

Joshua's Journal

Reaching People For Christ – **GOD FIRST!**



Rev. Dr. Robert L. Grove



As we observe the 40-day season of Lent, I am asking the membership (and others who would join in) to read Matthew 28:1-20 at least three times between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday. My hope and prayer is that we would find a sense of oneness as we focus on the same scripture. I am also asking that you include in your prayers a request for our Father to '...fill us with all the fulness of GOD' (Ephesians 3:19).

Saints of God, fervent, sincere, and persistent prayers uplifted in the name of Jesus will reach the ears of God. And if we desire for COVID-19 to be just an unpleasant memory, then keep on praying (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Furthermore, we are thankful to all of you who are regularly supporting the Church with your tithes and offerings. I understand that some of you have been personally impacted financially by this virus. Yet, you thought it not robbery to continue to give meaningful support to the ministries and mission of Joshua. Also, we have others who consistently send monetary gifts into this House. My request to our GOD is that HE will open the windows of heaven and pour out blessings that you will not have room enough to receive them.

Moreover, we extend our congratulations to Reverend Corey Anderson for his ordination. May the Lord continue to bless him to reach higher heights and deeper depths in ministry.

Finally, let us as one Father's children, speak with one voice the unsearchable riches of Jesus Christ. The times demand it, and the world sorely needs it. Brothers and sisters, we will not whisper truth while the devil is shouting lies. God loves you and Lady Grove and I do too.

In This Edition

Pastor's Page
Inspiration

Lent Season
Pearls/Brotherhood

Recognitions
Announcements

Activity/Humor
Events

Insert

Joshua's Mission Statement

Joshua Baptist Church is a Christian Church under the direct leadership of the Lord Jesus Christ. We are also a Missionary Baptist Church committed to the salvation of the lost, conversion of the unregenerate, and the spiritual growth of the saved. We seek to follow Christ as He leads us, cultivate a bond of Christian love, one with another; and to truly and tangibly care for those in need. As Christians, we covet a consistent holy and liberated lifestyle that testifies to our being a born again believer in Jesus Christ, as we strive to fulfill our purpose of *Reaching People For Christ*. Remember, GOD First, we walk by faith and not by sight.

Adopted
September 24, 1998

Amended
July 30, 2005

Amended
May 9, 2012



Be Encouraged



God's "BUTS"

Acts 5:12-32

Man's "buts" generally lead to something detrimental or to some disparagement; God's "buts" always open the way to something better.

- "And laid their hands on the apostles" (v.18); "but an angel" (v.19); deliverance of apostles.
- "And when they heard" (v.21); but the officers" (v.22); defeat of officers.
- "And the keepers standing" (v.23); "but we found no man" (v.25); dismay of officers.
- "And came and told" (v.25); "but without violence" (v.26); deceit of officers.
- "And they brought them" (v.27); "but Peter answered" (v.29); defiance of apostles.

YOUR STRENGTH AND STRATEGY FOR LIVING

When the battle continues to rage with no end in sight, you grow weary. Is that where you find yourself today? Are things in your life that once ran smoothly is no longer? Have you done all you know to do but it still hasn't helped? What should you do? Answer: Spend more time with your Creator in prayer, and listen to Him as He speaks to you through His Holy Word.

As long as you don't give up, victory is assured. It's a matter of replenishing your strength by drawing on His strength, refocusing your faith toward victory, and "[calling] to remembrance" God's promises (Psalm 77:6). Whenever you feel overwhelmed by trouble in your marriage, your business, your health, your job, or your finances, stand on these Biblical promises: "He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless. Even youths will become weak and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion. But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:29-31).

"We were crushed and overwhelmed beyond our ability to endure, and... thought we would never live through it. In fact, we expected to die. But as a result, we stopped relying on ourselves and learned to rely only on God. And He did rescue us... We have placed our confidence in Him, and He will continue to rescue us" (2 Corinthians 1:8-10). Listen: Instead of trying to escape the situation, seek the Lord and He will give you strength and a strategy to come out of it stronger and at peace.

LENT 2021 | Reflect. Repent. Restore.



