

# CALVARY CONNECTION

SPRING 2009

TRIBUTES TO  
PRESIDENT  
BARACK  
OBAMA

A YEAR OF COMMEMORATION:

***Calvary Celebrates  
120 Years!***

# CHRIST IS RISEN!

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

HELD AT

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

SERVICES NIGHTLY

MON. - FRI. AT 7:00PM

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

SUNRISE SERVICE AT 6:00AM

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES

AT 9:00AM & 11:00AM

REV. JERRY M. CARTER, JR., PH.D.

SENIOR PASTOR

10 MARTIN LUTHER KING AVENUE

MORRISTOWN, NJ 07960

973-267-0136

## DAY OF SERVICE      PREACHER

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MON. APRIL 6

REV. BROOKER, MT. ZION, DOVER

TUES. APRIL 7

REV. RODGERS, COGIC

WED. APRIL 8

REV. SHERALD, BETHEL A.M.E.

THURS. APRIL 9

REV. BROWN, TABERNACLE OF FAITH

FRI. APRIL 10

REV. HARRIS-PENDLETON, MT. ZION, BOONTON

SUN. APRIL 12 (SUNRISE)

REV. SIMMS, UNION BAPTIST

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## FROM THE EDITOR

### HAPPY NEW YEAR

Is it too late to say, "Happy New Year?" This is the first edition of the Calvary Connection for 2009, after all. And perhaps it is still fitting as a reminder to keep up renewed commitments to God made at the beginning of 2009. Or think of it as a signal of the fresh perspective gained from the Spring Revival or the anticipation of completing the Lenten fast and celebrating the Resurrection.

What's more, the After-School Child Care Enrichment Programs and Tutorials (ACCEPT) are providing creative ways for men, women, children and families to serve and be served...to learn and teach...to grow with one another. The Women of Purpose are leading the celebration of Women's History Month. They are calling on us to remember women of yesterday who sacrificed and triumphed in fields of industry far and wide, and to honor today's women who are doing new, inspiring things.

And then there is the hope for a new direction in America led by President Barack Obama. The Inauguration of the 44th President is in the rear view mirror now, with exhilarating and tear-filled memories of the historical day. But now, in some ways more than ever, there is work to do. We know the issues, but now we are challenged to face them with great faith and in a new way...a more excellent way. This edition of the Biblical Perspective notes that in response to his love, God asks that we present ourselves as living sacrifices and do the work. And, as another writer says, the actions of a few are affecting us all, but God is all-knowing and sovereign, and we must still put Him first in service and in giving.

Many people say time is passing by so quickly. We go through the fall holidays so fast and before you know it, it's New Year's Eve and we're making resolutions to change our lives. Then in what seems like a blink of an eye, we're having summer cookouts and have given up on the goals set in January. But be encouraged. It's only March. And indeed, it is still a Happy New Year. ■

— ERICA JOHNSON, EDITOR



### ON THE COVER

**MAHALIA JACKSON**  
AIRBRUSH AND DIGITAL ILLUSTRATION  
BY PETER AMBUSH

# LENT

## A SEASON OF SACRIFICIAL LOVE



A few years ago, I used this space to reflect on Lent – the 40-day liturgical season of fasting and prayer leading up to Easter. The forty days represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness preparing for His ministry by facing temptations that could lead him to abandon his mission and calling. Each year Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on the Saturday before Easter. When counting the 40 days Sundays are skipped because they commemorate the Resurrection. This year Lent begins on February 25th and ends on April 11th.

In the Roman Catholic Church, Lent is observed as a time of penance by abstaining from festivities, by almsgiving, by devoting time to prayer and religious study. While Lent is not necessarily a season which is strictly observed within most Baptist churches, it is an opportune time for us to reflect on our spiritual condition. During this season believers consider the significance of the sacrifice that Christ made on Calvary's cross. *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life," – John 3:16.* Contemplation of His love ought to inspire us to love.

As we strive to discover what it means to live "A More Excellent Way"— to make a commitment in attitude and action to seek the best good for our neighbor, we can fill this Lenten Season with meaning and transformation by abstain-

ing from the antithesis of love, which is self-centeredness. Self-centeredness is seeking to have our own way at the expense of others. It can manifest itself as intolerance, a refusal to help others, greed, jealousy, arrogance, envy, resentment, dishonesty, or needlessly exposing the infirmities of others through gossip.

During this Lenten Season, let's intentionally monitor our personal habits, activities, and attitudes to ensure that we are seeking the best good for others and that we are abstaining from self-centeredness. Let's use this Lenten Season to engage in the discipline of communing with God daily by meditating on scriptures that encourage us to seek the best good for others, loving others as we love our selves, and fasting from self-centeredness.

Of course, the Lenten Season is not the only time of the year that we are to commune with God. Yet, it is a great time to rededicate ourselves to loving one another as Christ loves us. Let us observe Lent Season together by following the devotional calendar below. ■



– PASTOR JERRY M. CARTER, JR.

