

Shining Star Newsletter Volume 7 Issue 7 July 2026

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# SHINING STAR NEWSLETTER

## STAR HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

1400 North Foster Drive Baton Rouge, LA 70806 225.925.3133

[www.starhillbaptistchurch.org](http://www.starhillbaptistchurch.org)

Facebook: [@Star Hill Church BR](#)

Volume 7 ~ Issue 7 June 2026

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## How We Do Church

### Our Values

We believe all believers should:

**GROW** in an intentional and accountable way.

**SERVE** with passion and be equipped for ministry.

**BELONG** to one another through healthy small groups and a genuine fellowship.

**SHARE** their story actively and effectively in everyday relationships.

**CELEBRATE** awesomeness of God in an excellent and vibrant way.



*If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*

**John 8:31-32**

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So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.  
Colossians 2:6-7 NIV

### THE SAME WAY YOU BEGAN

Growth in the Kingdom does not require a new method—it requires consistency.

Scripture teaches that the way you began your life with Christ is the same way you are meant to continue.

You did not begin your journey with God through performance, knowledge, or strength. You began through faith—by trusting Him, depending on Him, and surrendering to His Lordship.

This is important because many believers unknowingly shift after salvation. They begin by resting in grace, but then attempt to grow through effort alone.

What started as dependence slowly becomes striving.

What began as relationship becomes routine.

But God never intended for you to outgrow your need for Him.

To “**live in Him**” means:

You continue **trusting**, even when **you don't understand**

You continue **depending**, even when **you feel weak**

You continue **returning**, even when **you fall short**.

Growth is not moving beyond grace—it is growing deeper into it.  
The same posture that saved you is the posture that sustains you.  
Grace sustains what grace begins.

### **Prayer for Today**

Father, thank You for Your unmerited grace. Help me not to drift into striving. Teach me to continue walking with You in the same trust that brought me to You. I choose to depend on You daily. In Jesus's name, Amen."

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## **FINANCE MINISTRY**

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We would like to ask your assistance in helping us record and maintain accurate records of your contributions. The way you can help is by making sure contribution envelopes are correct and complete. Lately, we have encountered the following envelopes issues:

- (1) Cash with no name. This is not a problem if you do not want your contribution recorded and added to your year-end statement. If you would like all contributions included in that statement, please complete the envelope. We recognize that some choose to give in anonymity and we respect that choice.
- (2) No member or guest notation.
- (3) No phone or contact information.
- (4) No designation of where contributions are to be applied.

As an additional note, we have received checks with the numerical dollar amount but not the written dollar amount. As you may not know, banks process transactions according to the written amounts rather than the numerical amount. Therefore, your contact information is important so that if there are omissions we can contact you for corrections before the

deposit is made.

Thank you for your assistance with the records. We are looking forward to seeing all in full fellowship, activity of the ministries and face-to-face of the Word.

Be Blessed.

|                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Date <b>7-20-25</b>                                        | <b>Star Hill Baptist Church</b><br>1400 North Foster Drive<br>Baton Rouge, LA 70806<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Member <input type="checkbox"/> Guest | <input type="checkbox"/> Cash<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check # <b>777</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> M.O. #<br>Amount \$ <b>900.00</b> |
| Offering .....\$ <b>20.00</b>                              | 60 Minutes Offering .....\$ <b>5.00</b>                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                       |
| Building.....\$                                            | Other.....\$                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                       |
| Scholarship.....\$                                         | Mission.....\$                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                       |
| Tithes .....\$ <b>875.00</b>                               | Freewill .....\$                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                       |
| Name <b>Mickey and Minnie Mouse</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                       |
| Address <b>123 Disney Drive    Baton Rouge, LA 70806</b>   |                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                       |
| Phone Number <b>225-456-7890</b> Email <b>my-email.com</b> |                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                       |

## PRAYER MINISTRY

**The JULY PRAYER CALENDAR is available!**

[Click to View](#)



Every Friday

at **7:15 PM.**

Phone number

**(516) 387-8007**

## PRAYER BOX

The prayer box is located in the foyer. Please put your concerns in the box and the prayer team (Claudia Commenia, Brenda Curry, Marc Fisher, Yarva Harrison, Brandy Monroe, and Deborah Rhome) will pray for them.



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## ADMINISTRATION

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# Star Hill

is leaving

## Servant Keeper

and will be using



# Tithely.

on **7/19/26**

### Welcome to the

## *Tithely!*

Giving, Apps, Sites, and Church Management Software.



