Embracing The Not Yet

Isaiah 43:18-21

FEATUREING
PASTOR’S PEN
NAACP HONORS CALVARY
TOUCH MINISTRY RECOGNIZED
ILLUMINATIONS
BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE
TEN PRINCESSES CROWNED IN A DAY
LEST WE FORGET!!!
CELEBRATING OUR OWN UNSUNG HEROES
SAVE THE DATE
for Calvary’s Black History Month Program and Heritage Luncheon
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21
12 Noon

A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.
— Marcus Garvey
CALVARY’S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, JAN. 16, 7:30PM
PASTOR CARTER KEYNOTE SPEAKER
AT NJPAC’S MLK CELEBRATION FEATURING
DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM

SATURDAY, FEB. 21, STARTING AT 12 NOON
CALVARY’S BLACK HISTORY MONTH
PROGRAM AND CELEBRATING THE CULTURES
OF CALVARY HERITAGE LUNCHEON

APRIL 9 - APRIL 11
GYM TRIP TO
WASHINGTON, D.C. AND BALTIMORE, MD

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE
We ask that you please be mindful and ad-
here to all of the admission dates for articles and
advertisements so that The Connection can be made
available to the congregation the first Sunday of
the respective months. Your cooperation is greatly
appreciated. Thank you!

The Calvary Connection Staff

THE CALVARY CONNECTION
EDITORIAL CALENDAR 2015

MONTH | APRIL 2015
--- | ---
YEAR | 2015
DUE DATE FOR ARTICLES 1ST DRAFT | 3/12/15
2ND DRAFT/REVISIONS | 3/19/15
FINAL | 3/26/15
FLIER FINAL | 3/26/15
“Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you,” – (Joshua 3:5)

The promises of God guarantee the people of God a future. God has plans for us! Throughout Scripture there is space between God’s promises and their fulfillment. The promise offers a glimpse of the not yet. The space provides the opportunity for preparation.

God made a promise to Joshua: “I will give you every place where you set your foot... As I was with Moses, so I will be with you,” (Joshua 1:3-5). That promise gave Joshua something to look forward to... something to embrace by faith. The first lesson we can learn from Joshua about preparing to embrace the not yet is that the lean of the child of God is toward the future.

But, how does one embrace that which is not yet? It’s difficult to wrap your arms around that which cannot be seen. A strategy is needed. And, Joshua had a strategy. He sent out two spies. They met Rahab and she gave them a glimpse of their not yet, “I know that the Lord has given you this land,” (Joshua 2:8). When the spies returned to Joshua, they said, “The Lord has surely given the whole land into our hands,” (Joshua 2:24).

The very next day, Joshua and the people set out in the direction of the not yet, (Joshua 3:1-6). The second lesson we can learn about preparing to embrace the not yet is that we must seize the moment while it can be seized. Picture a surfer standing on the shore looking for the next wave. She grabs her board and runs out while the wave is coming. If she waits too long to set out, she will miss the opportunity to ride that wave which will never come again.

When Joshua and the people reached the banks of the Jordan River, it was at flood stage making it an extremely difficult obstacle. So, they camped before crossing. The third lesson we can learn about preparing to embrace the not yet is that there are times along the way when we have to pause to reflect and to anticipate.

The past, present and future converged when the people of God were presented with the obstacle of the Jordan River. In the past, God led their ancestors across the Red Sea. Here they were, in their present, facing a similar situation. For their future, they had been given instructions to overcome this obstacle. While camping they were told, “When you see the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it,” (Joshua 3:3).

The Ark of the Covenant represents the presence of God. They were commanded to allow God to go before them to provide guidance and protection. The fourth lesson we can learn about preparing to embrace the not yet is that we are to follow God into our future.

Before the people set out on their journey to the not yet, they were given a command and a promise: “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you,” (Joshua 3:5). The promise – “tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you” – gave them a glimpse of their future. The command “consecrate yourselves” calls for God’s required preparation.

