

The Calvary Connection

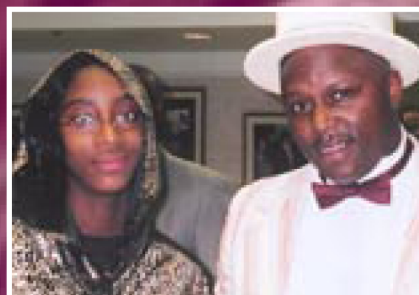
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Making History

116th Church Anniversary



Looking Back
And Looking Forward

Pastor's Pen

THIS PRESENT AGE

The early spring is always our season to acknowledge the birth of Calvary Baptist Church. Typically, we celebrate the Church Anniversary on the third Sunday of March. We don't have many "special" days at Calvary Church, but this is one of the few which we do pause to honor. One of the purposes for pausing is to reflect over the pilgrimage of this particular body of believers.

More than anything else, we accentuate the "resiliency" of the Church. God's Church always bounces back. Along the way there have been critical moments which very well could have "stopped the Church in its tracks." There have been financial hardships, changes in leadership and other internal and external conflicts and pressures which

threatened the very life of the Church. But, through the grace of God, the Church has made it and has come out stronger as result of the historic moments of challenges.

When reflecting over the Church history, the reality that stands out the most is how the Church ministers to its present age. At different moments of history the Church sought to meet the needs of its times. Throughout the 116 year history, Calvary Church could not do the same things in every generation. There were times to move to other locations. There were times to build buildings. There were times to organize Sunday Schools. There were times to create different ministries. If the Church had not been conscious of its historical context, it would not

have made adjustments, and therefore would have ceased growing.

Our challenge is the same today. We must ever be in touch with the mood and mind set of our world's condition and of our community; as well as the need, of the Church, in order to minister to this present age. Therefore, this season of Church Anniversary not only involves a look backward but also a look forward. Our Church is becoming more diverse racially and ethnically. What does this mean in terms of Church programming? Our culture is a "visual" culture. How should this impact worship? The congregation is steadily growing. What should be our plan in terms of location? The facts and questions go on and on. Our prayer is that God would



help us to minister to this present age.

The second verse to that old hymn of the Church "A Change to Keep I Have", says "to serve the present age, my calling to fulfill, O may it all my pow'rs engage to do my Master's will." We are looking back and looking forward during this season of Church Anniversary, in order to fulfill our calling in this present age.

— Rev. Jerry M. Carter, Jr.

• Christian Counsel •

Need Christian advice? We can help. Place your anonymous question in the *Calvary Connection* mailbox.

Q: Is Temptation SIN?

A: One of the great struggles of all of humanity is the struggle associated with temptation. Whether it is the temptation associated with breaking a diet or the temptation associated with infidelity or being unfaithful, we've all wrestled with temptation in some shape or form. I would say that temptation can be defined as the lure or enticement associated with stepping outside of some prescribed boundaries.

For many of us the struggle is furthered intensified because we feel as though we're beyond temptation, or we should not be dealing with it at all. Temptation is not simply a possibility, but it is a

reality for all of humanity. James 1:13-15 says "*when tempted, no one should say, that God is tempting me. For God can not be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.*" James in this verse not only highlights the reality of temptation, but he further examines the origin of temptation. God is not the author of temptation, but rather temptation starts with us and includes the enticement of the enemy. It's hard for anybody to be tempted by something or someone that they don't like. If I don't like chocolate cake, it will be awfully hard for me to be tempted by it.

For the believer, our salvation experience does not equate to being exempt

from temptation, testing and trials. Jesus himself had to endure temptation in the wilderness (Matt. 4). **We need to understand that temptation in and of itself is not sin, but rather yielding to temptation is.** We're not removed from the lure of temptation or the possibility of sin, but we must be encouraged while we endure temptation that God is both aware of what we're going through and active in our circumstance. Paul as he wrote to the Church at Corinth says (1 Corinthians 10:13) "*There is no temptation taken you but such as common to man: but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted above your ability; but will with the temptation also make a way of escape, that you be able to bear it.*"

— Minister Derrick Dumas

• Calvary Grapevine •

Have a question? We'll get the answer.
Place your anonymous question in the
Calvary Connection mailbox.