GIVING



APPS



SITES



CHURCH MANAGEMENT

 Same mission. New tools. Stronger together. | *Thank you for your continued faithfulness!*

On July 19th, Star Hill Baptist Church is switching to a new church management software and giving platform Breeze is now Tithely Church Management.

Both our new giving, website and app should be launched by July 19th, 2026. In preparation for the move:

- Download the Tithe.ly mobile giving app, sign-up for an account and complete making a \$1 gift to test the app.
- If you have any questions or problems, contact the church office at (225) 925-3133.

More information is coming soon.

Finally, thank you for being such a valuable part of Star Hill. Your generosity and participation helps to build the Kingdom of God in our community.

Our church website will be more user-friendly and clean-looking than ever.

And our Star Hill Baptist Church App is going to completely change the way you can connect with our church community, with group messaging, a prayer wall, sermon series on audio, and more.

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL



The Sunday School leadership team is looking forward to a successful year as we study God's Word as a family. We are excited as we meet together to discuss ways in which can increase attendance and participation.

We have taken a multigenerational approach in planning in order to include everyone in learning and growing in faith. Sunday School is every Sunday at 10:00 a. m. following Service.

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## ASSIMILATION AND DEVELOPMENT (A&D)

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While we don't have any structural developments or events to report this month, we are praising God for what He is doing in individuals' lives. We are thrilled to share that two Candidates are preparing to be baptized in the coming weeks. Walking alongside new believers as they take this public step is the very heart of our ministry.

Construction of our stained-glass window should be completed very soon, allowing access to the baptism pool.

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## STAR HIL BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

***Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Matthew 5:4***

Star Hill Baptist Church is committed to supporting members and their families during times of bereavement with compassion, prayer, and practical assistance.

We are happy to announce the newly formed Bereavement Committee consisting of Co-Chairs, Tangela Byrd and Rhonda Brooks.

To request service of the Bereavement Committee for an upcoming funeral, please call Tangela Byrd at (225) 892-3066 or Rhonda Brooks at (225) 229-3816.

