



## THE CALVARY COURIER

FEBRUARY 2023

A NEWSLETTER OF THE MT. CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF PALM COAST, FLORIDA  
Bringing Information and Inspiration to the Mt. Calvary Family and Community



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## Who Would Have 'Thunk It'? Pastor Coffie Celebrates 25 Years of Ministry

Submitted by Deacon Robert Robinson

Pastor Edwin Coffie said it has only been in the past few weeks that he allowed himself to consider his **25 years as the Only pastor of the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church of Palm Coast**. Even more astonishing is that the church held its first services in the home of a member and now has a 500-seat Sanctuary, a separate Family Life Center, a Christian Education Center, and a God-focused congregation of nearly 450 members.

"Who would have 'thunk' it?" is how First Lady Carol Love Coffie said Pastor Coffie reflected on those years as they drove to the celebration of their 25th Pastoral Anniversary – held during the regular 9:30 a.m. Worship Service on January 15. The anniversary theme was **"Servant/Shepherd /Man of God Committed to the Journey."** The scripture was taken from *Philippians 3:13-14*.

The festive day was shared with the congregation from the Mt. Tabor First Baptist Church of Palatka, whose pastor, Reverend Karl N. Flagg, was the guest preacher. Mt. Tabor's choir provided the music, which included the songs *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* and *God Is*.

Pastor Flagg preached from *Philippians 3:12-14* and titled his sermon, "A God-Certified Servant Leader." He emphasized that a God-certified leader must "always walk with Jesus and let Him walk with them." He said **becoming a God-certified servant leader is a three-phase process:**

- First, we must learn to admit (*verse 12*) "that it's all about Jesus."
- Then, we must submit (*verse 13*) "ourselves to the authority or will of another."
- Lastly, we must "commit (*verse 14*) to stay in the race and press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

"We have to learn to let go of some things and keep the main thing the main thing," Pastor Flagg said.

Both **Pastor and Lady Coffie** were presented with gifts and each shared comments of thankfulness and gratitude. "We thank you for your love and support," said Pastor Coffie.

**Mt. Calvary Baptist Church of Palm Coast**

**Reverend Edwin Coffie, M.Div., Pastor**

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### ***Pastor Coffie Celebrates 25 Years of Ministry***

“When I stopped to look back over the 25 years, there have been some ups and some downs. But because it’s all about God, He’s brought me over some mountains and brought us through the spiritual downs. I can honestly say we never would have made it without Him.”



Lady Coffie also thanked the congregation for the first 25 years and said she’s decided that in 25 Part Two she’s going to become a Pointer Sister (referring to the 1970s-80s singing group, the Pointer Sisters) and become a pointer. “I’m going to point to God. In everything that I do, say and all that I am, I’m going to reflect, redirect, reroute back to God,” she said.

The Anniversary Service was the culmination of a two-week celebration that kicked off on

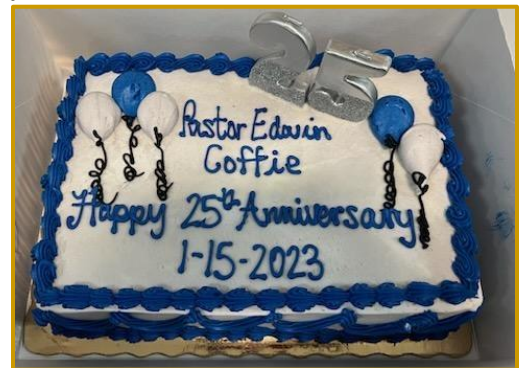


Dec. 8 with a roast and toast of Pastor Coffie by fellow pastors, who couldn’t wait to spill the tea on their longtime friend. Some Mt. Calvary members also got in on the fun during the football-themed event attended by a capacity crowd at the Palm Coast Community Center.

There were stories from fellow pastors and fishing buddies about Pastor Coffie, such as the good reverend never having met a turtle trying to cross the road that he didn’t like. (Can you say turtle soup, turtle tea?) Once while fishing, he fell out of the boat while trying to land a fish to the amazement of his fishing buddy.

Or did you know that he was going to join the U.S. Air Force before earning a full-ride college scholarship? And his favorite movies are Brian’s Song and The Notebook. *His favorite hymn is How Great Thou Art.*

And this revelation is from a very reliable source: Pastor Coffie has four pairs of “church shoes” and he wears them on certain Sundays. Guess you’ll just have to look down at his feet to figure out which pair he wears on any given Sunday!