Lent is a time period that typically begins in February or March (depending on the liturgical year). What exactly does Lent mean? Why is Lent so important to the various Christian denominations?

The Lenten season is an incredibly historic and symbolic time for Christians. The religious season dates back to Jesus Christ's life on earth. He lives forever in the hearts of his followers, but the Lenten season is a direct reflection of the days that eventually led up to his crucifixion. The day Jesus was nailed to the cross in Jerusalem is recognized as Good Friday in modern times.

Lent is a religious day that is observed for the sake of recognizing our faults as human beings and taking the time to repent for the sins we have committed throughout our lifetimes. The Lenten season is six weeks long in the Christian liturgical year. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which falls on a different day each year, but looking at the calendar, Ash Wednesday will always fall on the seventh week prior to Easter.

Though not all Christians abstain from eating meat and drinking on Ash Wednesday, members of many denominations will participate in a full day of fasting once a week – typically on Fridays. In regards to the element of fasting, there is no hierarchy of devotion to one's religion or dedication to the season of Lent.

Fasting is an additional way of paying mind to one's deep repentance for prior sins, but the decision is optional, and more importantly, it's entirely personal.

In today's Christian community there are many iterations of fasting. Many people make a vow to fast from things such as negative thoughts, gossiping, social media, bingeing shows on streaming sites, alcohol, and much more. New traditions also include adding things to your life for these 40 days such as setting aside time to meditate and pray each day, visiting shut-ins, and doing service.

As part of our Lenten observance this year, Pastor Grove has asked us to read the book of Matthew Chapter 28 three times and pay special attention to verses 16 – 20 as you study this chapter. As we prepare for Easter in this very special way, take time to reflect on God's goodness in relation to your life.

Important Dates of Lent and When They Occur in 2021

Important Dates of Lent	Brief Overview of Significance	2021 Date
Ash Wednesday	The beginning of Lent, a day of reflection and repentance from sin	February 17, 2021
Palm Sunday	Celebrates Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem	March 28, 2021
Holy Week	The week leading up to Easter	March 28 - April 3, 2021
Maundy Thursday	Commemorates the foot washing and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles	April 1, 2021
Good Friday	Commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary	April 2, 2021
Easter Sunday	Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and his victory over sin and death.	April 4, 2021

BROTHERHOOD + MINISTRY

FOOD DRIVE



“If you give food to the hungry and satisfy those who are in need, then the darkness around you will turn to the brightness of noon.”

– Isaiah 58:10

Help Us Help Others

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2021
10AM—1PM

The JBC Brotherhood will join the Low Country Food Bank in its community outreach efforts to help people in need.

We are asking Brotherhood members and mentees to drop off non-perishable foods such as canned fruits and vegetables, canned tuna and chicken, whole grains, rice, pasta, cereals and baby foods. This is not the entire list and ANY nonperishable item is accepted.

In the event you cannot drop off items, we are requesting a monetary donation and we will spend every penny to purchase items and add to the collected items we receive.

Someone will meet you at your vehicle if you do not wish to enter the fellowship area. This will be our first attempt to reach out and assist in this way, and we pray for a fruitful occasion.

Brothers, we will not remain silent during the pandemic, for we have accomplished other things since our last meeting. We must be a ministry that makes a difference to those less privileged than ourselves, we must continue to provide for our own home, provide for our family, and support our church.

As 2021 does not provide a clear vision of what remains to come, we still need to be committed to success, growth, leadership and prayer. Always remember that God made us and that Christ died for us and no matter what anyone else may say, God knows, I'm Trying, I'm Trying, I'm Trying!

