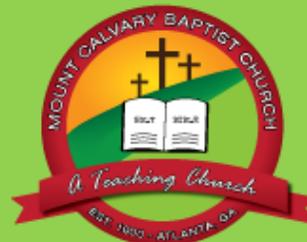


Calvary's Voice



Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
17 Fairburn Road, SW
Atlanta, GA 30331
404-696-1039

Rev. Douglas E. Stowers, Pastor
www.atlmtcalvary.org



Sister Pattie Poole Mobley - PNBC Women's Luncheon Speaker

Sister Pattie Poole Mobley had the distinct honor of being asked to address the PNBC Women's Department at their Luncheon during the 58th Annual Session of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., held August 5 -9, 2109, in Atlanta. The President of Convention, Dr. Timothy Stewart, chose the theme

"In pursuit of Wholeness: Recovery of the Sacred" (John 5:1-15). Sister Mobley stated there is always a little trepidation when speaking to such an august body of believers, but with the blessing of her Pastor, Rev. Douglas E. Stowers and looking into the faces of the many Mount Calvary Family Members present she "felt her help coming on." Please enjoy excerpts from Sister Mobley's address.

...Our Scripture, John 5th Chapter verses 1-15, has been read for your hearing many times during the week. I want to read just three of those verses that will fortify our time together today. Reading from the King James Version:

- 6 – When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, wilt thou be made whole?
- 8 – Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed and walk.
- 9 – And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the Sabbath.

Preserving our Convention Theme, consider if you will, with me, "In Pursuit of Wholeness, Keep Walking." (Emphasis on Keep Walking.)

John 5:1-15 is the story of a much loved miracle or a miraculous sign as the Apostle John called it. This story reveals, as President Stewart states, "The transformative power of God as He equips and uses us as His agents of Change." In this story we see Jesus' knowledge: He knew the lame man perfectly. He knows us, all we have ever felt, though or done. His knowledge of us is complete. We see Jesus' compassion: It was not a stroke of luck that he met the lame man. His meeting us is not a sidebar activity. When we are afflicted, He cares. When we grieve, He cares. When we are confused and in a maze of misdirection, His disposition is intentional. His compassion moves Him toward our need. We see Jesus' Power: "Jesus said, 'Get up, take up your bed and

Important Dates:

October 5: Let's Talk-Women's Day Workshop/Brunch at 10:00am

October 6: Women's Day Celebration

November 3: 119th Church Anniversary

November 10-14: New Era Annual Session

November 30: Joint Meeting at 10:00am

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.

walk'. And at once the man was healed." The words "at once" signify the immediacy of Jesus's power. Jesus is given all power and authority over heaven and earth by the Father. When He speaks the Spirit of the Holy is quicken in us, and it is done at once.

John's aim is that we understand Jesus' knowledge of us is complete, His compassion toward us is great and His power in us is immediate and absolute. Through our own testimony we have experienced the same knowledge, compassion and power that was extended to the lame man. Yet, here we are, at this 2019 Progressive National Baptist Convention heeding the clarion call of our President to Pursue Wholeness. If one isn't whole, it means that something is missing, that as a rule, would make it complete. We are not complete if we are lacking or broken in any area of, soul, body, mind and spirit. The Apostle Paul described it as that pull between right and wrong where, we know what is good but choose the opposite.

I'm not suggesting that our lives are not relevant or have no effect or that we are not walking in the light of God's Word and in alignment with His will. I am suggesting that wholeness must be pursued daily and in every season. The Journey to wholeness is an active and progressive one. Though you have experienced a healing in your Bethesda circumstance, it does not mean that you have arrived or that your life has reached perfection. The thing about a circumstance in life is there will be another. In preparation for your next circumstance you must maintain the physical and spiritual healing that you have already received. You need to keep walking. If you don't you will live constantly looking for the next Pool of Bethesda experience. You shouldn't be going back to where God has brought you from. In faith you should be walking toward other areas of wholeness in your life. Keep Walking.

How many of you have met with new circumstances and right now you are at the wrong place, looking for the wrong thing, from the wrong source. Remember the man at the pool was not searching for Jesus, nor was he searching for a spiritual healing or being made whole. The value of a story like this, and the reason it is in the gospel, is to show us how God proposes to deal with human helplessness and weakness.