### LENT DEVOTIONAL CALENDAR

MONDAY		Mar 2 Rom 2:3-4	Mar 9 1Cor 13:1-7	Mar 16 John 15:12	Mar 23 2 Cor 8:9	Mar 30 1 Pet 2:17	Apr 6 Prov 18:21
TUESDAY		Mar 3 1Pet 4:8	Mar 10 1Cor 13:8-13	Mar 17 Matt 25:40	Mar 24 Gal 2:20	Mar 31 John 15:13	Apr 7 1John 3:2
WEDNESDAY	Feb 25 1John 4:7	Mar 4 Ps 32:1	Mar 11 John 3:16-17	Mar 18 Matt 5:44	Mar 25 John 3:30	Apr 1 1John 3:18	Apr 8 Rom 8:38-39
THURSDAY	Feb 26 Col. 3:12	Mar 5 Eph 4:32	Mar 12 1John 3:16-18	Mar 19 Lev 19:34	Mar 26 Matt 18:3-4	Apr 2 2Cor 9:11	Apr 9 2Pet 3:9
FRIDAY	Feb 27 Phil 2:5-7	Mar 6 Luk 6:37	Mar 13 1John 4:19-21	Mar 20 Lk 6:35	Mar 27 Col 4:6	Apr 3 Rom 8:28	Apr 10 Phil 1:6
SATURDAY	Feb 28 Ps 86:15	Mar 7 Matt 5:23-24	Mar 14 1John 4:7-11	Mar 21 Jam 1:19	Mar 28 Matt 5:9	Apr 4 Eph 4:29	Apr 11 John 13:34-35

# A Demonstrable Love

BY MINISTER DAVID A. HOLLOWELL

*“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”*

*– Romans 12:1*

As we have delved into the Calvary church theme for 2009 (...A More Excellent Way), our foundational study has centered on 1 Corinthians, Chapter 13. In this important section of Scripture, which is commonly described as the “love” chapter, God instructs us through the inspired writings of the Apostle Paul about the character, content, and constancy of love. Having examined associated passages stemming from this topic over the past few weeks, we have discovered that one of the essential elements of visibly expressing love is the giving of oneself to achieve the greatest good for our neighbors. Now that we have begun to understand the “why’s” of love, our next consideration should be the “how’s” of manifesting love as part of our spiritual walk.

The above passage from Romans, Chapter 12 gives us some notion of how we can move from hearing about and discussing love, to actually practicing love. The first step in that process is to realize that as Christians, redeemed by

the blood of Jesus Christ, we have the enviable privilege of returning the awesome love that God has shown to us by giving ourselves back to Him. Although it seems daunting for us to imagine that our meager efforts at reciprocating God’s love can begin to compare to God’s boundless beneficence, we nevertheless are compelled to show our gratitude and desire to please Him by answering His call for sacrifice.

Thankfully for us, we can take comfort in the fact that God is not looking for us to even our account with Him. God gave His all, allowing His Son to become sin for us, and to give His life in order that we might have access to eternal life. God gave us this gift freely, as an expression of His love from the infinite depths of His grace. God only asks in return that that we acknowledge this supreme act of sacrifice on His part by presenting our own bodies as living sacrifices to serve Him.

When we reflect on God’s goodness to us, it is logical for us to feel a heightened affinity for Him. If you love some-

one, then you will want to give to him or her. It’s a natural expression of our love. In the case of God, the one great gift that we can give to God is ourselves. And the greatest response we can display is to make ourselves available to serve Him by serving others. By submitting ourselves totally and without reservation to God, we demonstrate the intensity and commitment of our love.

The surrender of ourselves to God lays the foundation for our growth and maturity as believers. Every day as we dedicate our hearts and minds to Him, He rewards us with the capacity to love our neighbors and to carry out His will. By giving Him the greatest of gifts -- our willingness for Him to possess our whole selves -- God enables us to do that which we can never do on our own. And even as we give, God gives back to us, with full measure, pressed down and overflowing. That is demonstrable love! ■

# DOES TODAY'S ECONOMY HAVE YOU OWING GOD?

BY ANJI LIMÓN TAYLOR

Stories about our nation's current economic state are everywhere as we continually turn to our televisions, radios and the Internet for a glimmer of hope. The years of abundance that have been taking place have come to an abrupt halt, ending a season of excess and greed that has resulted in the actions of a few affecting us all. However, if we turn to our Bibles, we will be reminded that we serve an all-knowing, sovereign God, who assures us that He will never leave us nor forsake us (Deut. 31:16 & 31:8, Joshua 1:5, 1 Kings 8:57 and Hebrews 13:5).

When it comes to our money, especially now that some of us have lost our jobs, gone from working full-time to part-time hours, or can no longer rely on the overtime pay that once boosted our income, we can easily become tempted to believe that we can't "afford" to pay our tithes, offerings or honor our Vision 2010 commitments. It is during times like these when our faith is being tested. We need to remember that the dollars we are holding on to so tightly are imprinted with the words "IN GOD WE TRUST" – it doesn't get any plainer than that. Our faith is being tested. How are you going to respond?

