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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Historic Resources

2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221

David L. Bulova  
Secretary of Natural  
and Historic Resources

Roger W. Kirchen  
Director  
Tel: (804) 367-2323  
www.dhr.virginia.gov

February 23, 2026

Christian Goodwin, County Administrator  
Louisa County  
Louisa County Administration Building  
1 Woolfork Ave, Ste 301  
Louisa, VA 23093

Re: Bright Hope Baptist Church and Cemetery, Louisa County

Dear Administrator Goodwin:

I am pleased to inform you that the above-named property is now officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Park Service (NPS), a division of the U.S. Department of Interior, officially added this property to the National Register on **January 16, 2026**. National Register listing is an honorary designation that recognizes our nation's historic places that are significant, including individual buildings, sites, structures, objects, and historic districts. Additionally, the property was listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources at their meeting on **September 18, 2025**.

I also want to let you know about DHR services and programs that may interest you. To begin, please know that should you have any questions or plans pertaining to historic properties in your jurisdiction, DHR is happy to offer consultation, especially regarding actions that might impact the historic integrity of buildings and structures or belowground archaeological resources. We encourage everyone to learn more about best stewardship practices and our staff stands ready to assist in that capacity.

As the chief elected official in your community, you also may want to know more about DHR's Certified Local Government (CLG) program, which gives local governments a way to participate more formally in the state and national historic preservation programs. Participation in the CLG program entitles your community to access technical assistance from DHR and the National Park Service, to apply for grants for preservation projects, to obtain annual staff training, and to educate your constituents about their community's unique history. Detailed information about the CLG program is available at <http://dhr.virginia.gov/clg/clg.htm>.

Also, you may wish to learn more about Virginia's Rehabilitation Tax Credit (RTC) program, which is administered by DHR. The economic impact of the rehabilitation tax credit program can be important to local economies by stimulating investment in and redevelopment of historic properties, improving real estate, and creating local jobs. Virginia provides a 25 percent tax credit on eligible expenses to property owners who rehabilitate their Register-listed properties according to preservation standards. Moreover, if a National Register-listed historic property is used for income-producing purposes, it may also qualify for a federal RTC offering a 20 percent tax credit on qualified rehabilitation expenses. These credits may be utilized over a number of years. Projects using either state or federal RTCs must comply with *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*. Please contact DHR if you would like to obtain more information about how your community can promote use of the RTC program, or visit our website at [http://dhr.virginia.gov/tax\\_credits/tax\\_credit.htm](http://dhr.virginia.gov/tax_credits/tax_credit.htm).

On behalf of DHR, I extend our congratulations on the listing of this property in the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Roger W. Kirchen  
Director and State Historic Preservation Officer

Western Region Office  
962 Kime Lane  
Salem, VA 24153  
Tel: (540) 387-5443  
Fax: (540) 387-5446

Northern Region Office  
5357 Main Street  
PO Box 519  
Stephens City, VA 22655  
Tel: (540) 868-7029  
Fax: (540) 868-7033

Eastern Region Office  
2801 Kensington Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23221  
Tel: (804) 367-2323  
Fax: (804) 367-2391