

Church-Wide Christmas Covered Dish Breakfast

Bring breakfast casseroles, danishes, muffins, fruit or donuts. Coffee and juice will be provided.

9 am Sunday, December 3, 2017
In the Fellowship Hall

COMBINED ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

9:45 am December 3 following the Christmas Covered Dish Breakfast

JINGLEBELL BEACH

A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

5 pm Sunday, December 3

Community Children's Christmas Ministry

December 3, 2017

4pm Crafts & Fun

5pm Christmas Pageant

6pm Supper

Sponsors & Hosts Needed!

JOY Fellowship (Just Older Youth)

Wednesday, Dec 6

Christmas Luncheon

11:30 am in Fellowship Hall

RSVP to 648.2367 Required

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER

SMOKY MOUNTAIN CENTER

Ticketed Event Dinner and Theater

For tickets see Lowell or Sandra Grogan

Coach leaves church at 4pm

Friday December 8

WE NEED YOU AT THE Canton Christmas PARADE

4:30 pm Thursday, December 7

Hand out invite cards, put flyers on cars, ride in parade

PEACE HAS COME

6 pm Sunday, December 10

Sanctuary Choir & Orchestra

Reception Following

Happy Birthday Jesus PARTY

Children up to 5th grade

Sunday, December 17 at Noon

Christmas Open House

December 20

9:30 am - 1pm

Stop by to visit and enjoy warm drinks & refreshments!

We invite you to our 2017 Christmas Services

Hanging of the Green
11 am November 26

Children's Christmas Drama Musical: "Jingle Bell Beach"
5 pm December 3

JOY Fellowship Christmas Luncheon - RSVP Required
11:30 am December 6

Sanctuary Choir Christmas Cantata: "Peace Has Come"
6pm December 10

Christmas Churchwide Covered Dish Banquet
6pm December 13

Christmas Eve Candlelight Family Worship
8 pm December 24

Canton First Baptist Church
74 Academy St, Canton, NC
828.648.2367 www.canton-fbc.org

Christmas Feast

6 pm Wednesday, Dec 13

Please bring side dishes, casseroles, salads, vegetables and desserts to share.

Christmas Eve Service

8 pm December 24

Celebrate the Wonder

Our Ministry Team

Church Office: cantonfirst@gmail.com 828-648-2367 Fax: 828-646-0344
M-Th: 9am-5pm, F: 9am-1pm, other times by appointment
Rev. Court Greene: pastor@courtgreene1@gmail.com

Rev. Kevin McDaniel: AssistantPastor@cantonfirstyouth@gmail.com
James Markey: MinisterofMusic@cbcmusicmin@gmail.com
Myra Steadman: AdminAsst/FinancialSecretary@mlsteadman@gmail.com
Debbie Lewis: Organist,AnnaWatson@Pianist,JerreySmith@Chickaree.org
& All the Volunteers of the Canton First Baptist Church Family

PUBLISHING INFORMATION & DEADLINES: Submit information in writing or by email to cantonfirst@gmail.com by the 15th. Announcements by Monday at 10am. Call 648-2367 for more information. To receive by email, write "subscriber" to cbowhiness@gmail.com.

Canton First Baptist Church
828.648.2367 www.canton-fbc.org
74 Academy Street
Canton NC 28716

We thank God for:

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The Witness

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VOLUME 60, EDITION 11, NOVEMBER FOR DECEMBER

Hanging of the Green


11 am Sunday, November 26
Canton First Baptist Church



Dear Canton First Baptist Church Family,

As you decorate, cook, plan, procure and wrap gifts, clean just so it can become a mess of torn paper and dust bunnies over the course of a few days, and in all other ways prepare for your family's Christmas celebrations, what is it that you are really doing? At the heart of all of this is one word, "welcome." You're cleaning so the filthy carriers of mud and tiny chunks of leaves will feel welcome in your house. You cook because nothing feels more welcoming than a meal that took time and attention to prepare. You give gifts, wrapped to be appealing, because it's a way of saying "I appreciate you, I care about you, you are wanted here," to the gift's intended recipient. That's the way we want people to feel when they come to our homes and celebrate Christ's coming to the earth. Let's make sure we put the same care into making people feel that way when they enter our house of worship as well.

Rev. Court Greene



God's Blessings Be Yours This Christmas! Have a Joy Filled Christmas!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

From all the staff and ministers of Canton First Baptist Church.



