

An Overview of Our Church History

Mount Calvary Baptist Church was organized in 1902. A small brush harbor east of the Florida East Coast Railroad was utilized for a meeting place. There were five ministers who organized the church: L. J. Ely, B. J. Goodwin, N. B. Williams, B. F. James and A. J. Thomas. Later, the church moved to a small frame house on Church Street, now known as Esther Rolle Avenue. Services were held there until a parcel of land was donated by the Model Land Company. It was then that a small frame church was erected on the site.

Reverend Brown (known as Little Brown) became the first pastor and served for a period of two years.

The following persons were a part of the first congregation of the church: Willie Gates, Jessie and Abbie Harry, Alex and Addie Holloway, Jonathan Rolle, and Jack Swain.

Reverend L. J. Ely served as the second pastor of Mount Calvary.

During His Administration:

1. Choir Number One was organized in 1916.

Reverend Ely served until he became ill. He died in the year of 1918.

Reverend J.W. Brown (known as Big Brown) was elected to serve as the next pastor of Mount Calvary Baptist Church.

During His Administration:

1. The Sunday school was organized as well as the Baptist Training Union.

Reverend J. W. Brown served as pastor until 1924.

In the year of 1924, Reverend Emanuel Coleman was elected to serve as pastor.

During his Administration:

1. Services were held on the first and third Sundays of each month.

Reverend James Emanuel Coleman served as pastor until he became ill in 1946.

Reverend J. M. Coleman was elected to serve as pastor of Mount Calvary in the year of 1946.

Reverend J. M. Coleman served as pastor until 1948.

Reverend R. M. Lane was elected to serve as pastor of Mount Calvary in the year of 1948.

Reverend R. M. Lane served for two years. His tenure ended in 1950.

Reverend Collie Pete was elected to serve as pastor of Mount Calvary during the year of 1950.

During His Administration:

1. Choir Number 2 was organized in March, 1951.

2. The Progressive Club purchased all of the blocks for the church.

3. A loan for ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) was secured from the Pompano Beach Bank.

Reverend Pete resigned as pastor during the year of 1962.

In January 1963, at the age of 21, Reverend Samuel M. Collier was selected as pastor of Mount Calvary.

During His Administration:

1. The Missionary Society was divided into circles Nine acres of land was purchased.

2. Nine acres of land was purchased.

3. The parking lot was paved.

4. The central air conditioning and heat were installed.

5. A new parsonage was constructed on 3rd Avenue (Esther Rolle Avenue).

6. Usher Board Number 2 was organized in 1963.
 7. The Youth Choir and Youth group were combined to form the first Youth Ministry
 8. The first Family Day Program was instituted in November 1975
 9. In 1975 the Negro Spiritual Choir was organized.
- Reverend Collier rendered fourteen (14) years of service and resigned in 1977.

Reverend Otis Sample, Jr. was elected to serve as pastor of Mount Calvary in January, 1978.

During His Administration:

1. Some major improvement to the facility were made
2. A bus and van were purchased.
3. A bus ministry known as “Out Reach Mission” was organized
4. The mortgage on the land and church were paid off.
5. Workshops were presented to enhance the spiritual growth of the church.
6. Tithing and evangelism were instituted.
7. In 1983, the pastor instituted “Pioneers Day”.
8. The Children’s Church was organized in 1987
9. An orientation class for new members was organized
10. The Nurses Guild was organized.
11. In 1987, The Young Adult Choir was organized.

Reverend Sample’s tenure ended in 1989 after rendering twelve (12) years of service.

On May 3, 1990, the Mount Calvary Baptist Church elected Reverend Winston W. Rudolph, Sr., Pastor.

During His Administration:

1. Three committees were appointed – the Finance Committee, the Membership Committee, and the Building Committee.

Reverend Winston Rudolph, Sr. resigned as Pastor of Mount Calvary Baptist Church on August 2, 1993.

In the absence of a pastor, Reverend Derrick Gay and Reverend Willie Williams served as associate ministers.

In September 1994, Reverend Percy M. Dixon was elected to serve as Pastor of Mount Calvary Baptist Church.

During His Administration:

1. In January 1995, a radio ministry aired over live broadcast on WEXY 1520 A.M each Sunday from 12:
2. The Youth Empowerment System (YES) was established on March 4, 1995
3. Choirs One and Two merged to become the Senior Choir
4. He was elected President of the Pompano Christian Clergymen’s Council in March of 1996.
5. He implemented the Thursday Night Midweek Service to give the young preachers the opportunity to preach.
6. He implemented the Wednesday Noon Day Prayer Service.
7. He initiated Mt. Calvary as a site for the Gateway Food Program
8. The second edition of the New Members Training Class Manual was
9. The Brotherhood was reorganized
10. The Aaron and Hur Committee (Pastor’s Aide) was organized in January 1996

Reverend Dixon served as pastor of Mount Calvary until he resigned in 2003.

In the absence of a pastor, Reverend Walter Kinchen led the congregation for worship services assisted by ministers Kirby Thurston, Leeroy Woodall and John McCall.

On Wednesday, May 26, 2004 Reverend Anthony Burrell was elected to serve as Pastor of Mount Calvary Baptist Church. He then began his service In July, 2004.

During His Administration:

1. In December 2009 the church voted to acknowledge the licensure of women ministers.
 2. Early in his administration, two additional bathrooms were added to the front of the church.
 3. A quarterly newsletter was generated in March of 2011.
 4. In the year of 2012, the sanctuary was totally renovated
 5. A website and wireless internet connection was created for the church.
 6. The Prison Ministry was reactivated.
 7. The Women's Prison Outreach Ministry was organized
 8. A Mission Statement for the church was created
 9. The church established a Sponsorship of Mitspa Baptist Church in Saint Louis Du Nord, Haiti was established.
 10. In the year of 2013, he reinstated the Evangelistic program
- Reverend Burrell's tenure ended on April 12, 2017 after rendering almost 13 years of service.

At present, the clergy staff consists of Reverend Walter Aaron, Reverend Louise Atkison, Reverend Marcia Davis, Elder John McCall, Reverend Leeroy Woodall and Minister Lillian Woodall.