

Mt. CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

2 F.D. Oates Ave., Hartford, CT 06120
Phone number: (860) 278-6671

Rev. Dr. Richard L. Nash, Pastor



OUR THANKSGIVING MESSAGE

Once again it is the beginning of the giving season. A time to reflect back over the past year. Every day should be a day of thanksgiving but we set aside at least one day of thanks. The season begins with Thanksgiving

Day and ends with the beginning of the New Year. Too bad we cannot sustain this spirit all year long.

As I age, every morning I thank the Lord for letting me see another day and in the evening, I thank the Lord for taking me through the day and pray that He will allow me to see another. It is amazing how clearly I can see now that I am old. Where was this clarity when I was twenty-one? At twenty-one, I knew everything. Just ask me any question and I had an answer. I never thought much about the future it was too far away to think about. Somewhere in the back of my mind I knew that I was not going to live forever in this world but when the thought entered my mind, I quickly put it away. There would be time to think about that later. Later comes sooner that you think. One day I looked in the mirror and there was an old lady looking back at me I wondered when did that happen and where had the years gone. I knew the time had passed because some of my Sunday School students were now over fifty and the grocery clerks have started calling me grandma.

At first you are in denial; you say to yourself it has not been that long ago that I was young. Your mind tells you that you are just the same as you always were but then you wake up and it takes you at least five minutes to get your joints moving so you can get out of bed, reality finally kicks in and you have to adjust to the new old you. It is then that you look around and realize how many of your friends are no longer here and you are so grateful that the Lord has spared your life. A while ago I was redoing my rolodex (for you young people that is a paper address book which most of you keep electronically on your electronic device.) but being a self-acknowledged old person, I keep a paper address book. Anyway, when I was writing the names on the new cards, I realized just how many of my friends were gone. This was an eye opener, I did not realize how

many had passed on. When I looked at that old woman in my mirror again, I said a silent thank you to the Lord for keeping me here. I am thankful for so many things, when I reflect back over 74 years it is mind boggling to remember all the things the Lord has brought me through. Things that I thought I would never survive; I am still here! A living witness to the grace of God.

I would like to remind the younger people that you are not invincible and one day you will wake up and look in the mirror and there will be an old man or woman looking back at you. Will you be pleased at the life you have lived as you reflect back? We so often take the family for granted. This Thanksgiving reflect back over the years you have been alive and remember all the things that your family and friends have done for you and sustained you even when you know you did not deserve it. If you are an adult with children of your own, you now know some of the sacrifices that your parents made for you because you are now making those sacrifices for your children and they probably do not appreciate what you are doing.

Maybe God designed families to be this way so they can appreciate how the Lord sustains them when the storms of life happen. This strength from the Lord will keep them strong when some family members break their hearts and the love of God will allow them to continue to love. Just as we humans break our heavenly Father's heart when we do not acknowledge Him and take His forgiveness for granted. When we are consciously disobedient to His laws, the most marvelous thing is that He continues to bless us even when He is not happy with the lives we live.

This year at the family gathering take time to listen to each other and appreciate the fact that the Lord has spared you all to gather one more Thanksgiving Day. Let this truly be a day of thanksgiving not just a day to overeat. I am in the winter of my life now as I reflect back over the years, I have been richly blessed not with material things but with love of family and friends. That is God's love in action. I pray that each of you can look back and say the same.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING,
MAY YOUR DAY BE TRULY A DAY OF
THANKSGIVING!**

DO GOOD QUIETLY

by Max Lucado

"They love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men" (Matt. 6:5).

This is the working definition of *hypocrisy*: "to be seen by men." The Greek word for hypocrite, *hypokrites*, originally meant "actor." First-century actors wore masks. A hypocrite, then, is one who puts on a mask, a false face.

Jesus did not say, "Do not do good works." Nor did he instruct, "Do not let your works be seen." We must do good works, and some works, such as benevolence or teaching, must be seen in order to have an impact. So let's be clear. To do a good thing is a good thing. To do good to be seen is not. In fact, to do good to be seen is a serious offense. Here's why.

