



# Calvary's Voice

NOVEMBER 2023 – DECEMBER 2023

## Greetings MCBC and All Our Friends

**T**ake the time out to Praise the Lord. For God has done great things for us.

As we gather to celebrate the goodness of the Lord to us in this 123rd church anniversary, we reflect and give thanks. Let's not forget the journey of this past year. ...the journey of 123 years. From 1900 to 2023 the "Hand of the Lord" has been on the members and leadership of this church. Many of the accomplishments are due to the saints of old who endured and instilled in generations to come the vision of ministry and community.

As we look to the future we do so with bright hope and great expectations. For it is the same God who made ways for past who will also make ways for our future.

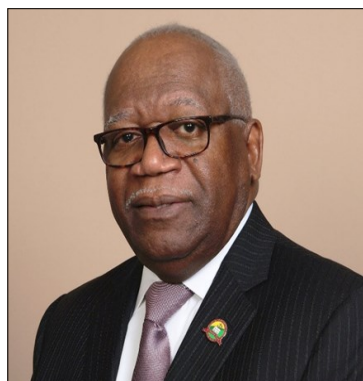
Thanks for the saints who cheer us on from the balcony of heaven; the saints who labor and work in this

present age and the saints yet to come will build on the foundation that has been laid.

"Our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness."

## Blessings on the Journey!

**Pastor Stowers**



## Vision Statement

Mount Calvary Baptist Church seeks to be a "Teaching Church", Empowering people through the Word of GOD to effect change in their lives and the life of the community.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Nov 12th –15th: New Era Missionary Baptist Convention**

**Nov 18th: Food Distribution**

**Nov 23rd: Thanksgiving**

**Dec 25th: Christmas**

**Dec 31st: New Years Eve**

**Mt. Calvary Baptist Church**

**17 Fairburn Road, SW**

**Atlanta, GA 30331**

**404-696-1039**

**Rev. Douglas E. Stowers, Pastor**

**[www.atlmtcalvary.org](http://www.atlmtcalvary.org) -**

**[Facebook.com/AtlMtCalvary](https://www.facebook.com/AtlMtCalvary)**

**Brianna Stephens—Editor**

**Amari Lockhart— Designer**



**Greetings my Mt. Calvary Family,**

As we enter this holiday season, we give much thanks unto the Lord for all he has done for us. As you read this article may you reflect on what it truly means to be thankful and how gracious and merciful

God has been to us.

What does it mean to be thankful?

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

Is thankfulness about material gain?

Is thankfulness about status or position?

Thankfulness is about remembering what God has done and not what we think we have gained. Thankfulness is remembering the blessings in the past, present and even the future.

Thankfulness is remembering the goodness of God. Happy Thanksgiving!

God has given us another year of Advent to celebrate one of the greatest and most precious gifts.

“The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.” -Matthew 20:28

Another year has almost ended, and we are thankful that God has kept us.

Glory to the Newborn King!

The day God blessed us with His Son, the only source of eternal life. Jesus came to serve. On this wondrous day, celebrate. Exclaim, “Emmanuel! God is with us!”

My Prayer:

Heavenly Father, my heart is filled with love for You. Thank you, Father, for Your immeasurable gift.

**Love is Forever,  
Lady Wanda Stowers**





# NEW ERA MISSIONARY BAPTIST CONVENTION OF GEORGIA, INC

The Forty-First Annual Edward R. Davie Missions Conference was held on Saturday, September 9th at the New Era Baptist Center in Griffin, Georgia.

The theme for the conference is shown above highlighted in red. Praise and Thanksgiving to God for a very successful event. All the presenters were par-excellent from the Vice President at Large from PNBC Missions, Rev. Karen Belton, who spoke on “God’s First Responders: See, Say and Do, to Mrs. Valerie Hardmon from St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church, who spoke on “Sower, Seeds, Soil & Servant to Ms. Lisa Stowers who spoke on Life’s Disappointments, what a magnificent presentation she did, and she’s from the Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, someone said to me, she needs to put that in a book and last but not least, Mt. Calvary’s very own Sister Pattie Poole-Mobley, superintendent of Church School, who always give us enlighten information whenever she speaks, spoke on “Living A Life of Servanthood” .

