

3011 New Castle Avenue
New Castle, Delaware 19720

(302) 654-8818

Rev. Dr. Christopher Alan Bullock, Pastor

Theme:
WHAT A MIGHTY GOD
WE SERVE
Psalm 121

DECEMBER
2025

Rev. Dr. Christopher Alan Bullock
Editor-In-Chief

Dr. Arvis Strickling-Jones
Managing Editor





Thank you for worshipping with us at Canaan Baptist Church. The corporate life of this congregation is the faithful witness of the vitality of service to be found in the Sunday worship experience. What we

do from Monday to Saturday speaks volumes about Canaan's commitment and dedication to Christ and our community.

Canaan is "family," and all of us are saved sinners working out our soul salvation. Under the structured Body of Christ, we recognize the powerful work of the Holy Spirit in impacting the lives of our in-reach and outreach ministries. We are organized but not so organized to prevent the organism, the church, from bearing whole life. We welcome you!

Dr. Christopher Alan Bullock
First Lady Rev. Dr. Debbie Bullock
and the Canaan Baptist Church Family

Canaan's Mission Statement

An urban Baptist Church which serves as a vanguard of liberation, faith, and empowerment through our Christian witness. Canaan's mission is to do Ministry for the Master through the five-fold ministries of Discipleship, Fellowship, Service, Worship, and Evangelism. Acts 2:42-47

Canaan's Core Values

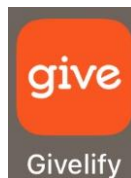
Congregational Intimacy (I Corinthians 13:13)
Salvation for the Lost (John 3:16)
Applied Christianity (James 2:14-20)
Impact the Human Condition (Luke 4:18-19)

In-Person and Online --Tune in--Canaan's Facebook Page or YouTube. To receive notifications when Canaan Baptist Church is going "**LIVE**", "**Like**" and "**Follow**" us on the "Canaan Baptist Church of Delaware" Facebook Canaanbcvideo page and "Subscribe" to our YouTube Channel Canaanbcvideo.

WAYS TO GIVE

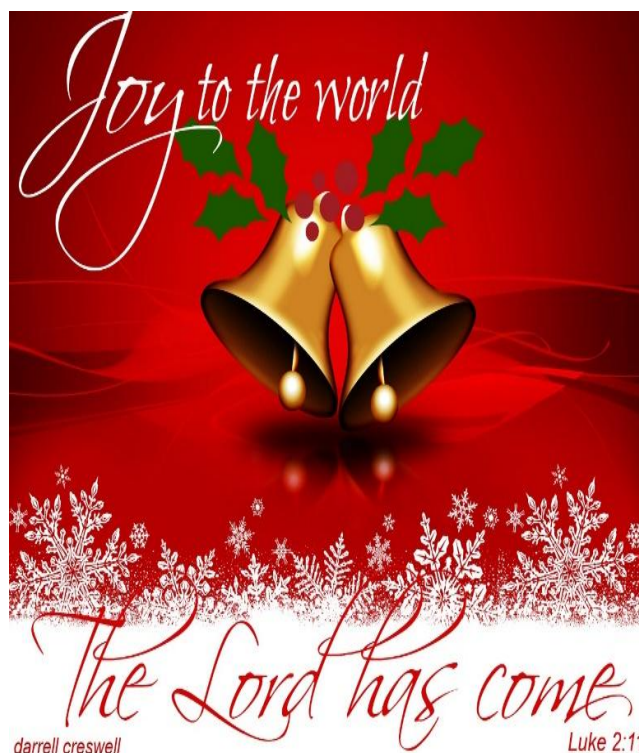
Several options to give of His Tithes and our offerings:

1. Deposit your offering envelope in the baskets located inside the sanctuary doors
2. Drop off a sealed offering envelope on Sundays from 8:00 AM – 12:00 Noon.
3. Send via U.S. Mail to:
Canaan Baptist Church
3011 New Castle Avenue
New Castle, DE 19720
4. Transfer e-funds online via PayPal:
www.Paypalme.com/canaanbaptistde



Download and use the Givelify mobile app.

Thank you for your continued and unwavering financial support of the Canaan Ministry!



Greetings from the Editor's Desk



“And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”
St. Luke 2:10-11

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you. As we enter this Advent season celebrating the Birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, let us reflect on the many ways God has blessed us. It's been a challenging year for many of us, but we still give God praise for His goodness, kindness, and mercy toward us, most of all, **THE GIFT OF HIS PRECIOUS SON, JESUS THE CHRIST!**

Please notify the **MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY** and the **Church Office** should your contact information--Formal Name, Email Address, Cell Phone Number or Mailing Address--change.

ROBOCALLS: All members are asked to lock the church's telephone number, **(302) 654-8818**, in your phones. Periodically, you will receive a robocall from the church regarding upcoming events, information, and urgent announcements.

RESERVE CHURCH FACILITIES: To reserve any of the church facilities for your meetings and events for the use of the Sanctuary, Hall of Faith, Conference room, or other spaces, please call the church office at (302) 654-8818.

CELEBRATE THE SAINTS

Got News? Are you celebrating a birthday, anniversary, graduation, retirement, educational, personal, or professional achievement, accomplishment, special occasion, engagement, a new birth, an adventure, a milestone, or recognition? Share your news with us. Photos are welcome. Please email your announcements by the 20th to: CanaanNews3011@gmail.com.

Canaan News Staff

Rev. Dr. Debbie Bullock

Bro. Alan Hicks

Sis. Paulette Cooper

Sis. Deb Piner

Bro. Derek Edwards, Photographer

Ministry Leaders

Administrative Staff



CANAAN'S KIDS NURSERY:

Qualified Volunteers needed to work and serve in the nursery. For more information, please see Sis. Linda Wells, Ministry Leader.

The **MEDIA MINISTRY** is seeking volunteers to train and operate the church PA Sound System. If you are interested in training to serve in this vital church ministry, please contact Dr. Arvis or any member of the Media / Sound Team.



ORDER OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
9:40 AM
ADVENT SERVICE

10:00 AM

Call to Worship and Prayer

Ministry in Music

Welcome of Visitors

Church Announcements

Giving of His Tithes and Our Offering

Ministry in Music

A Word from the Word

Invitation to New Life

(First Sunday—Holy Communion)

Closing Selection – **"Heal the Land"**

Benediction

"JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD"

Verse 1

Hark! The herald angels sing, Jesus, the Light of the world;
"Glory to the new-born King," Jesus, the Light of the world.

Verse 2

Joyful, all ye nations rise, Jesus, the Light of the world;
Join the triumph of the skies, Jesus, the Light of the world.

Verse 3

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Jesus, the Light of the world;
Christ, the everlasting Lord, Jesus, the Light of the World.

Verse 4

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Jesus, the Light of the world;
Hail the Sun of righteousness! Jesus, the Light of the world.

Refrain

We'll walk in the light, beautiful light
Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright
Shine all around us by day and by night
Jesus, the Light of the world.

TITHING CALCULATOR

Weekly Income	10%	11%	12%	13%	14%	15%
\$100	\$10	\$11	\$12	\$13	\$14	\$15
\$150	15	16.50	18	19.50	21	22.50
\$200	20	22.00	24	26.00	28	30.00
\$250	25	27.50	30	32.50	35	37.50
\$300	30	33.00	36	39.00	42	45.00
\$350	35	38.50	42	45.50	49	52.50
\$400	40	44.00	48	52.00	56	60.00
\$450	45	49.50	54	58.50	63	67.50
\$500	50	55.00	60	65.00	70	75.00
\$550	55	60.50	66	71.50	77	82.50
\$600	60	66.00	72	78.00	84	90.00
\$650	65	71.50	78	84.50	91	97.50
\$700	70	77.00	84	91.00	98	105.00
\$750	75	82.50	90	97.50	105	112.50
\$800	80	88.00	96	104.00	112	120.00
\$850	85	93.50	102	110.50	119	127.50
\$900	90	99.00	108	117.00	126	135.00
\$950	95	104.50	114	123.50	133	142.50
\$1,000	100	110.00	120	130.00	140	150.00
\$1,050	105	115.50	126	136.50	147	157.50
\$1,100	110	121.00	132	143.00	154	165.00
\$1,150	115	126.50	138	149.50	161	172.50
\$1,200	120	132.00	144	156.00	168	180.00
\$1,250	125	137.50	150	162.50	175	187.50
\$1,300	130	143.00	156	169.00	182	195.00
\$1,350	135	148.50	162	175.50	189	202.50
\$1,400	140	154.00	168	182.00	196	210.00

The Tithing Calculator is posted to help us better understand and determine what an actual tithe (or tenth) is based on our income.

Christian disciples who obey the Word of God, tithe in response to the Lord's command, in light of the Lord's graciousness and also to ensure that Canaan has all we need to do ministry that honors the Lord, equips individuals and to build a wholesome Christian community. (Malachi 3:8-10)

If you are not yet a committed part of our "tithing community", we encourage you to prayerfully trust God today, pray and begin surrendering your life to His will in this and every area of your life.

Let the Words of Jesus become real and evident in your life according to Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."