According to Philip Lowe, CEO & Chief Investment Advisor, Exodus Capital Management and commentator on stewardship and personal finance, "We are at a point in time that none of us have ever experienced before and we need to be obedient in the face of adversity. Those who are trusting God will reflect that in their giving and He will honor that. He will be looking to see what we are willing to give up, what we are willing to sacrifice in order

to remain faithful. He has given us so much. For one thing, as Christians living here in the United States, we take for granted that we have the ability to worship God so freely, which is something that people in many other countries and places cannot do."

If the economy is affecting your ability to tithe, Lowe recommends prayerfully considering what you can do without, keeping in mind that everything we

have belongs to God and we are simply stewards of what He has given us. It's possible that you may have to "down-size" your home or car and examine your priorities.

God made the ultimate sacrifice to demonstrate His love for us when Jesus died on the cross for our sins. We can certainly demonstrate our love for Him by sacrificing whatever may be keeping us from honoring the tithe. ■

## Everybody Got A Problem

BY GARY BRUNSON

*Some people are worrying about all the crazy news  
Some others have more problems of even greater magnitude  
Instead of investing their time in future hope  
Some people make things more distant by dealing with the dope  
Because...Everybody Got A Problem Everybody Got A Problem*

*The key to everything is how open your mind can be  
You miss the beauty of the forest when you concentrate on the tree  
Like when you lose the one you love and put your life upon the shelf  
That's the price you pay for seeking happiness in someone else  
Because...Everybody Got A Problem Everybody Got A Problem*

*Now stop complaining and getting wasted on the Rum  
Deal not with who you are but who you can become  
Recognize in life there are no ceilings or no walls  
God is the master of your fate and God controls it all  
Because...Everybody Got A Problem Everybody Got A Problem*

*Men have problems with ladies and ladies have problems with babies  
Some people even know that they're just to darn crazy  
But if you make one step I know that God is gonna make two  
He did for me and I know that he will do it for you...  
Everybody Got A Problem  
Everybody Got A Problem*

# REFLECTIONS ON THE INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA



Black man to solid support to anxiousness to a broad smile sparked by his grandchildren giving him an Obama hat for Christmas. I remembered laughing with friends last summer about how great it would be if one of the bands in the inauguration parade performed “Can you feel a brand new day” from The Wiz. We knew then that he – that we – would win. I thought about trying to hold back tears upon the completion of voting in Denver. And I will never forget the big hug shared with a friend after President Obama said, “So help me God.”

## I Feel... Full

BY ERICA J. JOHNSON

“I feel...full.” I heard a little boy say that to a reporter about how seeing President Barack Obama made him feel. On Inauguration Day, I shared his sentiment. From the moment I woke up

just before sunrise and tuned in to CNN broadcasting a picture of an overflowing National Mall, until the time President Obama began saying the oath, I had a flood of feelings and thoughts and memories from the journey.

I recalled my father’s evolution from doubt of the American public to elect a

There is no way to sufficiently summarize the impact January 20, 2009 had on me. Mostly, I felt the thrill of being alive and a witness to history. And I felt a little sad about those who did not live long enough to witness with me. I trust that their views of the Capitol were just as magnificent as mine was from Pennsylvania Avenue. ■

## WITNESSING HISTORY

BY TAYLER HEDGEPEETH

Although many kids my age probably saw the inauguration of our new 44th President, Barack Obama, I was proud to go to school the next day and tell all of my friends that I personally saw him accept the highest status in our nation as he became our first ever African American President.

As I watched him proudly walk through the doors of the Capital Building, showing America that within the next four years there will definite-

ly be change, cheers, loud screams, and even tears were heard and seen as Barack Obama accepted becoming the 44th President.

This is why I appreciate my President so much because he wasn’t one of the “wealthy” men who had life easy. He worked hard in school, through hardships in his life, not always having a father around, yet gained respect and even an exceptional education, showing that he had the right to be

where anyone else is, despite the pigmentation of his skin.

Lastly, it’s not because President Obama is “black” that I root, cheer and support him. It’s because he walked through the doors of the Capital Building, accepted the presidency, and even greeted his many supporters with pride even though there were those who’d rather not have him in office. Being an African American is just an added bonus!

President Obama has said to his supporters in many of his speeches, “Yes we can!” And I trust and believe that the change will come, and more young boys and girls will see that if he can, they can. Yes he can and “Yes he WILL!” ■



# *A Joint Celebration of Calvary's Legacy of Love*

BY MINISTER DAVID A. HOLLOWELL

Calvary launched a unique celebration this March! We combined our Spring Revival and the commemoration of the church's 120th anniversary. But just before the festivities, under Pastor Carter's direction, a church-wide prayer of consecration was held on Saturday, March 7, seeking God's blessings on the revival services and all aspects of the anniversary commemoration. It was our desire that God would be glorified through our celebration of His faithfulness.

