

The Calvary Connection

Winter 2007

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CELEBRATING HISTORY, EMBRACING THE FUTURE

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Walking By Faith: Committing to the Vision

“Take ye from among you an offering unto the LORD: whosoever [is] of a willing heart, let [them] bring it, an offering of the LORD”
— Exodus 35:5

In a world that is increasingly self-centered and selfish, generosity is a revolutionary concept with transformational power. That is why I believe God is calling us to sacrificially commit our resources to the vision that has been set before us – a vision to provide our congregation and community with a place for sacred worship and safe fellowship.

Whenever the people of God truly commit themselves to living out the Christ-centered ideals of loving God and neighbor and giving liberally to demonstrate that love, God is glorified. We have been called to demonstrate our commitment to Christ through Vision 2010. The vision is about serving people. It's about improving and enhancing our programs. And, it's about providing a place that will serve as a safe haven for people of all ages and stages of life. Our new facility will afford youth, seasoned saints, infants and everyone in between a nurturing environment.

The Bible provides us with a fitting illustration of our calling, (Exodus 35-40). When God gave Moses specific instructions on how the people were to build a tabernacle for the purpose of worship, Moses was charged with translating those instructions to the people. He gathered them together and articulated a need for money, materials, minds and muscles. The people left Moses and gathered their resources. Then they brought their “special” gifts. Since they were already involved in systematic giving -- bringing their

first fruits as an offering each week; their special gifts for the construction of the tabernacle were in addition to the first fruits. In like manner, our covenant commitments are in addition to our regular tithes and offering.

The people were so honored by the opportunity to give an offering to the LORD – the One who had brought them out of bondage and blessed them – that they gave too much! When the builders discovered that they had more than enough to complete the job, they asked Moses to tell the people to stop giving, (Exodus 36:6). They had too much stuff! What an amazing example of generosity!! This is a remarkable illustration of what can happen when God's people reflect God's generous character.

While we are in this season of prayerfully considering the amount of our covenant commitments, let us be reminded that no one had to force the children of Israel to give. Before God had their possessions, He had their hearts. They loved the LORD and they were grateful that God had delivered them, provided for them, and pardoned them. So, each person gladly and generously gave what they had.

Because we serve a God of purpose, preparation and provision, we are called to commit to the vision.



— **Pastor Jerry M. Carter**

Brick by Brick: Vision 2010 Update

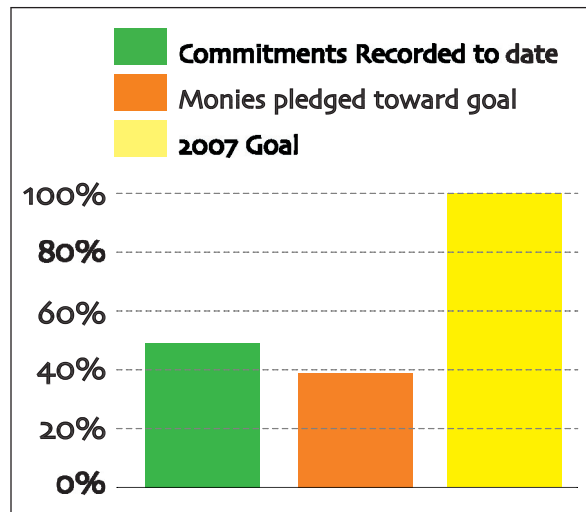
Since the Covenant Commitment season commenced on February 4, 2007:

- 49% of the congregation has turned in covenant commitment cards
- Already, pledges total 39% (roughly \$592,000) of our \$1.5 million goal

Because we serve a God who makes us able to do exceeding and abundantly above all that we can ask or think, we are looking forward -- with tiptoe anticipation -- to a testimony that we have received MORE than our anticipated goal!

Come on Calvary, Commit to the Vision!

We can do this!!!



Biblical Perspective

Principles for Giving

In today's environment of mega-personalities in the entertainment, sports and business world, sizable donations are often made to charities, foundations, and other causes. Whether these generous acts are prompted by genuine compassion for others, a sense of materialistic guilt, or a desire to be recognized, it appears that you have to be super-rich to have much of an impact in personal giving. Nothing could be further from the truth

When we consider what the Bible says about giving, we realize that God is not necessarily concerned about the magnitude of our gifts, but rather the spirit behind them. Consider the account of the widow who was in the procession of those giving their offerings at the synagogue: As Jesus observed this poor widow gladly give all that she had into the treasury, He stated emphatically that she had given more than those persons of means who had given out of their abundance. As the song says, a little becomes a lot when we place it in the Master's hand.

