

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

WWW.CALVARYBALTIMORE.ORG

What is Epiphany?

In western Christian tradition, January 6th is celebrated as *Epiphany*. It goes by other names in various church traditions. In Hispanic and Latin culture, as well as some places in Europe, it is known as *Three Kings' Day*.

Epiphany is the climax of the Advent/Christmas Season and the Twelve Days of Christmas, which are usually counted from the evening of December 25th until the morning of January 6th, which is the Twelfth Day.

In traditional Christian churches Christmas, as well as Easter, is celebrated as a period of time, a season of the church year, rather than just a day. The Season of the Church Year associated with Christmas actually begins with the first Sunday of Advent, four Sundays before Christmas Day.

Advent is marked by expectation and anticipation in preparing to celebrate the coming of Jesus. *Christmas* begins with Christmas Day December 25th and lasts for Twelve Days until *Epiphany*, January 6th, which looks ahead to the mission of the church to the world in light of the Nativity. The one or two Sundays between Christmas Day and Epiphany are sometimes called *Christmastide*. For many Protestant church traditions, the season of Epiphany extends from January 6th until *Ash Wednesday*, which begins the season of *Lent* leading to *Easter*. In some western traditions, the last Sunday of Epiphany is celebrated as *Transfiguration Sunday*.

The term *epiphany* means "to show" or "to make known" or even "to reveal." In Western churches, it remembers the coming of the wise men bringing gifts to visit the Christ child, who by so doing "reveal" Jesus to the world as Lord and King. Epiphany has theological significance as a teaching tool in the church. The Wise Men or Magi who brought gifts to the child Jesus were the first Gentiles to acknowledge Jesus as "King" and so were the first to "show" or "reveal" Jesus to a wider world as the incarnate Christ. This act of worship by the Magi, which corresponded to Simeon's blessing that this child Jesus would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" (*Luke 2:32*), was one of the first indications that Jesus came for all people, of all nations, of all races, and that the work of God in the world would not be limited to only a few. The day is now observed as a time of focusing on the mission of the church in reaching others by "showing" Jesus as the Savior of all people. It is also a time of focusing on Christian community and fellowship, especially in healing the divisions of prejudice and bigotry that we all too often create between God's children.



JANUARY, 2016

Church Leadership

Pastor

Dr. Stephen J. Russell, Jr. Senior Pastor
Pastorrussell3911@gmail.com

Associate Ministers

Minister Cal Hollifield, Minister of Men
lholl0076@netzero.net

Dr. Dorothea James, Executive Pastor
djames@calvarybaltimore.com

Rev. Darron Johnson, Assistant to Pastor
djohnson1867@gmail.com

Minister Jeanette Johnson, Minister of Missions
jjohnson@calvarybaltimore.com

Rev. Swakuu Karim, Superintendent of Children & Youth
min.swakuu@cheerful.com

Rev. Orlando McGruder, Associate Minister

Minister Nichole Zivuku, Associate Minister
nawebb20@hotmail.com

Church Officers

Sister Doris Faulkner, Treasurer; d2faulk@yahoo.com

Deacon Warren Wallingford, Chair to Deacons
w8wfordsr@verizon.net

Deaconess Vinette Gray, Chair to Deaconesses
gravi246@gmail.com

Brother Kenneth Morris, Chair to Trustees
kwmcpa@verizon.net

Church Staff

Sister Natalie White, Executive Administrative Assistant
nwhite@calvarybaltimore.com

Sister Rochelle Archelus, Minister of Worship,
shellyaka8@gmail.com

Musicians: Brother Hiram Smith, Brother Mike Pryor, Brother "Stan" Freeman, Brother Rayford McEachern, Brother Quentin Ervin

Brother LaVel Divers & Brother Michael Johnson, Sextons

Order of Service

8:00AM & 11:00 AM

"Please remember to "Mute" all electronic devices"

PRAISE & WORSHIP

INVOCATION

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. Malachi 3:10

SELECTION

PREACHED WORD

INVITATION TO CHRIST

COMMUNION

(1st Sunday Only)

BENEDICTION

"May His Peace Be With You!"

THE CONNECTION is a publication of Calvary Baptist Church, 3911 Garrison Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21215. It is distributed the 1st Sunday of each month during service and online. Limited copies are available in the Narthex throughout the month. We can be reached at 410-664-2111 or at our website at www.calvarybaltimore.org. Like us on Facebook/[CalvaryBaptistChurch/Garrison](https://www.facebook.com/CalvaryBaptistChurch/Garrison). WIFI Password: **thelight**. Questions may be sent to Natalie White, Executive Administrative Assistant via email at nwhite@calvarybaltimore.com.

