



THE *Mount Calvary* MESSENGER

SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU, LARGE ENOUGH TO GROW YOU!

FEBRUARY

2023

CELEBRATING Black History Month



WHAT YOU WILL FIND IN THE MESSENGER...

- ◆ From Our Pastor's Pen
- ◆ Order of Worship
- ◆ AME Church Founders Day History
- ◆ Black History Month
- ◆ Lenten Message



From The Pastor's Pen...



Hello Family!

The month of February brings a lot of questions. How are you doing with your New Year's resolutions? Exercising more? Eating better? Are you going for walks? Who is going to win the Super Bowl? Where are you going to watch the game? Do you have plans for Valentine's Day? What is the groundhog going to predict? Are we going to get any snow this year? When is it going to begin warming for Spring? Who is the Founder of the AME Church? Do you know your Black History?

This month we will celebrate Founder's Day, Black History Month and Valentine's Day. We will celebrate the love of our religious heritage. On the second Sunday, members and friends across the globe will pay homage to our illustrious founder **Bishop Richard Allen**. As AME's, we have a heritage to be proud of and our contributions to the history of these United States are numerous. When **Richard Allen and others walked out of St. George's that Sunday morning, we became the first African Americans to lead a non-violent protest**. When Allen and others purchased the old blacksmith shop in Philadelphia, we became the first African Americans to own real estate in America. We also were the first African American to publish a newspaper in America. Through the Free African Society, Allen passed on to us notable values such as liberation, justice, self-determination, education, and economic empowerment.

We will celebrate the love of our ethnic heritage. Black History Month is a time to remember our history. We cannot fully know who we are unless we know from whence we have come. In addition, our history helps us to know what we have contributed to America as a people. While it is true that portions of our history have been forgotten, ignored, overlooked, dismissed, misstated, and eulogized **instead of historized, but there is no doubt that America's history is incomplete** without seeing where it intersects with Black history.

There is another special day/event that often occurs during February - Ash Wednesday. This year Ash Wednesday is on February 22, and it marks the beginning of the 40-day Lenten journey toward Easter Sunday.

Lent occurs at a time when the seasons are turning from winter to spring. The Lenten Season is a time for turning back to God with our focus on returning to the embrace of God's love through repentance and sacrifice.

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From The Pastor's Pen... (Continue from page 2)

Beloved, the heart of the Lenten experience revolves around our turning through repentance, reconciliation, and renewal by intentionally improving our relationship with God and our neighbor by practicing spiritual discipline.

In this Lenten season, let us draw closer to Jesus Christ, by reading the Bible, confessing our sins both individually and collectively, listening to what the Holy Spirit will reveal to us and following Jesus' pattern of giving and serving for the glory of God's Kingdom.

Stay in His Grip,

Pastor Bob

Connect • Communicate • Celebrate

ORDER of *Worship*

Call to Worship

Invocation

Scripture

Selection

Welcome

Tithes, Missionary, and General Offering

This is my Tithe: *I acknowledge that God is the giver of every good and perfect gift. I can only reap what I have sown. I cannot out give God no matter how I try, and as I act in obedience to the word of God, I bless my church, myself and my family. This is the promise of God. Malachi 3:10*

Preached Word of God

Invitation to Accept Christ

Benediction

“You’ve come to Worship, now leave to Serve!”

February Memory Scripture and Theme

“Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ A second is equally important:

‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

Matthew 22: 37,39 NLT

Theme: The Great two Commandments of Loving God and your neighbor as we love ourselves is God’s Supreme Divine Revelation.

Please join us in our weekly POWER CELLS!

- The Jewel Cromwell Johnson Prayer Line
 - Morning Prayer: Monday-Friday at 6am
 - Phone Conference Call Line: 725-735-9012. NO Passcode:
 - Church School - Sundays at 9:00 am (in person).
 - Intercessory Prayer - Tuesdays 6pm on the Prayer Line
 - Church-wide Bible Study - Wednesdays at 7pm (*Face Book Live*).
 - Join us every Thursday for Thursday Treats for the Thirsty– Zooming in His Word at 7pm.
 - YPD FAB Fourth Fridays at 7pm in the FLC.
-



Birthday greetings to all those celebrating a birthday in the month of February, from the Sis. Joyce Hunter (hunter.joyce914@gmail.com), your Congregational Care Unit Leaders.

