



# Calvary's Voice

JANUARY : NEW YEAR'S EDITION 2024

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## Happy New Year!

**Greetings MCBC and All Our Friends,**

**A**s we approach the beginning of new expectations we also reflect on the blessings of the past. Knowing that the goodness of the Lord has kept us and that we go forth with the promises of God as we journey into this New Year.

The future is as bright and sure as the promises of God. God has proven that He's the same yesterday, today, and forever more and that His mercy is new every morning. That's our foundation,

knowing that He's a keeper of His word. Not some days but all days – evermore!

As we walk in faith into the future, we do so with awesome and great expectations. Because we don't walk alone; He promised to never leave us nor forsake us.

We Thank God for what has happened, and we give thanks for the blessings that are yet to come.

As we travel from earth to eternity on kingdoms highway.

“Walk together children don't get weary, there's a great camp meeting in the promise land.”

**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.



## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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**Greetings my Mt. Calvary family,**

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Colossians 2:6-7(NIV)

**A**s we have said goodbye to 2023 and welcomed in 2024, be filled with thankfulness because God is with you! He is faithfully sending you His strength, courage, and blessings. Thank Him for a new year and all the new opportunities to renew your dedication to living a life that brings Him glory.

**My prayer:**

Lord, thank You for life and for this new year ahead with all its precious wonder, hopes, dreams, and opportunities.

**Love is Forever,  
Lady Wanda Stowers**



## START THE NEW YEAR OFF RIGHT!

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If you are like me, you might be asking yourself, “How did 2023 go by so fast? Whether we like it or not, December is over and January is here – a new

year with new possibilities. Every year, the month of January generates its own thoughts and emotions. Some of us eagerly look forward to what the New Year holds. Many determine to make a fresh start by visiting the gym, setting goals, or making resolutions. Others may sigh in relief that 2023 is finally over.

As we look back at 2023 and look forward to 2024, let’s be reminded that whatever happens, God is still God, and He’s still on the Throne. Whether we experience God’s goodness and abundance this year may be determined by how we choose to enter it. One way to start this New Year out right is to be in church. So many people let the cares of this world and the distraction of life keep them from making church a vital part of their lifestyle. When I was growing up, life revolved

around the church. Sadly, church for many today seems to have become just another event that we have to make room for in our schedules.

Let’s not leave God out of the picture – instead, let us look to Him. More than ever before, we must choose to believe His Word. He is faithful and His promises are true. If we want to go where we have never gone before, we must follow the Word of God and the direction of His Holy Spirit as we have never followed before. God wants us to have eyes to see what He is doing, and ears to hear what the Holy Spirit is saying; then we will be able to walk in the plan God has for His people here at Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. Amen!

Let us begin this New Year by remaining faithful to God; not failing to assemble ourselves together. Take time to worship the Lord; to pray and wait on Him. Tell Him how much you love Him and thank Him for His goodness and mercy for allowing us to see another year.

**A Happy and Prosperous New Year to all.**

**Sis. Janie Lowe**

# “THE FUTURE OF OUR YOUTH”

## DEACON LEANDER PARKER



As we have ended 2023 and stepped into 2024, we are so thankful for our youth and for what they have done this past year and the promises of what they are going to do in 2024. Our youth are showing their gifts and talents as they continue to give excellent presentations during worship service on the fourth Sunday with their presentations during A Moment In Black History. On the fifth Sunday they are given the responsibility of leading the congregation in worship. In the previous article written about our youth ministry, it was mentioned tentative dates for two upcoming events, Bang the Gavel, and the youth outing to Calloway Gardens. I will take a moment and expound on the details of these two events.

