

THE TURNER MONUMENTAL AME CHURCH

2025 - 2026 Conference Year

Greater >

“But as it is written: ‘Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man, The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.’”

1 Corinthians 2:9 (NKJV)

Member Handbook

Rev. Jeffery B. Cooper, II - Pastor



— TURNER —
MONUMENTAL
EST. 1899

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Turner Family,

With excitement in my heart and expectation in my spirit, I welcome you into a new conference year at Turner Monumental AME Church. I believe this year marks a divine shift in our journey—an elevation in faith, purpose, and impact. Our 2025-2026 theme is bold and prophetic:

GREATER THAN >

This theme is more than a slogan—it's a declaration of faith, a mindset shift, and a spiritual challenge. It's rooted in Jesus' words in John 14:12, where He promised that those who believe in Him would not only continue His works but do greater works. That's not exaggeration—it's expectation. And we're called to live like we believe it.

At Turner, we're embracing this theme not just as a statement but as a **standard**. A constant reminder that God is greater than our past mistakes, our present limitations, and even our boldest dreams. We're not content with what has been—we're reaching for what can be. And we're preparing for more, because we're expecting greater.

But let me be clear: greater doesn't happen by accident. It must be pursued with prayer, faith, and discipline. It comes to those willing to grow, be stretched, and serve at a deeper level.

That's why everything we do this year—every ministry, meeting, and moment—is rooted in our core values, outlined in the **G.R.E.A.T.E.R.** framework later in this handbook. These are the principles that will shape how we live, lead, and serve.

Greater will challenge us. It will stretch us. But it will also reveal God's power and provision in ways we've never seen.

And YOU are a vital part of this movement. Whether you're new to Turner or have been here for decades, your presence and participation matter. God planted you here—**on purpose, for a purpose**.

So this year, don't just show up—lean in. Serve. Give. Grow. Invite. Pray. Encourage. Be part of the greater that God is unfolding.

Let's go after it—together, with faith, with fire, and with full expectancy.

Because greater is not just coming—greater is already in motion.

LET'S WALK IN IT!

In Christ,

Pastor Jeff

"EXPECT THE GREAT"



GREATER THAN >

WRITE THE VISION, MAKE IT PLAIN

This is a year of **GREATER** — greater purpose, greater power, and greater promise. We are declaring that the God we serve is **GREATER THAN** our past, greater than our challenges, greater than our fears, and greater than anything we can imagine.

This vision calls us to walk in **faith**, serve with **excellence**, and lead with **expectancy**. We are not waiting for a move of God — we are walking in it. We are aligning every part of our church—our worship, our ministries, our giving, and our outreach — to reflect a people who truly believe that God has prepared us for more.

GREATER THAN (>) is not just a theme. It is our **standard**.

It is the lens through which we will pursue:

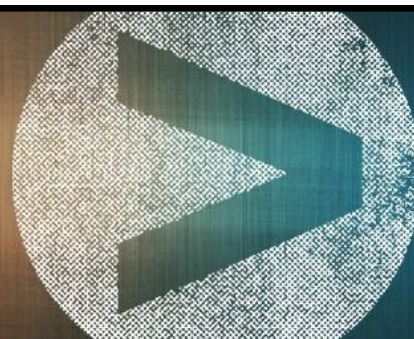
- **Greater ministry** – with deeper impact and wider reach
- **Greater witness** – where our faith is visible, not just verbal
- **Greater impact** – in our families, our communities, and beyond
- **Greater responsibility** – as stewards of God’s promise and power

And we’re doing it all with a posture of **holy expectation**. We are walking boldly, believing fully, and expecting God to do what only God can do.

So we move forward—together—with faith, fire, and full anticipation.

Because greater is not just coming—**GREATER is already in motion**.

GREATER THAN
TURNER IS EXPECTING GREAT THINGS



G.R.E.A.T.E.R

THE TURNER STANDARD

G

God-Led

We are be led by God in all that we do—not by trends, fads, emotions, or fear. We seek divine direction in every decision and trust God’s wisdom over human popularity. If God doesn’t go before us, we won’t go.

R

Responsive

We respond to God’s voice with boldness and obedience. No more spiritual delay. When God speaks, we move. We are walking in crazy faith this year—expecting miracles, believing for the impossible, and staying ready to shift as God leads.

E

Expectant

We live every day with sacred anticipation. We’re not just hoping—we are expecting the great. We expect souls to be saved, lives to be changed, doors to be opened, healing to be released, and breakthroughs to be revealed. We believe God is greater than anything we’ve seen.