As Christians, our whole perspective on giving is shaped by what God expects of us. The most striking reality that we face is the fact that whatever we have in our possession ultimately belongs to God, and not to us. Giving can be viewed as a combination of sacred duty, privilege, and opportunity to worship. We are stewards of what he has blessed us with, and we gladly return to Him a portion of what He has given to us.

The use of our possessions — of time, talents, and treasure — is governed by New Testament principles. A central passage is 2 Cor. 8, 9, which sets forth Christ as the believer's example in giving. Extraordinary promises and revelations have to do with stewardship. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over," Luke 6:38. "It is more blessed to give than to receive," Acts 20:35. "He who soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully," 2 Cor. 9:6. "God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love," Heb. 6:10. "With such sacrifices God is well pleased," Heb. 13:16.

We distribute to the necessities of saints, Rom. 12:13, and do it cheerfully, 2 Cor. 9:7, with liberality, Rom. 12:8, to the glory of God, 1 Cor. 10:31. Money is to be set aside on the first day of the week as God has prospered us, 1 Cor. 16:2. It is to be used to bring people to God through missions, schools, churches, Luke 16:9-13. Faithfulness is required of stewards, whether or not their gifts are large, 1 Cor. 4:2; Luke 21:1-4.

Giving is living, and a vital indication of the health of our relationship to God. Vision 2010 presents an opportunity to give and see God's word come to life. Let us support the vision so that we may see all that the Lord can do to multiply our resources to bring Christ to a lost and needy world.

— Min. David A. Hollowell

Media Ministry *Spreading God's Word in the Electronic Age*

On any given Sunday, before and after services are over, the media room is a hub of activity. The sound system is being checked, microphones and the projector are being positioned, video cameras are being arranged and the all important work is underway to fill orders for tapes, CDs and DVDs.

Not only does the Media Ministry help our praise and worship experience, but they also help to spread the word of God. In the electronic age this means recording the service so that more people can enjoy it. Jesus commanded us to make disciples of all nations, and we have shipped tapes to our missions in Haiti and India. Our media ministry also helps upload sermons to Calvary's website, further extending the reach of God's word. We may not reach all nations yet, but we're on our way!

In the 21st century, spreading God's word can take a full team of people and a variety of sophisticated electronic equipment. In addition to the high-quality sound system, upgraded recording devices and a projector and screen system were added in the beginning of the year to help make the work even more efficient. And editing and duplicating is done using professional recording equipment.

The Media Ministry is active every Tuesday and Sunday with responsibility for audio and visual needs required during services, as well as ensuring that each service is recorded on audio and videotape for sharing with members and friends who may not have attended a service.

Members of the Media Ministry are present at most church events, all year long, and spend time ahead of an event planning and preparing for any specific or unique audio/visual requirements. In addition to services on Tuesdays and Sundays, the Media Ministry serves during revivals, and they cover other events hosted by Calvary. Finally, the development and maintenance of Calvary's web site is also part of the Media Ministry. It has become a destination for up-to-date information about church events, downloadable sermons and more.

That's a lot of responsibility, but the team isn't looking for attention: They get LOTS of attention if anything goes wrong, so this is one ministry that prefers to stay out of the spotlight!

Who is in the Media Ministry?

Nearly two dozen people, including many of our youth, are responsible for keeping the Media Ministry moving. Members include:

Courtney Parchment, Alphonso Croom, Paula Rainford, Milford Nixon, Darren Fleming, Juan Vazquez, Pat Bing, Gwen Green, Diana Ritchie, Tevian Copeland, Terrence Copeland, Steve John Baptiste, Malcolm Napoleon, Anthony Napoleon, Tory Thompson, Tyrone Richardson, Dorothy Mason, Charles McDougald, Roderick Smith and Jamal Jackson.

What Can Members Do to Make Their Job Easier?

The entire body and beyond can benefit from and help make the Media Ministry run more smoothly. Here are some of the tips they offered:

First, members need to understand that the Media Ministry does not sell tapes and CDs to make a profit. The prices reflect the costs that Calvary incurs. The church uses quality products, and it has chosen suppliers that are both reliable and cost-effective.

Second, payment is due when you place your order.

Third, members should pick up their materials as soon as possible to minimize storage space. (No clutter in God's house!)

