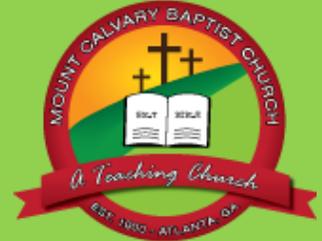


Calvary's Voice



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LOVE

In the month of February, we often think about Valentine's Day with boxes of candy, cards, and flowers. It is also thought of as the month of love. Many weddings take place in February. When I got into the business of doing weddings, my first one was on Valentine's day. Well, here at Mt. Calvary, during the month of February, we also celebrate all the married couples that are celebrating 50 years of marriage within the year.

Because we are a teaching church, let me share some highlights on the wonders of a wedding. Genesis 24:67 states..."And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah and she became his wife; and he loved her." Who has not marveled that a man and a woman can grow up in separate homes yet come to know and love each other? In Proverbs 30:18-19, one of the things is "the way of a man with a maid." Who has not puzzled over the fact that two individuals of opposite gender can be united as one flesh. Clearly this great mystery is designed by our all wise God. In fact, the first question in one set of wedding vows is "Do you believe that marriage is instituted by God and therefore must be entered in the fear of God?" Hebrews 13:4 says "marriage is honourable in all," which indicates that God recognize the marriage of believers and unbelievers alike. However, believers are to marry only in the Lord.

Another wonder of a wedding is that it establishes a one flesh bond to last a lifetime. My parents provided an example of literally following the teaching of Christ about marriage. God commands that a man should leave his parents and cleave to his wife. Jesus declared what therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder (Matthew 19:5-6). Another wonder is that in most marriages God allowed children to be born. He populates the earth with people and parents are privileged to participate in the great plan. Yet another wonder is that even those God does not lead into marriage can be part of Christ's bride "a glorious church" not having a spot or any such thing (Ephesians 5:27).

Important Dates:

February 14th: Valentine's Day

February 16th: Heritage Sunday-50 Years of Marriage

February 22nd: AMBA Bible Bowl

February 23rd: Youth Sunday

Vision

Statement

The Mount Calvary Baptist Church seeks to be a "Teaching Church", empowering people through the Word of GOD to effect change in their lives and the life of the community.

"THE CHURCH:
THE BRIDE OF CHRIST"

Let us be glad and rejoice and give honor to Him; for the marriage of the Lamb is come and his wife hath made herself ready (Revelations 19:7).

Remember this:

People before things;

People before projects;

Family before friends;

Husband before children;

Husband before parents;

Tithe before wants;

Bible before opinions;

And Jesus before all.

Love

Happy Valentine's Day

Love Is Forever

Lady Wanda Stowers

Love Facts: According to www.reference.com, the word **love** is mentioned 310 times in the King James Version of the Bible. The word "**love**" appears 57 times in the Gospel of John, more often than in the other three Gospels combined. It is interesting to note that the first time the word "**love**" is used in the Bible is in Genesis 22:2 – "Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you **love**, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you. Four types of **love**: Storge – empathy bond, Philia – friend bond, Eros – romantic love, and Agape – unconditional "God" love.

JOHN 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (KJV)

Celebrate



HISTORY MONTH

Salvation

(Believing & Confessing)



We welcome this New Year by giving thanks to God and the wonderful gift of His Son, Jesus, whose birth we just finished celebrating. In this article I want us to just reflect on the purpose of Jesus' coming and how it has made a difference in all of our lives. Let me say that it is with pure delight to share these articles with you, knowing that God's Word never return to Him void.

We all know that Jesus' main purpose for coming was to redeem mankind back to Himself because of sin that had entered into the world and sin is what separates us from God. God loves us so much that He does not want to be separated from us, not even for a moment.

I know that we all have heard the redemption story. Pastor Stowers has preached it from the pulpit, taught it in Bible study, and we have been taught it in Church School. For many of us, it was one of the first stories our parents taught us at home, that Jesus loves us. Sometimes I think we have a tendency to forget or take for granted the awesome responsibility Jesus took upon Himself to redeem us. So let's start this New Year with remembering the great gift of salvation and what great difference it has made in our lives; because without Jesus, we would not have a life. That's why we should take advantage of every opportunity given to praise, worship, and tell others what He has done for and through us.

The doctrinal fact of salvation reached its fulfillment in the death of Christ on our behalf. Jesus' mission was to save the world from sin and the wrath of God. For many of us, being saved and having salvation simply means that we are born again of God's Spirit because we accept Jesus in our heart. We were baptized and we are able to sit at the table with fellow believers, partake of Holy Communion, and say I am saved.

But is that all salvation means? Is that all that Jesus could do? Is that all our salvation encompasses? Our salvation is **ALL** encompassing. It is our healing, our preservation, our protection, our welfare, our deliverance, our help, and our blessed hope. Christ came and saved us from everything that is ungodly...everything that is not like Him. God - in His infinite wisdom, power and mercy - knew that we needed a Savior.

How can we obtain such a great salvation? Romans 10:8-10 (KJV) says "But what saith it? The Word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shall be saved. For with the **heart man believeth** unto righteousness; and with the **mouth confession** is made unto salvation."