Hypocrisy turns people away from God. When God-hungry souls walk into a congregation of wannabe superstars, what happens? When God seekers see singers strut like Las Vegas entertainers . . . When they hear the preacher—a man of slick words, dress, and hair—play to the crowd and exclude God . . . When other attendees dress to be seen and make much to-do over their gifts and offerings . . . When people enter a church to see God yet can't see God because of the church, don't think for a second that God doesn't react. "Be especially careful when you are trying to be good so that you don't make a performance out of it. It might be good theater, but the God who made you won't be applauding" (Matt. 6:1 MSG).

Hypocrisy turns people against God. So God has a no-tolerance policy. Let the cold, lifeless bodies of the embezzling couple issue their intended warning. Let's take hypocrisy as seriously as God does. How can we?

1. Expect no credit for good deeds. None. If no one notices, you aren't disappointed. If someone does, you give the credit to God. Ask yourself this question: If no one knew of the good I do, would I still do it? If not, you're doing it to be seen by people.

2. Give financial gifts in secret. Money stirs the phony within us. We like to be seen earning it. And we like to be seen giving it. So "when you give to someone in need, don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing" (Matt. 6:3 NLT).

3. Don't fake spirituality. When you go to church, don't select a seat just to be seen or sing just to be heard. If you raise your hands in worship, raise holy ones, not showy ones. When you talk, don't doctor your vocabulary with trendy religious terms. Nothing nauseates more than a fake "Praise the Lord" or a shallow "Hallelujah" or an insincere "Glory be to God."

Bottom line: don't make a theater production out of your faith. "Watch me! Watch me!" is a call used on the playground, not in God's kingdom. Silence the trumpets. Cancel the parade. Enough with the name-dropping. If accolades come, politely deflect them before you believe them. Slay the desire to be noticed. Stir the desire to serve God.

Heed the counsel of Christ: "First wash the inside of the cup and the dish, and then the outside will become clean, too" (Matt. 23:26 NLT). Focus on the inside, and the outside will take care of itself. Lay your motives before God daily, hourly. "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life" (Ps. 139:23-24 NLT).

Do good things. Just don't do them to be noticed. You can be too good for your own good, you know.

But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. (Matthew 6:3-4 NIV)

Lord, you make it plain in your Word that you hate hypocrisy, especially because it turns others away from you. So, Father, I pray that you would blunt my natural inclination to seek personal recognition for whatever good things you allow me to do. I don't want to be a phony, but neither do I want to be a glory hound. Fill me with your Spirit, and teach me to follow his example in gladly giving all glory to your Son. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

*From Outlive Your Life: You Were Made to Make a Difference
Copyright (Thomas Nelson, 2010) Max Lucado*

***Let your light so shine
before men, that they may
see your good works, and
glorify your FATHER
which is in HEAVEN.***

Matthew 5:16

MONTH IN REVIEW

FAMILY MATTERS MEETING HELD

On Friday, October 25, 2019, a family matters meeting was held for the congregation to come together and discuss the important issues of the church.

Church Members: It was disappointing how few people thought it important enough to attend the meeting. There were only 37 people in attendance, and you wonder what is happening to our church! If you really want to know and care about the future of the church or even if the church will continue to exist, then you would make it a priority to attend these meetings. We cannot conduct these types of discussions on Sunday morning which is when most of you attend. If our church was a sick person it would be in intensive care waiting for the decision to pull the plug.

To those of you who attended the meeting and sat on your hands not voicing your true opinions I say shame on you! **Deacon Rush's** prediction will come true. **Deacon Rush** said that one of these Sundays we will come to church and it will be padlocked and we won't know why. It would be a shame since the church has been in existence for 102 years. Our forefathers scrimped their nickels and dimes to build this church and I am sure they would be very disappointed if we let it die.

