



# THE Mount Calvary MESSENGER

SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU, LARGE ENOUGH TO GROW YOU!

MARCH

2021



## HEALTH & WELLNESS MONTH

Ask and it will be given to you; seek  
and you will find, knock and the door  
will be opened to you.

Matthew 7:7 NIV

### WHAT YOU WILL FIND IN THE MESSENGER...

- ◆ **From Our Pastor's Pen**
- ◆ Church Announcements
- ◆ Come Home for Easter
- ◆ Why I Got the COVID Vaccination



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# From The Pastor's Pen...



Greetings Family!

We are rapidly approaching the first anniversary of a major period of grief and loss. The last 12 months have been unsettling and uncomfortable to say the least. Nearly every aspect of our lives has been disrupted. Hundreds of thousands of people including those in our community have lost a loved one to COVID. We recently surpassed 500,000 deaths in our nation. Many more people have lost jobs, have been separated from loved ones, or are struggling with mental health and addiction. The list goes on and on. Even those who have been extremely fortunate have found isolation, loss of routines, and anxiety can often feel harder to bear the longer the pandemic goes on.

We are in an in-between space right now. We rejoice as we watch healthcare workers, teachers and people who we know are receiving their vaccinations or waiting to be vaccinated with one of the three available vaccines.

In a very real sense, never has a church family been more important than now. Though we are unable to meet in person, we have been meeting on Zoom, Facebook, YouTube, social media, conference calls, phone calls, and texts to keep up with each other and to remind ourselves as the body of Christ we are not alone.

Despite the pandemic, care and compassion continues to take place. We are caring for the hungry and homeless and those in need and working to address the systemic issues that cause our neighbors to be in want.

I do not know when we will gather for in person worship, for everyday new information and guidelines are emerging. However, here is what I do know; God is still in control and this too will pass. Therefore, we remain hopeful and prayerful.

In this Lenten Season, please know of my gratitude for you in these times and my appreciation for your patience and faithfulness. It is my pastoral prayer for you that your Christian faith anchors you. I pray you will find ways to connect with God and He will give you the strength you need each day.

Pastor Bob

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# ORDER of *Worship*

Welcome

Invocation

Scripture

Selection

Preached Word of God

Invitation to Accept Christ

Tithes, Missionary, and General Offering

## *This is My Tithe*

*I acknowledge that God is the giver of every good and perfect gift. I can only reap what I have sown. I cannot out give God no matter how I try, and as I act in obedience to the word of God, I bless my church, myself and my family.*

*This is the promise of God. Malachi 3:10*

Benediction

***“You’ve come to Worship, now leave to Serve!”***

## Mt. Calvary A.M.E. Church Mission and Vision

We are a Christ-Centered church that believes in the full gospel message. We believe in building and equipping disciples and we are committed to reaching our city, state, and world with the Gospel. We want to connect with people and grow an authentic relationship with Jesus. We are a word-based, soul-winning, love-centered church that hopes-

*“The Distance Was Worth The Difference!”*



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## Church-Wide Announcements

- ◆ Church Conference via Zoom - 7pm March 9, 2021
  - ◆ HBCU Sunday - Sunday, March 14, 2021
  - ◆ Daylight Savings “Spring Forward” - Sunday, March 14, 2021
  - ◆ 4th Quarterly Conference via Zoom - 7pm March 17, 2021
  - ◆ Missionary Annual Day - Sunday, March 21, 2021
  - ◆ Blood Drive - Saturday, March 27, 2021
  - ◆ Palm Distribution, Curve side pick at Church - March 27, 9am-3pm
  - ◆ Beads of Wisdom Monthly Meeting via Zoom - March 27, 9am-11am. Special Presentation by Sister Vivian Fenton -”The Pros and Cons of Online Banking.
  - ◆ Palm Sunday - March 28, 2021
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## Financial Assistance Opportunity

The Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC) is offering limited Financial Assistance for families facing eviction or utility shut-off. ACTC is a community partner of the Harvest Meals for the Hungry Ministry. **To qualify, you must live in ACTC’s service area** (*see 19 zip codes below*). For more information, email [actc316@gmail.com](mailto:actc316@gmail.com) with your name, address, phone, and explanation of your need. Indicate how much money you owe, how much you can pay from your own funds, and any deadline or other information that might be helpful.

ACTC Service area by zip code:

|       |       |       |             |
|-------|-------|-------|-------------|
| 21013 | 21093 | 21152 | 21239       |
| 21030 | 11105 | 21204 | 21284*      |
| 21053 | 21111 | 21210 | 21285*      |
| 21057 | 21120 | 21212 | 21286       |
| 21082 | 21131 | 21234 | (*P.O. Box) |

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- Communion Pick up  
Saturday, April 3, 9am-3pm.
- Sunday, April 4th, 11am  
Outdoor Easter Worship

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## A Time to Reconcile and Refocus: “Preparing a Place for Jesus”

*Lenten Season Prayer to Refocus*

### Take a deep breath...

*Silencing the noise in our lives takes time, but it's one of the reasons for Lent.*



God, I want more of You. Too often, I choose to pursue momentary things and push You aside. Please forgive me, and change me. I don't want to live a life that isn't focused on You.

As I prepare for Resurrection Sunday, help me to silence the noise in my life. Show me what steps I need to take to refocus my heart, mind, and will on You alone.

Search my heart, and know me. Clean out my life, point out anything that offends You, and make me more like You. Show me the paths that lead to life, and fill me with joy in Your presence.

I love You, and I want to fix my eyes on You.

In Jesus' name, Amen!