MISSIONS & MINISTRY COMING UP

Extension Ministry Christmas Card Ministry: Please prepare Christmas cards for our shut-ins, homebound, nursing home and special friends. Lists of names are in the literature racks, on the counter next to the copier, and in the Sunday School classes. This means so much to our friends who are not able to attend. Place your cards in the bags in the hallway and the Extension Ministry team will deliver the bag full of cards in Mid-December.

Poinsettia Memorials and Honorariums Ministry: Your gift of \$20 provides poinsettias for homebound, shut-ins, and nursing home residents delivered by their deacon to bring them cheer throughout the Christmas season and provides the decorations in the church for this season. For your gift of \$20, your name and “in Memory or in Honor” designation will be listed in the memorial bulletin on December 20. Completed forms and donations are due by December 13.

Community Children’s Christmas Ministry: Pray for this ministry which has been a vital outreach ministry of Canton First Baptist for over 8 decades. The CCC Ministry team is already at work preparing for this ministry as it takes months of preparation and coordination. We work with the schools and social workers to identify the children and families who would best benefit from this ministry. The parents are then contacted and given an invitation and then they complete forms and return them to assist us with the preparations. We need you to **Volunteer** to help sort, setup, cleanup, lead crafts, serve supper, and have fun with our guests. You are the living representation of Christ that many of them will see. Please pray about participating in whatever way you can. Your smile, hug, and encouragement may be the best gift they receive this Christmas. Another way you can help is to serve as a **Host** to a child and their family on the day of the event Sunday, December 3. You will greet them when they arrive at 4pm, show them around, take them to the crafts area, take them to the sanctuary for the program at 5pm, bring them back down and eat with them at 6pm and continue to shadow them as they enjoy the special guest until they leave, all the while talking and sharing the love of Jesus with them and their family as they enjoy fun, and fellowship. You get to make that a connection with that child and family. This year we are planning for 50+ children yet there are *always* more who need us. *We can only provide gifts for the children that are registered.* We will have treat bags for all children and siblings. If you know of a family in need, contact the church office by November 8 with contact information so that we can see if they are eligible. **Give** to sponsor a child for \$30 to help with gifts and expenses of this ministry. Financial gifts of any size are welcome. Please write on your envelope Community Children’s Christmas Ministry. We can always use unopened Lego sets, Barbie Dolls, or other children’s items you may have laying around. For more information contact the church office, Lisa Ledford or Pam Floyd. *Please share with your children or any children you plan to bring before arriving so that they know this is a day of giving to those that are registered from our community.*

Children’s Christmas Pageant: The children and youth of CFBC will present “Jingle Bell Beach” a Christmas Pageant for everyone at 5pm on Sunday, December 3. This pageant, is open to everyone, as is the supper that follows with the appearance of a special guest.

PLEASE NOTE

Reservations: If your class or group is planning a gathering this season, please be sure to call the church office to place reservations on the church calendar.

Weather Policy: During the week, when Haywood County Schools are dismissed or closed due to inclement weather, activities at Canton First are postponed and CFBC is closed. During a weather event, decisions are made as soon as possible and sent first to the Deacons. Please check WLOS, WPIL, Facebook, and our website for weather related program or time changes. Please travel only if it is safe to drive and walk.

To Reach the Ministers & Staff: Because of limited staff, schedules, holiday and vacation, please try to call the church with your requests on Monday through Wednesday between 10am and 2pm. When possible try to reach us by email at canton-first@gmail.com or the staff specific email. Messages will be returned as soon as possible. **For a Ministry Need** please contact your family Deacon or Deacon Chairman Joshua Simmons at 828.400-6019.

Budget Gifts: Your gifts to the Canton First Baptist support our many partnership ministries and missions as well as fund the work of the ministry we do here locally. Thank you for your continued faithfulness and commitment to our community.

End of Year Gifts: Your gifts are important to us. For gifts to count for 2017, they must be received, postmarked or donated online by December 31, 2017. Thank you for your generosity throughout this Ministry Season!



We are praying for and extend Christian love and sympathy to the families of Delsie Mae Bell, and Mary Haynes White.

CANTON FIRST MINISTRY ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Hanging of the Green Worship Service: Everyone is invited to Celebrate a festive morning worship kickoff of the Advent Season at 11 am Sunday, Nov. 26.

Children’s Christmas Rehearsals: The children rehearse Sunday, Nov 26 from 5-7pm. All participants are asked to be here for Dress Rehearsal on Saturday Dec 2 from 4-6pm and next Sunday at 3pm to prepare for the presentation which will be at 5pm.

Christmas in the Smokies: Pray for the group going to Christmas in the Smokies in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee Nov 30-Dec 2. Plan to go with them for this inspiring week-end next year. For details see Lowell & Sandra Grogan.