The word consecrate has multiple senses of meaning. It encompasses personal, cultic (worship and ritual), legal and military realms.* Soldiers going into battle, had to spend time preparing their minds and bodies for combat. This type of consecration is relevant for the child of God today. There will be some spiritual fighting involved in embracing the not yet. Our infernal enemy, the devil, does not want us to reach our potential in Christ Jesus. So we must also follow the command that Joshua was given, “Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go,” (Joshua 1:7).

We, as a church body, are preparing to embrace the not yet. We are looking and leaning forward to the new things that the Lord will do among us!

*To hear the entire Preparing for the Not Yet presentation, please visit www.calvarybc.org and click on the Word & Worship tab to find CSI or visit the Good News Nook to get a CD.

Pastor Jerry M. Carter, Jr.
On Monday, January 19, 2015, we will again experience what has become an American and local tradition -- the thirtieth observance of our national holiday honoring the Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. Even though this celebration has become ingrained in the nation’s consciousness, the Morristown community has been far ahead of the rest of the country in recognizing the valuable contributions and legacy of one who many feel is a twentieth century prophet. This year will mark the 45th Anniversary of the Martin Luther King Observance Committee’s annual celebration.

Calvary salutes the vision and persistence of Dr. Felicia Jamison, the late Sister Rachel Jones, and others who saw the need to preserve the memory and legacy of this great champion of social justice. Out of the despair and frustration of that dark day when Dr. King was assassinated; out of the pit of bigotry and racial turmoil that imprisoned the American spirit; out of the clinging fog of strife and tension that enshrouded the American ideals of opportunity and liberty of all; these valiant souls raised their voices in unison with him to demand justice for the beloved community.

In our changing world, events should remind us that we are far from attaining this elusive goal. The events of Ferguson, Missouri and New York City have had a polarizing effect on our country and have seemingly reversed many of the gains we imagined had been attained. And with the rise of global terrorism, the damaging impact of global warming, the steady increase of sectarian violence, the jolting dislocation of economies across the world, and the accelerating rate of population diversity in every sphere of human activity, intolerance and prejudice are perennially showing their ugly heads in world affairs. Tumultuous tensions rise and animosity between tribal, national, and regional factions intensify, today is a time that we need to embrace the moral imperatives of the civil rights movement to reconcile the differences that continue to divide us. We can congratulate each other on the country coming together to elect our first black President, but the Promised Land that seemed within our grasp, remains a distant dream. Hope still abides, but a plethora of challenges must be confronted before we can proclaim victory. More than ever, there is a need to refresh ourselves with the lessons learned over the last few decades and to dedicate ourselves anew to the principles espoused by Dr. King: compassion, love for peace, commitment to reconciliation, and belief in the dignity and worth of all people.

Let us never rest until the job is done: bringing to fruition the reality of freedom, equality and justice for all. It is time to celebrate, but also a time to recommit with renewed and steadfast fervor the struggle that yet lies ahead. With God on our side, we will prevail.

21 DAYS OF CONSECRATION PREPARING FOR THE NOT YET
Church-wide Prayer Calls @ 7:30 p.m. Dial (218) 3390399 Enter Pin 7960#

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SCRIPTURE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>January 2</td>
<td>Joshua 1:5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>January 3</td>
<td>Joshua 1:7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>January 5</td>
<td>Joshua 3:5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONSECRATION WORSHIP EXPERIENCE • TUESDAY, JANUARY 6
LIGHT SUPPER 6:30PM • GATHERED PRAYER 7:15PM • WORSHIP 7:30PM

| Wednesday       | January 7 | Psalm 5:3      |
| Thursday        | January 8 | Psalm 25:3a    |
| Friday          | January 9 | Psalm 130:5    |
| Saturday        | January 10| Hebrews 10:23  |
| Monday          | January 12| Romans 8:24-25 |

