



THE CALVARY COURIER

JUNE 2024

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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Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thou soul prospereth. For I rejoiced greatly when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walketh in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.
3 John 2-4 KJV

It is with profound gratitude that I greet each of you with the love of Jesus. As your Pastor, I am extremely proud of the time and effort each of you expends doing ministry work virtually every day of the week. Additionally, Mt Calvary is extremely blessed to have an army of prayer warriors who faithfully sign onto our 'Monday Morning With The Master' platform each week in order to share praise reports and send up petitions for others as well. As did the apostle John in his Third Epistle, I commend you for your steadfastness in HIS service and I pray that the Lord will keep his hands of protection upon you as you travel back and forth this summer. Let us be thankful for a God who will never leave us nor forsake us, no matter how far away we roam.

Our June calendar is replete with events and services which can be enjoyed by all age groups. On Sunday, June 9th, at 9:30 am, Mt. Calvary members are invited to recognize our 2024 graduates as God has blessed you to do. **Our graduates, AKIA HARRIS, MAXWELL LEE, MYLES LEE, EDWINA MEZZO, JILL PRIME and TRINITEE WILLIAMS** have all made significant contributions to Mt. Calvary down through the years. It is now our time to shower blessings upon them. The guest speaker for the occasion is Dr. Terrance Culver. Additionally, FATHER'S DAY, of course, is on June 16th, and I encourage you to keep in mind the commandment found in **Deuteronomy 20:12** which begins with the words **Honour thy father and thy mother**, followed by a promise. Parents, if you have not already completed Vacation Bible School applications for your children, please do so. VBS starts on June 17th. There are also ministry meetings planned for June, and Sunday, June 30th is a very special day at Mt. Calvary because it has been set aside as Family and Friends Day. By the way, I encourage you to invite a friend.

We love you, family, and implore you to continue looking up, knowing that there is nothing impossible with God, and keeping in mind that we can believe God for more in 2024, with **THE ASSURANCE THAT THE BEST IS YET TO COME**.

In His Service,



June 16th

Mt. Calvary Baptist Church of Palm Coast

Reverend Edwin Coffie, M.Div., Pastor

75 Pine Lakes Parkway South, Palm Coast, Florida 32164

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LETTER

From the Editor

The EDITOR Is In – JUNE 2024

Submitted by Sister Marion K. Smith, Editor

In one of his recent sermons, Pastor Coffie methodically taught a lesson centered around the role we as Christians should play in evangelism. Then, in closing, he reeled his listeners over to the right side with these words: The fact that we are saved means we should be able to proclaim, “Jesus is the best thing that ever happened to me!” “God is going to do His part,” Pastor Coffie proclaimed, “but we have a role to play.” I interpreted that to mean my role in evangelizing is not predicated on what others are not doing but rather on what I am doing. In this ministry, we have begun to reap that harvest. Deaconess-in-training, Sister Lattice Flanders, who formerly worked in the journalism field, has chosen the Calvary Courier as one of the ministries where she will lend her expertise. Two months ago, Sister Vivienne Sanders did likewise. Of course, we are blessed beyond measure to have already had a dedicated staff in place to cover my foibles when I either over or under plan for some issues. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

Even though I had a difficult time trying to discern a common theme for this issue, after much deliberation, I borrowed one of Reverend Fred Pinnock’s sayings: **It is highly flavored with favor. Enjoy.**

HIS Love and Mine,

Sister Marion K. Smith, Chair and Editor



The Calvary Courier Staff

Sister Betty Donaldson, Columnist

Sister Lattice Flanders

Sister Jennifer Harris, Contributor

Sister Rachel Haynes, Layout, Format, Design

Cynthia Jones, Columnist / Photography

Sister Leila Jordan, Columnist

Maxwell Lee, Columnist

Deacon Robert Robinson, Columnist

Sister Vivienne Sanders, Columnist

Harriet Whiting, Poetry

Brother Henry Jackson, Emeritus

Sister Leasa McLeish, Advisor

Sister Marion Smith, Ministry Chair & Editor

*Special thanks to Guest Columnist,
Dr. Myra Valentine and to Sister Sylvia
Joiner for the Pentecost Sunday photos*



**Deadline for submitting articles for
the July/August 2024 Edition is**

June 15th

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.”

“Wherever God gives vision, God gives provision.”

Our NEXT

Submitted by Dr. Myra Valentine

What Is Your Next?



A POST COVID-19 RESOURCE
FOR CHURCH LEADERS

OLU BROWN

The final church-wide meeting with consultant, Bro. Olu Brown, was held on May 21, 2024, but this is not the end or final step in our process to implement change for our NEXT as we return to the pioneer spirit that launched Mt. Calvary 26 years ago. So, you may ask, “What’s Next?” Glad you posed the question.

