

WORSHIP • GROW • SERVE • SHARE

SEPTEMBER 2025



# WHAT YOU WILL FIND IN THE MESSENGER...

- From the Pastor's Desk Message
- Church Announcements
- Weekly Power Cells



#### From the Pastor's Desk...



#### **Introducing the Four Kingdom Commitments**

Greetings Beloved Family,

September gives us a fresh start. Change can feel uncomfortable, but growth always requires stretching, surrender, and steps of faith. To grow with clarity, we are aligning our church around *Mt. Calvary's Four Kingdom Commitments*.

**WORSHIP Passionately:** We commit to excellence in worship that transforms hearts and lives.

**GROW Deeply:** We commit to discipleship pathways that develop mature believers.

**SERVE Faithfully:** We commit to supporting our church and transforming our community through faithful and compassionate service.

**SHARE Generously:** We commit to a culture of joyful, sacrificial generosity by sharing our time, talent, treasure, and the Good News of Jesus Christ.

These commitments will serve as our north star, guiding our activities, programming, resources, and ministry efforts. By doing so, we will collectively concentrate on living under God's rule. "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you" (Matthew 6:33).

When we focus on the Kingdom of God, everything comes together. Our four commitments will steer our preaching, planning, and culture—helping us worship, grow, serve, and give. I promise to respect our history, address current needs, and prepare for the future with your support and God's guidance. Together, let's build, pray, and grow.

Church, I believe God will meet us as we worship. I believe healing will happen, souls will be set free, and God will be glorified. Let September be the month our sanctuary and our homes become altars, and our lives become living offerings.

### September Theme: Worship Passionately

Worship: the appropriate attitude and acts of reverence to God

**Scripture Reference:** John 4:24 "God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

**Devotional Reading:** Worship is our rational response to God's unconditional love. Our core Christian calling and life's purpose are to praise and worship God. True worship is born out of a response to who God is. It arises from a heart that has examined the excellence of God: His nature, His attributes, and His divine

## From the Pastor's Desk (cont.)...

character. Because God is infinitely great and eternally good, our response is an act of passionate worship. Worship should always be driven by reflection because true worship honors God in our hearts. When we consider the goodness of Jesus and all He has done for us, our souls should cry out, hallelujah! When we reflect on the indescribable riches of God's glorious blessings, our hearts should be so filled with awe that it energizes and engages our entire being. By worshiping in this way, consistently reflecting on God's splendor, our joy becomes uncontainable, and worship overflows into our hearts, minds, souls and every area of our lives and relationships. When the vertical is right, the horizontal comes into order. Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness and everything else finds its place (Matthew 6:33). Worship aligns our hearts under God's rule so His presence can rule in our church, our homes, and our community.

**Reflection:** Reflection fuels worship. In worship, we aim to gaze until we see what God is worth, grasp what He is worth, and then give Him what He is worth. Intentionally, gazing, grasping, and giving God glory are spiritual practices that will enrich our experience of worship. How might you begin to structure your day to allow time for the deliberate practice of gazing, grasping, and giving God glory? Which of the three practices resonates with you the most? Why?

### How We Will Practice Worship in September:

- 1. **Show up with intention.** Attend church every Sunday in September. Arrive early. Pray for the person near you. Come with a grateful heart ready to praise and worship!
- 2. **Seven Minutes of Surrender daily.** Read a Psalm. Reflect on the meaning. Offer a simple prayer of gratitude and guidance.
- 3. **Practice FRANgelism.** Identify four names. A **Friend**, a **Relative**, an **Associate**, and a **Neighbor**. Pray over your FRAN list each day. Invite one to a Sunday service this month. Offer a ride. Sit with them. Follow up midweek.
- 4. **Testify weekly.** Share one praise report or answered prayer. Your story builds someone's faith.
- 5. **Honor God with excellence.** Serve God and one another with joy. Honor God by arriving on time, participating fully, serving faithfully, singing unto God a new song, and giving generously. Expect God to meet us.

#### Prayer:

Father, You are worthy of all glory. Align our hearts under Your rule. Receive our praise in spirit and truth. Make our worship a witness that draws others to Jesus. In His name. Amen.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Sheleta E. Fomby

### **CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- On Thursday, September 11, 2025, join the Beads of Wisdom Seniors
  Ministry in conjunction with the Baltimore County Department of Aging at
  "No Senior Eats Alone Day" at noon in the Family Life Center. Please
  contact Sis. Ursula to RSVP (vonours2@gmail.com).
- On Sunday, September 14, 2025 at 10 am, we will celebrate our 36th
  Homecoming, 28th Sanctuary Anniversary and 13th Family Life Center
  Anniversary. The Stewards and Trustees will also observe their Annual
  Day. A sacrificial \$136.00 for adults and \$13.00 for youth is being requested.
- On Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 6:30 pm the Christian Education
  Department will conduct an online Baptism Class. If you would like to attend
  the class, please register by emailing <a href="mailto:mtcalvaryamecculeaders@gmail.com">mtcalvaryamecculeaders@gmail.com</a>.
- On Monday, September 22, 2025, at 6 pm please join us for our 2nd Quarterly Conference in the sanctuary.
- On Saturday, September 27, 2025, from 10 am 2 pm, join the Beads of Wisdom Seniors Ministry for a Technology Training.

# Save The Dates!!!

- Please join the Health & Wellness Ministry on Saturday, October 4, 2025, at 12 pm, in the FLC Great Room for a Breast Strokes. Create your own masterpiece as you enjoy games and light bites for a donation of \$30.00.
- Please join the Usher Board on **Saturday, October 11, 2025**, at **9:30 am**, in the FLC Great Room for their **9th Usher's Prayer Breakfast**. Donation is \$30.00.

## 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 am adults in the FLC.
- Intercessory Prayer on the Prayer line Tuesdays at 6 pm.



#### Happy Birthday Greetings

to all those celebrating a birthday in the month of September, from your CCU Leader Sis. Kristie Johnson (kristyred@aol.com).

# September 2025 Prayer List

Rev. Sheleta E. Fomby, Sr. Pastor Bro. Andrew Adams Bro. Wellington Bruce Ashe

Sis. June Bryant Mother Cleo Cole

Mother Florene Fields Mother Grace Hicks

Bro. Kevin Johnson

Sis. Nadine Marsh Sis Ann Norman

Sis. Ursula Slade



Sis. Kathy Thrasher Sis Candace Watkins Sis. Norma Wharton Bro. Warren Whitworth Sis. Cynthia Whye Ministerial Staff Ministries & Ministry Leads Steward Board Trustee Board New Members Mt. Calvary Church Family



#### TEXT "MTCALVARY" TO 73256

and then follow the link provided.









**ELECTRONIC GIVING** Rev. Sheleta E. Fomby, Senior Pastor





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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.