# On the Inside: Facts About Mental Health Kidz Corner Book of the Month Celebrating Birthdays Happenings at Brookland MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH



#### 2025 DECLARATION

"No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgement you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me, says the Lord." (Isaiah 54:17 NKJV)

God is saying to me tonight no weapon formed against me shall prosper and every tongue that rises against me in judgement He will condemn. God says "As one of His children, I may encounter battles that may feel overwhelming, but never forget He is my Shield and my Defender. Though the enemy's arrows are aimed at me, they will miss their mark. What was meant to harm me will only fortify my faith and draw me closer to Him.

I will not fear the words spoken against me. God will give me the power to silence them. Every accusation will crumble and God's truth and love will prevail. I am not without protection. I am wrapped in God's righteousness. God has already secured my victory over every challenge.

When I feel surrounded by darkness, I will remember God is my Protector. The shadows may seem to close in, but they will never extinguish God's light. God's hand is upon me guiding and guarding me through the storm. I will rise above it all, untouched by the destruction that seeks to shake me. My inheritance is one of peace, strength and divine favor. God is the One who defends me, covers me and lifts me to higher ground. My heart rests in this truth.

I have already fought and won the battle. I am more than a conqueror through Jesus Christ. I will stand firm in my faith. I will not let the winds of doubt or the lies of the enemy discourage and depress me. God has equipped me with all I need to stand my ground and own the victory that is mine. Though weapons may be formed, they will not succeed. Though the enemy may attempt to block my blessings, prevent my ascent, steal my joy and destroy my relationship with Christ, they will not prevail.

God is with me always and insuring that nothing can stop God's plan for my prosperity. In 2025 my strive is to be the head and not the tail; to live above and not beneath; to become a lender and not a borrower. I am God's child and I boldly claim Kingdom citizenship and the privileges and promises of my Heavenly Father."

## **Features**



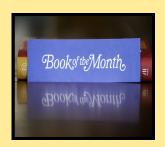
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The Brookland Baptist Church is located at 1066 Sunset Boulevard, West Columbia, SC 29169 and 1203 Summit Parkway, Columbia, SC 29229.

The mission of the Brookland Baptist Church is to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ through Evangelism, Education and Economic Empowerment.

The Brookland Star is published monthly by the Brookland Baptist Church. Submit all articles, announcements, celebrations and photographs to

> TheStar@brookland.cc by MAY 16 2025

The **JUNE** edition of *The Brookland Star* will be published online **JUNE 1, 2025** 



#### Pastoral Staff

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Pastor of Online Engagement

Rev. Betty Brown Lead Associate Minister



## Black Mental Health: What You Need To Know

We know that people of all ethnicities and cultures experience mental health conditions, and that Black individuals experience mental health challenges at rates similar to other groups. However, when considering the mental health of Black Americans, it's important to look at historical and cultural factors, some of which have led to significant disparities. For example, 25% of Black people seek mental health treatment when needed, compared to 40% of white people.

When Christine M. Crawford, MD, MPH, was doing her psychiatric rotation in medical school, she knew psychiatry was her calling. But when she shared that she decided to become a psychiatrist instead of specializing in another field of medicine, the response she received was one of disappointment. "One person asked why I didn't want to become a 'real' doctor," Crawford said. "Another asked why I would want to work with 'those' people." Crawford said it was challenging to hear this from those closest to her—individuals she knew to be compassionate, smart, and supportive to others. Crawford, who is Black, said at that point she truly understood the depth of mental health stigma in the Black community. "Ironically, as my career as a psychiatrist progressed," she said, "I came to learn that many who responded most negatively to my career choice were the very people I was dedicating my life to helping—African Americans who silently live with mental health challenges for fear of being judged."

The stigma of mental health isn't new to the Black community. Martin Luther King Jr. reportedly had severe depression during periods of his life and refused psychiatric treatment, even when urged to seek care by his staff. Unfortunately, that scenario continues to be common today, with African Americans not seeking mental health care because of stigma. "We can all work together to recognize and address this challenge," Crawford said. "But to do so, we must understand where it comes from and why it is so ingrained in our culture."

The root of mental health stigma among Black people can be traced back to slavery. At that time, it was commonly thought enslaved people were not sophisticated enough to develop depression, anxiety, or other mental health disorders.