Unless we all become involved, this once grand church will die. If this happens it will be the fault of all of you who knew what was going on and said nothing and did nothing. There is still time to save the church but everyone must be willing to make sacrifices from the pulpit to the door. Those of us who love this church have been praying for change but God doesn't call us to simply pray and go along with our day. Prayers are marching orders. They help us align ourselves with the actions God wants us to take. As a congregation, we are the answer to our own prayers because we have the capabilities to start making changes. It only takes courage to step out on Faith.

May the Lord continue to richly bless each and every one of you.

The Editor

AND THE WINNER IS...

Jordyn Gray! The Black History Ministry held a book reading contest and Jordyn (pictured on the left) read the most books. The Ministry also acknowledged **Symone Leslie** (pictured on the right) and Little Miss Padilla for their dedicated support in the contest and during Ice Cream Socials.



According to author, Emma Chase, "Reading brings knowledge and knowledge is power; therefore reading is power. The power to know and learn and understand . . . but also the power to dream. Stories inspire us to reach high, love deep, change the world and be more than we ever thought we could. Every book allows us to dream a new dream."

Pictured left to right below are Black History Ministry members **Bro. Donald Smith, Sis. Janette Isaac, Sis. Cheryl Shelton and Sis. Denise Smith.**



COMBINED USHERS & NURSES CELEBRATE

Sunday, October 13, 2019, the Ushers and Nurses of Mt. Calvary had their annual celebration and Pastor Elmer P. Hardy, Jr. (pictured right) and the Union Temple UFWB (United Free Will Baptist Church) were the special guests. Once that

exceptionally gifted choir accompanied by our own talented musicians sang God's Grace and God Did It, it was easy to assume the Word of God delivered by Pastor Hardy would be valuable and spirited. He preached on "The Greatest Love of All Time" based on Song of Solomon 8:7. (Continued on Page 5).





NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----|-------------------------|----|
| Pastor Richard L. Nash | 1 | Bro. Clyde Monts, Jr. | 12 |
| Sis. Rosemary R. Merritt | 1 | Sis. Carlissa Shelton | 15 |
| Sis. Gloria Stone | 4 | Bro. Calvin Tucker, Jr. | 16 |
| Sis. Victoria Jones | 4 | Bro. C. Brandon Tucker | 21 |
| Sis. Vanessa Brown | 5 | Sis. Crystal Moore | 23 |
| Sis. Jaylyn Greene | 6 | Bro. Trevor Gregory | 24 |
| Sis. Inez Boyd | 8 | Sis. Janet Williams | 24 |
| Sis. Catherine Medlin | 8 | Bro. Timothy Rush, Jr. | 27 |
| Dea'ness Dorothy Rush | 9 | Sis. Edna May | 28 |
| Sis. Karen Freeman | 11 | Sis. Deborah Forte | 29 |
| Bro. Tyrell Smith | 11 | Sis. Mary Walton | 29 |



"For this reason a man
will leave his father & mother
and be united to his wife,
and the two will become
one flesh." Ephesians 5:31

| Celebrants | Date | Years |
|--------------------------------------|------|-------|
| Bro. Eugene & Sis. Veronica Robinson | 19 | 31 |

"What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" Matthew 19:6



the following bereaved families:

The family of
Bro. Will Smith,
80, of Hartford,
who peacefully
passed away on
Thursday,
October 24,
2019. Smith,



known for his impeccable style of dress, was a veteran of the U. S. Army Reserve and had been employed by Ames Department Store and the XL Center. He was also the uncle of the **Wood** clan. His Memorial Service was November 2, 2019 at the Church.

The Wood Family would like to thank all Mt. Calvary Family that supported them in the loss of their dear uncle, Will Smith. Special thanks to the Choir, Culinary Ministry, Deacon(s), Musicians, Trustee(s) and Ushers for their assistance in the Memorial Service. Your kindness will not be forgotten.



Deaconess Dorothy Rush and Family in the sudden passing of her nephew, George Taylor, Jr., 60, of South Windsor on Thursday, October 3, 2019. He was the son of the late **Bro. George Taylor, Sr.** and had served his country proudly with the U.S. Army Reserve. Taylor also worked for Stanadyne in Tech Support for over 30 years. A Memorial Service was held for Taylor on October 18th.