It is that helplessness in you that first drew Jesus to you. He knows where you were, where you are now and where He intends for you to be. You are in the presence of the Lord right now because he lifted you up off your mat. Scripture reveals God is neither distant nor uncaring but one intensely interested in the world He has made. You are standing on what he had already done in your life, you are standing on His promise that He has plans for you. So while you are standing...Keep walking.

I'm sure doing your walk, you have heard the voice of God or as we say that voice in our head saying "What is it you really want?" So much of our petition and intercession before God is hampered because we have so little idea of what we really want, let alone what we really need. Jesus did not ask the lame man nor does he ask us that question for His benefit. He gave the man an opportunity to declare his miserable, helpless state and condition. His question also implied more than restoration of bodily health. Healing happens to many people, not merely in the physical sense of surviving a disease, but in the spiritual sense of benefitting from God's grace. So every time you feel like you need to return to the pool. Think about that special moment of grace in your life. God has not skimmed on grace. There's not a shortage of grace. No matter how much grace God dispenses, it's never diminished. There is plenty of grace for your Pursuit of Wholeness. There is enough grace to carry us into Eternal Glory...Keep Walking.

Like the lame man, we have excuses. Our excuses leaves us lacking in many areas. Looking at the

PNBC schedule at a glance, each day list a legacy that we need to recover: the legacy of worship, the legacy of faithful leadership, the legacy of progress through education, our legacy of proclamation and our legacy of resistance and resilience. We cannot be “progressive” in that recovery if we are making excuses.

I know one excuse that grieves my Pastor is when he asks one of us to carry out a mission or ministry and our response is “Well, Pastor, if you can't get anyone else, I will do it.” This might be the boldest excuse of all. You may disguise it in lots of ways, but what you are really saying is that you won't even try. Commands from God are not an exercise in multiple choice. God first calls you to Him and then calls you to a task. The reality of following God always requires stepping out in faith and always demand we overcome our excuses.

Sometimes we overlook a significant truth taught in the Bethesda experience when we are looking for help and not always for God. There is always something God tells us to believe, do and act on. Jesus didn't say, “try to build up faith in you mind. Try to fasten your thought on this or that.” He tells the lame man to do something: “Rise”, meaning stand up! Jesus also said “take up your bed.” Our Pastor, Preachers and Teacher have taught us about the lame man taking up his bed on the Sabbath and how conflict developed and hostility arose toward Jesus from the religious authorities because He was doing the work of his Father on the Sabbath, which He had all authority to do. But, I like the way G. Campbell Morgan, a British evangelist, preacher, and teacher puts it. He said that “the man was told to take up his bed in order to make no provision for a relapse. The man might have said to himself, I'm healed, but I had better leave my bed here; I might need it tomorrow.” When we see doctors, there is always an “if” involved in our healing. We are often told take this medicine and come back in two week to see how it's working. Jesus, the Master Physician, makes no provision to go back on what he had done. He gave the lame man a command and disappeared in the crowd knowing that He had spoken healing and wholeness into action and it was complete.

Although the lame man was healed and walking, he faced the same problem that we face today. He still lived in a world where there were those who opposed Jesus. We like to imagine that every one would be leaping for joy at the lame man being healed. Instead, the Jewish leaders were bent out of shape because he was breaking their traditions. This same corruption is common to us today. More often than we'd like to admit, we reject the Word of God for the commandment of men and think ourselves to be incredibly spiritual people; blessed outwardly, but lost inwardly.

Jesus is not willing to heal us physically and not deal with our inward spirituality. In verse 14 Jesus seeks out the man in the Temple and tells him the real issue in his healing. The issues is holiness. Jesus healed for the sake of holiness. Jesus warned the man that if he turns away and mocks the gift, or make an idol out of his health, and embraces sin as his way of life, he would perish. The lame was to declare the lord, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.

Jesus heals us for the same reason. He heals us so that the power of his free grace can be the means to our wholeness. We are invited into a total trust relationship with God so he can use us as whole men and women, to tell of his goodness, past, present and future.

It is obedience to this will of God that calls us to celebrate the Convention's theme for today, “In Pursuit of Wholeness: Our Legacy of Prophetic Proclamation. Our proclamation flows from the recognition that we are the Father's royal sons and daughter and carry our Father's kingly authority in Jesus' Name. This authority is powerful because it is not our will or wish. It is not the personal desire of what we would like to see happen. Our proclamation/testimony is a confident declaration of our Father's revealed intention. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. fashioned his moral and

ethical vision after that of Jesus Christ. Through his prophetic preaching tradition, he brought people of every tribe, class and creed closer toward forming God's beloved community, an anchor of love and hope for human kind. Our prophetic proclamations will change atmospheres, touch hearts, break through opposition and shift situations into alignment with God's purpose. The power is not in the words we use, but in the revelation of our authority by faith in Christ through our pursuit of wholeness. Jesus said "if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." Keep Walking.