"From those historic misconceptions, we learned to ignore mental health symptoms or call them other terms, like 'stress' and 'being tired,'" Crawford said.

Such nuanced descriptions for depression and other mental health disorders—adopted by the Black community and passed on from generation to generation—led to underestimating the effects and impact of mental health conditions. Also, it strengthened beliefs that a psychiatric disorder is a personal weakness. Crawford explained that "all these factors created a culture that is fearful and uninformed about mental health."



Black people are far less likely to seek care. Statistics tell us that about 25% of African Americans seek mental health treatment, compared to 40% of white Americans. Unequal access to health care is one major contributor to this disparity. Nearly 10% of Black people in the U.S. do not have health insurance, compared to 5.2% of non-Hispanic white people.

When members of the Black community do seek mental health care, they are more likely to receive it from an emergency department than from a mental health specialist.

According to Crawford, other reasons Black Americans receive less care include "the lack of cultural sensitivity by health care professionals, African Americans feeling marginalized, and the reliance on family, community, and spiritual support instead of medical or psychiatric treatment—even when it is critically necessary."

Black people can also face prejudice from health care providers. Communication between providers and patients can differ for African American patients compared with white patients In one study, physicians working with Black patients were 33% less likely to engage in patient-centered communications than they were with white patients. Such discriminatory practices have been connected to patients' increased psychological distress.

One barrier to treatment for African Americans may be an understandable mistrust in the medical and mental health systems.

For example, research studies are less likely to include members of the Black population. There are also historical cases, such as the Tuskegee syphilis experiment (1932-1972), in which Black people were subjected to medical experiments without their permission.

Another obstacle? Mainstream psychotherapy has its roots in Western Europe. The founders of psychoanalysis and other early treatments were white men.

According to the work of psychologist Nancy Boyd-Franklin, early models of mental health care and family therapy were established to treat white middle-class families. These forms of therapy pathologized Black families that were structured differently from white families in any way.

Boyd-Franklin states that such models overlooked the strengths of Black families, which include extended kinship ties, an openness to taking on different family roles (for example, an aunt serving as a nephew's primary caregiver), and an emphasis on spirituality—factors that modern psychotherapy now recognizes as fundamentally important to well-being.



Because of the history of psychotherapy, as well as the unique challenges faced by members of the Black community, Black patients may prefer seeing Black therapists. A shared ethnicity does not necessarily guarantee the best therapeutic relationship. Regardless of the identity of the therapist, the most important qualities are compassion and cultural competence.

However, some Black patients may feel that Black therapists can better understand their experiences and identify with their cultural stressors. If this is the case, providers should make every possible effort to match a Black patient with a Black therapist. Unfortunately, only 2% of U.S. psychologists are Black.

Members of the Black community often find support in family and through community and spirituality. They also deserve professional, respectful mental health care that understands their needs from a cultural perspective.

We can all work to:

- Bring awareness to the use of stigmatizing language around mental health
- Educate family, friends, and colleagues about the unique challenges of mental health within the Black Community
- Become aware of our own attitudes and beliefs toward the Black community to reduce implicit bias and negative assumptions
- Each one of us can make a difference in the lives of those who need mental health support.

"By recognizing that the Black community has unique experiences when it comes to mental health, we—as citizens of the world—are beginning to chip away at the stigma that permeates through culture," Crawford said.

#### **Changing Attitudes About Mental Health**

"Stigma is an evil roadblock that makes people feel ashamed of the struggle they are going through every day and makes them afraid to seek help." – *Ivy* 

"Mental health does not discriminate. No matter what age, color, or religion, anyone can live with mental health conditions." – *Richard* 

"Mental health in the Black community has long been a touchy topic. The overriding belief is you don't go to therapy or counseling or take medicine. You go to church. And you don't talk about your business to anybody. You put on your big girl pants and keep it moving. That's what I did, except I wasn't going anywhere." - Cynthia

We live in a diverse world, and each day we interact with people of a variety of backgrounds. The more we understand differences that make us distinct, the more we'll understand there is no shame in having a mental health disorder—regardless of our culture and background.

