



**They will know us by our Love**  
**John 13:35**



## December Theme: O Come Let Us Adore Him

### December Fighter Verse: Isaiah 12:2

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense he has become my salvation."

**M**ay the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. - Romans 15:13

*Blessed and Merry Christmas  
from Central Baptist Church*



### Giving in the Spirit of Christmas

The Christmas season is a time where gift giving and helping those who need our help. We have three opportunities to give:

- People with AIDS project (Deadline: Sunday, December 10-for details, see flyer below and Missionary of Month Pg 5)
- Special Angel Tree Christmas (Deadline: Sunday, December 17. See details on page 2.
- Christmas Toy Drive (Deadline: Wednesday, December 20) See details on page 2.

## OUR WORSHIP

**IN-PERSON**  
**LIVESTREAM, FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE @ 11:00AM**  
**[www.centralbaptistnyc.org](http://www.centralbaptistnyc.org)**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**Adult Sunday School 9:45AM via Zoom**  
**Youth Sunday School 11:15AM**  
**Kindergarten to 12th Grade**  
**—2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays**

### IN THIS ISSUE

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### DECEMBER CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**Wednesday, December 20 at 7PM — in Parlor and Zoom**  
The December Business Meeting is primarily for the purpose of presentation and approval of the upcoming year's annual budget.

## Pastor's Devotional



“Furthermore, the LORD declares that he will make a house for you—a dynasty of kings! For when you die and are buried with your ancestors, I will raise up one of your descendants, your own offspring, and I will make his kingdom strong. He is the one who will build a house—a temple—for my name. And I will secure his royal throne forever. (2 Samuel 7:11–13 NLT)

"David, you will know the delight of having a son by whom this temple will be built. Not through *your* efforts, but through *your son* the dream will be fulfilled."

It is not a question of sin here. It is not God's judgment that is coming upon David as a consequence of wrong. It is simply God's redirecting David's plan and saying, "This is a great resolve, but I say 'no' to you and I say 'yes' to your son. Now accept that."

Well, was David wrong to begin with—wrong in thinking of building the temple?

It is not a question of being wrong. It's a question of accepting God's "no" and living with the mystery of His will. We people on this earth package everything. And we expect God to package His plan for us just like we would. We want the logic that we use to be His logic. And when it isn't, we wonder what's wrong because it's not working out like we would have worked it out.

When God says no it is not necessarily discipline or rejection. It may simply be re-direction. You have pursued His will; you have wanted to do His will. With all good intentions you said, "By God's grace I am going to pursue this." And here you are, thirty or forty years later, or maybe only five years later, and it hasn't materialized.

Now if you listen to some people, you'll be put on a guilt trip. "You see there," they say, "you set your heart on God, but you have run from Him. You're out of His will." I don't know how many couples I have talked with who, early in their lives, had their life's plan all mapped out, but it didn't transpire. Perhaps the very road they are traveling is God's will for them, and it took His saying "no" to get them on that right road. Others were of little help.

The thing we have to do in our walk with God is to listen

carefully from day to day. Not just go back to some decision and say, "That's it forever, regardless." We need to look at it each day, keep it fresh, keep the fire hot, keep it on the back burner, saying, "Lord, is this Your arrangement? Is this Your plan? If it is not, make me sensitive to it. Maybe You're redirecting my life."

Source: Above Devotional Taken From "Insight for Living"  
<https://insight.org/resources/daily-devotional/individual/when-god-says-no2>

## Giving in the Spirit of Christmas

### SPECIAL ANGEL CHRISTMAS TREE

*Central Baptist Church  
Mission Committee Project*

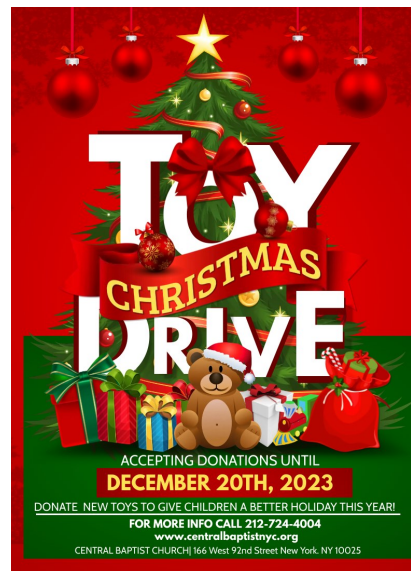
Select a tag with a child's name, age, clothing/shoe size

Purchase age appropriate clothes (pajamas, undergarments, socks, winter items).

Wrapped gift drop off  
deadline Sunday December 17, 2023.



## CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE



Accepting **NEW** toys to give children a better holiday this year.

Bring your wrapped toy by December 20. For more information call 212-724-4004.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opportunities to come together to learn, pray and fellowship.

