



THE TABLE

Keeping Carmel Connected

DEC.

SUN, 27

Christmas
Holiday Worship
Schedule

MON, 28

Fitness Center
Closed

TUE, 29

WED, 30

NO Wednesday
Night Activities

Fitness Center
Closed

THU, 31

JAN.

FRI, 1

Campus Closed

SAT, 2

Passion
Conference

SUN, 3

Regular
Worship Service
Resumes

Elder Prayer

Passion
Conference

MON, 4

Passion
Conference

TUE, 5

Mothers of
Preschoolers -
MOPS

Daughters of
the King Prayer
Gathering (PM)

WED, 6

NO Wednesday
Night Activities

THU, 7

Daughters of
the King Prayer
Gathering (AM)

FRI, 8

SAT, 9

SUN, 10

Cultivate
Challenge
Kick off

Baptism



MON, 11

TUE, 12

WED, 13

Wednesday
Nights @ Carmel

Prayer
Gathering with
Pastor Alex

THU, 14

Daughters of
the King Prayer
Gathering (AM)

FRI, 15

SAT, 16

SUN, 17

Cultivate
Challenge

MON, 18

Martin Luther
King Holiday -
Campus Closed

TUE, 19

Daughters of
the King Prayer
Gathering (PM)

WED, 20

Wednesday
Nights @ Carmel

THU, 21

Daughters of
the King Prayer
Gathering (AM)

FRI, 22

SAT, 23

SUN, 24

Cultivate
Challenge

MON, 25

TUE, 26

WED, 27

Wednesday
Nights @ Carmel

THU, 28

Daughters of
the King Prayer
Gathering (AM)

FRI, 29

SAT, 30

SUN, 31

Cultivate
Challenge

WEE School
in-house
registration
begins

MON, 1

TUE, 2

WED, 3

THU, 4

FRI, 5

SAT, 6



New to Carmel? Bridge Class Begins February 7

"The Bridge" is a Sunday morning class for those who are new to Carmel and interested in learning more about the church, the Bible and how to get more connected. The class consists of six sessions taught by Pastor Jay Hancock and meets at 9:30am between February 7 and March 13 in room A243. Come as you are and join in any Sunday. Learn more about this class at either Welcome Desk.

WELCOME

January 2016

Carmel Family & Friends:

The new year is upon us and I am so excited about 2016!

As we start 2016:

Our New Student Pastor is in Place



I am so grateful that what I knew in my heart was confirmed by the search firm we engaged - Ryan Jackson is the person God has called to lead our Student Ministry in this new season. Ryan has demonstrated a faithful and dedicated heart for our students and their parents. His marriage to Rachel is a vibrant reflection of the gospel. He has reflected the heart of a shepherd that loves sheep. And even though he thinks that the Green Bay Packers rule the world he is still a great teammate that all the other pastors love and enjoy serving with. Let's cover Ryan, Rachel and Adalyn in our prayers as this next season of ministry unfolds for them.

The Cultivate Challenge Takes Root

We will start the year with an intentional time of learning focused on two things - growing individually as disciples and rallying the Carmel Family to build dedicated space for Student discipleship. We are trusting God will use this time to re-ignite within each of us a desire to live differently for Him and to invest in the next generation for His glory. The **Cultivate Challenge** is January 10 - February 21. But it is more than just 7 weeks - it's what we hope is a season that roots each of us to live counter culture lives of open hands that impact eternity.

We Want You to Pray - A LOT!

January begins a focused, church-wide, intentional year of prayer. We want you to pray and journal what you are hearing from God. Prayer Journals will be available in the Gathering Space mid month - our gift to help you invest in the most important conversation of your day!

It's 2016. Let's put a stake in the ground. Let's make 2016 THE year we pray more, are in the Word more, open our hands more, love our neighbors more, listen for the Holy Spirit more, engage with the kids in our life more...

Love you Carmel,

Pastor Alex



A CALL TO PRAYER.



NEAREST

Wednesday Nights @ Carmel

The Carmel Family comes together on Wednesday nights for dinner (served 4:45 - 6:15pm), fellowship and equipping (6:15- 7:30pm). This semester we have a few **NEW** things planned:

January

January 13: Prayer Gathering with Pastor Alex in the Worship Center

January 20 & 27: *The Power of Short-Term Missions: The What, Why and Wow*

Have you ever considered going on a short-term mission trip, but weren't sure what was involved or whether you were "qualified"? Come hear how you can participate in one of the greatest life-changing experiences in your walk with the Lord. And, hear from members of the Carmel family who have experienced short-term missions.