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A poster with a green background. At the top, the text "Palm Distribution" is written in a large, bold, black font. Below it, in a smaller black font, are the instructions "Walk up to Church Door or Drive up to the curve". In the center is a photograph of a bundle of palm fronds with a white ribbon tied around them. Below the photo, the date and time "March 27, 2021 9am-3pm" are listed in black font. At the bottom, the location "Mt. Calvary AME Church" is written in black font.

**Palm Distribution**  
Walk up to Church Door or  
Drive up to the curve  
March 27, 2021  
9am-3pm  
Mt. Calvary AME Church

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## Emma Jane Gardner Missionary Society

Please join the Emma Jane Gardner Missionary Society as we celebrate our Annual Day, on Sunday, March 21, 2021. We are delighted to announce that Rev. Wanda Bynum-Duckett will be our guest speaker for the morning. Rev. Bynum-Duckett serves as superintendent of the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church.



The theme for our Annual Day is: Missions-A Matter of the Heart and our scripture comes from Matthew 25:40 "The King will reply, I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these



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Cold days call for warm meals!

The Associated Charities of Towson Churches would like to thank the Mount Calvary A.M.E. Church for providing hot lunches for the homeless this winter, using their hot box.

Pictured are Brother Andrew Adams and Brother Alfred Williams.



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## Why I Decided to Get the COVID Vaccination

Beloved family of God! I greet you in the strong name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior!

In a season when health is the dominant construct, 3 John 1:2 is relevant: “Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.” This foundational scripture is spoken from my heart to yours during my contemplation of whether I should get vaccinated. It is a difficult choice that requires much prayer. I do not take my decision lightly, and nor should you. I want to take this opportunity to briefly share my approach to getting vaccinated.

First, I discerned what the Holy Spirit is saying to the collective Body of Christ. God has spoken these words regarding our lives in Psalms 138:8 (KJV): “The LORD will perfect that which concerned me: thy mercy, O LORD, endured forever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.”

Second, I exercised my own intellectual curiosity. We are bombarded with misinformation; but as given in *The Temple of God*, we are stewards of bodies created by God, and we have a responsibility to study and show ourselves approved concerning our health. I began by reading information from credible sources, including the Second Episcopal District Website ([COVID-19 | Capital District \(wccapitaldistrict.org\)](https://www.wccapitaldistrict.org)), where we can find learned physicians with our best interests at heart, as well as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health. On a more personal note, my niece, Karis Gross, held the Associate Commissioner for Legislator Affairs with the Food and Drug Administration. In other words, she was there every step of the way during the approval process. **Transparently, with God’s promise, my own research, and Karis’s thumbs up, I was close to making a final decision. I pray that we all have such trusted resources, including our personal doctors.**

Last, I considered my family and the consequences of not getting vaccinated. We matter to each other; our lives are interconnected, and I felt compelled to show my love for them in a tangible and practical way. This does not mean that the choice to not get vaccinated somehow signifies the absence of love. The choice to get vaccinated is deeply personal, and I am only sharing my journey. So, I will close as I started with 3 John 1:2. (KJV): “Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.” In the sentiments of the songwriter, “I need you to survive.”

Take Intentional care,  
Rev. Roslyn L. Sellman



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## This Month's Theme and Memory Scripture **“Believe with Expectancy”**

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. . Matthew 7:7 NIV

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Please join us in our weekly  
POWER CELLS!

- The Jewel Cromwell Johnson Prayer Line  
- Morning Prayer: Monday-Friday at 6am  
NEW Phone Conference Call Line: 725-735-9012. NO Passcode:
  - Beads of Wisdom Bible Study - Wednesdays at noon (prayer line).
  - Church-wide Bible Study - Wednesdays at 7pm (*Face Book Live*).
  - Join us every Thursday for Thursday Treats for the Thirsty– Zooming in His Word at 7pm.
  - **Men's Church School** 2nd and 4th Sundays @ 10:00am. conference line: 605-313-4415, access code: 543892#.
  - Church School - Sundays at 9am adults (*On the prayer line*).
  - YPD Virtual Church, 4th Sunday at 10am on Facebook Live.
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Birthday greetings to all those celebrating a birthday in the month of March, from your CCU Leader Sis. Tonya Cherry and Sis. Valerie Johnson

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Sunday Online Services...

We are still having church, just a little differently. Join us online on Face Book Live for our Sunday Morning Worship Service at 11:00 am <https://www.facebook.com/MtCalvaryAMEChurch/>



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## March Prayer List

Sis. Rhonda Allen  
Sis. Ann Norman  
Mother Jewel Edward  
Mother Mabel Gray  
Sis. Cheryl Fowler  
Sis. Sherrilyn Ifill  
Bro. Ivo Knobloch  
Rev. Muriel Lucas  
Sis. Cheron Hawkins  
Family of Sis. Rosalind House



Sis. Michele Norris  
Sis. Wendy Savoy  
Bro. Thomas Thrasher  
Rev. Heidi Stevens  
Bro. Warren Whitworth  
Coronavirus patients/survivors  
Cancer patients/survivors  
Health Care Workers  
First Responders  
Pastor Bob & Rev. Angie

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## Opportunities to Give...



**MOUNT CALVARY AME CHURCH**  
**4 WAYS TO GIVE**

MAIL      MOBILE      WEBSITE      PHONE

300 Eudowood Lane | P.O. BOX 20416, Towson, MD 21286 | 410-296-9474  
www.mtcalvaryame.org | Rev. Bobby B. Cox, Jr., Pastor | Rev. Angie Crawford-Cox, First Lady  
Cash App \$mcamec



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Rev. Bobby B. Cox, Jr., Pastor  
Rev. Angie Crawford-Cox, First Lady

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*Items for the Messenger must be submitted by the 2nd Friday of each month. Leaders, please add the following address to your email contacts to receive a reminder: [mtcalvaryamemessenger@gmail.com](mailto:mtcalvaryamemessenger@gmail.com).*