WE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS...

Help us in welcoming our newest members: Sis. LaShon Dean, Sis. Mary Dunaway, Sis. Genesis Mayer, Bro. Terence Perry, & Sis. Asai Roberts. Welcome to your new church home new members!! We pray that your new church home will be a place where you are able to grow in Christ.

to our newest members!

Church-Wide Announcements

- ◆ This month is Black History Month. Visit <https://blackhistorymonth.gov/> for Black History events throughout the month of February.
- ◆ On Friday, February 10th, the Youth Ministry will host a Movie Night featuring the “Woman King” at 6:30 pm in the FLC. [Click here to register](#) for the event.
- ◆ On Sunday, February 12th, we will celebrate Founders Day & Red Dress Sunday. **Don’t forget to wear your Red.**
- ◆ The 2nd Episcopal District AME Church & James L. Davis and Arelis B. Davis, Servant Leaders invite you to attend this year’s Founders Day & the Mid-Winter Meeting. The meeting will be held from Thursday, February 16 - Saturday, February 18th at Reid Temple AME Church (11400 Glenn Dale Blvd., Glenn Dale MD 20769). This year’s theme is “The Real Church: Still Daring to Believe” - Psalm 20:7. Also, on February 18th, the Valerie Faith Gary Bell building’s morgana will be burned & it will be dedicated during the annual meeting.
- ◆ On Sunday, February 19th, there will be a Full Members Reading In during the 10 am Worship Service.
- ◆ On Wednesday, February 22nd we will have Ash Wednesday Service at 7 pm.
- ◆ On Friday, February 24th, the Youth Ministry will hold their Fab Fourth Friday Black History Paint Party in the FLC at 7pm.
- ◆ The Health & Wellness Ministry needs you! So bring your ideas and interest and join us every 4th Saturday from 11 am-12 noon for our monthly meeting. We look forward to having you on our team. Call-in # 725-735-9012
- ◆ The 2022 Giving Statements will be available this month. To obtain your giving statement, please click on Member Login and then click on Member Contact Update & Giving Statement Request on our website or click on the following link to complete and submit the form: <https://mcamecproposal.wufoo.com/forms/mkflb9b0di8m34/>.
- ◆ COVID Precautions: Temperature checks are no longer required to enter our buildings; however, masks are still mandated. Please remember to bring and wear your mask!

CELEBRATING FOUNDERS DAY...



Each year, the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AMEC) celebrates Founders Day, the day that the AME connectional church was established. The church grew out of the Free African Society (FAS) which Richard Allen, Absalom Jones, and others established in Philadelphia in 1787. When officials at St. George's MEC pulled blacks off their knees while praying, FAS members discovered just

how far American Methodists would go to enforce racial discrimination against African Americans. Hence, these members of St. George's made plans to transform their mutual aid society into an African congregation. Although most wanted to affiliate with the Protestant Episcopal Church, Allen led a small group who resolved to remain Methodists.

In 1794 Bethel AME, located in Pennsylvania, was dedicated with Allen as pastor. To establish Bethel's independence from interfering white Methodists, Allen, a former Delaware slave, successfully sued in the Pennsylvania courts in 1807 and 1815 for the right of his congregation to exist as an independent institution. Because black Methodists in other middle Atlantic communities encountered racism and desired religious autonomy, Allen called them to meet in Philadelphia to form a new Wesleyan denomination, the AME.

Today, the AMEC has membership in twenty Episcopal Districts in 39 countries on five continents. The work of the Church is administered by twenty-one active bishops, and nine General Officers who manage the departments of the Church.





This month we celebrate Black History Month, also known as African-American History Month, in the United States. It began as a way to remember

important people and events in the history of the African diaspora.

Black History Facts: Notable Firsts...

