



HABLE Keeping Carmel Connected

SUN, 1 Baptisms Single Parent Connection "The Bridge" First Step Class C2	MON, 2	TUE, 3 Mothers of Preschoolers - MOPS Mothers of Preschoolers	WED, 4 Monthly Wednesday Night Prayer Gathering with Pastor Alex GriefShare Bible Study	THU, 5 Daughters of the King Prayer Gathering (AM) NATIONAL DAY PRAYER	FRI, 6	SAT, 7
SUN, 8 "The Bridge"	MON, 9	TUE, 10	WED, 11 Wednesday Nights @ Carmel 6th Grade Fuel Worship Preview Local Missions Presentation GriefShare Bible Study	THU, 12 Daughters of the King Prayer Gathering (AM) May Lunch & Fellowship SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY	FRI, 13	SAT, 14 MILESTONE 6 Dinner & Recognition
SUN, 15 MILESTONE 1 PARENT/CHILD DEDICATION MILESTONE 6 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION "The Bridge" C2	MON, 16	TUE, 17 Daughters of the King Prayer Gathering (PM)	WED, 18 Wednesday Nights @ Carmel Quarterly Business Meeting GriefShare Bible Study	THU, 19 Daughters of the King Prayer Gathering (AM)	FRI, 20	SAT, 21
SUN, 22 Lord's Supper	MON, 23	TUE, 24	WED, 25 Wednesday Night Summer Schedule (No Preschool/ Children/Student activities) GriefShare Bible Study	THU, 26 Daughters of the King Prayer Gathering (AM)	FRI, 27	SAT, 28
SUN, 29	MON, 30 Memorial Day (campus closed)	TUE, 31	WED, 1 Wednesday Night Summer Schedule CarmelKidz Camp Parent Meeting	THU, 2 Daughters of the King Prayer Gathering (AM)	FRI, 3	SAT, 4
SUN, 5						

50N, 5 Elder Prayer

Baptisms

Grace One -Public Launch



At Carmel, staff and volunteers partner with parents to equip preschoolers, children, and students with the Biblical and practical understanding to experience the next phase of life. Our disciple-making efforts begin at infancy and are designed around a simple discipleship path with six Milestones. Turn to Page 5 for an overview.



May 2016

Dear Carmel Family & Friends:

Why would someone fill a vase with stones?

Following the example of Samuel (1 Samuel 7:12), my friend David has vases filled with stones prominently placed in his office. During his weekly staff meeting, he and his team talk about how they've seen God at work in their business the past week - how He has shown up in big or unexpected ways that blessed their work, advanced their mission, or encouraged their faith. They write these blessings on stones and put them in vases. Each stone celebrates God's goodness and His sovereignty over their work and their lives. I love this practice of intentional gratitude and documenting of the big "faith rocks."

Through our Milestones Pathway, Carmel helps parents and children mark significant experiences along their faith journey together. A Milestone is defined as an action or event marking a significant change or stage in development.

Consider these 3 ways that every believer plays an important role in the faith journey and milestones of the next generation:

We Live Out Our Life in Christ

Kids are watching us. Let's show them that our Life in Christ is important to us and something we invest in. Be in the Word. Spend time in prayer. Get encouraged and equipped on Sunday mornings - come worship, dig into scripture, and spend time in a Discipleship Community. Serve others. Check out Pages 3 and 4 for information about how you can grow in your Life in Christ.

We Make Disciples of Our Nearest

Would you please pray about serving in Preschool, CarmelKidz or Student ministry in the Fall. Be another voice of Truth in the life of a child and an encourager to parents journeying to disciple their children well. It takes many volunteers to teach Bible truths and disciple the next generation at Carmel. Check out Page 4 to learn more.

We Celebrate the Milestones

We have 6 Milestones designed to help parents be their child's primary disciple-maker. This month we celebrate Milestones 1 (Parent/Child Dedication) and Milestone 6 (High School graduation). These two "bookends" as I like to refer to them remind us of how quickly our children grow and how important it is that we are intentional in our efforts to share Christ with the next generation. Learn more about Milestones on Page 5.

Thanks for taking time to read about **all** that is going on at Carmel in May!

Love you Carmel!
Pastor Alex



Sundays @ Carmel

Pastor Alex will conclude the King Jesus and the Queen City series this month and we'll kick off three weeks of Guest Messages.