BLACK MENTAL HEALTH: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW The Topic of Mental Health is often taboo in black communities (Full Article is available online :Christine M. Crawford, MD, MPH

https://www.mcleanhospital.org > essential > black-ment...)

#### 2025 NURSES WEEK IS MAY 6TH—MAY 12TH

#### **The History of National Nurses Week**

Florence Nightingale is considered the founder of modern nursing because she was the first nurse who formally trained others to become nurses. She served as a leader, role model, and mentor for battlefield nurses during the Crimean War. Her knowledge and skills drastically reduced infections and saved many lives.

National Nurses Week was created by the International Council of Nurses (ICN) as early as 1953 and has been celebrated regularly since 1965. While May 6th to 12th is the designated Nurses Week celebration week in the US, other countries celebrate it at different times. In the United Kingdom, an annual service is held at Westminster Abbey by a "passing of the lamp" celebration. Australia has a Nurse of the Year award ceremony and distributes several other awards throughout the week. Middle Eastern countries celebrate Arab Nurses and Midwives Day on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

In the United States, the first proclamation for National Nurses' Week began from the hard work of Dorothy Sutherland of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Dorothy sent a proposal to then President Eisenhower in 1953 to create an official nurse day.

National Nurses Week, a time for nurses to celebrate their achievements and the contributions they make to society, was first established in 1954 by the American Nursing Association (ANA). The first Nurses Week in the U.S. was held in 1954 from October 11th to 16th to honor the 100th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's historic mission. The National Nurses Week celebration now begins on May 6<sup>th</sup>, Florence Nightingale's birthday, and goes through May 12<sup>th</sup>.



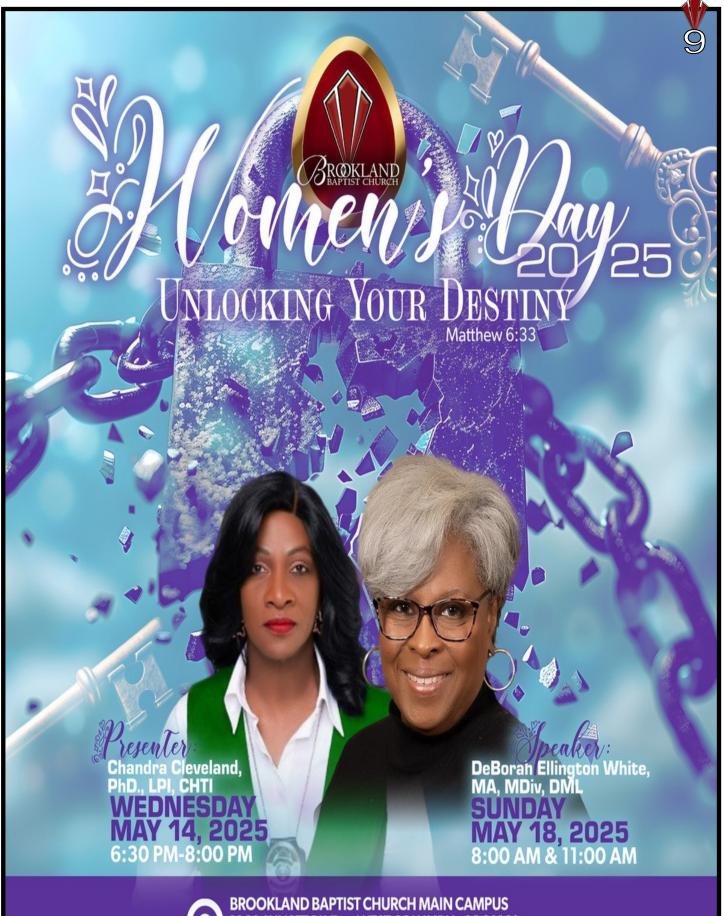




# HEALTH MATTERS

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE FOR MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS
IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

AAREN SNYDER, LMFT





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The Brookland Foundation





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out your information and submit your donation using your credit card.

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Tell your friends and family about donating and ask them to consider making a donation as well.





