



Canton First Baptist Church invites you to celebrate Christmas with us in person or online:

Hanging of the Green 11 am Nov 29
Musical 11 am Dec 13
Christmas Eve 8pm Dec 24

74 Academy St, Canton, NC 28716



GIVE THANKS

Join in these Ministries:

Nov. 19 9am Coat, Warmth & Baby Distribution
 Nov 19 11 am Food Distribution (9 am Volunteers)
 Nov 22 6pm Community Thanksgiving Only

The Witness

74 Academy Street • Canton, North Carolina 28716
 Office: 828.648.2367 • cantonfirst@gmail.com



VOLUME 63, EDITION 5, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020



Community Children's Christmas Ministry
4pm December 13
 Deliver Gifts, Crafts, CD, Treat Bags & Dinner to 10 Kids Families

Volunteers & Sponsors Needed

Thanksgiving Food Box Distribution
 11 am Thursday, November 19
 Volunteers Needed at 9 am
 Canton First Baptist Church
 74 Academy Street, Canton, NC

FREE GROCERY GIVEAWAY Food Distribution

Volunteer to greet our guests and give out food boxes!

Send the Gospel to the ENDS of the EARTH

SamaritansPurse.ca/OCC

Collection Sunday Nov. 15th

WINTER COAT DRIVE Give A Gift Of Warmth!

New or Gently Used Items Needed for Kids, Women & Men

WARM COATS from WARM HEARTS
 Coats
 Hats
 Scarves
 Gloves/Mittens
 Sleeping Bags, Socks, Winter Wear

Donation Site
Canton First Baptist Church
 74 Academy St, Canton, NC 28716
 828.648.2367 cantonfirst@gmail.com www.canton-fbc.org

Dear Canton First Family,

As we head towards Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas, you do not need me to tell you that things will have to be different this year. Different, however, does not have to be bad. As I type plans are underway for the church to continue its vital ministries to our community and our faith family. Please take note of some of the changes. First, last year around thanksgiving we distributed food and warmth items to people in need. We plan to do the same this year. We will be more cognizant of social distancing (a term that most were not familiar with last year) but do plan to host those events on the 19th of November. Hanging of the Green, a special and wonderful service that marks the beginning of advent each year, will be different as well. In addition to in-person worship, it will be joined by and rely upon our online community as well. The cantata will be on a Sunday morning, and will be worshipful, but will take a different form this year. Finally, the Christmas Eve service will involve two major changes to avoid person to person contact. We will use electric candles, and have contact-free communion. I hope you are as excited as I am to reach others and celebrate the holidays which will soon be upon us. I look forward to what God will continue to do through our church as the days unfold before us.



Your pastor, Dr. Court Greene

Guidance for successfully navigating the storms along life's pilgrimage.

PASTORAL COUNSELLING

Dr. Allen Mullinax, Pastoral Counselor
 404-697-1012 Accepting New Clients
 Meet discreetly at Canton First Baptist Church
 Sliding Scale Fee

CARD ministry CHRISTMAS CARD

Be a blessing:

- Take a Card List
- Make Cards
- Place in Bags by December 1 for Deacon Delivery

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Join online at www.zoom.us/j/455573873
 Meeting ID: 455 573 873

6:00PM
 WITH DR. COURT GREENE

Join by phone at:
 1.301.715.8592
 #: 455 573 873

Thank you for remembering the ministries of your church with your tithes and offerings as we prepare for Fall and Holiday Ministries.

Stewardship Committee

Easy Ways to Give

www.CANTON-FBC.ORG

Distribution Day Info!
 Thursday, November 19
 Beginning at 9:00

Share the Warmth COAT DRIVE

Pathways Holy Cow Food Truck at Canton First
 Thursdays from 11 am to 2pm



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

USPS 906-880
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 Canton, NC 28716

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Missions, Ministries, Partnerships to Join in!