Parables to 'Be Ready' (Matt. 24:42-25:30) May 1

May 8 The Final Judgment and the 'Least of These' (Matt. 25)

May 15 Surrender to His Will (Matt. 26:36-46); celebrate Milestone 1 and Milestone 6 The First Lord's Supper (Matt. 26:17-30); the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper May 22

May 29 Guest: Dr. Rod Cooper - Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary

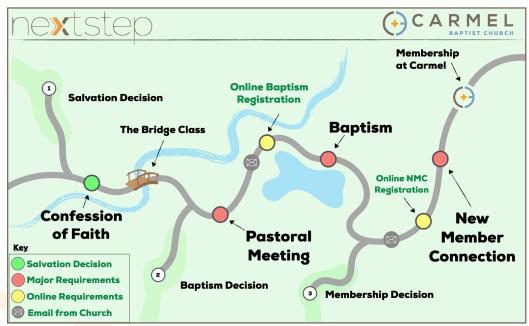
June 5 Guest: Clay Smith - First Baptist Church Matthews

June 12 Guest: Jim Kallam - Church at Charlotte



Grow Your Life in Christ at Carmel

The NextStep Path highlights the major steps involved in connecting to Carmel through the membership process from a variety of starting points. Stop by the NextStep Area in the Gathering Space on Sunday mornings if you have questions about a relationship with Christ, baptism, or church membership at Carmel. One of our coaches would love to talk with you about taking your next step!



Be in Community

We're a big church and Discipleship Communities (DC) help make Carmel feel small by providing a small group to encourage you in your Life in Christ. Stop by the Welcome Desk on Sunday morning for a complete list of DCs. Several NEW DCs recently started - including:

NEW! Young Adult Discipleship Community (9:30am/A107)

NEW! Parents with Younger Children Discipleship Community (11:00am/A100)

Wednesday Nights @ Carmel

This month, we begin to wind down our Wednesday Nights in preparation for Wednesday Night Summer Schedule.

May 4 Prayer Gathering with Pastor Alex

May 11 Local Missions Presentation by the Carmel GO Team - "How to Take Your Nearest to Our Neighbors" Come learn more about how you and your family can get involved in serving this summer and throughout the year.

May 18 Quarterly Church Business Meeting

May 25 Begin Summer Schedule (Dinner/Wed Night Bible Study)

Special Permit Parking Applications

The parki<mark>ng a</mark>rea clo<mark>sest to the Main Entrance is now</mark> design<mark>ate</mark>d for those who have a Handicap placard or license plate issued by the DOT or Carmel. Beginning Sunday, June 5, only cars with either of these designations may park in this lot. Apply for a Carmel special permit placard online at carmelbaptist.org or pick up a paper application at one of the Welcome Desks.

A STUDY OF MATTHEW'S GOSPEL

Sign up NOW to SERVE as a Disciple-Maker this Fall

Part of being a disciple, who is living an abundant life in Christ includes being a Disciple-Maker. **Please pray about where you can SERVE at Carmel**. It takes **hundreds** of people with many gifts to lead the next generation at Carmel. Come experience the joy - and fun - it is to partner alongside parents as we invest weekly into the lives of the children that call Carmel home.

Or SERVE in a way that helps make people feel welcome or helps with our Worship Service.

Adults and Students interested in volunteering must complete the Serving Leader Application Form online. Completing this form will allow you to note the area(s) you are interested in serving. Visit carmelbaptist.org and click on SERVE/Nearest for the SERVE application. A staff person from the ministry will follow up with you once you have completed the online form.

If you have questions about serving, please contact the ministry leads at 704.847.8575:

Greeter, Parking Lot Attendent, Usher or DC leader - Jeremy Amick Preschool Ministry (Birth - K) - Debbie Vanhoy CarmelKidz (1st - 6th Grade) - Sean Lee Student Ministry (7th - 12th Grade) - Ryan Jackson Worship Team - Lem LeRoy Tech/Media Team - Ben Crawford

Looking Ahead to Summer

Sundays - Pastor Alex will teach from the book of Colossians.

Wednesday Nights - During June and July come enjoy Wednesday Night Supper and stay for Bible Study, led by Charles Cranford and Bill Smith. Wednesday Night activities are paused from August 3 through September 7.

SERVE our Nearest at *Back to Bible Times* (June 27 - 30) - Parents, students, grandparents, empty nesters - Join Carmel's Preschool and CarmelKidz ministries in creating and carrying out a Biblical environment that is sure to provoke discovery of our Amazing Jesus. To learn more about serving during this week, contact the ministry leads below for the age group you wish to serve:

Preschoolers (3 years old - Kindergarten) - Debbie Vanhoy (debbiev@carmelbaptist.org) CarmelKidz (1st & 2nd Graders) - Sean Lee (seanl@carmelbaptist.org) NOTE: Younger children (Birth - 2 years old) may attend if mom or dad are serving.