Canaan Baptist Church - Ministries



MINISTRY

Benevolence
Canaan Business Network
Canaan For Life
Canaan News
Canaan's Kids Nursery
Christian Education
Church Virtual Library
Community Engagement
Deacons
Earl Gardner Transportation
Ernest and Yolanda Purnell Seniors
Rev. Dr. John Bailey Evangelism
Greeters
Health
Higher Ground Education
Emma Bordley Hospitality
International Cultural
Marriage
Membership
Men of Canaan
Ministers
Music
Office Staff
Overcomers Outreach
Philippians/Pastor's Aid
Regena Manley Missionary
Rev. Dr. Paul Wilson GriefShare
Security
Sexton
Sexton
Sexton
Sexton
Sexton
Singles
Sisters of Canaan
Social Justice
Thomas L. Risher Veterans
Trustees Ministry
Ushers
Next G/Youth/Young Adult Ministry

LEADER

Deacon Jeremiah Carter
Sis. Lynette Scott
Sis. Julie White
Dr. Arvis Strickling-Jones
Sis. Linda Wells
Dean Valerie Hill
Deacon Alix Jefferson, Sr.
Dr. Nakishia Bailey
Deacon James Bonds
Bro. Montgomery Byrd
Sis. Patricia Risher
Deacon Shebra Stafford
Bro. Rodney & Sis. Eileen Davis
Sis. Janice Grant
Rev. Dr. Debbie Bullock
Sis. Ingrid Bostic
Sis. Jennifer Grace-Umoete
Deacon Isaac/Sis. Lorraine Perry
Deacon Henry Carroll
Bro. Rodney Davis
Rev. Jeff Miller
Dr. Arvis Strickling-Jones
Sis. Deb Piner
Rev. Robert Daniels
Deacon Patricia Reed
Dr. Sandi Hicks
Dr. Phyllis Stewart
Deacon Correy Brown
Deacon Mike Jones
Deacon Robert Rivers
Bro. Dwayne Adams
Bro. Joseph Hodges
Rev. Tyrone Brown
Rev. Vickie Gaines
Rev. Dr. Debbie Bullock
Deacon Dwight Holden
Bro. Albert Grant
Sis. Stephanie Collins
Sis. Kimburly Murray
Sis. Adrienne Stansbury

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scollins608@yahoo.com
kamurray81@gmail.com
Adrienneyacanaan@gmail.com

CHURCH CALENDAR



Thursday, December 4	Neighbor-to-Neighbor Truck Delivery – HOF Prison Reform Ministry Meeting Social Justice Meeting – Conference Room Voices of Canaan Rehearsal – Sanctuary	12:00 Noon 6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM
Friday, December 5	Leadership Meeting – Hall of Faith	5:30 – 8:00 PM
Saturday, December 6	Singles Ministry Paint Fellowship	12:00 – 2:00 PM
1st Sunday, December 7	Advent Service Morning Worship Service	9:40 AM 10:00 AM
Tuesday, December 9	Veterans Ministry Meeting – Zoom Respite Group Meeting – Hall of Faith Overcomers Ministry	1:00 – 3:00 PM 7:00 – 9:00 PM
Thursday, December 11	Food Bank Truck Delivery Men of Canaan Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary	9:00 AM – 12 Noon 6:30 PM
Friday, December 12	Angel Tree Sorting Bag Assembly – Hall of Faith	6:00 – 9:00 PM
Saturday, December 13	Junior Ushers Meeting - Sanctuary Angel Tree Sorting – Sanctuary Food Distribution	11:30 AM 10:00 AM
2nd Sunday, December 14	Advent Service Morning Worship Service Angel Tree Sunday – Hall of Faith	9:40 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM
Monday, December 15	Men's Ministry Meeting – Hall of Faith	6:30 – 8:00 PM
Tuesday, December 16	Respite Group Meeting – Hall of Faith	1:00 – 3:00 PM
Thursday, December 18	Mass Voices of Canaan – SPECIAL REHEARSAL	6:30 PM
3rd Sunday, December 21	Advent Service Morning Worship Service Sisters of Canaan Fellowship – Hall of Faith	9:40 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM
Thursday, December 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS	
4th Sunday, December 28	Kwanzaa Celebration Morning Worship Service	9:40 AM 10:00 AM
Tuesday, December 30	Next G Sight and Sound Trip	9:00 AM
Wednesday, December 31	Annual Watch Night Service – Mass Voices to Sing	7:00 PM



Sis. Linda Wells, Ministry Leader

Sunday Morning Worship
Ages 6 and under
8:45 – 11:45 AM





Stay connected to Biblical Teaching during the Winter break. For Sunday School-at-a-glance, you can log onto the YouTube channel:

NBC USA INC SUNDAY SCHOOL@GLANCE led by National Instructor, Dr. Mary E. McConnell.

SBA relief available to small businesses, private nonprofits

DOVER — The U.S. Small Business Administration issued a reminder to small businesses and private nonprofit organizations in Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey of the Dec. 8 deadline to apply for low interest federal disaster loans to offset economic losses caused by the drought occurring April 1, 2025.

The disaster declaration covers the counties of Kent and New Castle in Delaware; Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean and Salem in New Jersey; as well as Delaware and Philadelphia in Pennsylvania.

Under this declaration, the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan can be used for working capital needs caused by the disaster and is available even if the business or PNP did not suffer any physical damage.

The loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills not paid due to the disaster.

Newsbreak, November 17, 2025

SBA relief available to small businesses, private nonprofits Source: BaytoBayNews.com

Churches Turn to Chatbot Jesus as Pews Go Empty

AI is slipping into the pulpit as 'Chatbot Jesus' apps spread through churches searching for new ways to reach dwindling congregations. From automated prayers to pastor-built bots, religious life is getting a digital rewrite.

Axios reports that pastors, megachurches, and faith-focused startups are adopting AI tools to draft sermons and even simulate conversations with Jesus and other biblical figures as attendance drops and closures rise.

A nation of empty pews

US churches are facing their steepest decline in decades. Attendance is dropping, staff are stretched thin, and thousands of congregations are expected to close this year. Axios notes that nearly one in three Americans now identifies as religiously unaffiliated, a demographic shift that's reshaping Sunday mornings nationwide.

Megachurches continue to swell, but smaller parishes are struggling to keep pace. Even the biggest campuses can't offer the individual attention many worshippers once received, leaving pastors juggling crowds they can't meaningfully reach.

In that climate, some churches are turning to technology simply to keep people engaged. AI tools let pastors stay present when fewer members

show up in person. For ministries trying to hold on to their communities, every connection counts.

Algorithms behind the altar

Across the country, churches are rolling out AI systems to handle everyday questions that once swamped front desks and volunteer teams. Chatbots now answer queries about service schedules, event logistics, and quick scripture references, acting as on-call guides for members who expect instant replies.

Some churches are also adopting software that studies attendance patterns and engagement habits, flagging when outreach might be needed. These tools were once niche experiments; they're now becoming part of routine ministry planning.

For pastors, AI is showing up in more practical corners of the job. Several told Axios they use it to organize tasks and streamline communications, cutting hours off their weekly prep work.

Rev. Chris Hope, founder of the Hope Group, said the technology can boost “scheduling, coordination of preaching engagements and missions work,” and argued that churches “haven’t tapped the surface” of what responsible AI could support.

From Amen to AI-men

One corner of this technological shift is unfolding in people’s phones, where a new class of spiritual chat tools is taking shape. Text With Jesus is among the most prominent, inviting users into message-style exchanges with Jesus, Mary, Joseph, and other biblical figures, complete with verse references and character-based replies.

Catholic developers are moving in the same direction. Several confession and reflection apps now guide users through pre-confessional questions and spiritual check-ins, using scripture to shape each prompt and helping worshippers prepare before speaking with a priest.

Personality-driven tools are growing alongside them. Megachurch pastor Ron Carpenter, for example, offers a digital version of himself for subscribers seeking one-on-one interactions, and

Rev. Louis Attles relies on his bot “Faith” to help comb through research for his weekly sermons.

Other Christ-themed apps are gaining momentum as well. Virtual Jesus and Ask Jesus both provide round-the-clock responses modeled on the teachings of Christ, giving users quick scripture references, encouragement, and conversational guidance.

The fight against synthetic spirituality

Some church leaders are increasingly uneasy about the surge of spiritual chatbots that sound like clergy — or claim to speak in the voice of Jesus.

Researchers and pastors worry users may not know what sources these tools rely on or how their answers are being shaped. Robert P. Jones of the Public Religion Research Institute warned that many apps don’t disclose whether they draw from standard Bible translations, early church teachings, or narrowly ideological material.

Those concerns are amplified when chatbots begin to mimic divine or pastoral authority. Mark Graves of AI and Faith told Axios that many developers are racing to release products before establishing guardrails, saying “the risks are very high.”

Questions about digital tools have reached the highest levels of the Church as well. Pope Leo XIV rejected a proposal for a “virtual pope,” calling the idea “horrifying” and insisting that an avatar or automated assistant cannot duplicate core duties of the papacy.

For all the convenience these systems offer, their rise forces churches to decide what must remain unmistakably human. Not every message can be handed to a machine, especially when the authority behind the words is the point.

At a meeting on AI and medicine in Vatican City, Pope Leo XIV stressed that technological progress in healthcare should never come at the expense of human connection.

By Liz Ticong, November 13, 2025, Newsbreak

Faithful Stewardship in a Digital World: Comprehending Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence (AI)



Cybersecurity and AI may sound like difficult terms, but they touch everyday life for many Christians. Cybersecurity simply means keeping computers, phones, and church systems safe from people who try to steal or damage information. It is like

locking the church doors at night, but in the digital world, so that personal data, giving records, and messages stay protected and used for godly purposes. AI describes computer programs that can learn from large amounts of information and then make suggestions, answer questions, or create text and images. AI does not think or feel like a person, but it can copy patterns it has been given and respond in helpful or harmful ways.

For Christians, these tools raise questions about stewardship, truth, and human dignity before God. Stewardship means using time, talent, money, and technology in ways that honor the Lord and serve others, not wasting these gifts or using them for sin. Truth matters because online spaces and AI systems can spread lies, confusion, and false teaching, so believers must compare messages to the Bible and sound doctrine. Human dignity must be protected, because every person in Wilmington, DE, and beyond is made in the image of God and should never be treated as data to exploit or a product to manipulate. The Church needs to comprehend cybersecurity and AI so that technology is a servant, not an idol, never trusted more than the Lord Jesus, and never allowed to replace prayer, the Scriptures, worship, or the work of the Holy Spirit.

