



# THE *Mount Calvary* MESSENGER

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

DECEMBER

2024



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

- ◆ Message From Pastor Bob
- ◆ December 2024 Theme & Advent Scripture
- ◆ Church-Wide Announcements
- ◆ Advent Message



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## *From The Pastor's Pen...*



Greetings Family!

While Thanksgiving leftovers are still taking up space in the refrigerator, we turn the page to December and there is Advent staring at us in the face. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of God with us in Christ.

The Advent season can be both a time of somber reflection and joyous remembrance. We remember the baby Jesus born in a manger and we prepare for His second coming. return.

As the days get shorter this time of year, sometimes our moods become less bright, but into this increased darkness shines the hope of Advent, the coming of Christ! In our worship, we symbolize Christ's coming by lighting candles on the Advent wreath. During the four Sundays of Advent, we will be lighting candles that represent hope, peace, joy, and love. Light is a significant part of celebrating the birth of Jesus, who called himself the Light of the World. We will light trees, Advent wreaths, candles and any number of things to symbolize our faith in the coming light that pierces the darkness. Over the years we have added to the tradition of lights with decorations, food, fellowship, and the giving and receiving of presents. These can be wonderful parts of this time of the year, but may we never lose the incredible "awe" of God coming among us through the Christ child.

December is also our ***"Come Home for Christmas!"*** Again, this year we are inviting you to ***"Come Home for Christmas!"*** In addition to yourself, we ask that you invite a family member, a friend, a member, a former member, a wanna be member, or a stranger to celebrate the Lord with us in our Sunday Morning Worship Experience either in person or virtually during this Advent Season. Write, Call, Text, Email, X (Twitter), Instagram, IM, or Facebook an invite to them.

Finally, despite the challenges of our current circumstances, I hope the upcoming holiday season will recalibrate our perspectives and bring a sense of thankfulness and humility for the blessings we undeservedly receive from our God.

It is my prayer you will be moved and transformed during this Advent and Christmas Season.

Be Encouraged and Stay in His Grip!  
Pastor Bob

**Have A Very Merry Christmas!!!**

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# ORDER of *Worship*

Call to Worship

Invocation

Selection

Scripture

Welcome

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*

Sermonic Selection

Preached Word of God

Invitation to Accept Christ

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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## December 2024 Theme and Advent Scripture

“Preparing Room in our Hearts and Minds  
for the Gift of Jesus’ Presence in Our Lives”

“Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a Son, and they shall  
call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.”

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### CHURCH-WIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **December 1st deadline - Health & Wellness Ministry Coat Drive.** Please drop your donation in the bin located in the Narthex.
- ◆ **December 6th - Family Christmas Pajama Party** hosted by the **Youth Ministry** from 7pm - 10 pm.
- ◆ **December 8th - New Members Read-In** in at the 10 am Worship service. In addition, the **Music Ministry** will be hosting a **Christmas Concert** at 4 pm. [Registration](#) is required.
- ◆ **The Harvest Meals for the Hungry Ministry Christmas Dinner** will be held on **Tuesday, December 10th**. To volunteer to serve or make a donation for food items, please contact *Rev. Thomasine (410-967-6788)*.
- ◆ **December 11th - Church Conference** at 7 pm in the Family Life Center.
- ◆ **December 13th - Join WOW** as they discuss chapter 9 - “*Boost Your Impact*,” in Dr. Darius Daniels’ book “*Your Purpose Is Calling*.” This session is open to all, even if you have not read the book or chapter, come and gain valuable insights that can significantly impact your personal growth and connect with other women of Mt. Calvary. They are excited to see you there. See You There!
- ◆ **December 15th - Demonstration Sunday** at 10 am! Also, the **All Members Christmas Celebration** will commence following the Sunday Worship Service.
- ◆ **December 17th - 3rd Quarterly Conference** at 6 pm in the sanctuary.
- ◆ **December 22nd - Come Home For Christmas Worship Service** at 10 am.
- ◆ **December 30th - Pastor Bob’s Birthday** and **Pastor & Rev. Angie’s Wedding Anniversary**.
- ◆ **December 31st - Watch Night Service** at 6pm in the Sanctuary.
- ◆ The **2024 Giving Statements** will be available in January. To obtain your statement, click on this [link](#) and complete & submit the Member Contact Update and Giving Statement Request form.