Sis. Hazel Hines and Family in the passing of her uncle, Eugene Mitchell, 97, of Bay Point, CA



formerly of Hartford, on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 and the sudden passing of her aunt, Beatrice Higgs Mitchell, 95, also of Bay Point, and formerly of Hartford, on Wednesday, October 16, 2019. In the past, Mr.

Mitchell was employed by a medical supplier as a driver and Mrs. Mitchell was a member of this Church and served as an usher and supervisor to the youth usher board. She was retired from Pratt & Whitney Aircraft. Funeral services for both Eugene and Beatrice were held at First Baptist Church, Pittsburg, CA on October 28th.



The family of Aaron Manns, 65, of Bloomfield who passed on Saturday, October 12, 2019. He was the brother of the late **Bro. Prince Manns**. His Homegoing Service was October 19th at The Lodge Community Chapel.



*From our happy home and circle,
God has taken ones we love;
Borne away from sin and sorrow
to a better home above.*

USHERS & NURSES ANNUAL DAY continued from Page 3

He stated that the love of God is strong like a fire that can't be extinguished with water. God is love and anything used to try to replace that love is contempt (despised). God's love is sacrificial and eternal. As a result of His unquenchable love, we should let God use us to help somebody, feed somebody, love the loveless...be used for His glory. During this service, the lives of three beautiful women who chose to grace the aisles and doors of this Church as Doorkeepers were also celebrated.

The first, **Rosie Mae (Joyner) McMullen Crane** is 91. She was born in Oglethorpe GA and is the biological mother to 4 but mother in love to many. 3 of her children have passed on and her surviving daughter is Elizabeth Sullivan. Rosie is also a grandmother and great-grandmother to many.

Like the other ladies honored, Rosie worked in and outside of the home and retired from The Travelers. These days she lives independently catering to needs of her family, friends and flourishing house plants. When she was able, she spent time in the yard cultivating beautiful flowers as is her name "Rosie". In spite of having heart surgery, she is Blessed to still be quite active.



The second, **Louise (Horne) Johnson**, is also a Mother of the Church and was born in Quincy FL in 1927. That makes her 92. She was married to the late Wallace Johnson and they were blessed with 2 children, Wally & Jeanette. Her family now includes grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Louise retired from the Institute of Living and taught sewing. Her "Mom" and "Dad" were the late

Deaconess Ella & Deacon Oscar Horne.

Louise also lives independently and cherishes time spent with family and friends.



Last but not least honored was **Ethel "Tot" Hall** who was born in Richland County GA. She is the youngest of 5 children born to Lucille and Amos Walton, Sr. She is 95 and she along with her late sisters, Ida and Leona, were dedicated members of this church.

Ethel, affectionately known as, "Aunt Tot", came to Hartford in 1956, following her family. She was employed by Marie Phillips and St. Joseph's College, long before it became a University. "Aunt Tot" did not bear children of her own but she is a loving step-mother to Louise Hall and is a favorite aunt to many nephews and nieces.

The celebration was well attended and followed by a delicious takeout meal.



HILL HONORED

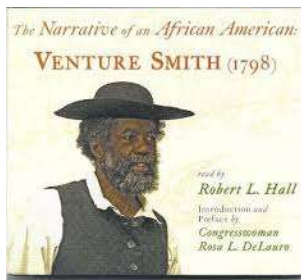
Congratulations to **Bro. Jimmie and Sis. Hannah Hill** on their son, Patrick Wayne Hill, being honored as a member of the 2019 Class of One Hundred Men of Color on October 18th at the Bushnell. Patrick was honored for being the co-founder of Reality Outreach Inc., a grassroots non-profit organization that serves as a recovery support agency focusing on the areas of recovering from trauma, homelessness, incarceration, mental health and substance abuse. Its mission is to assist/aide in reconciling and restoring the dynamics of a healthy productive family unit.