**Happy 25th Anniversary, Pastor Coffie!**  
We can’t wait to see what’s ahead in the next twenty-five.





# LETTER

*From the Editor*

## The EDITOR Is IN – FEBRUARY 2023

*Submitted by Sister Marion K. Smith, Editor*

In the month of February, it is easy to connect the dots of two major celebrations – Black History Month and Valentine's Day. Think of the dots as a chain of hearts – some wearily moping along while singing “How shall we sing the Lord’s song in a strange land?” while the majority cheerfully skip along declaring, “We’ve Come This Far By Faith,” so “I Ain’t Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around!” Such is the tenor of this issue of the Courier, initiated by Deacon Robinson’s front page coverage of *Our Pastor’s and First Lady’s TWENTY-FIVE year tenure at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church of Palm Coast*. Both Parts One and Two of the Anniversary Celebration were replete with kind-hearted people from far and near whose presence whispered, “We love you!”

On Page 4, Column 1, Deaconess Geraldine Wright’s introduction to the Praying in Place endeavor is one more example of how God demonstrates His love toward us. In *John 15:7*, He affectionately reminds us that “If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.” On this same page, a heartfelt account of the homegoing service for Deacon Randolph Arthur reveals the legacy of love he left behind for generations to come.

On Pages 5 and 6, the columns focusing on Black History (Brother Glenn Walker and Sister Leila Jordan) are all indicative of the progress that has been made decade after decade as a chain of hearts becomes the catalyst for connecting the dots. As we continue to celebrate this month, let us not forget the words the psalmist David was inspired to write, “Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. February is MORNING TIME, Sisters and Brothers. Let us enthusiastically and lovingly embrace it as one body in Christ.

**HIS Love and Mine,**

**Sister Marion K. Smith, Chair and Editor**



## The Calvary Courier Staff

Sister Toni Blount, Columnist  
Brother Ricardo Cook, Photographer  
Sister Betty Donaldson, Columnist  
Sister Jennifer Harris, Contributor  
Sister Rachel Haynes, Layout, Format, Design  
Sister Leila Jordan, Columnist  
Maxwell Lee, Columnist  
Sister Maxine Moore, Columnist  
Deacon Robert Robinson, Columnist  
Brother Henry Jackson, Emeritus  
Sister Leasa McLeish, Advisor  
Sister Marion Smith, Ministry Chair & Editor



**Deadline for submitting articles for**

**the March 2023 Edition is**

**February 15<sup>th</sup>**

**[marionkirkland@live.com](mailto:marionkirkland@live.com)**

**DISCLAIMER:** “Mt. Calvary proposes to provide current and accurate information in its monthly newsletter. However, we shall not be held liable for any losses related to or caused by the reader’s reliance on information provided herein.”

## MCBC: PRAYING IN PLACE (PIP) 2023



Curator: Deaconess Geraldine Wright  
2 Chronicles 7:14; Romans 12:12

Throughout THE YEAR 2023, we invite you to **join us here at MCBC on the 23rd of each month**, to set aside time in any 23-minute period of your choice to pray.

Certainly, we do not need to wait for the 23rd to pray, for we are called to pray daily. Yet, we want to call our MCBC brothers and sisters to dedicate and **unite in prayer on the 23rd of each month** to ask God for wisdom, strength and guidance in 2023 like never before!

**It is respectfully requested that the Pastor's prayer burden be included in your prayers. It will be posted on the website!**

We will have dedicated a scripture for each month to help us center around prayer. Make sure to check back on our website for it and a list of items to pray about. The list will be updated throughout the year. Although some of the items on the list will be consistent, we are confident of the Holy Spirit's stirring in each of our lives to direct us on how or what specifically to pray about during any given month.

.....



### **‘Heritage Day’ Announcement**

**WHEN: Sunday, February 19, 2023 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday)**

**MCBC will observe Heritage Day.**

Traditionally, African attire is worn on this occasion. However, if you choose to wear your regular attire, please do so. Of course, social distancing and other COVID protocol will be observed.

## *Homegoing Celebration*



**Deacon Randolph Arthur**  
Remembered As a Man  
Who Made Wise Choices

Submitted by  
Deacon Robert Robinson

In a celebration worthy of one who spent most of his 91 years in Christian service, **Deacon Randolph Arthur** was eulogized as a man who early in his 71-year marriage to Deaconess Margie Arthur, made the decision that “. . . as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” (Joshua 24:14-15)

During the **January 23rd Home-Going Celebration**, Pastor Edwin Coffie — in his eulogy titled ‘Praise God’, Deacon Arthur Made Some Good Choices — *cited three wise choices that Deacon Arthur made.*

- *He chose the right wife.* “Seventy-one years later, her last name is still Deaconess Margie Arthur. “They understood that God will carry you through your roughest days,” said Pastor Coffie.
- *He chose the right house*, deciding early on to work in God’s house. “Christian service for him was not a burden but a blessing.”
- *He chose to make preparations for his heavenly home.* “Somewhere along his spiritual journey, Deacon Arthur made a conscious and wise decision to align himself with the word of God so that his future home would be eternally secure.”

