



2026



Rev. James Garrison. Congress President
Beverly Palmer, Congress Dean
2025 Union District Congress of Christian Education
1st Baptist Highland Park 1701 S Pine St, Little Rock, AR 72204

Greetings Union District Youth, Parents, and Participants: IT'S Our 84th Annual Congress!

The District Theme this year is "Unshaken Standing on the Rock in Shifting Times" Psalm 46:1-3; Psalm 62:2-8; Matthew 7:24-2. Churches, Parents, Participants, bring your youth to congress for encouragement, fellowship and fun so that they can meet youth from the District and learn to work together in faith.

The Congress dates are Musical July 19th & classes beginning July 20 - 22, 2026. Host church is *Greater Second Baptist Church, 5615 Geyer Springs Rd, Little Rock, AR 72209*. Youth day classes are scheduled for 8:00 am-10:00 am and the Youth Assembly 10:10 am—11:15 am. The night class schedule is 5:00 pm-8:00 pm, and Wednesday night 5:00—6:45. This year's Youth Rally will be Wednesday evening, July 22, 2026, at 7:10 pm.

PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE

Youth practices are scheduled for 1:00 pm—3:00 pm in the sanctuary. Youth must be chaperoned by an adult at all time and only dismissed to an adult.

We will have the Essay, Poetry, and Art contest. All essay and poetry entries must be emailed to Sister Carlas Smith at CARLAS.SMITH@YMAIL.COM by midnight on Tuesday, July 14, 2025, no exceptions. You may deliver your art entries to St. Peter's Rock Baptist Church, 2201 Brown Street, Little Rock, AR 72204, Wednesday, July 15, 2026, 10:00 am—12:30 pm. Please contact Sister Smith at 501-993-4126 if you have any questions.

Please submit your honor roll list on Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at 10:00 am to Sis. Lucille Porter in the in the Youth Staff Office, there will be no exceptions.

The Church with the most youth in attendance will receive a gift for their youth department.

We are looking for a marvelous time in the Lord and a Great Congress. We must continue to pray for each other's strength and for our Youth all over the World!

Let us----- Remember, ***"Only what you do for Christ will last."***

Sis. Alexander, Director



CONGRESS 2026

**THE UNION DISTRICT CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
YOUTH DEPARTMENT**

To: All-Union District Youth Directors, Pastors, Mission Presidents, Counselors, and Youth
From: Union District Congress Youth Directors
Date: May 23, 2026

Greetings and Peace in His mighty name!

Theme: “Unshaken Standing on the Rock in Shifting Times”

Scriptures : Psalm 46:1-3; Psalm 62:2-8; Matthew 7:24-27

Guidelines and Rules for the essay are as follows: **Cover sheet must include** Youth’s Name, Address, Age, Telephone Number, Youth Director’s Name and Telephone Number, Pastor and Church’s Name.

The essay will be judged on the following format:

- 75% Biblical based information format
- 15% Composition
- 10% English Skills (capitalization, punctuation, subject & verb agreement)
- Number each page. The essay should be at least two (2) typed pages (doubled spaced)

Two age categories for entrants:

- Ages 12-14 Years
- Ages 15-17 Years
- There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards presented in each category, each entrant will receive a token of appreciation.
- Winners will be announced during the “Youth Rally” on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at 7:10 pm

All essay and poetry entries must be emailed to Sister Carlas Smith at CARLAS.SMITH@YMAIL.COM **by midnight on July 14, 2026, no exceptions**. You may deliver your art entries to the Saint Peter’s Rock Baptist Church, 2201 Brown Street, Little Rock, AR 72204. Wednesday, July 15, 10:00 am—12:30 pm. Please contact Sister Smith at 501-993-4126 if you have any questions.

Sis. Sheryl Alexander, Congress Youth Director
Rev. James Garrison, President
Sis. Beverly Palmer., Dean
Rev. Roy V. Elliott, Moderator



To register for classes, click the QR code
Direct link to registration form
<https://form.jotform.com/261075966439065>



UNION DISTRICT
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
"Empowering Churches for Kingdom Impact"

UNION DISTRICT CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION YOUTH DEPARTMENT

Sis. Sheryl Alexander, Youth Director

The Union District Congress of Christian Education Youth Division will have an Art Display and Poetry Contest for youth ages 12—17. These contests will be held in conjunction with the Union District Congress to be held July 20-22, 2026. The host Church for this year is Greater Second Baptist Church. There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in the 12-14 and 15-17 categories.

Theme: "Unshaken Standing on the Rock in Shifting Times"

Scriptures: Psalm 46:1-3; Psalm 62:2-8; Matthew 7:24-27.