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Tangela Byrd



Rhonda Brooks

**KEEP IN TOUCH WITH**



## SHBC JUNE BIRTHDAYS

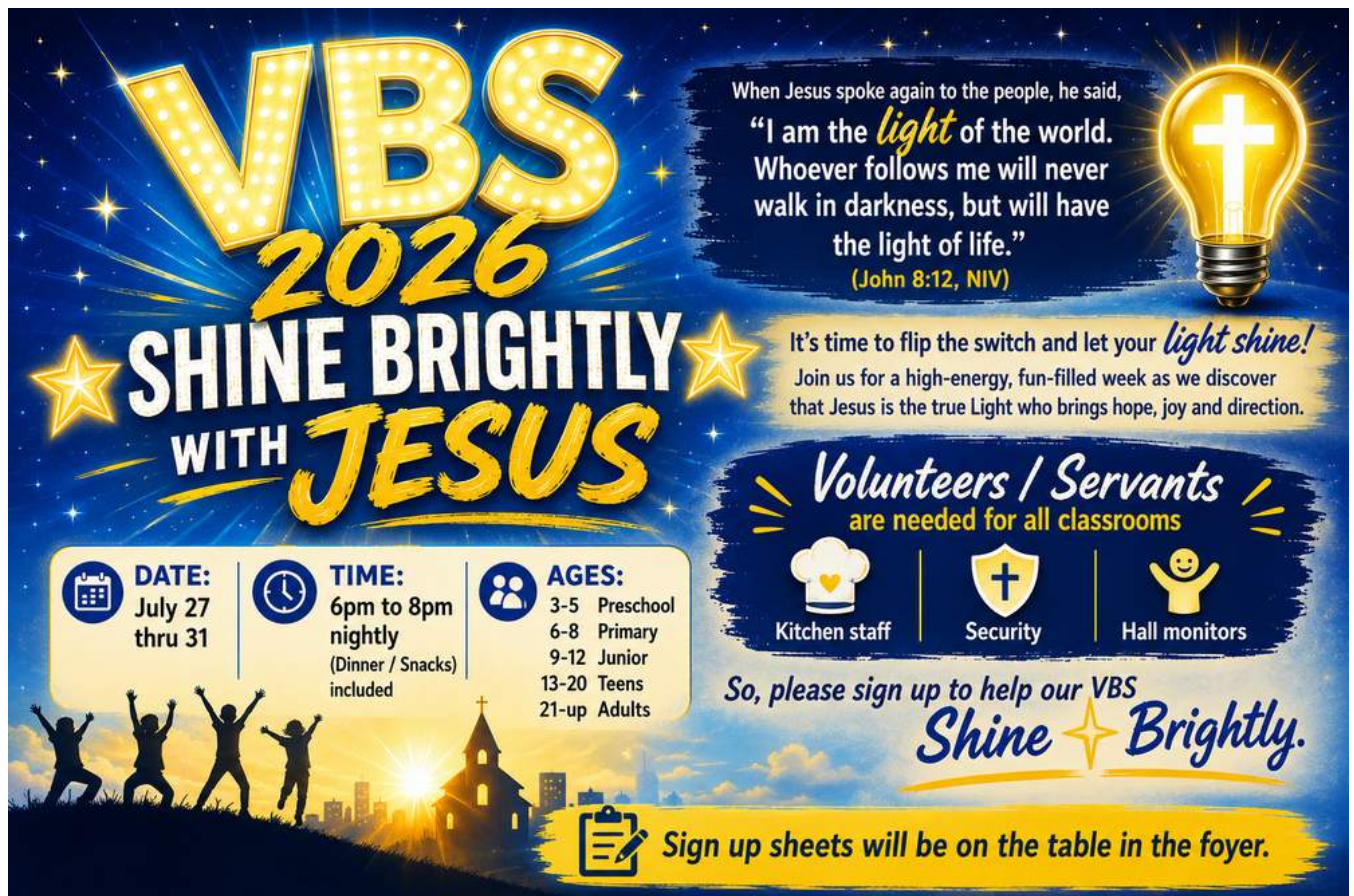


|    |                   |    |                        |
|----|-------------------|----|------------------------|
| 1  | Afton Dunn        | 17 | Alton Crockett         |
| 4  | Bill Dixon        | 17 | Demond Eaton           |
| 4  | Patsy McKenney    | 17 | Mary Jetson            |
| 6  | Michael Blackmon  | 17 | Mercedes Johnson       |
| 6  | Karen Shaffer     | 18 | Vincent McMiller       |
| 9  | Bertha Patrick    | 18 | Tamara Simmons-Billy   |
| 10 | Darrell Matthews  | 19 | Dianne Manchester      |
| 10 | Sandra Young      | 21 | Philip Dunn            |
| 11 | Sandra Dixon      | 23 | Deborah Rhome          |
| 11 | Wilma George      | 24 | Benniesha Brown        |
| 12 | Irving Tucker     | 25 | Albert Simmons         |
| 13 | Denice Fitzgerald | 28 | Marc Fisher            |
| 13 | Ruth Moss         | 29 | Mildred Robinson-Ewing |
| 13 | Dylan Weaver      | 30 | Dorothy Boyd           |
| 16 | Dillon Coleman    | 30 | Horace Jackson         |

Listen to your Birthday Song

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# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



The poster features a dark blue background with a starry night sky. At the top left, the text 'VBS 2026' is written in large, glowing yellow letters. Below it, 'SHINE BRIGHTLY WITH JESUS' is written in white and yellow. On the right, a glowing lightbulb with a cross inside it is shown. Below the lightbulb, a quote from John 8:12 is displayed. In the center, a section titled 'Volunteers / Servants' lists roles: Kitchen staff, Security, and Hall monitors. At the bottom left, a silhouette of a church and people is shown. At the bottom right, a yellow banner contains the text 'Sign up sheets will be on the table in the foyer.'

**VBS 2026**

**SHINE BRIGHTLY WITH JESUS**

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said,  
“I am the *light* of the world.  
Whoever follows me will never  
walk in darkness, but will have  
the light of life.”  
(John 8:12, NIV)

It's time to flip the switch and let your *light shine!*  
Join us for a high-energy, fun-filled week as we discover  
that Jesus is the true Light who brings hope, joy and direction.

**Volunteers / Servants**  
are needed for all classrooms

 Kitchen staff

 Security

 Hall monitors

**DATE:** July 27 thru 31

**TIME:** 6pm to 8pm nightly  
(Dinner / Snacks) included

**AGES:**  
3-5 Preschool  
6-8 Primary  
9-12 Junior  
13-20 Teens  
21-up Adults

So, please sign up to help our VBS  
**Shine Brightly.**

 Sign up sheets will be on the table in the foyer.

Invite your grandchildren, family members, neighbors and friends.



On Sunday, July 7, 2026, we recognized our 2026 High School and College graduates.

**High School:**

Dillon Mikhail Coleman, Joseph Jordan Amir Davis and Ta'Shawn C. Simmons

**College:**

Imani Charday Dunn and Dwayne Stepter III

We are so proud of you, and we pray that God's blessings and guidance follow you as you step into your future endeavors.