Canaan Baptist Church's Historian,
Sharon L. Burton, Ph.D., DBA, MBA-HRM,
MBA-Mgmt., CISM, PMP

MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Valerie Hill, Dean and Ministry Leader
Rev. Pete Owen, Assistant Dean

The Sunday School Winter Quarter (December 2025 - February 2026) is entitled “*Enduring Beliefs of the Christian Faith*.” This quarter’s lesson study highlights the essential teachings of the Bible in relation to the defining elements of Christian faith.

Saturday Church School will be on winter break for the month of December. The lessons for the month are below for your study.

Unit I: “Our Holy God and the Holy Scriptures”

Lessons at a Glance

Lesson 1 - December 7 - The Holy Scriptures
(*Psalms 19:7-13*; *2 Timothy 3:14-17*)

Lesson 2 - December 14 - Our Heavenly Father
(*Matthew 6:24-34*)

Lesson 3 - December 21 - Christ The Savior
(*Luke 15:3-7*; *Romans 5:6-10*)

Lesson 4 - December 28 - The Holy Spirit
(*Romans 8:12-17*; *26-27*)

Source: 2025-2026 Townsend Press, Sunday School Commentary based on the International Lessons Series. 105th edition. King James Version/New International Version.

Christian Education Opportunities

In-person:

Saturday Church School for all ages, toddlers to adults

Continental breakfast served from 9:00 - 9:30 AM

- Hall of Faith

Lesson study 9:30 - 10:30 AM

New Members Class

Every 2nd Saturday of the month - Sanctuary

Wednesday Midday Bible Study

Noon - 1:00 PM in the Hall of Faith

Wednesday Evening Bible Study -at 6:30 PM in the Hall of Faith

(If you pre-ordered and prepaid for a copy of the Bible study book *“The Red Sea Rules”* please pick it up in the Christian Education office after service). We have about 25 copies remaining for purchase.

Weekly Sunday School Lesson via YouTube presented by the Sunday School Publishing Board

of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. - youtube.com/@sundayschoollesson-at-a-glance

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” – 2 Timothy 2:15

🕯️ ADVENT SEASON 2025 🕯️

🚶‍♂️ ☀️ Walking in the Light Along the Journey of Faith 🙏

We commence the 2025-2026 liturgical year on Sunday, November 30th, as we kick off the Advent season. Advent means the arrival of Jesus of Nazareth. The Advent season is a time of celebration and thanksgiving as we prepare spiritually for the anniversary of Christ's birth, or Christmas Day. We will display the Advent wreath, as its circular shape represents the eternity of God – there is no beginning or end to His love. This wreath is made up of evergreens representing everlasting life and the love we find in Jesus. The candles represent Jesus, who is the light of the world and God's promise of salvation through Christ. Their colors are purple, rose/pink, and white. On each of the four Sundays of Advent, one of our ministries will light a candle with a theme. On Christmas Sunday, we will light a white candle that represents the life



of Christ. The color white is for purity because Christ is our sinless, pure Savior. Join us each Sunday morning, November 30th – December 21st, as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ – walking in the Light along the journey of faith. Come early for Pre-Worship Liturgies beginning at 9:40 a.m., featuring Scripture

readings, prayers, inspirational music, and themed messages from our Associate Ministers.

-November 30th – HOPE: The First Step to Faith: Isaiah 2:1–5; Romans 15:12–13

-December 7th – PEACE: The Steady Presence: Isaiah 11:1–10; Luke 2:13–14

-December 14th – JOY: The Song for the Road: Isaiah 35:1–10; Luke 2:10–11

-December 21st – LOVE: The Crowning Gift of Advent: Isaiah 7:10–16; John 3:16

"For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made His light shine in our hearts..."
— 2 Corinthians 4:6





Arvis Strickling-Jones Minister of Music

“Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing

with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” Colossians 3:16

CHOIRS OF CANAAN:

- **Voices of Canaan** – all genres—psalms, hymns, spirituals, traditional and contemporary gospel music.
- **Men of Canaan** – Bro. Wayne Jefferson, Director
- **Next G/YA Choir** - Ages 6-39 – Sis. Chelsia Ivey Douglas, Director

NOTE—The Mass Voices of Canaan—ALL CHOIRS—will minister in music on Christmas Sunday, December 21, and the Annual Watch Night Service on December 31. We are asking ALL SINGERS to participate. Guests are welcome to participate.

DECEMBER SINGING SCHEDULE

1st Sunday – December 7 –Voices of Canaan
Rehearsal: Thursday, December 4, 6:30 PM

2nd Sunday – December 14– Men of Canaan
Rehearsal: Thursday, December 11, 6:30 PM

3rd Sunday – December 21 – Mass Voices of Canaan—ALL CHOIRS—
Rehearsal: - Thursday, December 18, 6:30 PM

4th Sunday – December 28 – Men of Canaan

Wednesday, December 31 – WATCH NIGHT SERVICE – Mass Voices of Canaan

For more information, please contact Arvis Strickling-Jones, (302) 981-4908
Email - MomArvis420@gmail.com

Purnell Seniors Ministry Update

Sis. Patricia Risher, Ministry Leader

The Purnell Seniors Ministry ended their year on a high note. On November 9th they provided luggage for the Evangelism Ministry Community Clothes Giveaway.


At their last meeting for the year, they learned from Mr. Peter Campbell, Community Health Enrollment and Outreach Coordinator, of resources available to seniors at the YMCA. Did you know that the “Y” offers Diabetes Prevention Program and Blood Pressure Self- Monitoring Program. Please stop by your local “Y.”

Finally, our steering team met to work on the design of the “Together We Care” respite program. “Together We Care” is a program for caregivers caring for a person in the earlier stages of Parkinson’s, Alzheimer’s, and other dementias. The program will provide a fun, safe, and loving environment for participants while providing caregivers with a break from their regular caregiving responsibilities. “Together We Care” is a partnership with the Easterseals of Delaware and Maryland’s Eastern Shore and will receive guidance from the Respite for All Foundation.

The Steering Team is currently developing the marketing plan to solicit participants and volunteers. But we want Canaan members to have an early opportunity to sign up as volunteers. Our respite program is a community social (vs. medical) model so the major requirements are that you love God, love his people, and want to have fun. The program will be held the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Volunteers will receive training. To express an interest for a participant or to volunteer, contact Pat Risher via email at pjrisher@verizon.net.

Together we can make a difference. Together We Care!

**“DON’T THINK OF THE THINGS
YOU DIDN’T GET AFTER PRAYING.
THINK OF THE COUNTLESS
BLESSINGS GOD GAVE YOU
WITHOUT YOU EVEN ASKING.”**



THE SISTERS OF
CANAAN WOMEN'S
MINISTRY

PRESENTS:

THE
Christmas
REGIFT
SOCIAL

STARTS AT
11:30AM

DEC
21

THE HALL
OF FAITH

FOOD • FUN • FELLOWSHIP

IDEAS FOR REGIFTING: New w/tags, unopened and unused items only. Clothing, handbags, scarves, costume jewelry, fragrances, household goods (kitchen gadgets, throws, home decor, novelties), bath products, gift baskets, candles, boxed candy, gift card, books and 2026 Calendars

CANAAN CHRISTMAS

Food Giveaway

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025

10:00 AM - 2:00PM (WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)

ONE PER FAMILY

NO MORE THAN TWO FAMILIES PER VEHICLE



REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER A. BULLOCK - PASTOR
REV. DR. DEBBIE STRICKLING-BULLOCK, EXECUTIVE PASTOR



WDEL

1150 AM and 101.7 FM Presents

Canaan On The Radio

Sundays @ 9 am

Brought to you through partnership with:



EVAN W. SMITH
Funeral Services

DECEMBER
DECEMBER

MINISTRY

WELCOME TO THE **NEXT G**

Mission:

The Mission of the Next G Ministry Is to fan the flames and stir up the gifts of the next generation through Engagement, Encouragement, and Empowerment.

II Timothy 1:6

YOUTH MINISTRY PLEDGE

ENGAGEMENT- I TIMOTHY 4:12

I AM ENGAGED, BECAUSE I ALLOW NO ONE TO DESPISE MY YOUTH, BUT I AM AN EXAMPLE TO THE BELIEVERS IN WORD IN CONDUCT, IN LOVE, IN SPIRIT, IN FAITH, AND IN PURITY

ENCOURAGEMENT-I PETER 2:9

I AM ENCOURAGED BECAUSE I AM A CHOSEN GENERATION, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A PART OF A HOLY NATION, GOD'S OWN SPECIAL PEOPLE THAT I MAY PROCLAIM THE PRAISES OF HIM WHO CALLED ME OUT OF DARKNESS INTO HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT

EMPOWERMENT-II TIMOTHY 1:7

I AM EMPOWERED, BECAUSE GOD HAS NOT GIVEN ME A SPIRIT OF FEAR, BUT OF POWER, LOVE, AND A SOUND MIND



@CANAANBC_NEXTG

**“Enter into His gates with Thanksgiving, and
into His courts with praise.”
~Psalm 100:4 (KJV)**



October & November **Recap**



HOLYWEEN



GATHER & GIVE THANKS



See everyone in December for Noah!