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## CELEBRATING THE ADVENT SEASON

December 1 - December 24, 2024

***“Immanuel, God with Us: Preparing room in our hearts & minds for the gift of Jesus’ presence in our lives.”***

*“Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.”*

*Matthew 1:23 NKJV*



Advent starts at the beginning of the Christian Year, liturgical calendar. The word “Advent” means “arrival.” Leading up to Christmas, the Advent Season celebrates Jesus’ first arrival and reminds us that He will soon come again (The 2nd Advent). For the next 25 days, join us as we read the story of Jesus’ Birth and remember the promises He came to fulfill (*Matthew 1:18 -25 & 1 John 1: 5-9*).

For Christians, the four weeks leading up to Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> are an opportunity to recognize the significance of Jesus’ Birth and prepare our hearts and minds for His arrival. The holidays can become hectic, but we have to come to a *Spiritual Mindset* that “Jesus is the Reason for the Season.” Slowing down and creating time to spend alone with God must become a daily inward discipline. If we want to have time to reflect on all God has done over the last year and prepare for all He wants to do in the future, we have to make it a priority. Here are three lessons we can learn about Advent from Jesus’ Birth:

1. ***Recognize God’s Love.*** Out of God’s great love for you and me, He sent His Son to earth as a gift for us. Jesus came, lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and then overcame death. Because of Jesus, *we have Forgiveness, Life, Hope, Joy, and Peace.*
2. ***Advent is an opportunity to recognize Jesus’ Birth and prepare our hearts and minds for His arrival.*** If we are not intentional about making a place for Jesus in our hearts and minds, the next four weeks of the Advent Season will be gone, and we will not have embraced The true meaning of the Season, “Immanuel, (God with Us).” Slowing down and creating time to spend alone with God takes effort. If we want to have time to reflect on all God has done over the last year and prepare for all He wants to do in the future, we have to make it a priority.
3. ***Celebrate and share the gift of Jesus’ presence in our lives.*** This Christmas, let us celebrate the gift of Jesus with others. As we gather with friends and family that we haven’t seen in a while, let’s share with them how the birth of Jesus over 2,000 years ago is still impacting our lives today.

As we light the Advent Candles: *Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, and The Christ Candle*, let us demonstrate the transformation in our lives that comes from the work of the Holy Spirit that enables us to recognize the significance of Jesus’ Birth and the spiritual impact on believing that God (Immanuel) is with us.

Rev. Thomasine Adams  
Prayer and Spiritual Formation



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## COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22nd...



“About that time Caesar Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Empire. This was the first census when Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone had to travel to his own ancestral hometown to be accounted for.

So Joseph went from the Galilean town of Nazareth up to Bethlehem in Judah, David’s town, for the census. As a descendant of David, he had to go there. He went with Mary, his fiancée, who was pregnant.”

*Luke 2:1-5 (MSG)*

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### Celebrating Pastor Bob’s Birthday December 30, 2024



A special **Blessed Happy Birthday** to our handsome, loving, warm, kind, wonderful, awesome, incredible, powerful man of God, & pastor, **Rev. Bobby B. Cox, Jr.** Pastor Bob, we pray that during your brand new season that God will grant you His richest blessings, underserved favor, loving kindness, overflowing goodness, unwavering love, and unmeasurable blessings to the overflow!

**Happy Birthday Pastor Bob!!**

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**Special Note:** “Mt. Calvary Friends and Families join us in sharing your holiday wishes for the First Family. We’re collecting cards for: Christmas, Pastor Bob’s Birthday Pastor Bob and Reverend Angie’s Anniversary.” A special card box will be located in the Narthex after Sunday Service beginning **December 8, 2024.**

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## December Prayer Requests

Pastor and Rev. Angie Cox  
Bro. Andrew Adams  
Bro. Bruce Ashe  
Mother Cleo Cole  
Bro. Carlton Epps  
Sis. Vivian Fenton  
Sis. Florine Fields  
Sis. Nadine Marsh



Sis. Gerri Miles  
Sis. Cynthia Whye  
Bro. Derrick Watson  
Bro. Warren Whitworth  
Christmas Outreach Missions  
Ministerial Staff  
Ministries & Ministry Leaders  
Mt. Calvary Church Family

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### Please join us in our weekly **POWER CELLS!**

- Join us on the **6am Jewel Cromwell Johnson Prayer Line** on **Monday-Friday** for Prayer and Devotion.  
**Phone Conference Call Line:**  
725-735-9012 (**No Passcode**)
- Join us every **Thursday** for **Thursday Treats for the Thirsty - Zooming in His Word** at 7pm.
- **Church School** - 9:00 - 9:45 am in the FLC.
- **Church-wide Bible Study** - (No Bible Study during the month of December (4th, 11th, & 25th).

