

Women of Excellence Ministry  
Young Men Young Women  
Youth Choir  
Youth Crusade/Revival  
Youth Ushers



Frank J. Major ~ Jan. 1st  
Evelyn Washington ~ Jan. 7th  
Jasmine D. Smalls ~ Jan. 15th  
Darlene Ann Ellington ~ Jan. 24th  
Arnold Smalls ~ Jan. 30th

### Interesting facts about Martin Luther King Jr.



The annual King Holiday Observance is a time that we celebrate, commemorate and honor the life, legacy and impact of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Global

citizens will have unique opportunities to learn and unite in celebration of Dr. King's groundbreaking work and Mrs. Coretta Scott King's powerful continuation and formal institutionalization of that work through a variety of engaging events hosted by The King Center leading up to The King Holiday on January 15th, 2024.

As we witness nations around the world continue to struggle under the weight of violence, hate and poverty, today's social, political and economic landscape reveals the urgent necessity of Dr. King's philosophy and methodology of Nonviolence (Nonviolence365™). The King Center leads the charge to provide education and training in Nonviolence365; while serving as the vital living memorial of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Our strategic theme for 2024 is 'Shifting the Cultural

Climate through the Study and Practice of Kingian Nonviolence'. This theme defines the 2024 King Holiday Observance events and programming while serving as a compass for all the work we will do this upcoming calendar year and beyond. The pioneering work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. demonstrated that Kingian Nonviolence (Nonviolence365™) is the sustainable solution to injustice and violence in our world, ultimately leading to the creation of the Beloved Community, where injustice ceases and love prevails. The King Center welcomes and invites you to join this movement for a new future as we strive to cultivate a Beloved Community Mindset, and ultimately transform unjust systems.



Fresh Produce Distributions  
St. Helena Elementary School  
1025 Sea Island Parkway  
St. Helena, SC 29920

### SPRING 2024 SCHEDULE

All Times 10 am to 12 noon  
This Is A NO-COST Event

#### Dates:

Friday, February 9th  
Friday, March 8th  
Friday, April 12th  
Friday Mat 10th



### Bethesda Newsletter

We would like to place all Anniversaries, Birthdays, Graduations and Special Achievements and church information in the Newsletter, but we need your help. Submit to church secretary - Sister Barbara Jean Holmes email: bethesdachristianfellowship36@gmail.com Honor Roll Students ~ Submit a Photo

### December Sermon Recap

**December 3rd ~ Only The Blood**

1 John 1:5-10; Hebrews 12:1; 1 Peter 5:7

**December 10th ~ Steady and Stable**

Isaiah 26:3; Isaiah 24: 22-23; Isaiah 25:1

**December 17th ~ From Not Enough to more than Enough ~** Luke 2:1-7; John 14: 1-4

**December 24th ~ Be Fit to Die**

Luke 2:25-40

**December 31st ~ Boundaries**

Deuteronomy 32:1-47

**December 31st~ Watch Night**

**Dealing with Distractions ~** Nehemiah 6:1-16

### "Say It Loud Essay Writing"

- Open to Bethesda Christian Fellowship Students Grades 4<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>
- Must be written by the child
- This is not an essay contest
- Each child may be asked to verbally support his/her work
- Must be written with clarity
- Participants will be asked to share essays with the church family as assigned throughout the year.
- Any theme or topic or any person or concerns related to blacks in history.
- 4<sup>th</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> - One full Paragraph (5 or 6 sentences)
- Middle school - One Full Page
- High School - Two Full Pages
- Double-spaced
- **Deadline:** Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at Noon (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday)

Please Turn-In reports to **Sis. Debra Robinson**

Stamp



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

# HOLY CONVOCATION

## IV 2024 XLV

### GOD SAYS, I'M BLESSED

**MONDAY~JANUARY 1ST**  
**REVELATION**  
**MATTHEW 16:13-19**

**TUESDAY~JANUARY 2ND**  
**WHEN YOU SEE ME COMING**  
**MATTHEW 23:39**

**WEDNESDAY~JANUARY 3RD**  
**HOW SHALL WE BE FOUND**  
**MATTHEW 24:36-51**

**THURSDAY~JANUARY 4TH**  
**SAYING WHAT MARY SAID**  
**LUKE 1:26-55**

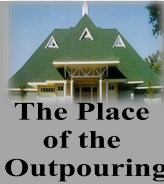
**FRIDAY~JANUARY 5TH**  
**LORD, HELP ME TO HOLD OUT**  
**JAMES 1:12-25**





# The Bethesda Herald

A Ministry of Bethesda Christian Fellowship



From The Bishop's Desk

## Then It Came To Me...

"...Walking in the Power of the Holy Spirit." Are the "spiritual" and "earthbound" aspects of life mutually exclusive? Is there some measure of synthesis, or coming together, of the two? All of the time? Some of the time? How do my spiritual beliefs impact my earthly existence?