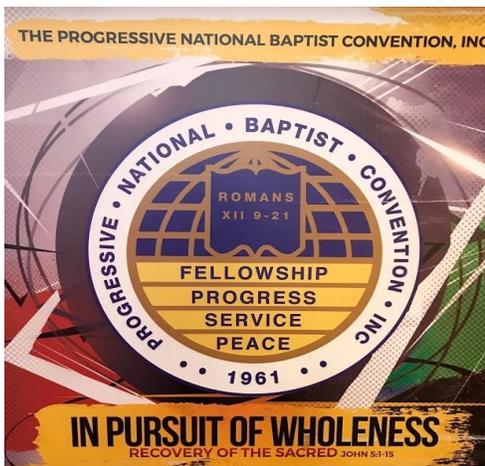
Therefore, we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, it working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

I pray that as you pursue wholeness, you'll encounter God's peace that surpasses all understanding. That you completely open your heart, mind and spirit to what God want to do in you and through you. That no barriers of pride, familiarity, comfort or false perfection block God's wholeness from your life. I pray that God imparts every good thing to you, that you lack nothing because you seek after Him and His wholeness. In this pursuit, Keep Walking.



Submitted by Sister Pattie P. Mobley

PNBC 58th Annual Session: "In Pursuit of Wholeness - Recovery Of The Sacred"



During the 58th Annual Session of the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC) held in Atlanta August 5-9, Mt. Calvary had 5 delegates to attend. Rev. Douglas and Lady Wanda Stowers, Sisters Betty Chandler, Shirley Seymour and Bro. J. Tuck. On Monday night the New Era Missionary Baptist Combined Choirs of Georgia sung and the voices of Mt. Calvary's choir members Wanda Stowers, Addie Calhoun, JoAnn Pittman, Pauline Barnett, Carolyn Parker, Jo Ann Mitchell and Howard Pharr combined with other members to lead the worship service in songs of Zion. On Missions Night, Sister Betty Chandler presented (Posthumously) The Sister Esther M. Smith "Queen of Missions" Award by the Missions Board to her

daughter Dr. Eleanor Traylor. Everyone was encouraged to come dressed in their African attire. Other members attending were Rev. Reginald Collins, Sisters Geraldine Collins, Janie Lowe, Delita Smith and Rev. Kenneth Brown. Several Mt. Calvary members attended to support Sister Pattie Poole Mobley as she delivered the address at the Women's Annual Luncheon on Wednesday, August 7th. An excerpt from her address appears in this newsletter. On Wednesday night, Pastor Stowers hosted the delegates at the John O. Peterson Freedom Banquet. The Honorable Stacy Yvonne Abrams, Democratic nominee for Governor of Georgia, was the guest speaker. Rev. Jesse Jackson also spoke briefly. The banquet was followed by *The Fannie Lou Hamer Story*, a one act play by Mzuri Moyo Aimbaye. Ms. Hamer was "Sick and Tired of Being Sick and Tired". Everyone

enjoyed dynamic preaching ,speakers and singing throughout the convention and delegates attended enrichment classes during the mornings. Dr. Timothy Stewart, 21st President of the convention, delivered his President's Night message on Thursday. Pastor Stowers is the treasurer for the PNBC and we will continue to support and lift him up in prayer as he perform his duties for this national organization. Additional photos on Events page of church's website.