Brotherhood Ministry:

To help each other grow spiritually in the Lord as we share our gifts through ideas, thoughts and suggestions

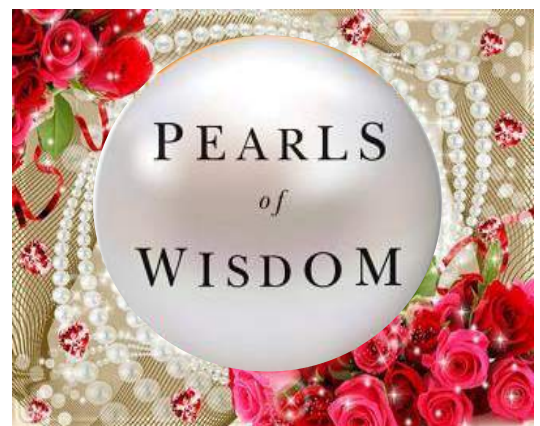
Scripture: Psalm 133: 1-3



The Pearls Ministry

Titus 2:3-5

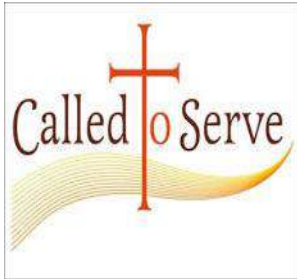
³Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, ⁴and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, ⁵to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled



If the elders leave you a legacy of dignified language, you do not abandon it and speak childish language. GHANIAN PROVERB



Congratulations!



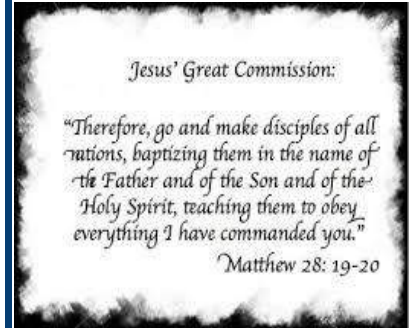
John 15:16. "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit ..."

BLESSINGS TO YOU!

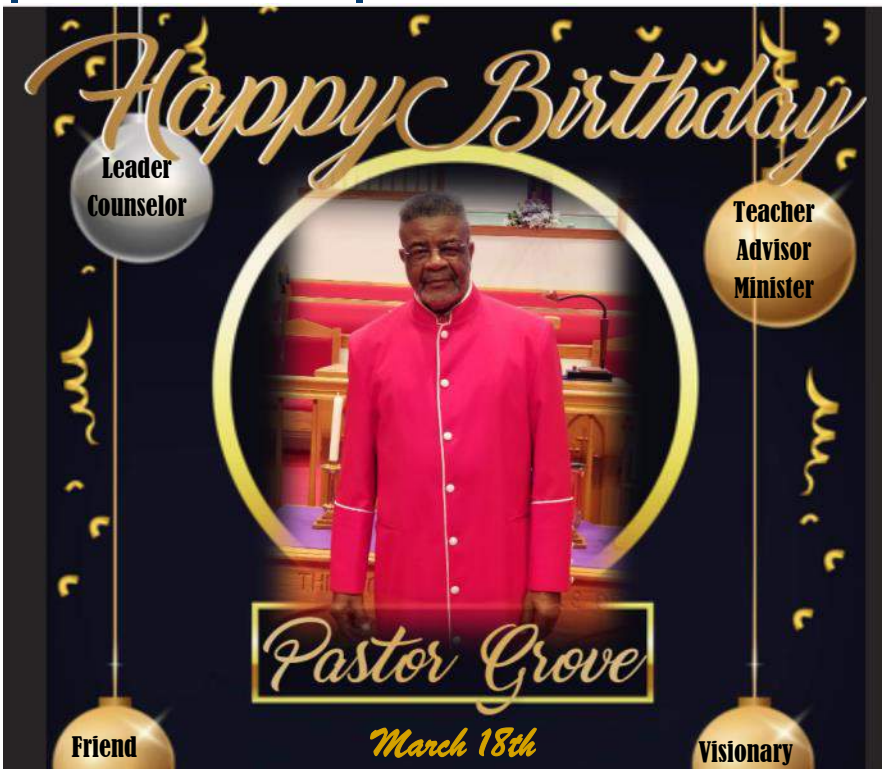


Rev. Corey Anderson
Joshua Baptist Church
Ordained Sunday, February 21, 2021

May you be filled with God's blessing and joy!
Congratulations on ordination!