Community Children's Christmas Ministry: This year, due to COVID19 we are doing things different and will deliver to the porch for the children and their families dinner, gifts, crafts, music, etc. on Sunday, Dec 13. **Volunteer** to help sort, wrap, cook, or deliver. Pray about participating in whatever way you can. Your smile, hug, and encouragement may be the best gift they receive this Christmas. **Give** to sponsor a child for \$30 to help with gifts and expenses of this ministry. Most families have 3 or more children. 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 Lisa Ledford or Pam Floyd.

Christmas Card Ministry: Please prepare Christmas cards for our shut-ins, homebound, nursing home, new widows, and special friends. Lists of names are available at the office, 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 by **Dec 1** and the Deacons and Extension Ministry will coordinate delivery.

Poinsettia Memorials & Honorariums Ministry: Your gift of \$20 provides poinsettias for those homebound, new widows, in nursing homes or treatment delivered by a deacon to bring them cheer throughout the Christmas season and provide for the decorations in the church this season. For your gift of \$20, your name and "in Memory or in Honor" listing will be in the memorial bulletin on Dec 13. Turn in forms and donations by **December 9**.

Coat Drop-off & Distribution: Drop off coats, hats, scarves, mittens/gloves, or sleeping bags for distribution on **Nov. 19** in the boxes or Fellowship Hall doorway. Contact Jean Parris with questions.

Food Distribution Thanksgiving Boxes: **November 19** Volunteers needed at 9:00 to meet, greet, set-up, pack additional items in boxes, direct traffic, register, & encourage. Volunteer by calling 648-2367. Call Mike Wood with any questions at 421-1238.

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, WPTL, Facebook, and our website for weather related program or time changes. Please travel only if it is safe to drive and walk.

Budget Gifts: Your gifts to 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 this year, they must be received, postmarked or donated online by **December 31**. Thank you for your generosity throughout this Ministry Season!

Get Involved at CFBC!

Wedding Shower: Nov 8, You are invited to a Drop-In Wedding Shower for Jarrod & Sarah Conard, son of Jeff & Billie Conard on Sunday, Nov. 8 from 2pm to 3:30pm given by the ladies of the church.

Food Box Ministry Volunteers Needed: 2 Volunteers are needed Nov 12, Dec 3, 10, & 17 for a couple of hours at 8:30 am. Volunteers are needed on the 12th to deliver to our church family and the 19th to serve the community.

Decoration Day: Wednesday, November 25, Call Lynn Pressley for specifics about how you can help.

Hanging of the Green Worship Service 11 am November 29: Invite family and friends to celebrate a festive worship kickoff of the Advent Season at 11am on Sunday, November 29.

Fifth Sunday Food Drive Sunday, November 29: Please place non-perishable food and hygiene items in the baskets on the landing.

Community Kitchen Ministry Team: Be in prayer for our volunteers who prepare and serve the meal the first Thursday of each month. To volunteer contact Cathy Walsh.

Canton Christmas Parade Outreach: 4:30 Dec. 3 come join us at the church as we will meet to go on the float or in the bus as we celebrate the Advent season. Volunteer to help setup decorate, give candy and treats, or smile and wave with Ray Shepard.

Giving Tuesday, December 1, 2020: As you plan for holiday shopping and giving, please remember that your gift to the Canton First Baptist Budget supports our church and its ministry as well as our many budgeted mission partnerships.

Lottie Moon Ingathering: Dec 13 in Worship we will present our annual offerings for International Missions.

Christmas Music Sunday Morning 11 am December 13: Bring family and friends to an inspiring celebration of worship in music and song. Invite friends and family to come or to watch with you.

Christmas Eve Family Candlelight Communion Service: 8pm December 24 bring the whole family and guests for this beautiful candlelight service together.

THANK YOU

Thank You for your donations and all of the volunteers who gave time and work towards the weekly food distribution ministry from May to October. We are looking for volunteers if we are awarded another of the weekly rounds to distribute.

Thank you for all who contributed or helped with the Reverse Trick or Treat. We reached out to 15 children and had 16 volunteers for delivery.

Candy Collection: We are still collecting candy for the Children's Christmas Ministries and Treat Bags. Please drop off in buckets or leave on counter.

