



THE TABLE
Keeping Carmel Connected

February 2018

Carmel Family,

I believe with all my heart that the four weeks of worship in February are four of the most important weeks in the history of our church. The Pastors and Elders have prayerfully sought the Holy Spirit's leadership to clarify what our STRATEGY would look like as we live out our mission to "make disciples of those Nearest, our Neighbors, and the Nations." He led us to the following simple and yet powerful strategy from the scriptures that we are calling...

A.B.L.E.

It goes like this:

"We will ABIDE in Christ to BUILD relationships and LIVE the Gospel with EVERYTHING."

There are a few immediate things I'd like you to consider:

Sundays: This month I'll unpack this strategy in worship and our Discipleship Communities will continue the conversation. Join us each Sunday or be sure to watch online. If you're not in a DC, now's a great time to try one out!

Saturday, March 3: Join me at our **Life in Christ Conference** when we'll dive into what this all can look like in the different environments God takes us each day. This is an event for the whole family with a super morning planned for kids 6 weeks - 6 grade.

Wednesdays: For the remainder of the semester, **Midweek** will have a NEW format for adults that will dive even deeper into practical tools to live out our mission.

PRAY - This is the most important thing we can do. Pray for your own heart to be softened and tuned into what the Holy Spirit is calling us to do. Pray that as a church family we will be unleashed to live out the Gospel in a way that will blow us away with transformation in our homes, church, city and nations.

Love you Carmel,

Pastor Alex

PS - Shake up your 2nd Tuesdays by joining me for prayer from 7:00 - 8:00am in the Uptown Auditorium. We will enjoy a four-part "concert of prayer" as we pray through Abiding in Christ, Building Relationships, Living the Gospel, with Everything. Hope to see you here on February 13!

What Happens When We CONNECT + ENGAGE?



Close to 400 Carmel women of all ages participated in last month's Winter Gathering - 3 nights of worship, challenge and connection all centered around 2 Timothy.

There is talk of a Women's Summer Gathering! If you'd like to be involved with this, please email WomensMinistry@carmelbaptist.org.



"[We] locked arms across the generations to be challenged and grow."

- A Winter Gathering attendee



"Don't be the best you that you can be. Be Jesus."

- Winter Gathering Speaker

We are Encouraged

Getting texts every week from someone I don't even know has been something very encouraging to me. For me to know that someone is praying specifically for me and sending me Bible verses has helped me through a tough time in my life. I have felt her prayers and they have been very encouraging to me.

- Annabel (9th grade)

When I plugged into Mom's Time Out I almost immediately gained 6 new best friends (moms at my table) and joined an entire community of women that love and support one another. Being a mom is the best (and hardest) thing I've ever done. This group helps lighten the load while helping strengthen my relationship with Christ. My family recently joined Carmel Baptist and I already feel so connected to others in the church through MTO. - Ashley K, New MTO mom

We Begin To Heal

Women Living Well was the only safe place I had to share and process through the pain of my husband's [pornography] addiction. The other ladies there had walked in my shoes and understood the depth of hurt. The leaders were most encouraging and their own stories gave me hope and an ability to see for the first time that God redeems marriages that have been through this struggle... attending every week became a life-line for me. I would recommend this group to every woman walking in our shoes." - Women Living Well group member

More than Conquerors has been an immeasurable blessing to me. I thought I was forever stuck, all alone, in the sin that was ruining my life and my marriage. Lust, fantasy and pornography were eating my soul. I now know that an amazing group of men are finding real victory, learning how to be real friends and winning back their lives once and for all. Best of all there is room for you to find freedom alongside us. - More than Conquerors group member

Thank you for your donations through the Carmel Collection Bin! Changed Choices partners with women during incarceration and reentry, providing practical tools for restored lives. When you give stamps, you offer connection for women in far-away facilities who are in desperate need of hope. When you give a gift card, you provide dignity for a women who has just been released, so for the first time in years she can choose her own socks and undergarments. When you give paper products, you help Changed Choices to stock our reentry home, which houses women released from jail or prison. You give a foundation where women can begin to build new lives!

- Karen Kovach, Executive Director, Changed Choices

Details for these and other events are available at carmelbaptist.org/schedule.