Christmas Church-wide Covered Dish Breakfast: Everyone please join us for a Christmas Breakfast at 9am Sunday Dec 3 in the Fellowship hall. Bring casseroles, fruit, side dishes, and treats to share.

Combined Adult Sunday School: Adults will have a combined Sunday School and Christmas presentation at 9:45am Sunday December 3.

“Jingle Bell Beach” Children’s Christmas Pageant: Invite everyone to please come enjoy a musical drama “*Jingle Bell Beach*” presented by the children and stay for supper with special guests and treats for the children Sunday, December 3rd at 5pm.

Men’s Breakfast: All men are invited to Breakfast Bible Study & Prayer at 7am the 1st Tuesday of each month at Clyde’s Restaurant and the 3rd Tuesday of each month at Bojangles.

Ladies Mission Groups: All ladies are invited to join the mission group that best fits their schedule. Jean Teague Group meets the 1st Tuesday morning of each month at 10 am. Irene Berry Smith Group which normally meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7pm is meeting on Tuesday, Dec 12 at 6pm at the home of Gail Bradburn.

JOY (Just Older Youth) Fellowship Christmas Party: December 6 at 11:30am is the JOY Fellowship Christmas Lunch & Party. Please call 648-2367 to reserve your place for this dinner as reservations are required so we can prepare properly.

Canton Christmas Parade Outreach Ministry: Plan to participate Thursday Dec 7 in the Canton Christmas Parade and our outreach ministry that day. Ride, hand out invitation cards, place flyers on cars and celebrate the reason for the season!

Community Kitchen Ministry Team: Be in prayer for our volunteers who prepare and serve the meal the first Thursday of each month. (Dec 7) To volunteer, see Cathy Walsh.

Best Little Christmas Pageant Ever: We meet at 4pm to go to this ticketed event at the Smoky Mtn. Performing Arts Center on Friday, December 8. We will ride on the coach to Franklin for dinner and the show. See Lowell or Sandra Grogan for details.

Deacon Christmas Fellowship: December 9 at 6:30 pm at the Simmons Home.

Sanctuary Choir Full Rehearsal: Saturday December 9 at 9am the instruments rehearse and the choir will join them at 10am. Sunday afternoon the instruments meet at 4pm, the choir rehearses at 5pm, and present the Cantata at 6pm.

“Peace Has Come” Sanctuary Choir Cantata: Everyone is invited to an inspiring evening of worship in music and song at 6pm Sunday Dec. 10. Reception following.

Irene Berry Smith Mission Group: Ladies are invited to the home of Gail Bradburn for the Christmas program on Tuesday, December 12 at 6:00 pm.

Christmas Covered Dish Feast: Everyone is invited to a feast at 6pm, Wednesday, December 13. The church will provide ham, bread, and drinks. Please bring other meats, casseroles, vegetables, salads, and desserts to share. Invite friends, family, neighbors co-workers and everyone for this time of fellowship and fun.

Happy Birthday Jesus Party: Dec 17 after morning worship all children up to 6th grade are invited to stay for lunch and a Happy Birthday Jesus Party.

Wedding Reception: You are invited to a drop-in wedding celebration reception on Sunday, Dec 17 from 2pm to 4pm at Milltown Place, 51 Main St, Canton NC for Jason Rochester and Cathryn Chaney who will be married in Poteet TX on Dec 10. Jason & Jennifer are registered at Target and Bed Bath & Beyond. A treasure chest will be available for gift cards. For more information contact Vicky Godfrey.

Open House December 20 9:30am to 1pm: Everyone is invited to stop in and visit with the staff and each other while enjoying warm drinks and fellowship on Wednesday, Dec 20 from 9:30 am to 1pm. Guests are welcome, too!

Youth Lock-In December 22 8:00 pm for students in grades 6 through 12: Get your RSVP & permission form for the Lock-In on December 22 beginning at 8:00 pm.

Worship each Sunday at 11am: Join us each Sunday for worship in the Advent season, Christmas Eve and New Years, too at 11am.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Lord’s Supper Service: Everyone is invited to the Christmas Eve Candlelight Lord’s Supper Service for all ages on Christmas Eve at 8pm. You are welcome to bring the children in their pajamas to this family service.

November & December Stewardship Emphasis:

Poinsettia Memorial Ministry - receiving memorials now until Dec 13

Community Children’s Christmas Ministry Party December 3 Give, Sponsor, Host, Pray

Lottie Moon Ingathering for International Missions December 17

Room at the Inn Christmas Eve Offering 8pm December 24

Year End Gifts - Postmarked or received by December 31

Weekly & Regular Events & Activities - Everyone Welcome!