Bro. Olu has repeatedly indicated that “Next is not to be feared.

We must embrace it and engage in creative and innovative thinking and partnerships, NOW.” We can move forth by looking at “Less but Better!” This encompasses a process termed, “Essentialism.” The Essentialist way for the church means living by design, not default; distinguishes the vital few from the trivial many; eliminates nonessentials; and removes barriers (presentation by Bro. Olu).

In addition, it is important that the church leaders adopt Spiritual Entrepreneurship (by Carey Neiuwhof. Web access- <https://careyneiuwhof.com/11-characteristics-spiritual-entrepreneur/>) which tells us that leaders must bring innovation and experimentation of the business world to the church. **The defining principles are as follows:**

1. Think big. 2. Believe God can. 3. See abundance, not scarcity. 4. Think vision first, resources second. 5. Invest in personal and team development. 6. Believe this is bigger than them. 7. Ship first, improve later. 8. Are fine with ambiguity. 9. Will risk it all without guarantee of success. 10. Never wait for consensus. 11. Let the critics talk while they act. 12. Break rules.

Over the next 12 – 24 months the Core Vision Team will continue to meet and make suggestions to the church for our next. With church participation, Bro. Olu has suggested considering four changes:

- A. Worship (Sunday service #1)
- B. Worship (Sunday service #2)
- C. Youth Worship (teens)
- D. Children’s Worship

These areas will impact: (1) Ministry Function, (2) Church Operations, (3) Volunteer Opportunities, (4) Finance, and (5) Staffing. There are risks. However, we are equipped with the spirit of prayer and God’s word to lead **up into “More in 2024!”**



Vision Statement:

To be a Christ-Centered Church committed to sharing God’s Word and Love for the transformation of lives.

Mission Statement:

To lead people to Jesus Christ.
To develop their faith in God’s Word.
To equip them to serve and share God’s love.

THE WISDOM OF MAXWELL JOHN LEE

By: Maxwell John Lee

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



1 John 15:2 says: He cuts off every branch that doesn’t produce fruit, and He prunes the branches that bear fruit so they will produce even more.

My Wisdom: The Lord knows the true you. He will cut off anything that is offensive to Him. He wants to see the best version of all of His people so they can do a greater work for Him.

2 Thessalonians 3:3 says : But the Lord is faithful, and He will protect you from the evil one.

My Wisdom: The Lord is with you at all times. He will shield you from evil. Trust Him to do what He says He will do.

Hebrews 13:8 says: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today and tomorrow.

My Wisdom: Jesus Christ will never change. We change, but He doesn’t. He remains the same. He is peaceful and full of love.

Mother's Day Tea at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church:

The Crème de la Crème of Celebration

Written by Sister Marion Smith

On Saturday, May 11, 2024, it was inconceivable that anyone in or near Palm Coast, FL, could have basked in their claim to fame by even suggesting that their Mother's Day affair was comparable in eloquence and class to the one at 75 Pine Lakes Parkway South which was attended by close to one hundred ladies. The royal treatment began at the moment one entered the Family Life Center and it lasted until the program's finale. How could we Mt. Calvary ladies not feel like Queens for a day as we were escorted to a table by Mt. Calvary gentlemen?

After having planned such a highly anticipated event, First Lady Carol Love Coffie, Women's Ministry Advisor, along with Ministry Chair (Deaconess Shirley Simon) and Ministry Vice-Chair (Deaconess Barbara Robinson) were ready to get the Tea Party started – as were the scores of ladies-in-waiting. Having been introduced by First Lady, the following program participants were prepared to execute their roles when called upon: Sister Vera Bradley, soloist for the occasion; Old Testament Scripture, Sister Roxane Bane and New Testament Scripture, Sister Rachel Reeves. Sister Deborah Lane did the opening prayer and grace for the food as well. Notably, Deaconess Simon read one of her original poems entitled "A Mother's Love." Missy Jas'sya Lane closed the opening ceremony as she recited "The Little Teapot."

To the tune of "I Can Still Hear Mama Praying," the men filled the ladies' dainty little teacups with hot water in order that they would be able to savor the flavors of their choice. As others drank tea, I tip-toed around the room to speak with mothers and daughters who were enjoying this unforgettable moment in time. For instance, guest Mary Watson came to the function with her daughter, Lonnieka Epps and granddaughter MariAhna Epps. Lois Allen was accompanied by her daughters, Rita and Tanya, while Sister

Frankie Jones was likewise blessed to have second and third generations to accompany her.