## Bible Study

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

#### Adult

9:45AM— In person and via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/6831601413>

Enter the meeting ID 683 160 1413 when prompted.

Phone: 646-558-8656

#### Youth

11:15AM

2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays

In-Person OR

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/6831601413>

Enter the meeting ID 683 160 1413 when prompted.

Phone: 646-558-8656

### WEDNESDAY IN THE WORD

Current Study: 1 Corinthians

7:00—8:00PM

Wednesday Night Bible study is a great way to keep your heart and mind on God! Join us for an interactive, in-depth reflection on the scriptures and how they can be applied to your life.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/6831601413>

Enter the meeting ID 683 160 1413 when prompted.

Join Zoom by Phone: 646-558-8656



Join us as we explore and diagnose our spiritual health.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/6831601413>

Or dial in on your phone:  
(646) 558-8656  
Enter the meeting ID 683 160 1413 when prompted.

*Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth.*

2 Timothy 2:16  
Amplified Bible, Classic Edition  
(AMP)

## Senior Ministry Events

### SENIOR MONTHLY LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16 @ 2:00pm

Secret Santa — \$10.00 limit

Location: The Parlor

All seniors 55 and older are invited to join us.



### Senior Ministry Exercise Program

Time: 11:00am to 11:45am

Location: Chapel

December 2, 9, 23 and 30



### SENIOR MINISTRY BOOK CLUB MEETING

Saturday, January 6, 2—4PM

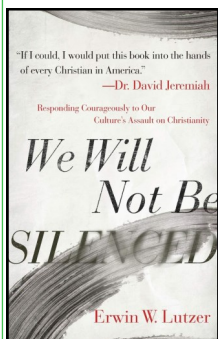
Miss Anne's Room

This month's book:

***We Will Not Be Silenced***

by Erwin W. Lutzer

All seniors are invited to join us.



### CBC Senior's Ministry

Invites you to:

**"DANIEL"**

Sight & Sound Theatre  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

**Saturday, July 20, 2024**

Cost: **\$230.00** Per Person  
(Deposit and 2 Payment)

Deposit of **\$60.00** was due by November 30, to Secure Seat. See Otis Coleman for availability and payment plan.



# December Birthdays

DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

*Blessings to you and may you feel the presence of the Lord as we all celebrate your birthday!*

<https://www.shutterstock.com/ideas/religious-birthday-wishes/>



Aaron Foster	12/1
Chima Joseph	12/1
Cometia Banfield	12/2
Theresa Richardson	12/3
Seven Roberts	12/4
Ketty Pierre	12/5
Emperor Van Buren	12/7
Preston Gordon	12/10
Christopher White	12/11
Elijah Winn	12/12
Gwendolyn Myles-Chisholm	12/12
Tyerra Dickerson-Porter	12/13
Lorraine Davis	12/14

Theadora Brown	12/14
Lydia Endale	12/16
Paul Levell	12/19
Edwina Chambers	12/20
Toni Barton	12/20
Maria Negron	12/20
Vincent Clark	12/22
Vincent Gerardi	12/22
Tara Dickerson-Parker	12/22
Dana Wright	12/23
Sharrata Hunt	12/26
Andrew White	12/26
Patresse Phillips	12/28
Zaria Dickerson-Parker	12/29
Guiliene Eloi	12/30
Hezekiah Triumph	12/30
Herbert Moore	12/31

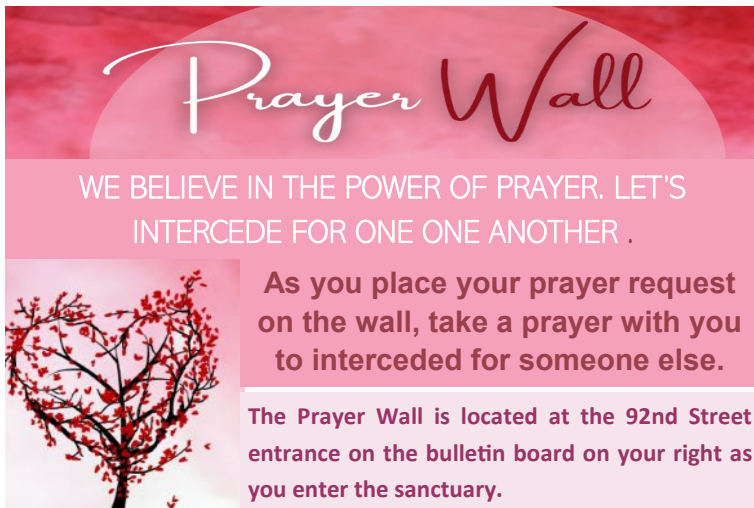
## PRAYER MEETINGS

### WOMEN'S MINISTRY "POWER HOUR"

Sunday, December 17 @ 12:30PM  
Join the Zoom meeting by phone at  
646-558-8656

### EVENING PRAYER

Meeting the last Friday of the month  
Friday, December 29 @ 7:00PM  
In Person in the Parlor or  
Join Zoom Meeting:  
<https://zoom.us/j/6831601413> or  
In-Dial into the Zoom Meeting phone number:  
646-558-8656