FEB SUN 4 <i>Are We There Yet?</i> <i>Abide</i> Lord's Supper Elder Prayer	MON, 5	TUE, 6 Mom's Time Out WOMEN: Evening Prayer Gathering	WED, 7 Midweek Famjam	THUR, 8 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 9 Joy Prom 	SAT, 10
SUN, 11 <i>Are We There Yet?</i> <i>Build</i> Milestone 1	MON, 12	TUE, 13  2nd Tuesday Prayer (7:00am)	WED, 14 Midweek	THUR, 15 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 16	SAT, 17
SUN, 18 <i>Are We There Yet?</i> <i>Live</i>	MON, 19	TUE, 20 WOMEN: Evening Prayer Gathering	WED, 21 Midweek	THUR, 22 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 23	SAT, 24
SUN, 25 <i>Are We There Yet?</i> <i>Everything</i> Baptism	MON, 26	TUE, 27	WED, 28 Midweek	MAR THUR 1 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 2	SAT, 3 Life in Christ Conference 
SUN, 4 <i>Root 66 - Galatians</i> Lord's Supper Elder Prayer	MON, 5	TUE, 6 Mom's Time Out WOMEN: Evening Prayer Gathering	WED, 7 Midweek Famjam A.B.L.E. Night of Prayer	THUR, 8 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 9	SAT, 10
SUN, 11 <i>Root 66 - Ephesians</i>	MON, 12	TUE, 13  2nd Tuesday Prayer (7:00am)	WED, 14 Midweek Tools to Abide	THUR, 15 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 16	SAT, 17
SUN, 18 <i>Root 66 - Philippians</i>	MON, 19	TUE, 20 WOMEN: Evening Prayer Gathering	WED, 21 Midweek Tools to Build Relationships	THUR, 22 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 23	SAT, 24
SUN, 25 <i>Root 66 - Colossians</i> Baptism Baptism 101	MON, 26	TUE, 27	WED, 28 Midweek Seder Meal	THUR, 29 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 30 Good Friday	SAT, 31
APR SUN 1 Resurrection Sunday	MON, 2	TUE, 3	WED, 4 NO Midweek	THUR, 5 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 6	SAT, 7

LOOKING AHEAD...

APRIL

- 1** Resurrection Sunday
- 26-29** Carmel Serve
- 13 - 15** Boys Preteen Retreat (Milestone 3)
- 20-22** Girls Preteen Retreat (Milestone 3)

MAY

- 3** National Day of Prayer
- 5-14** Mission Trip: Bolivia
- 16** Annual Church Meeting
- 18-25** Mission Trip: Mexico
- 20** High School Graduation Recognition (Milestone 6)
- 20** Parent/Child Dedication (Milestone 1)

JUNE

- 12-16** Camp Carmel
- 15-23** Mission Trip: Albania
- 22-30** Mission Trip: Ukraine
- 25-28** Amazing Journey Back to Bible Times

JULY

- 15-29** Mission Trip: Guyana
- 15-20** CarmelKidz Camp

"Subscribe to Enews! For updates and reminders about opportunities to connect and engage through Carmel, subscribe to our weekly Enews by texting CARMELNEWS to 22828.

Plug Into These Opportunities



God wants to use you
EVERYWHERE
you go!

Don't let the busyness of life distract you from making kingdom impact everywhere you go! Come dive deeper into what it really looks like to Abide, Build and Live with Everything in our homes, our neighborhoods, our schools, at work, our city and the world.