A

Accountable

We hold ourselves and one another accountable—to excellence, to commitment, and to greater. Not out of shame, but out of love. Because greater requires more, and we owe God our best. In every ministry and every member, accountability is our culture.

T

Transformed

We are not content to stay the same. This is a year of stretching, growing, and surpassing. God will challenge us, grow us, and mold us into what He desires—starting with the renewing of our minds. Transformation is our testimony.

E

Empowered

We do not operate in our own strength. We rest in, depend on, and draw power from the Holy Spirit. Every ministry, every sermon, every outreach effort is powered by God’s Spirit. We embrace the Holy Spirit as our Helper, our Counselor, and our Provider.

R

Relevant

We have ministries that are relevant and responsive—meeting people where they are, speaking to real needs with real hope. We do not just do church as usual—we are the church in ways that connect, transform, and restore lives.

CLERGY LEADERSHIP



Rev. Jeffery B. Cooper, II

Pastor

Pastor@TurnerMonumental.org



Rev. Dr. Karma Johnson

Assistant to the Pastor &

Director of Christian Education

DrKarma@TurnerMonumental.org



Rev. Dr. Paula Matabane

Associate Minister

DrPaula@TurnerMonumental.org



Rev. Dr. Wanda Brooks-Long

Associate Minister

DrWanda@TurnerMonumental.org

MINISTERS-IN-TRAINING



Sis. Natasha Goring

Natasha@TurnerMonumental.org



Bro. Ken Martin

Kene@TurnerMonumental.org



Bro. Ellis Virgle

Ellis@TurnerMonumental.org

LAY LEADERSHIP

**EMPOWERED
TO LEAD.
COMMITTED
TO GREATER.**

STEWARD BOARD PRO-TEMS



Colonel Michael Brown
Michael@TurnerMonumental.org



Sis. Vera Callahan
Vera@TurnerMonumental.org

TRUSTEE BOARD VICE CHAIRS



Sis. Charlena Crowder
Charlena@TurnerMonumental.org



Bro. Larry Long
Larry@TurnerMonumental.org

CLASS LEADER COORDINATORS



Sis. Georgia Steed
GSteed@TurnerMonumental.org



Sis. Cynthia Dunn-Duhart
CDunnDuhart@TurnerMonumental.org

*For the full list of the Steward Board; Trustee Board; and Class
Leader's Council, please see our Church website:
www.TurnerMonumental.org*

CHURCH CALENDAR 2025 - 2026

GREATER *than*

JUN - '25

7: LADY COOPER B-DAY
8: **PENTECOST IN THE PARK**
w/ Kirkwood UCC
11-13: VBS (STORY OF JONAH)
23-26: SED LEADERSHIP CONGRESS
28: SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET
29: SCHOLARSHIP WORSHIP SVC.

JUL - '25

7-11: CONNECTIONAL LAY BIENNIAL
11-13: YPD LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE
19: **MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST**
20: **MEN'S DAY WORSHIP**
27: ELLIS VIRGLE TRIAL SERMON
26: **BACK-TO-SCHOOL YOUTH EVENT**

AUG - '25

4: **BISHOP MITCHELL B-DAY**
6: ELIJAH COOPER B-DAY
19: PASTOR COOPER'S B-DAY
24: **NEW MEMBER'S RECEPTION**

SEP - '25

21: LAY ORGANIZATION ANNUAL DAY
27: **BISHOP MITCHELL ANNIVERSARY**

OCT - '25

12: **126TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY**
16: **SUPERVISOR #2 B-DAY**
22-25: **SED MID-YEAR/HOLY CONVOCATION**

NOV - '25

8: **2ND ANNUAL CHURCH GALA**
*@ the Agnes Scott College -
Letitia Pate Evans Banquet Hall*
24: **SUPERVISOR MITCHELL B-DAY**
27: **THANKSGIVING**

DEC - '25

13: **SED CHRISTMAS GATHERING**
14: T.O.U.C.H. / ANGEL TREE CELEBRATION
21: CHRISTMAS YOUTH SERVICE
25: **CHRISTMAS DAY**
31: **NYE SERVICE**

JAN - '26

1: **NEW YEAR'S DAY**
18: **MLK REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**
29: ANDERSON COOPER B-DAY

