

Making
Disciples
of those
Nearest, our
Neighbors
and the
Nations

November 2016



THE TABLE
Keeping Carmel Connected

November 2016

Carmel Friends and Family:

Way to pray and #goacrossthestreet this past month!

Pray 2016 overflowed the Prayer Room! Our job is to pray for the elections and vote. Remember that God is sovereign and rules the nations. We are active participants in His story of redemption and grace.

100+ streets prayer walked. That's right! We have received more than 100 street sign pictures since I issued the challenge to prayer walk your street. Let's keep putting legs to our prayers for our neighbors!

Glow sticks - and fire pits - lit up Halloween. Hundreds of #goacrossthestreet glow sticks shined in neighborhoods all over the Charlotte area as part of our efforts to Redeem Halloween! Beyond this one night, we are called DAILY to be light in this dark world. God has placed you on your street for a reason. Ask Him to open your eyes to the needs and opportunities around you so in everything you do on your street, you bring Him glory.

This month, we'll continue to learn about what God's Word has to say about Loving Where You Live. And Christy and I hope to see you at these great events:

Guys - Saturday, November 12 @ 7:30am

The Men's Legacy Breakfast (our second) is going to be an impactful morning as we are reminded of what it practically looks like to follow in Our Rabbi's steps and embrace our role as a Mentor.

Gals - Thursday, November 17 @ 6:45pm

Evening of Empowerment will give you insight and encouragement of how God is using something like shopping to rescue women from poverty and trafficking. Budget and bring your shopping list to shop local and global artisans!

As we enter the Thanksgiving and Christmas season, let's remind ourselves that we have received THE BEST gift from our Father above. His Presence in us is the best gift we can share with others. Let's commit to being very intentional to rest in that truth and to love well in the coming weeks.

Love you Carmel,
Pastor Alex

Evening for Women



*Join us for an evening for women, by women,
to support the empowerment of women
overcoming poverty and trafficking.*

*Thursday, November 17, 2016
Carmel Baptist Church
1145 Pineville-Matthews Rd, Matthews, NC*

6:45pm - Check In

*7:00pm - Sweets and Stories
Hear stories of empowerment while enjoying dessert.*



*8:00pm - Carmel Boutique
Purchase with a purpose from Local and global
vendors whose products are
produced by and empower women in need.*

Kindly RSVP at carmelbaptist.org by Friday, November 11.

New to Carmel?

Join us for The Bridge, a Sunday morning class, to learn more about the church, the Bible, and how to get connected at Carmel. The Bridge consists of six sessions taught by Pastor Jay Hancock and meets at 11:00am in A202. Come as you are and join in any Sunday. Questions about The Bridge? Stop by the NextStep Area or any Welcome Desk for more information.