Q: What staff changes have taken place this year?

A: In order to increase our excellence in ministry and church operations the Pastoral Administrative Team has been restructured as follows:

MIN. DAVID HOLLOWELL

Min. of Christian Education and Economic Development

Responsibilities: Christian Education Coordination
Economic Development Manager

Pastoral Assistance

MIN. JOHN BOWDEN

Min. of Ministry Development and External Relations

Responsibilities: Youth Ministry, Community Relations,
Pastoral Visitation, Pastoral Assistance

MIN. MONICA HOOKS

Min. of Congregational Life

Responsibilities: Worship Coordinator, Foreign Missions
Administrator, Pastor's Research Assistant

MIN. SAMARIA TILLMAN

Director of Church Operations and Wellspring
Administrator

Responsibilities: Daily Operations, Wellspring Supervisor,
Pre-marital Counseling, Pastoral Assistance

MIN. MIKE BETHUNE

Wellspring Counselor

Responsibilities: Substance Abuse

FELICIA HEDGEPEETH

Church Administrator

Responsibilities: Administrative Support, Pastor's
Calendar, Events Coordinator

ROSELYN BETHUNE

Administrative Assistant

Responsibilities: Clerical Support, Church Records
Keeper, Office Organizer

THE INTERVIEW WITH GOD

I dreamed I had an interview with God.

"So you would like to interview me?" God asked.

"If you have the time" I said.

God smiled. *"My time is eternity."*

"What questions do you have in mind for me?"

"What surprises you most about humankind?"

God answered...

"That they get bored with childhood, they rush to grow up, and then long to be children again."

"That they lose their health to make money . . . and then lose their money to restore their health."

"That by thinking anxiously about the future, they forget the present, such that they live in neither the present nor the future."

"That they live as if they will never die, and die as though they had never lived."

God's hand took mine and we were silent for a while.

And then I asked...

"As a parent, what are some of life's lessons you want your children to learn?"

"To learn they cannot make anyone love them. All they can do is let themselves be loved."

"To learn that it is not good to compare themselves to others."

"To learn to forgive by practicing forgiveness."

"To learn that it only takes a few seconds to open profound wounds in those they love, and it can take many years to heal them."

"To learn that a rich person is not one who has the most, but is one who needs the least."

"To learn that there are people who love them dearly, but simply have not yet learned how to express or show their feelings."

"To learn that two people can look at the same thing and see it differently."

"To learn that it is not enough that they forgive one another, but they must also forgive themselves."

"Thank you for your time." I said humbly.

"Is there anything else you would like your children to know?"

God smiled and said,

"Just know that I am here... always."

— Author unknown

Go to www.interviewwithgod.com to view the magnificent photography that completes this message of hope and love.

Ministry Spotlight

EDUCATIONAL FUNDING MINISTRY – A PRICELESS RESOURCE FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

By Kim Artis

In its previous role, the Ministry was responsible for administering financial awards to high school seniors, matriculating students and adults continuing education with financial need. In its new role the Ministry will continue to manage these financial responsibilities, but has taken on the responsibility of identifying educational information needs and presenting seminars to address them.

Ministry Leader Kim Artis met with Pastor Carter to express the desire to expand the Ministry's stated mission and address a void of vital importance to our children and their parents: the need to know critical educational information. Pastor told Sister Artis "Do what needs to be done to ensure that the Calvary family is well informed on critical subjects involving educational information."

The Ministry has moved forward with its charge and presented three seminars: "Navigating the College Application Process" which addressed the college application process, scholarship and financial aid information, essay writing skills and interviewing techniques; "The Sat Review", presented by the Princeton Review Corporation, focused on the tests that are required to get into college; and the "New Jersey State Testing for Kindergarten through Eighth Grade" featured guest speaker Dr. Albert Mussad, the Director of Curriculum for the Morris School District who discussed the use of these tests for class placement. Financial planning to prepare for college (it is never too early



Some of the Educational Funding Ministry members along with seminar speakers

or late to start) was also presented by a representative from the JP Morgan Company. All seminars were well attended and received excellent evaluations by the participants. An upcoming seminar entitled "Going to High School" focusing on the transition from middle school to high school will take place this spring.