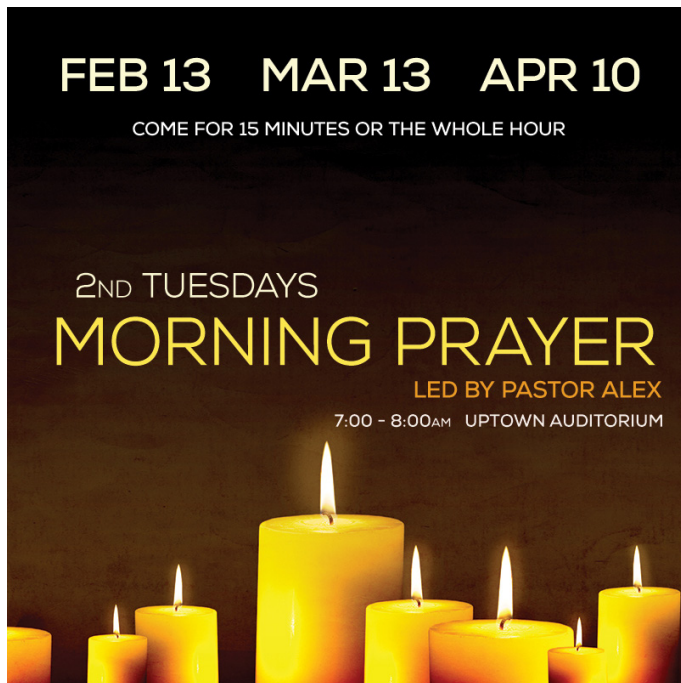
Life in Christ Conference

Saturday, March 3 • 8:30am - 12:30pm

Register by February 25
at carmelbaptist.org

What about the kids? This is a morning for the whole family!

Students are encouraged to attend. Childcare - or what we call **Super Saturday Morning** - is provided for children 6 weeks through 6th grade.



At our February 13 gathering, Pastor Alex's prayer focus will be a four-part "concert of prayer" as we pray through our A.B.L.E. strategy.

Spring Midweek

/md.wk/

a big deal

NEW Format!

Check out the back page for details!

From March - May, **adults** will gather in the Worship Center to be equipped with practical tools to Abide, Build and Live with Everything.

Visit us at carmelbaptist.org | 4

connect!

Sunday Mornings at Carmel



February Detour: Are We There Yet?

Pastor Alex's messages this month will bring clarity to HOW we live out Christ's call to make disciples AND kicks off 3 months of opportunities.

- **Discipleship Communities (DC)** will spend Sunday mornings this month diving deeper into Pastor Alex's morning message. Not connected to a DC? To get involved, email rhondac@carmelbaptist.org or stop by The Porch on Sunday mornings.
- **Life in Christ Conference on March 3** will explore what it looks like to make kingdom impact wherever life takes us.
- **Midweek on Wednesday nights** (March - May) takes on a NEW format to equip us with practical tools to Abide, Build and Live with Everything. See back page for details.



New to Carmel? Let's Connect

If you are new to Carmel, we want to connect with you! Please email our Adult Ministry team at rhondac@carmelbaptist.org. Our Sunday morning experience for folks new to Carmel - called The Bridge - will return in March with a NEW format.



Questions about a relationship with Christ?

Stop by The Porch on Sunday morning to talk to a member of our team or email Josh Fairbaugh at joshf@carmelbaptist.org.



Need Prayer?

The first Sunday of each month, the Elders and their wives are available in the Prayer Room between services to pray with and for you. For other opportunities: carmelbaptist.org/prayer.



Interested in Baptism?

If you're not sure what baptism is, or you've never been baptized and are interested in learning more, join us for Baptism 101 which covers the biblical basics of baptism and how we practice believer's baptism by immersion at Carmel.

Baptism 101 - February 25 @ 11:00am in Room A243



Considering Membership?

Stop by The Porch to express your interest and learn more about one of our upcoming New Member classes.

Wednesday Nights at Carmel

Midweek provides hands-on, how-to ministry training to equip us to better live as disciples! Come for Supper (4:45 - 6:30pm) followed by discipleship training for all ages. Details at carmelbaptist.org/midweek. No registration is required for these opportunities that run through February 28.

- **1-1 Financial Coaching***: Biblical principles for managing your God-given resources. (Room A237)
- **While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks**: Reflections on Biblical leadership. (A245)
- **Adult Bible Study**: Explore God's Word and encourage one another through prayer. Begins at 6:00pm. (The Choir Room)
- **Connecting to Carmel**: Explore what fosters community and advances our mission at Carmel. (A243)
- **Women on Wednesday**: Fellowship while doing an on-campus service project for a local ministry partner. (The Carmel Room)

*Advance sign up requested. Email rhondac@carmelbaptist.org the Monday prior to the Wednesday you plan to attend.