CONSECRATION WORSHIP EXPERIENCE • TUESDAY, JANUARY 13
LIGHT SUPPER 6:30PM • GATHERED PRAYER 7:15PM • WORSHIP 7:30PM

| Wednesday | January 14 | Romans 15:13 |
| Thursday  | January 15 | Colossians 4:2|
| Friday    | January 16 | Proverbs 16:1 |
| Saturday  | January 17 | Proverbs 16:3 |
| Monday    | January 19 | Isaiah 40:31 |
| Tuesday   | January 20 | 1 Peter 5:8   |

CONSECRATION WORSHIP EXPERIENCE • TUESDAY, JANUARY 21
LIGHT SUPPER 6:30PM • GATHERED PRAYER 7:15PM • WORSHIP 7:30PM

| Thursday | January 22 | Jeremiah 29:11 |

Calvary Baptist Church • 10 MLK Ave, Morristown, NJ 07960 • Rev. Jerry M. Carter, Jr. Sr. Pastor

Bringing in the New Year with Prayer & Fasting (Choose the fast of your choice.)
A MONUMENTAL ADVENTURE
APRIL 9 – APRIL 11, 2015

The Golden Years Ministry invites you to an unforgettable tour of this nation’s greatest monuments and memorials in Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, Md.

PER PERSON ALL INCLUSIVE COST
Price includes bus transportation, hotel accommodations for two nights at the Marriott, Tysons Corner, Va., breakfast, dinner, museum admission and gratuities

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>Double</td>
<td>Triple</td>
<td>Quad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupancy</td>
<td>Occupancy</td>
<td>Occupancy</td>
<td>Occupancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$495</td>
<td>$401</td>
<td>$369</td>
<td>$354</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Payment Deadlines
January 18: $150 deposit
February 15: 50% of balance
March 8: Remaining balance

For additional information contact Shirley Holcomb @ 973.539.6833

Calvary Baptist Church
10 Martin Luther King Ave.
Morristown, NJ 07960
Rev. Jerry M. Carter, Jr., Ph.D., Senior Pastor
The Morris County Chapter of the NAACP recently held its 44th Freedom Fund Dinner with a theme of “All In for Justice and Equality.” Even though the organization is the oldest civil rights agency in the country, it has always relied upon partnerships with individuals and other entities to pursue its goal of justice and equality for all Americans. That fact was reflected in this year’s community recognition awards, both of which had Calvary connections.

The Justice and Equality award was given to Dr. Felicia B. Jamison, the historian of Calvary Baptist Church, for her labor of love over four decades in convening and guiding the Martin Luther King Observance Committee. This committed group has striven over the years to keep Dr. King’s dream of the “beloved community” alive by remembering his life and legacy in its annual commemoration.

The Community Recognition award was given to Calvary Baptist Church to honor its 125 years of service to the Morris County community and beyond. The award was intended to not only acknowledge ministry to Calvary’s members, but to the church’s outreach to the broader community, and its local and foreign missions initiatives. Calvary is also currently being represented well in the organizational structure of the NAACP itself. Sister Vanessa Brown was elected as a Vice President in the last election of officers for the Morris County Chapter. Fittingly, she served as Chair of the 44th Freedom Fund Committee which planned this event, where Sister Maria Walker, also a Calvary member, rendered a stirring solo musical selection.
Every fall, New Jersey AIDS Services (NJAS) sponsors a gala event to honor individuals and organizations that have played a part in the agency’s success. This year, honorees were awarded in the categories of Pioneers, Supporters, Champions, and Volunteers. Calvary’s TOUCH ministry received an award as a Supporter to recognize the group’s active and consistent role in support of the Eric Johnson House (a residential center for HIV/AIDS victims, and for contributions to the New Jersey AIDS Walk). Sister Linda Julien and Sister Rhonda Newton attended the event as representatives of the ministry.