The ceremony included two beautiful musical selections by Mt. Calvary’s Sister Betty Donaldson (I Asked The Lord) and goddaughter, Sister Gwendolyn Davis Young of Brooklyn, N.Y. (The Lord’s Prayer). Tributes were presented by Mt. Calvary Trustee Joseph Matthews, Postmaster Darryl Baldwin of Light Lodge #25, which was founded by Deacon Arthur while living in Brooklyn, and Sister Angelyn Brown of Brooklyn, New York.



## Focus on Black History:

*(Editor's Note: On October 3, 2022, Mt. Calvary member and well-known broadcaster, Glenn Walker, was inducted into the Black Radio Hall of Fame. From the beginning of this Calvary Courier interview until the end, one can clearly see God's hand at work in the life of this talented brother in Christ.)*

**When asked about his approximate age when he developed an interest in broadcasting,** Brother Walker responded, "As a child, I grew up in a household that was always filled with music – be it radio, the record player, or the live rehearsals of a fantastic Gospel Quartet in my mom's living room."

**"Were you inspired by someone else, or was this a natural inclination?"** I asked. "That is a tough question," Bro. Walker declared. "I would have to say a bit of both. Outside of the industry, it was my childhood church, First Baptist Church of Opa-Locka in Dade County, Florida. Our church was full of talented musicians and singers. My aunt and my mother were both lead singers, and the male chorus was one of South Florida's best. As a pastor's son, I was surrounded by truly talented music-minded folk."

Additionally, my K-12 education was filled with fantastic music teachers, band directors and some of America's best gospel singers. I graduated from high school with five music scholarships from both PWI and HBCU band programs. By the time I was in high school, I was listening to radio all the time – be it news/talk, gospel, country, or R&B stations – I was hooked. My first radio class was at Miami Dade and my instructor was a Miami radio icon, Mr. Jack Purrington. My favorite radio personality and still my broadcast idol was Mr. Jerry Rushen at WEDR-FM Miami. I wanted to be like Jerry and now, 45 years later, we were both inducted into the National Black Radio Hall of Fame in 2022; I'm still amazed!"

**When asked where he received his broadcasting training, Bro. Walker replied,** "That was an easy one to answer. I started in Miami but that was only one semester at Miami Dade, and I was hooked. My college scholarship to Bethune-Cookman University was the true point of inspiration. I did not know that there was a radio station on campus until my 2nd semester as a freshman. The next year, I was not only on air but was chosen to be the student station manager. I remained in that position until my graduation date where I was blessed with a Bachelor of Arts in History (Pre-Law). During my senior year, I was chosen by Faculty and Administrators to tour the country and research college radio stations to begin the development of a Speech Communications Degree program with Radio and TV as the two major platforms."

## Brother Glenn Walker's Stellar Career in Broadcasting

The next questions centered around the colleges and/or universities Bro. Walker attended as well as his current position at BCU. "My college career began at Miami Dade Community College as a Respiratory Therapy student," Bro. Walker replied. "I was an only child raised by a single parent, and my mother often worked two and sometimes three jobs. College was expensive, so I talked her into letting me take one of those scholarships and go to school. Off to Bethune-Cookman College I went, and momma had to pay a full college education debt of \$149.00 for my graduation. As I mentioned earlier, I received my B. A. at Bethune-Cookman College. After over thirty years in radio and records, I attended Full Sail University in Orlando, Florida, and earned a master's degree in New Media Applications. Upon my return to Bethune-Cookman in 2005, I started as a consultant and am currently the General Manager of WRWS-LP FM and an Adjunct Professor of Mass Communications."