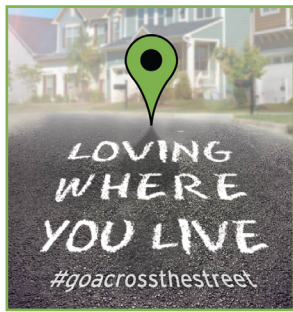
NOV. SUN, 6	MON, 7	TUE, 8	WED, 9	THU, 10	FRI, 11	SAT, 12
<p><i>Loving Where You Live</i></p> <p>Baptism</p> <p>Elder Prayer</p> <p>First Step Class</p> <p>The Bridge</p> <p>C2</p>	<p>2016 PRAY</p> <p>Pursuing Purity: Becoming Courageous Men</p>	<p>2016 PRAY</p> <p>Daughters of the King Morning Prayer Gathering</p> <p>CCS - Open House</p>	<p>Wednesday Nights @ Carmel</p> <p>Prayer with Pastor Alex</p> <p>Famjam</p> <p>GriefShare</p> <p>Choir</p>	<p>Daughters of the King Morning Prayer Gathering</p> <p>CCS - Open House</p>	<p>CCS - Open House</p>	
<p>SUN, 13</p> <p><i>Loving Where You Live</i></p> <p>First Step Classes</p> <p>The Bridge</p> <p>C2</p>	<p>MON, 14</p> <p>Pursuing Purity: Becoming Courageous Men</p>	<p>TUE, 15</p> <p>Daughters of the King - Weekly Evening Prayer Gathering</p>	<p>WED, 16</p> <p>Wednesday Nights @ Carmel</p> <p>Quarterly Business Meeting</p> <p>Recharge</p> <p>GriefShare</p> <p>Choir</p>	<p>THU, 17</p> <p>Daughters of the King Morning Prayer Gathering</p>	<p>FRI, 18</p> <p>The Pause High School Retreat</p>	<p>SAT, 19</p> <p>The Pause High School Retreat</p>
<p>SUN, 20</p> <p><i>Loving Where You Live</i></p> <p>Choir Leads Worship</p> <p>The Bridge</p> <p>First Step Classes</p> <p>The Pause High School Retreat</p>	<p>MON, 21</p> <p>Pursuing Purity: Becoming Courageous Men</p>	<p>TUE, 22</p>	<p>WED, 23</p> <p>NO Wednesday Night Activity</p> <p>GriefShare</p>	<p>THU, 24</p> <p>Happy Thanksgiving</p> <p>Campus Closed</p> 	<p>FRI, 25</p> <p>Campus Closed</p>	<p>SAT, 26</p>
<p>SUN, 27</p> <p><i>Carmel Carols</i></p> <p>First Step Classes</p>	<p>MON, 28</p> <p>Pursuing Purity: Becoming Courageous Men</p>	<p>TUE, 29</p>	<p>WED, 30</p> <p>Wednesday Nights @ Carmel</p> <p>Recharge</p> <p>GriefShare</p>	<p>DEC. THU, 1</p> <p>Daughters of the King Morning Prayer Gathering</p>	<p>FRI, 2</p>	<p>SAT, 3</p> <p>Fuel Leader Fellowship</p>
<p>SUN, 4</p> <p><i>Carmel Carols</i></p> <p>Baptism</p> <p>Elder Prayer</p> <p>C2</p>	<p>MON, 5</p> <p>Pursuing Purity: Becoming Courageous Men</p>	<p>TUE, 6</p>	<p>WED, 7</p> <p>Wednesday Nights @ Carmel</p> <p>Recharge</p> <p>FamJam</p> <p>GriefShare</p>	<p>THU, 8</p> <p>55 SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY</p> <p>Christmas Brunch/program</p> <p>Daughters of the King Morning Prayer Gathering</p>	<p>FRI, 9</p>	<p>SAT, 10</p>

#goacrossthestreet
Carol Your Neighborhood



Sunday Mornings @ Carmel

Sermon Series



NOV. 06

Loving Them by **SHARING**
Your Faith

NOV. 13

Loving the **DIFFICULT** Ones

NOV. 20

Loving Our Neighbors is a
CHOICE

Happy Thanksgiving,
Neighbor! cards in the
Gathering Space



Unique doctrines of the gospel
story through carols.

NOV. 27

O The Father's Love Begotten

DEC. 4

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

DEC. 9 - 10

#goacrossthestreet
Carol Your Neighborhood

DEC. 11

The First Noel

DEC. 18

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus
Fernando Ortega leads Worship

Worship

Spend Sunday mornings getting equipped, encouraged and empowered to #goacrossthestreet and love your Neighbors well. Come Worship at 8:00, 9:30 or 11:00am.

The Carmel shuttle runs continuously from Elizabeth Lane Elementary every Sunday from 7:15am - 12:45pm.

Discipleship Communities

Adults Discipleship Community

Discipleship Communities meet at 9:30 and 11:00am to provide a place for each of us to live in transformational community. Stop by the Welcome Desk or visit carmelbaptist.org/connect to learn more.

Birth - 12th Grade Discipleship Communities

To find out what is happening this month in our Preschool, Carmel Kidz and Student ministry, check out Pages 6-8.

Serving Opportunities

Volunteers make Sunday mornings happen - and you can be a part of this essential team! If you're up for being a regular volunteer and adding a dose of joy to your Sunday mornings, let us know!

Special Needs - Buddies are needed to assist individual children participating in Preschool and Carmelkidz ministry. Email Audrey Scurfield at auderys@carmelbaptist.org to learn more.

Preschool - Come hold, rock and play silly games with our youngest Preschoolers! Email Cindi Baker at cindib@carmelbaptist.org.