### PRAYER MEETINGS BY CONFERENCE PHONE

(609) 746-1164  
Access Code: 667293#  
Monday — Friday  
6-6:30 AM

**See the Newsletter Prayer Journal on Page 8.**

**MID-WEEK PRAYER**

Wednesdays 12:00-1:00 PM  
(609) 746-1164 Passcode: 667293#

**CORPORATE PRAYER FOR THE BUILDING PROJECT**

The leaders of Central Baptist Church are asking you to join us for prayer on Wednesdays at 12PM for corporate prayer. We will be praying specifically about the building project as well as anything you would like. Please note this is not a time to discuss the details of the project but to pray. If you have questions about the project, please call the church to speak to Pastor Fils-Aime.

**We will be using the prayer line phone number:**  
**(609) 746-1164 Passcode: 667293#**

**About Prayer**

*Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16*

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 4:6-7



## MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

**DALE BELL*****The Urban LifeSource Connection***

**D**ale Belli of The Urban LifeSource Connection is a full time evangelist and is one the missionaries CBC support. The mission of TULC has always been to proclaim the Good News of God's love and provision of abundant, eternal life for all people as manifested and accomplished in the birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension of His One and Only Son, Jesus Christ. She is currently leading weekly Bible Study classes in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Staten Island and Manhattan. She is now also preparing for the annual People With Aids (PWA) Christmas Parties.

Dale needs our help in collecting donations of gifts and Gospel literature in order to encourage the PWAs, some of whom are brothers and sisters in Christ, and have not been outside of their nursing homes since mid March 2020. Also are asking people and churches to donate money or unwrapped gifts. The unwrapped gifts needed are listed below:

**GIFTS FOR MEN AND WOMEN - Sizes M to 3XL**

throw blankets, socks, flannel pajamas, white t-shirts, gloves/mittens, slipper socks, sweatshirts, sweaters, thermal underwear, lounge pants, sweater vests, sweatpants, underwear.

**THE CHRISTMAS PARTY**

On Monday, December 11th at 11:45AM, Dale will be hosting her annual PWA Christmas Party at Terrence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center located at 1249 5th Avenue at East 106th Street.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

Dale is requesting for five volunteers. Four to visit bedbound patients in pairs to pray, talk, and provide a gift and one soloist to sing 3 Christian Christmas Songs at the Christmas Party for the rest of the patients.

If you are interested, contact any member of the CBC Missions Committee. The Missions Committee members are: Evelyn Grant, Esther Romero, Natasha Robinson, Jean Thelusme, Janice Mayers, Cliff Jean-Michel, Carla Wilson, Michelle Phillips, Jill Fortune



Remember, 10% of Central's tithes and offerings go to support our missionaries.



## Arts and Letters



*Peace* is the featured Fruit of the Spirit for the month of December. Nadja Hicks has written a devotion on Peace you can use for a personal time of reflection.

Enjoy.

*Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*  
John 14:27 KJV

I set my Bible aside, the verse still fresh in my mind. A leaf, faded from green to gold, falls into the pond past the gazebo where I sit. A cycle of life begun and now complete.

My eyes follow downward as it lands gently on the water. Calmness slowly washes over me, like water fills dry cracks in the pavement.

*Grace*, that's grace I say to myself knowing this is true, and in this knowing feel some measure of it in my own heart.

I watch the leaf bob on the surface near the shore. I look down and see the current beneath it quiver rhythmically like a fluttered heartbeat, a rebellious crosshatched pattern, while the leaf

itself, top dry and utterly indifferent, seems to stay put.

I know, even if my eyes say otherwise, that the leaf is drifting, heading for another place. But its movement is imperceptible, inching along it appears to do nothing. I focus on it, this leaf. A riot of water moves beneath while this leaf goes along blissfully undisturbed by the circus below.

Calmness further moves me, flowing through me. Now far beyond, yet a part of, the simple journey of a leaf.

*Peace*, that's peace I say to myself knowing this is true, and in this knowing feel some measure of it in my own heart.