*Friendly
Reminder for all Attending!*

Next G Ministry
NOAH'S ARK:
A THEATRICAL JOURNEY



Tuesday, December 30, 2025

Sight and Sound Theater

*Departing promptly at 9:00 a.m. from Canaan Baptist Church
Show begins at 11:00 a.m.*

*Enjoy the ride!
We'll have light
refreshments on
board.*

*The fun continues—
after the show, we'll
make a stop for a
late lunch!*

*Experience the breathtaking performance of Noah's Ark. This
spectacular show will take you on an unforgettable journey filled
with music, dance, and storytelling!*

Rev. Dr. John Bailey Evangelism Ministry
Deacon Shebra Stafford, Ministry Leader

Evangelism Ministry Outreach Event – It is a blessing to greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. On Saturday, November 8, 2025, the Canaan Baptist Church Evangelism Outreach Ministry blessed the community with a clothes giveaway. Our theme was "Christ and Clothes for All of God's People" Mathew 25:14-30

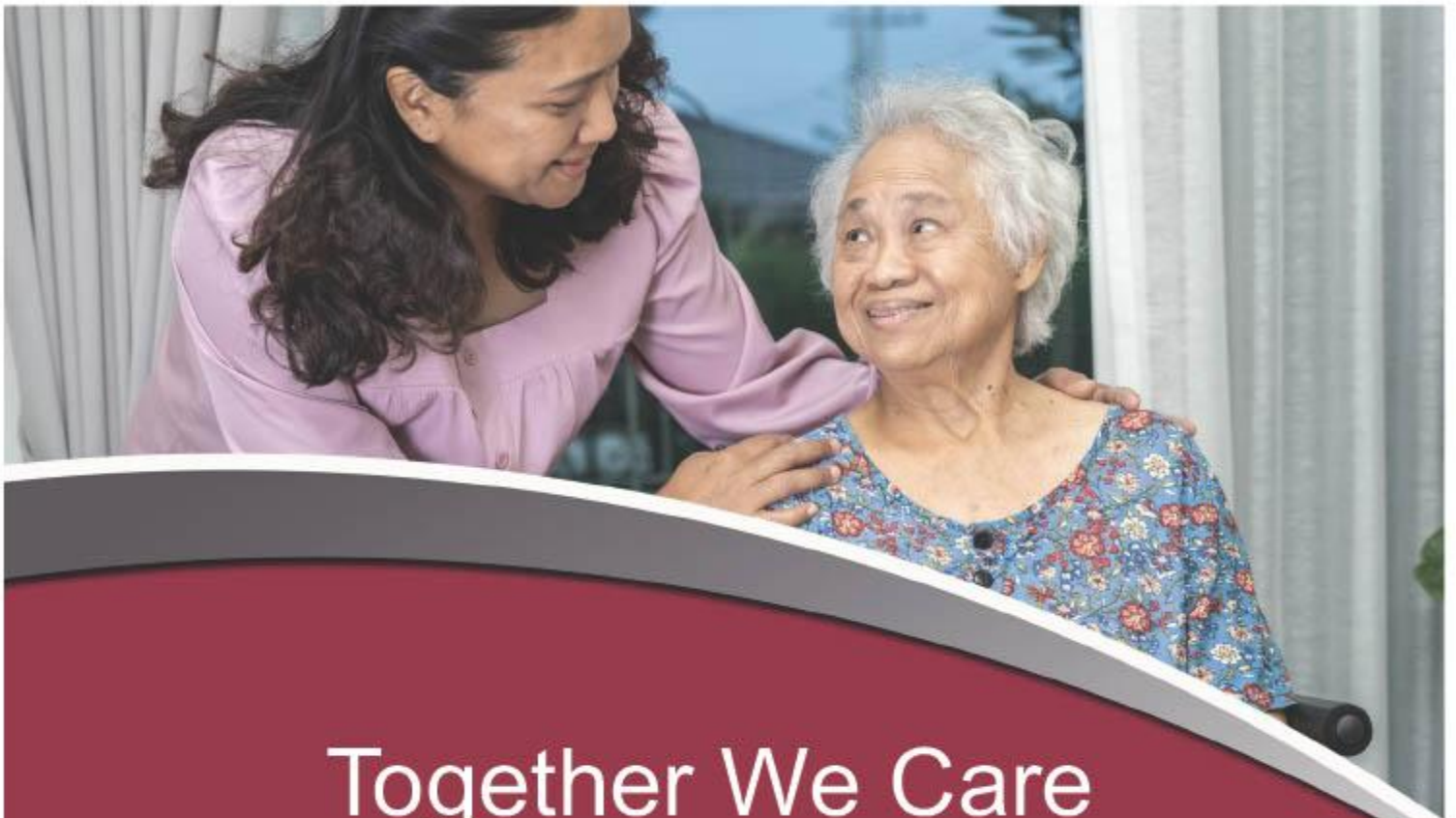
This event took place in Canaan's parking lot, where the Holy Spirit showed up and showed out! Through the generosity of Canaan's members and friends, over 400 bags of clean, new, and gently used clothes were taken. Over 350 pairs of shoes were given away. Thanks to the culinary skills of Brother Kenny Screven and Staff. 350 saints dined on sandwiches, savory chili beef, and chicken or bean soup.

I pray God's peace and blessings over all who donated and all who volunteered their time and energy. My heart is full of love and gratitude to God for his bounty, to Pastor Bullock and Dr. Debbie for their unwavering support, and to all who prayed for the success of this endeavor.

Rev. Dr. John Bailey Evangelism Ministry wants to thank every Ministry in Canaan Baptist Church that donated clothing, gave of their time to come out and help make this event for the people of God.

God Bless all of you. Doing work for the Master,





Together We Care

Canaan Baptist Church, alongside Easterseals Delaware & Maryland's Eastern Shore, will be offering a respite program tailored to provide relief to caregivers & a nurturing environment for those with dementia, Alzheimer's, & Parkinson's.

When: Second and Fourth Mondays, beginning March 9, 2026

Time: 9 am - 1 pm at



Canaan Baptist Church



3011 New Castle Ave, New Castle, DE

Rev. Dr. Christopher Alan Bullock, Pastor

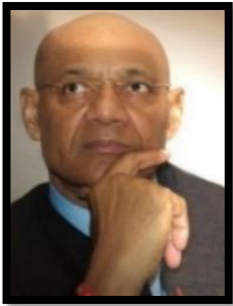


To learn more about
volunteering or participating,
contact: Patricia Risher
pjrisher@verizon.net

*Partially funded through the state Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities through the National Family Caregiver Support Program, Title IX of the Older Americans Act

CANAAN OVERCOMERS OUTREACH MINISTRY

Rev. Robert Daniels, Ministry Leader



During the months of September through November, The Overcomers Ministry celebrated three anniversaries--14 years, 25 years, and 35 years, Congratulations!

Our main subject is based on how effective our facilitators are when it comes to reacting to an individual who may have an overdose on some type of Opioids. These opioids affect the brain by binding to and activating the opioid receptors on cells that are located throughout the brain. Because they bind to the receptors that are involved in the feelings of pain and pleasure, opioids can block pain sign. Naloxone (Narcan) is a medication that can reverse an overdose from opioids including fentanyl. Keeping this medication on hand could mean the difference between life and death. Here's an example:

On October 16, 2025, a female client came to Canaan Baptist Church in need of assistance, hoping to get a hotel voucher. During our conversation, I noticed her going in and out, nodding. It appeared that she had been using some type of narcotic--opioid, heroin, Percocet, or fentanyl. These illegal substances are categorized as semi-synthetic, or synthetic based on their origin. I asked her if she had ever used opioids. She stated that she was just tired, needing a place to stay for the night. As I continued to gently shake her, I noticed her pupils were constricted, getting smaller, her body was limp, it was hard to wake her up. She was unable to speak. I didn't detect any smell of alcohol or marijuana, nevertheless, I decided to take her to the hospital. All the signs pointed to emergency care.

On our way to Christiana Care Wilmington Hospital on 14th Street, I pulled over on 3rd and Walnut Street, parked my vehicle, pulled out two Naloxone (Narcan) sprays that contain 4mg of naloxone hydrochloride, got the attention of an

adult male who was talking on his phone, I called out to him, "Call 911! Call 911! I have a young lady that's on the brink of losing her life!" Her body had gone limp in the back seat of my vehicle.

Here we can see that the drugs are having a negative impact, spiritually, emotionally, mentally, and financially. They may be adversely affecting marriage, family life, or career. If the desire to obtain and use opioids is consuming your thoughts or you are planning your life and activities around them, these are signs that you need to seek help. Addicts have a disease, an addictive personality, and a genetic predisposition to chemical dependence. The truth is that anyone can become addicted to a substance. Ed Welch states in his book, "Addictions: A Banquet in the Grave", "The Biblical View of Drunkenness – the prototype of all addictions – is that it is always called sin, never sickness. Drunkenness is against God and his law."

As with any addiction, at its root is a heart issue. Consider what you are willing to do or say to obtain the drug. Are you willing to sin by lying, cheating, stealing or by threatening and manipulating others? Because addiction is a moral problem, a worship disorder, it relies on the Word of God to address the sinful desires of the heart. Ephesians 5:18 says, "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit..."

As I gently reached for her, trying to wake her up, still unable to speak, I used one 4mg. N.N.S], in the left nostril, I waited between 3-5 minutes; while waiting for her to respond from the spray, I asked the adult male if the paramedics were on their way. He said yes. She had a pulse, still no response. I immediately gave her a second dose of naloxone (Narcan). Five minutes later, the paramedics arrived, and at that same time, she came to herself. After the paramedics finished questioning her to find out if she was aware of her surroundings, they suggested that she come with them for a thorough evaluation. She agreed to their suggestion--Mission Accomplished!

Therapy: Uncovering what you may or may not know about how alcohol and drugs have a profound effect on a family member's mental,

physical spiritual, emotional, and financial state of mind.

Twelve-Step Facilitation Therapy focuses on the clinical as well as the spiritual. Ephesians 5:18 says, “And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the spirit. (KJV).