Fourth, members should provide advance notice of any event that requires media assistance. Leaders should also identify their media needs at that time (i.e., microphones, projector, video, location, and the expected number of attendees).

And finally, the ministry does not record events of a personal nature.

What Is the Long-Term Vision?

The Media Ministry seeks to glorify God by providing an excellent worship experience for our entire congregation. This means making the most of live events and recording them for later enjoyment. In this way we can follow God's command sharing to "make disciples of all nations."

– **Min. Rob Martorana**

*Want to share a sermon or
meditate on it yourself?
Ask the Media Ministry about current
services and archives and
order DVDs at \$20, videotapes at \$15,
CDs at \$8 or audiotapes at \$3.*

Ministry Spotlights



hroughout history, women of every race and class have made contributions that have helped to strengthen and shape our world.

In 1981, the U.S. Congress passed a resolution establishing National Women's History Week. The week was chosen to coincide with International Women's Day, which was held on March 8 in that year. In 1987, Congress expanded the week to Women's History Month!

For the past 117 years, women have been advancing God's agenda at the Calvary Baptist Church of Morristown, NJ! This March — to commemorate Women's History Month — we would like to recognize some of the sisters who have altered the course of Calvary's history and that of our community through their unselfish dedication to excellence in ministry.

Please join the Women's Ministry in paying tribute to four women whom we consider to be unsung "sheroes" in our midst. We would be remiss if we did not mention that it was very difficult for us to select four sisters from among us because we have been blessed with a congregation of committed sisters who are still strengthening and shaping our world.

Our sheroes are: Min. Odetta Dumas, our first woman minister; Sis. Linda Murphy, the first African American woman to serve as principal of Morristown High School; and Dr. Judy Banks & Missionary Sharon Dunlap, who go the extra mile with foreign missions to Haiti.

– Sheila McKoy and Lauren Mattox,
co-chairs of the Women's Ministry

The Women's Ministry donned fanciful hats and kicked off Women's History Month early with a Women's Tea. The ladies enjoyed a lively discussion based on the best seller, "For Women Only."



On This Day in Black History...

More and more people are coming to realize and support the idea that one month is not long enough to celebrate Black History. All year long African-Americans from all walks of life are making history, standing on the shoulders of those who have done the same over the course of time. Here are just a few dates of note in the history of African peoples in America:

January 25, 1966: Constance Baker Motley became the first African-American federal judge when she was appointed to the United States District Court for southern New York by President Lyndon B. Johnson.

February 8, 1986: At 18 years of age, Debi Thomas became the first African-American to win the women's Senior Singles U.S. Figure Skating Championship.

March 11, 1959: Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun* opened at the Ethel Barrymore Theater in New York City starring Sidney Poitier and Claudia McNeil. It was the first Broadway drama written and directed by an African-American woman.

April 18, 1966: Bill Russell became the first African-American head coach in the National Basketball Association when he was named coach of the Boston Celtics. He continued to play as a starting center during his first year as head coach.

May 29, 1973: Thomas Bradley won the mayoral election in Los Angeles, CA against a three-term incumbent. His victory made him the first African-American mayor of Los Angeles.

June 10, 1854: James Augustine Healy was ordained at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris as the first African-American Roman Catholic priest. He later became the first African-American bishop.

July 31, 1921: Whitney M. Young, Jr., a civil rights leader and later head of the National Urban League, was born in Lincoln Ridge, Kentucky.

August 30, 1983: Col. Guion S. Bluford, Jr. became the first African-American astronaut to go into space on the shuttle Challenger, launched from Kennedy Space Center in Florida.



September 6, 1987: As director of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, MD, Dr. Ben Carson, led a team of more than 70 doctors and nurses in a 22-hour operation to separate Siamese twins joined at the head. Carson has been called "the most celebrated pediatric neurosurgeon in the world."

October 17, 1888: Capitol Savings Bank, the first African-American owned bank independent of fraternal connections opened in Washington, DC.

November 13, 1985: Dwight Gooden of the New York Mets won the Cy Young Award, just a few days shy of his 21st birthday.

December 4, 1906: The first African-American Greek letter society was founded. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. was organized as a literary and study group at Cornell University.

Source: The African American Book of Days



Sis. Felicia Jamlson welcomes Dr. Calvin Butts at the Community service celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

Facing Change

At the end of August I entered into an experience that would change my self-perception -- as well as that of others -- and my goals. As I stepped onto the campus of Drew University, I was amazed by the number of incoming freshman with the look of anxiousness and excitement that I had been experiencing. College has proven to be challenging and unpredictable while testing my foundation and shedding light on my character.