**In addition to having been inducted into the Black Radio Hall of Fame last year, I asked Bro. Walker about other past awards or accolades he has received.** He responded, "The list is long, but I find that most of the smaller honors mean the most to me." For instance, at the age of 26, he became Program Director of America's #1 medium market radio station – WDOQ-FM Q-102 in Daytona Beach, the second of two African Americans sharing that nationwide distinction at the time. He also received several awards from Bethune-Cookman College/University's Wildcats Marching Band. From 1979 to 2013, Bro. Walker served as the band's announcer and was blessed with awards from his alma mater as well as Florida A&M's Marching 100. Additionally, Bro. Walker has served as halftime announcer for The Superbowl and was the first African-American halftime announcer for a Pro-Bowl in the Continental United States. A few years later, Bro. Walker won Record Promoter of the year from the Million Dollar Record Pool – one of America's largest – and was then asked to lead the Florida Division. In 1995 Bro. Walker was honored by Mr. Barry Gordy of Motown Records when "he personally chose me to be the first National Director of Promotions, Public Relations and Marketing for the Motown Black College Tour." Notably, on October 11, 2023, Bro. Walker received official notice that he will "reach another major industry milestone by being honored with the Life Achievement Award on August 4, 2023, in Atlanta."

**This consultant and announcer for MCBC's Audio-Visual Ministry ended the interview with these words of wisdom for young people interested in broadcasting:** "Learn your craft, find a mentor, and dig in. This industry is one you must love and if you are a person of color, you really have to dig in to achieve. Call your local radio and TV stations; go meet folk who look like you and who do what you want to do. Keep in mind that we are anxious and happy to teach those who look like us and want to replace us." Words fitly spoken by one who is definitely leaving his "footprints on the sands of time." (Longfellow)





## THE WISDOM OF MAXWELL JOHN LEE

By: Maxwell John Lee

*I have hidden  
your word in my  
heart that I might not  
sin against thee. Psalm  
119:11*

*Proverbs 21:21 NIV says,*  
**Whoever pursues righteousness and love  
finds life, prosperity and honor.**

*My Wisdom:* Whoever pursues faith and  
his love for everyone will be raised up by the  
Lord and will have great blessings.

*Matthew 5:43-44 NIV says,*  
**You have heard that it was said, Love your  
neighbor and hate your enemy. But I tell  
you, love your enemies and pray for those  
who persecute you.**

*My Wisdom:* Love your enemies and  
do not hold grudges toward anyone. Pray  
over the people that envy you.

*Psalms 139:23-24 NIV says,*  
**Search me, God, and know my heart, test  
me and know my anxious thoughts. See if  
there is any offensive way in me, and lead  
me in the way everlasting.**

*My Wisdom:* The Lord knows everything  
about you. Nothing goes unnoticed. The only  
thing that you can do is make sure that your  
heart and your mind is clean.

## KIDZ KORNER

Submitted By: Sister Leila Jordan

## Word Search

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

L C L C S H X C B O U Z L R E N O N S V Q M N T L  
W Z B N N S E O Z G N H L E C K T A M F A V O S A  
L Z S C G M Y R P V I S H C R A M Y K R C V I I N  
E A J O X C U P I F T S K H X Y D T T E X I S N G  
C I S A O W S A Q T Y O G Y A K Y I B I H E S O S  
U X Y T U S X B T S A L X B I I N L G E V R E I T  
L R T P D N G O E P E G J L F L N A H A K E R T O  
T N X G K H I S T O R Y E R U F X U C Y C F P I N  
U S E G R E G A T I O N E T P Y O Q H I I R P L H  
R Q M R X J Z Z B Y K E H W L I A E T I V O O O U  
E H Q V P V J I B D D E R O D R H S R D S I Y B G  
Q S F J F B H H K O R R E K E W W U S F V V T L A H  
R F G X W G U W M K I W D T V J V U R P B P O E E  
V Y P T I O R K I Z L G H S T U K T N E C H C R S  
I D G O Y B M N T P Y A U G U W R S A A D I V M Y  
M M K Y F C G S Y Y A R B M B L W E A U D A T C G  
S S A L G U O D K C I R E D E R F N T U M F E O M  
G H R P G N A M B U T T E I R R A H J A J Q J L P  
B L D O E V P V X W E Q N Y W B Q E E A C N X O J  
I G Y Y Y O D U N A R I G H T S R C N C A O Z C W  
B J U P H I P M Z M F E F Q Q P Q Q J B A R V E K  
N R Q T F D V C S M J M P M W I N O J I Q E Z D L  
B G Z V Y V V R O C J C T X L R H J M Y K D P F A  
N E J C K D T M C S J N O Y J V A A U O G F V N J  
Q G D A W H A C T V K T Q Y M K J K G O X C V C A

abolitionist	peace	history	boycott
civil	rights	Langston Hughes	equality
Frederick Douglass	unity	Martin Luther	Harriet
heritage	advocate	King	Tubman
justice	culture	oppression	history
march	freedom	prejudice	leadership
NAACP		segregation	