It’s no accident that alcoholic beverages are often called “spirits.” Why? Because the feeling many people want alcohol to give them is ultimately spiritual, joy, freedom, serenity, contentment. But as we know, the way to find that feeling is to be filled not with “spirits,” but with the Holy Spirit of God. (Life Connection)

What are opioids? Opioids are a class of drugs that includes prescription pain relievers such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine, morphine, and fentanyl. Naturally found in the opium poppy plant, these natural or synthetic drugs are chemically related to the illegal drug, heroin.

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) is the use of medication in combination with behavioral counseling to treat opioid addiction. There are three drugs approved by the FDA for the treatment of opioid dependence: buprenorphine, methadone, and naltrexone. These drugs, considered to be “essential medicines” by the World Health Organization (WHO) or the treatment of Opioid Use Disorder, must be prescribed by and under the supervision of a physician.

Please be mindful that these are real life situations

Sister Tojuana Green

After 3 months of training, I became a Certified Narcan Trainer with Canaan Baptist Church’s Substance Abuse Ministry for Project (M.O.O.D) Multicultural Opioid Outreach, Delivery. Shortly thereafter, I had my first experience of saving a life while on the job. I was working the midnight shift at the Riverfront when I noticed a man wobbling and bent over. While someone was trying to assist him, his breathing became irregular, hard, and deep. I instantly remembered putting Narcan kits in my locker. Upon returning, I could see the signs that he had overdosed. My

training skills immediately took over, and I followed the instructions I had learned, including dialing 911 to notify them of an overdose. As he came to consciousness, thanks to my assistance, the first responders arrived and took over the situation. Before they took him to the hospital, I provided him with information on available services and resources to help him get assistance. Thank you, Canaan, for preparing us as Certified Narcan Trainers to “Impact the human condition” (Luke 4:18-19)

Addiction from the World’s Perspective

“Many people don’t understand why or how other people become addicted to drugs. They may mistakenly think that those who use drugs lack moral principles or willpower and that they could stop their drug use simply by choosing to. Drug addiction is a complex disease, and quitting takes more than good intentions or a strong will.” Our society claims that addiction is a physical disease. According to Wikipedia, addiction is “a brain disorder characterized by compulsive engagement in rewarding stimuli despite adverse consequences.”

These are real life situations:

Sister Edwina Bell

As a recovering person in the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous for 35+ years, I never imagined that God would prepare me to help others in unexpected ways. Having a podcast and a TV talk show, “Choosing A New Way of Life,” I never know who was watching. On one episode, I received a call, while on the air, from a person wanting to commit suicide because he couldn’t stop using drugs. He said he was on the floor tossing and turning, not knowing what to do; Note: Withdrawal signs include bodily discomfort, pain, sweating, intestinal distress, vomiting, muscle aches, depression, and anxiety, accompanied by intense cravings for the drug.

Did you know that Opioids sedate the respiratory system and carry with them a high risk of overdose that can lead to death. When he saw me on the television screen talking about how I overcame my addiction. He began to listen to what I was saying and felt it was a message from God that there is hope. He then called the station

to ask to speak to me. The control room notified me of the situation, and I immediately went to break. I listened to what the young man had to say. I told him to hold on until I got there. Through God's grace and mercy, the young man was still alive and agreed to get help, saying to me, "If he did it for you, I believe he can do it for me!" I told him about AA and Canaan Baptist Church's Substance Abuse Ministry. He has been drug-free for 5 months!

Twelve-Step Facilitation Therapy includes support groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous. Twelve-step programs teach that alcoholism and addiction are chronic, progressive diseases. The substance abuser acknowledges that life has become out of control due to their drug use, accepts that willpower alone is not enough to overcome their need for the substance, and is willing to surrender to a higher power in order to remain abstinent from it. Active involvement in the 12-step meetings and accountability to their sponsor

The Canaan Overcomers Outreach Ministry will continue to seek out the rich, the poor, the sick, the lame, the good, the bad, the addict, the alcoholic, regardless of their ethnicity. We will help them to become mentally sound, physically well, emotionally adjusted, and spiritually alive. It is our mission to go ye therefore, doing Ministry for the Master. Be encouraged!

INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL MINISTRY

Sis. Jennifer Grace-Umoete
Ministry Leader



ICM would like to wish each and every one a Merry Christmas and Happy Kwanzaa. Remember to keep the faith, give thanks and be grateful for the coming new year. We also wish you and your family a **Happy Kwanzaa**, an

annual celebration of African American culture held from December 26th to January 1st, culminating in a communal feast called Karamu,

held on the 6th day. Kwanzaa is an African American and Pan-African holiday, created in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga and was first celebrated in 1966 with seven (7) principles to follow each day.



These principles are represented by the lighting of a candle each day:

Umoja (oo-MOH-jah): Unity.

Kujichagulia (koo-jee-chah-goo-LEE-ah): Self-Determination.

Ujima (oo-JEE-mah): Collective work and Responsibility.

Ujamaa (oo-jah-MAH): Collective Economics.

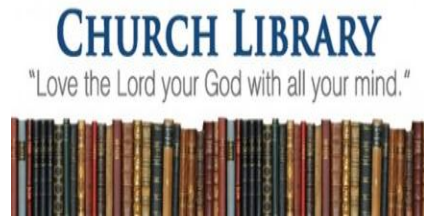
Nia (NEE-ah): Purpose.

Kuumba (koo-OOM-bah): Creativity.

Imani (ee-MAH-nee): Faith.

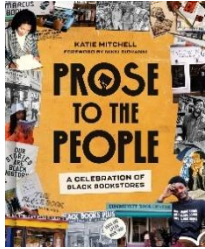
Next G, Youth and Young Adult Ministry and ICM will light the Kwanzaa candles on Sunday, December 28, 9:40 AM, and, do wear your traditional clothing as we celebrate this African tradition.





Deacon Alix Jefferson
Ministry Leader

Prose to the People: A Celebration of Black Bookstores by Katie Mitchell



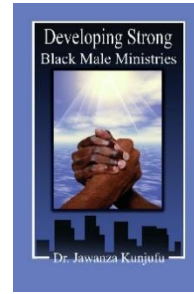
Black literature is perhaps the most powerful, polarizing force in the modern American zeitgeist. Today—as Black novels draw authoritarian ire, as Black memoirs shape public debates, as Black polemics inspire protest petitions—it’s more important than ever to highlight the places that center these stories: Black bookstores.

Traversing teeming metropolises and tiny towns, *Prose to the People* explores these spaces, chronicling these Black bookstore's past and present lives. Combining narrative prose, eye-catching photography, one-on-one interviews, original essays, and specially curated poetry, *Prose to the People* is a reader’s road trip companion to the world of Black books.

Thoughtfully curated by writer and Black bookstore owner Katie Mitchell, *Prose to the People* is a must-have addition to the shelves of anyone who loves book culture and Black history. Though not a definitive guide, this dynamic book centers profiles of over fifty Black bookstores from the Northeast to the mid-Atlantic, the South, and the West Coast, complete with stunning original and archival photography.

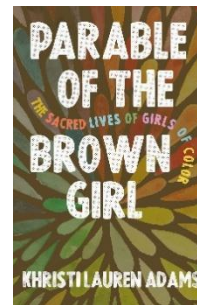
Interspersed throughout are essays, poems, and interviews by New York Times bestsellers Kiese Laymon, Rio Cortez, Pearl Cleage, and many more journalists, activists, authors, academics, and poets that offer deeper perspectives on these bookstores' role throughout the diaspora. Complete with a foreword by world-renowned poet and activist Nikki Giovanni, *Prose to the People* is a beautiful tribute to these vital pillars of the Black community.

Developing Strong Black Male Ministries by Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu



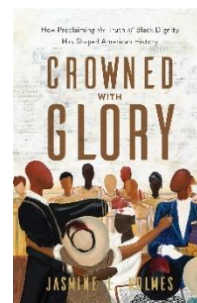
Concrete solutions to real-world problems are discussed in this guidebook for church officers on how to increase the involvement of African American males in the ministry. From drugs and prison to health and homosexuality, this treatise investigates the needs and trends of African American males, the steps the church has taken to address these issues, and modern troubles relating to involvement in the church.

Parable of the Brown Girl: The Sacred Lives of Girls of Color by Khristi Lauren Adams



The stories of girls of color are often overlooked, unseen, and ignored rather than valued and heard. In *Parable of the Brown Girl*, minister and youth advocate Khristi Lauren Adams introduces readers to the resilience, struggle, and hope held within these stories. Instead of relegating these young women of color to the margins, Adams brings their stories front and center where they belong. By sharing encounters she's had with girls of color that revealed profound cultural and theological truths, Adams magnifies the struggles, dreams, wisdom, and dignity of these voices. Thought-provoking and inspirational, *Parable of the Brown Girl* is a powerful example of how God uses the narratives we most often ignore to teach us the most important lessons in life. It's time to pay attention.

Crowned with Glory by Jasmine L. Holmes



America was founded on the concept of the innate and inalienable rights of humankind. Many Christians see an echo of the imago Dei—that every human being carries the image of God--within those ideals. Yet these rights were systemically withheld from the Black and

enslaved residents of this country for centuries. Through it all, Black people have proclaimed the truth of their dignity and personhood in powerful and profound ways.

Crowned with Glory collects many of the writings of these men and women, both familiar and lesser known, to shine a light on what has always been there: an enormous movement of Black Americans demanding the liberty they were promised and deserved. With moving and insightful reflections on these oft forgotten or suppressed voices, author Jasmine L. Holmes offers a hopeful and encouraging testament to the power of unrelenting cries for justice that will strike a chord with anyone looking for a robust Christian history of resistance.

If you want to understand how we got here, read this book. If you want to know where we go from here, read it again.