February - April: New Opportunities for Adults

Adults - consider one of these NEW ways to spend your Wednesday Night @ Carmel?

RELAX: Areas will be designated for people to relax in a "quiet space" for connecting with God.

RECONNECT: The Worship Center will be a place to reconnect with others and talk about the previous Sunday's sermon.

RECHARGE: Four classes will be offered to help people recharge and include:

Kids' Brains and Screens Workshop presented by Families Managing Media organization

Go Across the Street presented by the Women's Ministry team

Developing a Budget Spending Plan using Compass Financial resources, presented by our Stewardship of Life team

Finding Your Nearest Place to Serve presented by the Adult Ministry team

Registration for these classes will begin in January.



Ryan Jackson Named Student Pastor

Last month, Ryan Jackson was named Student Pastor. Ryan has served Carmel Student Ministry for 3 1/2 years and has such a heart for students and their families. Ryan is a man of integrity who loves God's Word and wants the next generation to love it, too. He is passionately committed to the mission of our church, and we believe there are bright days ahead for the Student Ministry!

Two New Discipleship Communities

Not currently involved in a Discipleship Community at Carmel? Visit a few this month to find the right fit! Stop by any Welcome Desk for a complete list of DCs. Two new groups launch Sunday, January 10:

Young Single Adults - 9:30am (A107)

This group welcomes young single adults (early to mid 20's) that are beyond their college years.

Parents with Younger Children - 11:00am (A100)

This groups welcomes parents with younger children into a mentoring, encouraging community.

Care Ministry

GriefShare: It Hurts to Lose Someone

Have you lost a loved one? You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. Carmel is looking to start GriefShare - a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. If interested, contact David Dixon at davidd@carmelbaptist.org.



THE CULTIVATE CHALLENGE IS TAKING ROOT

Colossians 2:7 instructs disciples of Jesus Christ to be rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in faith and overflowing with thankfulness.

Don't miss Sunday mornings and focused prayer opportunities in January and February – they will help cultivate our hearts and homes to be fertile soil where roots grow deep. Join us for a planting season at Carmel where we invest in dedicated space in order to live fruitfully and to make disciples – where we overflow with thanksgiving and petition for heart transformation within ourselves and our Nearest.

Sunday Mornings

January 10	Cultivate: The Challenge Takes Root
January 17	Remain: Dependency on Christ
January 24	Root: Dependency on His Word
January 31	Renew: Passion for the Next Generation
February 7	Remember: Dependency on Prayer
February 14	Release: The Joy of Sacrificial Living
February 21	Reap: Unity

carmelbaptist.org/cultivate





NEAREST



Senior Adult Ministry Opportunities

If you are 55+ years old, mark your calendar NOW to connect and be encouraged through service and fellowship opportunities with our Senior Adult Ministry! Here are a few upcoming events:

- Thursday, January 14: Sing-A-Long & Lunch
- Thursday, February 11: Game Day, Lunch & War Room Movie
- Thursday, March 10: Carmel Christian School Play & Lunch

Other activities being planned for 2016 include trips to Stowe, West Jefferson and Tanglewood, as well as Homebound Visits and Card Writing. Stay tuned for more details.

Women's Ministry News

Come Pray: Carmel's Women's Ministry invites all women of Carmel to join a weekly Daughters of the King prayer gathering. No need to sign up! Just come with an expectant heart and open hands! Choose from one of these three weekly gatherings in the Carmel Prayer Room.

- Tuesday mornings: 11:45am - 12:45pm (beginning January 11)
- Thursday mornings: 11:45am - 12:45pm
- Tuesday evenings: 7:00 - 8:00pm (1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings)

Bible Study Begins: We celebrate over 300 women are participating in 13 Winter/Spring Bible studies meeting at Carmel throughout the week!

Home Bible Studies Coming this Fall: Carmel's Women's Ministry wants to "Go Across the Street" to reach those in our neighborhoods. Home Bible studies help create a more intimate environment to study God's Word and experience authentic community. Stay tuned for more information about how you can learn more about facilitating a Neighborhood Bible study.