Wednesday Nights

Come for dinner, stay for fellowship, prayer & equipping! Complete program details for all ages available at carmelbaptist.org.

Dinner & Fellowship (4:45-6:00pm) Chef Lance and the Carmel Kitchen have dinner (and dessert!) covered. Check the menu online.

Prayer & Equipping (6:15 - 7:15pm) Options include:

Gather for Prayer in The Prayer Room; on Nov 9 and Dec 14 we'll gather in the Worship Center.

Adults RECHARGE Classes on Nov 16, Nov 30 & Dec 7. Choose from 9 classes - no registration required - just show up!

Adult Bible Study led by Charles Cranford and Bill Smith in the Cafeteria.

Choir will lead worship in all Sunday services on November 20. Attend one or both rehearsals on November 9 and 16. No audition necessary - all high school age and up welcome!

Got kids? Preschoolers (birth - Kindergarten) attend **GROW**. CarmelKidz (1st - 6th Grade) enjoy **Kidjam** (and monthly **Famjam**). **Students** (7th - 12th Grade) plug into **Fuel Worship**.



Other Happenings

MEN'S BREAKFAST
Awaken the Mentor in You

Saturday, November 12
Register online now!

Join us for an impactful morning as we are reminded of what it practically looks like to follow in Our Rabbi's steps and embrace our role as a Mentor. Register online by Tuesday, November 8. Save the date for next Men's Breakfast, February 11, 2017.

Quarterly Business Meeting
Wednesday, November 16
6:15pm - Worship Center

Come to hear activity reports from some of Carmel's standing committees as well as the motion from the elders to revise the church bylaws. You can review the proposed revisions and previous meeting minutes on CarmelLeader.org.

Winter & Spring
WOMEN'S
Bible Studies

Registration is open NOW for on-campus Bible studies that begin in late January. For details and to sign up, visit carmelbaptist.org/church.

55 SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY
Living Abundantly & Loving It

Christmas Brunch & Program

On Thursday, December 8, enjoy a delicious brunch followed by a special presentation by Dawn Smith Jordan, Christian speaker, singer/songwriter, recording artist, and author. Register by Wednesday, November 30 online or via Rhonda Pangle at rhondap@carmelbaptist.org.



On Sunday, December 18, award-winning musician Fernando Ortega will lead worship in all three services. Then, at 6:30pm, he will perform a Christmas Concert in the Worship Center. Tickets are \$5 and will be available for purchase soon.

Building Community
And in Him you too are being built together...Ephesians 2:22

Admission Open Houses
November 10, Grades 9-12, 6:30 pm
November 11, Grades K-12, 9:30 am

Carmel Christian School | Serving 900+ Students Grades K-12
carmelchristian.org

Ms. Debbie to Celebrate 25 Years



Debbie Vanhoy - fondly know as Ms. Debbie - is resigning from her position as Preschool Minister effective Dec 31, several months earlier than she originally announced. This change in plans will allow Debbie to celebrate the milestone of 25 years in leadership at Carmel and gives her the freedom to enjoy additional time with her grandchildren (including twin girls born October 28). Debbie will be greatly missed in this role and we are so grateful for the team and culture of excellence she has developed. The search for a new Preschool Minister/ WEE School Head of School is currently underway.

Stay tuned for details on how you can help us celebrate Debbie's 25 years of leadership at Carmel!





Sunday Mornings

Lower Level Preschoolers: God Is Always with Me

This month children will hear Bible stories that teach God is always with us! God was with David when He helped him defeat Goliath and God was certainly with Daniel when he was in the Lion's den! November will end with the wonderful message that Messiah is coming!

Threes - Kindergarten: Discovering Good New Clues

This month, Preschoolers will use their detective skills to investigate prophets in the Old Testament. God used prophets like Elisha, Daniel, and Isaiah to do some incredible things. Sometimes they even gave clues about the coming of the Messiah! But who would this Messiah be and when would he come? Each week, we'll be on the lookout for "Good News Clues" and we won't stop until we crack this case—and uncover the mystery of the Messiah!

Parents: Consider WEE Connect

WEE Connect is a Sunday morning Discipleship Community that meets at 9:30am in D101 for families with children at the WEE School. Join us here in addition to Worship!