Calvary’s Touch Ministry seeks to educate youth, adults and seasoned citizens within our congregation and community about HIV/AIDS, with the intent of heightening awareness of and preventing the spread of this disease. The ministry believes that “Knowledge is power,” therefore, knowledge empowers us to make wise decisions. The ministry’s mission was developed in the spirit of II Corinthians 1:3-4, following Jesus’ example of intentionally reaching out to touch those who are hurting. That defined mission is to serve as a channel through which God’s compassion, healing, love and comfort can flow to those who are living with HIV/AIDS, as well as family members, friends and caregivers of individuals with HIV/AIDS.

Some of the services offered by and through the ministry include: (1) Confidential one-on-one Christian counseling and prayer; (2) Public forums that provide facts about HIV/AIDS (transmission, prevention, testing, treatment etc.); (3) In-reach and Outreach Services, linking directly with those in our congregation and community who are living with and affected by HIV/AIDS; and (4) Referral assistance, connecting individuals with HIV/AIDS support services that provide case management, transportation, housing and support groups.

Activities and events sponsored by the TOUCH Ministry are extensive, including outings (Movies, bowling, etc.); educational programs; observation of the Week of Prayer for HIV/AIDS - The National Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS (Education & Awareness); annual sponsorship of the AIDS Awareness Tree; regular sponsorship of Game Night at Eric Johnson House; co-sponsorship of the annual NJ AIDS Walk (a fundraiser); local promotion of the national Week of Prayer for HIV/AIDS campaign; conducting faith-based HIV/AIDS training; HIV Testing; Supporting George Gramby Day in Morristown; co-sponsorship with Atlantic Health System of the Community Health Day, and; volunteer gift wrapping during the holiday season.

The ministry is always open to new members and your participation is welcome. Let us continue to pray for the current members and their committed outreach.

---

**Calvary Shout-outs**

In October 2014, Deacon Edwards was the eighth male recipient of the Dr. Roman Gingerich Award from his alma mater, Goshen College. The award is one of two subsidiaries of the distinguished Champion of Character Award.

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Sportsmanship, Servant Leadership and Goshen College Core Values are the six virtues candidates must possess for consideration of such an honor. The vetting process consists of many nominees, but only one alumnus earns the coveted honor per year.

Congratulations, Deacon Edwards!
For those that are new to Calvary and unfamiliar with who The KENJEX are just yet, they are two gifted biological brothers, Kaleb Mitchell Bethune (aka Kaleb Mitchell – 16) and Elias Benjamin Bethune (aka Beatz – 12), the sons of Rev. Mike & Roselyn Bethune. The brothers crafted the group’s name with the goal of capturing the essence of their ethnic & cultural and identity; KEN (their mother is from Nairobi, Kenya), and JEX (their father is from the Alexander Housing Projects in Paterson, New Jersey).

The KENJEX were blessed and baptized by Pastor Carter. Since they were old enough to crawl (literally), they’ve been drawn to musical instruments. Kaleb Mitchell has played the piano/keyboard since the age of five and Beatz has been playing drums since he was four. It’s no wonder then, as youngsters, they sang in Calvary’s Youth Choir serving as musicians as well. Now they write and produce their own material and are very gifted artists/musicians. Kaleb Mitchell is the group’s charismatic, lyrical front man, producer, and singer; his vocal talent is displayed on many of the group’s tracks. Beatz is also a proficient producer and holds the beat down during live performances.

For the last three years, The KENJEX have performed live throughout the Tri-State area and have garnered a significant following of youth, dubbed as, “The REJEX Movement” (those that don’t fit in due to their giftedness & purpose in life, with Christ being the ultimate example.) Although their preferred method of communicating their deeply spiritual and contemplative messages is through the medium of Hip-Hop/Rap, they are far more than just a rap group and would rather forgo being defined or categorized solely as such for the KENJEX is a Movement.