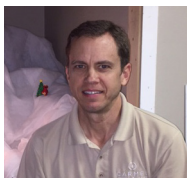
Where Should You Park?

On Sunday mornings the parking area in front of our main building entrance is reserved for guests and people who need special access. The Orange Lot (next to the Preschool/CarmelKidz entrance) is for families with younger children. Everyone else? Utilize the Blue Lots (toward Reverdy Lane) or the "door-to-door" shuttle service from Elizabeth Lane Elementary School.

Staff Milestone Anniversaries

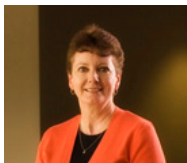
5 Years of Service: Keith Kitchen, Facilities

Keith works on our maintenance team, providing support to all ministry areas - from repairs to clean-ups to light construction. He is always willing to help, quick to respond and meets every task with kindness, patience and the heart of a servant. If you see Keith on campus this month, be sure to thank him for his faithful service to the church and schools.



10 Years of Service: Janice Mumpower, Children's Ministry Assistant

Janice handles all support for Children's Ministry and Women's Ministry. Her attention to detail and servant-heart make so many behind-the-scenes things happen. We are thankful for Janice's commitment and dedication to both of these ministry areas.



NEAREST



Sunday Morning Overview

Lower Level Preschoolers:

Jesus' Miracles

The Bible tells us Jesus' miracles served the purpose of showing His power. Miracles remind us of the restoration of all things Jesus will bring when He returns to earth to reign forever. They are the promise of what is to come!

This Month's Special Words:

Jesus grew and I can too!

Bible Stories:

January 3	Jesus in the Temple
January 10	Jesus' First Miracle
January 17	Jesus Calms the Storm
January 24	Jesus Feeds Thousands
January 31	Jesus Walks on Water

Three's - Kindergarteners:

Come, Follow Me: Jesus' Ministry Begins

This month, our focus shifts from the long-awaited Savior being born to Jesus' life and ministry. Everywhere Jesus went, He taught, healed, loved, and served people. God had a very special plan for Jesus' life on the earth and He wants us to follow Him!

This Month's Special Words:

We can follow Jesus!

Bible Stories:

January 3	Jesus Spends Time at the Temple
January 10	Jesus' Ministry Begins: Baptism, Choosing Disciples, Clears the Temple
January 17	Jesus' First Miracle: The Wedding at Cana
January 24	The Centurion's Faith
January 31	Healing at the Pool of Bethesda

Be a Champion for the Next Generation

Every child deserves a champion, an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection, and insists that they can become the best that they can possibly be.

With the beginning of a new year, many families make resolutions to get back in church. Let's be ready to pour into these families with plenty of champions serving our Nearest! Interested? Stop by or call the Preschool Ministry Office (704.849.9723, opt#1).

MOPS - 1st Tuesday of the Month

Moms of Preschoolers (pregnancy through Kindergarten) - come to Carmel Baptist MOPS for a well deserved night off! This month, Chrystal Bachmann shares money saving tips with us on **Tuesday, January 5 from 7:00 - 9:00pm** in the Uptown Auditorium. We'll enjoy breakfast for dinner as well as a fun, interactive game. Childcare is available with a reservation. For more information, email MOPSatCarmel@gmail.com. Also, mark your calendars for our Tuesday, February 2 meeting when local Pediatrician, Dr. Stephen Renfrow, will share insight and wisdom.

Weekday Early Education (WEE) School - Registration Coming

Carmel offers a weekday preschool experience for children 6 weeks through Transitional Kindergarten from September - May where children are loved and well cared for while learning about Jesus. They are also gaining readiness and life skills needed to be successful in Kindergarten. Options for the 9:00am - 1:00pm preschool day include 1 day, 2 day, 3 day, 4 day and 5 day options with tuition based on the number of days. Priority registration for Carmel members begins Sunday, January 31. Pick up, complete and return Registration Forms/Fees at the WEE School office. Stop by for a tour at your convenience!

Milestone 1 Parent/Child Dedication - Sunday, February 7

If you have a Preschooler and would like to participate in Parent/Child Dedication on Sunday, February 7 during the hour you typically worship, contact Cindi Baker at 704.849.9723, opt#1. This is the first milestone in your child's spiritual journey and an exciting time for the church to see and encourage your family.