ART ENTRIES

- All entries must be original work
- The size of the artwork should be no smaller than 8" x 10" and not to exceed 11" x 14"
- Selection of the material is at the discretion of the artist, which may include chalk, pencil, oil paints, tempera paints, etc.
- The framing or matting of the artwork will add to the attractiveness of the piece but is not required.
- Artwork will be judged according to originality, neatness, and capturing the message of the theme.

POETRY ENTRIES

- Poems must be the original work of the author and must be free verse (it is not written in a special form and doesn't require rhyme or rhythm).
- We encourage different types of poetry.
- Correct grammar usage will be judged.
- All entries must be typed.
- Winners will be announced during the "Youth Rally" on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

Please attach an index card to the back of all Art entries and a cover sheet to the front of all poetry entries with the following information: Type of Entry—Poetry or Art Youth's Name, Age, and Telephone Number-Youth Director's Name and Telephone Number Pastor's Name, Church, Address and Telephone Number.

All poetry entries must be emailed to Sister Carlas Smith at CARLAS.SMITH@YMAIL.COM by midnight on July 14, 2026, with no exceptions. You may deliver your art entries to the Saint Peter's Rock Baptist Church, 2201 Brown Street, Little Rock, AR 72204. Wednesday, July 15, 10:00 am—12:30 pm.

Please contact Sister Smith at 501-993-4126 if you have any questions.

To register for classes, click the QR code



Direct link to registration form
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MORNING CLASSES FOR CHILDREN (Ages 6 – 17)

July 20 – 22, 2026

Congress of Christian Education- Greater Second Baptist Geyer Springs

AGES	COURSE TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	TIME
6 - 8	Bible Stories, Run and Tell That	Sis. Loretta Maxwell Sis. Andrea Miller	8:00am

AGES	COURSE TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	TIME
9 - 11	You Said What to God (Prayer Works)	Rev. Paul Williams	8:00 am

AGES	COURSE TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	TIME
12 - 14	Healthy Minds, Bodies & Souls	Nurse Aleecia Evans	8:00 am

AGES	COURSE TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	TIME
15 - 17	Taking Jesus to the Streets-Teenage Evangelism	Rev. Michael Sanders	8:00 am

Evening Classes for Children (6 – 17)

AGES	COURSE TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	TIME
6 - 8	Creative Minds Think Like Jesus	Sis. Myra Collier Bro. Ricky Collier	6:00pm
6 - 8	Songs to Help Us Through Life's Journey		6:00 pm

AGES	COURSE TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	TIME
9 - 11	You Said What to God (Prayer Works)	Sis. Tracie Stenhouse	6:00 pm
AGES	COURSE TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	TIME
12 - 15	Dress Your Best for Success-Young Men only		6:00 pm
12 - 15	Dress Your Best for Success-Young Ladies only	Sis. DeShawna Davis	6:00 pm

AGES	COURSE TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	TIME
16 -17	ATTITUDE, ATTITUDE, ATTITUDE	Rev. Stacy Watson	6:00 pm

16 - 17	No Cap, Bussin, SMH-Stewarts for the Lord---Talent, Time, Tithe		6:00
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Night Special Courses- 6:00 pm

Sign Language Choir

Bro. Wesley Ewell

This worship is limited to 25 youths (**ONLY**) who have an interest in ministering to the deaf and hearing impaired and will provide the fundamentals of sign language and also deal with ways to organize a ministry to the deaf in the local church. Must be pre-registered to attend this class.

Praise Dance Ministry --- -Instructor--Sis. Courtney Mcduffie and Sis. Tamara

Washington:- This workshop is limited to 25 youth and they must be pre-registered to attend this class.

NURSERY - (DAY & NIGHT)

Youth Rally Guidelines

1. All **YOUTH** are urged to take part in **ONLY ONE** division in the Youth Rally.
2. Attire for Youth Rally (Wednesday Night) is: TBA
3. Churches that have Delegates in the Youth Rally are asked to stay with their Youth during Rehearsal.
4. All Youth should Dress Conservatively for classes and Youth Rally.

YOUTH ASSEMBLY-Monday – Wednesday--10:00—11:00

Monday, July 20, 2026 – Greater 2nd Baptist Geyer Springs-Petting Zoo

Tuesday, July 21, 2026-Mt. Olive, NLR, Devotion - Minority Health Comm. Snacks

Wednesday, July 22, 2026-Holy Cross, Devotion – Rev. M. Cooper, Leadership

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTOR



***Youth Director may register children, but must have parent permission, adult representative must accompany children during congress, Thanks!
Dean Palmer***