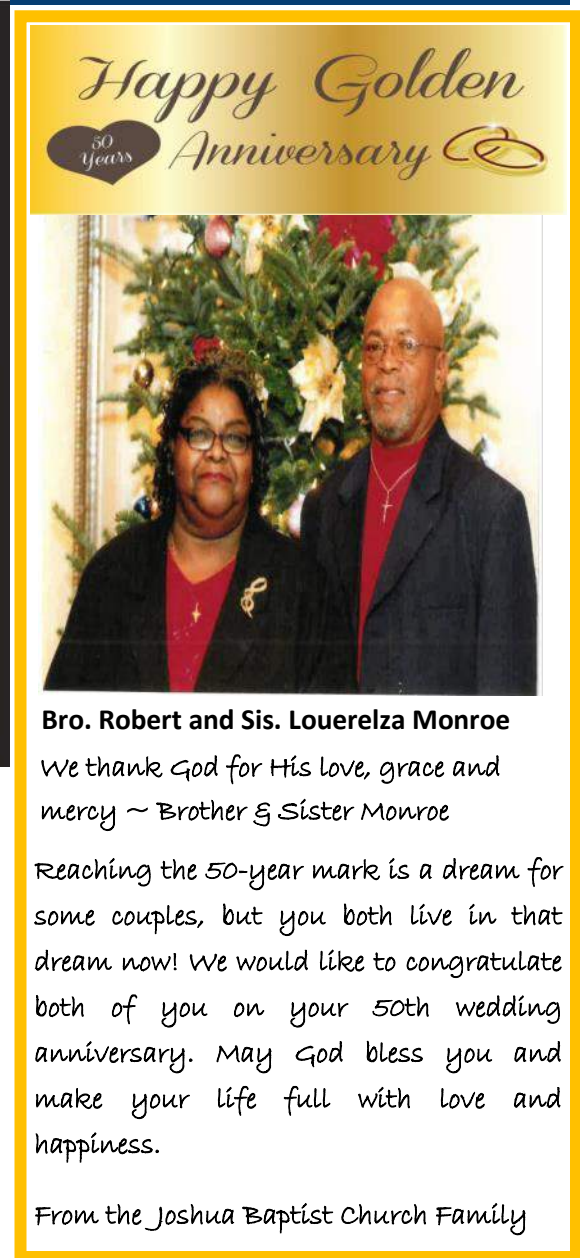


From
The Joshua Baptist Church Family!



Our Pastor

Dear Pastor Grove,
You are a preacher, a teacher, a wise counselor, a listener, and a friend. Thank you for your guidance, your service, and your faithfulness to God's commandments. We are so blessed to have you in our lives. God needed someone to care for his flock, and He chose you. We thank God for giving us a Pastor like you.
May God bless you with many more happy and healthy birthdays.
From the Joshua Baptist Church Family!



Bro. Robert and Sis. Louerelza Monroe
We thank God for His love, grace and mercy ~ Brother & Sister Monroe

Reaching the 50-year mark is a dream for some couples, but you both live in that dream now! We would like to congratulate both of you on your 50th wedding anniversary. May God bless you and make your life full with love and happiness.

From the Joshua Baptist Church Family



If you would like a copy of your **2020 tax giving statement**, please email Sis. Karen Pratt or Sis. Cindy Cato at Churchjoshuabaptist@gmail.com. Your Giving statement can be emailed or mailed to you.




The church has a new email address. Please use this email churchjoshuabaptist@gmail.com when emailing the church.



Our audiovisual department is looking for volunteers to assist in this much-needed ministry. You don't need to have audiovisual experience, just the desire to learn this exciting job. Please see Sis. Jacqueline Dent or Bro. Jerod Dent if you are interested.



Thank you Joshua Family for tuning in each Sunday (11:15 a.m.) and Tuesday (6 p.m.) on Facebook and/or YouTube. Your comments are very encouraging to Pastor Grove and our other ministers, so keep sending up those praying hands, hearts, hugs and comments. They are very much appreciated.

In addition, please subscribe to our YouTube page, share the link and click the Like button on our Facebook page. It's more important now than ever to "Reach People for Christ." Please share this information and email with other members of Joshua. 



If you know someone who is not receiving these emails and would like to be included, please ask them to send an email to Sister Karen Pratt with their e-mail address. As well, please advise if you do not wish to receive these emails.