The youth were on fire and had everyone standing on their feet, the youth participants were:

Master Dakota White – Dixie Hills First Baptist Church – Rapped the 66 books of the Bible- he was awesome!!! I call him the Dixie Hills Rapper.

Ms. Kimora Cole, Beulah Baptist Church -Missionary Work- “A Youth’s Vision”

Ms. Aleya Johnson – Mt. Moriah Baptist Church – Poem “All Things Beautiful”

St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church – Liturgical Dancers, there were 7 in the group and how beautiful they looked in their purple and white attire. Thank you, Mrs. Shelia Johnson.

The melodious voice of Mrs. Sandra Hood-Stroud of Mt. Zion Baptist Church sang “The Goodness of God” I felt like she was singing especially to me and I’m sure others felt that same way. All the Music was played by Sister Portia Lacy, First Lady of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Griffin, she led us in all our mission songs and closed us out with “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus” Hallelujah!!

Reverend Karen Kelley was our president, did a fantastic job in keeping everyone on time and keeping us moving. The devotion team got us ready for worship and to hear what the Lord was sending to encourage our hearts.

I especially want to thank the committee that worked so diligently with me in person and by way of zoom, text, and email in order that Heaven would be happy, and that God would be pleased with our efforts. Sister Barbara Morris, Sister Chris Glover, and Sister Shelia Jenkins. The food was delicious, and we had more than enough to get seconds.

We must give a shoutout to Rev. Stanley Smith, Deacon Lee Kelley, and Deacon Jimmy Jenkins for all they did to help us out. Thank you.

Even though the conference was a success, the most heartwarming moment was when Sister Joyce Davis, her son James and Sister Carolyn Price appeared on the property from Savannah. I said to Sister Davis, I

can’t believe you are here, and she said, “I promised you I would be here”.

Sister Davis husband Mr. James Davis passed on Sunday, September 3rd they were married for 63 years and his homegoing celebration was held on Monday, September 11th. Our deepest condolences to the family and their friends.

I want to thank everyone who brought or sent donations to be given to the Christian Women Center in Griffin. The director, Ms. Leslie McMichael, was overwhelmed with emotion when she saw all the supplies. She gave us an overview of what they do to help women in a 12-month program. She also brought a member that is now in the center and is going through the program. They do great work and she herself went through the program and is now the director.

I want to thank everyone who came out early Saturday morning to be present for the conference. We had a total of 83 attendees including the children and I must thank my Mt. Calvary family for their support and especially Pastor and Lady Stowers, who is always there to support us.

I cannot close this article out without saying thank you to our Convention President, President Rosa Williams for the opportunity to coordinate this Forty-First Edward R. Davie Missions Conference. To God Be the Glory!!

I pray God’s continued Grace, Mercy, and Peace to supplied to everyone from this day forward and for evermore.

**Sis. Betty Chandler**

## MCBC'S MISSION MINISTRY

---



**Mt. Calvary Mission Ministry attendees at the Edward R. Davie Missions Conference were Sister Shirley Seymour and Sister Janie Lowe. Not present were Sister Ilene Simmons and Sister Barbara Chapman. Other attendees at the conference were Pastor Douglas Stowers, Lady Wanda Stowers, Rev. Kenneth Brown, Sister Delita Brown, Sister Bettye Reid, Ms. Amari Lockhart, Brother James McWhorter, Deacon Leander Parker, Deaconess Carolyn Parker, and Sister Mary Armour.**



# LOVING GOD IN LIFE'S DISAPPOINTMENTS (SUMMARY)

SISTER LISA STOWERS - EDWARD R. DAVIE MISSIONS



**D**isappointments will come in life; it has no boundaries and will show up wherever and whenever it decides. The focus should not be on how to avoid disappointment, but how to respond when it shows up. The world's approach to disappointment is a "woe is me", response, filled with murmuring and complaining. "Why me!" "I can't catch a break; it always happens to me!" How are we to process disappointment as believers? How do we love God in life's disappointments? As a member of the Body of Christ we should apply and follow the instructions and examples found in the scriptures. 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18 (NKJV), "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks..."