On Saturday, August 22nd, 2023, twenty-eight (28) youth and adults visited Calloway Gardens for an all-day outing. Our youth enjoyed swimming and wadding on the beach, visiting several other venues that were on site and ending the day by attending the circus presented by Calloway Gardens. Our youth enjoyed the beach so much that many of them requested us to bring them back again and again. On August 28, 2023, eight (8) youth from Mt. Calvary and five (5) youth from local High Schools in the community rose early to attend and participate in the Fulton

County Magistrate Court program “Bang the Gavel.” Special thanks to Mrs. Linda Gardner & Mrs. Mildred Byrd for volunteering their time to assist as needed chaperones for this group event. During the Bang the Gavel outing, the youth had the opportunity to meet and greet many of the Magistrate Court judges and key staff. The youth also had the opportunity to observe a civil court trial and participated in a mock criminal court trial lead by Magistrate Court Chief Judge, Cassandra Kirk. Our youth role played all the characters needed to make up and present this trial. Their role-playing skills were just outstanding.

Please continue to pray for and encourage our youth as they actively continue to participate in our youth ministry. We are blessed to have in this ministry: Sanaa McClure, Isaac Baker, Dennis Makumi, Demi Makumi, Jacob Walker, Sincer Henderson, Malika Phillips, Jerimiah Carter, Diamond Makumi, Perryl Carter, Naomi Jordan, Constance Byrd, Khylee Hill, Miah Todd, Jomar Todd & Christopher Palmer. We welcome Lleyton Long as she and her mother recently joined the Mt. Calvary family.

Finally, I would like to share five good reasons why it is important to bring your children to church:

**1. Bringing your child/children to Church frequently, (preferable weekly) helps develop a habit.** In (Proverbs 22:6) the Bible instructs parents to train up a child in the way he or

she should go, and when he or she is old, they won't depart from it. Regularly bringing your child to church means on Sunday morning getting them out of bed and away from those games helps inspire responsibility and accountability. It is a known fact, when youth participate regularly in activities at church, they are learning responsibility and accountability. Even if they have chores at home, it is important for them to learn responsibility in a variety of other ways.

When children are given responsibility like helping lead worship, singing in the choir, participating as ushers, helping collect the offering, assisting with opening the door for elderly church members and visitors, they are learning that their help is an important part of making church happen.

## **2. Regularly attending church helps them with their problem-solving skills.**

Just because it is church doesn't mean there won't be problems! While in church they might get the opportunity to observe how to get a cranky baby to cheer up? Several other members may

not show up for their duties, therefore, they might observe how improvisations or adjustments are made to continue worship. They might witness the electronic screen & TV monitors or PA system going out, but the worship service continues. When key members don't show up, the Pastor makes adjustments and still delivers an exceptional spirit filled sermon.

## **3. Attending church regularly helps build Confidence**

– When children serve at church, it builds their confidence. Children need to be given things to do so they can feel needed and important. When they do something well and are thanked or acknowledged by church members and leaders. This small act of kindness significantly helps to build a child's self-esteem into believing they can do more.

## **4. Regularly attending church helps build healthy relationships**

– When youth are at church, they are surrounded by other Godly people treating each other with respect. Many kids today just don't have this at home or at school. They don't know how a

Godly man or woman acts or behaves because they don't have anyone like that in their life to model after. By frequently attending and serving at church, they can observe more of other adults interacting positively and treating each other Godly. They can see healthy ways to deal with issues or stressful situations.

## **5. Regularly attending church expands the possibility of finding mentors.**

Every child needs a mentor of some kind. By serving at church, they will be serving alongside Godly men and women who can pour into them, encourage them, and even take them under their wing. This is especially true for children that don't have the best home life or positive people in their lives.

I am excited about God's promise for our youth ministry in 2024 simply because God has blessed us with so much this past year. My motto for 2024, **"With God's Help Bring It On."**

# MCBC'S SHOUT OUT CORNER:

## BRIEL HILL



On Sunday December 31st, 2023, Briel Hill was named the first recipient to be awarded the MCBC Cornell Seymour Scholarship. **Congratulations Briel!**



# MCBC'S 2023 PHOTO RECAP







  
**Mobile Food Distribution**
  
 SATURDAY | 10:30AM
   
 MT. CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
   
 \*Free Fruits and Vegetables\*
   
 \*Please bring your own bags and/or boxes\*