According to The KENJEX, the entire concept for Due Time is based on one simple word – change. “There’s a lot of negativity in music, particularly in rap music these days”, says The KENJEX. “We just want to use our gifts to create great art that comes from a Christian perspective and gives people (young & young at heart) a healthy alternative; you know, something that’s Christ centered but not wack, and can compete with anything in so-called mainstream music today.”

Be sure to come out with your youth and show your support for The KENJEX on Friday, January 30, at 7:00PM for their live “Full Debut Album Performance” right here at Calvary where it all got started. Invite other youth that don’t know Christ as their Savior...let’s pack the house for The KING! Follow The KENJEX at: www.thekenjex.com and on all major social media sites @ thekenjex.

Due Time is now available for purchase on iTunes and all other major digital retailers. Physical copies of the album will also be available the night of the performance.
As we embark on new spiritual vistas in the year 2015, it is refreshing and reinforcing to know that we are doing so with the foundation and strength of Pastor Carter’s teaching and preaching during the past year on the need for strong relationships among us.

As we reflect on those lessons, it becomes clear that much of the Bible deals on a basic level with relationships. Even the names of the two major divisions of our sacred canon embody this reality: the Old Covenant and the New Covenant.

Indeed, the two greatest commands, on which, according to Jesus, all the others depend, are concerned with relationships; with God and with one another (Matthew 22:36-40). Especially now, our focus on relationships has sharpened, as we observe God’s continuing emphasis on reconciliation, made possible through the cross, which must be the basis for all relationships.

Recalling the great charge we have been given, we are advised to love one another (John 13:35); be devoted to one another (Romans 12:10); honor one another above ourselves (Romans 12:10); live in harmony with one another (Romans 12:16); build up one another (Romans 14:19; 1 Thessalonians 5:11); be likeminded towards one another (Romans 15:5); accept one another (Romans 15:7); admonish one another (Romans 15:14; Colossians 3:16); care for one another (1 Corinthians 12:25); serve one another (Galatians 5:13); bear one another’s burdens (Galatians 6:2); forgive one another (Ephesians 4:2, 32; Colossians 3:13); be patient with one another (Ephesians 4:2; Colossians 3:13); be kind and compassionate to one another (Ephesians 4:32); speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19); submit to one another (Ephesians 5:21, 1 Peter 5:5); consider others better than yourselves (Philippians 2:3); look to the interests of one another (Philippians 2:4); comfort one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18); encourage one another (Hebrews 3:13); stir up one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24); show hospitality to one another (1 Peter 4:9); pray for one another (James 5:16), and to confess our faults to one another (James 5:16). We are to do these things because we belong to one another (Romans 12:5; Ephesians 4:25).

Our attitudes and training should be exemplified in our practice, as we “...devote ourselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship” (Acts 2:42). The apostle John reminds us that “if we walk in the light (in fellowship with God)...we have fellowship with one another” (1 John 1:7).

The basis for our relationships with one another is Christ’s relationship with us. We are to “Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God” (Romans 15:7). It is this acceptance that brings glory to God. Christ’s acceptance of us is gracious, total, unreserved, unprejudiced, forgiving and free. Our acceptance of one another is to be similar. “No one has ever seen God. The only Son, who is truly God and is closest to the Father, has shown us what God is like.” John 1:18. We can see God as he is revealed in a loving Christian fellowship: “No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is truly in our hearts.” 1 John 4:12. Thank God for relationships!

It’s Time to Tell Your Story: A Black History Appeal

by Reverend David A. Hollowell

“If you know from whence you came, there is absolutely no limit to where you can go.” – James Baldwin

In 2015, Black History Month at Calvary will entail a celebration of the people in our lives on whose shoulders we now stand. The Golden Years Ministry is inviting every member of Calvary Baptist Church to take a moment and reflect on where you are and who in your family was pivotal in your development and progression.