The first thing we should do is respond with praise and thanksgiving. This might seem odd. Why would I give praise and thanksgiving during a disappointing time? So many times, we are told what to do without an understanding of why we do things a certain way. The mouth is a powerful weapon and what comes out of it can make your situation better or much worse. The Israelites murmuring and complaining along with their actions turned an eleven-day journey into 40 years. Proverbs 18:21 (AMP), "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it and indulge it will eat its fruit and bear the consequences of their words." When your mouth is filled with praise there is no room for murmuring and complaining.

There is protection in praising and giving honor to God. Look at the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego found in the 3rd chapter of Daniel. In verses 16-18, they identified and remedied the disappointment in one statement., all while giving God the honor and glory. We all know how the situation worked out. As a result of the three Hebrew boys responding well in their disappointment, it led to promotion and had non-believers confessing and giving honor and glory to God. Disappointment can turn into blessings, not just for yourself but others as well.

Think of disappointments as steppingstones along the path that God has for you. Remember what is meant for evil, God can use for good. When disappointment comes, remember to respond well. Watch what comes out of your mouth., speak blessings over your situation and not curses. Find scriptures that speak to your situation and keep them at the forefront of your mind, mouth, and heart. Proverbs 12:25(NKJV)" Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, but a good word makes it glad." The way to love God in life's disappointments is to follow his instructions and be an example to the world, that brings him all the glory and honor.

# “LIVING A LIFE OF SERVANTHOOD”

## SISTER PATTIE MOBLEY - EDWARD R. DAVIE MISSIONS



The forty-First Annual Edward R. Davie Missions Conference is centered around the theme “Being Fruitful in Every Good Work.” (Colossians 1:10) I was asked to give thought to the subject “Living a Life of Servanthood.” I quickly agreed but it didn’t take long for me to question what I was going to say to my Fellow Servants and a Convention of Believers, those who have already

come to an understanding that they are servants.

The spirit led me to ponder the key word in my topic, which is “LIFE.” Sometimes we try to make a distinction between our “regular” life and our “ministry/servanthood” life. There is no such distinction. We are servants of the Creator, and everything we do and say must reflect that reality. By the grace of God, we are “Living a Life of Servanthood.” Some of you might be saying I don’t know what my actual service is. Don’t worry! Roman 12:6A tells us that we have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. Then verse 7A reads “if it is serving, then serve.” 1 Corinthians 12 beginning at verse 7 says “Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. All these are the work of the same Spirit, and He distributes them to each one, just as He determines.”

When we think of service, we often make it about ourselves. We want to know what we are good at. We want to have talent that is on the same level as someone who has it all together. Even if we don’t want to admit it, we often want to use our gifts to demonstrate ourselves to others. The question isn’t “What do I do well?” but “How can I best serve others with what God has given me?” Today we will look at 5 Biblical Truths that we, as servant, possess and will continue to embrace during our Life of Servanthood.

#1 We are led by the Spirit: Being led by the Spirit is a Biblical key to a life of servanthood. God never intended for us to go it alone. He gave us His Son and the Holy Spirit to help us. In John 15:1-8. Jesus is talking to his disciples, about 24 hours before he is to be crucified. The illustration is that of a vineyard, which involves a vine dresser, the vine, and the branches. Jesus says, My Father is the vine dresser, and he has a lot of work to do tending the garden; He created it, so he knows what it needed to grow. Secondly, Jesus said, I am the vine and I have a lot of work to do to by way of the vine dresser to make sure all the nutrients and life-giving sources are provided to produce eternal fruit. Then he points to the disciples and says you are the branches. He points to the only thing in a working vineyard that does not work. He says to “Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself, it must remain in the vine.” The branches only focus is staying connected to the vine. If we stay focused on keeping our connection to vine secure, then by default we will produce fruit. It is by the Spirit that we are Living a life servanthood. John 15:1-8 Zechariah 4:6 John 6: 63 Proverbs 3:5-8

#2 – We follow The Master’s master principle: Jesus was a revolutionary, not in a warfare sense, but in His teaching on servanthood. The term servant sometime expressed low honor. Jesus used the term as a synonym for greatness. That was a revolutionary idea. Jesus spent all his earthly life doing the work of his Father that no one else could do. In John 13:12-15, he did something that anyone could, but nobody wanted to. He washed the feet of his Disciples. He clearly tells His Disciples and us that we are to follow his example. Is not so much an action as it is an attitude of humble service that should accompany all we do. By doing so, he both dignifies and demands from His followers’ humble acts of service. Why? Because doing so brings us face to face with the reality that Godly work is performed for the benefit of others, not merely for the fulfillment of ourselves.

