

BB&T CORP
Form 424B3
April 25, 2012
Table of Contents

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3)
Registration No. 333-175538

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell nor does it seek an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED APRIL 25, 2012

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To Prospectus dated July 13, 2011)

BB&T CORPORATION

Depository Shares, Each Representing a 1/1,000th Interest

in a Share of Series D Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock

BB&T Corporation is offering _____ depository shares, each representing a 1/1,000th ownership interest in a share of Series D Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, \$5.00 par value per share, with a liquidation preference of \$25,000 per share (equivalent to \$25 per depository share) (the Series D Preferred Stock). As a holder of depository shares, you will be entitled to all proportional rights and preferences of the Series D Preferred Stock (including dividend, voting, redemption and liquidation rights). You must exercise such rights through the depository.

Dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock, when, as and if declared by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of the board, will accrue and be payable on the liquidation preference amount, on a non-cumulative basis, quarterly in arrears on the 1st day of February, May, August and November of each year, commencing on _____, 2012, at a rate *per annum* equal to ____%. If our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of the board has not declared a dividend on the Series D Preferred Stock before the dividend payment date for any dividend period, such dividend shall not be cumulative and shall not accrue or be payable for such dividend period, and we will have no obligation to pay dividends for such dividend period, whether or not dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock are declared for any future dividend period.

The Series D Preferred Stock may be redeemed in whole, or in part, on _____, 2017, or any dividend payment date thereafter, at a redemption price equal to \$25,000 per share (equivalent to \$25 per depository share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends. The Series D Preferred Stock may be redeemed in whole, but not in part, prior to _____, 2017, upon the occurrence of a regulatory capital treatment event, as described herein, at a redemption price equal to \$25,000 per share (equivalent to \$25 per depository share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends. The Series D Preferred Stock will not have any voting rights, except as set forth under Description of Series D Preferred Stock Voting Rights on page S-22.

Edgar Filing: BB&T CORP - Form 424B3

We intend to apply to list the depositary shares on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the symbol BBT PrD. If the application is approved, we expect trading of the depositary shares on the NYSE to begin within the 30-day period after the initial delivery of the depositary shares.

The depositary shares are equity securities and will not be savings accounts, deposits or other obligations of any bank or non-bank subsidiary of ours and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.

Investing in the depositary shares involves risks. Potential purchasers of the depositary shares should consider the information set forth in the Risk Factors section beginning on page S-9 of this prospectus supplement.

None of the Securities and Exchange Commission, any state securities commission, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined that this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Price to Public	Underwriting Discounts and Commissions ⁽¹⁾	Proceeds to Us (Before Expenses)
Per depositary share	\$	\$	\$
Total	\$	\$	\$

(1) Reflects depositary shares sold to institutional investors, for which the underwriters received an underwriting discount of \$ per share, and depositary shares sold to retail investors, for which the underwriters received an underwriting discount of \$ per share.

The underwriters are offering the depositary shares as set forth under Underwriting. Delivery of the depositary shares in book-entry form through The Depository Trust Company for the accounts of its participants, including Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V., as operator of the Euroclear System (Euroclear), and Clearstream Banking, société anonyme (Clearstream), is expected to be made on or about , 2012.

We have granted the underwriters an option to purchase up to an additional depositary shares within 30 days after the date of this prospectus supplement at the public offering price, less underwriting discounts and commissions, to cover over-allotments, if any.

Because our affiliate, BB&T Capital Markets, a division of Scott & Stringfellow, LLC, may be participating in sales of the depositary shares, the offering is being conducted in compliance with Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Rule 5121, as administered by FINRA.

Joint Book-Running Managers

BofA Merrill Lynch

BB&T Capital Markets

Deutsche Bank Securities

Wells Fargo Securities

Lead Managers

Citigroup

Stifel Nicolaus Weisel

UBS Investment Bank

Edgar Filing: BB&T CORP - Form 424B3

Prospectus Supplement dated April , 2012

Table of Contents**TABLE OF CONTENTS****Prospectus Supplement**

	Page
<u>Summary</u>	S-1
<u>Risk Factors</u>	S-9
<u>Forward-Looking Statements</u>	S-13
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	S-14
<u>Consolidated Ratios of Earnings to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends</u>	S-14
<u>Description of Capital Stock</u>	S-15
<u>Description of Series D Preferred Stock</u>	S-18
<u>Description of Depositary Shares</u>	S-24
<u>Book-Entry Issuance</u>	S-26
<u>Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	S-29
<u>Underwriting (Conflicts of Interest)</u>	S-32
<u>Legal Matters</u>	S-37
<u>Experts</u>	S-37

Prospectus

<u>About This Prospectus</u>	2
<u>Forward-Looking Statements</u>	2
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	3
<u>Consolidated Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	4
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	4
<u>Validity of Securities</u>	4
<u>Experts</u>	4

Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized anyone to provide you with any information or to make any representation not contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Neither we nor the underwriters take any responsibility for, and can provide no assurances as to, the reliability of any information that others may provide you. We are offering to sell these securities and seeking offers to buy these securities only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. You should not assume that the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is accurate as of any date other than their respective dates. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

Unless otherwise indicated or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to BB&T, we, us, our or similar references mean BB&T Corporation.

Table of Contents

SUMMARY

The following information should be read together with the information contained or incorporated by reference in other parts of this prospectus supplement and in the accompanying prospectus. It may not contain all the information that is important to you. You should carefully read this entire prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to understand fully the terms of the depositary shares, as well as the tax and other considerations that are important to you in making a decision about whether to invest in the depositary shares. To the extent the information in this prospectus supplement is inconsistent with the information in the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement. You should pay special attention to the Risk Factors section of this prospectus supplement to determine whether an investment in the depositary shares is appropriate for you.

About BB&T Corporation

We are a financial holding company organized under the laws of North Carolina and headquartered in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. We conduct our business operations primarily through our commercial bank subsidiary, Branch Banking and Trust Company (Branch Bank), which has offices in North Carolina, Virginia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, South Carolina, Alabama, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, Washington D.C and Indiana. In addition, our operations consist of a federally chartered thrift institution, BB&T Financial, FSB (BB&T FSB), and several nonbank subsidiaries that offer various financial services products. Our principal assets are all of the issued and outstanding shares of common stock of Branch Bank and investments in our other subsidiaries. As of December 31, 2011, we had consolidated total assets of \$174.6 billion, consolidated loans and leases of \$111.2 billion, consolidated deposits of \$124.9 billion and consolidated shareholders equity of \$17.5 billion.

Branch Bank provides a wide range of banking services to individuals and businesses, and offers a variety of loans to businesses and consumers. Such loans are made primarily to individuals residing in the market areas described above or to businesses located within our geographic footprint. Branch Bank also markets a wide range of deposit services to individuals and businesses. Branch Bank offers, either directly, or through its subsidiaries, lease financing to businesses and municipal governments; factoring; discount brokerage services, annuities and mutual funds; life insurance, property and casualty insurance, health insurance and commercial general liability insurance on an agency basis and through a wholesale insurance brokerage operation; insurance premium financing; permanent financing arrangements for commercial real estate; loan servicing for third-party investors; direct consumer finance loans to individuals; trust and comprehensive wealth advisory services and association services. BB&T FSB and our direct nonbank subsidiaries provide a variety of financial services including credit card lending, automobile lending, equipment financing, full-service securities brokerage, asset management and capital markets services.