Who is the unsung hero in your life? There is no better time than now to share this family story with the youth in your family. As become more absorbed into the greater culture, it is vital that our children know their history so they have a source of strength and identity on which to draw. After sharing with your family, please take a moment to write your story and submit it to us. This is a grand opportunity for our entire community to share in the blessings of our legacy, and the strengthening of our resolve to advance into the future with renewed vigor and confidence.

Several stories will be shared at our Black History Celebration on Saturday, February 21st. The theme for the program will be “Lest We Forget.” All stories will be compiled and preserved in our “Calvary Baptist Church Unsung Heroes” Legacy Book.

To participate in this great undertaking, we are asking that submissions be made by the end of the third week in January, Friday, 1/23/2015. We ask that manuscripts be limited to two pages and can be presented via hard copy, or electronically via email. This will give the GYM staff the appropriate time to edit and compile the finished product. Material can be left in the church office with attention to Sister Shirley Holcomb or Rev. David A. Hollowell. If you decide to send your story by email, you may use one of the following addresses: shirleyholcomb@msn.com or dave8651@aol.com.

We eagerly look forward to a robust response to our appeal and look forward to an exciting celebration of our history on February 21, 2015. God bless you.
Ten Princesses Crowned In A Day

By Deaconess Pamela Osborne

“I now crown you my beautiful princess forever” were the words spoken by dads, uncles and godfathers to their princesses on Saturday, October 25, 2014. The Crowning Ceremony was the closing celebration of “The King’s Princess” program for young girls ages 7-9.

God gave me this vision in 2012 as I enrolled in a 10-month course entitled The Eagles International Children’s Institute. The course instructor, Minister Cynthia Dempsey of Virginia, educated us on how to train children in the Kingdom of God from tiny tots to teens. One of my final assignments was to develop a program from start to finish for youth in our area that would benefit the community. I sat at my computer, praying and thinking, “What is it that the Lord would have me to teach our youth of today?” My heart has always been towards girls since I have three sisters, three older nieces and two daughters. God’s word told me that He wants our young girls to know that in their biblical training, He is our King of Kings. Besides, most little girls want to be a princess, especially to their dads.

The King’s Princesses of 2014 are Princess Aaliyah Dawkins Romain, Princess Gabrielle Neely, Princess Isabella Singleton, Princess Ivy Simmons, Princess Jasymne Grooms, Princess Joy Hylton, Princess Kyra Marshall, Princess Laila Riley, Princess LaKayla Lodge and Princess Valencia Julien. These ten beautiful princesses attended three weeks of biblical study, etiquette, character building, arts and crafts and liturgical dance. The sessions were held each Saturday in October for an hour and a half. I was truly impressed by how intellectual and forthright these young princesses were from week to week.

Duchess Lucy Brice, a senior at Morristown High School, was an amazing help to me in the program. She participates in pageants and is a member of the youth liturgical dance ministry. As we were preparing the princesses for the Crowning Ceremony, Lucy introduced them to the pageant walk. They were taught that the “beauty walk” would help build their self-esteem. One princess said, “And besides, we want our crowns to stay on our head so we have to walk straight.”

Prior to the ceremony, as anxious princesses waited to receive their sparkling crown, I was asked the question “Who has my crown?” There were nervous giggles as the little princesses were in line to be introduced and to receive their crowns from the king in their life. Afterwards, as the princesses changed into their tee shirts, my husband, Ricky Osborne, charged the men to be accountable to the princesses in their lives. He challenged them to love, protect and to train them up in the Lord (Proverbs 22:6).

Just before the princesses received their certificates, they danced to “Hello My Name Is” by Matthew West. A line of the bridge is, “I am the child of the one true King.” My prayer is that our little princesses will grow up knowing that Jesus is the King of Kings and He will always be with them.
WE GOT THE GOODS...

Calvary’s Own Bookstore
(Located in the Mahalia Jackson Fellowship Hall)

- Sermon CD/DVDs
- Books
- Gift items
- Greeting cards
- and more...

- OPEN SUNDAYS -
  after worships services