



THE Mount Calvary MESSENGER

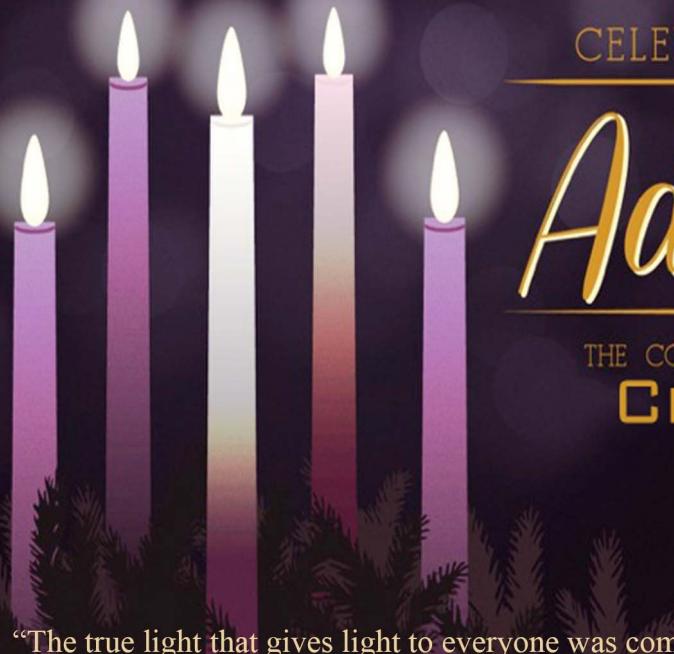
SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU, LARGE ENOUGH TO GROW YOU!
DECEMBER

2021

CELEBRATING

Advent

THE COMING OF THE
CHRIST



"The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." John 1:9, 12 NIV

WHAT YOU WILL FIND IN THE MESSENGER...

- Message From the Pastor Bob
- Church-Wide Announcements
- 2021 Advent Season Message



From The Pastor's Pen...

Greetings Family!



Christmas carols fill the air; smiles and laughter are everywhere. Preparing for the holidays can be a lot of work. We all know how easy it is to get caught up in the Christmas rush. However, as you prepare for the holidays, I pray you will remember the reason we celebrate the season and focus on the amazing Christmas story and Jesus' unfailing love for us.

When Jesus was born, His parents didn't plan a gender reveal party. Nobody ordered a baby shower cake. As Mary, the mother of Jesus, prepared for the arrival of her baby, a business trip for tax purposes was probably the last thing on her agenda. Riding a donkey most likely would have been her last wish in her ninth month of pregnancy. The point is: Jesus wasn't born into ideal circumstances. Despite the stable which most of us would deem unsuitable accommodations, the Light of the World made His grand entrance in the form of a little baby. Human flesh held the Son of God and the glory of the night could not be contained. Angels sang their glory to God and hope, true Hope for the world was born! The birth of Jesus brought hope and healing to the entire world. For this, we can celebrate with JOY!

This year your dedication has made the difference in the lives of so many. Your strength, dedication, and generosity to the ministry, mission, and message of Mount Calvary has been phenomenal. You made your witness known by responding to the needs of our community with collective action. What you had, you gave — whether it was time, talent, or resources — because you know love is shown through action. Please continue to faithfully support the ministry of Mount Calvary.

Finally, the month of December is "**Come Home for Christmas!**" Please don't forget to invite a family member, a friend, a member, a former member, a wanna be member, a stranger too, and celebrate in person or virtual with us in our Sunday Morning Worship Experience, Bible Study, Thursday Treats or Church School during this Advent Season. Write, Call, Text, Email, Tweet, or Facebook them. During the Christmas season, the gift we need the most is the One who longs to live in our hearts. Despite the circumstances, God's plan is the best plan for your life; He loves you too much to think anything otherwise.

Merry Christmas, Pastor Bob!

ORDER of Worship

Welcome

Invocation

Selection

Scripture

Preached Word of God

Invitation to Accept Christ

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

Benediction

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

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!”



December Theme and Advent Scripture

Advent Season invites us to bear the light of Jesus (Emmanuel who dwells among us), so that we can live as children of God.