Our common stock is traded on the NYSE under the symbol BBT. Our executive offices are located at 200 West Second Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101, and our telephone number is (336) 733-2000.

We refer you to the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, as described in the section Where You Can Find More Information in the accompanying prospectus, for more information about us and our businesses.

Recent Developments

First Quarter 2012 Financial Results

On April 19, 2012, we reported earnings for the first quarter of 2012. Outlined below is a summary of those results. We expect to file our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2012,

Table of Contents

with the Securities and Exchange Commission on or before May 10, 2012, which will contain more detailed information than is included below. Our first quarter 2012 consolidated financial results below should be read in conjunction with Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, which is incorporated by reference herein.

Earnings Overview

Our consolidated net income available to common shareholders for the first quarter of 2012 of \$431 million was up 91.6% compared to \$225 million earned during the same period in 2011. On a diluted per common share basis, earnings for the first quarter of 2012 were \$0.61, up 90.6% compared to \$0.32 for the same period in 2011. Our results of operations for the first quarter of 2012 produced an annualized return on average assets of 1.03% and an annualized return on average common shareholders' equity of 9.75% compared to prior year ratios of 0.60% and 5.48%, respectively.

Total revenues were \$2.3 billion for the first quarter of 2012, up \$309 million compared to the first quarter of 2011. The increase in total revenues was due to \$152 million of higher net interest income, primarily driven by an increase in earnings assets and lower funding costs. The net interest margin was 3.93%, down 8 basis points compared to the first quarter of 2011. Noninterest income increased \$157 million. The increase in noninterest income was largely attributable to \$121 million of higher revenues from mortgage banking activities and a \$21 million increase in insurance income. In addition, other income was up \$38 million due to \$74 million of fewer losses and write-downs on the commercial loans held for sale in connection with management's nonperforming loan disposition strategy, partially offset by \$42 million of increased write-downs on affordable housing investments due to revised estimates and processes used to value these investments. The increases were partially offset by a decline of \$29 million from checkcard fees primarily due to the implementation of the Durbin Amendment provisions in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the Dodd-Frank Act).

The provision for credit losses, excluding covered loans, for the first quarter of 2012 declined \$55 million, or 16.2%, compared to the first quarter of 2011, as improving credit quality resulted in lower provision expense. Net charge-offs, excluding covered loans, for the first quarter of 2012 were \$67 million lower than the first quarter of 2011.

Noninterest expenses were \$1.4 billion for the first quarter of 2012, up slightly compared to the first quarter of 2011. The increase in noninterest expenses was primarily due to higher personnel costs, which were up \$36 million compared to the first quarter of 2011. The increase in personnel costs was due to salaries and wages, as well as pension expense. In addition, other expenses were up \$22 million due to a \$15 million valuation loss on leveraged lease investments. These increases were partially offset by a reduction of \$51 million in foreclosed property expenses due to fewer losses and lower carry costs and a \$20 million reduction in regulatory charges due to lower deposit insurance expense.

The provision for income taxes was \$189 million for the first quarter of 2012 compared to \$53 million for the first quarter of 2011. This resulted in an effective tax rate for the first quarter of 2012 of 29.8% compared to 18.5% for the prior year's first quarter. The increase in the effective tax rate was primarily due to higher levels of pre-tax earnings relative to permanent tax differences in 2012 compared to 2011. The current quarter also included \$16 million in tax expense primarily due to changes in the treatment of certain credits related to affordable housing partnership investments.

Table of Contents***Balance Sheet Overview***

Average loans held for investment for the first quarter of 2012 was \$107.5 billion, up \$4.9 billion compared to the corresponding period of 2011. The growth in average loans and leases was broad-based and across all of the major lending portfolios. Average commercial and industrial loans increased \$2.6 billion, or 7.7%, compared to the first quarter of 2011. The growth in average commercial and industrial loans reflects management's focused efforts at growing this component of the loan portfolio. Average commercial real estate residential ADC declined 39.4% compared to the first quarter of 2011 as management has intentionally lowered exposures to higher-risk real estate lending during the economic downturn. Average commercial real estate other declined 6.1% due to runoff of certain segments of the portfolio. Average direct retail loans were up \$1.0 billion, or 7.3%, as a result of continued demand for home equity loans. Average residential mortgage loans increased \$3.1 billion, or 17.5%, compared to the first quarter of 2011, as management continues to retain certain residential mortgage loans in the held for investment portfolio. Average loans originated in other lending subsidiaries were up \$871 million, or 11.2%, compared to the first quarter of 2011, as the majority of these specialized businesses experienced growth. Total average loans held for investment includes a decline of \$1.3 billion, or 21.3%, in average covered and other acquired loans compared to the first quarter of 2011.

Average deposits for the first quarter of 2012 increased \$19.0 billion, or 18.0%, compared to the same period in 2011. The mix of the portfolio has continued to improve with growth of \$5.2 billion in noninterest-bearing and \$9.0 billion in lower-cost interest-bearing deposits. Certificates and other time deposits also increased \$6.1 billion, while the cost for these products declined 75 basis points. Partially offsetting the growth in these categories was a decline of \$1.4 billion in foreign-office deposits as the strong deposit growth reduced the need for these types of funding sources. Growth in noninterest-bearing deposits was led by commercial accounts, which contributed \$3.5 billion of the growth in this category. In addition, noninterest-bearing deposits for public funds and retail accounts grew \$836 million and \$824 million, respectively. Growth in interest-bearing domestic deposits was also led by commercial accounts, which contributed \$14.9 billion of the growth in this category, followed by public funds, which grew \$832 million. Retail interest-bearing deposits declined \$547 million, as higher cost certificates were not renewed. The cost of interest-bearing deposits was 0.49% for the first quarter of 2012, a decrease of 33 basis points compared to the same period of 2011.

Asset Quality

Asset quality continued to improve during the first quarter of 2012. Total nonperforming assets decreased \$194 million, or 7.9%, compared to December 31, 2011 due to a \$158 million decline in foreclosed real estate. This is the eighth consecutive quarterly decline in nonperforming assets and the amount is the lowest since the fourth quarter of 2008.

In addition, loan delinquencies improved significantly during the first quarter of 2012. Loans 30-89 days past due and still accruing, excluding loans guaranteed by the government, totaled \$870 million at March 31, 2012, a decrease of \$262 million compared to December 31, 2011 due to seasonal declines in retail loans. The ratio of loans 30-89 days past due to total loans and leases, excluding covered loans, was 0.82% at March 31, 2012. Loans 90 days past due and still accruing, excluding loans guaranteed by the government, were \$157 million at March 31, 2012, a decrease of \$45 million compared to the December 31, 2011. The ratio of loans 90 days past due and still accruing to total loans and leases, excluding covered loans, was 0.15% at March 31, 2012 and the lowest level since the second quarter of 2007.

Dividends and Capital

Our capital levels improved further during the first quarter of 2012. We declared total dividends of \$0.20 during the first quarter of 2012. The \$0.20 quarterly dividend reflects a dividend payout ratio of 32% for the current quarter.