In April, Pastor and Lady Grove will celebrate 33 years of serving Joshua Baptist Church. Joshua has truly been blessed by their leadership. There will be no services to commemorate this impressive event due to the ongoing pandemic; however, you can help recognize this occasion by offering a \$50 love offering. You can show your love offering through online giving or by envelope. Please indicate where you would like your offering to be allocated.

Journal Submission: The 3rd Sunday of each month is the deadline to submit articles, announcements, poems, etc., to be published in the upcoming issue. Please submit to any CAPPS member.

USING OUR GIFTS IN LOVE

Read through the list of spiritual gifts in Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12. Pick the one you believe is your strongest and write it in the box to the left. Then give seven examples of how you can better use it to express love each day this week.



My strongest spiritual gift is ...

How I will better use that strength to express love . . .

Monday: _____

Tuesday: _____

Wednesday: _____

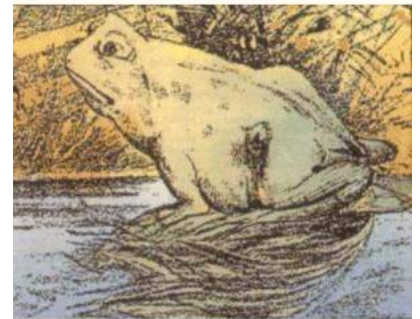
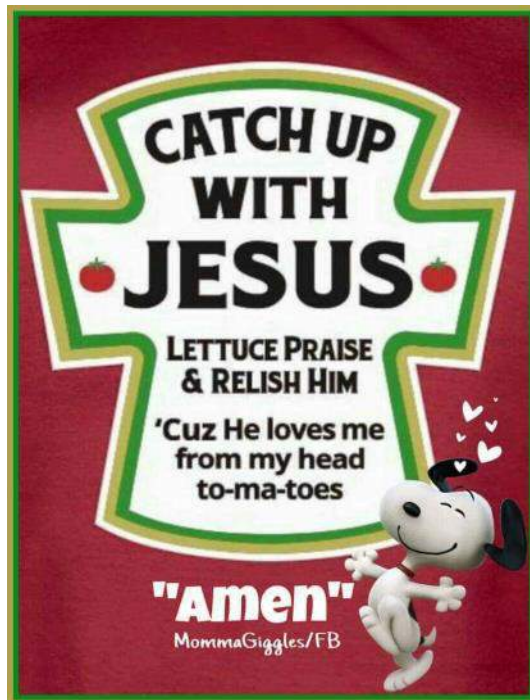
Thursday: _____

Friday: _____

Saturday: _____

Sunday: _____

I just want to make you smile



Two animals in one picture optical illusion




A child asked his father, "How were people born?" So his father said, "Adam and Eve made babies, then their babies became adults and made babies, and so on." The child then went to his mother, asked her the same question and she told him, "We were monkeys then we evolved to become like we are now." The child ran back to his father and said, "You lied to me!" His father replied, "No, your mom was talking about her side of the family."

March

Joshua Baptist Church Weekly Calendar

Evening Bible Study

Tuesday Evenings at 6:00 p.m.

Via Facebook and YouTube 



Noon Day Bible Study

Wednesdays at 12:00 Noon

Via Conference Call

1-502-420-9034 or 1-701-802-5010

Access Code: 833827



Joshua's Children's Church

2nd and 4th Saturday Evenings at 6:00 p.m.

Children and adults are invited!

All classes will meet through a single Zoom meeting:

Meeting ID: 871 5011 0765 Passcode: 123



Sunday School Classes

Sunday Mornings at 9:00 a.m.

All classes will meet through a single Zoom Meeting:

Meeting ID: 871 5011 0765 Passcode: 123

Or

You may dial in by phone: 1- 646-558-8656

When prompted enter: Meeting ID: 871 5011 0765 #

Participant ID: Press #



Sunday Worship Services

Sunday Mornings at 11:00 a.m.

Live at 11:15 a.m.