FEB - '26

1: **BLACK HISTORY SUNDAY**
5-7: **SED FOUNDERS DAY**
8: **FOUNDER'S DAY SERVICE**
18: **ASH WEDNESDAY**

MAR - '26

11-14: **SOUTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE**
15: **WOMEN'S DAY SERVICE**
25-28: **SOUTHWEST ANNUAL CONF.**
29: **PALM SUNDAY**

APR - '26

3: **GOOD FRIDAY**
5: **EASTER SUNDAY**
8: JAYLAN COOPER B-DAY
8-11: **GEORGIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**
22-25 **AUGUSTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

MAY - '26

6-9: **MACON ANNUAL CONFERENCE**
20-23 **ATLANTA-NORTH ANNUAL CONF.**
28-30: **SED PLANNING MTG.**

AS OF MAY 31, 2025 - SEE OUR **CHURCH WEBSITE FOR UPDATED CALENDAR

OUR MINISTRY LANDSCAPE

At Turner Monumental, we believe ministry should be intentional, inclusive, and aligned with both our AME heritage and the needs of today's church. To reduce confusion, avoid duplication, and encourage greater engagement, we organize our ministries into four functional categories: **Connectional Ministries, Ministry Support Teams, Life Stage Ministries, and Turner Initiatives & Service Ministries.**

This structure allows us to honor our denominational commitments, support the day-to-day life of the church, serve people across all stages of life, and create space for Turner-led outreach and innovation. More than just programs, our ministries work together to help Turner become a truly multigenerational church—not divided by tradition or age, but united in mission, discipleship, and growth.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

Women's Missionary Society (WMS): *Sis. Charlena Crowder - (404) 284-6974*

A women-led ministry that conducts outreach and service projects, reflecting God's love through mission work and community engagement.

Young People & Children's Division (YPD): *Sis. Olivia Singleton - (678) 698-3538*

Nurtures faith in children and youth through teaching, fellowship, and service.

Sons of Allen: *Bro. Bert Allen - (404) 702-8289*

Promotes Christian brotherhood and spiritual growth among men through fellowship and service.

Lay Organization: *Sis. Virginia Turner - (404) 431-1817*

Equips lay members to grow spiritually and contribute actively to the church's mission.

Christian Debutante-Master Commission: *Sis. Patricia Bryant - (404) 759-1378*

Supports the spiritual and personal development of young women and men transitioning into adulthood.

Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYAC): *Bro. Ken Martin - (404) 989-1090*

Connects young adults between the ages of 18 to 35, through faith-based fellowship, service, and leadership opportunities.

OUR MINISTRY LANDSCAPE

LIFE-STAGE MINISTRIES

Turner NextGen: *Bro. Kenarrus Martin - (404) 998-2406*

Provides age-appropriate worship, ministry, and teaching experiences for children and youth (up to age 18) during Sunday services and during other designated ministry and activity times.

RAYAC @ Turner: *Bro. Ken Martin - (404) 989-1090*

RAYAC serves as our intentional space for young adults to grow, lead, and belong. From faith-based conversations to service projects and social gatherings, this ministry empowers young adults to live out their purpose while staying connected to God and one another.

Thrive 35/55:

Shondreka Harris - (678) 358-8014; Andrea Knight - (404) 416-2038; Mashadi Matabane - (301) 655-3153

Supports those navigating the middle stretch of life (ages 35 to 55) - whether raising families, managing careers, rediscovering purpose, or simply trying to stay grounded, this ministry provides a space to grow in faith and build authentic relationships in both church and community.

Legacy Circle: *Rev. Dr. Wanda Brooks-Long - (609) 455-4947*

A ministry for active adults ages 55–75 who are embracing their wisdom years with purpose, joy, and intentionality. Through spiritual devotions and fellowship activities, members of Legacy Circle invest in themselves and in the generations coming behind them.

Silver Saints: *Sis. Mildred Turner - (404) 378-3090; Sis. Eula Reid Miller (404) 377-1597*

This ministry honors and uplifts our senior-most members—those 75 and older—through community, care, prayer, and purposeful fellowship. It is a space of encouragement, dignity, spiritual strength, and joyful connection in the later seasons of life.

TURNER INITIATIVES & SERVICE MINISTRIES

A.D. Jackson Gunn Scholarship Committee: *Sis. Lynda Smith - (404) 226-8542*

Awards scholarships and supports educational advancement for our youth.

T.O.U.C.H. Ministry: *Sis. Rabbit Rosser - (404) 246-5835*

Blesses families in need by providing Christmas gifts to children in the community.

Wholeness & Wellness Ministry: *Sis. Natasha Goring - (470) 641-0030*

Promotes physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being among church members.