Table of Contents

THE OFFERING

Issuer	BB&T Corporation
Securities offered	<p>depository shares (depository shares if the underwriters exercise in full their over-allotment option to purchase additional depository shares), each representing a 1/1,000th ownership interest in a share of Series D Preferred Stock. Each holder of a depository share will be entitled, through the depository, in proportion to the applicable fraction of a share of Series D Preferred Stock represented by such depository share, to all the rights and preferences of the Series D Preferred Stock represented thereby (including dividend, voting, redemption and liquidation rights).</p> <p>We may from time to time elect to issue additional depository shares representing shares of the Series D Preferred Stock and all additional shares would be deemed to form a single series with the Series D Preferred Stock.</p>
Ranking	<p>Shares of the Series D Preferred Stock will rank senior to our common stock and at least equally with each other series of our preferred stock we may issue (except for any senior series that may be issued with the requisite consent of the holders of the Series D Preferred Stock and all other parity stock), with respect to the payment of dividends and distributions upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up. See Description of Capital Stock Preferred Stock. We will generally be able to pay dividends and distributions upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up only out of lawfully available assets for such payment (i.e., after taking account of all indebtedness and other non-equity claims).</p>
Dividends	<p>Dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock, when, as and if declared by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of the board, will accrue and be payable on the liquidation preference amount, on a non-cumulative basis, quarterly in arrears on the 1st day of February, May, August and November of each year, commencing on , 2012, at a rate <i>per annum</i> equal to %; provided, dividends not declared with respect to any dividend period shall not be cumulative. Any dividends paid will be distributed to holders of depository shares in the manner described under Description of Depository Shares Dividends and Other Distributions below.</p> <p>A dividend period is the period from and including a dividend payment date to but excluding the next dividend payment date, except that the initial dividend period will commence on and include the original issue date of the Series D Preferred Stock.</p> <p>If our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of the board has not declared a dividend on the Series D Preferred Stock before the dividend payment date for any dividend period, such dividend shall not be cumulative and shall not accrue or be payable for such</p>

Table of Contents

dividend period, and we will have no obligation to pay dividends for such dividend period, whether or not dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock are declared for any future dividend period.

So long as any share of Series D Preferred Stock remains outstanding, (1) no dividend shall be declared or paid or set aside for payment and no distribution shall be declared or made or set aside for payment on any junior stock (other than a dividend payable solely in junior stock), (2) no shares of junior stock shall be repurchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired for consideration by us, directly or indirectly (other than as a result of a reclassification of junior stock for or into other junior stock, or the exchange or conversion of one share of junior stock for or into another share of junior stock, and other than through the use of the proceeds of a substantially contemporaneous sale of other shares of junior stock) nor shall any monies be paid to or made available for a sinking fund for the redemption of any such securities by us and (3) no shares of parity stock shall be repurchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired for consideration by us otherwise than pursuant to *pro rata* offers to purchase all, or a *pro rata* portion, of the Series D Preferred Stock and such parity stock except by conversion into or exchange for junior stock, during a dividend period, unless, in each case, the full dividends for the then-current dividend period on all outstanding shares of Series D Preferred Stock have been declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof has been set aside.

When dividends are not paid in full upon the shares of Series D Preferred Stock and any parity stock, all dividends declared upon shares of Series D Preferred Stock and any parity stock will be declared on a proportional basis so that the amount of dividends declared per share will bear to each other the same ratio that accrued dividends for the then-current dividend period per share on Series D Preferred Stock, and accrued dividends, including any accumulations, on any parity stock, bear to each other.

Subject to the foregoing, and not otherwise, such dividends (payable in cash, stock or otherwise), as may be determined by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of the board, may be declared and paid on our common stock and any other securities ranking equally with or junior to the Series D Preferred Stock from time to time out of any assets legally available for such payment, and the holders of the Series D Preferred Stock shall not be entitled to participate in any such dividend.

Dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock shall not be declared, paid or set aside for payment to the extent such act would cause us to fail to comply with laws and regulations applicable thereto, including applicable capital adequacy guidelines.

Dividend payment dates

The 1st day of February, May, August and November of each year, commencing on _____, 2012. If any date on which dividends would otherwise be payable is not a business day, then the dividend

Table of Contents

payment date will be the next succeeding business day and no additional dividends will accrue in respect of any payment made on the next succeeding business day.

Redemption

On _____, 2017, or any dividend payment date thereafter, the Series D Preferred Stock may be redeemed in whole, or in part, at a redemption price equal to \$25,000 per share (equivalent to \$25 per depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends. The Series D Preferred Stock may be redeemed in whole, but not in part, prior to _____, 2017, upon the occurrence of a regulatory capital treatment event, as described below under Description of Series D Preferred Stock Redemption, at a redemption price equal to \$25,000 per share (equivalent to \$25 per depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends. Neither the holders of Series D Preferred Stock nor holders of depositary shares will have the right to require the redemption or repurchase of the Series D Preferred Stock.

Under the risk-based capital guidelines of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the Federal Reserve) applicable to bank holding companies, any redemption of the Series D Preferred Stock is, under current rules, subject to prior approval of the Federal Reserve.

Liquidation rights

Upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of BB&T Corporation, holders of shares of Series D Preferred Stock are entitled to receive out of assets of BB&T Corporation available for distribution to shareholders, before any distribution of assets is made to holders of our common stock or of any other shares of our stock ranking junior as to such a distribution to the Series D Preferred Stock, a liquidating distribution in the amount of the liquidation preference of \$25,000 per share (equivalent to \$25 per depositary share) plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends. Distributions will be made only to the extent of BB&T Corporation's assets that are available after satisfaction of all liabilities to creditors and subject to the rights of holders of any securities ranking senior to the Series D Preferred Stock (*pro rata* as to the Series D Preferred Stock and any other shares of our stock ranking equally as to such distribution).

Voting rights

None, except with respect to authorizing or increasing the authorized amount of senior stock, certain changes in the terms of the Series D Preferred Stock, and upon our non-payment of the equivalent of six quarterly dividends (whether consecutive or not), the right to elect a minimum of two directors. See Description of Series D Preferred Stock Voting Rights below. Holders of depositary shares must act through the depositary to exercise any voting rights, as described under Description of Depositary Shares Voting the Series D Preferred Stock below.

Table of Contents

Maturity	The Series D Preferred Stock does not have a maturity date, and we are not required to redeem the Series D Preferred Stock. Accordingly, the Series D Preferred Stock will remain outstanding indefinitely, unless and until we decide to redeem it.
Preemptive and conversion rights	None.
Listing	We intend to apply for listing of the depositary shares on the NYSE under the symbol BBT PrD. If the application is approved, we expect trading of the depositary shares on the NYSE to commence within a 30-day period after the initial delivery of the depositary shares.
Tax consequences	Distributions constituting dividend income received by an individual U.S. holder in respect of the depositary shares before January 1, 2013 will generally represent qualified dividend income, which will be subject to taxation at a maximum rate of 15% (or a lower rate for individuals in certain tax brackets) subject to certain exceptions for short-term and hedged positions. In addition, subject to similar exceptions for short-term and hedged positions, distributions on the depositary shares constituting dividend income paid to holders that are U.S. corporations will generally qualify for the 70% dividends-received deduction. For further discussion of the tax consequences relating to the Series D Preferred Stock, see Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations below.
Use of proceeds	We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the depositary shares representing interests in the Series D Preferred Stock for general corporate purposes, which may include the acquisition of other companies, repurchasing outstanding shares of our common stock, repayment of maturing obligations and refinancing of outstanding indebtedness (which may include the redemption of trust preferred securities) and extending credit to, or funding investments in, our subsidiaries. The precise amounts and timing of our use of the net proceeds will depend upon our and our subsidiaries' funding requirements and the availability of other funds. Pending our use of the net proceeds from the sale of the depositary shares representing interests in the Series D Preferred Stock as described above, we will use the net proceeds to reduce our short-term indebtedness or for temporary investments. See Use of Proceeds below.
Registrar and Depositary	Computershare Trust Company, N.A.
Conflicts of interest	Our affiliate, BB&T Capital Markets, a division of Scott & Stringfellow, LLC, is a member of FINRA and is participating in the distribution of the depositary shares. The distribution arrangements for this offering comply with the requirements of FINRA Rule 5121, regarding a FINRA member firm's participation in the distribution of securities of an affiliate. In accordance with Rule 5121, no FINRA member firm that has a conflict of interest under Rule 5121 may