Thursday, May 12: Lunch & Fellowship

Come for fellowship and lunch (lunch 11:30am) followed by visits to some of Carmel's home-bound members. Cost is \$5 per person. Deadline to register is May 5. If you are not able to go with us on the visits after lunch, please note that when registering.

Thursday, June 23: The Music Man - in Flat Rock, NC

Enjoy this long awaited, highly requested musical featuring such Broadway standards as *Till There Was You* and *76 Trombones*. The bus will depart Carmel at 8:30am and return around 9:30pm. Lunch and dinner stops will be provided, but not included in the cost of \$50 per person. Deadline to register is May 26. Register early - space is limited!

To register for these Senior Adult Ministry opportunities, visit carmelbaptist.org/events or contact Robin Davis at robind@carmelbaptist.org or 704.847.8575

There will not be a Women's Bible study offered this summer as the campus transitions for a construction year.



Look for HOME Biblestudy opportunities this Fall!



The Carmel Christian School Class of 2016 is 36 strong! They have all been accepted to the colleges and universities of their choice and been offered over \$ 2.7 million in scholarships.



Walking the Path

At Carmel, staff and volunteers partner with parents to equip preschoolers, children, and students with the Biblical and practical understanding to experience the next phase of life. Our disciple-making efforts begin at infancy and are designed around a simple discipleship path with six Milestones.

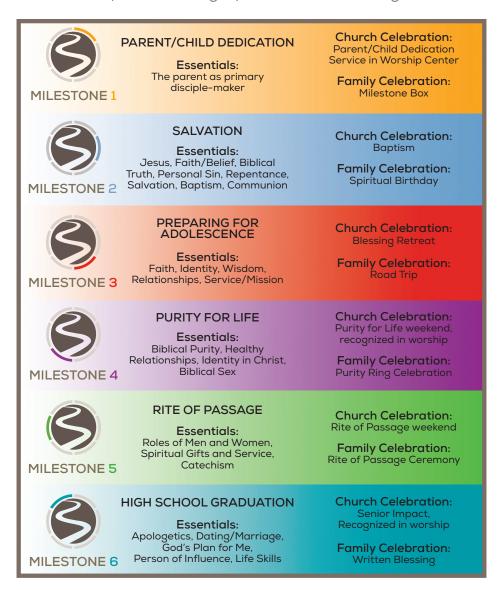
How does a parent take on the responsibility of "primary disciple-maker" in the life of his growing child?

First, the parent grows in his or her own understanding of the Bible and relationship with Christ.

Second, parents learn how to effectively practice age-appropriate family devotions in their own home.

Finally, parents learn to equip their children for the natural, spiritual milestones of life.

In this way we build a legacy of faith into the next generation.



SAVE THE DATE:

Parent Summit is Saturday, October 1, 2016!

Parent Summit - a one-day conference for parents and grandparents offered each Fall - is the entry point to the path and a continuing training opportunity for parents!

































































































































Celeste Baker Claire Bellina Jordyn Bobo Baxter Bradbury Emerson Brantley Kamryn Bruner Steven Caughran Jonathan Davenport Jared Diegelman

Brandon Forster Devan Francisco Rachel Friez Avery Goodson Jackson Harris Gloria Herrin Max Hockenberry Philip Holshouser Sarah Honbarger Holly Huo Rachelle Jones Drew Kitchen Lauren Lee Taylor Manwell Austin Mattar Wesley McCrorey Caroline More Olivia Morton

Rachel Mullican Sophina Nimley Tessa Olson Wes Parnell Ella Pepper Elijah Rhodes Megan Rose Chip Royal Joshua Sun

Jackson Tunstall Madelyn Warlick Emily Watkins Joshua Weisskopf Aaron Woodman Joseph Yuen





Preschool:

Our church ministry to children Birth - Kindergarten

On a weekly basis Carmel provides Sunday morning and Wednesday night programming for Preschoolers through a curriculum written by Carmel staff and volunteers. Children (starting at age 2) hear the Bible story from gifted and passionate storytellers. The storyteller also engages the children in songs with lots of motions! In large group the children learn the Bible is not isolated stories, but one story, God's story! Sunday morning large group takes place during the 9:30 hour. Special activities for Preschoolers include Parent Child Dedication (Milestone 1) and our summer Back to Bible Times Camp.

Sunday Morning Overview

Lower Level Preschoolers:

Before Jesus returned to Heaven, He gave His disciples a job to do...tell others about Him! This month our youngest Preschoolers will hear how they can help spread the Good News about Jesus' love for us!

