

Making Disciples of those **Nearest**, our **Neighbors** and the **Nations**
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017



THE **TABLE**
Keeping Carmel Connected

November/December 2017

Carmel Family,

Nehemiah reminds us that the "big doors of history" swing on small hinges. **As we move through fall we have several hinge moments - or transitions - to enjoy.** The first being our Root 66 Detour to look back to the "big doors" that Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses on that changed church history forever. The 5 Solas that developed from that time remind us of the heart of the gospel. Our memory peg for this..." through the Scriptures alone we see that we are saved by Grace alone through Faith alone in Christ alone to His glory alone."

We will jump back onto Root 66 on December 3 as we start the New Testament portion of our journey through all 66 books. I'm pumped about this. The four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are perfect for the Christmas season - to slowly see Christ and to worship Him as Savior.

How cool is it that Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year! We will be in John's Gospel that day which is absolutely perfect to celebrate the incarnation of Christ. We will worship together in **3 services** at 9:30am, 11:00am and 2:00pm. It's one of my favorite days of the year to have all our families back home to worship together.

Let's **make a commitment to gather to pray as one big family** on our "second Tuesdays" - November 14 and December 12. We will pray from 7:00-8:00am on those mornings in the Worship Center (or sanctuary as I like to call it). We have so much for which to be thankful and also to pray for as we seek His face together. Remember, it's face before hands when we pray. Presence before presents. Hope to see you there.

Love you Carmel,
Pastor Alex

P.S. When you read the back page of The Table you'll understand why I chose to include this picture with my note. **We can't wait to see your favorite Christmas candid - send it in!**



Thankful for Generosity

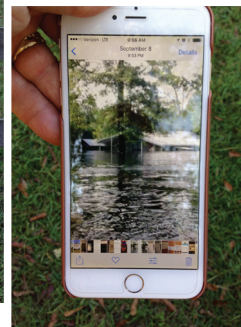
Disaster Response Praise

We celebrate the generosity of the Carmel Family to pray for, give toward, and go serve those impacted by hurricanes Harvey and Irma earlier this fall. Here's what our recent Disaster Response has taught us:

We're Better Together: Joining the efforts of the highly skilled and well mobilized North Carolina Baptist Disaster Relief allowed Carmel to quickly engage in meaningful and coordinated efforts in both Texas and Florida.



"Working with NC Baptist Disaster Relief has been wonderful. What a special group of caring people who work tirelessly for God's glory."



People Matter Most: In both locations, the volunteer work was about so much more than mudding out flooded homes, treating homes for mold or serving meals. It was about getting to know the impacted residents. Learning their stories. Sharing the gospel. Praying with and for them. Replacing Bibles lost to flood waters. And experiencing God-ordained ministry moments.

"People are extremely grateful for not only the hot meals but also for conversation, empathy, compassion, a hug or praying with them."

As of November 1, over **\$56,000** has been given by members of the Carmel Family to support disaster relief.

Evening of Empowerment

More than 300 women signed up to be inspired and challenged by stories of empowerment from speakers including keynote Anna Hampton, an author and mom who spent a decade serving in Afghanistan.

If you missed this event but are interested in serving in areas that help empower women overcoming poverty, oppression and trafficking, stop by Room A245 on Wednesday, November 15 at 6:30pm.

Women will be available to answer questions about ministry options, to encourage, and to pray with you about next steps. You can also email neighbors@carmelbaptist.org for more information.

ACT *justly*
LOVE *mercy*
WALK *humbly*

MICAH 6:8

 **Carmel
COLLECTIONS**

Live Generously

October Collection Bins

The Carmel Collection Bins launched in September to facilitate easy giving toward local ministry partners.

THANK YOU to all who donated more than

535+

newborn items to benefit clients of the Pregnancy Resource Center.

See Page 7 for current collection opportunities.

