue to pray for and with those who are waiting for healing and Deliverance.

Reminder

BEAUFORT COUNTY YOUTH 2025 CONFERENCE

Saturday, September 20th 9 a.m.- 2p.m.

An anticipated event that aims to bring together rising middle and high school students from all over to address and tackle pressing challenges.

REGISTER NOW!


More Information
Lynn: 843-476-1888
Brandon: 843-321-0373
Carrie: 843-812-4399

USCB- 801 Carteret St.





Sponsored by local businesses and organizations.



BETHESDA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Post Office Box 515
Saint Helena Island, South Carolina 29920

Youth

Choir Members

Bethesda Christian Fellowship

Youth Choir rehearsal will be held every Saturday before the Second (2nd) and Third (3rd) Sundays from 10:00 am to 11:30 pm unless you receive a message indicating a time change or rehearsal will be cancelled.

If you are in grades Sixth (6th) to Twelfth (12th) and you're interested in becoming a member of the Youth Choir Ministry please join us during those rehearsal times.

Thank you,
Youth Choir Director
Sister Gwen Smith

Bethesda Christian Fellowship Livestreaming



Join Us on Sunday Mornings For Our Teaching and Learning Experiences

Sunday Worship Services can be accessed via livestreaming on Sundays at 10 AM on:

- Bethesda Christian Fellowship Facebook page [Bethesda Christian Fellowship - Home | Facebook](#)
- Bethesda Christian Fellowship live stream on YouTube [live stream Bethesda Christian Fellowship - YouTube](#)
- Our webpage [Bethesda Christian Fellowship \(revmediatv.com\)](#)

(Remember to Like the Bethesda Page.)

BETHESDA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP


Access the broadcast by phone at 1(848)777-1500 - Conference ID 8438384410 - Access Code

WISDOM AND WONDER IN GOD'S WORD

Please join us for "Wisdom and Wonder in God's Word" segment that's livestreamed every Wednesday at 1:00 pm on Facebook.

Sermons can be found on our Bethesda Christian Fellowship Facebook page. Edited versions can be found on YouTube at Bethesda Christian Fellowship St. Helena Island, as well as, under Sermons on our webpage.

Stamp Here



Bishop Kenneth C. Doe ~ Overseer

From The Bishop's Desk

Then It Came To Me...

"Can We Be Friends? I know this question sounds like an invitation to engage in a special relationship, to share special times good and bad, to hold out a special hope for one another. While these phrases describe some of the good things about friendship, the initial question is not an invitation to these things. "Can We Be Friends?" For our purpose, this question goes to the foundational matter that should be settled before any invitation is extended. Our theme begs a broader understanding of and commitment to key foundational concepts upon which friendship is built. "Do we have what it takes to be friends? Do we understand the depth and breadth of friendship? Are we walking in sacrificial, unconditional love? Are we stable? Do we guard trusts and keep - confidences? Do we speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15)? While these questions are not exhaustive, they do point to matters essential for good, godly friendships. Christians will profit greatly by embracing the larger issue, "Can we be friends?" before making the invitation, "Let's be friends." It is lamentable to see the decaying remains of aborted friendships too often marring the landscape of our church and para-church groups. These rotting heaps of fallen friendship reflect what could have been, should have been, used to be, or never should have been. The mounds of decaying friendship flesh become the breeding ground for infections that are carried into new "friendships." Persons who leave trails of decaying friendships are usually unready for the next friendship. Friendships predicated on the hurts brought from failed friendships most often fail themselves. The quick-fix, fast paced drive for momentary satisfaction is part of the seducing spirit bringing havoc to so many areas of the body of Christ, including friendship. We must resurrect the drive for enduring, committed, tried and true, godly friendship.

The Bethesda Herald

A Ministry of Bethesda Christian Fellowship

September 2025



The Place of the Outpouring

We must learn and follow the patterns of Jesus the Christ, other scriptural models, and saints around us who evidence a mastery of the Word of God as it relates to "friends" and "friendship." Let us notice a few scriptural reflections and directives on the matter. Proverbs 16:28b ~ "and a whisperer separateth chief friends." Proverbs 17:9 ~ "He that covereth (not covers up) a transgression seeketh (secures) love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends." Proverbs 17:17 ~ "A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." May you and I be challenged to bear fruit worthy of our Lord's name. May we be led to personalize the theme of this writing and deal with the matter, "Can I Be A Friend?". Do I have what it takes? Do I possess the skill and will to be a godly friend? If not, what am I going to do about that? "Can We Be Friends?"