All seminars require registration and are detailed in the Sunday

Bulletin usually one month prior to the date of the seminar. For convenience, registration lists are kept in the Church Office. Seminars will be video taped and copies of the handouts for each seminar will be made available upon request. Contact any Ministry member listed below via the office. Suggestions for future seminar topics as well as referrals of people that could deliver presentations are welcomed.

Please forward suggestions to Sister Kim Artis at kartis123@aol.com.

The Ministry has also setup a link on the Calvary Web site to provide scholarship forms and educational information. To reach the link, log onto calvary-baptistchurch.org, go to the education tab, drop down to scholarship. This site will be regularly updated by Sister Verline Boyd-Johnson. Information is welcomed and can be forwarded to her at vbjohnson@hotmail.com.

The Educational Funding Ministry is excited about providing informational that will assist our children to be the EXCELLENT people that God intends them to be.

Ministry members include: Sisters Kim Artis, Lonnie Austin, Ferlanda Nixon, Verline Boyd-Johnson, Marcia Hicks and Brenda Harris; and Brothers Archie Glaspy, Rodney Buie and Harry Johnson.

the GLORY OF the LORD – PRIMARY II style

By Debra Newton

“The Glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and we shall all see it together. The mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

– Isaiah 40:5 NKJV



“The Glory Of The Lord” Primary II class cast of characters

During the Christmas holidays I was listening to one of my favorite songs entitled, “And The Glory of the Lord”. As I listened to this song, three things stood out for me:

- 1) The awesomeness of God’s Glory,
- 2) So many remain lost and living in darkness, and
- 3) When God speaks, it is so.

As a Church School teacher, I thought about how this scripture magnifies the urgency of the salvation of our children and the importance of God’s Word in their lives, and began thinking about a way to use this song in our Primary II class. After talking about it with Mabel Davis (Church School Superintendent); she suggested our class do it as a presentation. With that, Primary II went into “performance mode”. We wanted to shed some light on the preparation and thoughts behind our interpretation of this scripture. For those of you who attended the performance we hope you were inspired, and for those who missed it, stay tuned for more creative expressions from Primary II!

On the 1st Sunday, in January we listened to the song and found the scripture in the Bible. Then, the class was divided into two groups to discuss the meaning of “The Glory of the Lord”, and the word “Revealed”.

On the 2nd Sunday we talked about things that kept us from seeing the Glory of the Lord. We all agreed that refusing to follow the 10 Commandments was number one, and that included burdens like: lying, cheating, stealing, drugs and alcohol, obsession with money, titles, designer labels and material things, laziness, lack of time, watching too much TV, misplaced priorities, personal problems, gossip, and not treating each other right.

On the 3rd Sunday we took those concepts and turned them into a cast of characters. The children used their imagination, artistic ability and talents, and worked hard to create most of their costumes and props. We had one quick run-through at the end of the class. Unfortunately, 4th Sunday presented us with a snow storm, and on 5th Sunday, we were “on”. With virtually no rehearsal, Primary II performed “The Glory of the Lord.”

Here are some after thoughts from some of our Primary II students and teachers on Isaiah 40:5, the performance, and what it meant to them:

Marquise Bourgeois: “Stop doing bad things to others, like mugging, stealing and killing and other things too. If you don’t, there is punishment”.

Breyton Croom: “Be positive and do your best”.

Sholei Croom: Special mention to Sholei. She worked hard on her character “Time”, but was unable to perform due to her BAPTISM!

Brandon Drayton: “Even if you are tired, or already have a lot of money, you should still go to church”.

Deja Webster: “It made Sunday School fun and I learned a lesson too”.