The prayer requests of the Calvary congregation were answered as crowds packed the sanctuary during the three-night revival, which began on Monday, March 9 and concluded on Wednesday, March 11. With superb exegetical skills, historical analysis, brilliant applications, and powerfully penetrating oratory, Dr. William Curtis, pastor of Mt. Ararat Baptist Church in Pittsburgh, PA., extracted from Ephesians, Chapter 6, three critical elements to fight the good fight of faith: (1) The Belt of Truth; (2) Shoes Fitted for Readiness; and (3) The Shield of Faith. In one of his poignant illustrations, Pastor Curtis emphasized that our spiritual battle is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers and spiritual wickedness in high places. In the charge against us led by our archenemy Satan, believers may have their shields pockmarked with multiple arrows shot by their foes, but they can quench these fiery darts by the strength and reliability of their faith wetted down by the power of their firm belief in the Gospel. The Spirit was high each evening in the preaching, singing and praising. Truly, those in attendance were revived,

revitalized and reenergized.

The celebration culminated on Sunday, March 15, with guest preacher Rev. Tyrone P. Jones, IV, pastor of Messiah Baptist Church in Bridgeport, CT. Delivering the sermons at both services, "In This Place" and "Shaken But Not Stirred" both fuel and direction were provided for navigating through difficult times to achieve God's mission of kingdom building here on earth. To God be the glory!

The combining of the anniversary celebration and the revival had particular meaning, since Calvary's thematic focus for 2009 is "...a more excellent way," based upon I Corinthians 12:31b. This foundational passage summarizes the thrust of Chapter 13, which is to display love to the neighbor, which exemplifies all that Calvary has sought to accomplish in its long history of service, and what the church intends to do going forward – establish a legacy of love that will have a positive and lasting impact on Morristown and surrounding communities through our commitment to "Worship, Word & Witnessing."

Our Food Services and Divine Designs Ministries partnered to host a fellowship breakfast during the Church School hour. Thanks to the support of our services ministries – Transportation, Parking and Security (TPS), it was a glorious experience, looking back at an impressive legacy of service and ministry, and looking forward to an even greater opportunity for Calvary to demonstrate the love of God. ■



# Divine Designs

## A CALVARY IN-HOUSE DECORATING SERVICE

BY MINISTER EVONNE JEFFERSON

Has the ministry in which you serve ever planned an event, managing to fulfill all of the necessary components – acquired helpers, solidified the date, secured the Mahalia Jackson Fellowship Hall, created the fliers, even planned the menu only to be left with one last, unfinished, but very important detail that would add the finishing touch – transforming the fellowship hall into a beautiful room centered around your theme or purpose? Interior decorating is not one of your talents and your budget does not afford you the ability to hire an interior designer like HGTV's, Candace Olson. But have no fear. HGTV may be out of reach, but Calvary's not lacking in interior design talent. Under the leadership of Chair, Jacquelyn Chapman, we can now stake a claim to hosting events in style with Divine Designs (DD). Now, Divine Designs won't remodel your home, but it will transform the fellowship hall, set for academic learning, into a room set for fine dining. I took a moment to talk with Sister Jacquelyn to familiarize Calvary with DD's function and how they can be of assistance to ministries with design challenges.

**Calvary Connection:** *I understand that you make the "quilt" of Calvary's church theme each year. Did DD spark from that? If not, what was the genesis of the ministry?*

**Jacquelyn Chapman:** We refer to it as the "banner", which Pastor Carter instituted to communicate the annual theme. I made the first banner based on a conversation that I had with him years ago. He was considering a vinyl banner, when I suggested that a banner inside the church be "fabric – or at least felt". Pastor, not surprisingly, asked me, "Can you do that?" I remember gulping and saying, "yes." I made the "Seek Ye First the Kingdom" felt banner over 15 years ago as the result of that conversation, and I've been making the banners since then.

Divine Designs was approved as a formal Calvary ministry late last year. Prior to that, we who decorated on a regular basis, worked as an ad hoc team. We gathered people who expressed interest in decorating, and recruited some along the way. We are now the Divine Designs team, or as we sometimes refer to ourselves, "the Divine Designs decorating crew".

**CC:** *Is this something that you've always desired to do?*

**JC:** Decorating is something I've always enjoyed, but prior to decorating at Calvary, my efforts were primarily restricted to my home – nothing more involved than that.

**CC:** *How are your services utilized at Calvary and what does one need to do to employ, so to speak, your services?*

**JC:** In formalizing the Divine Designs Ministry, we established procedures for "client ministries" who request our services, and we are developing plans and procedures to increase the effectiveness of our ministry. Our current procedures include use of a Divine Designs Ministry Request Form, which will be available on the Calvary website in the near future. The form is designed to help us understand what is being requested and to formulate ideas. It also assists the client ministry in its planning, as we consider this to be a part of our role also. In developing plans for a particular event, the Divine Designs Ministry may also interface with other Calvary ministries and services involved in the project. For example, we collaborate with the Kitchen Ministry when food is being served. We also partner with Church Leadership to design, plan, and provide decorations for specific Calvary celebrations, events, and holidays, such as the 120th Church Anniversary Committee.