If Jesus modeled servanthood and held it up as the standard for leadership in His kingdom. Shouldn't we hold the same standard in His kingdom here on earth? We should never abandon the towel and basin!

Mark 10:37-44 Mark 10:45 John 13:12-15

#3 – We are People of the Bible: One of the best things you can do to make yourself a better, more fruitful servant is to be a person of the Bible!

James in chapter 1:22-25 describes what the life of genuine, trusting, saving faith looks like. James makes it clear that those who trust God don't merely become experts at listening to God's Word. To believe is to act on what we hear. The doctrines of the Bible are designed to produce deeds — good deeds. Whatever your service is, there are going to be times when you are going to give counsel or advice. You might even have to reproof, correct, or train in righteousness. We have access to knowledge that is unshakably true and infinitely valuable. We are better equipped to serve when we use the teachings of the Bible in all our good work. Those we serve need God's Word. Opinions come and go, only God's opinion matters!

Isiah 55:11 James 1:22-25 2 Timothy 3:14-17

#4 – We are People of Prayer: Prayer is one of the greatest privileges we have as a Christian. However, we often make prayer something more complicated than it is and as a result miss the power of prayer in our Servanthood. As followers of Christ, we are committed to a lifestyle of prayer. Prayer should not be reserved just for the most extreme circumstances or when something bad happens and it should not be relegated to just some religious function. God wants to connect with us. For the Christian, praying should be like breathing. Just as breathing is the response of physical life to the presence of air, so prayer should be the response of spiritual life to the presence of God! Make it a habit, make it stimulating, make it by the

spirit and make it the word and will of God. Colossians 4:2 James 5:16-18

#5 – We possess a Servant's Mentality: The Word of God lays a solid, biblical foundation for what it means to have a servant mentality. You must have a mentality that says, "My purpose on this earth is to serve God." The attitude of a faithful servant should be like the attitude of Jesus, who humbled Himself and took on the nature of a servant. The motivation of a faithful servant is no matter what we do, we are to do everything to the glory of God. In the Great Commission of Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus gives instruction on the work of a faithful servant. He instructed His followers to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey everything Jesus commanded. Luke 12:37-38 tells us, amazingly, that for those servants who are found faithful, watching, and ready when the Master returns, He will come, seat them at the table and wait on them. In the last chapter of the Bible Jesus says, "Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done" Philippians 2:5-11 1st Corinthians 10:31 Matthew 28:18-20 Revelation 22:22

**Are you yet holding on? Well keep on keeping on!**

# MCBC'S WOMEN'S DAY 2023

On October 1st, 2023, the women of Mt. Calvary helped to coordinate the first Women's Day since the pandemic. The colors were navy blue with pink accessories. The theme: "United In Faith and Love Through Fellowship". The speaker Dr. Casina Washington of ITC, Hope Builders brought forth the message. Worship was led by **Lady Wanda Stowers, Sister Briana Stephens, Sister Carolyn Parker, Sister Valerie Crawford-Schuman, Sister Olsie Mitchell, and Sister Amari Lockhart.**



## ADAMSVILLE MURAL CEREMONY

On October 5th, 2023, our very own late Brother Melvin Reid was honored in the Adamsville legacy mural for his hard work and dedication to the community of Adamsville.





# “LOVE IN A BAG” BENEFITS L. P. MILES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Pastor Stowers informed the MCBC family of a need in our community of Adamsville. After explaining the details of the need, the church family happily agreed to support the ministry of “Love in A Bag.” We learned that help is needed in providing food items for lunch bags weekly for students at L.P. Miles Elementary School. Approximately 50 students are homeless, some are staying in hotels and others experience food insecurity, meaning they don't always know where they will get their next meal. For many of them, having breakfast and lunch at school helps during the week, but they often lack the resources when they are not in school.