Table of Contents

make sales in this offering to any discretionary account without the prior approval of the customer. Our affiliates, including BB&T Capital Markets, a division of Scott & Stringfellow, LLC, may use this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in connection with offers and sales of the depositary shares in the secondary market. These affiliates may act as principal or agent in those transactions. Secondary market sales will be made at prices related to market prices at the time of sale.

S-8

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

An investment in the depositary shares involves certain risks. You should carefully consider the risks described below and the risk factors and other information concerning our business included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, as well as the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, before making an investment decision. Our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks. The trading price of the depositary shares could decline due to any of these risks, and you may lose all or part of your investment. This prospectus supplement also contains or incorporates by reference forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including the risks faced by us described below and elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

You are making an investment decision with regard to the depositary shares as well as the Series D Preferred Stock.

As described in this prospectus supplement, we are issuing fractional interests in shares of Series D Preferred Stock in the form of depositary shares. Accordingly, the depositary will rely on the payments it receives on the Series D Preferred Stock to fund all payments on the depositary shares. You should carefully review the information in the accompanying prospectus and in this prospectus supplement regarding both of these securities.

Our ability to pay dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock, and therefore your ability to receive distributions on the depositary shares, may be limited by federal regulatory considerations and the results of operations of our subsidiaries.

We are a holding company that conducts substantially all of our operations through our banks and other subsidiaries. As a result, our ability to make dividend payments on the Series D Preferred Stock will depend primarily upon the receipt of dividends and other distributions from our subsidiaries.

There are various regulatory restrictions on the ability of our banking subsidiaries to pay dividends or make other payments to us. Federal banking laws regulate the amount of dividends that may be paid by our banking subsidiaries without prior approval. In addition, the Dodd-Frank Act requires federal banking agencies to establish more stringent risk-based capital guidelines and leverage limits applicable to banks and bank holding companies, and especially those institutions with consolidated assets equal to or greater than \$50 billion. These requirements, and any other new regulations or capital distribution constraints, including those that may be imposed in accordance with new international capital guidelines (Basel III) established by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, could adversely affect our ability to pay dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock and therefore your ability to receive distributions on the depositary shares.

Additionally, our right to participate in any distribution of assets of any of our subsidiaries upon the subsidiary's liquidation or otherwise, and thus your ability as a holder of the depositary shares to benefit indirectly from such distribution, will be subject to the prior claims of creditors of that subsidiary, except to the extent that any of our claims as a creditor of such subsidiary may be recognized. As a result, the depositary shares will effectively be subordinated to all existing and future liabilities and obligations of our subsidiaries. At December 31, 2011, our subsidiaries' direct borrowings and deposit liabilities that would effectively rank senior to the Series D Preferred Stock totaled approximately \$150.3 billion.

The Series D Preferred Stock is equity and is subordinate to our existing and future indebtedness.

The shares of Series D Preferred Stock are our equity interests and do not constitute indebtedness. As such, the shares of Series D Preferred Stock, and the related depositary shares, will rank junior to all indebtedness and

Table of Contents

other non-equity claims on us with respect to assets available to satisfy claims on us, including in our liquidation. Our existing and future indebtedness may restrict payment of dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock. As of December 31, 2011, our indebtedness and obligations, on a consolidated basis, totaled approximately \$157.1 billion. Additionally, unlike indebtedness, where principal and interest would customarily be payable on specified due dates, in the case of preferred stock such as the Series D Preferred Stock, (1) dividends are payable only if declared by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of the board and (2) as a corporation, we are subject to restrictions on payments of dividends and redemption price out of lawfully available assets. Further, the Series D Preferred Stock places no restrictions on our business or operations or on our ability to incur indebtedness or engage in any transactions, subject only to the limited voting rights referred to below under Risk Factors. Holders of Series D Preferred Stock and the related depositary shares will have limited voting rights. Also, as a bank holding company, our ability to declare and pay dividends is dependent on certain federal regulatory considerations. See the immediately preceding risk factor.

We are not required to declare dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock, and dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock are non-cumulative. If we do not declare dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock, holders of depositary shares will not be entitled to receive related distributions on their depositary shares.

Dividends on shares of the Series D Preferred Stock will not be mandatory. Holders of the Series D Preferred Stock, including the depositary, will only be entitled to receive dividends for any given dividend period if, when and as declared by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of our board of directors out of legally available assets. Consequently, if our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of the board of directors does not authorize and declare a dividend for any dividend period, the depositary would not be entitled to receive any such dividend and no related distribution will be made on the depositary shares, and such unpaid dividend will not accrue or be payable for such dividend period. Dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock are non-cumulative. We will have no obligation to pay dividends accrued for a dividend period after the dividend payment date for such period, and holders of depositary shares will not be entitled to receive any distribution with respect to such dividends, if our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of the board of directors has not declared such dividend before the related dividend payment date, whether or not dividends are declared for any subsequent dividend period with respect to the Series D Preferred Stock or any other series of our preferred stock. If we do not declare and pay dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock, you will not receive corresponding distributions on your depositary shares and the market price of your depositary shares may decline.

Investors should not expect us to redeem the Series D Preferred Stock on the date it becomes redeemable or on any particular date after it becomes redeemable.

The Series D Preferred Stock is a perpetual equity security. The Series D Preferred Stock has no maturity or mandatory redemption date and is not redeemable at the option of investors. By its terms, the Series D Preferred Stock may be redeemed by us at our option either in whole or in part from time to time on _____, 2017, or any dividend payment date thereafter, or in whole upon the occurrence of certain changes relating to the regulatory capital treatment of the Series D Preferred Stock, as described below under Description of Series D Preferred Stock Redemption. Any decision we may make at any time to propose a redemption of the Series D Preferred Stock will depend upon, among other things, our evaluation of our capital position, the composition of our stockholders' equity and general market conditions at that time.

Our right to redeem the Series D Preferred Stock is subject to an important limitation. Under the Federal Reserve's current risk-based capital guidelines applicable to bank holding companies, any redemption of the Series D Preferred Stock is subject to prior approval of the Federal Reserve. There can be no assurance that the Federal Reserve will approve any redemption of the Series D Preferred Stock that we may propose. There also can be no assurance that, if we propose to redeem the Series D Preferred Stock without replacing the Series D Preferred Stock with Tier 1 capital that is not a restricted core capital element, the Federal Reserve will authorize such redemption. We understand that the factors that the Federal Reserve will consider in evaluating a proposed redemption, or a request that we be permitted to redeem the Series D Preferred Stock without replacing it with

Table of Contents

Tier 1 capital that is not a restricted core capital element, include its evaluation of the overall level and quality of our capital components, considered in light of our risk exposures, earnings and growth strategy, and other supervisory considerations, although the Federal Reserve may change these factors at any time.