**CC:** *What is the gamut of what DD can offer? In other words, it's recognized that you assist with ministry events, but if one is personally interested in your services for an occasion, such as, a wedding, would DD be able to assist them?*

**JC:** Divine Designs is a Calvary ministry. In that regard, we only support Calvary events. We may, however, as individuals, work with persons or organizations outside Calvary.

**CC:** *What are the general costs involved and how much advance notice do you need?*

**JC:** Since our services are charged back to the client ministry, the starting point for our costs is based on the client decorations budget for the event. We confer with the client ministry to work within their budget, and provide expectations based on a tentative or proposed design plan. We charge the cost of

(Continued on Page 12)

# AFTER-SCHOOL CHILD CARE ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS & TUTORIALS

BY VANESSA BROWN

Come to the third floor educational wing between the hours of 3 and 7 p.m., Monday through Friday, and you may hear that ever-so popular kid noise that accompanies many after school programs. However, the sounds of the After-School Child Care Enrichment Programs and Tutorials (ACCEPT) vary from day to day.

If you drop in on Monday, you may hear the click of the keyboard as Sheronika Taylor helps the students hone their computer skills. On Tuesday, you may hear "Como estas!" being repeated again and again during Senorita Pat Bing's Conversational Spanish class. In addition to Spanish for youth and adults, other offerings include Public Speaking with Min. Michael Bethune and Voice Lessons with Joanne Schaffers. Drop in on a

Wednesday and veteran teacher, Dorothy Parker, will provide help with writing homework. Need help with math? Francine Medley provides intensive math tutoring for ACCEPT students. Min. David Hollowell teaches art classes on Thursdays. Friday is Guest Day and Health and Physical Activity Day. Registered Nurse, Joylyn Espeut, has shared important health information and Jacquelyn Chapman has conducted a holiday wreath decorating workshop.

This after-school enrichment and tutorial program also provides homework assistance. Each day, staff and volunteers are there to lend a helping hand as students attempt to clarify and reinforce the lessons learned during their school day. In addition, ACCEPT students have the opportunity to participate in

programs that deepen their understanding of various academic disciplines.

Sande Shruby helps kindergarten and first grade students with their assignments and extra-curricular activities. Min. Odetta Dumas, program administrator, keeps everyone uplifted with Bible stories and activities. Vanessa Brown, program coordinator, reinforces the importance of multiplication by assessing students for accuracy and speed at the end of each week.

The ACCEPT Program is open for students in grades K-12. For further information on enrolling your child, or to volunteer as a tutor/teacher, please contact Vanessa Brown at 973-960-1480.

Open Enrollment! Volunteers & Donations are Welcome! ■

## **VISION 2010**

### *VISION 2010 PROPERTY SEARCH UPDATE: POSITIONING OURSELVES FOR A BLESSING*

We have been blessed by the Lord in unanticipated ways in our search for a new location. We prayed for guidance from Him and He responded by placing obstacles in our way that prevented us from making a purchase at the height of the real estate boom. If we had not heeded His guidance, we would now be in the middle of construction at a time when almost all real estate financing has dried up and we would have overpaid for the property.

We are now positioning ourselves for another blessing! We are prayerfully continuing to raise funds for the purchase through the congregation's annual Vision pledge commitments, keeping an eye on the credit markets, revising our budget to account for the new economic reality, and continuing conversations with sellers in the area.

Please continue to give to the Vision Fund and be in prayer for the Lord's continued guidance!

*THE VISION 2010 STEERING COMMITTEE*

# ILLUMINATIONS

WITH MINISTER EVONNE JEFFERSON

SHINING A LIGHT ON CALVARY MEMBER

## Peter Ambush



*God has truly poured out His wondrous talents upon the Calvary Family in diverse ways. So, we thought to utilize the Calvary Connection as a vehicle to share the gifts and talents of those in our fellowship that may not otherwise ever be known. Some of you may know Peter as one of the tenor soloists in the Men of Standard Choir. But I'd like to introduce you to, Ambush, the artist.*

At approximately, five or six years old, Peter (AKA Ambush), remembers seeing a Nativity scene done in pastel that his dad created for their church. Naturally, one might think it was the catalyst that ignited the artist in Peter; however, he says, "I didn't know he had that talent and I haven't seen him do anything since then, but I guess that's what sparked the artist in me." Cartoon characters like Mighty Mouse, Bambi and Bugs Bunny were some of Ambush's earliest drawings. Even then he found himself to be an entrepreneur, selling them to friends in school for ten cents.

Though his parents really never encouraged him to become an artist, Peter made the decision to do so his senior year of high school. "I decided I would go to an art college and my dad was okay with that". He received his bachelor's degree in fine art from the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore. He also studied at the duCret School of Art in Plainfield, N.J. where he now teaches. For more than a decade, he worked as a graphic artist and illustrator for the Star-Ledger newspaper in Newark, N.J. Over 400 cover illustrations for the paper's weekly TV guide were his creations.