Children's Church is offered at both 8:00AM and 11:00AM services for ages 2-11.

Club J (co-ed) is offered the 1st Sunday of every month for grades 6—12 in the White House.

Young Men's Forum is offered 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays for grades 6—12 in the White House.

All are welcome!

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR RUSSELL

Motto for 2020: "Changed People, Changing Lives"

2016 Vision: "Unlimited Learning, Living & Loving"



It is with great pleasure that I greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. What an honor it has been to partner with you in doing ministry for nearly a decade. Throughout the course of changing times, God has blessed us in ways that can only be described as miraculous. His favor has not avoided us. We have witnessed the saving of souls and the changing of lives that far exceeds our labor. God has crowned us with His purpose and covered us with His grace in unmeasurable ways. In addition to what we've been able to do for struggling people, the Lord has used our struggles as a means to put His glory on display, to which I am grateful.

As we continue to pursue God, our gratitude should push us to keep moving in the direction of holiness and wholeness. Although it is encouraging to know that God is changing the world through our services, we must aggressively turn our attention to being changed and living as changed people. To do this, we cannot serve in the comfort of knowledge and achievements. Yes, we have been reconciled to God through grace, yet the challenge set before us is to grow in it as well!

I believe that the Body of Christ is in dire need of people who refuse to go with the flow of a culture that confuses church affiliation with spiritual development. They are two very different things. Those who are affiliated with the church come for selfish reasons, but those who come for spiritual development are interested in discipleship. We need to recognize that church is more than where we go on Sunday morning. Our commitment to Christ should permeate every aspect of our living. We must work together; while God works on our behalf.

Since we have spent the entire year taking the limits off the way that we do ministry, now is the time for us to commit to a process of learning, living and loving in the same fashion. As our mission remains the same (**Matthew 28:17-20**), we need to consolidate all of our efforts to focus on growing in Christ. This is what can propel us towards unparalleled progress. So, let's participate in ministry through discipleship. Let's show God that we love God through our stewardship. Let's do life together through fellowship. Let's be **limitless** in every task because we have what it takes to do what God wants done!

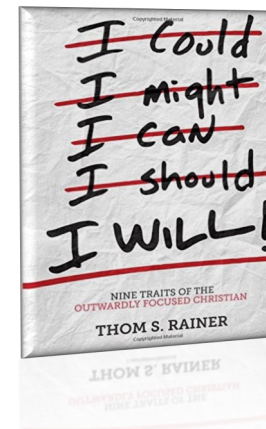
Yours in Christ,

Pastor Russell

A Few Reminders



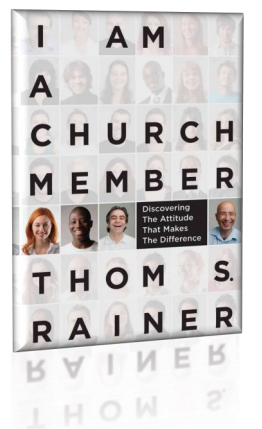
- Praisercise will not meet the entire month of **January**. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Sister Inez Watson at 410-298-3944.
- The Prayer Ministry is starting 2016 with Hope, Love, Peace and Joy in Christ Jesus! We invite you to join us every Wednesday in January on the prayer line at **6:00AM** and again at **6:00PM**. (1-218-339-0838, code 133379#. Our focus will be "Calvary"*And it shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. Isaiah 65:24*
- Deadline for final payments to see Sampson is **next Sunday, January 10th**, please see Minister Jeanette Johnson or you may call her at (410) 664-6197.
- The church and offices will be closed on **Monday, January 18th** in observance of Martin Luther King Day.
- Connection deadline for February's publication is **Wednesday, January 20th**.
- If you a member and did not received a church conference booklet or your 2016 giving envelopes, please see one of the trustees or the administrative staff in between services or during office hours, **Mondays-Thursdays, 8:30AM—3:30PM**.
- February is Black History Month! Our Youth will perform various African American selections utilizing their gifts in instruments each Sunday in February.