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7914 www.BrooklandFoundation.org







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Wayne Harrington
Solomon Smalls
Leroy M. Jenkins
Rita Williams
Travis K. Williams
Monica Jacobs

Marshall Green
Carol Jackson
John Bines
Virginia Thomas-White
Bridget Tripp
Michael Gasque
Glenda McMichael
Janice Davis

Jimmie Howard Joe Robinson Deanna Smith Charlie Chapman Wesley Dodd Johnny Hughes

Brenda Stembridge Andre Lewis Tonia Kerr Arthur Houston Evelyn Green Barbara P. Jones Vanessa G. Wall Talisha Cooper Laquisha Naylor DaVonte Furtick Christopher McIntosh Rebekah E. Smith Jaylen Davis Reginald Stewart Jr Mekhi Lynch

Marion Summers
Jewel Trowell
Dara N. Hopson
Kevin Willis
Shakara Nall
Taleah Harris
Quaneisha Harrison
Kenya Mack

Chanel Webb
Jocelyn Davis
Shanita D. Clark
Raymon Dobson
Kenneth Davis Jr
Char-Nayla P. Whosendove

Nicole Davis Charvis Brown Latoya Gillings Christopher Campbell Darrell Richards Shana Evans Trevor Brown Janya Brown Lula Hartwell Vivian Neal Horace E. Brown Jimmy Robinson Iris L. Moyd Barbara Sells Jamille Ellis Jeana Boyd Shannon Martin

John E. Gladden Sandra Richardson Michael Boyd Cornie J. Davis Sharon Gaddist Andrenea Josey Karen McCain

Della Hart Margie Miller Alice P. Jones Ujetta "Beth" Rhue Reginald Turnipseed Jennifer Rose

Joyce Ravenel McCray Deborah H. Gaffney Cindy A. Land Lisa Brumell

Gelena Motes
David Stinchcomb
Cynthia Bodrick
Floretta Williams
Etta J. Graham
Carrie Washington

Joseph Nwaiwu
Davett Waden
Brian Etheridge Sr
Melanie Frink
Sherri Davis
Candace Wagner
Codillah Green
Erin McCray
Paul Edward Streater

Paris Sweeper-Pitt
Jessica Jacobs
Maurice Tucker
DeeVon Carpenter
Julian Syphertt
William Godfrey
Arisa Abdullah
Joshua Daniel Green

Erika Robinson Clarence Williams Eugene Hagans Danielle Kelly Morgan McCray Arthur McDonald

Alvin Hatcher Jonathan Hills Jeanine Toni C. Littles Leroy McCoy Jr

> Emma Bleach Minnie Thomas Mariea Gibbs Lashandra Scott Rhonda J. Wiley LaTonya Williams



## Birthdays



Keisha Moore Ralph A. Pitt Travis Jackson Tyima Johnson

Chauncey Furtick Jada Nicole Tolliver Sean Reilly

Tom Crosby Yvonne Jackie Griffin Benjamin J. Washington Jr Genno Getter Rhonda Askew-Grimsley Essie General Leroy Mathis Jr

Dwayne Pittman Libbie Barnes Richie Barnes Catrena Britton Nathan Young Tyrell T Holmes Nitaya McCormick

Steve Strouble Rudene Burton John Jones Michelle Harley Reginal Jenkins

Tawnya Jackson Marcus Alexander Karen Pitts Roland Tucker **Tanaiah Smith** Trista Smith

Carl E Burke Zoraida Turnipseed Nekoya D. Fisher Tammy Banks Darling Garway

Shanyce Harris Brianna Warren Zoyd Stivender Courtney Sims Jaden Johnson

Elizabeth Wilson Thomas Stokes Marguerite Kaufman Joyce A. Gleaton Carrie Hunter

Hilery Burton Jr Melissa Berry Spruell O'Kema Greene-Ford Sean Payne

Lottie S. Chisom Jeanne White Gatewood Thedford A. Rowser-Bey Pat Snow Noreen M. Doughty Reggie Delaine Anthony Bronzell

Jarrid Alexander Lukus Gipson Jarvon I. Williams Derrick Jeffcoat Adrian D. Humphrey Jessica Green LaToya Thompson Miguel Scarborough Josef E. Ivory

Laura M. Newton Stanley Hughey Edwina Walker Sandra Georges Phyllis Johnson Tarah Mickens-Cole Jacqueline Isaac