My beloved, in biblical Christianity, the believers' earthly life is a spiritual matter. Christianity informs and influences all of life. For the Christian, all of life is sacred, and all life is sacred. We exist in a society dominated by western thoughts and values. Unfortunately, western thought maintains a strict compartmentalization of life. In this way of thinking, one's life can and does maintain the sacred and the secular, the holy and the unholy, Christian and pagan ideals.

We realize that in this world, the sacred and secular, holy and unholy, Christian and pagan separations are real and appropriate. These ways of the world cannot, however, be appropriated in the believer. II Corinthians 5:17 explicitly states, "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." Consequently, all pursuits for the Christian, becomes Christian. How is this done? How do we pursue life God style?

Christians must be aligned with, connected to and committed to one life-force, the Holy Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit is identified as our Comforter, Guide, and Teacher. Through Him, we are empowered to live as "new creatures." Jesus Christ promises the Holy Spirit:

♦ John 14:15-18a, "If you love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know

Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless."

♦ Acts 1:8, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." The fulfillment of Jesus' promise is recorded in Acts 2.

♦ Acts 2:4, "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Saints, we are heirs, recipients, and participants in this promise of our Lord. Through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit of God, we are empowered. As we see ourselves as our Lord sees us, eternal spiritual beings traveling through the boundaries we call time, we will understand that this is only accomplished by, "Walking In The Power Of The Holy Spirit!!"

Shalom, my Friends,  
Bishop Kenneth C. Doe

## CHURCH'S MISSION STATEMENT AND VISION REVISITED

Our church's Mission Statement and Vision are shared again in this issue. The beginning of the calendar year seems an appropriate time to focus on these matters. Any Christian church or fellowship must have a clear, Holy Bible generated Mission Statement. This might be compared to the heart in the human body or the engine in an automobile. It is most essential. The Mission Statement is the general, over-arching goal of the church.

The Vision might be called the meat on the bones. The Vision includes those particular matters (Visions) that the Lord wills for that church to embrace in fulfilling its goal. The function of every branch of ministry in our church must be rooted in this church's Mission Statement and Vision. There are to be no independent satellites in

the local church. So, while each ministry works out its particular function through those called or given to that work, all of the parts are integral to the one body. Prayerfully read and be joined (again) with these critical components of our church.

## BETHESDA'S MISSION STATEMENT

As a Christian fellowship, we seek to fulfill the biblical mandate to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the world. It is our sincere intent to participate with the Lord in the salvation of the lost, the reclaiming of backsliders, the maturing of our fellowship, and serving as "salt and light" in our community and the world.

As agents for God in His reconciling purpose for the world, we are committed to exploring in depth the theological bases the Holy Bible offers for Christian World Mission. In pursuing this, we affirm the relatedness of the church's Mission to every phase of life and work of the church.

Consequently, it is imperative that the entire congregation be involved in our Church's Mission. We engage to maintain an effective education program regarding this mission.

\*cf. *Matthew 28:19-20, 4:19; Mark 1:17; Acts 1:8, 2:38; II Corinthians 5:17-21; Ephesians 2:13-22*

## GOD'S VISION FOR BETHESDA

"Without a Vision, the People Perish" (Proverbs 29:18) With a view toward understanding the VISION proper, it seems wise and necessary to express the connection between our church's mission statement and "God's Vision" for this house. The mission statement is the over-arching, general expression of God's will for this church. Evangelism-the making of disciples, Christian Education- providing sound biblical teaching for sustaining and maturing in the Lord, and an ongoing openness to the continual move of the Spirit of God as revealed in His Word, provide the understanding, the

umbrella under which the Lord orchestrates specific directives to individual churches and ministries. So, in the local church, the instructions/directives given by the Lord through the Pastor constitute God's VISION for that local assembly. The VISION, while specific, does not necessarily include every step in bringing forth each aspect of the VISION. Many things are worked out among church leadership and the congregation

In the VISION, the Lord gives the rallying point (s) around which all believers in that church are to convene. So, through God's sovereign will, He orders the steps of each believer (Psalm 37:23) to participate in His plan (VISION) for that place. Here is an illustration that may better express or clarify the source and function of the VISION.

