

TUE 12-9-25

The Challenge

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

THIS SUNDAY

View our 10:55 am worship service Sunday live on our website or directly from YouTube.

**Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025**

SERMON

Rev. Matt Sapp
"Surprised by God's Subversiveness"

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:46b-55;
Matthew 2:1-5a
Psalm 146:5-10

8:45 am

Worship Service
Special Music
Handbell Choir

9:45 am

Sunday School

10:55 am

Worship Service
Special Music
Chancel Choir and
Handbell Choir

Nursery

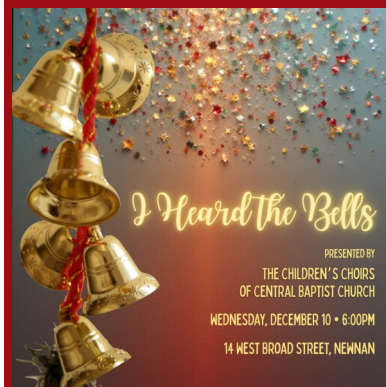
Available for children
birth-three years

Holiday Hours

The church office will be closed **December 24-26** for the Christmas holidays and on **January 1** for the New Year holiday.

The Challenge will not be published the weeks of **December 23 & 30.**

Publication will resume **January 6, 2025.**



Wednesday, December 10

5:15 pm Bring-A-Dish Christmas Dinner
(The church will supply meat; please bring a side or dessert.)

6:00 pm Children's Choirs present "I Heard the Bells"



Wednesday, December 17, 6:00 pm

Christmas carols carry joyful refrains over the airwaves, reminding us of "a beautiful sight, we're happy tonight, walking in a winter wonderland." But Christmas isn't always the most wonderful time of the year for everyone. In our Blue Christmas service, we'll recognize that the holidays can be a challenging season for some, we'll acknowledge grief as a part of life and faith, and we'll remember that the light of Christmas is specifically sent to people who walk in darkness.

If celebrating this season is sometimes difficult, or if you just want to be here to support those who need a place to remember that God is with them, join us for our Blue Christmas service in the sanctuary. Our thirty-minute service will feature music from Alyssa Ryan, Ronnie Oliver, and Henry Lee as we light candles, recite litanies, and remember that sometimes it takes deep darkness to see a great light.

Pastor's Pen

Christmas Eve at Central

Christmas Eve is my favorite night of the year. Sometime around mid-afternoon that day, all the busyness of the season starts melting away to reveal a peacefulness, a calmness, a quietness that is only present one day of the year. It's holy. Some people don't know what that feeling is. Most of us don't think about it as often as we should. But that holy stillness is God preparing to reach down out of heaven to break into our world.

There is no better way for you to mark that moment than by joining us for our Christmas Eve worship services at 6:00 pm and 11:00 pm. Our 6:00 pm service includes reading, carols, a children's sermon, the lighting of the Christ Candle on our Advent Wreath, and extraordinary music from soloists, instrumentalists, and ensembles. And it ends with a candlelight singing of "Silent Night." It's designed to last 45 minutes. It's perfect for families and children of all ages.

Our 11:00 pm service is a service of Lessons and Carols featuring our Chancel Choir, piano, organ, and chamber orchestra. The music and readings are perfectly selected to lead us through the Christmas story. The 11:00 pm service ends with a candlelight singing of "Silent Night" as well in an extraordinary arrangement led by our choir. The service is designed to end right at midnight and to send you out into the very first minutes of Christmas morning.

Both services are great. Start thinking now about which one you will attend—or you might choose to attend both. Bring your whole family. Invite your friends. There is no better time to introduce someone new both to Central and to the truth of Christmas than on Christmas Eve. Include us in your family's plans for Christmas Eve this year. You'll be glad you did.

Merry Christmas, and I'll see you Sunday,

Matt

2026 Flower Calendar

The 2026 sanctuary flower calendar is now available. Dates are available to place flowers for worship services in memory or in honor of loved ones, or to celebrate a special occasion. If you are interested, please **email** or call Courtney in the church office. We greatly appreciate your help!

January 11, 25	July 5, 12, 19, 26
February 20	August 16, 23, 30
March 22, 29	September 6, 13
April 5, 12	October 4, 11, 18
May 10, 31	November 8
June 7, 14, 21	

Music Ministry

Thank you to all our musicians who led us in worship Sunday. Advent is such a meaningful time for us here at Central.