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**DILLON**  
*Mikhail Coleman*  
 LIBERTY MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL

— AND —  
**BATON ROUGE**  
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**BRCC**  
 BATON ROUGE  
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*Future Goal*  
 Attending  
**UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT MONROE**  
 MAJOR IN  
**PSYCHOLOGY**  
 TO BE A CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

PSYCHOLOGY  
 ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY  
 COUNSELING  
 HUMAN BEHAVIOR

THE MIND IS  
 EVERYTHING.  
 WHAT YOU THINK,  
 YOU BECOME.



**Joseph Jordan Amir Davis**  
 Liberty Magnet High School

*Future Goal*  
 Attending  
**LOUISIANA STATE  
 UNIVERSITY**  
 majoring in  
**MECHANICAL ENGINEERING.**

LSU

LM

LM

# Ta'Shawn C. Simmons

Broadmoor High School

*Future Goal*

Attending

## Baton Rouge Community College

or a local vocational school.







# IMANI Charday Dunn

SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY  
— IN HAMMOND LOUISIANA —

— WITH DEGREE IN —

## HEALTH SCIENCE

*Future Goal*

## MASTERS DEGREE IN POPULATION HEALTH MANAGEMENT








PASSION FOR PEOPLE

DATA DRIVEN DECISIONS

HEALTH EQUITY FOR ALL

LEADING THE FUTURE



# DWAYNE Stepter III

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT

WITH TWO DEGREES IN

-  **COMPUTER SCIENCE**  
SCIENCE OPTION
-  **BUSINESS**  
BUSINESS OPTION

  
HARD WORK  
DEDICATION

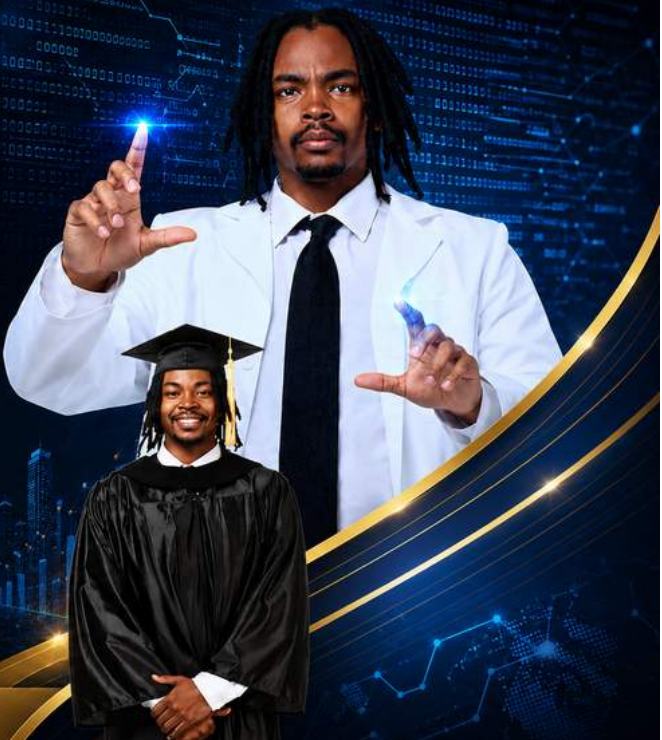
  
KNOWLEDGE  
FOCUS

  
EXCELLENCE  
ACHIEVED

  
PURPOSE  
DRIVEN

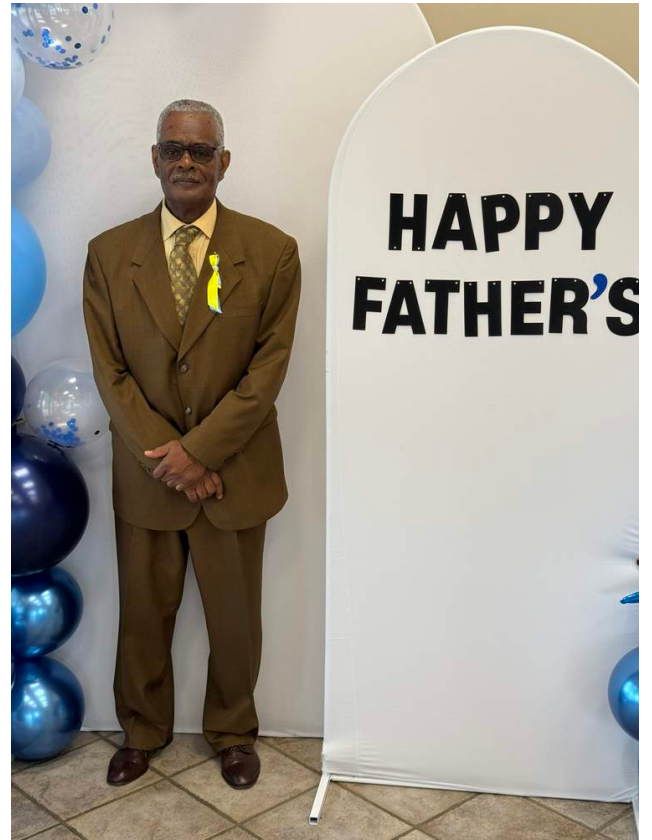
*I can do all things  
through Christ  
which strengtheneth me.*  
PHILIPPIANS 4:13