If we are deferring payments on our outstanding junior subordinated debt securities or are in default under the indentures governing those securities, we will be prohibited from making distributions on or redeeming the Series D Preferred Stock.

The terms of our outstanding junior subordinated debt securities prohibit us from declaring or paying any dividends or distributions on the Series D Preferred Stock, or redeeming, purchasing, acquiring or making a liquidation payment with respect to any of our capital stock, including the Series D Preferred Stock, if we are aware of any event that would be an event of default under the indenture governing those junior subordinated debt securities or at any time when we have deferred interest thereunder.

A downgrade, suspension or withdrawal of any rating assigned by a rating agency to us or our securities, including the depositary shares and the Series D Preferred Stock, could cause the liquidity or trading price of the depositary shares to decline significantly.

Real or anticipated changes in the credit ratings assigned to the depositary shares, the Series D Preferred Stock or our credit ratings generally could affect the trading price of the depositary shares. Credit ratings are not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold any security, and may be revised or withdrawn at any time by the issuing organization in its sole discretion. In addition, credit rating agencies continually review their ratings for the companies that they follow, including us. The credit rating agencies also evaluate the financial services industry as a whole and may change their credit rating for us and our securities, including the Series D Preferred Stock and depositary shares, based on their overall view of our industry. On December 6, 2011, Standard & Poor's Rating Services (S&P) lowered its long-term issuer credit rating one notch on us and Branch Banking and Trust Company as part of its review of the ratings for a number of the largest financial institutions and the application of its new ratings criteria for banks, which were published by S&P on November 9, 2011.

A further downgrade, withdrawal, or the announcement of a possible downgrade or withdrawal in the ratings assigned to the depositary shares, the Series D Preferred Stock, us or our other securities, or any perceived decrease in our creditworthiness could cause the trading price of the depositary shares to decline significantly.

The depositary shares may not have an active trading market.

The Series D Preferred Stock and the related depositary shares are new issues with no established trading market. Although we intend to apply to list the depositary shares on the NYSE, there is no guarantee that we will be able to list the depositary shares. Even if the depositary shares are listed, there may be little or no secondary market for the depositary shares. Even if a secondary market for the depositary shares develops, it may not provide significant liquidity and transaction costs in any secondary market could be high. As a result, the difference between bid and asked prices in any secondary market could be substantial. Further, because the shares of Series D Preferred Stock do not have a stated maturity date, investors seeking liquidity in the depositary shares will be limited to selling their depositary shares in the secondary market. We do not expect that there will be any separate public trading market for the shares of the Series D Preferred Stock except as represented by the depositary shares.

Holders of Series D Preferred Stock and the related depositary shares will have limited voting rights.

Holders of the Series D Preferred Stock, and therefore holders of the depositary shares, have no voting rights with respect to matters that generally require the approval of voting shareholders. However, holders of the Series D Preferred Stock will have the right to vote as a class on certain fundamental matters that may affect the

Table of Contents

preference or special rights of the Series D Preferred Stock, as described under **Description of Series D Preferred Stock** **Voting Rights** below. In addition, if dividends on any shares of the Series D Preferred Stock or any other class or series of preferred stock that ranks on parity with the Series D Preferred Stock as to payment of dividends with similar voting rights have not been declared or paid for the equivalent of six or more dividend payments, whether or not for consecutive dividend periods, holders of the outstanding shares of Series D Preferred Stock, together with holders of any other series of our preferred stock ranking equal with the Series D Preferred Stock with similar voting rights, will be entitled to vote for the election of two additional directors to our board of directors, subject to the terms and to the limited extent described under **Description of Series D Preferred Stock** **Voting Rights** below. Holders of depositary shares must act through the depositary to exercise any voting rights in respect of the Series D Preferred Stock.

Holders of depositary shares may not be entitled to the dividends-received deduction.

Distributions paid to corporate U.S. holders of the depositary shares may be eligible for the dividends-received deduction if we have current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Although we presently have accumulated earnings and profits, we may not have sufficient current or accumulated earnings and profits during future fiscal years for the distributions on the Series D Preferred Stock (and related depositary shares) to qualify as dividends for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If any distributions on the Series D Preferred Stock (and related depositary shares) with respect to any fiscal year are not eligible for the dividends-received deduction because of insufficient current or accumulated earnings and profits, the market value of the depositary shares may decline.

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, regarding our financial condition, results of operations, business plans and future performance that are based on the beliefs and assumptions of our management and the information available to management at the time that these disclosures were prepared. Words such as anticipates, believes, estimates, expects, forecasts, intends, plans, projects, may, will, should, and other similar words are intended to identify these forward-looking statements. Such statements are subject to factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from anticipated results. Such factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

general economic or business conditions, either nationally or regionally, may be less favorable than expected, resulting in, among other things, a deterioration in credit quality and/or a reduced demand for credit or other services;

disruptions to the credit and financial markets, either nationally or globally, including the impact of a downgrade of U.S. government obligations by one of the credit ratings agencies and the adverse effects of the ongoing sovereign debt crisis in Europe;

changes in the interest rate environment may reduce net interest margins and/or the volumes and values of loans made or held as well as the value of other financial assets held;

competitive pressures among depository and other financial institutions may increase significantly;

legislative, regulatory or accounting changes, including changes resulting from the adoption and implementation of the Dodd-Frank Act may adversely affect the businesses in which we are engaged;

local, state or federal taxing authorities may take tax positions that are adverse to us;

reduction in our credit ratings;

adverse changes may occur in the securities markets;

our competitors may have greater financial resources and develop products that enable them to compete more successfully than us and may be subject to different regulatory standards than us;

costs or difficulties related to the integration of our businesses and our merger partners may be greater than expected;

unpredictable natural or other disasters could have an adverse effect on us in that such events could materially disrupt our operations or the ability or willingness of our customers to access the financial services we offer;

expected cost savings associated with completed mergers and acquisitions may not be fully realized or realized within the expected time frames; and

deposit attrition, customer loss and/or revenue loss following completed mergers and acquisitions may be greater than expected. These and other risk factors are more fully described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 under the section entitled "Risk Factors Related to BB&T's Business" and from time to time in other filings with the SEC. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this prospectus supplement. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, any forward-looking statements. Except to the extent required by applicable law or regulation, we undertake no obligation to revise or update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason.

S-13

Table of Contents**USE OF PROCEEDS**

The net proceeds from this offering, before expenses, are expected to be approximately \$ million (or approximately \$ million if the underwriters exercise in full their over-allotment option to purchase additional depository shares). We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the depository shares representing interests in the Series D Preferred Stock for general corporate purposes, which may include the acquisition of other companies, repurchasing outstanding shares of our common stock, repayment of maturing obligations and refinancing of outstanding indebtedness (which may include the redemption of trust preferred securities) and extending credit to, or funding investments in, our subsidiaries. The precise amounts and timing of our use of the net proceeds will depend upon our and our subsidiaries' funding requirements and the availability of other funds. Pending our use of the net proceeds from the sale of the depository shares representing interests in the Series D Preferred Stock as described above, we will use the net proceeds to reduce our short-term indebtedness or for temporary investments.

