



Calvary Bible College & Seminary

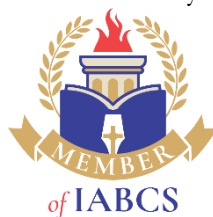
Twenty-Fifth Commencement Exercises

Sunday, July 12, 2026

3:00 PM

The historic Calvary Baptist Church of Dover, Delaware
410 Fulton Street | Dover, DE 19904

Accredited by



2026 Commencement Program

W. James Thomas, II, D. Min. President, Presiding

*The Processional	Graduates, Clergy, Faculty, and Staff
*Invocation	Dr. Frances Rogers <i>Faculty Member, Calvary Bible College & Seminary</i>
*The Negro National Anthem	
Welcome and Occasion	Bishop W. James Thomas, II <i>President & Academic Dean, Calvary Bible College & Seminary</i>
Class Greetings	Minister Denise Short <i>Class of 2026</i>
Alumni Greetings	Evangelist Rosie Johnson <i>Alumni President, Calvary Bible College & Seminary</i>
Greetings from the City of Dover	The Honorable Robin R. Christiansen <i>Mayor, City of Dover</i>
Ministry of Giving	Dr. Charles D. Fletcher, Jr. <i>Faculty Member & Board Member, Calvary Bible College & Seminary</i>
Offertory Prayer	Dr. Curtis I. Whitney <i>Faculty Member, Calvary Bible College & Seminary</i>
Introduction of the Speaker	Dr. Marcel A. Poe <i>Deacon, Calvary Baptist Church</i>
Musical Selection	Deacon Linda Hines <i>Music Ministry, Calvary Baptist Church</i>
Commencement Address	Dr. Shonda L. Poe <i>Diaconate Ministry, Calvary Baptist Church</i>
Presentation of Graduating Class	Mrs. Shirley A. Fletcher <i>Registrar, Calvary Bible College & Seminary</i>
Conferring of Degrees	Bishop W. James Thomas, II
Alumni Charge	Evangelist Rosie Johnson <i>President, Calvary Bible College & Seminary Alumni Association</i>
Alma Mater	words and music by Ms. Anisa M. Adkins
Benediction	Dr. Francis Rogers

The Negro National Anthem

Lift every voice and sing, Till earth and heaven sing,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise, High as the listening skies.
Let it resound, loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us,
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, Bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, Have not our weary feet,
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears have been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered.
Out from the gloomy past, Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, Our God, where we met Thee;
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, May we forever stand.
True to our GOD, True to our native land.

Alma Mater

Words and music by Anisa Adkins

We sing to thee, Oh God,
Our Lord, our strength,
As we show ourselves,
handling the Word of Truth.
We place our confidence in the Holy Ghost
whom the Father has sent to teach us all things.

Oh, Calvary Bible College and Seminary
We stand upon the Word in Blue and in Gold.
Oh, Calvary, oh Calvary,
We pledge ourselves to thee.

The Graduating Class of 2026

Master of Theology

Linda B. Bazemore

Master of Biblical Studies

Denise I. Short

Calvary Bible College & Seminary 2025-2026 Faculty

W. James Thomas, II, D.Min.

Rebecca Batson, D.Min.

Michael Rogers, M.Div.

Michael Morgan, M.Div.

Carol Boggerty, Th.D.

Frances T. Rogers, Ed.D.

Curtis L. Whitney, D.Min.

Regina Bell, M.Min.

Calvary Bible College & Seminary Board of Directors

Bishop W. James Thomas, II, Board Chairman

Mrs. Shirley Fletcher, Registrar

Mrs. Francine Gilbert-Lewis, Board Secretary

Mrs. Maretta Savage-Purnell, Board Treasurer

Evangelist Rosie Johnson, Alumni President

Reverend Connie Phillips

Dr. Nellie Foster

Dr. Charles D. Fletcher, Jr.

Mr. Steve Slocum

Calvary Bible College & Seminary Professional Staff

W. James Thomas, II, D. Min., President & Academic Dean,

Mrs. Shirley Fletcher, Registrar,

Mrs. Maretta Savage-Purnell, Treasurer,

Mrs. Francine Gilbert-Lewis, Administrative Assistant



25th Annual Commencement Co-Sponsors

Gold

Dr. Rebecca Batson

Clarenda Jones

Elder Linda Mitchell

Bronze

Bishop W. James Thomas, II
Drs. Malchcolm & Michelle Dawson
Reverend Earl R. Thurmond

Dr. Charles & Sis. Shirley Fletcher
Reverend Connie Phillips
Mrs. Renee M. Loper-Thurmond
Reverend Francine Gilbert-Lewis

Silver

Dan & Brenda Knight

Pastor William & Reverend Shirley Morgan

Patron

Maretta Savage-Purnell
Dr. Linda Hackett
Reverend Karen Shockley

Dr. Leandra Marshall
Mr. Kenwan Casson
Ms. Deborah Anderson
Reverend Wanda Clark-Okwuosa

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