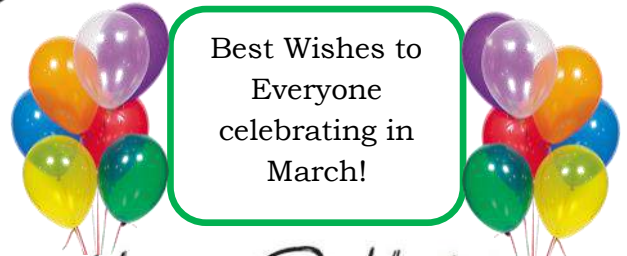
Via Facebook and YouTube Or

Conference Call (978) 990-5232

Access Code 7329240#



Happy Anniversary!



Happy Birthday!

DEACON Care

PRAYER • ENCOURAGEMENT • MEALS • RESOURCES

The Deacons as well as the Ministers of Joshua are still a resource for you during this uncertain time. Please continue to pray and reflect during Lent.



We are the church
No matter where we meet.



1 Peter 2: 9-10



Joshua Baptist Church

Welcome to Joshua
Baptist Church

2482 Faber Road, North Charleston, SC 29405
(843) 225-8050 (Church) || (843) 225-8058 (Fax)

Churchjoshuabaptist (Email)



COVID-19: Get the Facts Straight and Vaccinate

As COVID-19 continues to surge across the U.S., everyone who is eligible needs to step up and get vaccinated when it is their turn. It is natural to have questions and concerns, and APIC is here to help. Let's get the facts straight and vaccinate!

COVID-19 Vaccination: What to Keep in Mind

Are the COVID-19 vaccines safe?



Millions of people in the U.S. have received COVID-19 vaccines, and these vaccines have undergone the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ensures safety before vaccines are made available. Data from large trials in patients are reviewed by experts who are completely independent from both the government and the manufacturers responsible for creating the vaccines. Additionally, the vaccines were tested in diverse patient groups (age, race, ethnicity, etc.) to ensure safety and effectiveness.

How do the COVID-19 vaccines work?



When you receive a COVID-19 vaccine, your body builds up the immunity it needs to fight the COVID-19 illness and lessen the mild-to-severe symptoms. It is important to remember that it takes the body a few weeks after vaccination to produce the necessary antibodies to protect you from COVID-19. It is possible to become infected with SARS-CoV-2 just before or just after vaccination and get sick with COVID-19.

Will the vaccines be effective against new variants of the coronavirus?



When more people are vaccinated, there are fewer chances for COVID-19 to spread, regardless of the mutation. Scientists expected that the virus would mutate because viruses change all the time. From the data that are currently available, the vaccines appear to be effective against the new strains of SARS-CoV-2.

Can I test positive for COVID-19 because of the vaccine?



No, it is impossible for any of the vaccines currently authorized by the FDA to cause a positive result from a viral test (a test taken to see if you have a current infection). Additionally, none of the existing vaccines can give you COVID-19 because they do not use a live virus strain.

What side effects can I expect from the COVID-19 vaccine?



You may experience side effects such as the ones listed below for up to a week after your vaccine; they are more likely to occur after your second dose if you are receiving a multi-dose vaccine. If they persist or worsen after a week, contact your healthcare provider immediately. Taking pain relievers like acetaminophen or ibuprofen can help prevent or lessen these symptoms.

- Localized swelling, tenderness, redness, or warmth to the touch
- Fever
- Chills
- Body aches/headaches
- Joint pain
- Fatigue

Are there any single dose vaccines? How important is the second dose?



There are single dose COVID-19 vaccines that may soon be available, but currently all COVID-19 vaccines being given in the U.S. require a second dose. If you are receiving a multi-dose vaccine, it's essential that you get that second dose because you are still at risk for getting COVID-19 until you are fully vaccinated.

Can I stop wearing my mask after I've been vaccinated?



No, you need to continue masking when you go out in public until enough people have been vaccinated and "herd immunity" is reached. Herd immunity occurs when a high percentage of the population is immune to a disease through vaccination or prior illness. The vaccine is effective at preventing you from getting sick with COVID-19, but we do not know if it prevents you from being able to spread COVID-19 without symptoms. In order to prevent this "asymptomatic spread" to the vulnerable people in your community, continue to wear a mask, practice hand hygiene, and keep a distance of at least 6 feet between yourself and others.