WANT TO LEARN MORE

Invitation to Partner with Canton First Baptist Church: We invite you to membership with Canton First Baptist Church. Contact Dr. Court Greene to learn more. **Baptism:** If you are interested in baptism see Dr. Court Greene or call the church office at 828.648.2367.

Deacons for the 2020-2021 Church year are:
Deacon Officers: Chairman: Jeff Conard, Vice Chair: Danny McDowell, Secretary: Lynn Pressley, Family Ministry Coordinator: Lowell Grogan.
Serving until 2021: Danny McDowell, Pat Stewart, Carroll Wright
Serving until 2022: Jimmy Burke, Lynn Pressley, Ernie Stines,
Serving until 2023: Jeff Conard, Lowell Grogan, Larry Paxton, Mike Pressley, Mike Wood

November & December Stewardship & Mission Emphasis:

Your gifts support ministry and missions in our local community and around the world, our ministry and missions near and far through our partnerships. Thank you for your generous and faithful support. - Stewardship Committee

- ◆ **Community Children's Christmas Ministry** - December 13
- ◆ **Poinsettia Memorials Ministry** - Memorial Bulletin December 13
- ◆ **Lottie Moon Offering for International Missions** - Ingathering Dec 13
- ◆ **Room at the Inn** - Ingathering Dec 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Weekly Events & Activities

Sunday	11:00	Worship in Sanctuary or on Facebook, YouTube, or WPTL
Monday	2:00	Bulletin, Screens, Event & Reservation Requests needed
	3:30	Staff Meeting
Wednesday	6:00	Bible Study with Dr. Court Greene on Zoom or In-Person
	6:00	Youth Study & Fellowship - See Ray
Thursday	8:00	Praise & Prayer Service streaming Facebook & YouTube

COVID changes: Sunday School, Small Groups, WMU groups, Children's Ministries, and Senior activities are at this postponed awaiting the lifting of the gathering and group restrictions from Governor Roy Cooper. We would be glad to assist a class, group, or committee that would like to meet or a leader that would be willing to teach on Facebook live or Zoom.


Upcoming Events & Activities

Subject to change— Always check www.canton-fbc.org, FB, and bulletin

Nov 8	2:00	Wedding Shower for Jarrod & Sarah Conard - FH
Nov 15	11:00	Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ingathering
Nov 19	9:00	Coat Distribution Fellowship Hall (Volunteers - 8:45am)
	11:00	Food Distribution (Volunteers - 9 am)
Nov 25	TBA	Sanctuary Decoration Day - see Lynn Pressley
Nov 26-27		Thanksgiving Holiday
Nov 29	11:00	Hanging of the Green, 5th Sunday Food Drive
Dec 1		Deacon Poinsettia & Card Ministry
Dec 13	11:00	Christmas Musical Worship
	2:00	Prep for Community Children's Christmas Ministry
	4:00	Delivery of Community Children's Christmas Ministry Sponsor, Volunteer to prepare, wrap, or deliver
Dec 24	8:00	Christmas Eve In Person and Live Streaming Online

Reservation & Event Information is needed at least 6 weeks in advance to allow us to accurately and fully resource and promote on website, FB, bulletin, announcements, and screens. If your class or group is planning an event or gathering this season, please be sure to call the church to place reservations on the church calendar as soon as possible. Thank you!

Keep Informed: Send an email to cantonfirst@gmail.com to request Canton First Top News email updates usually sent weekly. Call 648-2367 to request to be added to the Prayer Requests emails sent to subscribers only, the newsletter by mail or email, phone or other communications. Find us on Facebook, YouTube, and check out our website at www.canton-fbc.org. **Prayer Request? Call 648-2367 or www.canton-fbc.org**

 *We extend Christian love, sympathy, and prayers for the families of: Bill Boyette, Jamie Bruckmann, Don Dyer, Eileen Farmer, Pat Fisher, Guy Mathews, Archie Russo, Evanell Sanford, & Gwen Steadman.*