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

NOV ^{SUN 5} <i>Sola Gratia</i> Lord's Supper Elder Prayer The Bridge	MON, 6	TUE, 7 Mom's Time Out WOMEN: Evening Prayer Gathering	WED, 8 Midweek	THUR, 9 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering 2nd Annual Evening of Empowerment	FRI, 10	SAT, 11
SUN, 12 <i>Sola Fide</i> The Bridge	MON, 13	TUE, 14 2nd Tuesday Prayer (7:00am)	WED, 15 Midweek	THUR, 16 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 17	SAT, 18
SUN, 19 <i>Solus Christus</i> The Bridge	MON, 20	TUE, 21 WOMEN: Evening Prayer Gathering	WED, 22	THUR, 23 Campus Closed	FRI, 24 Campus Closed	SAT, 25 Campus Closed
SUN, 26 <i>Sola Deo Gloria</i> The Bridge Baptism	MON, 27	TUE, 28	WED, 29 Midweek	THUR, 30 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	DEC ^{WED 1}	SAT, 2
SUN, 3 <i>Root 66: Matthew</i> Lord's Supper The Bridge Elder Prayer	MON, 4	TUE, 5 Mom's Time Out WOMEN: Evening Prayer Gathering	WED, 6 Midweek	THUR, 7 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 8	SAT, 9
SUN, 10 <i>Root 66: Mark</i> The Bridge	MON, 11	TUE, 12 2nd Tuesday Prayer (7:00am)	WED, 13 Midweek	THUR, 14 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 15	SAT, 16 Behold the Lamb of God with Andrew Peterson
SUN, 17 <i>Root 66: Luke</i> The Bridge	MON, 18	TUE, 19 WOMEN: Evening Prayer Gathering	WED, 20	THUR, 21	FRI, 22	SAT, 23
SUN, 24 Christmas Eve Services: 9:30am, 11:00am and 2:00pm No DC	MON, 25 Campus Closed	TUE, 26 Campus Closed	WED, 27	THUR, 28	FRI, 29	SAT, 30
SUN, 31 Guest Speaker: Justin Taylor No DC	JAN ^{MON 1} Campus Closed	TUE, 2 Mom's Time Out WOMEN: Evening Prayer Gathering	WED, 3	THUR, 4 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 5	SAT, 6
Students & Young Adults: Passion						
SUN, 7 <i>ROOT 66: Acts</i> Lord's Supper Elder Prayer The Bridge	MON, 8	TUE, 9 2nd Tuesday Prayer (7:00am)	WED, 10 Midweek	THUR, 11 WOMEN: Morning Prayer Gathering	FRI, 12	SAT, 13

THE PORCH
The Place to Connect

Questions about a relationship with Christ, baptism or membership?

Stop by The Porch on Sundays or email Josh Fairbaugh at joshf@carmelbaptist.org.

Connected to Carmel?

Come to *The Bridge* on Sundays at 9:30 or 11:00am in Room A235. This eight-week experience invites people who are new to Carmel (or not yet engaged in a Discipleship Community) to participate in conversations about life in Christ. Drop in any Sunday!

Want to know what is happening at Carmel?

Visit us online at carmelbaptist.org or on social media for the latest news. Subscribe to our weekly Tuesday Enews under the About Us tab at carmelbaptist.org or text NEAREST to 22828.

the bridge



Note these special events that will help you grow as a disciple of Christ in learning and living.

NOV 14 DEC 12 JAN 9
COME FOR 15 MINUTES OR THE WHOLE HOUR

2ND TUESDAYS
MORNING PRAYER
LEAD BY PASTOR ALEX
7:00 - 8:00AM IN THE WORSHIP CENTER



/md.wk/
a big deal
See Page 5
wednesday evenings

December 14
Senior Adult Ministry hosts
Christmas Brunch
With Singer/Storyteller
Tommy Oakes
See Page 5



Saturday, December 16 @ 7:00pm

ANDREW PETERSON
presents
BETHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD

Tickets on sale at carmelbaptist.org

Celebrate
CHRISTMAS
Eve

see back page for times and details



winter gathering
Tuesdays 7:00 - 8:30pm
January 16, 23 & 30
See Page 5



NEW
member
CLASS
STOP BY *THE PORCH* TO LEARN MORE



Serve at
Joy Prom
February 9
See Page 7

Queen City Prom
One Night. Two Locations. Serving People with Special Needs.

NIGHT *Shine* | JOY PROM



grow as a disciple of Christ in learning and living

Complete details at carmelbaptist.org

Sundays



Throughout November, we'll celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation by exploring five Latin phrases - the 5 solas - that emerged during this time and summarize the Reformers' basic theological principles.

Our Root 66 journey resumes in December as we enter the New Testament, explore the Gospels, and celebrate Christmas.



What's ahead in 2018?

Our journey continues as we explore the New Testament and what it means to live as a follower of Christ.

Midweek

Finish strong! Wednesday evenings provide a midweek dose of discipleship training and encouragement for all ages! Details are located at carmelbaptist.org/midweek.

Due to the holidays, Midweek will not gather 11/22, 12/20, 12/27 and 01/03.

Seeking Supper Volunteers Help serve food, carry trays, pour drinks and keep the Worship Center tidy for a shift (3:30 - 5:30pm or 5:30 - 7:30pm). It's fun AND you get free supper as a perk! To express your interest, email Chef Lance at lancef@carmelbaptist.org.