This is a positive confession of the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Confession is affirming something we believe, it is testifying to something we know, and it is witnessing to a truth that we have embraced. So we see that it is more than just joining the church and participating in all the events. It is a simple truth we believe in our heart and then...we say it with our mouth.

We have more than forgiveness of sins in our salvation, we are made new creatures. Our confession is Satan's defeat. Jesus defeated Satan two thousand years ago, but it must become a vital, living reality in our lives. God loves His children with such a great love that if we sin after receiving His salvation, we can be forgiven many, many, many times. I John 1:9 says "That if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins. And because we know that Jesus loves us and gave Himself for us, He should be the center and focus of all that we do." Philippians 2:13 says "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure" - all that you do, do it heartily unto the Lord and for God's pleasure. Always look for opportunities to show your love to Him because God works in us, through us, and never apart from us. His plan is to operate through us with the Holy Spirit as our helper. God sent the Holy Spirit to us to help us do the job.

Don't ever think God loves certain people better than others. That is not true. God does not have any pets or favorite children. He loves us all with the same love, and He has made the same provision for all of us – the gift of Salvation.

So in this New Year, continue to recognize, believe and confess daily what God the Father is to you, what Jesus is doing for you now at the right hand of the Father, and what the Holy Spirit is doing in you. This glorifies the Lord and keep our minds from being occupied with little worldly things in life – things that will profit nothing, when all is said and done.

Get into God's Word and stay with it. Do what Jesus said: Hold fast to your confession, and fight the good fight of faith. Jesus is our Lord, and if we hold fast to the confession of His Lordship, then Jesus will gain the ascendancy in our lives and lead us into success. We are members of God's family. We are God's children. We confess what the Word of God says and that makes our faith grow stronger and stronger as we maintain our confession of faith in Christ.

Sister Janie Lowe



Another Reason to Shop at Kroger!

Did you know that Kroger offers free fruit for kids to combat hunger. As part of their **Zero Hunger Zero Waste** program, Kroger invites kids to take fruits from their **Free Fruit For Kids** box and enjoy eating them while shopping with their parents or grandparents. Look for the display in their fruit section. Encourage families and friends to shop at Kroger. Don't forget to link your Kroger Plus card to Mt. Calvary Baptist Church so that we receive a portion of their charitable donations. If the Kroger store you shop at doesn't have this program, encourage the store manager to bring it to their store. It's a worthy cause to fight hunger in our community.

The 2020 Census at a Glance

The 2020 Census goal is to count everyone once, only once, and in the right place. The census provides vital information for you and your community.

- It determines how many representatives each state gets in Congress.
- Communities rely on census statistics to plan for a variety of resident needs including new roads, schools, and emergency services.
- Businesses use census data to help provide more local jobs and places to shop.

Each year, the federal government distributes hundreds of billions of dollars to states and communities based on U.S. Census Bureau data. To make it easier to respond to the census, you will be able to respond online, by phone, or by mail. **Census Day is April 1, 2020.** Assure your family and friends that it's important and safe to respond to the census. Nonresponse follow-up occurs early April to late July. The census counts will go to the President December 31, 2020. Don't be left out. Remember, **You Can Make A Difference! It's Important that YOU are counted!**





Spread The Word! Don't Become a Victim Of Fraud!

The New Year is giving scammers an easy way to forge documents, but you can protect yourself with an easy New Year's resolution: stop abbreviating the year. Why? This year's abbreviation is easily changeable and could be used against you. **The concern is that scammers could easily manipulate a document dated "1/1/20" into "1/1/2000" or even "1/1/2021."** Writing out the full date "could possibly protect you and prevent legal issues on paperwork," according to Hamilton County, Ohio Auditor Dusty Rhodes. While it's early in the year for examples of this kind of fraud to emerge, the threat is real according to Ira Rheingold, the executive director of the National Association of Consumer Advocates.

In a message emailed to USA TODAY, Rheingold said scammers could use the method to establish an unpaid debt or to attempt to cash an old check. **"Say you agreed to make payments beginning on 1/15/20. The bad guy could theoretically establish that you began owing your obligation on 1/15/2019, and try to collect additional \$\$\$,"** Rheingold wrote.

In the future, post-dating could be a problem too. For example, a check dated "1/1/20" could become "1/1/2021" next year, possibly making the uncashed check active again, Rheingold wrote. A similar method could be used for debts that are past the statute of limits. The solution is easy: There's no harm in writing the full date. Writing the month out can also help.

Write this: January 15, 2020. Not this: 1/15/20. Police have echoed the advice as well. "This is very sound advice and should be considered when signing any legal or professional document. It could potentially save you some trouble down the road," The East Millinocket Police Department in Maine said in a Facebook post.