Shalom, my Friends,
Bishop Kenneth C. Doe

Old School Gospel Concert



WALKING IN EXCELLENCE: A JUBILEE CELEBRATION

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

BISHOP KENNETH C. DOE, D. MIN

1975 2025... OVERSEER

BETHESDA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Save the Dates

"Bishop Doe: This Is Your Life"

Saturday, October 25, 2025 – 3:00 PM
Bethesda Christian Fellowship

Bethesda's 88th Church Anniversary Worship Service

Sunday, November 9, 2025 – 10:00 AM
Bethesda Christian Fellowship

Bishop Doe's 50th Anniversary Worship Service

Sunday, November 16, 2025 – 10:00 AM
Bethesda Christian Fellowship

Jubilee Anniversary Banquet

Saturday, November 16, 2025 – 3:00 PM
Holiday Inn, 2225 Boundary St., Beaufort, SC

Tickets \$50 per person



BETHESDA'S SENIOR SAINTS



Captain Otis J. Whitehead

Otis J. Whitehead was born June 18th, 1934 in Hawkinsville, Ga. His parent moved to Miami, Florida in 1935. At 18 years old he joined the United States Marine Corps, where he met his wife Emma Wilkerson Whitehead. On August 31, 2025 they celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary.

Otis J. Whitehead, retired from the Marine Corps after serving 25 years of loyal service, achieving the rank of Captain. He has lived a life defined by service, leadership, and dedication to his country. A Vietnam War veteran, he retired honorably in 1977. He went on to serve over a decade as a JROTC instructor, mentoring young cadets with the same discipline and integrity that shaped his military career. His story has been recorded in the Library of Congress Veterans History Project, preserving his service for future generations to come.

Otis and Emma Whitehead are parents of 9 children, 25 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, and 4 great-great grandchildren.

He enjoys fishing and outdoor activities. He is loved by those who meet him, and a respected member of his community.



Capt. Whitehead's life and legacy continue to inspire all who value the dedication and sacrifice of those who serve our nation.



Arthermae (Smalls) Alston
Widow of 1st Sgt. William Alston,
USMC Retired

Born on the sacred grounds of St. Helena Island, South Carolina, in the late 1930s, Sister Arthermae Alston is the beloved only daughter of the late Deacon Benjamin Smalls and Geneva Smalls. Raised alongside her two brothers, the late Sidney and William Smalls, she came to know the Lord early in life. She accepted Christ and was baptized at the age of 13 at St. Joseph Baptist Church, the predecessor of Bethesda Christian Fellowship.

Sister Arthermae was educated at the historic Penn School and graduated from St. Helena High School in 1957. She later continued her education and earned an Associate Degree in Business Management from Beaufort Technical College.

She married and began her family life in Port Royal, where she has been a faithful resident for more than 60 years. She is the proud mother of two children, Gregory and Alison, a loving grandmother of three, and a joyful great-grandmother of two beautiful "grand blessings."

A devoted servant of the Lord, Sister Arthermae has given over 73 years of faithful service to the church. Most recently, she served as Recording Secretary for the Bethesda Christian Fellowship Building Committee. Alongside fellow committee members, she helped research, plan, and design the beautiful sanctuary we worship in today—a project she regards with great pride and gratitude to God.

Professionally, Sister Arthermae retired in May 2001 from the Beaufort County School District,



where she worked diligently as a Library Assistant. Now in retirement, she enjoys sharing her love through cooking and baking for family and friends, and traveling to visit her children and grandchildren.

In August, Sister Arthermae will joyfully celebrate her 87th birthday. Her life remains a testament to enduring faith, unwavering love of family, and steadfast commitment to her church and community.

BETHESDA'S SENIOR SAINTS

Seniors 80 to 89 years old are asked to submit a brief bio and two pictures to the church secretary to be featured in the Bethesda Herald Newsletter in the upcoming months. We will be reaching out to family members for the information.

Thank you in advance.

"A Seniors' Perspective"



Growing In Grace !!!

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen. 2nd Peter 3:18
Right now, we are doing just that, we are growing in grace and in the knowledge of our Savior. Those around us see this growth and realize that the Master artist is at work. They honor Him as a result. Someday soon, when this life ends the paintbrush and palette will be put away. The last stitch will have been added, the tools will go back in the sculptor's tool kit. We will be at last what our creator intended from the first. Others will see that, and for all eternity they will praise His artistry.