Charlotte Hughes Robin Thomas Lawanda Rembert Tiffany Hughes Amber Nelson Maurice Anderson Payton B. Davis

Jerry M. Free I.S. Leevy Johnson Renee Harvey Bessie Mack Artis Parker Sr Cathy Seawright Celina Fields Teedra Pope

Tasha M. Boone Veada Napier Felicia Myers Robert Wells Jim Stansfield

Henry Henderson Yvonne Gregg James Stroman Kevin J. Banks Sonja Johnson Kervin L. Simms Doug Elliott Iphegenia Linen

Timothy Coleman Teresa Wilson Florence Kareem Warren Sr Brice Engram Carla Profit Tyler Johnson MiKayla Nelson

Ralph Walter Jr

Binet Gantt

Kendra Leach

Susan Bennon Vivian McCray John Woods Lisa Gambrell McDonald Carmen Scipio Jim O. Stuckey Tarsha M. Gibbs Roscoe W. Turner III Anthony Bing Stephanie McFadden-Henderson

Cashena Hastie\ Courtney June **Ebony Mercer** Elijah Smalls Chrystal Pearson Dominique S. Donaldson Keyerria Howard Deris Alston Makili Wilson Lacee Getter Willis Goodwin

Jeanette McQueen Jake Sello Theresa Praylow Willie Mae Moses Marilyn Curtain-Phillips Susan E. Delaine Samantha R. Gleaton Shiree Isreal

Andrea Myers Kevin Clark Cory Jamison James E. Carter LaShonda R. Young Jasmeen Pharr Shaw Robert Reid Justice Parker Sanai King

Elmer L. Garrett Gena Banks Bernard Jackson Stephon Jackson Amerithe Spann Renee L. Washington Janina Glisson Tabitha McAllister Latasha R. Whiitaker Miranda Jacobs Bright

Andrea Smith Lothario Johnson Lasundra Jamison Matthias Copeland Shardae L. Hook Aisha Reid Brianna Holliday Marie G. Heath Jaylen Patrice Nesbitt Christopher Thompson



## Birthdays

Sandra Nelson Mary Bradford Brenda James Pitt Linda Smith Angrina Martin Adrian Davis Chaka M. Davis Vicky M. Lewis -Thomas

Wilbur Williams
Cynthia Minus
Wilma Hiller
Barbara Dingle
Roselle Oakman
Silisia Moses
Akhnaton Luqmaan
Felicia Reynolds
Michael D. Thom, Jr

-Carolyn Canton Karen T. Horton Kenneth McGregor Mario Nix Jona' Hodges Steven L. Vandross Pamela T. Felder

Ethel Scott
Louis Gidron
Michael Wilkie
Wonakee Herrin
Kendal Noble
Tyrone Jeffcoat
Jerry Holmes
Joseph G. Watson, Jr
Tameca Wilson

Henry G. Scott
Aletha Jackson
Loretta Evans
Rosa Baylor
Harriettta Smith
Donna King
Christine Lawer
Brian Spruell
Renee Bellamy
Coletrain
William Bowman
Jimmy Behling
Denise Johnson
Donna Dalton
Tywatha Dreher

Lavarres Lynch
Alexis BosketJackson
Vianca C. Smith
Solomon Eli-Smalls
Harold Jones III
Tyson Gilbert
Fitzpatrick
Michael Simmons

Cheryl Dickerson
Julian Dunlap
Brian Rashaun
Wright
James McCord, Jr
Trinty Sells
JaKayla D. Risher
Alora Hatcher
Gabriel Holmes

Fern D. Wilson Kailanya S. Brailey Ashlye Wilkerson Christina L. Myers Andre D. Delaine Quantasha Brown

Jerrneal Jones
Latoya Mack
Benita Hecker
Leslie Whitley
Shannon R. Palmer
Josie Wells
Lolita (Chantel) Smith
Meagan Wright
NaeTosha Young
Zaria Willingham

Renita Goudelock
Caprecia Hutto
Rhonda LaVerne
Mansel
Courtney McGreer
Chaneta Burgess
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Karen Lewis
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Christopher Ferguson
Jonathan White
Daniel C. Jeffries

Albert T Goodwin
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Patrice Brooks