COVID-19 VACCINES: What You Need to Know

If you have internet access, the most reliable method is to visit DHEC's vaccine appointment website, vaxlocator.dhec.sc.gov. Sites that have appointments available are shown in green.

If you do not have internet or need help, the public health agency has a call center open to field questions at 866-365-8110. The call center is open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m., and workers at the center are able to make a vaccine appointment for people who call in.

Effective March 8, 2021 the following people will be able to make appointments to receive the vaccine:

- Anyone aged 55 and up
- People 16 or older with increased risk for severe COVID-19 disease, including those with the following conditions:
 - Cancer
 - Chronic lung disease
 - Down syndrome
 - HIV/AIDS
 - Obesity
 - Sickle cell disease
 - Developmental or other severe high-risk disability
 - Frontline workers with increased occupational risk who are in-person at their place of work and perform a job that puts them at increased risk of exposure because of their frequent close and ongoing contact with others, including:
 - School staff (K-12) and daycare workers
 - Manufacturing workers
 - Grocery store workers
 - Law enforcement officers
- People at increased risk in settings where people are living and working in close contact, including:
 - Residents and workers in group home settings for the mentally or physically disabled or those with behavioral or substance abuse conditions
 - Workers and residents in homeless shelters and community training homes
 - State and local correctional facility staff with direct inmate contact
 - Correctional/immigration detention facility inmates
 - Migrant farmworkers living in shared housing or reliant on shared transportation
 - All workers in healthcare and community health settings who have routine, direct patient contact and who were not vaccinated in Phase 1A.
- Chronic kidney disease
- Diabetes (Type 1 or 2)
- Heart disease
- Solid organ transplant
- Pregnancy



FREE TAX ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR LOW INCOME AND OTHER QUALIFIED TAXPAYERS

Need help filing a simple tax return? Free assistance is available for qualified taxpayers.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA). These IRS-certified volunteers provide free, in-person assistance for individuals who make \$56,000 or less a year, and people with disabilities.

You'll need the following documents for your VITA appointment:

- Last year's state and federal tax returns
- Photo ID (if you're filing a joint return, your spouse will need to be present with their photo ID)
- Social Security cards or Individual Taxpayer Identification # documents and birth dates for each taxpayer and dependent
- All W-2s, 1098s, and 1099s
- Form 1095 (Marketplace Health Insurance)
- Information for all deductions and/or tax credits you believe you qualify for, like receipts for property taxes or tuition paid during the tax year
- Total paid to a daycare provider, along with their tax ID number
- Bank account information if you're expecting a tax refund and want to use direct deposit

VITA volunteers cannot prepare complex returns. Find a VITA location near you at irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep or call 800-906-9887.

Other free tax assistance

Prepare your taxes free online through MyFreeTaxes.com, a partner ship of United Way and H&R Block. All you need to get started is a copy of your W-2, which can be uploaded from your smartphone.

If your adjusted gross income is less than \$65,000 (\$95,000 if filing jointly) and **you live in Berkeley, Charleston, or Dorchester counties**, visit SCThrive.org/filetaxes/ or call 800-726-8774 for free taxpayer preparation assistance.

Free tax help for taxpayers 60 or older is available through the IRS **Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) program**. These IRS-certified volunteers can answer questions related to pensions and retirement-related issues. Most TCE sites are operated by the AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide program, which offers free tax preparation help from February 1 through April 15. **You don't have to be an AARP member. Call 888-227-7669 toll free or visit the [Tax-Aide Site Locator](#)** to find a location in South Carolina.

If you don't need additional assistance or don't qualify for any of these offers, you may still be able to file for free using **an approved provider** or **South Carolina Fillable Forms**. The SCDOR does not endorse a particular tax filing product, group of products, or service provider.

Other filing tips to keep in mind for South Carolina returns:

- Choose online filing and direct deposit for fast transactions.
- When submitting your tax return, make sure your current mailing address is included.

File for free using SC Fillable Forms or other free online services for which you may qualify at dor.sc.gov/iit-filing.