Senior Adult Ministry Invites ALL Ages to Come Celebrate Christmas

Come Laugh! Christmas Brunch featuring storyteller Tommy Oaks

ALL ages are invited **Thursday, December 14 from 10:30am - 12:30pm**, to enjoy renowned storyteller Tommy Oaks and his musician-songwriter son, John Thomas. Savor good food and great laughs as this talented duo combines stories and music for a Christmas-time morning you'll not soon forget! Details and RSVP at rhondap@carmelbaptist.org.

Come Carol! Christmas Caroling to Carmel's Homebound

A great way to spend the evening! All ages are invited **Wednesday, December 20 from 4:30 - 7:30pm** to minister to our homebound through caroling.



The Gift of Great Content is YOURS!

Grow your faith or simply be entertained with quality content from these two Carmel resources:

Carmel Media Center - This resource off the Gathering Space has something for everyone in the family - books, audio books, DVDs and more!

Stop by during Midweek (5:45 - 7:45pm) on Sunday mornings (9:00am - 12:45pm).

Right Now Media - Enjoy FREE access to the biggest video Bible study library in the world - that also includes great children's programming!

Available at carmelbaptist.org/media/mediaresources.

For Women in 2018

Winter Gathering in January: All Carmel Women are invited to *Winter Gathering: Strengthened by Grace, Entrusted to the Faithful*. Come study passages from 2 Timothy the last 3 Tuesday nights in January (1/16, 1/23, 1/30) from 7-8:30pm. Online registration begins November 12 and ends January 7. Full details at carmelbaptist.org/women.

Spring Bible Studies: Information available online in December. Registration begins Sunday, January 7. Studies begin the week of February 5. Questions? Email womensministry@carmelbaptist.org.

church office

Updates

nearest

2017 End-of-Year Giving

The generous gifts of more than 1,558 families have allowed Carmel to advance the mission of making disciples in 2017. If you are planning to make a gift to the ministry of Carmel before the end of the calendar year, you may:

- Give during worship on Sunday, December 31.
- Mail your gift (postmarked by Dec 31, 2017).
- Give online at carmelbaptist.org/give (by midnight Dec 31, 2017).

Please contact the Finance Office at 704-847-8575 with questions.

New Additions to the Carmel Family!



If you'd like to explore membership at Carmel, stop by The Porch on Sunday mornings or email Josh Fairbaugh at joshf@carmelbaptist.org



The October 2017 New Member Class included: David & Tiffany Bass, Robert & Maleah Batchelor, Buff Cochran, Josh & Rachael Collins, Joshua & Kelsey Elmore, Gene & Tammy Emerson, Lauren Emerson, Christopher & Wendy Grace, Jim & Cassandra Hayes, Alex & Courtney Hodgson, Trey & Kersey Manning, Tara Mendez, Olga Miloserdova, Matthew & Kathryn Nudi, Victor Pacheco & Marilis Santos, Ashley & Christy Tison

Did you know?

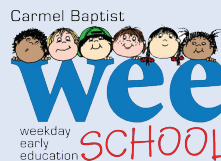
Carmel seeks to provide a safe and secure campus with measures that include:

- An **Emergency Action Plan** (EAP): Regularly reviewed and rehearsed by leadership, our EAP includes responses for fire, tornadoes, facility lock downs, bomb threats, and more.
- School Day **On-Campus Security**: Three security guards monitor campus and facilitate a visitor check-in system that includes an immediate background check.
- Sunday **Security Team**: Two security officers, along with our Safety & Security group, monitor the campus on Sunday mornings.
- **Video Surveillance**: Interior and exterior cameras record activity throughout our campus. These are proactively monitored during the school day and on Sundays.
- A **Child Protection Policy** (CPP): Background checks are required and completed for all volunteers who work with children under age 18. Our CPP also includes specific steps to ensure the safety of children on campus.
- **Evening Security** - Guests are directed to enter through the staffed, main entrance.

From Our School Ministries

Admission Open Houses
Grades K-12: November 7 - 9:30 am
Grades 9-12: November 16 - 6:30 pm
1145 Pineville-Matthews Road | Matthews, NC 28105 | 704.849.9723 | carmelchristian.org

Kindergarten applications due January 5 via carmelchristian.org.