NEW Midweek format begins March 7.

Turn to the back page for details.

Other Days of the Week?

Visit carmelbaptist.org/events and carmelbaptist.org/news for details on all that is happening at Carmel.

Nominate Carmel's Leaders

Deacons + Elders

Carmel is a church that is elder-led, deacon-served, and congregationally-governed. What does that mean? You can find the full explanation in The Role & Qualifications of an Elder and Deacon document at CarmelLeader.org.

In short, the New Testament prescribes these offices to help the church carry out its mission. I Timothy 3, Titus 1, Acts 6 and other passages in the New Testament provide the most clear content about the role and qualifications of these positions.

According to the New Testament, elders are responsible for the primary leadership and oversight of a church. At Carmel, we have a total of fifteen elders serving on our Elder Leadership Team. The Senior Pastor serves as chair of the group and is seen as a chief among equals. The other fourteen elders are nominated and approved by the church body.

The New Testament office of deacon was first mentioned in Acts 6:1-7 when seven men were chosen to minister to widows. Though the text does not refer to them as "deacons", the men were chosen to "serve tables" (v. 2). The Greek word for serve is *diakonos* from which we get our English word *Deacon*. At Carmel, we have a total of 36 deacons actively serving as a Deacon Body and all of which were nominated and approved by the church body.

We challenge all church members to prayerfully consider nominating men (1 Timothy 3) to serve in these roles.

Qualifications for these roles can be found in the aforementioned document titled "Role and Qualifications of an Elder and Deacon". Nomination forms are available at the welcome desks or online at CarmelLeader.org.

Deacon Body Nominations are being received until February 11

Elder Leadership Team Nominations are being received until February 25

Carmel Committees

Carmel has **10 standing committees** that provide leadership to various ministries or functional aspects of the church such as the Finance Committee, the WEE School Committee, and the Carmel Education Foundation. The full list is on CarmelLeader.org. If you are a member and interested in serving on a committee in the future, please fill out the general interest form on CarmelBaptist.org under Serving our Nearest.

THE PORCH
The Place to Connect

**Not yet a
Carmel member?**

Stop by the Porch to find out more about what it means to be a member at Carmel.



Annual Church Meeting

The Carmel Family will gather for the annual church meeting on **Wednesday, May 16.**

Summer Discipleship Opportunities

mission trips

Join one of these teams! Details at carmelbaptist.org/missions.



Bolivia May 5-14

Register by
Feb 18

Join this all-woman team! Come prayer walk, learn about human trafficking and meet and facilitate a retreat for the women served by our Bolivia ministry partner.



Mexico May 18-25

Register by
Feb 4

Come join the team as we return to Big Heart Orphanage, serve the community and continue to build relationships with this ministry partner.



Ukraine June 22-30

Register by
March 1

Families, singles, and all ages will continue to build relationships and minister to the community through sports camps and other outreach opportunities with our local ministry partner.



Guyana July 15-29 (Multiple Options)

Register by
February 9

Be the hands and feet of Christ as this team gets to share the Gospel and love of Jesus with children at churches and community centers, and with prisoners.



Albania June 15-23

Register by
March 1

Work with the local church to share the Gospel in the capital city with nonbelievers, as well as minister to the church body.

summer camps



June 13-17

Camp Carmel
(7th - 12th Grade)
Online registration
begins Sunday, March 4



June 25-28

Amazing Journey
Back to Bible Times
(3 years - 2nd Grade)
Online registration
begins Sunday, April 8



July 15-20

CarmelKidz Camp
Genesis U
(3rd - 6th Grade)
Online registration
begins Sunday, March 4

For More Camp
Opportunities
Check Out

WEE School

weeschool.org
(6wks - TK)

Carmel Christian

carmelchristian.org
(Kinder-12th Grade)

Hello Preschool Families:

Our Sunday mornings this month will be super sweet for your preschooler as they learn all about Jesus (details below!) Also this month, Pastor Alex will unpack ABLE (read his welcome letter on page 1 if you have not done so). As we explore what an ABLE life looks like as adults, I hope you will find age-relevant ways to share what you are learning with your preschooler. There is nothing as powerful as your preschooler witnessing YOUR love for God.