View the Website and calendar for holiday hours and events!

Sunday School: All ages meet at 9:45am each Sunday for Bible Study

Sunday Morning Worship: Everyone begins together, then children go to kids worship.

Kids Missions & Music: Kids grades K3 to 5th grade rehearse at 5pm each Sunday.

Youth Sunday Funday: Students in grades 6-12 meet for fellowship and study at 5pm.

Men’s Breakfast: Men are invited to Breakfast Bible Study & Prayer at 7am the 1st Tuesday of each month at Clyde’s Restaurant and the 3rd Tuesday of each month at Bojangles.

Ladies Mission Groups: All ladies are invited to join the mission group that best fits their schedule. Jean Teague Group meets the first Tuesday morning of each month at 10 am. Irene Berry Smith Group meets the second Monday of each month at 7pm.

Small Group Studies: Tuesday group meets at 6pm at CFBC facilitated by Kevin McDaniel. Wednesday group meets at 6pm at the Simmons home facilitated by Joshua Simmons. Childcare is available on Wednesdays. Call 648-2367 for childcare.

Bible Study Wednesday at 6pm: Study and prayer led by Pastor Court Greene at CFBC.

Youth Study & Fellowship Wednesday at 6pm: All 6-12 grade students are invited.

Sanctuary Choir: Rehearses each Wednesday at 7:00 pm. All voices welcome.

Upcoming Events & Activities Calendar

Nov 25	10:00	Decorations and Preparation Day
Nov 26	11:00	Hanging of Green
Nov 28	10:00	Deacon Poinsettia Ministry begins
Nov 29	6:00	Community Children Christmas Ministry Prep Night
Nov 30		Christmas in the Smokies group travels to TN returning Dec 2
Dec 2	4:00	Children Dress Rehearsal & Setup
Dec 3	9:00	Church-wide Covered Dish Breakfast
	9:45	Combined Adult Sunday School in Fellowship Hall
	4:00	Community Children’s Christmas Ministry Party
	5:00	“Jingle Bell Beach” Children’s Christmas Pageant
	6:00	Supper and Special Guest Appearance
Dec 5	7:00	Men’s Breakfast Bible Study & Prayer @ Clyde’s Restaurant
	10:00	Jean Teague Ladies Missions Circle
Dec 6	11:30	JOY Christmas Fellowship RSVP required
Dec 7	4:00	Community Kitchen Ministry
	4:30	Canton Christmas Parade Outreach
Dec 8	4:00	“Best Little Christmas Pageant Ever” At Smokey Mtn Performing Arts
Dec 9	9:00	Sanctuary Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal
	6:30	Deacon & Spouse Christmas Dinner at Simmons Home
Dec 10	6:00	“Peace Has Come” Christmas Cantata by the Sanctuary Choir & Orchestra
	7:00	Christmas Reception
Dec 11	5:30	Finance Committee Meeting
Dec 12	6:00	Irene Berry Smith Ladies Group Christmas at Bradburn Home
Dec 13	6:00	Christmas Covered Dish Feast
Dec 17	12:00	Children’s Happy Birthday Jesus Party after Morning Worship
Dec 19	7:00	Men’s Breakfast Bible Study & Prayer at Bojangles
Dec 20	9:30	Christmas Open House until 1:00 pm
Dec 22	8:00	Lock-In for Grades 6-12 - RSVP with Kevin McDaniel required
Dec 24	11:00	Christmas Eve Morning Worship
	8:00	Christmas Eve Lord’s Supper Service
Dec 25		FH Reserved
Dec 31	11:00	New years Eve Morning Worship
Jan 1		Happy, Healthy, Blessed & Prosperous New Year 2018
Jan 7	11:00	Lord’s Supper in Morning Worship
Jan 21	12:00	Kids Lunch and Bowling after Morning Worship

Deacons of the Week

Dec 3:	Gail Bradburn, Tony Reid
Dec 10:	Doug Bradburn, Jeff Conard, Jeff Haynes
Dec 17:	Wendy Reid, Ernie Stines, Mike Wood
Dec 24:	Charles Bowline, Larry Paxton, Mike Pressley
Dec 31:	Ray Shepard, Jack Shuler, Josh Simmons
Jan 7:	Zeb Smathers, Jerry Smith, Carole Edwards
Jan 14:	Kevin Lowery, Billie Conard, Lowell Grogan
Jan 21:	Gail Bradburn, Tony Reid
Jan 28:	Doug Bradburn, Jeff Conard, Jeff Haynes