CANAAN –ATLANTA CONNECTION

Sis. Lynnette Hudson



Let's have some fun learning more about the Bible. Every month, we will provide a "Did You Know" and a few bible trivia questions. The answers will be provided the following month. These questions will allow you to learn more about the Bible and help us all grow

in our faith and walk with Jesus.

Did You Know--The word "if" is used over 1,600 times in the Bible.

Bible Trivia:

How well did you do with November's Trivia? Below are the verses and answers:

1. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your _____: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise.
 - Salvation (Ephesians 1:13)

2. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of _____, to give you an expected end.
 - Evil (Jeremiah 29:11)
3. And be not conformed to this _____: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable and perfect, will of God.
 - World (Romans 12:2)
4. Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of _____, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.
 - Witnesses (Hebrews 12:1)
5. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a _____ received him out of their sight.
 - Cloud (Acts 1:9)

December Bible Trivia: Key Verses

(Fill in the missing word and provide the correct verse)

1. There is one God, and one _____ between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.
2. These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have _____ the world.
3. If ye then be risen with _____, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
4. And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, _____ preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.
5. Lay not up for yourselves _____ upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal.



Canaan Business Network Directory

Category	Name	Business Name	Email	Phone
Beauty	Tesha McDonald	Alternatives Beauty School	Director@AlternativesBeautySchool.com	302-468-6609
Beauty	Betty Mitchell	Mary Kay Cosmetics	bettymitchell45@gmail.com	302-521-7540
Beauty	Judy Sullivan	Nonny's Shea Butters	Naturalskincare24@gmail.com	973-885-3889
Books	Dr. Carol B. Amos		carol1de@aol.com	610-999-5221
Books	Dr. Christopher Alan Bullock	A Charge to Keep	DrDebBullock@outlook.com	302-654-8818
Books	Dr. Debbie Strickling-Bullock	It's All Good: Every Round Goes Higher	DrDebBullock@outlook.com	302-750-4761
Caregiving	Dominic Fisher	Silver Foxx LLC	Silverfoxxllc5@gmail.com	302-723-3902
Caregiving	Tracy Fisher	Silver Foxx LLC	Silverfoxxllc5@gmail.com	302-281-9496
Cleaning Services	Jimmy Porter	Jimmy's Pro Cleaning	Jimmysprocleaning426@gmail.com	302-377-9923
Commercial				
Clothing	Beverly Grant	Free Me Fashions	freemefashions@gmail.com	302-622-5308
Clothing	Beverly McKinney	Applause Fashions	applausef@gmail.com	302-897-6422
Communications	Edwina Bell	Community Communication Corp.	edwina_bell@yahoo.com	302-690-6679
Consulting	Ajawavi Ajavon	Ajaven Consulting Group	ajavonconsultinggroup@gmail.com	302-416-0205
Consulting	Kim Jennings	Sharpe Turns LLC	kjennings.sharpe@gmail.com	484-361-2413
Event Planning	Jilmita Brown	ShayCee Enterprises	Jilmita313@gmail.com	252-219-5463
Event Planning	Leslie A. McClendon		lcp64tan@gmail.com	302-304-6348
Event Planning	Adrienne Stansbury	Enigma2Designs	aljohns1122@gmail.com	302-229-9053
Funeral Services	Evan Smith	Evan W Smith Funeral Services	esmith@evanwsmithfuneralservices.com	302-377-6906
Photography	Derek Edwards	DWE Photographer	dwardwards1899@gmail.com	302-494-3393
Videography				302-762-3607
Real Estate	Kudakwashe Katanha	EXP Realty	kudakwashekatanha@yahoo.com	302-465-7984
Real Estate	Charna Parler-Porter	RE/MAX Associates	cprealtyfox@remax.com	302-437-5764
Real Estate	Rhonda Ruffin	Century 21- Gold Key Realty	rhondaruffin@c21gk.com	302-538-0939
Real Estate	Lynette Scott	Presto Realty/Owner	lynettescott1@gmail.com	302-530-6928
Retail – Clothing	Beverly Grant	Free Me Fashion	Freemefashions@gmail.com	302-622-5308
Retail – Food	Arlene Brokenbrough	Chocolate-My-Pretzels	arleneb612@gmail.com	302-312-5319
Retail – Specialty Items	Linda Wells	Penny Creations	lindawells354@yahoo.com	267-349-0483
Therapy	Joseph Blue	Black Men Embracing Feelings	joseph.blue@blackmenembracingfeelings.com	

CANAAN BUSINESS NETWORK

Sis. Lynette Scott, Ministry Leader

Featured Entrepreneurs

Tis The Season by K.J. Sharpe



*John 3:16a-For God so loved the world, **he gave...***

When we think of the holiday season, we imagine a bountiful Thanksgiving with food and family, Christmas as the “season to be jolly”, and new

beginnings for the New Year. We deck the halls, confess “Jesus is the reason for the season”, and make resolutions to be better in some way than we were last year.

The Bible says in John 3:16 that “God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son.” It’s a verse we’ve memorized in its entirety since we were young children in Sunday school. We repeat it so easily that we often miss the gravity of that first sentence. Do you know what it’s like to give up the only precious thing of value, that one-of-a-kind, irreplaceable thing to strangers so their lives can be enriched? Have you ever done that? Done it without regret? Without checking to see if the person took care of the gift you gave. For God so loved the world, he gave.

The Christ child came into the world on a dark night, his parents likely anxious and exhausted from travel and the political and social pressures brought about by Caesar Augustus’ tax audit. Unhoused, they landed in Bethlehem, a small remote town known for its agriculture and shepherding. There, in a cave, at around 15 years old, Mary gave birth to her first-born son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in his first crib, a trough used to feed horses and cattle. It wasn’t a holiday for baby Jesus and his family.

When I was three years old, I lost my father on Thanksgiving Day. With that loss came decades of undiagnosed depression. I powered through for years, contemplating and planning suicide at ages 13, 16, 25, and 39 before seeing a therapist at 40. She told me I’d be fine because I had the right

tools. I was smart, strategic, a black woman. I could handle it. In the ten years following, I lost my bonus father, my best friend, my younger brother (who I called my twin because he was born on my birthday six years after me), and, lastly, my first-born son. I knew the scripture, “For God so loved the world he gave”, but I felt like God had taken everything I loved and valued. The whole world looked dark to me. Religion couldn’t reach me. I couldn’t find the words or a reason to pray. I had been a worshipper but the sound of music hurt like a knife cutting into my brain. I hated it. Holidays were insufferable, agonizing reminders that the people I loved were gone. Forever.

For God so loved the world, he gave. The town of Bethlehem, though small, was known as the “House of Bread”, a place where people the world over came for sustenance. As Jesus lay in his makeshift crib, a brilliant star led three wealthy wise men to his side, presenting him and his family with expensive gifts. Frankincense-representing divinity, myrrh-symbolic of suffering, and gold -representing both kingship and divinity. These gifts, all used in worship and in ancient worship rituals, helped Jesus’ family properly care for him as he grew to manhood. God led Jesus’ parents to a place where they could receive sustenance even in the dark.

Once upon a time, we were all estranged from God. He sent his greatest gift, Jesus, to redeem us back to himself. Jesus didn’t come at a perfect time, place, or in a perfect way. He came in the dark, and when we are in the dark, He sees us. You may feel alone, but God hasn’t abandoned you. If you are exhausted and anxious from the pressure and grief that life continually brings, he will send men and women for your life to pull you out of the dark places, to pray for you, to sit quietly with you in your distress, to carry you through the darkness until you can see light. He did that for me and, since God is no respecter of persons, I know he can and will do it for you.

God has given everyone gifts. What gifts are you planning to offer the world in this season? Consider giving the gifts of compassion, grace, love, and commitment. Give someone a hug who really needs it. Sit with someone who’s hurting

without offering religious platitudes that make you feel better. Go to a nursing home or rehab facility and visit a stranger who may have no one. Create happy moments for a child, stand up for someone who needs an advocate, cook a meal or serve someone who is hungry. Give aid to the homeless. Be present and intentional in your giving. The Magi was directed by a star. You can **be** the light. God so loved the world he gave his best and he expects the same from his children.

Nonny's Shea Butters LLC was established in January 2019. I make 12 blends of all-natural shea butter. My blends contain Raw Shea Butter, almond, coconut, jojoba, and essential oils.



Minister Miller, who was the Minister for the Canaan Business ministry, introduced me to SBA, SBEC, Black

women in business, DEBCC, and Del One. I also enrolled in The Launcher Program, a 12-week program that helped me develop a strong business plan, provided an attorney, an accountant, and helped me prepare for loan applications. They also perfected my website:
www.nonnyssheabutters.store.

The Launcher community continues to advise and provide me with resources for the growth of my business.

I started my business as a Sole Entrepreneur. My company was established as a small business. To grow to the next level, I need to expand my vision. I market my products to women online, at farmers' markets, and at vendor events. Men, women, and children use my all-natural products for the moisturizing and healing effects of Nonny's Shea Butters.

I advise all new business owners to obtain a license, write a business plan, research their market, hire an advisor, select a bookkeeping system, and refrain from taking out loans until

they are comfortable with the direction their business is heading.

This is the Bible Verse that has guided me through this process.

"He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake." Psalms 23:3



To Deacon Shebra Stafford,
 Thank you for your kindness you gave to my boys, Marvlous and Joseph. Your kindness will never be forgotten. The coats came right on time. Thanks again, Love,
Rachel, Marvlous and Joseph Usifo

With all our thanks, we want you to know that we are grateful for your kind and considerate way and we thank you for being so special. It means more than we could ever say.