This Wednesday, our Children's Choirs will present "I Heard the Bells" at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Julie, Eileen, Barkley, Abby, Sherri, Sara, Ryan, Coleman, Lilith, Josh, and Chance all do an excellent job of teaching our children music and worship. Please come support them and our children!

This Sunday, December 14, the Newnan Community Youth Choir will present their concert at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your friends and enjoy some great music on the theme of being an encouragement to others. We might also do a couple of Christmas songs!

Please continue to pray for good health of our musicians this Advent season.

Gratefully,

Ronnie



**NEWNAN COMMUNITY YOUTH CHOIR
CONCERT**

Sunday, December 14 • 5:00pm

14 WEST BROAD STREET, NEWNAN



CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
VESTIBULE SERIES

Christmas Jazz
with
Rick & Friends

DECEMBER 21 • 5:00PM
14 WEST BROAD STREET, NEWNAN

Women's Ministry

Ladies Coffee Hour



Will Resume

Thursday, Jan. 15, 9:00 am

Join us every first and third Thursday of the month at Leaf and Bean. No need to make a reservation; just show up and enjoy the fellowship of your peers.



Want to Learn to play Mahjong?

We are gauging interest in offering a class to learn how to play

Mahjong. There are 16 spots available for the class and the cost is \$52. These are the dates available: January 10 (anytime) January 12 (6:00 pm) January 17 (anytime) January 26 (6:00 pm).

If you are interested please call or email the church office and tell us what date(s) work best for you.

Senior Adult Ministry

Senior Adult Breakfast at Town & Country

Wednesday, December 10, 9:00 am



Our last breakfast for the year will be Wednesday, December 10. We will resume our regular schedule on Wednesday, January 14, 2026.



Church Wide Event
Wednesday,
January 7

All volunteers register [Here!](#)

Additionally, please fill out [THIS](#) form if you if you are volunteering during either of our dinner shifts and would like a Chick-fil-A meal.

Youth Ministry

High School Retreat

January 9-10, 2026
Atlanta, GA



This time is set aside for high schoolers to come together, have fun, and grow in their faith. We'll spend Friday night in Atlanta, explore and go indoor rock climbing on Saturday, and be back Saturday evening.

Register now to save your spot and make sure you don't miss out on this fun weekend! Click [here](#) to sign up!



Youth Ski Trip

Join us for fun and fellowship at Beech Mountain Ski Resort during Winter Break,

February 16-19, 2026. This is a great time to get away and grow as a youth group, so make plans now to join us! Register [here!](#)

2025 Contributions and Stock Gifts

Please remember that mailed checks must be postmarked by **Wednesday, December 31, 2025**. If you plan to stop by the office with a check or cash, please do so by noon on **Wednesday, December 31, 2025**. You may also make your contribution in church on **Sunday, December 28, 2025**. Stock gifts must be transferred in 2025 for a tax deduction. [Email](#) or call Debbie (770-683-6585) for stock gift instructions.

Debbie needs to have the stock name and gift intention when transferring your stocks to the church. This information is not shared by the financial brokerage holding the stock.

In Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to Jennifer Leigh Murphy and family in the death of her mother, Myrtle Page, who passed away on Saturday, December 6, 2025.

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**CENTRAL
BAPTIST CHURCH**
NEWNAN, GEORGIA

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Matt Sapp Pastor
Rev. Katie Faison Associate Pastor for Congregational Life
Rev. Dr. Ronnie Oliver, Jr. Associate Pastor of Music & Worship
Rev. Annie Westbrook Associate Pastor to Youth and Families
Mrs. Amanda Willoughby Children's Ministry Director
Mr. Henry Lee Organist

Mrs. Yen Yu Chen Pianist
Mrs. Debbie Porrello Financial Manager
Mrs. Courtney Haynes Sr. Administrative Assistant
Mr. Randy Boswell Facilities Maintenance Manager
Mr. German Lopez-Figueroa Custodian

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LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, December 14

8:45 am Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
10:55 am Worship Service
4:00 pm NCYC Rehearsal
5:00 pm NCYC Concert

Monday, December 15

7:15 am Youth Prayer Breakfast

Tuesday, December 16

7:00 am Men's Bible Study
10:00 am Feeding Our Friends
12:00 pm Feeding Our Friends Luncheon

Wednesday, December 17

6:00 pm Blue Christmas
6:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Stewardship Update Sunday, December 7, 2025

Weekly Budget Needs	\$32,486.92
Budget Offering	\$43,520.88
YTD Budget Needs	\$1,591,859.06
YTD Budget Offering	\$1,447,392.56