Social Action Ministry: *Sis. Lynda Smith - (404) 226-8542*

Engages in faith-based advocacy, addressing justice issues and community concerns.

OUR MINISTRY LANDSCAPE

H²O: History, Heritage, & Ongoing Legacy: Rev. Dr. Paula Matabane - (301) 520-5483

Through archiving, storytelling, and remembrance, H2O captures our history, celebrates our heritage, and preserves the story that is still being written.

Travel & Fellowship Ministry: Sis. Linda Copeland - (404) 579-6001

Brings Turner members together through trips, events, and shared experiences that build connection, joy, and community beyond the church walls.

Birthday Milestones Ministry: Sis. Carmen Upchurch - (267) 979-3699

Celebrates birthdays and special moments to remind every member they are seen, valued, and loved as part of the Turner family.

MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAMS

Stewardess Board: Sis. Mattie Wing - (404) 520-5560

Assists in preparing the altar and supporting the sacraments of the church.

Usher Boards: Sis. Elvera Taylor (404) 797-4173; Bro. Malvin Brown, Sr. - (404) 244-3456

Serves the church by maintaining order, assisting worshippers, and supporting the flow of each service with grace and hospitality.

H.M. Turner Sankofa Institute: Rev. Dr. Karma Johnson - (678) 938-8516

This Turner's reimagined Christian Education ministry, equips members with classes, workshops, and other learning experiences

Sunday Church School: Bro. Malvin Brown, Sr. - (404) 244-3456

Helps members grow their understanding of God's Word through teaching and discussion

Digital Engagement Team: Bro. Cleo Johnson (404) 749-0325; Bro. Dan Foster (610) 909-0077

In-service audio/visual production and online presence across social media platforms.

Culinary Team: Sis. Linda Copeland- (404) 579-6001

Prepares and coordinates food for church events and gatherings.

Courtesy Guild: Sis. Linda Copeland - (404) 579-6001

Creates a welcoming atmosphere by extending hospitality to visitors and members.

Benevolence Committee: Bro. Ron Harris - (770) 855-7451

Provides compassionate support to members and families facing hardship.

Music Ministry/Worship & Arts: Minister Keturah Washington - (770) 855-7451

Leads the congregation in praise and worship through music and other creative expressions.

SPECIAL EVENT CHAIRS



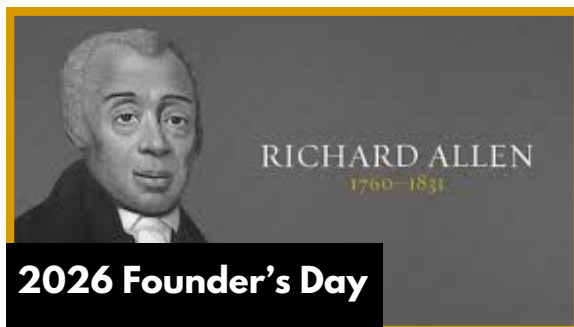
—
“HELPING MAKE EVERY MOMENT
TRULY MONUMENTAL”



Sis. Tiffany Philpot
October 12, 2025



Mr. & Mrs. William and Brenda Powell
November 8, 2025



Sis. Malaya Beeks
February 15, 2026



Sis. Tiffany Alexis & Sis. Phyllis Swift
March 15, 2026

OUR CHAIRS LEAD THE WAY—BUT WE NEED YOU TO HELP US GO GREATER

BIBLE STUDY @ TURNER

A New Way to Grow in the Word

At Turner, Bible teaching doesn't just happen in formal study sessions—it's woven throughout the life of the church. You may encounter powerful, scripture-based lessons in life groups, ministry team gatherings, or even during special events and seasonal series.

These moments matter—and they're part of how we help each other grow. To keep everything connected, all of our teaching is aligned with our churchwide theme of ***Greater.***

Whether you're in a devotion, a sermon, a pop-up study, or a life group conversation, you'll notice the same focus, the same heartbeat, and the same call to grow deeper and stronger in your faith—together.

No matter if you're navigating a busy schedule, just starting your faith journey, or hungry to go deeper, ***Turner has created new ways for you to engage the Word—on your time, at your level, and in your way.***

Want to Learn More?

Look out for announcements on upcoming Pop-Up Studies and new On Demand series.

Want to get involved or lead a group? Email DrKarma@turnermonumental.org.