CONSOLIDATED RATIOS OF EARNINGS**TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS**

The consolidated ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends for us and our subsidiaries for each of the periods indicated are as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Ratio of Earnings to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends: ⁽¹⁾					
Excluding interest on deposits	2.91x	1.99x	1.88x	2.76x	2.77x
Including interest on deposits	2.10x	1.50x	1.38x	1.67x	1.63x

(1) Dividends on preferred stock have been grossed up by the effective tax rate for the period.

For purposes of computing these ratios, earnings represent income from continuing operations before extraordinary items and cumulative effects of changes in accounting principles plus income taxes and fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest and dividends on our preferred stock, less earnings attributable to noncontrolling interest). Fixed charges, excluding interest on deposits, represent interest (other than on deposits, but including capitalized interest), one-third of rents (the proportion representative of the interest factor), dividends on our preferred stock and all amortization of debt issuance costs. Fixed charges, including interest on deposits, represent all interest, one-third of rents (the proportion representative of the interest factor), dividends on our preferred stock and all amortization of debt issuance costs.

As of the date of this prospectus supplement, we have no preferred stock outstanding.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

The following description summarizes the terms of our capital stock but does not purport to be complete, and it is qualified in its entirety by reference to the applicable provisions of federal law governing bank holding companies, North Carolina law and our articles of incorporation and bylaws. Our articles of incorporation and bylaws are incorporated by reference as exhibits to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#) in the accompanying prospectus.

Our authorized capital stock consists of 2,000,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$5.00 per share, and 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$5.00 per share. As of March 31, 2012, there were 698,454,131 shares of our common stock issued and outstanding and no shares of our preferred stock issued and outstanding. All outstanding shares of our capital stock are, and the shares of Series D Preferred Stock to be sold under this prospectus supplement will be, when issued and paid for, fully paid and non-assessable.

Common Stock

Each share of our common stock is entitled to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote at any meeting of shareholders. Holders of our common stock are entitled to receive dividends when, as, and if, declared by our board of directors out of funds legally available for the payment of dividends and, upon liquidation, to receive pro rata all assets, if any, of BB&T Corporation available for distribution after the payment of necessary expenses and all prior claims. Holders of our common stock do not have cumulative voting, preemptive, redemption or conversion rights. The rights and privileges of holders of our common stock are subject to any preferences that our board of directors may set for any series of our preferred stock that we may issue in the future.

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is Computershare, Inc. Our common stock is listed on the NYSE under the symbol [BBT](#).

Anti-Takeover Provisions

Provisions of the North Carolina Business Corporation Act (the [NCBCA](#)) and our articles of incorporation and bylaws described below may be deemed to have an anti-takeover effect and, together with the ability of our board of directors to issue shares of our preferred stock and to set the voting rights, preferences and other terms of our preferred stock, may delay or prevent takeover attempts not first approved by our board of directors. These provisions also could delay or deter the removal of incumbent directors or the assumption of control by shareholders. We believe that these provisions are appropriate to protect our interests and our shareholders.

Control Share Acquisition Act. The NCBCA's Control Share Acquisition Act (the [Control Share Acquisition Act](#)) may make an unsolicited attempt to gain control of BB&T Corporation more difficult by restricting the right of specified shareholders to vote newly acquired large blocks of stock. The Control Share Acquisition Act is triggered upon the acquisition by a person of shares of voting stock of a covered corporation that, when added to all other shares beneficially owned by the person, would result in that person holding one-fifth, one-third or a majority of the voting power in the election of directors. Under the Control Share Acquisition Act, the shares acquired that result in the crossing of any of these thresholds have no voting rights until they are conferred by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of all outstanding voting shares, excluding those shares held by any person involved or proposing to be involved in the acquisition of shares in excess of the thresholds, any officer of the corporation and any employee of the corporation who is also a director of the corporation. If voting rights are conferred on the acquired shares, all shareholders of the corporation have the right to require that their shares be redeemed at the highest price paid per share by the acquiror for any of the acquired shares.

Table of Contents

North Carolina Shareholder Protection Act. The North Carolina Shareholder Protection Act (the Shareholder Protection Act) generally provides that, unless the transaction satisfies certain minimum fair price (as compared to market price, earnings per share and the price paid for shares by the acquiror) and procedural requirements, the affirmative vote of the holders of 95% of the voting shares of a corporation is necessary to adopt or authorize a business combination with any other entity, if that entity is the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of more than 20% of the voting shares of the corporation. The Shareholder Protection Act applies to all North Carolina corporations that have not expressly opted out of its provisions in their articles of incorporation or bylaws. We have explicitly opted out of the provisions of the Shareholder Protection Act in our bylaws.

Provisions Regarding Our Board of Directors. Our bylaws provide for a board of directors having not less than three nor more than 25 members as determined from time to time by vote of a majority of the members of our board of directors or by resolution by our shareholders. Each director is elected to serve for a term of one year, with each director's term to expire at the annual meeting next following the director's election as a director when a successor may be elected and qualified, unless the director dies, resigns, retires or is disqualified or removed before that meeting. Under our bylaws, our directors may be removed only for cause and only by the vote of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote in the election of directors.

Meeting of Shareholders; Shareholders' Nominations and Proposals. Under our bylaws, meetings of the shareholders may be called only by our chairman of the board of directors, chief executive officer, president, chief operating officer, secretary or our board of directors. Our shareholders may not request that a special meeting of shareholders be called. This provision could delay shareholder actions that are favored by the holders of a majority of our outstanding voting securities until the next annual shareholders' meeting.

The procedures governing the submission of nominations for directors and other proposals by shareholders may also have a deterrent effect on shareholder actions designed to result in our change of control. Our bylaws require advance notice to our secretary regarding shareholder proposals and the nomination, other than by or at the direction of our board of directors or one of its committees, of candidates for election as directors, not later than (1) in the case of an annual meeting, at least 120 days but no more than 150 days in advance of the first anniversary of the notice date of our proxy statement for the preceding year's annual meeting; (2) in the case of a special meeting, at least 120 days but no more than 150 days in advance of the meeting date of the special meeting; provided, however, if the first public announcement of the date of the special meeting is less than 150 days prior to the date of the special meeting, notice by the shareholder shall not be later than the tenth day following the first public notice of the date for such special meeting; provided, further, if the special meeting is called for purposes not including the election of directors, notice by a shareholder may relate solely to items of business and not to nomination of any candidates for election as a director. Notwithstanding the notice period specified above, in the event that the date of an annual meeting is advanced by more than 30 days or delayed by more than 60 days from the first anniversary date of the preceding year's annual meeting, notice by a shareholder must be delivered no earlier than the 150th day prior to such annual meeting and no later than the later of the 120th day prior to such annual meeting; provided, however, if the first public announcement date of such annual meeting is less than 150 days prior to the date of such annual meeting, notice by the shareholder shall not be later than the tenth day following the public notice date for such annual meeting. With respect to a shareholder intending to make a proposal for consideration at a meeting, the foregoing notice to the secretary must contain, among other information: a description of the proposal; the name, address and shareholdings of the shareholder submitting the proposal; any material interest of the shareholder in the proposal; and a representation that the shareholder is a holder of record of shares entitled to vote at the meeting and intends to appear in person or by proxy at such meeting to present the proposal. With respect to a shareholder intending to nominate a candidate for election as a director, the foregoing notice to the secretary must contain, among other information: the aforementioned information required for a shareholder proposal; certain biographical information about the nominee; information about the nominee's securities ownership in BB&T Corporation; and a signed statement by the nominee consenting to serve as a director if so elected. Failure of any shareholder to provide the notice, information or acknowledgements required by the foregoing provisions in a timely and proper manner shall

Table of Contents

authorize BB&T Corporation or the presiding officer at the meeting of shareholders before which such business is proposed to be introduced, or at which such nominee is proposed to be considered for election as a director, to rule such proposal or nomination out of order and not proper to be introduced or considered.