Submitted by the Trustee Ministry

Atlanta Habitat Gets \$450K Grant



Atlanta Habitat for Humanity has received a \$450,000 grant to assist Atlanta residents who need help with home repairs. The grant from the Home Depot Foundation will make repairs for those who meet the guidelines. Critical repairs can be made on homes in Atlanta, South Fulton County, and East Point. Atlanta Habitat CEO Lisa Y. Gordon said in a prepared statement, "There are times when members of our community have to choose between paying for home repairs or food medicine or other basics. Through these services, our residents, including seniors and veterans, don't have to make these tough choices." Certified licensed subcontractors will perform roof replacement, storm door and

window installations, and other repairs. Home owners must meet income guidelines and be in good standings with their mortgages, insurance, and property taxes to qualify for the program. To learn more the program contact Atlanta Habitat Family Services Home Repair Coordinator Stephanie Gough at 404-465-1068 or

stephanie.gough@atlantahabitat.org.

Submitted by the Trustee Ministry



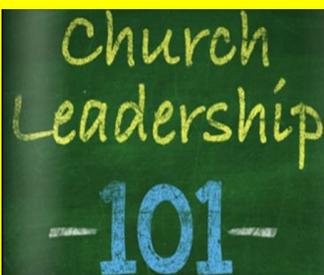
Shop and Donate at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore



**MCBC Congratulates Sister Alyce Odister on the
Celebration of her 90th Birthday!**



Workshop for MCBC Ministry Leaders



Pastor Stowers conducted a workshop for ministry leaders on Saturday, January 18th. **Deacon Robert Felton** and **Deacon Jonathan Kelly** presided over the workshop after Pastor Stowers had to leave to attend the funeral services of Rev. Dr. R.B. Sutton of Dixie Hills Baptist Church. The workshop's theme was "Twelve Standards For Church Leaders" by William D. Watry, Ph.D. The standards were salvation, church membership prayer, worship and praise, bible study, tithe, support of the pastor-church vision and administration, leadership, diligence with joy, correct prioritizing, sensitivity to image as a church leader and witnessing. All ministry leaders were asked to stand and were installed during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 19th.



**Kingdom
Building**

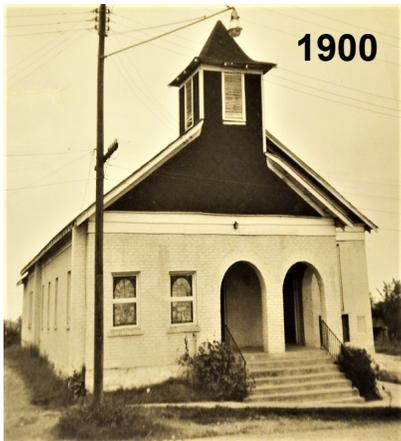
Deacon Ordination Service

DEACONS ORDINATION SERVICE

Brothers **S.J. Tuck, Jr.**, **Larry J. Mitchell** and **Drexter L. Crawford** were ordained as Deacons during the morning worship service on Sunday, January 19th. The dedication service began with the reading of the "Historical Scripture Lesson of Acts 6:1-9". During "The Act of Ordination", **Pastor Stowers** gave the "Words of Instruction". **Deacon Robert Felton-Chair**, read "The Office of The Deacon", I Timothy 3:8-10 and 12-13, listing the qualifications of a deacon. Pastor Stowers then gave the "Pastoral Charge to the Candidates". "The Laying on of Hands" led by Pastor Stowers and Deacons of MCBC was followed by the "Ordination Prayer" and finally the "Hymn of Consecration: 'I Am Thine' by Fannie J. Crosby". Mt. Calvary welcomes with joy, praise and thanksgiving **Deacon S.J. Tuck, Jr.**, **Deacon Larry J. Mitchell** and **Deacon Drexter L. Crawford** to the Ministry of Deacons and Servanthood. Pastor Stowers also recognized the previous ordination of **Deacon Artice Fraley** and welcomed him to the Deacons' Ministry.



Mount Calvary Baptist Church—Celebrating 120 Years



Every month on the fourth Sunday, we will highlight a part of our rich and exciting history. Mount Calvary Baptist Church was established in 1900 under the leadership of **Rev. Morris Young** in Rockdale Park. **Pastor Stowers** has asked our church ministries to participate in this historical occasion by choosing and highlighting something in our history. We look forward to learning more about our history as we journey together to our 120 Years Anniversary and Homecoming celebration that will occur on the first Sunday in November. Pastor Stowers will take the lead and introduce the beginning of our monthly “Moment in Mount Calvary’s Church History” on the fourth Sunday in January.



A Moment In Black History

The United States’ next aircraft carrier in the Ford-class of supercarriers will be named after Cook First Class Doris Miller, an African American hero of Pearl Harbor. Miller was a cook on December 7, 1941, when Japanese forces attacked. He helped move wounded soldiers to safety and manned a machine gun and fought back. He received the Navy Cross for his actions during the attack. He was killed in action two years later. The future USS *Doris Miller* will be the fourth carrier in the USS Ford-class of carriers and will enter service in the early 2030s. The U. S. Navy made the announcement on Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day at a ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Hawaii. The reason for the naming are to honor the U.S. Navy’s enlisted sailors and their heroes, and to honor the contributions of African American sailors. This aircraft carrier will be the first in the history of the U. S. Navy to be named for either.

Excerpt from Popular Mechanics