Ambush's portfolio numbers in the hundreds. When asked his particular style of art, he describes himself as a, "portrait artist and I paint in a photorealist style. A lot of people mistake my work for photographs." If you've ever seen any of his work, indeed you would. It's so incredible; it's hard to believe he actually painted it. He paints on commission and has even painted portraits for well-

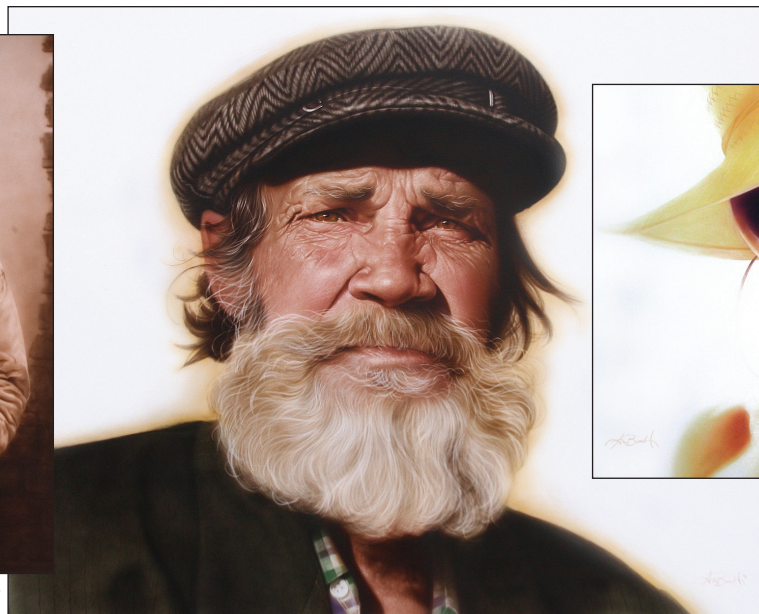
known people like Ashford and Simpson, Isaac Hayes, Avery Brooks, Cornel West and Nancy Cartwright, the voice of Bart Simpson.

His dream is "to support his family, solely from his artwork, to inspire people and bring joy into their lives. I love when God allows me to minister to someone through my work. I love talking to people about what I do."

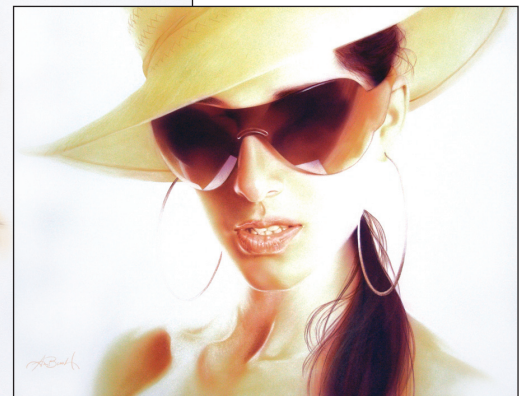
His advice to aspiring artists, "Stay focused. There are a lot of distractions that will try to keep you from doing what God has blessed you to do. Also, be open to criticism. Seek it out from a mentor, fellow artists or from friends... Listen to what they say, meditate on it and decide whether it is a valid observation. Sometimes others can see things we don't. One last thing, never stop trying to improve upon your skills, either through books, magazines, workshops or art classes. You should never think that there's nothing new or different out there you can't learn. ■



I AM MY BROTHERS KEEPER, Watercolor



JOSH, Acrylic



SHADES I, Watercolor

(Continued from Page 9)

materials, supplies, rentals, etc. to the client. And, we utilize client ministry members as the decorating "crew" to implement the design, where they retain ownership of the project.

Our goal is to provide cost effective décor that reflects our Christian walk, communicates the ministry's theme, and appeals to the eye.

Ideally, we like lead time of at least six weeks prior to the event. For larger events, we request additional time.

**CC:** *Are there others who assist you in the ministry? If so, who are they and is there a need for additional help?*

**JC:** I serve as Chair of the new Divine Designs Ministry, and there are four Co-Chairs. Gina Bullock and Lynne Pittman have worked with the Calvary decorating effort for several years. The three of us serve as lead project managers, where we design and plan major projects for the ministry. Denise Reid and Marcia Shruby are newer in these roles, but are taking on responsibilities to lead ministry projects. We are blessed with other dedicated members who form a ministry that is positive, energetic, and committed to our decorating effort.

There is always a need for additional help, and we invite Calvary members to join us. Our ministry allows us to be creative, to work in practically "hobby" mode, to see the end product, and to serve God – all at the same time! What a privilege!