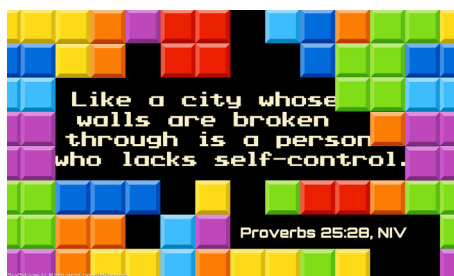




Sunday Mornings:

Discovering God's characters in His Big story to trust our Big God!

1st Grade:	Extraordinary Jesus Grew
2nd Grade:	Contact - Learning God's attributes
3rd Grade:	Show you know, Jesus - God Man and The Lamb of God
4th Grade:	Doing Life Together
5th Grade:	It fits together: God's story - Kingdom divided and God's warning through prophets
Preteens:	David and Daniel: A Contrast in Character
Special Needs:	Church helps and prays for one another



Wednesday Nights: Change the way you play!

We've all experienced them—young and old alike—moments when frustration gets the better of us and we suddenly feel like we're losing our minds.

The book of Proverbs includes several verses where God gives us wisdom to practice for those moments when we'd rather do anything but show self-control. This month, CarmelKidz looks at self-control through God's lens and explores uncommon wisdom that Solomon captured in the book of Proverbs.

- God can give you the power to control yourself (Proverbs 25:28)
- Pause before you lose your temper (Proverbs 16:32)
- Select your words carefully (Proverbs 21:23)
- Know when you should stop (Proverbs 25:16)
- Use God's words to guide your thoughts (Proverbs 4:23, Philippians 4:8)

As we learn to reflect the character of God and respond to His love for us, self-control is crucial. After all, how we live speaks volumes to our friends, family, and even strangers we meet every day. Our ability to show self-control in the heat of the moment could make or break someone's view of God.

Key Dates:

Sundays, January 3, 10, 17, 24: January First Step Class (pre-registration required)

Wednesday 13: Famjam*

Wednesdays 20 & 27: Kidjam

Sunday, February 7: February First Step Class (pre-registration online now)

Friday, February 5: Preteen Night Out

***Parents, please join us on Wednesday, January 13 for Famjam so that we can all work together to show why self-control matters!** Church + Home = working together to make a bigger impact on the next generation.



The great story of Jesus' birth is told in different and unique ways to capture the hearts of each of our uniquely created CarmelKidz!



Pictures from Sunday, December 13



NEAREST



Sunday Nights - 6:30 - 8:00pm

After you have dinner with your family, come hang-out, play games, kick a soccer ball, build friendships and have meaningful conversations at our Sunday evening grade-level home fellowships! Adult leaders will facilitate a large group discussion based on the Sunday morning message and Table Talk email. The fun **begins Sunday, January 10**. Location information will be emailed directly to Student families.



HS Students/Parents Dodgeball/Pancakes

All 9th - 12th Grade students and parents are invited to join us for a morning of pancakes and dodgeball from 9:00 - 11:00am in the Gym on **Saturday, February 6**. You can just eat pancakes, just play dodgeball, or do both! It's going to be a lot of fun. Sign up at carmelstudents.org.



Survivor 8th Grade Retreat - Register Now

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 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. Dates are **March 18 - 20**. Details and registration available at carmelstudents.org.

Key Dates:

January 2 - 4: Passion Conference for Seniors

January 3: DC Begins

January 10: C2 Begins

January 13: Fuel Worship Begins

February 6: HS Students/Parents Pancakes/Dodgeball

February 10: Special Night of Worship and Prayer with Wayne Kerr Band

Night of Worship to feature the Wayne Kerr Band

We will be having a special night of worship and prayer on **Wednesday, February 10 in the Gym from 6:15 - 7:30pm**. We have invited the Wayne Kerr Band to lead us in worship throughout the evening. We encourage all students to come and join our voices together through song and prayer. Parents, you are welcome to come and be a part of this special night as well. Check out the Wayne Kerr Band at waynekerrmusic.com.





NEIGHBORS

We celebrate and invite you to join what God is doing through Carmel to Love and Serve our Neighbors.

Thank you Carmel!