2018 - 2019 Enrollment

In-House Registration: January 28 - February 2

Church Members - January 28 - 30

Returning Families (non-church member) Jan 31 - Feb 2

Public Registration: February 6

Register your child in-person at the WEE School between 8:00am - 3:00pm. Doors open at 7:00am.

weeschool.org

Carmel is committed to making disciples of those Nearest, our Neighbors and the Nations.

challenge

Opportunities to Live Generously

Carmel COLLECTIONS Live Generously

The Carmel Collection Bins are a great Christmas giving opportunity! Our month-long collections of needed supplies for local ministry partners and ongoing collections of nonperishable foods for the Christian foodbank Loaves & Fishes make an impact in the lives of our Neighbors.



Charlotte Rescue Mission - Rebound Program

Provides free Christian residential drug and recovery services for men who would not otherwise be able to afford such services.

Needed Items: NEW

gloves & knit winter caps, undershirts, socks, underwear and boxers (M - XXL)



Beds for Kids

Provides beds and essential furniture to children and their families in need.

Needed Items: NEW

twin and full sheet sets, blankets, pillows, lamps & lightbulbs

Gently used and new men's and women's coats are also being collected.



SERVE at Joy Prom 2018 on Friday, February 9

We've teamed up with Elevation to host ONE night of prom in TWO locations for our Neighbors with special needs. And this year, volunteer training moves online!

Want to volunteer?

Sign up at carmelbaptist.org.

Want to attend?

Public registration opens at queencityprom.org January 8.

GO on a 2018 Short Term Mission Trip

Trip locations and dates have been announced! Start praying about if and where God might have you GO.

Netherlands

Albania

Cuba

Mexico

Dominican Republic

Ukraine

Ethiopia

Peru

Guyana

Want to go on a trip?
Sign up now at carmelbaptist.org.



Hello Preschool Families:

This year is going by fast! Enjoy these sweet moments with your children. As we approach the Christmas season, I encourage you to find ways to continually share the Christmas story with your children. Share with them that God gave us His greatest gift...Jesus!

-Ms Rachel

Preschool Minister & WEE School Head of School

Sunday Mornings

November - Extended Family

In November, preschoolers will explore David's family, beginning with his great-grandmother, Ruth. We'll hear the stories of his battle with a giant and his friendship with a prince. And just in time for Thanksgiving, we'll discover that David showed God's love when he invited someone unexpected to dinner!

December - A Special Delivery is Coming!

*Boxes and bows, ribbons and strings,
That's how you might wrap up your favorite things!
But the best Gift of all came from above,
A Special Delivery, wrapped in God's love!*

*This December, YOU'RE INVITED... will you answer the call?
This Christmas let's UNWRAP the Greatest Gift of all!*

Come Serve!

To learn more about these volunteer opportunities, email Cindi Baker at cindib@carmelbaptist.org.

- **Adult Volunteers** for our 2 year old classes at 9:30am.
- **Preschool Greeters** serve between services to help new families feel welcome and get checked in.

Midweek

For Preschoolers - Come explore the Bible! In November, we'll learn what the Bible says about being thankful. And in December, we'll look at what the Bible tells us about God's Son.

For Parents - The Preschool Round Table is November 8. Pastor Alex and Christy Kennedy will teach on marriage in Room D101.

Christmas Eve is a Family Celebration

Bring your family on Sunday, December 24 to one of three identical services. See back page for details.



Moms - Enjoy a Monthly Time 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!

Nov 7 - Pastor Jay Hancock and wife Jody discuss Parenting on Purpose.

Dec 5 - Fun fellowshiping while creating a Christmas take-home craft

Jan 2 - Christy Kennedy will discuss Marriage

Learn more and sign up at carmelbaptist.org.



WEE Connect is a Sunday morning Discipleship Community for parents of preschoolers led by Pastor Jay Hancock.

Come make friends and learn more about God's plan for successful parenting.

For Parents

Sundays

11:00 a.m. - Noon

Room D101

(across from the Preschool Welcome Desk)



Milestone 1:

Parent/Child Dedication Sunday, February 11

Ready to publicly acknowledge your role as your child's primary disciple maker? Ready to commit to being intentional about teaching and training your child in the ways of the Lord?

You're ready for Milestone 1!

To learn more, visit carmelbaptist.org/milestones.



Parents - Family traditions matter because they:



- can give children a sense of security
- can build a bond between family members.
- can remind everyone they are connected to a bigger story
- are a strategic opportunity to communicate the value of family

I encourage you to foster weekly, seasonal tradition and holiday traditions for your family. And maybe even one just between you and your kids!