Aubrey Dumas: “Church is more important than hanging out with your friends”.

Taylor Hedgepeth: “To me, the Glory of the Lord means: mercy on us, glory, magnificent, gives us blessings, wonderful, forgiving”.

Kimberly Maduabum: Things are happening in life. It means a lot to me that the glory of the Lord will be revealed and all shall see it together. The play showed people in gangs, designer girls, gossip, TV, and burdens. I was a “Designer Girl” and I spent all my money on a hat and clothing, and I forgot the important things in life”.

Chris Pooler: “It’s bad to be a gang member, but it’s good to be in the presence of the Lord”.

Noel Pooler: “Whatever situation you’re in, bad, happy or sad, God helps you through it and you don’t have to worry about it because God will help you”.

John Winston: “Things are going around that are bad, and there are people that will not go to church”.

Sister Harriet Course: “We have hope in the future. God’s glory will be revealed, and the truth is in God’s Word. I hope it also renewed the faith of others. There is hope!”

Brother David Burke: “This verse revealed to me just how the Lord uses our children to present His Word to others. This was indeed a blessing to the students in the class and to the entire Church School”.

For me, this experience was so encouraging, because it reinforced to me that as Church School teachers, our efforts are not in vain. These children are really “getting it”. They are serious about



Laying their burdens down at the Cross

God’s Word, and they are applying it when they leave the church. They are doers, not just hearers only.

Much thanks to Pastor Carter and our Church School leadership for challenging and encouraging us to teach, study and live God’s Word without compromise, while at the same time, “stepping out of the box”, making Christian Education exciting, fun and currently relevant for students and teachers alike.

“For the LORD is good, His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations”.

– Psalm 100:5 NKJV

Biblical Perspective

Knowing the Holy Spirit

By Minister David A. Hollowell

"Now the Lord is the Spirit ; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

— 2 Cor 3:17-18

As we are all aware, our new church theme for 2005 is "Engaging Life in the Spirit." This teaching and preaching platform should provide us with tremendous opportunities to re-energize and empower ourselves to generate more productive and fruitful results in our personal lives and ministries throughout this coming year. Unfortunately, most of us as believers are probably less aware of the workings of the Holy Spirit than we are of the other two members of the triune Godhead. If we are to truly engage the Holy Spirit in making our witness and our praxis more effective, we must first get to know Him better. This article attempts to address some attributes and some misconceptions about His personhood and His deity.

Personage of the Holy Spirit

In Acts 13:1-5, the Holy Spirit acts as a Person. He speaks to the leaders of the church at Antioch. He instructs them, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them" (v. 2). Notice the personal references "to Me" and "I." The Holy Spirit, along with the Antioch leaders, sends out the missionaries (vv. 3, 4). Throughout the rest of the Book of Acts, the Holy Spirit is portrayed as a Person. He had inspired Scripture which had to be fulfilled (1:16). Ananias lies to the Holy Spirit (5:3). The Spirit bears witness to Jesus (5:32). Philip is instructed by the Spirit (8:28). The early believers are comforted by Him (9:31). The Spirit tells

Peter how to act towards the men He has sent (10:19f). Peter recounts to Cornelius what the Spirit had told Him (11:12). The decisions of the Jerusalem council are confirmed by the Holy Spirit (15:28). The Holy Spirit exhibits personal traits elsewhere in the Bible. The Spirit "hovers" over the creation (Hebrew--rahap Gen 1:2, compare Deut 32:11). He is to send Israel's Redeemer (Isa 48:16). Jesus promises His followers that the Spirit will speak for them when they are being persecuted (Matt 10:16-20). The Spirit will teach them what they should say (Luke 12:12).