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Merry Christmas  
from our family to yours...

And the angel said to them,  
“Fear not, for behold, I bring  
you good news of great joy that  
will be for all the people. For  
unto you is born this day in the  
city of David a Savior, who is  
Christ the Lord.

~ Luke 2:10-11

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Family Christmas Pajama Party



*You are invited to a*

# FAMILY CHRISTMAS PAJAMA PARTY

*HOSTED BY THE*

**YOUTH MINISTRY**

**EAT, PLAY & BE MERRY**

**DEC  
6th**

**7 PM UNTIL 10 PM**

**Gift Wrapping for  
a Donation**

**White Elephant, Karaoke, Family Feud & More**

**Mount Calvary AME Church | 300 Eudowood Lane Towson, MD 21286  
410-296-9474 | [www.mtcalvarvame.org](http://www.mtcalvarvame.org)**



Church Conference & Quarterly Conference

DECEMBER  
11

MT. CALVARY AME CHURCH

# CHURCH

## CONFERENCE

WITH PASTOR

**BOBBY B. COX JR**

**7:00PM..... IN THE FLC**



300 EUDOWOOD LANE TOWSON, MD 21286 | 410-296-9474 | WWW.MTCALVARYAME.ORG



# QUARTERLY

*Conference*

START

**6:00 PM**

PASTOR **BOBBY B. COX JR**

**PRESIDING ELDER JOHNNY CALHOUN**

Tuesday  
December  
17

In the  
Sanctuary

Mount Calvary AME Church  
300 Eudowood Lane, Towson, MD 21286  
410.296.9474 | www.mtcalvaryame.org

MT CALVARY AME CHURCH

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All Members Christmas Celebration

MT. CALVARY A.M.E. CHURCH



ALL MEMBERS

*Christmas*

CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING  
SERVICE

MUST REGISTER TO ATTEND

SPONSORED BY ALL MINISTRIES AT  
MT. CALVARY A.M.E. CHURCH

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Christmas with Christ: A Workshop Concert...



**DEC 8** SUN  
4PM

**MT. CALVARY  
AME CHURCH**

300 EUDOWOOD LN  
TOWSON, MD 21286

**FREE ADMISSION**

TO REGISTER FOR CHOIR VISIT



# Celebrating Pastor Bob & Rev. Angie's Wedding Anniversary December 30, 2024



A special **Happy Wedding Anniversary** to our amazing first couple, **Pastor Bob & Rev. Angie**. We pray that your anniversary will be one filled with love, joy, happiness, merriment, and blessings upon blessings upon blessings!! We all love you both & there is nothing you can do about it.

Special Birthday greetings goes out to all those celebrating a birthday in the month of **December**, from your CCU Leader Sis. Leslie Green & Sis. Delores Felton (mtcalvarydecemberclass1@gmail.com)



Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.  
Malachi 3:10

**5 Ways to Give**

**Mount Calvary AME Church**



**ONLINE** [www.mtcalvaryame.org](http://www.mtcalvaryame.org)  
click the give tab.

**PHONE** 410-296-9474

**MAIL-IN** Mail your gift:  
Mount Calvary AME Church  
PO Box 20416 | Towson, MD 21286

**IN-PERSON**  
Drop off your gift at the church office: Mt. Calvary AME Church  
349 Eudwood Lane | Towson, MD 21286

**SMART DEVICE**  
Cash App **\$MTCALVARY349**



**Mount Calvary AME Church**  
300 Eudwood Lane  
Towson, MD 21286  
410-296-9474 (phone) 410-296-8710 (fax)  
adminasst@mtcalvaryame.org  
[www.mtcalvaryame.org](http://www.mtcalvaryame.org)

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

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).