It is the Lord who takes His leader for that fellowship to that certain place. Here, that leader is shown "the way" to heaven, our destination. Between where that fellowship stands and its destination, the Lord reveals His will for those certain ministries that this church must implement, support, and/or work out. This revelation of specifics (the VISION) is a direct fleshing out of those general affirmations of the church's Mission Statement.

Also, the Lord's revelation of His VISION for that house need not include every matter between the present and destiny. After all, seasons of ministry change. The work of one season should set the framework for the VISION for the next .

So, accurate assessment of the VISION for the present age bridges from those ministries already functioning through those being called forth into existence.

The next article in this series will give an overview of existing ministries as well as those being called into existence by our Lord. This article and the next share a comprehensive understanding of where we have been brought and where the Lord is taking us (the VISION).

We are careful to remember that all Glory, Honor, and Praise belong to our Lord alone. While encouraged and humbled by His Grace and Mercy, we are "Walking in Excellence."

## Fulfilling Our Mission and Vision Through Ministries

Seeking to understand God's unfolding plan for our church family, we build on the Mission and Vision Statements offered earlier. How are those general sentences of the Mission Statement and the more specific assignments of the Vision being fleshed out among us? It would probably help if we would consult the last issue of *The Herald* and acquaint ourselves with these important items.

This issue shares a list of ministries currently in operation. Please know that individual or group listings do not necessarily reflect all items or acts of ministry occurring in that ministry. This list gives indications of the parameter or scope of ministries we are currently effecting. During future issues individual ministries will be highlighted. We, as members of the family or fellowship of believers, must continue to seek ways and be open to the leading of our LORD concerning ministries. Through dedicated Godly leaders, committed followers / participants, commitment to the ongoing maturing of our fellowship, and relentless dedication to sharing the gospel message locally and abroad, we remain ready to hear and heed the voice of God. We remain consistently involved in becoming all He desires us to be. So, those ministries already listed are the core of current involvement. We must know, though, that our LORD'S Vision for this house continues to be revealed.

Our LORD desires the completion of our next phase of building. This facility, whether it is called a family life center, activities center or whatever, will permit much ministry development. Consider this: Bethesda Academy, a graded school, will be housed; an industrial kitchen, supporting the school and other community outreach, will be included; our physical plant could then support clothing storage and a food pantry; seniors of our fellowship and community could enjoy a meeting space; afterschool programs will be housed; health and vision screenings for the young and old could be accommodated; children and seniors in need could receive grooming perks with our blessings. The possibilities continue to flow. Some of these things will begin in

our current plant. We will soon develop and initiate a "weekend hotline." This will be a resource for teens who may be out and about, finding themselves in need of counsel. "The last stop" ministry will offer compassion, the gospel, and a snack to those in the streets who need and desire to clarify things before going home. Also, the LORD desires us to be a location offering Bible College and Seminary instruction for those desiring and needing it. We must also seek to develop, implement or simply house ministries that focus on helping under-employed persons and single parents needing to improve their employability by gaining skills for better employment. So, you see the future holds much work. What is currently in place is in no way conclusive. We continue to seek God's face concerning new ministries.

Shalom, my Friends,  
Bishop Kenneth C. Doe

## Bethesda Ministries

Administration  
Advance Directive ministry  
Altar Workers Ministry  
Audio/Video Ministry  
Bethesda Herald Newsletter  
Bible Study  
Brotherhood  
Deacons Ministry  
Deaconess Ministry  
Episodic Evangelistic Outreach Ministry  
Gospel Drill Team Ministry  
Intercessory Prayer  
Jail and Prison Ministries  
Junior and Senior Praise Dancers  
Kingdom Covenant Ministry  
Kitchen Ministry  
Male Chorus  
Marriage Ministry  
Mime Ministry  
Ministry of the Word (Spoken Word)  
Missionary Ministry  
New Convert/Member Ministry  
Ongoing Community Outreach Ministry  
Scholarship Ministry  
Senior Sanctuary Choir  
Senior Ushers  
Singles Ministry  
Sunbeam Choir  
Sunday School  
Transportation Ministry  
Trustees Ministry  
Tuesday Evening Academy  
Vacation Bible School  
Voices of Victory  
Wednesday Evening Academy  
Women Chorus