“The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” John 1:9, 12 NIV

CHURCH-WIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ December 12th - Demonstration Sunday.
- ◆ December 13th - Virtual Church Conference at 7 pm.
- ◆ December 14th - Bishop’s Virtual Christmas Party (*Baltimore Conference*) at 7 pm.
- ◆ December 15th - Virtual 3rd Quarterly Conference at 7 pm.
- ◆ The **Church Office** will be closed on **December 24th** and **31st** in observance of the holiday's.
- ◆ December 26th - January 1st - 2021 Kwanza Season
- ◆ December 30th - Pastor Bob’s Birthday and Pastor & Rev. Angie’s Wedding Anniversary.
- ◆ December 31st - Watch Night Service on Face-Book Live at **8 pm & 11 pm**.
- ◆ Join us every **Thursday** for **Thursday Treats** for the Thirsty– Zooming in His Word at 7pm. Join Zoom Meeting. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7755324927> - Meeting ID: 775 532 4927
- ◆ The **2021 Giving Statements** will be available in January. To obtain your giving statement you must fill out the form on our website. Click on Member Login and then click on Member Contact Update & Giving Statement Request. Complete the entire form and click submit.
- ◆ **Sunday in Person Services** at 10am. Registration is required, register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mount-calvary-ame-church-sunday-worship-services-tickets-202920168687> Communion Element Pick Up: Tues - Fri. at the FLC from 10am-2pm if you do not plan to attend in-person service on 1st Sundays.
- ◆ **Online Sunday Worship Services** are streamed at 10:00am <https://www.facebook.com/MtCalvaryAMEChurch/>). If you miss the service you can view it on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/user/nataliew340>).

December Prayer Requests

Rev. Thomasine Adams
Rev. Bonnie Epps-Burgess
Pastor and Rev. Angie Cox
Bro. Brian Creek
Sis. Shirl Creek
Sis. Vivian Fenton
Mother Mabel Gray
Mother Grace Hicks
Sis. Sherrilyn Ifill



Sis. Kristie Johnson
Sis. Sherie Johnson
Bro. Ivo Knobloch
Rev. Merriel Lucas
Sis. Ann Norman
Sis. Wendy Savoy
Sis. Liz Weh
Bro. Warren Whitworth

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**)

- Join us every **Thursday** for **Thursday Treats** for the Thirsty - Zooming in His Word at 7pm.
- **Church School** - 8:30am via the conference line.

- **Beads of Wisdom Bible Study** - Wednesdays at noon (prayer line).
- **Church-wide Bible Study** - Wednesdays at 7pm (*Face Book Live*; . No Bible Study on December 22& 29)
- **Men's Church School** - Cancelled until further notice.
- **Youth Church** will be held on every 4th Sunday at 1pm via



2021 Advent Devotional Journey..

Our church will be reading an Advent devotional together as we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth. The devotional will be available in both electronic and print versions. If you need a print copy of the devotional, please sign-up in the narthex or

reach out to Rev. Dawn or the church office with your name.

DECEMBER 5TH, 2021

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

What You Talking ‘Bout Gabriel?

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. Luke 1:29-30



In 1978, the television show *Diff'rent Strokes* was released. It told the story of Phillip Drummond and his two adopted sons, Arnold and Willis, whose life changed suddenly as they went from rags to riches overnight. Watching the Drummond family's daily interactions was interesting, but there was one line from the show that no one will ever forget. Arnold was famous for saying, “What You Talking ‘Bout Willis,” when his older brother said something that seemed a little strange. It was a funny line, but it seems like a reasonable question in many situations.

Do you ever feel like saying, “What You Talking ‘Bout Lord,” when God drops something unimaginable in your spirit? I do and I wonder if Mary wanted to ask the same question when she discovered she was pregnant with Jesus. Certainly, giving birth to Jesus was not in her plans at that moment, but many are the “God-interrupted plans” in the hearts of us humans.

In Luke’s Gospel, we know Mary was astonished and greatly troubled by the declaration that the Lord was with her. Mary was perplexed, but did not respond, “What you talking about Gabriel,” instead, she stayed the course. She was comforted by the words of the angel who reminded her that she did not need to be afraid.

Perhaps, we should adopt a no fear attitude when we experience God-interruptions in our daily lives. Rather than asking, “What you talking ‘bout, Lord,” we can learn to lean into the voice of the Lord and be open to a new thing being done in our lives. And perhaps, the more we lean in, the more God will speak, and the less we will have to get clarity on what the Lord is saying because we will completely submit our will to the will of the Lord at the beginning of each day.