Restrictions on Ownership. The Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended (the Bank Holding Company Act), requires any bank holding company (as defined in that Act) to obtain the approval of the Federal Reserve Board prior to acquiring more than 5% of our outstanding common stock. Any person other than a bank holding company is required to obtain prior approval of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to acquire 10% or more of our outstanding common stock under the Change in Bank Control Act. Any holder of 25% or more of our outstanding common stock, other than an individual is subject to regulation as a bank holding company, under the Bank Holding Company Act.

Preferred Stock

Under our articles of incorporation, we may issue shares of our preferred stock from time to time in one or more series. Our board of directors is authorized, without action of shareholders, to divide the preferred stock into series, to provide for the issuance thereof, and to fix and determine the relative rights, voting powers, preferences, limitations, and designations of the shares of any series so established, including, without limitation, to determine: (1) the number of shares to constitute such series and the distinctive designation thereof; (2) the dividend rate, conditions and time of accrual and payment thereof, and the dividend preferences, if any, between the classes of stock and between the series of preferred stock; (3) whether dividends shall be cumulative and, if so, the date from which dividends on each such series shall accumulate; (4) whether, and to what extent, the holders of one or more series of preferred stock shall enjoy voting rights, if any, in addition to those prescribed by law; (5) whether, and upon what terms, preferred stock will be convertible into or exchangeable for shares of any class or any other series of the same class; and (6) whether, and upon what terms, the preferred stock, will be redeemable, and the preference, if any, to which the preferred stock will be entitled in the event of voluntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of BB&T Corporation. This power is limited by applicable laws or regulations and may be delegated to a committee of the board of directors. Under some circumstances, the issuance of shares of our preferred stock, or merely the existing authorization of our board of directors to issue shares of our preferred stock, may tend to discourage or impede a merger or other change in control of BB&T Corporation.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES D PREFERRED STOCK

The depositary will be the sole holder of the Series D Preferred Stock, as described under "Description of Depositary Shares" below, and all references in this prospectus supplement to the holders of the Series D Preferred Stock shall mean the depositary. However, the holders of depositary shares will be entitled, through the depositary, to exercise the rights and preferences of the holders of the Series D Preferred Stock, as described under "Description of Depositary Shares."

This prospectus supplement summarizes specific terms and provisions of the Series D Preferred Stock. Terms that apply generally to our preferred stock are described in the "Description of Capital Stock" section of this prospectus supplement. The following summary of the terms and provisions of the Series D Preferred Stock does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the pertinent sections of our articles of incorporation and the articles of amendment creating the Series D Preferred Stock, which will be included as an exhibit to documents filed with the SEC.

Our authorized capital stock includes 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$5.00 per share, to be issued from time to time in one or more series. Our board of directors is authorized, without action of shareholders, to divide the preferred stock into series, to provide for the issuance thereof, and to fix and determine the relative rights, voting powers, preferences, limitations, and designations of the shares of any series so established, including, without limitation, to determine: (1) the number of shares to constitute such series and the distinctive designation thereof; (2) the dividend rate, conditions and time of accrual and payment thereof, and the dividend preferences, if any, between the classes of stock and between the series of preferred stock; (3) whether dividends shall be cumulative and, if so, the date from which dividends on each such series shall accumulate; (4) whether, and to what extent, the holders of one or more series of preferred stock shall enjoy voting rights, if any, in addition to those prescribed by law; (5) whether, and upon what terms, preferred stock will be convertible into or exchangeable for shares of any class or any other series of the same class; and (6) whether, and upon what terms, the preferred stock, will be redeemable, and the preference, if any, to which the preferred stock will be entitled in the event of voluntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of BB&T Corporation. This power is limited by applicable laws or regulations and may be delegated to a committee of the board of directors.

The Series D Preferred Stock is a single series of authorized preferred stock consisting of _____ shares, all of which are being initially offered hereby. We may from time to time, without notice to or the consent of holders of the Series D Preferred Stock, issue additional shares of preferred stock.

Shares of the Series D Preferred Stock will rank senior to our common stock and at least equally with each other series of our preferred stock we may issue (except for any senior series that may be issued with the requisite consent of the holders of the Series D Preferred Stock and all other parity stock), with respect to the payment of dividends and distributions of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up. In addition, we will generally be able to pay dividends and distributions upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up only out of lawfully available assets for such payment (i.e., after taking account of all indebtedness and other non-equity claims). The Series D Preferred Stock will be fully paid and nonassessable when issued. Holders of Series D Preferred Stock will not have preemptive or subscription rights to acquire more capital stock of BB&T Corporation.

The Series D Preferred Stock will not be convertible into, or exchangeable for, shares of any other class or series of stock or other securities of BB&T Corporation. The Series D Preferred Stock has no stated maturity and will not be subject to any sinking fund or other obligation of BB&T Corporation to redeem or repurchase the Series D Preferred Stock.

Table of Contents

Dividends

Dividends on shares of the Series D Preferred Stock will not be mandatory. Holders of the Series D Preferred Stock will be entitled to receive, if, when and as declared by our board of directors out of legally available assets, non-cumulative cash dividends on the liquidation preference, which is \$25,000 per share of Series D Preferred Stock. These dividends will be payable quarterly in arrears on each February 1, May 1, August 1 or November 1, such date being referred to herein as a dividend payment date. Dividends on each share of Series D Preferred Stock will accrue on the liquidation preference amount of \$25,000 per share (equivalent to \$25 per depositary share) at a rate *per annum* equal to %.

In the event that we issue additional shares of Series D Preferred Stock after the original issue date, dividends on such shares will accrue from the original issue date of such additional shares. Notwithstanding the foregoing, dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock shall not be declared, paid or set aside for payment to the extent such act would cause us to fail to comply with laws and regulations applicable thereto, including applicable capital adequacy guidelines.

Dividends will be payable to holders of record of Series D Preferred Stock as they appear on our books on the applicable record date, which shall be the last business day of the calendar month immediately preceding the month during which the dividend payment date falls. The corresponding record dates for the depositary shares will be the same as the record dates for the Series D Preferred Stock.

A dividend period is the period from and including a dividend payment date to but excluding the next dividend payment date, except that the initial dividend period will commence on and include the original issue date of the Series D Preferred Stock. Dividends will be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months. If any date on which dividends would otherwise be payable is not a business day, then the dividend payment date will be the next succeeding business day and no additional dividends will accrue in respect of any payment made on the next succeeding business day.