Elizabeth Jeffrey
Frank Rumph
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Loretta Franklin
Katrina L. Bridgette

Vivian O. Baker Samuel Brannon Beverly J. Davis Cordelia Cooper Colleen Foster Auderia Henderson Phillip Goodwin LaTisha Marie Feld Markos Young Kelli Drakeford Leah Matthews

Donald Scott Sr Randall Latimer Charlene Maddox Donna Folks Quintin L. Felder Melissa McCullough

Brenda Simmons
Jimmy Thompson
Mary Mims
Regina Robinson
Elaine Simmons
Patricia Gasque
Patrica Speaks
Quoetta E. Alexander

Jimmie Nell Wise
Theodore Reese
David G. Williams, Sr
Willie Huggins
Yvonne Jones
Wanjulia Ezekiel
Angela T. James
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Clarence Wallace Jr
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Danielle Brown
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Harvin Pollard Jr
Alicia Alford
Jalen Tart
Christopher Stewart

Wanda Felix
.L. Jerome Bracey
Troy Brown
Robert Gardner
Jennifer Gamble
Lonnie Chestnut III
Justin M. Sims
Monique James
Maya Taylor

Aisha Robinson Markita Daniels Franchon Adams Rachel A. Cross Anna Gantt Belton Garner III Janiya Peterson Cederia Adams Amber Deanna Burton Perrin Thomas Zierin K. Thomas

Denise Brown
Denise Jones
Tory L. Blakely
Rina D. Aaron
Christopher Spain
Donell Boyles
Bria Brown Farris

Isaiah English Sophis Williams Charlene McKevie Sharee Parker Theresa S. Brown Aldreannia Belton Justice Ishmal Errol Rochester III

Janice Byrd Woodall
Andre' Dent
Dexter Boyd
Whitnie Davis
Alexandria Jones
Anthony Howard
Marquise Davis
Lauren Reed
Rachel Myers
Carolyn Rice

### ge're Here for you

Your Deacon and the Pastoral Staff are concerned and care about every member in our Church "Family." When there is a sickness, surgery or death in your family, Please contact your Deacon and the Pastoral Office (Angela Taylor) at (803)744-7908



All birthdays listed on the previous pages are generated through the church membership database.

If you find any errors in the listings or if you have recently moved or changed your phone number, please contact the Church Office at the West Campus at (803) 796-7525 or the Northeast Campus at (803) 753-0610.



REVEREND CHRIS LEEVY JOHNSON, Campus Pastor

# CAP & GOWN SUNDAY Selection

Honoring those being promoted to middle school or high school and graduates of high school, college, graduate, or post-graduate school.

SUNDAY JUNE 2025

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2025 AM WORSHIP SERVICE SCAN QR CODI TO REGISTER



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FOR MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS CONTACT:
Pamela Felder at 803-369-1070 OR
EMAIL: bnecapandgown@brookland.cc



#### Brookland Baptist Church Honorees Receive SCVAN Compassion 4 Service Award

#### **Social Media Announcement**

We are overjoyed to announce that our very own Youth, Teen, & Young Adult Pastor, Elder Mark Richard, along with Deacon Dallas Jordan and Deaconess Carmen Jordan, have been honored with the South Carolina Victim Assistance Network's (SCVAN) 2025 Compassion 4 Service Faith Leaders Award!

This prestigious recognition celebrates their unwavering commitment to nurturing and empowering the youth and teens in our community through the VIBE at Brookland Youth and Teens Ministry.

This accolade is a testament to the collective efforts of our dedicated staff and volunteers who work tirelessly to fulfill our Pastor's vision of building the next generation of leaders.

Together, we continue to make a meaningful impact in the lives of our young members, guiding them toward a future filled with faith, hope, and leadership.

The award ceremony took place during the SC Victims' Rights Week Conference, held from April 1–3, 2025, in Columbia, South Carolina. This annual event brings together legal, law enforcement, victim advocates and professionals dedicated to supporting and uplifting victims throughout our state.

Let us join in congratulating Elder Richard, Deacon Jordan, and Deaconess Jordan on this well-deserved honor!

May we all be inspired by their example to continue our mission of service and leadership within our community.