Wednesday Nights

Recharge

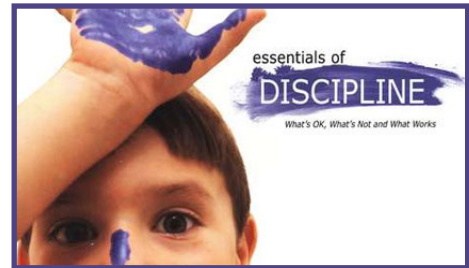
Parents - Get RECHARGED While Your Kids GROW

While your Preschooler enjoys GROW from 6:15-7:15pm on Wednesday Nights, gain parenting tools at this RECHARGE class:

Your Child: Essentials of Discipline

led by Mark Gott (parent of 3 teens)

Parenthood is one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences most of us will ever have - but sometimes we forget to enjoy the journey! This class will provide Biblical answers, insight and solutions to one of the biggest challenges every parent encounters: discipline.



Other Opportunities



MOPs (Moms of Preschoolers) Tuesday, December 13 @ 7:00pm

Join us for a relaxing evening during the busy Christmas season. We will enjoy an abundance of food, get to meet other mothers with young children and create a craft together.



MILESTONE 1

Celebrate Milestone 1: Parent/Child Dedication

If your family would like to participate in Milestone 1: Parent/Child Dedication on **Sunday, February 12 @ 8:00, 9:30 or 11:00am**, contact Cindi Baker at cindib@carmelbaptist.org.



Sunday Mornings

Made in the Image of God

At its core, **honor is seeing people the way God sees them.** We're naturally wired to put ourselves first, but honor is the opposite of self-centeredness. It is something that flows from our relationship with God. In a sense, one of the best ways we can HONOR God, is by honoring those who reflect the image of God. Every time you walk into the Carmelkidz space, pause to glance in the mirror which reminds us who we are - "Made in the Image of God, I am fearfully and wonderfully made."



Special Needs Buddies are needed in this ministry area! Details on Page 4



Check out the newest addition to CarmelKidz Uptown decor! 56 Station - it's where our 5th and 6th graders meet. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who finished the subway tiling!



Wednesday Nights

Famjam & Kidjam

Wednesday's in November will focus on Honor: letting someone know you see how valuable they really are.



Parent Reminders

- Sundays, Nov 6, 13, 20, 27 **First Step class** (registration required)
- Wednesday Nov 9: **Famjam**
- Wednesdays, Nov 16 & 30: **Kidjam, Preteen (6th grade) Junction**
- Wednesday, Dec 7: **Famjam**



Preteens have been busy with their mission projects on Wednesday nights - preparing care bags for the homeless and Advent bags for Jackson Park Ministries.

Living with Open Hands

Over the last month, students in every grade spent time by loving and serving our neighbors through various local ministry partners. Thank you to the students, parents and leaders who participated!

- 7th Grade - Beds for Kids
- 8th Grade - Pregnancy Resource Center
- 9th Grade - Project 658
- 10th Grade - Carrington Place
- 11th Grade - Young Life Capernaum
- 12th Grade - Charlotte Rescue Mission



Important Dates

- November 6 - C2
- November 9 - Fuel Worship
- November 13 - C2
- November 16 - Fuel Worship
- November 18-20 - HS Pause Retreat
- November 30 - Fuel Worship

Upcoming Events

Parents of Seniors and college students, are you looking for a great way to invest into your soon-to-be graduate and help equip them for their next step in their faith journey? Students from all across the nation will gather together in Atlanta - united as one generation committed to the Gospel. At the heart of it all, **Passion** exists to see a generation stake their lives on



- the fame of the One who rescues and restores, and the privilege we have to amplify His name in everything we do. Don't miss this opportunity! Registration is open at carmelstudents.org!

Location: Atlanta, GA
Dates: Jan 2-4
Cost: \$225



New Fuel Worship Teaching Series

Do you have a hard time knowing when God is speaking to you? Have you ever wondered how God reveals himself? We are going to look at these questions and more on Wednesdays at Fuel Worship. Join us at 6:15pm in the gym!

the **pa**use

Students' lives are fast paced and always in motion. Jesus modeled the importance of hitting pause in the midst of our busy lives, which is crucial to staying connected with God. This weekend will be an opportunity for high school students to press pause and meet with God. We'll worship and study the Word and have time to enjoy beautiful surroundings. We will also have some small group competitions that are sure to be a great time. Register by November 9 at carmelstudents.org. Don't miss it!