Could you be the answer to the problems you see? Every day we are faced with the needs of those around us. Emotional. Physical. Spiritual. What are we to do about it? Are these problems for our pastors to address, or is there a way for the church member to make an impact that will last? Join Pastor Russell on **Wednesdays, 12noon and 7:00PM**, as we continue our 2nd series of study, based on bestselling author Thom S. Rainer's, *I Will*. We will cover nine simple traits that you can incorporate into your life no matter your background, stage of life, or sense of capability. You can do it! Now it's time to just stand up and say you will!

The 1st sermon series of study, (based on author Thom S. Rainer's, *I Am A Church Member* is now available for \$20.00 per case. Series includes: **Don't Diss Your Function—I Corinthians 12:12-26; You Unify—Ephesians 4:29-32; Purpose Over Preference—I Thessalonians 5:12-24; One More Request—Ephesians 6:19-20; Me To We—Joshua 24:1-5; Greedy To Grateful—I Corinthians 11:17-26.**

Please see someone in the media ministry if you are interested in purchasing the series.



Sick & Shut In

- ◇ **Bro. William Brooks**, 2122 Tucker Lane, Apt. B6, 21207
- ◇ **Sis. Zelma Bruce**, 2831 Rona Road, 21207
- ◇ **Sis. Vernell Chandler**, 2210 Maple Hill Court, 21207
- ◇ **Sis. Gloria Collins**, Frederick Villa Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, 711 Academy Road, #212, Baltimore Maryland 21228
- ◇ **Sis. Mary Gant Dixon**, Future Care Lochearn, 4800 Seton Dr., 21215
- ◇ **Bro. Jimmy Ellis**, JHH Weinberg, 401 N. Broadway, (5B) Room #501A. Phone: (410)-502-0307
- ◇ **Sis. Laurie Harris-Daniels**, 3700 Garrison Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21215
- ◇ **Sis Naomi Harris**, 6819 Yataruba Drive, 21207
- ◇ **Bro. Dennis McCray**, 1020 N. Woodington Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21229
- ◇ **Sis. Gladys Myles**, 7831 Creekshere Way, Curtis Bay, Maryland 21226
- ◇ **Bro. Charles Parker Jr.**, 3000 Towanda Avenue, #411, Baltimore, MD 21215
- ◇ **Sis. Dorothy Parks**, 1651 E. Belvedere Avenue, #311, 21239
- ◇ **Sis. Johnsie Odell Powell**, MD Baptist Aged Home, 2801 Rayner Avenue
- ◇ **Sis. Sara Robinson**, c/o 6206 Northwood Dr., 21239
- ◇ **Bro. Gregory Smith**, 1230 Stamford Road, 21207
- ◇ **Sis. Betty Solomon**, 3501 Howard Park Avenue, #122, Baltimore, MD 21207
- ◇ **Trustee Shawn T. Walker**, 9607 Axehead Court, Randallstown, MD 21133

Members Away From Home

- ◇ **Bro. Earl Gray**, United States Marine Corps
- ◇ **Sis. Janet Sellman**, 7014 Maczali Drive, Missouri City, TX 77489
- ◇ **Sis. Cinnamon Dorsey**, UMES, 30665 30665 Student Service Center, PO Box 3875, Prince Anne, MD 21853

The Blessing of our Children

- ◇ **Ke’Miyah Damari Ferebee**
- ◇ **Roman Harrison Jones**
- ◇ **Tia Monae Wells**

Condolences

Cards can be sent to the following who recently lost loved ones:

- ◇ **Brother Bruce Lamar Johnson**, in the passing of his grandfather, James Johnson; and **Sister Kendra Johnson**, in the passing of her mother, Pandora “Patty” Wheatfall. Cards can be sent to: 2803 Edgecombe Circle, North, Baltimore, Maryland 21215
- ◇ **Sister Inez Watson & Family**, in the passing of her brother, George E. Augins, Jr.. Cards can be sent to: 7107 Portsmouth Road, Windsor Mill, MD 21244

Bible Text: _____

Speaker: _____

Subject: _____

Notes: _____

Bible Text: _____

Speaker: _____

Subject: _____

Notes: _____

Calvary Baptist Church Black History Month



Each entry must have it's own form and entry fee of \$10.00
See Rules for additional information.