Threes - Kindergarteners:

Our older Preschoolers will hear about the very first believers, the birth of the first church, and that through the power of the Holy Spirit, the Good News of Jesus began to spread to many other people and places!

Bible Story:

May 1 Philip and the Ethiopian Leader

May 8 Paul Meets Jesus

May 15 Pauls tells others about Jesus

May 22 God's Family Grows

May 29 The Never Ending Story

Bible Story:

May 1 The First Church Shares Everything

May 8 Peter & John Heal Lame Man

May 15 Peter Escapes From Prison

May 22 Peter and Dorcas

May 29 Peter and Cornelius

This Month's Special Words: God wants us to tell others about Him!



MOPS (Moms of Preschoolers) - May 3

Carmel's MOPs is a ministry led by moms for moms with children ages 0 to 5. Join us for our final "first Tuesday of the month" gathering before summer break! Free childcare is available with a reservation. If you would like more information, please email MOPSatCarmel@gmail.com.

Tuesday, May 3 @ 7:00pm - Hands-on canvas painting instruction with Camille Jones

Summer Opportunities for Preschoolers

- June Day Camps Morning fun for children ages 2 through Kindergarten. Camp brochures available at the Preschool Desk and online. Register at the Preschool main desk.
- July Mother's Morning Out A summer WEE School experience for children ages Birth through completed Kindergarten. This Tuesday Thursday (9:30am 1:00pm) program runs 5 weeks and costs \$375. Register online.







6th Grade Parents/Children Mark Milestone

Milestone 3 (Preparing for Adolescence) is celebrated with the Preteen Blessing Retreat - a weekend where CarmelKidz Preteens (6th Graders) and parents make memories, talk about faith principles, discuss preparing for adolescence and mark a Milestone together.



Boys Retreat

Last month, 59 preteens and their parents participated in the Preteen Blessing retreat. The Blessing Retreat is based on the Biblical principle of blessing future generations by instilling a hope and a future through an active commitment to the present generation. Parents - as their child's primary disciple-maker - serve as a role model of Christ for their child, which can lead to the role of Coach and Mentor in the years ahead. Jump starting a foundation of Biblical Blessing from parents throughout the Milestone pathway is beneficial as we raise adults who will love and follow God!



Key Dates:

First Step - Sundays, May 1, 8, 15, 22 The next First Step class will be offered Sunday mornings in October

Famjam - May 4

This is our final Famjam before Summer break; we'll resume in September! Rising 1st Graders are invited to join us!

Kidjam - May 18

This is our final Kidjam before Summer break; we'll resume in September!

Sunday Mornings:

1st Grade: Jesus Loves You and The Church is You and Me 2nd Grade: Showing God's Love Through My Actions and Attitude

3rd Grade: The Church: Built to Last

4th Grade: Learning to Shine

5th Grade: The New Testament: The Birth of Church and Paul's Journey

Preteens: Unlocking Your Spiritual Gifts

Special Needs: Jesus Loves You and The Church is You and Me

I have learned the secret of being CONVENT in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. Philippians 4:12b, NIV

Wednesday Nights: Supersize Me

We tend to talk about our lives using words that highlight our ownership of things and circumstances. Words like my, ours, and mine. Something radical happens when we look at our life as not really ours but something beyond. That's why this month, we're talking about contentment: deciding to be happy with what you've got. We can choose to shift our focus away from what we don't have and toward what God desires to do with the life we have. When we trust Him with our life, we become more focused on being grateful for everything God's already given to us!

- When you focus on God, He can help you to be content.
- When you focus on what you don't have, it can make you miserable.
- When you focus on what you used to have, you can miss what you have now.



Do You Have a 6th Grader? Student Ministry invites them to come check out Fuel on Wednesday, May 11.







Milestone 6: High School Graduation Celebration

This month we celebrate Milestone 6: High School Graduation. On Saturday, May 14, families of graduates gather at Carmel for a special evening where parents and family members speak a blessing over their graduate, launching them into their next phase of life. This is followed with Sunday morning recognition of our graduating seniors in each worship service and a celebration breakfast for the graduates with the adult volunteers who have discipled these students. Check out all our graduates on page 6.

Mission Trip Trainings

Students participating in the Charlotte, Mexico, or Kenya mission trips - make plans to be a part of the following important team building trainings so you can be best equipped to go on mission. All of these trainings will be held at Carmel.