#### #BrooklandBaptistChurch #TheLand #VIBEatBrookland #20Forward



### UPCOMING EVENTS SUMMER 2025



#### <u>June</u>

#### <u>July</u>

#### <u>August</u>

- Vacation **Bible School**
- **VIBE AII-Star** Challenge
- **VIBE Summer** 8 Kickoff
- Teen 13 **Movie Night**
- Cap & Gown 15 Sunday
- **VIBE Bridging** 19 The Gap
- Mental Health 28 /Kid's Camp

- VIBE 13 **Pool Party**
- **VIBE Grammys** 18 Awards Gala
- Choir Rehearsal
- Family 25 Fun Night
- Annual **Blood Drive**
- Choir 28 Rehearsal
- Back To School 31 **Prayer Hour**

- Choir Rehearsal
- Usher Rehearsal
- Choir Rehearsal
- Choir Rehearsal
- **Youth & Teens** 10 Day 2025

VIBE TEEN SERVICE

2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays 10:45am

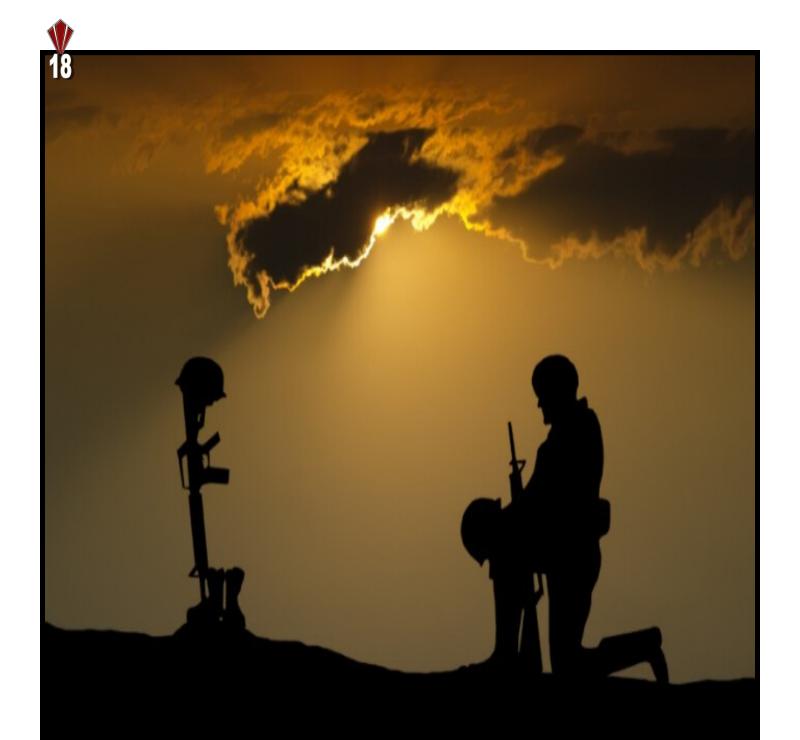
Brookland Baptist Church 1066 Sunset Blvd West Columbia, SC 29169 VIBE KIDS SERVICE

Every Sunday Except 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 8am & 11am

For more information Email Us: VIBEatBrookland@gmail.com Follow Us: VIBEatBrookland on all platforms 🔮 🔼 🔯 🚱







## MEMORIAL DAY

REMEMBER & HONOR



	Name:
	THE BIBLE
	1. BEBIL God's true word.  2. SXTYISXI Number of Books in the Bible
h	3. RNVOTIAELE
Bible Story Printables.com	4. BIEIGNNGN God created"
\$1 Br SOM	5. GLEOSSP First four books of the New Testament
	6. GINESES First book of the bible.
	•





## CORPORATE

PARSON)

6-7 P.M.

1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

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WEBSITE: www.brooklandbaptist.org/northeast









American Sign Language (ASL)
BEGINNER/INTERMEDIATE CLASS
Conducted by - Facilitator: Cynthia Taylor



WHERE: Brookland Baptist Church Sign Language Ministry (#BBCSLM)

(West Campus - Sunset BLVD. W. Cola., SC)

LOCATION: Christian Learning Center Classroom #3



THURSDAYS APRIL 24 - MAY 29TH



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