Where to Plug In	What You'll Experience
Prayer Call Devotions (Mon & Fri @ 7 AM)	Start your day with short, powerful teachings and prayer.
Sunday Worship	Each message is rooted in scripture and full of practical life application.
Wednesday Wind Down	Midweek encouragement with a scripture-based word to recharge your soul.
Sunday School	In-person group learning and rich discussion for every stage of life.
Bible Study On Demand	Watch anytime. Topical video teachings designed for your pace and schedule.
Pop-Up Studies	Short-term deep dives on relevant topics—open to anyone ready to go deeper.

GET CONNECTED

BREEZE CHURCH MGMT



STAYING CONNECTED WITH TURNER IS A BREEZE

Getting Connected w/ BREEZE ChMS

Breeze is our church management system that helps Turner Monumental's clergy and administrative team communicate with members, organize ministry, and care for our church family. Through Breeze, you can update your contact info, view the member directory, give online, download your giving statements, and check the church calendar.

This is also how you'll receive important church emails and text messages, so having accurate information on file is essential.

Keeping your profile updated ensures you never miss critical communication—and helps us stay connected as a church body. You can even add your photo and include everyone in your household. We conduct an annual census, but you're encouraged to update anytime.

 **Scan the QR code to learn how to create or update your profile today!**

Let's stay connected, informed, and engaged—together.



A HOW-TO GUIDE

Baptism

To schedule a baptism, contact the church office at church@TurnerMonumental.org to arrange a meeting with a member of our clergy team. **Before being baptized, candidates will participate in a brief class or conversation to ensure they understand the meaning, purpose, and sacred significance of this sacrament.** Baptisms are typically held on third Sundays.

Benevolence Assistance

Turner Monumental provides limited benevolence assistance—**up to \$500 per year per household**, and only for verified emergency needs. For a copy of the Benevolence Guidelines or to request a physical copy of the form, please visit our website or contact the church office at church@TurnerMonumental.org. We may also refer you to external organizations for additional support when appropriate.

Bulletin Announcements

Announcement requests should be submitted by **Friday at 3 p.m.** We prefer that you use the **Announcement Request Form** available on our website, but if needed, you may also submit requests via email to church@TurnerMonumental.org.

Death/Funeral Arrangements

Please contact Pastor Cooper ***immediately*** when a loved one passes. Please **DO NOT** finalize dates for services without consultation and approval of the Pastor. A Funeral Guide is available on our website.

Spiritual Guidance

For spiritual support or pastoral counseling, contact the church office to schedule time with the Pastor or ministerial team.

New Members Orientation

When new members join, they will be scheduled for a New Members Orientation, led by the Assistant Pastor for Ministry. Please ensure your contact information is up to date so we can notify you of upcoming class dates and details.

Church Office Hours

While regular office hours may vary, appointments with clergy members can be scheduled by emailing them directly. To schedule a meeting with **Pastor Cooper**, please contact the **Church Secretary** at church@TurnerMonumental.org.

A HOW TO GUIDE

Sick & Shut-In

To report illness or upcoming surgery, please contact your Class Leader or the Class Leader Coordinator, Sis. Georgia Steed, and provide all relevant care or facility information. For emergency situations, contact Pastor Cooper directly.

Media Ministry

To watch our worship services live, visit us on YouTube or Facebook. Please note that Facebook only retains videos for 30 days, so for access to older services or the full sermon archive, visit our YouTube channel at youtube.com/TurnerMonumental.

Weddings

To plan a wedding at Turner, schedule a consultation with the Pastor through the church office. Facility rental is managed by the Business Administrator.

Facility Usage

To plan a wedding at Turner, schedule a consultation with the Pastor through the church office. Facility rentals are managed by the Trustee Board, so please contact the Trustee Vice Chairs listed above to coordinate all rental details.

Reimbursement Vouchers

To request reimbursement, submit a voucher with all supporting receipts and documentation at least two weeks in advance of when the funds are needed. Once approved, reimbursement checks will be written the following Thursday, generally.

End-of-Year Giving Statement

End-of-year giving statements are mailed by January 31. Please ensure your mailing address is up to date with the church office. If you notice any discrepancies, contact the finance office and provide supporting documentation for any corrections. **finance@TurnerMonumental.org**

TURNER MONUMENTAL AME CHURCH

*“A Monumental Church,
Doing Monumental Ministry”*

TM



Contact Info

Finance Office

finance@TurnerMonumental.org

Church Office

church@TurnerMonumental.org

www.TurnerMonumental.org

(404) 378-5970 - Office