Kenya & Mexico Training (12:15 - 2:00pm) May 1

May 25 Kenya, Mexico, and Charlotte Training (6:15 - 7:30pm) June 1 Kenya, Mexico, and Charlotte Training (6:15 - 7:30pm)

June 8 Charlotte Training (6:15 - 7:30pm)

June 15 Mexico Packing Party (6:00 - 7:30pm)





Milestone 4: Purity for Life

Last month we celebrated students that have made a decision for Purity for Life by recognizing and praying blessing over them at the end of each service. If you are a parent seeking information about how to lead your student to this important Milestone, please reach out to a member of the Student Ministry staff.

Key Dates:

May 1 - C2

May 4 - Fuel Worship

May 11 - Fuel Worship (including 6th Grade Preview)

May 14 - Milestone 6: High School Graduation Dinner

May 15 - Milestone 6: High School Graduation Recognition

May 15 - C2

May 18 - Fuel Worship

6th Grade FUEL Preview

All current 6th grade students are invited to join us for a special night of Fuel Worship on May 11. Come experience Wednesday Nights in Student Ministry - we'll enjoy ice cream, play games, worship, and have a message.





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

Spring Cleaning?

Donate gently used items you are no longer using to one of our Least of These ministry partners. Drop your donations at the Neighbors collection bins in the Gathering Space throughout the month of May. If you have any questions about other donation items, contact Connie Cardone at conniec@carmelbaptist.org.



furniture, lamps, mattresses, and new bedding (they will pick up from your house)

Project 658 (serving refugees)

gently used clothing (all sizes), shoes for all ages, blankets and sheets

Jackson Park Ministry (transitional housing for low income families) canned and dry food items

Charlotte Rescue Mission/ Dove's Nest (serving those recovering from addiction) Christian books, board games, gently used men's and women's clothing (both casual and professional)

Lois Lodge (serving young women choosing life) gently used maternity clothes

Binge Watch to Learn: The Crescent & Wedge: A Tale of Two Charlottes

Charlotte is two different cities depending on where you live. Watch video segments from The Justice Conference Charlotte to learn more about the "Crescent and Wedge," "5 Stubborn Facts" facing our city and the unique gifts, talents and resources God has given to the church to fight injustice.

Binge and learn at vimeo.com/channels/justiceconference.



Plan NOW to SERVE this Summer

Include more than vacation and camps in your summer plans. Go be the hands and feet of Christ in our community! Visit carmelbaptist.org to check out a NEW batch of family and group serving opportunities under the SERVE tab!



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



Taking God's Word to The Nations:

Paul and Holly Zwierzynski are Carmel missionaries serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators at the JAARS center in Waxhaw, NC. Paul serves as a solar power and computer networking specialist who designs power systems for missionaries who need to run their computers using solar power and builds custom solar battery packs to support translators. He also helps translators set up and protect their Internet connections. The inexpensive technology they deploy allows translators to collaborate with team members from anywhere in the world. Holly is a project assistant in the translation office at JAARS, serving as part of a team producing Old Testament translation guides that help Bible translators to understand the original Hebrew texts and produce accurate and understandable translations. Learn more about their work at wycliffe.org and jaars.org.

Our prayer:

Father, we praise you for the privilege of speaking your Truth to the next generation. We ask that You would equip them to make your name great for generations to come. Please give them favor in their circles of influence to be difference-makers for the Kingdom. May your name be lifted up as they live for you! Amen.

Milestone 1: May 15, 2016

From left to right: Henry Amezquita, Chole Brewer, Donald Brewer, Addie Caruso, Austin Caruso, Brady Cochran, Hudson Dobbins, Greyson Doolittle, Anthony Dupree, Landon Hernandez, Hannah Hoffman, Abel Houser, Anna Grace Lingo, James Andrew Loibissio, Brynlee Lundquist, Lainey Pennell & Henry Scott

































Our next Parent/Child Dedication is Sunday, September 18, 2016. To sign up, contact Cindi Baker at cindib@carmelbaptist.org or call 704.847.8575.

May 5 is National Day of Prayer

Join Carmel Christian School for a morning of worship and prayer **Thursday, May 5** from 8:30 - 9:30am in the Worship Center. This year's scripture is Isaiah 58:1a "Shout it aloud, do not hold back. Raise your voice like a trumpet."



115 - May 2016 MILESTONE STATS

PARENT/CHILD DEDICATIONS

6TH GRADERS
BLESSED BY
PARENTS

59

137

110

MILESTONES

BAPTISMS

GRADUATES CELEBRATED

936 WEEKS FROM BIRTH - HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION



8TH GRADERS

COMMITTED TO

Carmel Baptist Church

carmelbaptist.org 704.847.8575

Schools

weeschool.org carmelchristian.org

Carmel Counseling Center

carmelcounselingcenter.org



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