Pictured left to right below are Patrick, his wife Rose, Hannah, Jimmie, their daughter Priscilla, Patrick's daughter Ashley and Priscilla's daughter Lakeisha.



It was a beautiful affair filled with heartfelt prayers, music, wisdom and Black history. Congratulations to all Honorees!

HERITAGE CORNER



A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

Born around 1729, Venture Smith's African birth name was Broteer; and he was the eldest son of King Saungm Furro of the tribe of Dukandarra in Guinea, West Africa. He was

captured about 1736 when he was seven years old and was sold for "4 gallons of rum and some calico" at Anamabo on Africa's Gold Coast to Robinson Mumford, the steward of a Rhode Island slave ship.

Broteer was renamed Venture because he was purchased by Mumford's own private venture. Venture grew up as a slave on Fishers Island, New York, which was being leased by the Mumford family at that time.

Around 1750 he married Meg, another Mumford slave, and they had four children. After a failed escape attempt in 1754, Venture was sold to Thomas Stanton of Stonington Point, Connecticut. In 1760, he was purchased for the last time by Oliver Smith, of Stonington. Smith allowed Venture to purchase his freedom in 1765 and in return Venture took the name Smith as his surname.

Venture then lived and worked on Long Island to raise money to purchase the freedom of his wife and children. During these years he cut wood, farmed, fished, and spent seven months on a whaling voyage. In 1774, Venture sold all his land on Long Island and in Stonington and moved his family to East Haddam.

He then began purchasing land on Haddam Neck along the Salmon River Cove from Abel Bingham and others. His farm grew 134 acres with three houses; twenty boats, canoes and sailing vessels; two fishing businesses and a commercial orchard. His entrepreneurial ventures included river trafficking, lumberjacking, carpentry and farming. All this he accomplished without the ability to either read or write. In 1798, Venture dictated his autobiography to teacher Elisha Niles; it was then published in pamphlet form by Charles Holt, editor of the New London Bee. It has been reprinted many times. It is the only slave narrative of the 18th century that recounts life in Africa.

His life story has been an inspiration to many over the years. Venture died on September 19, 1805, a highly respected man by all in the Haddams. His wife, two sons, Cuff and Solomon, and several grandchildren survived him. Several of his descendants still live in Connecticut.

SOURCE:

<https://www.middletownpress.com/middletown/article/Venture-Smith-Day-honors-freed-slave-longtime-CT-14399514.php> To review the original Smith autobiography, visit

<docsouth.unc.edu/neh/venture2/menu.html>.

BEFORE THERE WAS ROSA PARKS, THERE WAS CLAUDETTE COLVIN.

Most people think of [Rosa Parks](#) as the first person to refuse to give up their seat on a bus in



Montgomery, Alabama. There were actually several women who came before her; one of whom was Claudette Colvin.

It was March 2, 1955, when the fifteen-year-old schoolgirl refused to move to the back of the bus, nine months *before* Rosa Parks' stand

that launched the Montgomery bus boycott.

Claudette had been studying Black leaders like Harriet Tubman in her segregated school, those conversations had led to discussions around the current day Jim Crow laws they were all experiencing. When the bus driver ordered Claudette to get up, she refused, "It felt like Sojourner Truth was on one side pushing me down, and Harriet Tubman was on the other side of me pushing me down. I couldn't get up."

Claudette Colvin's stand didn't stop there.

Arrested and thrown in jail, she was one of four women who challenged the segregation law in court. If *Browder v. Gayle* became the court case that successfully overturned bus segregation laws in both Montgomery and Alabama, why has Claudette's story been largely forgotten? At the time, the NAACP and other Black organizations felt Rosa Parks made a better icon for the movement than a teenager. As an adult with the right look, Rosa Parks was also the secretary of the NAACP, and was both well-known and respected - people would associate her with the middle class and that would attract support for the cause. But the struggle to end segregation was often fought by young people, more than half of which were women. <http://www.pbs.org/black-culture/explore/10-black-history-little-known-facts/>

HEALTH NEWS



WHEN YOUR HEART FEELS EMPTY

By Leslie Becker-Phelps, PhD
Psychologist, October 16, 2019

Feeling a sense of emptiness in your heart can be soul-wrenching. It can bring episodes of intense aloneness, and then also a deep, yet dull, pain that pulls you down every day like an anchor. It's important not to despair. With some guidance, effort and persistence, you can fill that emptiness and live a happy life.