Door prizes were also a hit. However, the caveat was that the owner of the winning ticket had **to share wisdom passed down through the family line.** Sister Sandra Patterson's mother wit, for instance, was **"Trouble don't last always."** Deaconess Geraldine Wright claimed her prize after she shared these words of wisdom, **"Too many cooks in the kitchen spoil the pot."** Due to the lack of time, some prize winners did not have the opportunity to orally share their mother wit, so, they were instructed by First Lady to share with others through a Newsletter representative. Among those who shared were Sister Carol Oxford-Yard: **"When one door closes, another one opens,"** and Sister Antoinette Bailey, **"What goes around, comes around."**

One of the morning's highlights was definitely Sister Betty Donaldson's dramatization of "The Teacup Story." Sister Donaldson had me so entrenched in the story that I, myself, wanted to snatch that poor little teacup from her hands and set it free. However, she would have only responded, "NOT YET!"

Many times throughout the program, the buzz words were, "Who made that quiche?" At the end of the program, the cat was released from the bag: Relatively new members, the Phillips, were the bearers of the most delicious quiche which I and many others had ever tasted. I am sure I voice the sentiments of all who were present when I say, "Job well done, and may God bless you as you continue to do His will, His way." In *Pastor Coffie's closing remarks, he likewise complimented the "Chef for the day" as well as First Lady Coffie to whom he spoke these words, "Outside of the love of Jesus, you are probably one of the greatest gifts God gave."* Following a moment of silence for all mothers who have gone on to be with the Lord, *Evangelist Rae-Jean Philippe was called upon to do the closing prayer.*

Men's Ministry Golf and Games Day ...

Written by Deacon Robinson

The Mt. Calvary Men's Ministry annual Golf & Games Day for youths and adults teed off as usual at the Grand Reserve Golf Club in Bunnell on May 18 and was deemed a success despite having only three youth participants and no on-course golfers this year. But despite the low numbers, the day added up to an afternoon of fun.

"It was an exciting day for the 14 people who were there and everybody was satisfied," said Men's Ministry Chair Jimmie Johnson. "We were disappointed in the number of youths who participated but I saw it as successful because the youths got to practice putting and hitting balls on the driving range. And the golf professionals got to teach and talk about the rules of golf, not only to the youths but to four of the adults who said they are considering taking up golf."

Mt. Calvary member Darryl Oliver, who oversees the youth golf program for the Eagles Golf Club of Palm Coast, worked with the three youths who were the grandchildren of Kenneth and Michelle Johnson. These kids have actually gone through the Eagles' program so I invited them to attend," Oliver said.

Johnson said they were expecting about 10 kids for the half-day event that includes golf, youth and adult games and lunch. Johnson said the Men's Ministry will discuss hosting the outing again next year during the ministry's executive planning sessions in the fall.



Heaven's Grocery Store

*Author unknown and shared by Sister Harriett Whiting
from the cherished collection of her mother,
Sister Almetta Alexander*

I was walking down life's highway a long time ago. One day I saw a sign that read **"Heaven's Grocery Store."** As I got a little closer, the door came open wide, and when I came to myself, I was standing inside.

I saw a host of angels – they were standing everywhere. One handed me a basket and said, **"My child, shop with care."**

Everything a Christian needed was in that "Grocery Store." And all you couldn't carry, you could return the next day for more.

First I got some **PATIENCE**; **LOVE** was in the same row. Further down was **UNDERSTANDING**; you need that everywhere you go. I got a box or two of **WISDOM** – a bag or two of **FAITH**. I just couldn't miss the **HOLY GHOST**, for HE was all over the place. I stopped to get some **STRENGTH** and **COURAGE** to help me run this race.

By then my basket was getting full, but I remembered I needed some **GRACE**. I didn't forget **SALVATION**, for salvation – that was free. So I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me.

Then I started up to the counter to pay my "Grocery Bill." I thought I had to do my **MASTER'S WILL**. As I went up the aisle, I saw **PRAYER**, and I just had to put that in, for I knew when I stopped outside, I would run right into sin.

PEACE and **JOY** were plentiful – they were on the last shelf. **SONGS** and **PRAISES** were hanging near, so I just helped myself. Then I said to the Angel, "Now how much do I owe? He just smiled and said, "Take them everywhere you go."

Again, I asked Him, "How much do I really owe?" Again he said,

"MY CHILD, JESUS PAID YOUR BILL LONG AGO!!!"