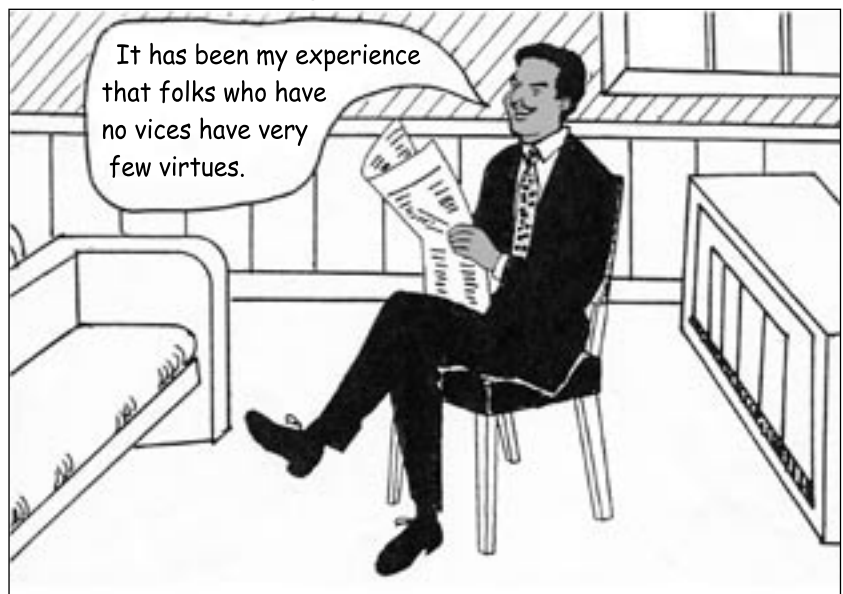
The Deity of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is equated with God in several places in the Scriptures. Peter considers lying to the Holy Spirit to be the same as lying to God (Acts 5:3f). Paul calls the Spirit "the Lord" (2Cor 3:17). Interestingly, the Bible of Jehovah's Witnesses (the New World Translation) renders the phrase "Jehovah is the Spirit." The Spirit distributes

gifts to Christians "as He wills" (1Cor 12:11). But it is God who sets members in the Church "as He pleases" (1Cor 12:18). In addition, the Lord directs our "hearts into the love of God" (2Thes 3:5). Yet, "the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit" (Rom 5:5). The Holy Spirit possesses the attributes of God. He is eternal (Heb 9:14), omnipresent (Ps 139:7-10), and omnipotent (Luke 1:35-37). He knows "the deep things of God" so He must also be omniscient (1Cor 2:10f). The Holy Spirit possesses the attributes of God. He is eternal (Heb 9:14), omnipresent (Ps 139:7-10), and omnipotent (Luke 1:35-37). He knows "the deep things of God" so He must also be omniscient (1Cor 2:10f). Most importantly, God gives eternal life, although people must be "born of the Spirit" to be saved (1John 5:11; John 3:3-8). Further, God chooses us for salvation, and the Holy Spirit guarantees our inheritance (Eph 1:3-14).

• The Amen Corner •

By David A. Hollowell



CALVARY MEMBERS...MAKING HISTORY



As a member of Calvary Baptist Church Jared Poe participated in many of the dramatic presentations of the Christian Youth Ministry and Church School ministries. After graduation he went on to study theater at UCLA. Following college graduation he landed an internship with the writing staff of "The X files". He auditioned for a guest acting role and beat out 30 other auditioners to play his first professional role as FBI Cadet Rudolph Hayes. Other TV guest appearances include "Firefly", "Angel" and most recently on "CSI:NY". He is the son of Carol and Al Poe. We wish Jared Godspeed in his acting pursuits and are proud to say "we knew him when."



The city of Newark recently honored Carey Hines' dad, with a street named after him called William Cary Hines Plaza. William Hines moved to Newark in 1923 and is now 99 years young. Mayor Sharpe James (far left) with Mr. Hines (Carey to his immediate right) and his family who attended the festivities.



Our very own Thomas Jackson is the Democratic challenger for one of two seats in the 25th district (Boonton, Boonton Township, Denville, Dover, Jefferson, Mendham Township, Mine Hill, Morris Township, Mine Hill, Morris Township, Morristown, Mount Arlington, Mountain Lakes, Randolph,

Rockaway, Rockaway Township, Roxbury, Victory Gardens and Wharton). He and his wife Allison have two daughters Kaitlyn, 12 and Olivia, 8. "We need to recognize that an idea isn't wrong because it's Republican or right because it's Democratic. Having a different brand of leadership that is willing to be bi-partisan and have the courage to walk across the aisle; that is the new covenant of leadership I am talking about", said Thom. We encourage you to hear what Thom has to say and decide if it's relevant to you.