How can you do this? Below are some important steps. Each one, though not complicated, will take concerted effort on your part. You might find it helpful to write in a journal about your commitment to help yourself, as well as your struggles along the way.

Consider ways you can make yourself happy in your life. This means doing things that feel good not just in the current moment, but even when you step back and consider the wisdom of your actions. It includes momentary pleasures, such as enjoying dinner with a close friend. It also includes more value-based ventures, such as choosing a career path that is meaningful for you or committing yourself to working hard as way to take care of your family.

Be honest with yourself - especially when it is most difficult. Only when you are honest with yourself about what you think and feel in difficult situations can you act with integrity - truly feeling good about yourself.

Then be honest with those you love and who have earned your trust - especially when it is most difficult. Understanding yourself is important, but opening yourself to others is essential in filling your empty heart.

Trust that they will love you no matter what - especially when you are most vulnerable. This will undoubtably take a lot of courage because you risk getting hurt.

If they don't accept and love you, then they are not the right people to turn to. This is essential to remember. You will sometimes make mistakes with who you trust, or with how much you trust someone. So, it often helps to open up a little at a time, allowing yourself to test the relationship in a healthy way.

Move on. This can be harder than it sounds, especially if you already feel connected. But letting go of hurtful relationships is essential in filling your life with healthy ones.

Trust again in those you love and who have earned your trust. When people have proven themselves to be trustworthy in the past, they are likely to be trustworthy in the future, too. Of course, people are not consistent. Some will fool you with being good friends at first, and then show their "true colors" later. Others will be good, but flawed, friends who make mistakes along the way. They may be worth forgiving. So, again, take your time in developing relationships, learning who and how much to trust based on experiences along the way.

When they continue to act lovingly toward you - even during difficult times - then you have found true love... whether they be family, friends, or eventually your forever partner. These people are the greatest treasures you will ever have in life, so treat them with great care.

Use these steps as guidelines for how to develop relationships. When you follow them, you will find that you are surrounding yourself with supportive and loving people who fill the emptiness of your heart with a sense of connection.

WebMD Blog

© 2019 WebMD, LLC. All rights reserved.

**SOMETIMES IT TAKES
LEARNING HOW TO BE
PERFECTLY LONELY JUST SO
GOD CAN SHOW YOU WHAT
BEING PERFECTLY LOVED
FEELS LIKE. NEVER DOUBT
THE SEASON HE HAS YOUR
LIFE IN.**

WE THANK THEE

For flowers that bloom about our feet, Father, we thank Thee.
For tender grass so fresh, so sweet, Father, we thank Thee.
For the song of bird and hum of bee, For all things fair we hear or see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

For blue of stream and blue of sky, Father, we thank Thee.
For pleasant shade of branches high, Father, we thank Thee.
For fragrant air and cooling breeze, For beauty of the blooming trees,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

For this new morning with its light, Father, we thank Thee.
For rest and shelter of the night, Father, we thank Thee
For health and food, for love and friends, For everything Thy
goodness sends,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

By: Ralph Waldo Emerson

Return Address
85 Ellsworth Drive
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Staff:
Sis. Mattie Adgers
Deaconess Donna Campbell
Sis. Linda Clarke
Sis. Mary Singleton
Sis. Dena Wood

Submit all articles/comments to:
Newsletter Staff
C/o Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
2 F. D. Oates Avenue
Hartford, CT 06120
Or Fax: 860-243-9147
E-Mail: mattie_adgers@comcast.net



Customer Name
Street Address
City, ST ZIP Code

We're on the Web!
Visit us at:

<http://www.mt-calvarybaptist.com/>

| |
|---|
| Deadline for next issue: November 24, 2019 |
|---|