Lord, help us to listen and willingly hear Your will for our lives. May we not ask what You are talking about, but instead adopt an attitude that shows, “Lord, we are listening.” Amen

Rev. Dawn M. Wayman (2021)

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

As Christmas approaches, we're asking you to remember families who will need assistance during this holiday season. Please consider purchasing gift cards which will be given to a local family with 1-5 children, from ages 1-16. A minimum amount of \$25.00 is requested. Not only will the recipients be blessed, but the community as a whole will be blessed by your generous donation.

What better way to celebrate Christmas than by sharing what we have with others! On Sunday, December 5, 12, and 19, a designated box will be placed in the Narthex for the collection of the gift cards. Questions?

Please contact: Joy Carter (Joy_Carter2111@comcast.net, or Leslie Green (lesliegreen28@gmail.com, or Rev. Bonnie Burgess (cheerfulheart@mac.com)

Last Date to Donate a Gift Card: 12/19/21.

Thank you for brightening the lives of families and children!

COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS...



"About that time Caesar Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Empire. This was the first census when Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone had to travel to his own ancestral hometown to be accounted for.

So Joseph went from the Galilean town of Nazareth up to Bethlehem in Judah, David's town, for the census. As a descendant of David, he had to go there. He went with Mary, his fiancée, who was pregnant."

Luke 2:1-5 (MSG)

Disciples of Christ Men's Ministry Soup Kitchen

MOUNT CALVARY AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST MEN'S MINISTRY

IN COLLABORATION WITH

MT. CALVARY A.M.E. CHURCH
Harvest Meals
FOR THE HUNGRY
MINISTRY

SOUP Kitchen

HOT HOMEMADE SOUPS WITH CRACKERS AND/OR SANDWICHES, SCRIPTURE TRACKS, AND PRAYER, WILL BE SERVED TO THE NEEDY IN BALTIMORE CITY FROM DECEMBER THROUGH MARCH ON THE 2ND AND 4TH SATURDAYS.

ALL MEN ARE INVITED TO SERVE, SHARE, AND PRAY!
GIVE WHATEVER TIME YOU CAN TO THIS OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY!

To sign up or for more information, contact:
Bro. Andrew Adams at (443) 370-1690 or andrewadams99@msn.com

As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend. - Proverbs 27:17

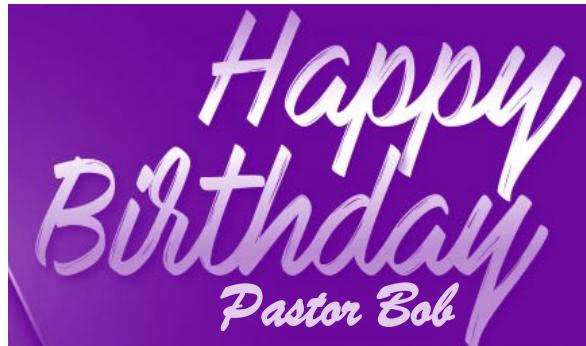
SATURDAY
DECEMBER
4TH & 11TH



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REV. BOBBY B. COX, JR., PASTOR | REV. ANGIE CRAWFORD-COX, FIRST LADY

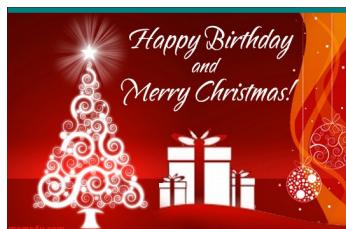
Celebrating Pastor Bob's Birthday

December 30, 2021



A special **Happy Birthday** to our handsome, loving, warm, kind, wonderful, awesome, incredible, powerful man of God, our **Pastor, Rev. Bobby B. Cox, Jr.** We pray that you will receive the Godly desires of your heart during your new season of being who God has called you to be.

Special Birthday greetings goes out to all those celebrating a birthday in the month of **December**, from your CCU Leader Sis. Leslie Green
(mtcalvarydecemberclass1@gmail.com)



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 do not open the windows 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

The logo for Mount Calvary AME Church, featuring a circular emblem with a cross and the text "MOUNT CALVARY AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL 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 Smcamec



Mount Calvary AME Church
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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.