



THE *Mount Calvary* MESSENGER

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

FEBRUARY

2025

CELEBRATING Black History Month



WHAT YOU WILL FIND IN THE MESSENGER...

- ◆ From Our Pro-Tem's Pen
- ◆ Church-Wide Announcements
- ◆ AME Church Founders Day History
- ◆ Black History Month: Notable Firsts



From The Steward Pro-tem's Pen...

Greetings Mt. Calvary Church Family,

It is indeed an honor to write this message to my Mt. Calvary AME Church Family. We are a blessed family, although our country seems to be in a tailspin filled with chaos and uncertainty, may we all stand up strong, continue to move forward with all our trust in God. For we know that no matter how chaotic or uncertain it may be, do know that God is yet on the throne and He hears, knows, has never failed us, and can handle all things.

Mt. Calvary, we have kicked off the 2025 new year with anointed preaching, teaching, and praying. With a spirit of hope, we have plans for 2025; as stated in our Church theme we will “Lift Jesus Higher,” and Mt. Calvary family that is what we’ve done thus far. Each Sunday in January we had uplifting and encouraging sermons from wonderful Guest Preachers. We have lived Psalm 100:4 - *“Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courses with praise, give thanks to Him and bless His name.”* Elder Johnny Calhoun and Rev. Sheleta Fomby have blessed us with Godly messages that reminded and encouraged us to continue trusting God in this transition.

We stand in great anticipation for what God is about to do in the life of our church. As we await the appointment of our new Pastor, let us stand together as a church body in unceasing Corporate Prayer. One opportunity to join in prayer is to recite our written Corporate Prayer at noon daily. Another opportunity to unite in prayer is to come out for in-person Bible Study and Prayer as we study the Word of God and pray together for our each other, the church, our community, and country every Wednesday at 7 pm. All are invited to fellowship with us.

We declare February to be our Ebony Excellence Month. The month known to us as Black History Month, is our month to observe the African Methodist Episcopal Church Founder’s Day and Heritage Day, commercially many observe Galentine’s and Valentine’s Day. It is during this time that we acknowledge and honor the contributions of Black people who have paved the way for us to have a brighter future. We pay homage to our African Methodist Episcopal Church’s illustrious founder Bishop Richard Allen. May we continue to love one another with the love of Jesus forever more.

Keep your trust in God and continue standing for the kind of freedom, justice, and equality that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. died for. We cannot give up hope ... as the great hymn of the church declares - *“My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame but holy lean on Jesus’ name. On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand.”*

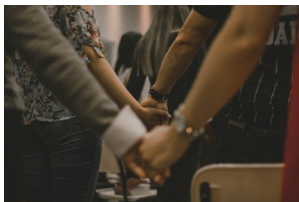
Let’s Lift Jesus Higher,

Sister Gerri Miles
Steward Board, Pro-Tem

February Memory Scripture and Theme

Scripture: “And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” John 12:32 (NIV)

Theme: Lifting Jesus Higher Through Our Worship, Prayer, Praise, Leadership, Serving, Giving, Creativity, and Impact



Corporate Prayer

2 Chronicles 7:14 ...if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Lord help us lift Jess up through next level ministry, next level outreach, next level discipleship, next level leadership, and next level unit. Help us to be on one accord in every area of ministry in this church. Give us humble hearts, a Jesus-centered mindset, and a willingness to serve. Give us a discerning spirit and the courage to hear and follow Your voice, and Your voice alone. Send us a Shephard and a pastor with the leadership style, skills, business acumen, spiritual gifts, and wisdom needed to lead this congregation in its current season and prepare our hearts to receive the man or woman whom You have decided is the right one for this moment in the life of Mt. Calvary!

Please join us in our weekly POWER CELLS!

- **The Jewel Cromwell Johnson Prayer Line**
 - **Morning Prayer:** Monday-Friday at 6 am
 - Phone Conference Call Line: 725-735-9012. **NO Passcode:**
 - **Church School** - Sundays at 9:00 am (in person).
 - **Intercessory Prayer** - Tuesdays 6 pm on the Prayer Line
 - **Corporate Prayer** - Daily at 12 noon on the prayer line
 - **Church-wide Corporate Prayer & Bible Study** - Wednesdays at 7pm (*In Person*).
 - **Thursday Treats for the Thirsty** – TBA.
-