Visit Thom Jackson & Democracy For America's Web site at

<http://www.thomjackson.com/index.html>

Calvary Connection Editorial Policy

Would you like submit articles to the *Calvary Connection* or be part of the writing team? If so, we welcome your submissions and volunteer interest. All we ask is that you (and our existing team members as well) follow the few simple rules in our policy guidelines listed below:

- Please adhere to the deadline for article submission (which is usually the first Sunday of the month before publication). Publication months are quarterly: March, June, September, and December, so articles should be submitted the first Sunday of February, May, August, and November via E-mail to cbcnewsletter@aol.com or on disc in the *Calvary Connection* mailbox.

- Articles should, to the extent possible, touch upon one of the elements of our church mission, which revolves around the Word, worship, witnessing, and community.

- All submissions should reflect sound doctrine and should endeavor to edify our readership.

- Be advised that unsolicited articles may not be included in a particular issue if there is a space constraint, but efforts will be made to include it in a timely fashion if deemed appropriate.

- All submissions are subject to editing by the editorial staff for grammar, structure, and occasionally content.

- If you need help putting your thoughts on paper, we have writers available to assist you.

Thank you so much for your interest and cooperation. We welcome the opportunity to share your special gifts with our community of faith, and look forward to hearing from you. Please direct any inquiries to cbcnewsletter@aol.com.

The Calvary Connection (C²)

is published quarterly.

Submit your ideas and writings to
cbcnewsletter@aol.com or put them
on a disk and drop it in the C² mailbox.

(Submissions may be edited)

Calvary Baptist Church

Making disciples of Christ through
Worship, Word, Witness



CALVARY
BAPTIST CHURCH
WORSHIP WORD WITNESS

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Sunday Morning

Service - 7:45 a.m.

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

Service - 11:00 a.m.

Weekly Bible Study

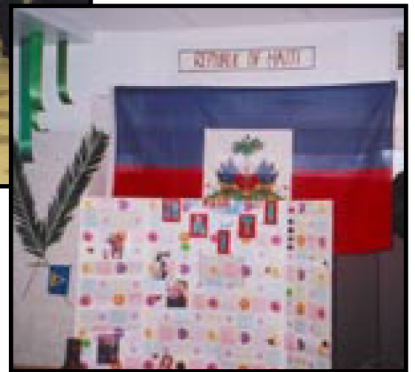
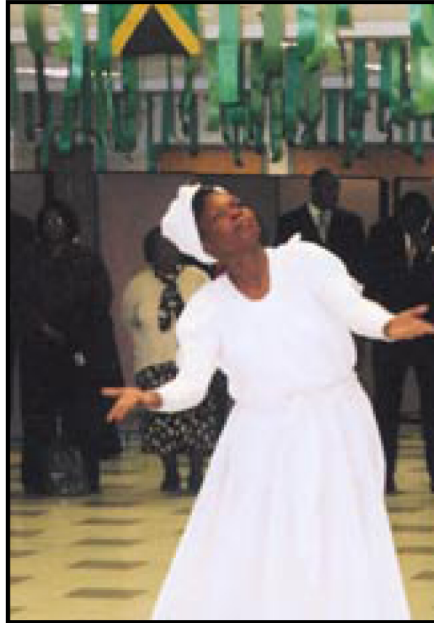
Tuesdays - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesdays - noon

Fridays - 6:00 p.m.

Caribbean Connection

Celebration



CALVARY CONNECTION (C²) TEAM

Peter Ambush: Design and Production • Min. David Hollowell: Biblical Perspective, Photography
Michele Howe: Reporter, Writer • Marsha Webster: Editor, Writer, Layouts, Graphics
Angela Zanders: Writer