-Sean Lee

Children's Minister

Sunday Mornings

Over the year, kids spend about 4,000 hours at home, 1,440 hours at school, 500 hours playing video games/ watching TV, and only 50 possible hours in Sunday Bible Study. Parents are the greatest influence in a kid's life and we're here to partner with you. Check out the overview of each Sunday's grade-level teaching at carmelbaptist.org/carmelkidz/. Please note there is no Sunday morning Discipleship Community on 12/24 & 12/31.

Midweek



November's Midweek focus is Gratitude

Letting others know you see how they've helped you.



December's Midweek focus is Generosity

Making someone's day by giving something away. Because God gave, we can give. Don't miss your chance to give BIG this Christmas (and every day!). Check out Page 7 for family giving opportunities.



Reminders:

- **11/08, 11/15 and 11/29:** Parent Round Table: *Best Screen Plan - Balanced Electronic Screen Time*, with Guest Speaker Melanie Hempte.
- **12/06:** Famjam: Generosity
- **12/13:** Parent Round Table Discussions
- **12/17:** Preteens: Who Wants To Be a Millionaire (Christmas Edition)

There will be NO Midweek activities on 11/22, 12/20, 12/27 and 01/03.

Discipleship in Action



Enrich your child's faith journey with these upcoming Milestone events:



January First Step Class: Help prepare your child for Milestone 2 - Salvation. Sundays in January beginning 01/07/2018. Details and register at carmelbaptist.org/firststep.



Preteen (6th grade) Retreat: Where parents and preteens get to make memories, map out principles to develop a God-Sense, and mark a Milestone together. Details and register at carmelbaptist.org/preteenevents.

Boy's Retreat: 04/13-15/2018

Girl's Retreat: 04/20-22/2018



C A R M E L
STUDENTS

Current Midweek Series: *Lesser Things*

Do you wonder if there is more than this world has to offer? Do you struggle with fear, emotional pain, or regrets? What about desiring possessions? Are you struggling with insecurity? Or social media? This teaching series is about coming to and living life out of the understanding that God is greater than the lesser things. We are going to look at these questions and more at Midweek. Join us at 6:15pm in the Student Center!

MIDWEEK



PAUSE



High School Retreat - November 17 - 19

Students' lives are fast-paced and always in motion. Jesus teaches us that hitting pause in the midst of our busy lives 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, 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. Don't miss it! **Register by November 8** at carmelstudents.org.

High School Pancakes/Dodgeball

December 9 - 9th-12th Grade students and parents will enjoy pancakes and dodgeball from 9:00-11:00am in the Aux Gym. Register online.

9TH-12TH
PANCAKES/DODGEBALL
SATURDAY, DEC 9 / 9-11AM / GYM



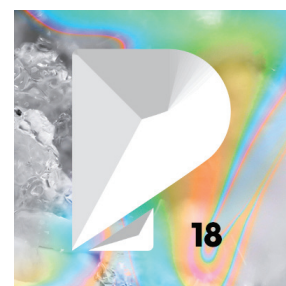
Caroling and Christmas Sweaters

Join us Wednesday, **December 13** in the Student Center from 6:15-7:45pm for our **special Midweek Christmas night**. We encourage all students to come and join our voices together for carols. Also, don't forget to wear your ugly Christmas sweater!!!

Passion 2018 - Seniors & College Students

High School Seniors and College Students are invited to attend Passion 2018 in Atlanta, January 1-3. Students from across the nation will gather together in Atlanta to be united as one generation committed to the Gospel. At the heart of it all, Passion exists to see a generation stake their lives on what matters most - the fame of the One who rescues and restores - and the privilege we have to fully leverage our lives by amplifying His name in everything we do. Don't miss this opportunity. Registration is open at carmelstudents.org!

Location: Atlanta, GA **Dates:** Jan 1-3 **Cost:** \$225



Events

Midweek Dates - November 1, 8, 15, 29 / December 6, 13

No DC - December 24 & 31



Celebrate CHRISTMAS Eve

Sunday, December 24

Three Services

9:30am, 11:00am, 2:00pm

Two Venues

Experience the service from either the Worship Center or Student Auditorium.

One Celebration

Pastor Alex will teach portions of his message live from each location. And the same music will be live in both venues. After worship, enjoy fellowship over hot chocolate and cookies.

ALL children will join their parents for Worship! Coloring books and crayons will be available, as well as a cry room with live feed of the service.

*Celebrate
Early*

Candids: We Want a Photo

Send your favorite Christmas snap shot (nostalgic, really funny or awkward) to communications@carmelbaptist.org. Beginning November 26, we'll share these photos in a slide show prior to worship.

Calendars: Countdown to Christmas

This year's Advent Calendar provides a great road map for your family to count down to Christmas! Available in the Gathering Space beginning Sunday, November 26.

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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