Love in a Bag started in August and will end in May 2024. Led by the Mission Ministry, volunteers from the various Mt. Calvary ministries gathered

weekly on Thursday to assemble 50 bags that are transported to the school to be handed out on Friday. The goal is to provide meals on Saturday and Sunday. Students receive items that will cover 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners, water or juice and snacks. SWEAAC provides 5 items per child each week. They include 1 each: chips, crackers, breakfast bar, juice, and fruit snacks. Mt. Calvary adds cereal, chef Boyardee item, cup of noodles, peanut butter crackers, pretzels, and water. (Items are rotated weekly). Volunteers now gather at the church every 3 weeks to assemble 150 bags of food items, enough to cover 3 weekends for 50 students. The love and fellowship among the volunteers are evident as we all work together to assemble the bags under the efficient leadership of Sis. Ilene Simmons. Volunteers also assist with counting items in the store-room to keep an accurate record of items needed before purchasing additional items needed.

Food List of items purchased include (50 of each) Non-perishable food, chips, water, oatmeal, grits, cup of noodles, raisins, breakfast bars, fruit cups, fruit snacks, snack cakes. Individual cereal bowls or boxes, granola bars, juice boxes, Pop Tarts, pretzels, popcorn, individual packaged crackers, Slim Jims, tuna on the go, chicken on the go, macaroni and cheese in microwave cups, Chef Boyardee variety pack, peanut butter crackers and apple sauce.

Mt. Calvary's Benevolent Fund supports the purchase of items for “Love in a Bag. Please give generously to the Benevolent Fund and designate in the memo section “Love in a Bag”. For further information and to volunteer, please see Sis. Ilene Simmons. Thank you in advance for your support.

**True Christianity**  
**is**  
**Love in Action**

**Missions Ministry**

The impact we are making in the lives of children are evident in the testimonials below:



*The food bags help me by having canned foods at home and snacks at home on the weekends! I look forward to the cart coming to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade hallway!*

*J.B. (5<sup>th</sup> Grade Student)*

---

*Ms. Baldwin, I really want to thank Mt. Calvary Baptist Church for the food support, I have three children and no family here in Atlanta. The food bags that go home with my students on Friday truly are a blessing and I appreciate you for always thinking of my kids.*

*Ms. Banks (Parent)*

---

*Mt. Calvary has truly made an impact on the joy students look forward to each Friday! Students get excited knowing the bags are being distributed! I often get reminders early Monday mornings "Ms. Baldwin, don't forget about me on Friday". I assure every student that expressed a need, I will not forget! The team that gracefully prepares students reassurance of food on the weekends makes the profession of Social Work lighter! I truly appreciate you all for the support, joy, and dedication to changing the lives of the scholars at Miles Elementary School*

*Ms. Baldwin, School Social Worker*





# MCBC CELEBRATES 123 YEARS OF GROWTH AND BLESSINGS

On Sunday November 5th, 2023, Mt. Calvary family and friends gathered to celebrate it's 123rd church anniversary. The theme: "A Journey of Faith Rooted in Hope" Colossians 2:6-7. It was a day filled with celebrations and milestones. Reverend Stanley Smith of Greater Fellowship Baptist Church brought forth a mighty message entitled "Constant Blessings for Constant Battles" based on Acts 9:10-20. MCBC honored members celebrating 50 years of membership: **Sister Eugenia Chambliss, Sister Betty Roberts, and Sister Linda Gardner**. Baptized 2 of our newest members **Sister Quantella Phinnizee and Sister Cynthia Parker** who we welcome. We thank God for the growth, many blessings and how he has kept us through the years. May we continue to do the work that He has called us to and build for His kingdom. Glory be to God!

Rockdale Park 1900



Mount Calvary Baptist  
Church  
celebrates its  
123rd Church Anniversary

Adamsville 2023



MCBC Congratulates Members  
Celebrating 50 Years of  
Church Membership