Pentecost Sunday at Mt. Calvary

Written by Sister Vivienne Sanders

Pentecost is a significant celebration that commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples of Jesus Christ, as described in *Acts 2:1-4*. It is seen as the day when the Christian Church was born, and the disciples were empowered by the Holy Spirit to spread the Gospel. The Gift of the Holy Spirit represents the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit, to bring guidance, comfort, and spiritual powers to believers. Pentecost celebrates the unity of believers across cultural and linguistic divides. The disciples were able to communicate with people from various nations in their own languages, through the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Edwin Coffie's sermon, "Catch on Fire," started with a thought-provoking question, "When was the last time you caught on fire?" Of course, the answer to this question was clear from the beginning of this service when Pastor Coffie began Pentecost Sunday service by baptizing nine believers. This act of obedience, along with Pastor's reminding us that Luke's main purpose in writing the Book of *Acts 1 and 2* was historical, where we learn about both the Founder and the founding of the church. Remarkably, this small band of believers started a movement for Christ which is still alive and well more than two thousand years later. "The secret to their success," said Pastor Coffie, "was that the church was set on fire by the Holy Spirit." Pentecost represents the dynamic, Spirit-filled, and mission-driven nature of the Christian faith. **What better way to solidify Pentecost Sunday than by receiving nine believers who were baptized! Amen.**



Sis. Barbara Chandler



Sis. Angela Simpson



Sis. Carrie Moorman



Bro. Andre Harris



Sis. Sandra Patterson

Pentecost Sunday at Mt. Calvary (cont.)



Sis. Deborah Lane



Sis. Donshell Smith



Sis. Jennifer Harris

Receiving the Right Hand of Fellowship



Homegoing Celebration for Sister Olga Gillings

Submitted by Sister Marion Smith



On Saturday, April 27, 2024, a Homegoing Celebration was held for Sister Olga Jane Gillings at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church in Palm Coast, Florida. After extending condolences to the family, Pastor Edwin Coffie called upon Reverend Watson to preside over the celebration. Before his prayer, Reverend Watson assured the family that "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."

From the Old Testament, *Psalms 23* was read by Deacon Sylvester Kirk and from the New Testament, Deacon Thomas Joseph read *John 14:1-6*.

In his eulogy, Pastor Coffie used *Ecclesiastes 3:1-8* as a source for his words of comfort. In his delivery, Pastor assured the family of the following five facts: **1)** Now is not the time to forget that God will provide. **2)** Now is not the time to forget God's peace. **3)** Now is not the time to forget God's promises. **4)** Now is not the time to forget the blessings God promised. **5)** Now is not the time to ignore the invitation given by God. Sister Gillings has gone on to a land where there will be no more sickness and pain. God has spoken, so let the church say **AMEN**.



Submitted by Sister Rachel Haynes

Happy Birthday!



Numbers 6:24-26

“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.”

***Denotes Youth**

Betty Flakes, Steven McGary
 Robert Phillips, Nicole Holmes
 Alice Stephenson, Alvin Baker*
 Trenton Williams, Loyce (F) Allen
 Jhacobi (M) Carter*, Ira L. (M)
 Nesta (F) Salter, Henry Jackson
 Angela Ledbetter, Bernadette Reeves
 David Arrington, Cathline Reid
 Nathaniel Perry, George Watson, Sr.
 Allayna Gibbs, Valarie Roberts
 Edward Walker, Jabari (M) Williams
 John F. Davis, Barbara Johnson-Blake
 Juliette Dailey, Na’Riya Perry*
 Delores Pennill, Nateshawn (M) Royal, Jr.*
 Gregory Harris, Hugo (M) Hendricks
 Savion (M) Teasley, Judy Latimer
 Patricia Bottoms, Andre Gaskins

Happy Birthday!
Happy Father’s Day!

Your birthstone is Pearl.



Your flower is the Rose.



Jesus Loves You,
Sister Rachel Haynes

KIDZ KORNER

Submitted by Sister Leila Jordan



A Prayer for Fathers

Dear Lord, Bless every father and every grandfather with the best of your spiritual blessings today. Let him know he is not alone in the tasks you have given him to provide for and support those under his care. Show him how much you delight in his work, and affirm the value of whatever You have given him to do—both as a father or grandfather and as a child of Yours. Confirm his worth daily so he has no reason to doubt whether he is loved in the eyes of his Heavenly Father.

Amen



SUNDAY Morning Service Attendance

Friendly Reminder:

If you ARE wearing a mask; please sit in the two center sections of the sanctuary.

If you are NOT wearing a mask; please sit in the two outer sections of the sanctuary.

Thank you!

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.

"IF YOU NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH"

Please call the office before Thursday noon. Your name, address, and phone number will be added to the list.

Attention Mt Calvary Family & Friends,

Please follow & like us on Facebook at:
[HTTPS://www.facebook.com/MCBCofPC/](https://www.facebook.com/MCBCofPC/)



facebook.com • 42820857



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.

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

PRAYING IN PLACE 2024 (PIP 24)

*"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts
unto your children: how much more shall your
heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that
ask him?"*

Luke 11:13 (KJV)

Men's Sunday School Review 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#



Wednesdays Mid-Week Manna

JOIN US

Wednesday Mornings - 8:30 AM

BIBLE STUDY INSTRUCTOR,

Dr. James Brown

Women's Sunday School Review

- 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
meets after the Sunday offering.
In the Christian Ed Building