-Rachel Bright

Preschool Minister & WEE School Head of School

March 3 = Super Saturday for Preschoolers!

No need to book a sitter so you can attend the March 3 Life in Christ Conference! We have a FUN morning planned just for your preschooler - it's what we call Super Saturday! Register your family NOW. Details on Page 4.

Volunteer Opportunity

Adult volunteers are needed to serve on a rotation in our 2 year-old class on Sundays at 9:30am. Interested? Email rachelb@carmelbaptist.org.

Sunday Mornings

For Kids

The Sweet Love of Jesus

This month, Preschoolers will learn that Jesus showed God's love to everyone! Whether He was performing miracles or healing sick people, teaching in parables or forgiving sins, we can see the sweet love of God in everything Jesus did and said. Join us each Sunday for a *sweet* time of large group worship as we discover just how much Jesus loves us—and wants us to show His love to others, too!



For Parents - Invitation to WEE Connect Discipleship Community

WEE Connect is a Sunday morning Discipleship Community for parents of preschoolers. Come make friends and learn more about God's plan for successful parenting from 11:00 a.m. to noon in room D101 (across from the Preschool Welcome Desk). Pastor Jay Hancock, Carmel's Executive Pastor, will lead the class along with a team of others, some who also have preschoolers and others who have older children, and will serve as mentors.



Midweek

Your child will learn about the B.I.B.L.E. and more about Jesus through different learning centers. Come early for \$5 supper (\$20 max/family) that includes a special menu just for kids! Details and menus at carmelbaptist.org/midweek.



Moms - Enjoy a Night Out!

Mom's Time Out is a first-Tuesday-of-the-month gathering designed to encourage and equip you to thrive in this season. Come for dinner, fellowship, mentoring and fun!

February 6 - Early Valentines fun! Dinner, cookie decorating, Valentine card-making for local ministry partners, and necklace making.

March 6 - Fellowship, food and an Easter craft

April 10 - Guest Speaker Elizabeth Poplin

Learn more and sign up at carmelbaptist.org/moms-time-out/.



WEE School Registration is underway for the 2018-2019 school year!
Check out details at weeschool.org.

Hello CarmelKidz Families:

Kind people attract others, while unkind people push people away. This month, we'll explore how God's kindness led us to become His family. Your family will be challenged to find concrete ways to show kindness to others - your family and friends, but also to those who are overlooked, and even those who aren't kind to you. That is what God did for us so we should extend His kindness to others.

-Sean Lee

Children's Minister

Do to others as
you would have
them do to you.

Luke 6:31, NIV

Sunday Mornings

What does CarmelKidz do on Sunday mornings?

Kids are motivated by fun activities designed to help them discover who God is so they can trust Him.

This month, CarmelKidz are learning:

1st grade: Miracles Jesus Did

2nd grade: God is my Shepherd

3rd grade: Jesus' Unstoppable Mission

4th grade: Gift Quest and Giving Adventure

5th grade: Ezra, Esther, Nehemiah, big doGs (disciple of God)

Preteens: David and Daniel: a Character Study



Midweek



Kidz - Learn About Kindness

This month's Midweek focus is Kindness:
Showing others they are valuable by how you treat them.

Join us for Famjam (02/07)
and Kidjam (02/14, 02/21, 02/28)



Parents - Invest in Your Marriage + Your Kid's Love Language

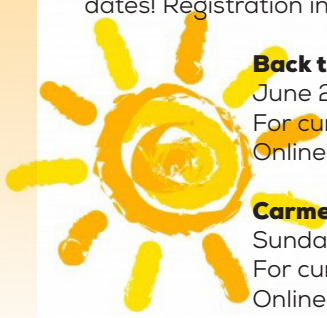
Marriage Workshop led by Pastor Alex and Christy Kennedy (02/14 and 02/21)

Five Love Language led by Pastor Patrick McCrory (02/28)

Wednesdays in Room U215/U216 from 6:30-7:20 pm

Save These SUMMER Dates

Before you schedule vacation, save these summer discipleship dates! Registration information will be emailed to parents in April.