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

Church-Wide Announcements

- ◆ This month is **Black History Month**. Visit <https://blackhistorymonth.gov/> for Black History events throughout the month of February.
- ◆ On **Sunday, February 9th**, we will celebrate **2025 Founders Day Worship Service, Red Dress Sunday, and Souper Bowl Sunday** (*Give a sacrificial gift to YPD*). The **Health & Wellness Ministry** invites you to wear red to show your support for Women and to raise awareness about heart disease.
- ◆ Don't miss out on an exciting night with **W.O.W!** Join us as we take over Noodles & Company on **Friday, February 14, 2025**, at **6:30 pm**. Head over to 825 Goucher Blvd, Suite 100 B, Towson, MD, and be part of the fun! Make sure to place and pay for your order when you arrive. This is an event you won't want to miss! All are welcome!
- ◆ On **Tuesday, February 18th**, our **4th Quarterly Conference** for the year will be held at **6 pm** in person.
- ◆ The **2nd Episcopal District AME Church & Bishop Reginal Thomas Jackson, Servant Leader** invite you to attend the **Founders Day 2025 Mid-Winter Convocation**. The meeting will be held from **Thursday, February 20th - Saturday, February 22nd** at the **Hilton Charlotte Airport Hotel** (2800 Coliseum Center Dr., Charlotte, NC 28217). This year's theme is "**The Church At It's Best.**"
- ◆ On **Sunday, February 25th**, we will celebrate **2025 Heritage Day**. Please wear African attire or your Black History Month 365 T-shirt.
- ◆ The **2025 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/>



CELEBRATING FOUNDERS DAY...

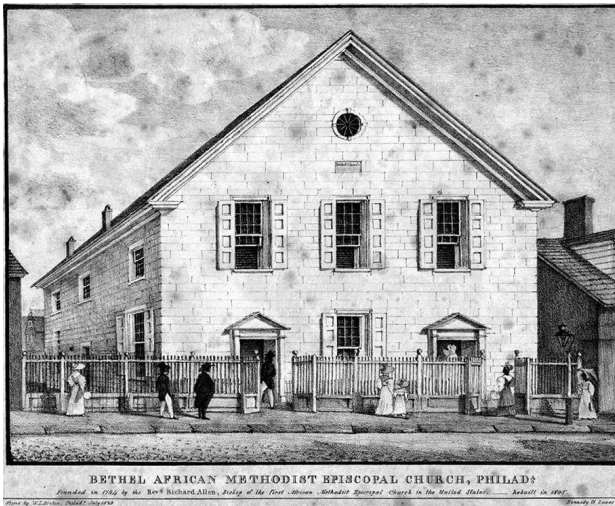


Each year, the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AMEC) celebrates Founders Day, the day that the AME connectional church was established. The church grew out of the Free African Society (FAS) which Richard Allen, Absalom Jones, and others established in Philadelphia in 1787. When officials at St. George's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

NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY...



American Heart Association.



NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY[®]

Friday, Feb. 7

**RED IS OUR COLOR.
READY TO ROCK YOURS?**

We wear RED to be seen, to be counted, to be heard, and to make an impact. Women at every age, stage and season of life need our support as we take on our greatest health threat – cardiovascular disease.

SHARE YOUR HEART AND JOIN US AS WE WEAR RED TOGETHER.

WearRedDay.org | #WearRedDay

Go Red for Women is nationally sponsored by



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February Prayer List

Bishop Reginal T. Jackson
Presiding Elder Johnny Calhoun
Pastor Bob & Rev. Angie Cox
Bro. Andrew Adams
Bro. Bruce Ashe
Sis. June Bryant
Mother Cleo Cole
Bro. Jaron Darden
Bro. Carlton Epps
Sis. Vivian Fenton
Sis. Florine Fields
Sis. Keena Harvin



Sis. Fran Hennigan & Family
Sis. Cheron Jones
Rev. Muriel Lucas
Sis. Gerri Miles
Sis. Candace Watkins
Bro. Derrick Watson
Bro. Warren Whitworth
Sis. Cynthia Whye
Ministerial Staff
Ministries & Ministry Leaders
Mt. Calvary Church Family

Opportunities to Give...

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates 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



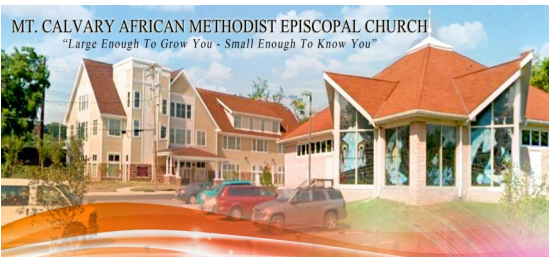
ONLINE www.mtcalvaryame.org
click the give tab.

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 **\$MTCALVARY349**



Mount Calvary AME Church

300 Eudowood Lane
Towson, MD 21286
410-296-9474 (phone) 410-296-8710 (fax)

adminasst@mtcalvaryame.org
www.mtcalvaryame.org

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.