**CC:** *How does one contact you for more information?*

**JC:** Requests for decorating services can be made by completing the Divine Designs Ministry Request Form, and placing it in our mailbox. Individuals interested in becoming members of the ministry should provide their contact information to [Jacquelyn.F.Chapman@verizon.net](mailto:Jacquelyn.F.Chapman@verizon.net), one of the ministry co-chairs, or leave it in our mailbox. In the near future, we will load the form along with general ministry information on the Calvary website, and individuals will be able to complete the form and communicate with the ministry directly on-line. ■



## Women's History Month

BY DEACONNESS SHEILA MCKOY

Three years ago, while planning the calendar for the Women of Purpose Ministry, We thought it would be a good idea during Women's History Month to honor women who've either contributed to Calvary's history, their community or both. Forms were distributed among the women requesting that they nominate those they believed met the requirements. As a result, in 2007, Linda Murphy, one of four recipients, was recognized for being the first African American principal at Morristown High School and for her contribution to the community. Also honored, Minister Odetta Dumas for being the first female minister at Calvary and Dr. Judy Banks and Sister Sharon Dun-

lap were also recognized for their missions work to women and children in Haiti. Sister Cora Stallings, a 2008 recipient, was instrumental in starting the NAACP Chapter in Morris County. Also recognized in 2008 were, Sister Connie Melton and Dr. Felicia Jamison. Sister Melton served as a nurse overseas during WWII. Dr. Jamison was instrumental in launching the MLK celebration in Morristown and is a founding member of the Junior Matrons. This year, we believe the honorees will be just as notable. They will be recognized at a small reception after service on March 29.



# CALVARY YOUTH MINISTRY AT WORK

## Putting Faith in Action

The historical day of November 4, 2008 is forever engraved in history. Many of us are still in awe, and maybe even disbelief for some. Yet, the day has actually come that America has elected its first African American President, Barack Obama. With the dawn of the Inaugural Ceremonies fast approaching, many were wondering how they could become a part of history along with him. Such is the case with one of Calvary's youth, Brandon Drayton. He took his faith to another level, I'm sure, when he stepped out and wrote a letter to Congressman Rodney P. Frelinghuysen in hopes of attending the presidential inauguration. Featured are his letter and the response.

Dear Mr. Frelinghuysen,  
 My name is Brandon Drayton and I am 13 years old. I am an 8th grade student attending Frelinghuysen Middle School in Morristown, NJ. I'm writing to you today to request Inauguration tickets. My family & I have been following this historic event for over a year. History is not one of my favorite subjects but this election has made me more aware of the issues our country faces today and how much change is needed. President Elect Obama has inspired me to always do my best and not let obstacles discourage me. My parents always remind me that I can be whatever I want to be if I put my mind to it and seeing Barack Obama to become the 1st African American to become the President of the United States is confirmation of that. Words can not explain how much it would mean to me to be able to take part in this historic event. If tickets are available, I ask that you please consider me and my family.

Thank you,  
 Brandon Drayton

RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN  
 11TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY  
 465 CALVARY HOUSE DRIVE  
 MORRISTOWN, NJ 07960  
 TEL: 202-225-5034  
 FAX: 202-225-5034  
 HOUSE OFFICE  
 200 CONGRESS PLACE  
 WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
 TEL: 202-225-5034  
 FAX: 202-225-5034

**Congress of the United States  
 House of Representatives  
 Washington, DC 20515-3011  
 January 12, 2009**

Mr. Brandon Drayton  
 46 Cleveland Avenue  
 Morristown, New Jersey 07960

Dear Mr. Drayton:

It is my pleasure to send you tickets to President-Elect Barack Obama's inauguration on January 20, 2009.

I have included materials that I hope will assist you in planning your trip to Washington. I would also highly recommend that you visit the web site of the Joint Congressional committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, [www.inaugural.senate.gov](http://www.inaugural.senate.gov), for the most current updates on security screenings, transportation, weather, and other necessary logistical information for inauguration day.

If you have any further questions, please call my office at 202-225-5034. Again, thank you for contacting me, and enjoy the festivities!

Sincerely,  
  
 Rodney P. Frelinghuysen  
 Member of Congress

## Winter Achievements

### Honor Roll

Taylor Hedgepeth, Quanisha Dixon, Patrick Calloway, Trisha Paul, Ashleigh Footman, Tia Bank

### Artistic Achievements

Ashley Horne - Performing Arts Workshop, Mayp Center, Community Theatre; Widow Corny in "Oliver" on Monday, January 12th

Tia Banks-Dover High School step team: "Perfect Steps".

## Other Achievements

Imani Ladson - received the Humanities Scholarship Award at the University of Maryland at the Baltimore Campus. She will attend in September.

Theresa Towns - 1,000 points, 5th female in Morristown High School history to surpass the mark.

Jasmine Derrick - People to People Student Ambassador

This list only reflects the names of those youth who have presented report cards to Servant Leaders of the Youth Ministries or the Staff Minister for Youth Ministry. Please email youth achievements to the Staff Minister for Youth Ministry at [youth@calvarybc.org](mailto:youth@calvarybc.org).