Location: Bonclarken Retreat Center in Flat Rock, NC
Dates: Nov. 18-20
Cost: \$125



Neighbors

Carmel SERVE

Carmel is committed to making disciples of our neighbors throughout the Queen City. One of the primary ways we love and serve the least of these in our city is through engaging with Carmel's local ministry partners.

Way to go Carmel! Thank you for loving, serving, praying, encouraging, doing life with, and getting to know the names of people throughout our city.



Praying for life with the Pregnancy Resource Center staff working the mobile unit near Charlotte's busiest abortion clinic.



Writing letters of encouragement to the women of Changed Choices recently released from prison.



Enjoying a picnic with refugee families served by Project 658



Helping an elder friend with yard and house work through Love Inc.



Crafts and fun with our elder neighbors at Carrington Place.



Serving up scoops and smiles to our elder neighbors at Carrington Place.

Go Across the Street, Down the Street & Around the World

- *Loving Where You Live* continues with *Carmel Carols* - and yes, we will be caroling!
- Interested in donating needed items to our ministry partners serving Charlotte families this Christmas? Check with your DC leader or email neighbors@carmelbaptist.org to learn more.
- Give gifts that make a difference! Shop the Carmel Boutique at Evening of Empowerment. Details on Page 2.



Nations

Mission Minded

Answered Prayer in Bolivia!

Last month, Carmel Missionary Cara Strauss Contreras was in the United States and joined us for worship. Cara works with Word Made Flesh (Bolivia) whose mission is to help those affected by prostitution find abundant life in Christ. God does hard, important and redeeming work through Cara and the Word Made Flesh (Bolivia) team.

In each service Cara attended, we prayed over her and for her specific request that the ladies they serve would feel called to take the next step of baptism. Cara recently sent us a praise report - 18 young women participated in the first-ever Word Made Flesh (Bolivia) youth camp. Several chose baptism at the closing of the camp! We praise God for our new sisters in Christ - Silvia, Delia, Vero, Ayda, Teresa, Michelle, Natali, Camila, Filomena E., Filomena C. and Paula.

Hurricane Matthew Response

Thousands of homes and many thousands of people were affected by Hurricane Matthew and volunteers are needed to assist with cleanup. Carmel is coming alongside the North Carolina Baptist Men to respond to the needs of our neighbors in Eastern North Carolina. To learn more about how you can Go, Pray and Give to support Hurricane Matthew disaster response efforts, email Alesha Smith at aleshas@carmelbaptist.org.



Albania Praise

Our Albania mission team safely returned on October 30 after 9 days of serving special needs orphans and their caregivers.



Orphans in Our City

As of October 2016, there are 577 children in the care of the Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services (DSS) and 40 of these children are eligible for adoption.

On Sunday, November 13, churches all over Charlotte - including Carmel - will hand out prayer cards for the 40 children currently eligible for adoption.

What can you do?

PRAY for every child, family and social worker in the Mecklenburg Country Foster and Adoption System.

DISCERN if your family is being called to foster or adopt.

SERVE or become involved in Carmel's Mosaic Adoption Ministry.

FOSTER or **ADOPT** a waiting child. To learn more, call Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services at (704) 336-KIDS.

*"Defend the cause of the fatherless."
Isaiah 1:17*



It takes one caring family to make a lifelong difference in the life of this child.

SAMORRA enjoys spending time with friends and playing games. Samorra values relationships and looks forward to finding a family to call her own.

Congregations For Kids is a collaborative effort of the For Charlotte Mission Network and Mecklenburg County DSS, uniting churches to meet the foster care and adoption needs of Mecklenburg County. Learn more at www.forcharlotte.org/congregationsforkids.

FORCHARLOTTE MISSION NETWORK



Ponder This

Commonly the experience of a child entering foster care.



Removed with no warning



Just a trash bag of your belongings



Placed in a home with strangers



Unaware of how long you'll stay

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

Schools
704.847.8575
weeschool.org
carmelchristian.org

Carmel Counseling Center
704.849.0686
carmelcounselingcenter.org

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