Thanks to your generosity through the Love + Serve Engagement Area, we were able to provide bedding to children, clothes to refugees, heaters to low-income older adult and Christmas gifts to our Special Needs ministry! Carmel, you gave:

- 41 articles of clothing for Refugees
- 300 undergarments for men in Rehab
- 320 cans/boxes of food
- 30 hat/glove sets and heaters for low income seniors
- 100+ baby outfits
- 38 food/shopping gift cards for our Nearest in the Joy Ministry
- \$3,000+ of products made by women escaping human trafficking purchased
- \$1,500 to purchase clothes for foster children served at Mosaic Style with Love store



Chinese Ministry to Host New Year Celebration

Carmel's Chinese Ministry - our next church plant - will once again host a community-wide Chinese New Year Celebration at Carmel on **Sunday, February 7 from 1:30 - 5:30pm**. Amid the Chinese food and snacks, there will be fun activities for the whole family, cultural performances and the Gospel will be shared. Please be in prayer for this event - and come be a part of it!

Key Dates:

February 12: Joyful Hearts Club - check our website for details

April 9: Justice For Charlotte Conference

April 28 & 29: Joy Prom - celebrating its 10th Anniversary



NATIONS

Want to learn more about what Carmel is doing to make disciples of the Nations? Visit the SERVE/NATIONS page on carmelbaptist.org.

Make 2016 A Year You Will Never Forget

Short-term missions is one of the greatest and most life-changing experiences a believer can have in their walk with the Lord. Those who come back from serving on a mission trip have an expanded worldview, have discovered gifts and callings they never knew they had, formed new relationships and friendships, and have been used to strengthen and encourage both those who serve overseas as well as local believers.

Short-term missions cannot be explained, it has to be experienced. 2016 could be the year that radically changes your life and deeply impacts your relationship with Jesus Christ! Take that step of faith and allow the Lord to use you in ways you have never imagined and to show you things you never dreamed possible.

Interested? Here are some of the opportunities available to you in 2016. For more information on these trips, go to Carmel's website, click on "SERVE" and view the short-term mission trips we are sponsoring this year.

2016 Opportunities

- Guatemala: June 11 - 18 (Information meeting Sunday, January 17 at 12:30pm in the Conference Room)
- Kenya: June 16 - 27
- Albania: June 17 - 25
- Cuba: June 16 - 24
- Ukraine: June 17 - 25
- Mexico: June 18 - 25
- Guyana: July 23 - 30 or July 30 - August 6
(attend one week or both weeks)

New Mission Trips for 2016 - 2017

Once a year the GO Team evaluates and approves new mission trip opportunities for the coming season. The Mission Trips Ministry Team is in the process of accepting recommendations for mission trips for the 2016 - 2017 fiscal year. If you would like to lead or recommend a mission trip to be considered as one of Carmel's approved mission trips for 2016 - 2017, please visit the Mission Trip Resources page on carmelbaptist.org and download the Short-Term Trip and Leader Application. Please return your completed application to Diane McGee at dianem@carmelbaptist.org no later than Friday, January 29.

Prayer Focus: Peru

Robbye Fielden - Carmel Missionary in Lima, Peru

Robbye serves as Personnel Coordinator, Office Manager, and Guest House Manager, supporting the missionaries that serve with SIM across Peru. Pray that she finds ways to equip and encourage the missionaries in her care.

Unreached People Group: The Achuar in Jivaro, Peru

Of the 5,000 Achuar, only 15% are professing Christians, of which many still practice witchcraft. Pray the missionaries in Peru can bring the Word of God to these people. Education in hygiene, farming, social order and the value of medicines would likely be beneficial to this people.

10%

of all Carmel's
Tithes and
Offerings fund the
Missional Outreach
Budget. These
funds support local
and global
partnerships,
missionaries
and trips, and
other mission
activities.

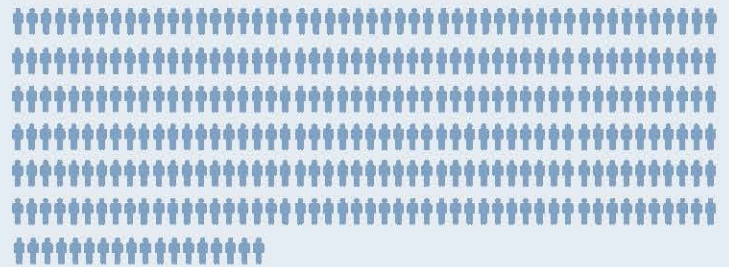
2015 Giving



NATIONS

318

people served globally
on trips in 2015



18

Local Ministry Partners



NEIGHBORS

Global Missions
Including global agencies, missionaries, short term trips



\$335,958

\$377,042



Local Missions

Including church plants, agencies, helping hands, etc.