-- From *I Could Stay Like a River*  
by Nadja Hicks



### SUBMISSION SCHEDULE



NEWSLETTER ISSUE	FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT	LAST DAY TO SUBMIT
October	Love	Fulfilled
November	Joy	Fulfilled
December	Peace	Fulfilled
<b>2024</b>		
January	Patience	December 22, 2023
February	Goodness	Fulfilled
March	Kindness	February 24, 2024
April	Faithfulness	March 26, 2024
May	Gentleness	April 22, 2024
June	Self-Control	May 22, 2024

Here is the calendar for this season with the deadline for submissions. We have the submissions for this month and we will be looking for submission for January to May. When you send in your work, be sure to note your full name and contact information with a few words about yourself. For visual artwork please note the title, medium, and size of the piece, and how it expresses the fruit you feel it represents. Written pieces should be no more than 250-300 words. An email address especially for newsletter submissions will be set up going into 2024. In the meantime, you can send your submissions to sm-hunt@hotmail.com.

We covet your prayers for an inspiring season ahead and spiritual growth through the arts.

# December 2023

USE THIS CALENDAR TO MARK DAYS YOU WANT TO REMEMBER.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>DECEMBER CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING</b> <b>Wednesday, December 20</b> The December Business Meeting is primarily for the purpose of presentation and approval of the upcoming year's annual budget.					1 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	2 11A-12P-Senior Exercise—Chapel
3 9:45A —Adult Sunday School 11A-SUNDAY WORSHIP	4 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	5 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call			8 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	9 11A-12P-Senior Exercise—Chapel
<b>10</b> <b>PWA PROJECT DEADLINE</b> 9:45A —Adult Sunday School 11A-SUNDAY WORSHIP	11 11:45A—PWA Christmas Party-see pg. 4 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	12 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	13 Conference call 12P-Midweek Prayer-Phone; 7P-Wed Nite Bible Study—ZOOM	14 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	15 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	16 11A-12P-Senior Exercise—Chapel
<b>17</b> <b>ANGEL TREE DEADLINE</b> 9:45A —Adult Sunday School 11A-SUNDAY WORSHIP	18 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	19 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	<b>20</b> <b>TOY DRIVE DEADLINE</b> Conference call 12P-Midweek Prayer-Phone; <b>7P-CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING</b>	21 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	22 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	23 2:00-4:00P SENIOR LUNCHEON, PARLOR
<b>24</b> 9:45A —Adult Sunday School 11A-SUNDAY WORSHIP CANDLELIGHT SERVICE	<b>25</b> 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call CHRISTMAS	26 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	27 Conference call 12P-Midweek Prayer-Phone; 7P-Wed Nite Bible Study—ZOOM	28 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call	29 6-6:30A Prayer on Conference call Evening Prayer-ZOOM	30 11A-12P-Senior Exercise—Chapel
31 9:45A —Adult Sunday School 11A-SUNDAY WORSHIP WATCHNIGHT						

Keep Central's finances in prayer!

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



To help offset the costs of the repairs, we kindly request that EACH MEMBER contributes in one of the following ways in addition to your regular giving:

- A one-time donation of \$640 or more
- For those who may not be able to make a one-time donation, we ask that you consider making a monthly donation of \$80

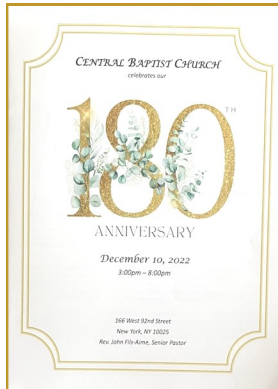
Goal  
\$100K

as of  
11/28/23  
\$21,033.83  
\*\*\*  
78,966.62  
to go

## 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

## 180th Anniversary Commemorative Booklet



A beautiful keepsake of the 180th Anniversary Celebration has been created. The booklet contains the program and an extensive array of photographs, and Central's history noting its various locations, pastors and historical articles from the New York Times.

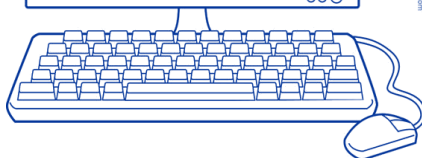
Stay tuned for details on you can obtain your copy.

## Praying Together

*Make me to know your ways, O Lord;  
teach me your paths. Lead me in your  
truth and teach me, for you are the God  
of my salvation; for you I wait all the  
day long.*  
*Psalm 25:4-5*

With so many opportunities to pray corporately with one another, the Newsletter has provided this space to help you remember the various requests and praise reports.

**Newsletter Staff:** Pastor Robert Casteline, Oversight; Paulette Forbes-Igharo and Sharrata Hunt. Special thanks to Tanya Glenn, Nadja Hicks and Edwina Chambers.



## Create your own prayer journal.

### CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Fils-Aime

Pastor Robert Casteline

Willana Mack Hudson

Deacons & Elders

Administrative & Maintenance Staff

Ministries

Missionaries

Members and Friends of  
Central

Sick and Shut-in

### CITY, STATE & COUNTRY

New York City

Leadership of NYC, State and  
Country

The World  
Personal requests



## PRAISE REPORTS