When: Sunday, February 28, 2016 (Drop Off between 10:00AM & Noon)

Where: Calvary Baptist Church, Fellowship Hall

Cost: \$10.00 per entry

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Email: _____

Entry Name: _____

Entry Description: _____

Please CIRCLE the appropriate category you wish to participate in:

- 1) PIES/COBBLERS 2) CAKES/CUPCAKES/CHEESECAKES 3) COOKIES
- 4) BARS/BROWNIES 5) MUFFINS/BREADS

By signing below you agree to all rules and regulations on the separate sheet.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Submit complete applications and payment to Dr. Dorothea James,
Sis. Natalie White, or Sis. Wendy Johnson, 410-664-2111.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO⁸ CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH.

Bake Off Rules

1. Baked good entries are accepted on **Sunday, February 28, 2016** between 10:00AM & Noon in the Fellowship Hall.
2. All entries must be on non-returnable plate/pan/trays, and covered with plastic wrap for viewing & sanitation.
3. Multiple entries are allowed, but limited to one (1) entry per category.
4. All entries must be from scratch, to include crust and pie shells. No Store brought/pre-baked entries allowed.
5. Each entry must have a separate entry form.
6. Refrigeration is not available. Items that require refrigeration after baking are the sole responsibility of the entrant.
7. Contestants must be present during the announcement to win. \$10.00 is required for each entry.
8. All entry forms must be submitted no later than **Monday, February 22, 2016**. No entry form will be accepted on the day of the bake off judging.
9. At the time of submission all entries must include full recipe (preferably typed) listing all ingredients with measurements, instructions and baking times.

On the day of judging, we will provide a label for your entry, so please do not mark or identify your entry. All entries become the property of the Calvary Baptist Church. All proceeds from the bake off will help toward the 10th Pastoral Anniversary Celebrations.

Scoring is based on the following:

1. Taste [50%]
2. Appearance [25%]
3. Originality/Creativity [25%]

Entry requirements are as follows:

Pies/Cakes/Cobblers/Breads must be a full size (minimum 8 inch round or square)

Cookies/Bars/Brownies/Cupcakes/Muffins must be 1 dozen (12) minimum

*This is the minimum entry amount. All submissions will be sold after the judging.
Additional supply for the sale would be greatly appreciated.*

Bake Off Schedule:

Drop Off Time: 10:00AM—Noon

Judging Time: 12:30PM—1:30PM

Competition Winners Announced: 1:45PM

Bake Sale: Directly after the announcement all baked items will be on sale

Bible Text: _____

Speaker: _____

Subject: _____

Notes: _____

Bible Text: _____

Speaker: _____

Subject: _____

Notes: _____



Obey God's command to, "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. " (II Timothy 2: 15).

Purpose: To help shape your Christian character to the end that you may be built up in Christ, enlightened, and God's Kingdom advanced.

Requirements: There are no admission requirements except a strong desire to study God's Word. Students may enroll for one or more courses. Students must purchase the course textbooks [where applicable] and commit to attending classes regularly.



120: NEW LIFE CONTINUING EDUCATION: Knowing God

The "Knowing God" course is for individuals who are new to the body of Christ. It serves as a continuation of study following the new member class. Students will understand that there is a profound worth in knowing God and they will understand that God wants them to know Him intimately no matter their situation and/or circumstance.

Facilitator: The Diaconate

Location: Sundays The White House or **Thursdays:** Fellowship Hall

Day: Sundays, 10:00AM (Beginning Sunday, February 7, 2016)

or Thursdays, 7:00PM (Beginning, Thursday, February 11, 2016)

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REGISTRATION FORM

Please drop completed forms in the offering basket, box in the Narthex, Administrative Offices or return to Dr. Dorothea James.

NAME: _____

Telephone # (H) _____ (W) _____

Email Address: _____

Youth Guardian: NAME _____

Guardian Contact Number: _____ Email: _____

Street: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Indicate which day of the week you would like to take the course: _____

Calendar of Events

Bible Text: _____

Speaker: _____

Subject: _____

Notes: _____

Sundays: Services are held at **8:00AM & 11:00AM**. Communion is served the **1st Sunday** of the month. Baptism and/or Right Hand of Fellowship is extended the **2nd Sunday** of the month. Children's/Men's Choir sing the **5th Sunday** of the month.

Mondays:

10:00AM: Praisercise (WILL RESUME IN FEBRUARY)

6:00PM: Deaconesses Fasting & Praying (Every 3rd Monday)

7:00PM: Drama Rehearsal (Please email Deacon Terry Stanley, tls000@hotmail.com if interested)

7:00PM: Adult Bible Study

7:00PM: Trustee Board Meetings (Every 2nd Monday)

7:00PM: Joint Board Meeting (Every 4th Monday)

7:00PM: Scholarship Committee Meeting (Every 3rd Monday)

Tuesdays:

10:00AM: Staff Meetings

6:00PM: Band Rehearsal

7:00PM: Voices of Victory Choir Rehearsal. All are welcome!