Tyler Gates Graduates from 21st Century Leaders Summer Internship Program

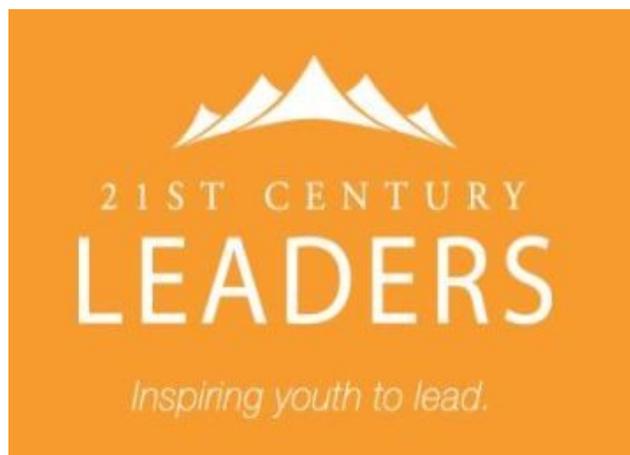
The 21st Century Leaders program is designed to inspire young leaders who are about to embark on a journey to college. Over 270 students from 102 high schools across the state of Georgia were part of the Class of 2019. Students reported over \$5.3 million in Scholarship offers and 98% of the students said they took on additional or new leadership role after joining 21st Century Leaders. Below is the information that appeared on Tyler. Your Mt. Calvary family congratulates you for participating in the 21st Century Young Leaders School.

TYLER GATES: Southwest Atlanta Christian Academy – Fulton County

FAVORITE QUOTE “To whom much is given, much is required”. Luke 12:48. **FUTURE PLANS:** Attend The University of West Georgia and major in Mass Communication.

FAVORITE 21CL MEMORY: First, the opportunity to meet and network with so many cool people was one that I will never forget. I have been on many school field trips and traveled with my family but nothing compares to the week of exciting adventures at 21st Century School. I was able to have hands on experience that leads to extended leadership opportunities. The overall experience was a Blessing in disguise. **21CL IMPACT:** Being an alumni of 21st Century allows me to take a lot of life lessons and apply them to my everyday situations. During my college application interviews, I was able to use skills that I’ve learned such as greeting, interviewing and presentation skills, Most recently, I represented my church at the Atlanta Missionary Baptist Association (AMBA) oratorical contest where I won first place for the last time in the senior division. This prestigious honor is what I like to do best. During my presentation, I was able to utilize tips from my 21st Century mentors. Again, I am thankful to have had this opportunity. **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** 1st place winner at the Atlanta Missionary Baptist Association (AMBA) Oratorical Contest for 3 consecutive years 2015-2017; SACA Leader and Internship completion 2015-2016; Science Fair winner-1st place January 2018 “Does the color of food affect your perception?”; 2nd place winner January 2016 “Does ergonomics affect your gaming score?”; “A Moment in Black History” presenter at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church 2017-2018.

Submitted by Sister Demetria Haddock



21st Century Leaders Class of 2019: Let Youth Voices be Heard

Pastor Stowers Prays for Youth Going Back to School

On Sunday, August 4th, Pastor Stowers took the time during the morning worship to gather the youth in the front of the church. Then he came out among them and as he was praying for our youth who are going to school or college for the first time or returning to school and various colleges, he placed his hand on each youth. Our church family joined him in prayer for their safety and the safety of school teachers, administrators and staff. Have a Blessed Year! More photos on the Events page of the church's website. www.atlmtcalvary.org



PRAY FOR OUR
YOUTH

BACK TO
SCHOOL

AMBA Youth Awards



AMBA Youth Awards

Congratulations to Christina Jones and Christian Robertson! These youth will represent Mt. Calvary at the 29th Atlanta Missionary Baptist Association (AMBA) Youth Awards Luncheon. The event will take place on Saturday, September 21st at noon at Mt. Zion Second Baptist Church. Please see Kesha Brooks-Jones or any youth advisor for tickets.

Women's Day 2019

Celebrate with the women of Mt. Calvary during their Annual Women's Day on Sunday, October 6th. "Trusting God in All Times" is the theme that the Women of Mt. Calvary have chosen because they realize that everyone has been commanded by Jesus not to worry but to trust God! "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Philippians 4:6). Rev. Dr. Marilyn P. Turner-Triplett, Director of American Baptist Home Mission Societies Community Ministries will bring the message. On Saturday, October 5th at 10:00 AM, a Pre-Women's Day workshop and brunch, Theme: "Let's Talk", a candid multi-generational conversation will take place at Mt. Calvary. Women's Day colors are brown with shades of pink accessories.



Black History Fact: Toni Morrison - 1931-2019; writer, educator, and editor, books include *The Bluest Eye*, *Song of Solomon* (winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award), and *Beloved* (winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction); the first African-American woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature. Quote: If you can't count, they can cheat you. If you can't read, they can beat you.



How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!
Psalm 133:1