In addition to 10% of Tithes and Offerings, Carmel's GO Offering (collected weekly) supports local and global partners. These funds go directly to local and international efforts led by Baptist Mission Partners.



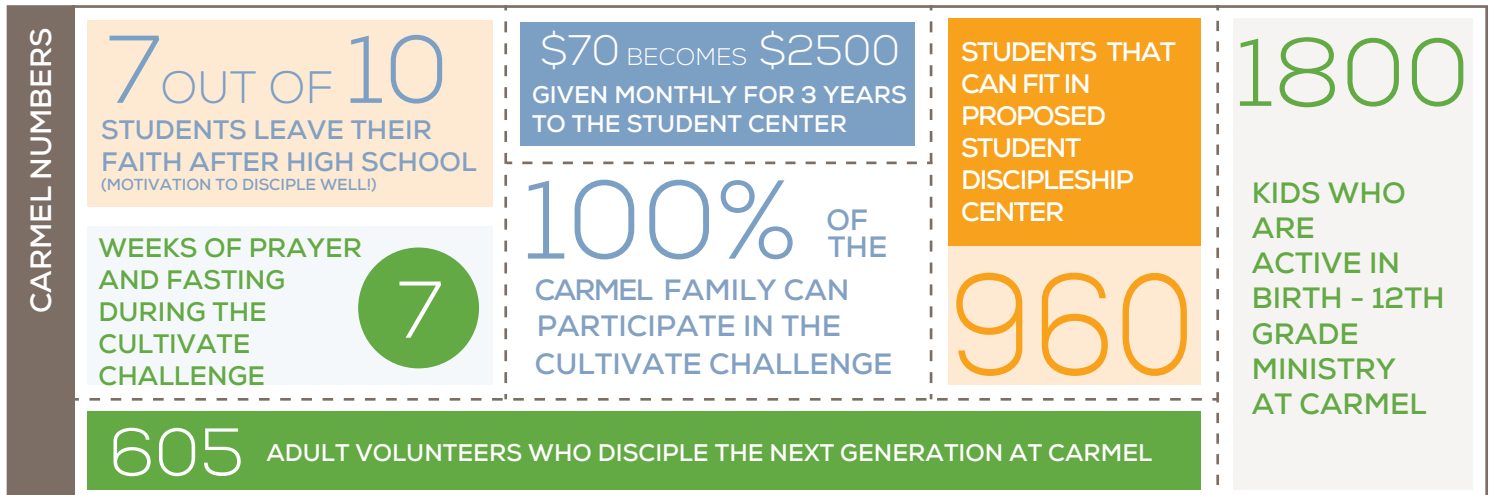
- Cooperative (35%)
- Lottie Moon (30%)
- Annie Armstrong (10%)
- State Missions (15%)
- Metrolina Baptist (10%)

Dear Lord,

You are the Living Water who sustains and nourishes us. We confess our dependency upon You as our source of life, here and in eternity. We also confess that sometimes our hearts are not tender toward You, and we long for You to till the soil within us. As the Body of Christ at Carmel, may we trust that our glad obedience bears fruit for Your glory and impacts generations to come. Holy Spirit, help us to remain rooted and nourished by the Word so that our homes, our neighborhoods, and our mission fields are ripe for a new harvest of discipleship. May Christ be more and more at home in our hearts as our roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love (Ephesians 3:17). Open our hearts and our hands, Lord, that You cultivate within us more than we ask or imagine according to your great power and glory in the Church and throughout all generations. Amen! (Ephesians 3:20)



If you have a prayer photo we could use in a future edition of *The Table* please email it to communications@carmelbaptist.org.



THE TABLE

Carmel Baptist Church
carmelbaptist.org
704.847.8575

Schools
weeschool.org
carmelchristian.org

Carmel Counseling Center
carmelcounselingcenter.org

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