- Bishop Richard Allen established the first AME Church (Mother Bethel) in Philadelphia, PA in 1787. It is the first independent black denomination in the US. Bishop Allen also became the first elected Bishop of the AME church.
- Bessie Coleman became the first African American female pilot and the first to have an international aviation license in 1921.
- Nat King Cole was the first African American to host a network television program. In 1956 *The Nat King Cole Show* aired on NBC.
- Jackie Robinson was the first African American to win the Major League Baseball's Most Valuable Player award in 1949 and the first African American player to be inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1962.
- Sir Sydney Poitier is the first African American winner of the Academy Award for Best Actor in 1963 for his role as Homer Smith in *Lilies of the Field*.
- Thurgood Marshall was the first African American US Supreme Court Justice (1967).
- Shirley Chisholm was the first African American woman elected to the US Congress in 1968 and also became the first African American candidate to run for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination in 1972.
- Oprah Winfrey is the first African American woman to host a television show (1986) and the first African American woman to become a billionaire.
- Mae Carol Jemison was the first African American female astronaut in 1992.
- Gwen Ifill became the first African American woman to host a prominent political talk show on national television when she became moderator and managing editor of PBS's *Washington Week* and senior political correspondence for the PBS Hour (1999).
- Gen. Colin Powell is the first African American to become US Secretary of State (2001-2004).
- Condoleezza Rice is the first woman to be the National Security Advisor in the George W. Bush administration (2001-2009) and the first African American woman to be U.S. Secretary of State.
- Barack Hussein Obama is the first African American to hold the office of President of the United States. He was the 44th President (2008-2016). Michelle Obama was the first African American First Lady.
- Kamala D. Harris is the first female and African/Asian American to serve as vice president of the United States (2020).

LENTEN MESSAGE...

2023 Lenten Season Message
February 22 – April 6



“A Changed Heart”

Joel 2:12; Psalm 51:10; Colossians 3:23

Lent is a season of the Christian liturgical Calendar where we focus on living a life of the inward disciplines for the purpose to grow closer to God, and discerning God’s will for our lives.

The theme, ***“A Changed Heart”*** declares a desire to return to God seeking a changed heart. It is a time where we are able to renew and revive our lives as we daily seek God’s presence with a disciplined lifestyle. ***“Even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, weeping and mourning.”***

Joel 2:12 NIV

It is a time of remembrance calling us to *“repent, return, renew, and refocus* our lives to be aligned with the Holy Spirit’s prodding of our hearts. Lent is a 40-day journey in changing your lifestyle by allowing God to change your heart. ***“The needed change within us is God’s work, not ours.”*** Richard J. Foster.

During Lent, practicing the inward disciplines will be an excellent way to allow God to change your heart. The inward disciplines are *meditation, prayer, fasting, and studying the Word of God*. They help you to keep your eyes on God as you make sacrifices to draw closer to Him. Our hearts are daily being changed while our lives are being transformed by the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Practicing the inward disciplines invites God into your daily lives. They enable you to open your hearts to God who will do His work within you for the change. It becomes an inward journey that manifests in an outward way of BEING; ***“Serving with a Spirit of Excellence”*** in your daily life and ministry”.

Are you searching for something more? Tired of running in circles, but not really living life with direction, purpose or passion? It’s pretty easy to be caught up in the drama of unhealthy relationships, family, work, and sometimes ministry. Our lives are often filled with distractions and noise that take us away from living a life with Christ. We try to fill the emptiness inside us with mindless TV, meaningless chatter, stimulants, and too many activities or other irrelevant stuff. We were created as *“human beings”* and not human doers. When we become human doers, and not being present to God daily, we tend to turn away from the life that God has for our good and His Glory. Embracing the Lenten Season draws you nearer to God’s purpose and promises of peace and fulfillment for your life.

LENTEN MESSAGE...



The guiding Scripture, Joel 2:12, is a call for us individually and as a Body of Christ to turn away from that which is detrimental and contrary to the Will of God. As we begin to practice the inward disciplines, we are able to live an intentional prayer life, a life of obedience, and a life to serve with a Spirit of Excellence for the Kingdom of God. Colossians 3:23 NIV

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.” Psalm 51:10

Rev. Thomasine Adams
Spiritual & Formation Ministry



- ◆ March is Health & Wellness Month.
- ◆ On March 12th the Emma Jane Gardner Missionary Society will celebrate their Annual Day.
- ◆ On March 25th the [14th Annual B'More Healthy Expo!](#) will be held from 10:00am – 4:00 pm at the Baltimore Convention Center.
- ◆ On March 28th our Fourth Quarterly Conference will be held.