Wednesdays

11:00AM: Prime Age Ministry

12:00PM: Noon Bible Study with the Pastor

7:00PM: Bible Study with the Pastor

Thursdays

7:00PM: Women's Bible Study

7:00PM: Men's Bible Study

Fridays

10:00AM—1:00PM: Food Pantry, White House

6:00PM: Narcotics Anonymous, White House

6:30PM: Intermediate Ushers (2nd and 4th Friday only)

7:00PM: Men's Fellowship (1st Friday only)

7:00PM: Prison Prayer Ministry Meeting (Every 3rd Friday)

Saturdays

9:30AM: Deacons/Deaconesses Ministry Meeting (Every 1st Saturday)

10:00AM: Youth Cooking Class (Every 2nd Saturday)

10:00AM: New Members Class (Every 3rd Saturday)

10:00AM: Focus 2020 (Every 4th Saturday)

10:30AM: Greeters Ministry (Every 2nd Saturday)

11:00AM: Art for Love (Every 2nd Saturday)

12:30PM: Julia Reed/Senior Ushers Meeting (Every 3rd Saturday)

BULLETIN BOARD

PROJECTED 2016 ANNUAL EVENTS

Black History Celebration—Month of February

Missions Giveaway—Saturday, April 9th

Usher's Anniversary—Sunday, April 24th

95th Church Anniversary – Sunday, May 22nd

Graduation Sunday—Sunday, July 17th

Family & Friends Day—Saturday, July 30th

Back to School Giveaway—Saturday, August 13th

10th Pastoral Pre-Anniversary Revival Services

Wednesday, October 12th—Friday, October 14th

Pastoral Anniversary—Sunday, October 16th

College Tour—Monday, November 14th

Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway—Saturday, November 19th

Harvest Sunday, November 20th

Church Conference—Saturday, December 10th

Leadership Consecration—Sunday, December 11th

Angel Tree Exchange—Saturday, December 17th

Christmas Production—Friday, December 23rd

Summit—TBD

VBS—TBD



We are seeking men and women to teach classes in Children's Church during both **8:00AM & 11:00AM** worship service. Persons interested should: Be at least 18 years of age and a member, Have some child care experience (preferred), Drug and alcohol free, Be available 4 Sundays of the month, Willing to miss sermon during teaching time, Be available for training, Work well with others, Able to climb stairs, Willing to complete background check. Please see Rev. Swakuu Karim or any member of the Children's Ministry.



The Julia Reed Nurses are proud to aim to be sure that the church is covered with at least one nurse each Sunday at both **8:00AM** and **11:00AM** worship service. However, during our **8:00AM** service, we only have one nurse who is in need of assistance so that she can rotate. If you have experience in care giving, we welcome you to join us! We are also a teaching ministry in the area of healthcare. Specializing in comforting bereaved families. We will guide and prepare you to function as a church nurse if you desire to join us. Please call Sis. Learnie Donovan at (410)664-7360 or Sis. Mary Ware at (410)566-0717 for any additional information.



Interesting in participating in our 2016 Back2School Giveaway? Below are a list of scheduled meetings for 2016. All meetings are scheduled for 6:30PM. Any additional questions, please see Sister Lettia Trusty or contact the church office. **January 11th; February 8th; March 14th; April 11th; May 9th; June 6th; July 11th and August 8th.**

Special Thanks to all that sponsored and assisted with the Angel Tree Ministry Event. We were able to sponsor 48 children. What a delight to see the smiles on the faces of the children when our beloved Santa, Deacon Darrow called out their names to receive their gifts and share in the taking of photos with Santa.



Our invited guest as well as Calvary members were ministered to in song, dance and drama by our children's ministry and the Gospel message was presented to the children about the GIFT of Jesus Christ. We enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by our Culinary Committee and enjoyed a wonderful fellowship.

Thanks to all who sponsored and assisted with the Missions Ministry during our 1st Toy Drive. Through your generosity, we were able to bless over 10 families and their children with brand new toys.

To God Be the Glory for the Great things he has done and continues to do within Calvary Baptist Church!