**TWO DEGREES. ONE PURPOSE. LIMITLESS IMPACT.**



## FATHER'S DAY









On June 21st, Star Hill proudly honored fathers and all men for their love, leadership, and legacy. The women of Star Hill honored the men by serving as ushers, escorting them to their seats, lifting their voices in song, escorting them to the fellowship hall, and preparing and serving a delicious meal.

Father's Day tributes were presented by Connie Matthews, written by Cathy Hudson and Kree Commenia, and included a video featuring fathers, uncles, stepfathers, and father figures with their children. Guest minister Velma Matthews delivered the message **"KINGDOM MEN: Where are You?** The kingdom men

showed up in numbers.

Thank you to the Star Hill women for your dedication and commitment to honoring and blessing the men of Star Hill.



Star Hill Women meeting to prepare for Father's Day.



Star Hill Women sing on Father's Day.



The Kitchen Angels - Yarva Harrison waving in the back, Juanita Smith, Betty Jiles, Barbara Thompson, Cheryl Wilkins and Natalie Thomas. Thank You!



**Minister Velma Matthews**  
**United Christian Fellowship**



Connie Matthews



Kree Commenia



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## FOOD BANK MINISTRY

**Baton Rouge Food Bank pick up will be on  
Friday, July 17, 2026 at 9:00 am – 10:30 am.**



**Open the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month**

**9:00am - 10:30am**

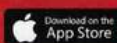
Registration Required

**Star Hill Baptist Church**

**1400 N. Foster Dr, Baton Rouge, LA 70806**

**Please bring any photo ID and  
ONE of the following bills: rent, mortgage, light, gas, or water**

[brfoodbank.org](http://brfoodbank.org) | [@brfoodbank](https://www.instagram.com/brfoodbank)



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**THE LIGHTER SIDE OF THE HILL**

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Proverbs 17:22 - **A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.**

***Laughter Still Is the Best Medicine***

**Why was the firework always getting mad?** Because it had a short fuse.

**What did the American flag say to the Statue of Liberty?** Nothing, it just waved.

**Why did the hot dog lose the race?** Because it couldn't ketchup.



**1. IN WHICH YEAR WAS THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE SIGNED?**

A) 1774

B) 1776

C) 1781

**2. WHO IS KNOWN AS THE "FATHER OF HIS COUNTRY"?**

A) Thomas Jefferson

B) Benjamin Franklin

C) George Washington

**3. HOW MANY ORIGINAL COLONIES FORMED THE UNITED STATES?**

A) 10

B) 13

C) 15

**4. WHAT IS THE NATIONAL BIRD OF THE UNITED STATES?**

A) Bald Eagle

B) Hawk

C) Falcon

**5. WHICH CITY IS KNOWN AS THE BIRTHPLACE OF AMERICA?**

A) Boston

B) Philadelphia

C) New York City

**6. WHICH DOCUMENT BEGINS WITH THE WORDS "WE THE PEOPLE"?**

A) Bill of Rights

B) Constitution

C) Declaration of Independence

**7. WHAT DO THE 50 STARS ON THE U.S. FLAG REPRESENT?**

A) States

B) Presidents

C) National Parks

**8. WHICH U.S. PRESIDENT IS FEATURED ON THE \$1 BILL?**

A) Abraham Lincoln

B) George Washington

C) Thomas Jefferson

**9. WHAT IS THE LARGEST NATIONAL PARK IN THE UNITED STATES?**

A) Yellowstone

B) Yosemite

C) Wrangell-St. Elias

**10. WHICH FAMOUS BELL IS LOCATED IN PHILADELPHIA?**

A) Freedom Bell

B) Liberty Bell

C) Independence Bell

**11. WHAT IS THE CAPITAL OF THE UNITED STATES?**

A) New York City

B) Washington, D.C.

C) Philadelphia

★ TOTAL SCORE:

[Click for the answers](#)

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1400 N Foster Dr  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

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