Charlotte Washington and the Berry Family

To the beautiful Women of the Deacons Ministry,
THANK YOU SO MUCH! I love you!
Arvis Strickling-Jones

Pastor Bullock, our family was simply overwhelmed with joy today. Canaan Baptist Church came through at all levels, and we so appreciate the church, the leaders, and all that enlightened our heavy hearts. You spoke about the impact our nephew had on all in attendance, those that sent messages through phone calls, registered memories online in his obituary, the catered libations by you, Kenny, and the professionalism presented by our hospitality servers. The sextons, ushers, ministerial staff, deacons, missionaries, and just everyone who witnessed the visible "impact" of Matthew Derek Holden are to be commended for whatever parts they contributed to in his 39 wonderful years of life. I received so many thank you notes from the family that I could only respond with "it was a pleasure to offer them our best." We truly impacted the human condition. Now everyone is willing to remember Matt by planting trees, flowers, and just paying more attention to the stars, the oceans, and all of our Creator's beauty. They'll find Matt's heart when they do. Thank you. We love you all.

The Holden Family

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our Pastor, our Executive Pastor, and our entire congregation for so thoughtfully acknowledging the Canaan Baptist Church clergy for Clergy Appreciation Month. Your words of encouragement, your prayers, and your support mean more than we can express. Serving in ministry is a blessing and knowing that we are supported and appreciated strengthens and inspires us to continue the work God has called us to do. Thank you for honoring us with such kindness and love. May God continue to bless our church family as we grow together in faith, service, and in unity.

Canaan Baptist Church Ministerial Staff

Pastor Bullock, I want to thank all of my Canaan family for your prayers and kindness. I was so happy that the deacons came to see me. I have been sick for seven months; now I can say that God had His hands on me. I am so much better. I know that prayer changes things. I really love Jesus and I love you all.

Sis. Brenda Clarke

Pastor Bullock, Dr. Debbie and Canaan Family, my cup is filled to overflowing as I reflect on the love you have shown to me, my family and friends at the passing of my husband, Steven B. Ruffin. Everyone who took part in serving us did so with compassion and excellence. From our very first conversation, Dr. Arvis Strickling-Jones connected with me personally, giving me peace that Canaan was with me throughout the planning and execution of my husband's homegoing service. Every member of Canaan served with compassion and excellence from the security, sextons, ushers, greeters, media, hospitality and music ministries. My family and friends felt welcomed and cared for. Pastor Bullock, I and my loved ones were encouraged and built up by your words of eulogy. I would like to especially thank you for the way you made my Muslim niece feel welcomed. She had not attended a Christian funeral service since her mother died 18 years ago. I'm sure she expected to feel uncomfortable. You made the difference. Thank you. Canaan is surely doing the work of the Master. I'm so glad God led me here. As God continues to build His church here, I look forward to being a part of that work. Sincerely,

Rhonda L. Ruffin

I am **Zion Smith**. I reside in Hampton, Virginia. I am 18 years old. I was shot six times two weeks ago. I've learned "God works in mysterious ways." How can I thank you when I do not know who you are? How can you be so kind to me when we do not have a relationship? God used my Aunt **Rev. Fae Robinson** to appeal to your kindness to connect with me. As I lay in my bed and reflect upon being shot, my eyes gaze upon the birthday cards, the get-well cards, the flowers, the get-well balloons plus the monetary gifts, I thank God and thank you. Even though I have knee pain, I can move my legs; although my back is broken, I can still sit up with a back brace. Although my lungs collapsed, I can breathe. Your prayers have brought me healing, uplifted me and helped me to push through. I, Zion Smith, am so grateful to Canaan's Missionary Ministry and Rev. Bullock for your prayers. Thanks again and again, your prayers have **STRENGTHENED ME DURING MY DARK DAYS**. Please continue to pray for me.



Remember *in* Prayer

Ms. Donna Acey
Sexton Dwayne Adams
Bro. Arthur and Sis. Felicia Allen
Sis. Sharon Alston
Bro. Malcolm Brittingham
Sis. Dywanna Broadnax
Mr. Tommy Brown Jr.
Sis. Alfreda Hope Brunson
Sis. Viola Brunson
Sis. Eve-Lynn Butts
Mr. Carlise Clark
Mr. Shawn Coleman
Sis. Iris Craighead
Sis. Terry Daniels
Darlene Devore
Sis. Sherry Douglas
Bro. Keith Drafts
Elder Juneta Dutch
Sis. Shereen Fields
Mrs. Erika Fitzgerald
Sharone Foster and family
Ms. Renee Geddes
Sis. Nettie Gates
Bro. James Gulley
Bro. Ronald Gumby
Sis. Connie Harris
Sis. Retha Hunter
Sis. Dorothy Jackson
Sis. Louise Jamison
Sis. Jocelyn Johnson
Deacon Mike and Sis. Arvis Jones
Mr. Howard and Sandra Jones
Mr. Munir Jones
Dr. Anna Krishnappa

Bro. Troy Lopez
Bro. Moses and Sis. Inez Malloy
Bro. Kenneth Mathis
Sis. Patricia Mathis
Bro. Kevin McDaniels
Felicia Melchor
Mrs. Doris Miller
Mother Blanche Moore
Deacon Brenda Moreland
Sis. Phaedra Oates
Sis. Juanita Owen
Deacon Richard Ross
Sis. Virginia Ross
Mr. Lamar Russell
Bro. Donald Ryle
Ms. Jean Sanders
Mr. Tom Schumpert
Sis. Pamela Scott
Bro. Todd Small
Sis. Donna Smalls
Sis. Pat Hurley
Mrs. Francis Smith
Bro. Irvin Smith
Mr. Zion Smity
Bro. Joseph Stallings
Sis. Mary Stewart
Mother Ann Strickling
Sis. Vivienne Taylor
Sis. Sandra Turner
Mrs. Margaret Upshur
Marcos Villanueva
Sis. Elaine Wescott
Sis. Carolyn Williams
Sis. Earlene Williams
Sis. Bettye and Bro. Arthur Williams
Sis. Idel Wilson
Mrs. Lillie Winkler



Sgt. Vincent Darryl Hall, Sr., passed away on Wednesday, November 19, 2025. He is the brother of Sis. Rochelle H. Bellmon. Cards and condolences can be sent to: Rochelle H. Bellmon, 22 Pendleton Court, Jefferson Farms, New Castle, DE 19720.

Mr. Matthew Derek Holden, age 39, passed away. He is the nephew of Deacon Dwight (Vicki) Holden and Bro. David (Monica) Holden. Cards and condolences can be sent to: Dwight and Vicki Holden, 2912 Monroe Street, Wilmington, DE 19802.

Our Canaan member, **Sis. Iverette Stallings-Brock**, age 67, passed away. She is the sister of Sis. Phaedra Oates, and the niece of Bro. Joseph Stallings. Funeral services will be held at Canaan Baptist Church on Monday, January 5, 2026. Viewing at 9:00 AM, Service at 11:00 AM. Burial is private. A repast will be held in the Hall of Faith immediately following the funeral service. Cards and condolences may be sent to: Sis. Phaedra Oates, c/o Canaan Baptist Church, 3011 New Castle Avenue, New Castle, DE 19977.

Ms. Susie McLean passed away on December 4, 2025. She is the sister of our Canaan member, Sis. Rose Green. Funeral services will be held on Friday, December 12, 2025, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 40 Old Newark Road, Newark, DE 19713. Viewing at 9:00 AM; Service at 11:00 AM. Cards and condolences may be sent to: Sis. Rose Green, 319 - 8th Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19805.

Sis. Juanita (JC) Corbett passed away. She is the cousin of our members, Sis. Janie Abram, Bro. Anthony (Melanie) Abram, Bro. Josiah Price, Sis. Sakiyna Price, and Sis. Connie Abram. Cards and condolences can be sent to: Sis. Janie Abram, 215 Werden Drive, New Castle, DE 19720.

In the event of the death of a Canaan member or family member, please call:

The Church Office - (302) 654-8818

Pastor Bullock - (302) 654-8240

Deacon James Bonds

(484) 678-2276

E-mail james007sbonds@gmail.com





EVAN W. SMITH
Funeral Services

Wilmington (302) 377-6906 | Dover (302) 526-4662 | www.ewsmithfs.com

**** * Exclusive Canaan Baptist Church Membership Pricing* ****

**Option 1 - The Faith Package (25% Savings)
Traditional Funeral: \$8,995**

Professional Services

- Compassionate guidance and coordination by licensed funeral directors and staff
- Administrative and planning assistance for all funeral arrangements

Preparation of the Deceased

- Professional embalming and restoration
- Dressing, casketing, and cosmetology services

Funeral Service

- Use of church sanctuary for funeral services
- Coordination with Canaan clergy and staff
- Floral arrangement: Basic Casket Spray
- Register book for family and guests

Transportation

- Removal and transportation from place of death within a 25-mile radius
- Use of Hearse for transfer to church/cemetery
- One family limousine

Memorial Materials

- 100 Custom printed funeral programs
- Custom memorial portrait

Documentation

- Official filing of death certificate
- One (1) certified copy of the death certificate

Casket Selection

- Steel Sealer Casket (within package line)

**Option 2 - The Grace Package (25% Savings)
Traditional Funeral with Cremation: \$7,595**

Professional Services

- Compassionate guidance and coordination by licensed funeral directors and staff
- Administrative and planning assistance for all funeral arrangements

Preparation of the Deceased

- Professional embalming and restoration
- Dressing, casketing, and cosmetology services

Funeral Service

- Use of church sanctuary for funeral services
- Coordination with Canaan clergy and staff
- Floral arrangement: Basic Casket Spray
- Register book for family and guests

Transportation

- Removal and transportation from place of death within a 25-mile radius
- Use of Hearse for transfer to church/crematory
- One family limousine

Memorial Materials

- 100 Custom Printed Funeral Programs
- Custom memorial portrait

Documentation

- Official filing of death certificate
- One (1) certified copy of the death certificate

Casket Selection

- Rental Casket provided for the service

Cremation

- Direct cremation and basic metal urn

**Option 3 - The Hope Package (10% savings)
Cremation: \$2,695**

Professional Services

- Compassionate guidance and coordination by licensed funeral directors and staff

Documentation

- Official filing of death certificate
- One (1) certified copy of the death certificate

Cremation

- Direct cremation and basic metal urn (no viewing, visitation, or funeral services included)

Eligibility for Options 1, 2, and 3 is limited to Legacy and Active Members of Canaan Baptist Church.