Mt. Calvary A.M.E. Church Mission and Vision

We are a Christ-Centered church that believes in the full gospel message. We believe in building and equipping disciples and we are committed to reaching our city, state, and world with the Gospel. We want to connect with people and grow an authentic relationship with Jesus. We are a word-based, soul-winning, love-centered church that hopes-

“The Distance Was Worth The Difference?”



Youth Ministry Movie Night

W.O.W. Ministry Presents

Movie
Night



Woman King

Friday, February 10, 2023

@6:30pm

Mt. Calvary AME Church Great Room

Light Snacks will be served

Registration is required

Mount Calvary AME Church

300 Eudowood Lane | Towson MD 21286

410-296 - 9474 | adminassist@mtcalvaryame.org | www.mtcalvaryame.org

Sls. Patricia Joyner, Ministry Leader | Rev. Bobby B. Cox, Jr., Pastor

2nd Episcopal District AME Church Founders Day & Mid-Winter Meeting

THE SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT AME CHURCH
James L. Davis & Arelis B. Davis, Servant Leaders – ame2.com

Founder's Day & Mid-Winter Meeting



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16-SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2023

"The REAL Church: Still Daring to Believe" - Psalm 20:7

REID TEMPLE AME CHURCH

11400 Glenn Dale Blvd. | Glenn Dale, MD 20769

Our Special Guests

Reverend Dr. James A. Forbes

Senior Minister Emeritus, Riverside Church, NYC

Dr. Dennis C. Dickerson

Professor of History, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

Judge Cheri Beasley

Former Justice, North Carolina Supreme Court

Reverend Dr. William D. Watley

Senior Pastor, Saint Philip AME Church, Atlanta, GA

The Howard University Gospel Choir

Washington, DC

Youth Black History Month Paint Night

**Feb
24**

**Mt. Calvary AME Church
Youth Ministry**

Fab Fourth Fridays

Black History Month

**PAINT
PARTY**

Starts at 7:00pm

Follow us on:



Mount Calvary AME Church | 300 Eudowood Lane | Towson MD

Contact Sis. Marlene or Bro. Dean in person or email
mtcalvaryame@gmail.com for more information.

February Prayer List

Pastor Bob & Rev. Angie Cox
Mother Virgie Brandt
Rev. Bonnie Epps Burgess
Mother Cleo Cole
Sis. LaShon Dean
Sis. Mary Dunaway
Bro. Carlton & Sis. Roxanne Epps
Sis. Vivian Fenton
Mother Mabel Gray
Mother Grace Hicks
Sis. Sherrilyn Ifill



Bro. Ivo Knobloch
Rev. Merriel Lucas
Sis. Nadine Marsh
Sis. Bonnie Potts
Rev. Roslyn Sellman
Bro. Laverne & Sis. Ursula Slade
Sis. Kathy Thrasher
Sis. Doris Walker
Bro. Warren & Sis. Tiny
Whitworth
Rev. Natalie Watson

Opportunities to Give...

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. For I will not throw away the food of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.
Malachi 3:10

5 Ways to Give

Mount Calvary AME Church



ONLINE www.mtcalvaryame.org
click the give tab.

PHONE 410-296-9474

MAIL-IN Mail your gift:
Mount Calvary AME Church
PO Box 20416 | Towson, MD 21286

IN-PERSON
Drop off your gift at the church office; Mt. Calvary AME Church
349 Eudowood Lane | Towson, MD 21286

SMART DEVICE
Cash App Smeamec



Mount Calvary AME Church
300 Eudowood Lane
Towson, MD 21286
410-296-9474 (phone) 410-296-8710 (fax)
adminasst@mtcalvaryame.org www.mtcalvaryame.org
Rev. Bobby B. Cox, Jr., Pastor
Rev. Angie Crawford-Cox, First Lady

Items for the Messenger must be submitted by the 2nd Friday of each month. Leaders, please add the following address to your email contacts to receive a reminder: mtcalvaryamemessenger@gmail.com.