Back to Bible Times - Walk Where Jesus Walked

June 25-28, 9:00am - 12:00pm

For current Preschoolers Age 3 - 2nd Grade

Online registration begins Sunday, April 8

CarmelKidz Summer Camp - University of Genesis

Sunday, July 15 - Friday, July 20

For current 3rd-6th Graders

Online registration begins Sunday, March 4

Upcoming Events

February 7: Famjam (Kindness)

February 16: Preteen (6th grade) Night Out

February 21: Preteen Retreat Parent meeting

March 3: Life in Christ Conference
(childcare available - register online)

March 4, 11, 18, 25: First step (March)

March 7: Famjam (Peace)

April 13-15: Preteen (6th grade) boys + dads retreat

April 20-22: Preteen girls + parents retreat



C A R M E L
STUDENTS



Student Spotlights

"Being able to be prayed for by a lady from Carmel's women's ministry was incredible. To have someone take time regularly to reach out to me and ask how they can pray for me means more than I can explain. This support and encouragement I received from a lady here at Carmel was a big blessing in my life and one of the most encouraging things of my whole semester."

- Kailey (11th grade)

Refresh - Renewed Strength for Body & Soul

On Saturday, February 17 from 9:00am - 12:30pm, all girls grades 7th-12th are invited to spend the morning being refreshed in God's presence! Details and registration can be found at carmelstudents.org.

Registration closes Monday, February 5.



Survivor - 8th Grade Retreat

The shift from middle school to high school is tough with all the pressure, stress, and demands! Friends, teachers, coaches and parents have expectations and difficult questions. Survivor 8th Grade Retreat helps prepare students for this transition through physical challenges, worship, survival tips and time to hang out with friends. This event is designed to be part of the church celebration of the Purity for Life Milestone 4. Dates are **March 16-18**. Details and registration available at carmelstudents.org.

Purity for Life Recognition

If your student has made a personal commitment for Purity for Life, please make plans for your student to be celebrated in each service on **Sunday, April 22nd**. Registration can be found at carmelstudent.org



Nav - Campfire Celebration

At the end of the Spring semester, we'll gather around the campfire to celebrate all of the incredible things that have been happening in our Nav groups. See dates below!

Important Dates

Joy Prom is February 9

Refresh takes place on February 17

Survivor takes place on March 16-18

Graduating Seniors must sign up and submit pictures for Milestone 6 by April 1

Purity for Life Recognition is April 22

Carmel Serve is April 26 - 29

Middle School Nav Campfire is April 28

High School Nav Campfire is April 29

Attention Graduating Seniors:

Want to celebrate Milestone 6 in May?

You must sign up
and submit pictures
by April 1.

/md•wk/ *a big deal*

NEW Adult Midweek Format

From March – May, Adults will gather in the Worship Center to be equipped with practical tools to **Abide, Build and Live with Everything.**

March

- 7 * A.B.L.E. Night of Prayer
- 14 Tools to Abide
- 21 Tools to Build Relationships
- 28 Seder Meal

April

- 4 Spring Break - no Midweek
- 11* Building Intergenerational Relationships (Mentoring)
- 18 Tools to Live the Gospel (Articulating the Gospel)
- 25 Tools for "Everything"

May

- 2* A.B.L.E. Conversation Night
- 9 A.B.L.E. Conversation Night
- 16 Annual Church Mtg (stay tuned for details)

*All Adults not participating in Famjam are encouraged to attend.

A.B.L.E. Night of Prayer

March 7 @ 6:30pm

Come pray that the hearts of all who call Carmel home will be filled with an insatiable desire from the Holy Spirit to **ABIDE** in Christ to **BUILD** relationships and **LIVE** the Gospel with **EVERYTHING**. All Adults not participating in Famjam are encouraged to attend!

Come experience a Messianic Passover!



Childcare available 6 weeks - Kindergarten
Details at carmelbaptist.org

Interested in volunteering?

Set up 3/27 or the afternoon of 3/28.
Note your interest with your RSVP.

Carmel Baptist Church
704.847.8575
carmelbaptist.org
questions@carmelbaptist.org

Schools
704.849.9723
weeschool.org
carmelchristian.org

Carmel Counseling Center
704.849.0686
carmelcounselingcenter.org



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