**Did you know? The NAACP was  
founded on February 12, 1909, the  
centennial anniversary of the birth  
of Abraham Lincoln.**

**Memory Verse:**

**But by the grace of God  
I am what I am**

*1 Corinthians 15-10*



**FEBRUARY 2023**

Submitted by Sister Maxine Moore

***Love one another as I have loved you...***  
***John 13:34***

This month we celebrate your birthday as well as Valentine's Day. Love is in the air, and it is because of God's love for you and His grace and mercy that you are able to witness one more year. How wonderful it would be if all Christians born in the month of February would reach out to just one unsaved person at some time during their birth month with a message centered around just how much Jesus loves us. He died on the cross in order that we could live again. Now that's love! Let's make it our responsibility to share that love wherever and whenever, even on our birthday. In that way, on any day of the year, we can live up to our motto, "**And they shall know that we are Christians by our love.**"



**Your birthstone is VIOLET.**

Amethyst

**Your flower is the AMETHYST.**



*Love of Jesus,*

*Sister Maxine Moore,*  
*Sunshine Care Ministry*



**\*Denotes Youth**

*Ann Garnette, Eleanor Francis*  
*Nathaniel Royal, Wilson Leach*  
*Kace (M) Jones, Michelle Arrington*  
*Katrina White, Andre Harris*  
*Dianne Carruth, Demitria Barrett\**  
*Marie Milca Josma, Jahnuque Carter*  
*Gail Matthews, Frederick Brown*  
*Dr. M. Frances Fontaine, Quentin (M) Smith\**  
*Wendy Graves, Olivia Cooper*  
*Joseph Matthews, Mountasia (F) Batts*  
*Elvern (F) Greene, Pamela Jackson-Smith*  
*Carmelin Gordon, Berkeley (M) Chandler, Jr*  
*Lola Curry, John Murray*  
*Ernest Rose, Jr., Maxwell Lee\**  
*Myles Lee\*, J'nyah (F) Fennell\**  
*Kennedy (F) Cooper\*, Charlene Wells*  
*A.Kenneth Johnson, Na'Laya (F) Perry\**  
*D'Amoura Freeman\*, Thomas Young*  
*Linda McDowell*



### SUNDAY Morning Service Attendance

Members no longer need to call in order to reserve seating. However, masks must be worn and social distancing should be observed.

You may click on **LIVE STREAM** for Service  
**FACEBOOK@MCBCofPC**

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#### **ATTENTION MCBC FAMILY AND FRIENDS:**

As you are completing your envelopes, please remember to contribute to those areas where we cannot take up offerings such as Sunday School and Bible Study classes.

### **Prison Ministry Updates**

The Women's Work Camp at Lowell has closed.  
Please join us in praying for our next assignment  
– whether it is at a jail or a prison.

*Please watch this space and be ready!*

*Sincere thanks!*

**Evangelist Delores Pennill, Prison Ministry Chair**

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Attention Mt Calvary Family & Friends,**

Please follow & like us on Facebook at:

<HTTPS://www.facebook.com/MCBCofPC/>



PHOTOGRAPH BY: KATHLEEN



#### **Monday Morning Prayer - 8:30 AM**

**Dial In: 1-425-436-6364**

**Access Code: 148592#**

**Monday Morning with the Master Prayer line.**  
For all prayer requests to be heard, please email  
your requests to [mountcalvary@bellsouth.net](mailto:mountcalvary@bellsouth.net).

Also, you may submit your prayer requests  
to the Church's website.

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**Men's Sunday School Class via ZOOM**  
every Wednesday evening at 6:15 PM

**ID: 875 767 07319**

**Access Code: 04092006**

**Or By Phone: 1-312-626-6799**

**Meeting ID: 875 767 07319#**

**Access Code: 04092006#**

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**Wednesdays Mid-Week Manna**

**Wednesday Mornings - 8:30 AM**  
**Bible Study with Trustee James Brown**

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**Women's Sunday School - 6:15 PM**  
*(Virtual ...)*

#### **Computer Access:**

Enter: <https://zoom.us> in the search bar on  
your computer. Click on: Join Meeting.

Enter Meeting ID: 449 757 5748

Enter Password: 04092006

*(If requested)*

*Or*

#### **Phone Access:**

**Dial: 312-626-6799**

**Meeting ID: 449 757 5748#**

**Enter Password: 04092006# (If requested)**

### **Youth Sunday School Class**

**\*Date & Time CHANGE listed below:**

**(2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)**

**4:00 - 4:45 PM**

**- Meeting ID 280 177 5054**

**Passcode: 767088**

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