As I move forward in my education and experience the opportunities that college provides, my goals continue to become more ambitious. When I first started at Drew, I was set on idea of working in psychiatry; but after attending the classes that were offered, my view of my future has been broadened into many other

possible career choices. My perspective on people has opened wider, too. In addition to learning a lot in classes, I've made friends for life and have encountered people who have tested who I am as a person.

With just half of the school year behind me and after meeting so many different people, I am a firm believer in the importance of everyone that you meet in life and every experience. I'm also a firm believer that if you enter college with a weak foundation, you become susceptible to anything that may be harmful in the end. It is very important to know yourself, your limits, your beliefs, and your relationship with God. Fortunately, growing up in Calvary Baptist Church under the teaching of Pastor Carter, my Sunday school teachers and the support of the Calvary Family, I have been given the strongest foundation of all, my faith.

– **Shannon Newton**
Drew University
Class of 2010

Adding to the Church Family

As we continue to lift up Jesus, He is drawing and blessing us with new family members in the faith. Some shared their thoughts and feelings about joining Calvary Baptist Church:

"I came to visit my kids, and my daughter asked me to come to church with her."

– **Aubrey, Brooklyn, NY**

"I visited Calvary on many occasions and felt that it was a place I could grow in the Lord. I also felt that I could play an active role in the church community."

– **Stephanie, Budd Lake, NJ**

"I felt like I found what I was looking for."

– **Naomi, Newton, NJ**

"I really enjoy the service here and I feel very comfortable with the members. Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior, and I wanted to have a good Christian home."

– **George, Bedminster, NJ**

"I can feel the Spirit move in this place. The first time I came I felt that I belonged here."

– **Julian, Newton, NJ**

"I decided to become a member because I want the Lord in my life."

– **Jahmil, Morristown, NJ**

"[I joined Calvary because] I need to learn how to walk in Christ-like ways and to be closer to God."

– **Michele, Elizabeth, NJ**

Calvary Baptist Church 2007 Pastoral Team Assignments

Ministry	Advisor(s)
Christian Education	Craig Dunn, David Hollowell
Couples for Christ	Angela Thomas
Deliverance/Recovery	Chris Smith, Rodney Lynch
Drama/Fine Arts	Torina Armstrong
Economic Development	David Hollowell
Evangelism & Outreach	Jakki Cobb, Wayne Griffin
Golden Years	Odetta Dumas, Mel Hubbard, Carlos Schaffer
Intercessory Prayer	Chris Hill, Odetta Dumas
Koinonia	Lonette Pringle, Torina Armstrong
Men of Standard	Derrick Dumas
Missions	John Bowden, Monica Hooks, Keith Baker
Prison	Herman Scott, Rob Martorana
Vision 2010	Ron McKoy
Wellspring	Samaria Tillman
Women	Carol Lynn Patterson
Worship	Jynel Ralph
Youth	Mike Bethune, Yasin Cobb



New members were officially welcomed to Calvary at the Agape Feast

The Calvary Connection (C²)
is published quarterly.

Submit your ideas, photos
and writings to
connection@calvary-baptistchurch.org
or drop them in the C² mailbox.

The next submission deadline
is May 1, 2007.

(submissions may be edited before publication)



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WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Morning
7:45 am and 10:45 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 am

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays at 7:00 pm
Wednesdays at Noon

Calendar of Events

Body & Soul Workshop
Saturday, March 10, 9 am – 12 pm

“Mean Girls All Grown Up:
Surviving Catty and
Conniving Women”
Women Only Bible Study
March 16, 23, & 30, 7 pm – 8:30 pm

Calvary Baptist Church
118th Anniversary
and Vision Sunday
Sunday, March 18
7:45 am and 10:45 am

Good News is to be shared!
“Witness Walk”
with the Evangelism Ministry
Saturday, March 31, 11 am – 1 pm

CALVARY CONNECTION (C²) TEAM

EDITOR: Erica J. Johnson

ADVISOR: Min. Carol Lynn Patterson

DESIGNERS: Peter Ambush, Trisha Derrick

WRITERS: Renita Bourgeois, Min. David Hollowell, Erica J. Johnson,
Min. Rob Martorana, Marsha Webster

Share your skills and talents with us! We need your help with graphic design/layout, writing, reporting, editing, and photography.

E-mail Connection@calvary-baptistchurch.org
for more information.