# THE HOPE CHEST

Scholarship Foundation

## 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Basketball Tournament

Saturday, April 18, 2009

8:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Morristown High School

Thurs./Fri., April 23-24, 2009

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Frelinghuysen Middle School

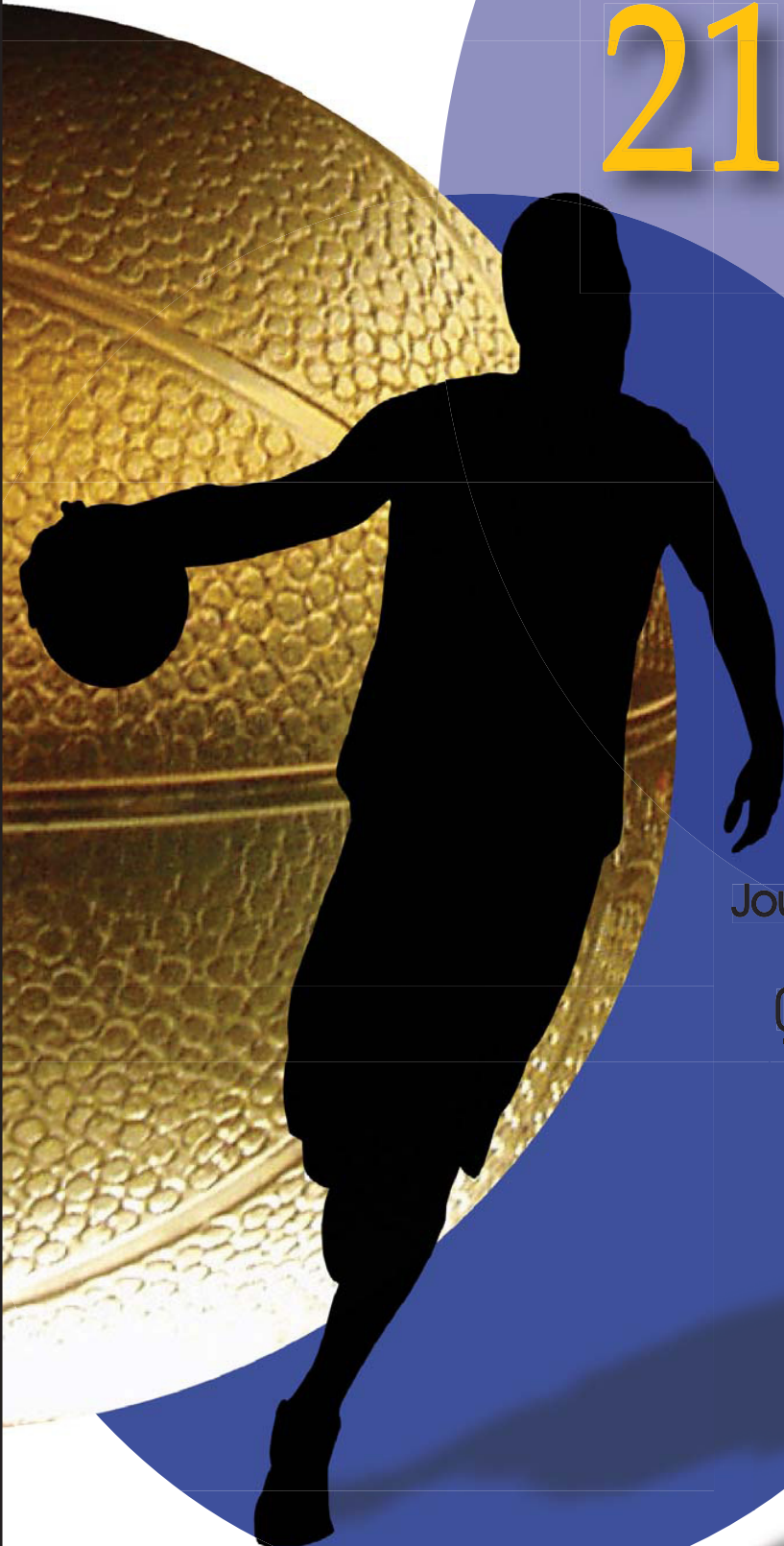
Support Our Youth!  
Purchase an Ad Today!

Journal Ads can be purchased  
after each service

(\***DEADLINE:** March 25, 2009)

Outside Back Cover	\$200
Full Page	\$150
Half Page	\$75
Quarter Page	\$50
Business Card	\$30

For more info, contact:  
Ferlanda Nixon at 973-539-6767  
or [mail@hope-chest.org](mailto:mail@hope-chest.org)



You asked for it ...

We heard you ...

IT'S COMING ...

The Women's Ministries of  
Calvary Baptist Church and  
Fountain Baptist Church present the

# 2009 Women's Retreat

SEPTEMBER 25 - 27, 2009  
REGISTRATION BEGINS SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2009

Venue: Wyndam Princeton Forrestal Hotel  
and Conference Center, Plainsboro, NJ

**\$25 Non-Refundable Deposit**  
to hold your spot, balance due by August 16

One Night: Single	\$240/p	Two nights: Single	\$390/p
Double	\$190/p	Double	\$290/p
Triple	\$175/p	Triple	\$260/p
Quad	\$165/p	Quad	\$240/p

***Praise God for Calvary's Past...***



***Praise God for Calvary's Future...***

***Vision 2010  
Claiming & Celebrating The Future  
People • Programs • Place***