NOTE: Cash advance items such as cemetery fees, clergy honorariums, additional death certificates, obituary notices, repast, and other third-party expenses are not included in discounted package pricing. To learn more about funeral service options designed exclusively for members of Canaan Baptist Church, or to make pre-need arrangements, please contact Evan W. Smith Funeral Services today. A compassionate representative is available to provide guidance, answer questions, and assist in planning with care and dignity.

*"Let all things be done decently and in order."
- 1 Corinthians 14:40*

DDJB Angel Tree Ministry

Please return gift/toy no later than 12/12



PRISON FELLOWSHIP
ANGEL TREE



Share God's love this Christmas



SCAN ME

Canaan Baptist Church

3011 New Castle Avenue | New Castle, DE 19720 | 302.654.8818

Rev. Dr. Christopher A. Bullock, Pastor

Dr. Nakishia W. Bailey, Ministry Leader

JOIN OUR TEAM

Now hiring for part-time
bus drivers (CSW IV) at
Ab Jones Senior Center.
CDL required. Salary
\$17.36-\$21.11/hour.

APPLY BY DECEMBER 18, 2025 AT
[GOVERNMENTJOBS.COM/CAREERS/NCCDE](https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/nccde)



December BIRTHDAYS



Evan W. Smith
December 1



Thelma Patrick
December 4
80 Years



Carol Overton
December 4



Dwayne Adams
December 7



Deborah Showell
December 10



Tabetha Boyd
December 11



Jennifer Grace-Umoete
December 13



Patricia Reid
December 15



Brenda James
December 16



Edwina Bell
December 16
70 Years



Miles Wilson
December 18



Deborah Miller Johnson
December 20



Deacon Sylvia Bailey
December 25 - 81 Years



Carolyn Green
December 26



Iris Craighead
December 27



Rev. Dr.
Linda Green Gumby
December 31



Michael and Sandra Dupree
Celebrate their 4th
Wedding Anniversary on December 12



CHRISTMAS REMINDERS

**May the Christmas presents remind you
Of God's greatest gift—His Only Begotten Son.**

**May the Christmas candles remind you
Of Him who is the light of the world.**

**May the Christmas tree remind you
Of another tree on which He died for you.**

**May the Christmas cheer remind you
Of Him who said, "Be of good cheer."**

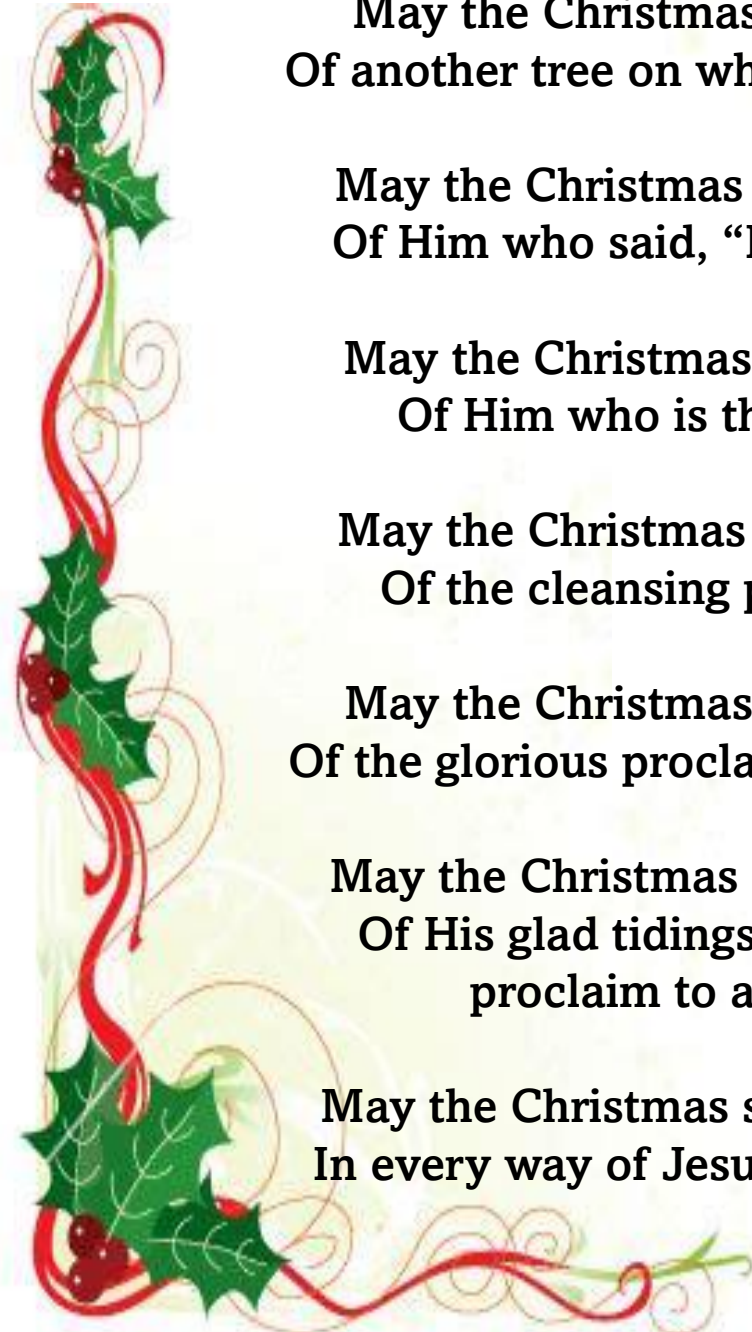
**May the Christmas feast remind you
Of Him who is the bread of life.**

**May the Christmas snow remind you
Of the cleansing power of Christ.**

**May the Christmas bells remind you
Of the glorious proclamation of His birth.**

**May the Christmas carols remind you
Of His glad tidings which we are to
proclaim to all mankind.**

**May the Christmas season remind you
In every way of Jesus Christ your King.**



PUTTING CHRIST INTO CHRISTMAS

'Twas the night before Christmas, the eve of Christ's birth;
Many people were resting all over the earth.
The shepherds were watching their sheep in the night,
When all of a sudden, they saw a bright light.

And what to their wandering eyes should appear
But a beautiful angel, high up in the air,
His face was all shining, his garments so bright
That the shepherds began to tremble with fright.

But as he came nearer, the words that he said
Soon gave them to know there was nothing to dread;
He told them of peace, with no fear or danger,
For their wonderful gift they would find in a manger.

So leaving their sheep, they went into town
To seek for this gift; they looked all around.
They came to the stable, the covers they lift,
And there in the manger—God's wonderful gift!

So pure and so holy, so full of God's love;
They knew it was Jesus, God's gift from above.
And so as we think of this Savior again
May our worship this Christmas not be in vain.

Christmas Word Find

G	C	P	M	E	H	E	F	F	N	Y	Y	A	S	E
V	F	I	O	G	K	N	O	C	Y	R	R	I	L	B
Z	H	S	J	Z	X	U	H	E	G	A	B	Z	N	B
H	A	T	I	D	U	R	X	S	Z	M	E	I	P	E
R	P	L	R	S	I	L	E	N	T	N	I	G	H	T
R	K	O	Q	S	N	E	M	E	S	I	W	A	J	H
Y	L	X	T	Y	Z	S	W	C	Z	S	P	E	P	L
M	I	M	F	H	F	N	P	N	S	J	V	E	K	E
J	A	B	T	T	B	A	R	I	O	R	S	X	Z	H
S	A	I	Y	L	Y	T	E	K	V	O	F	L	W	E
H	A	Y	E	Y	T	I	G	N	J	I	O	E	E	M
F	A	M	K	R	H	V	N	A	E	V	U	G	P	E
M	A	A	N	W	A	I	A	R	S	A	S	N	O	E
C	I	H	O	T	C	T	M	F	U	S	O	A	H	F
D	J	E	D	K	Q	Y	S	V	S	W	T	E	K	Q

JESUS

MARY

JOSEPH

WISEMEN

MANGER

NATIVITY

BETHLEHEM

CAMEL

DONKEY

STAR

HAY

ANGEL

FAITH

HOPE

FRANKINCENSE

MYRRH

SILENTNIGHT

LORD

SAVIOR

CHRISTMAS



CANAAN BAPTIST CHURCH

3011 New Castle Avenue

New Castle, Delaware 19720

Rev. Dr. Christopher Alan Bullock, Pastor

CHRISTMAS AND HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

**Bible Study and Church School
will be on Winter Break for the month of December**

Church offices closed December 24 - 27, 2025

Stay connected to biblical teaching during the break.

For Sunday School at a glance,

log onto the YouTube channel:

NBC USA INC SUNDAY SCHOOL@GLANCE

Led by National Instructor, Dr. Mary E. McConnell

**Saturday Church School
will resume January 3, 2026**

**Bible Study will resume
Wednesday, January 7, 2026**

ANNUAL WATCH NIGHT SERVICE

WEDNESDAY EVENING

DECEMBER 31, 2025 ~ 7:00 PM

Pastor Bullock will Preach

Music provided by

The Mass Voices of Canaan