Submitted by,
Sis C. Bennett

Black History Erased

Throughout history, Black communities in America have built thriving towns—only to have them stolen, destroyed, and erased. In five such cases—Oscarville, GA; Ferguson, SC; Little Egypt, NC; Vanport, OR; and Kowaliga, AL—entire Black towns were forcibly emptied and submerged

under water, often under the guise of "progress" or public works projects. What were once bustling communities filled with homes, businesses, schools, and churches now lie buried beneath lakes, their histories nearly forgotten. These were not accidents, whether through violent racial expulsions, unfair eminent domain seizures, or deliberate neglect, the residents of these towns were forced from their land with little to no compensation. Their loss meant more than just the destruction of homes—it was the theft of generational wealth and culture. Today, these lakes serve as recreational spots, their dark past hidden beneath the surface. But the stories of the families who lived, worked, and built their lives in these places must not be lost. This is their history.

ANOTHER BURIED COMMUNITY
Oscarville, GA



GAINESVILLE, Ga. — Lake Lanier is a Georgia landmark, but before it became part of the state's landscape there was the town of Oscarville.

It was formed in the late 1800s during the Reconstruction era. Georgia history teacher Lisa Crosby said Oscarville was a thriving Black community full of carpenters, blacksmiths, and bricklayers, with farming as the top trade. "They had a miraculous farming growth here while the rest of the state was really struggling," she said.

That was the case until 1912, when Mae Crow, a 19-year-old white woman, was found dead in the woods near Oscarville, presumably after being raped.

"Typically, the answer to white girls being raped was to go to the Black communities and start blaming people," Crosby said.

When nightfall came, terror began to reign over Oscarville; Crosby said mobs came together called night riders, and they drove the Black community out. "They were awakened by fires outside, firebombs thrown in the church," he

said. "The church was the centerfold of the community so anytime something happened, guess where everyone would go? To the church," he said. "Well, they attacked the church where everyone was resting for a sense of protection." Many people died during the attack trying to get to Gainesville. George Rucker, a direct descendant who has traced his lineage four generations back to Oscarville, told the story of his great-grandfather, Byrd Oliver and how their entire family was forced off their land. "When the night riders came through, they had to leave everything," he said. "The main thing they left was property and my grandfather had 100 acres." After the destruction, in the late 1950s, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers flooded the land in the 1950s to create Lake Lanier, erasing the remnants of Oscarville. Families who had owned property for generations received little or no compensation, and the descendants of those displaced still struggle to reclaim their stolen land.

August Sermon Recap

August 3rd

GOD's Plan for Our Good= Christ Our Redeemer

Romans 3: 16-17

Bishop Kenneth C. Doe

August 10th

In the Midst, and Beyond

Psalms 34:19; John 16:33;

Romans 5:1-5; James 1:2-4

Bishop Kenneth C. Doe

August 17th

Maintaining My Relationship with GOD

Romans 8: 38-39

Bishop Kenneth C. Doe

August 24th

The Buried Blessing, a Trick of Satan

Matthew 25: 18,25-30

Bishop Kenneth C. Doe

August 31st

Thank GOD for the Sanctuary

Psalms 73: 16-17

Bishop Kenneth C. Doe

September Awareness Month

Ovarian Cancer

At present, there is no known method to prevent **ovarian cancer**, but some things appear to reduce a woman's risk of developing the disease. They include:

- **Oral contraception:** Birth control pills reduce the risk of ovarian cancer especially among women who use them for several years. Compared with women who never used oral contraceptive, those who used oral contraceptives for 3 years or more have about a 30%-50% lower risk of developing ovarian cancer.
- **Breast feeding and pregnancy:** Having one or more children, particularly if the first is born before age 25, and breast feeding may decrease a woman's risk.
- **Tubal ligation:** This is a surgical procedure in which the fallopian tubes are tied to prevent pregnancy. This procedure reduces the relative risk of developing ovarian cancer. Its use as a risk reduction strategy may be appropriate for high risk individuals and should be discussed with your physician.
- **Hysterectomy:** A Hysterectomy has been demonstrated to reduce the relative risk of ovarian cancer. A woman should not have a hysterectomy exclusively to avoid the risk of ovarian cancer, but if one is being performed for valid medical reasons and she has a family history of ovarian or breast cancer or is over age forty, she should discuss concurrent ovary removal with her physician.
- **Prophylactic oophorectomy:** Oophorectomy is the surgical removal of one or both ovaries. Only recommended for certain high risk patients, the operation eliminates the risk for ovarian cancer, but not the risk for a less common cancer called Primary Peritoneal Carcinoma. This cancer is similar to ovarian cancer in spread, presentation and treatment. Discussion with your physician is necessary to determine your individual risk and options for prophylactic surgery.