In this subsection, the term *business day* means each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday on which banking institutions are not authorized or obligated by law, regulation or executive order to close in New York, New York or Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Dividends on shares of Series D Preferred Stock will not be cumulative. Accordingly, if our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of the board, does not declare a dividend on the Series D Preferred Stock payable in respect of any dividend period before the related dividend payment date, such dividend will not be deemed to have accrued and we will have no obligation to pay a dividend for that dividend period on the dividend payment date or at any future time, whether or not dividends on the Series D Preferred Stock are declared for any future dividend period. So long as any share of Series D Preferred Stock remains outstanding, (1) no dividend shall be declared or paid or set aside for payment and no distribution shall be declared or made or set aside for payment on any junior stock (other than a dividend payable solely in junior stock), (2) no shares of junior stock shall be repurchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired for consideration by us, directly or indirectly (other than as a result of a reclassification of junior stock for or into other junior stock, or the exchange or conversion of one share of junior stock for or into another share of junior stock, and other than through the use of the proceeds of a substantially contemporaneous sale of other shares of junior stock) nor shall any monies be paid to or made available for a sinking fund for the redemption of any such securities by us and (3) no shares of parity stock shall be repurchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired for consideration by us otherwise than pursuant to *pro rata* offers to purchase all, or a *pro rata* portion, of the Series D Preferred Stock and such parity stock except by conversion into or exchange for junior stock, during a dividend period, unless, in each case, the full dividends for the then-current dividend period on all outstanding shares of Series D Preferred Stock have been declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof has been set aside.

As used in this prospectus supplement, *junior stock* means our common stock and any other class or series of stock of BB&T Corporation hereafter authorized over which Series D Preferred Stock has preference or priority in the payment of dividends or in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of BB&T Corporation.

Table of Contents

When dividends are not paid in full upon the shares of Series D Preferred Stock and any parity stock, all dividends declared upon shares of Series D Preferred Stock and any parity stock will be declared on a proportional basis so that the amount of dividends declared per share will bear to each other the same ratio that accrued dividends for the then-current dividend period per share on Series D Preferred Stock, and accrued dividends, including any accumulations, on any parity stock, bear to each other.

As used in this prospectus supplement, *parity stock* means any other class or series of stock of BB&T Corporation that ranks equally with the Series D Preferred Stock in the payment of dividends and in the distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of BB&T Corporation.

Subject to the foregoing, and not otherwise, such dividends (payable in cash, stock or otherwise), as may be determined by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of the board, may be declared and paid on our common stock and any other stock ranking equally with or junior to the Series D Preferred Stock from time to time out of any assets legally available for such payment, and the holders of Series D Preferred Stock shall not be entitled to participate in any such dividend.

Liquidation Rights

Upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of BB&T Corporation, holders of the Series D Preferred Stock are entitled to receive out of assets of BB&T Corporation available for distribution to shareholders, after satisfaction of liabilities to creditors and subject to the rights of holders of any securities ranking senior to the Series D Preferred Stock, before any distribution of assets is made to holders of common stock or of any of our other shares of stock ranking junior as to such a distribution to the shares of Series D Preferred Stock, a liquidating distribution in the amount of the liquidation preference of \$25,000 per share (equivalent to \$25 per depositary share) plus declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends. Holders of the Series D Preferred Stock will not be entitled to any other amounts from us after they have received their full liquidating distribution.

In any such distribution, if the assets of BB&T Corporation are not sufficient to pay the liquidation preferences plus declared and unpaid dividends in full to all holders of the Series D Preferred Stock and all holders of any other shares of our stock ranking equally as to such distribution with the Series D Preferred Stock, the amounts paid to the holders of Series D Preferred Stock and to the holders of all such other stock will be paid *pro rata* in accordance with the respective aggregate liquidating distribution owed to those holders. If the liquidation preference plus declared and unpaid dividends has been paid in full to all holders of Series D Preferred Stock and any other shares of our stock ranking equally as to the liquidation distribution, the holders of our junior stock shall be entitled to receive all remaining assets of BB&T Corporation according to their respective rights and preferences.

For purposes of this section, the merger or consolidation of BB&T Corporation with any other entity, including a merger or consolidation in which the holders of Series D Preferred Stock receive cash, securities or property for their shares, or the sale, lease or exchange of all or substantially all of the assets of BB&T Corporation for cash, securities or other property, shall not constitute a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of BB&T Corporation.

Redemption

The Series D Preferred Stock is not subject to any mandatory redemption, sinking fund or other similar provision. The Series D Preferred Stock is not redeemable prior to _____, 2017. On that date, and on any dividend payment date thereafter, the Series D Preferred Stock will be redeemable at our option, in whole or in part, at a redemption price equal to \$25,000 per share (equivalent to \$25 per depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends. Holders of Series D Preferred Stock will have no right to require the redemption or repurchase of the Series D Preferred Stock.

Table of Contents

Notwithstanding the foregoing, within 90 days of our good faith determination that an event has occurred that would constitute a regulatory capital treatment event, we may, at our option, subject to the approval of the appropriate federal banking agency, provide notice of our intent to redeem in accordance with the procedures described below, and subsequently redeem, all (but not less than all) of the shares of Series D Preferred Stock at the time outstanding at a redemption price equal to \$25,000 per share (equivalent to \$25 per depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends.

A regulatory capital treatment event means our determination, in good faith, that, as a result of any

amendment to, or change (including any announced prospective change) in, the laws or regulations of the United States or any political subdivision of or in the United States that is enacted or becomes effective after the initial issuance of any share of Series D Preferred Stock;

proposed change in those laws or regulations that is announced after the issuance of any share of Series D Preferred Stock; or

official administrative decision or judicial decision or administrative action or other official pronouncement interpreting or applying those laws or regulations that is announced after the initial issuance of any share of Series D Preferred Stock, there is more than an insubstantial risk that we will not be entitled to treat the full liquidation value of all shares of Series D Preferred Stock then outstanding as Tier 1 capital (or its equivalent) for purposes of the capital adequacy guidelines or regulations of the appropriate federal banking agency, as then in effect and applicable, for as long as any share of Series D Preferred Stock is outstanding.

If shares of the Series D Preferred Stock are to be redeemed, the notice of redemption shall be given to the holders of record of the Series D Preferred Stock to be redeemed, either by first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the holders of record of such shares to be redeemed at their respective last addresses appearing on our stock register or by such other method approved by the depositary, in its reasonable discretion, not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days prior to the date fixed for redemption thereof (provided that, if the depositary shares representing the Series D Preferred Stock are held in book-entry form through The Depository Trust Company, or DTC, we may give such notice in any manner permitted by DTC). Each notice of redemption will include a statement setting forth: (1) the redemption date; (2) the number of shares of the Series D Preferred Stock to be redeemed and, if less than all the shares held by such holder are to be redeemed, the number of such shares to be redeemed from such holder; (3) the redemption price; (4) the place or places where the certificates evidencing shares of Series D Preferred Stock are to be surrendered for payment of the redemption price; and (5) that dividends on the shares to be redeemed will cease to accrue on the redemption date. If notice of redemption of any shares of Series D Preferred Stock has been duly given and if the funds necessary for such redemption have been set aside by us for the benefit of the holders of any shares of Series D Preferred Stock so called for redemption, then, on and after the redemption date, dividends will cease to accrue on such shares of Series D Preferred Stock, such shares of Series D Preferred Stock shall no longer be deemed outstanding and all rights of the holders of such shares will terminate, except the right to receive the redemption price. See Description of Depositary Shares below for information about redemption of the depositary shares relating to our Series D Preferred Stock.

In case of any redemption of only part of the shares of the Series D Preferred Stock at the time outstanding, the shares to be redeemed shall be selected either *pro rata* or in such other manner as we may determine to be fair and equitable.

Under the Federal Reserve's current risk-based capital guidelines applicable to bank holding companies, any redemption of the Series D Preferred Stock is subject to prior approval of the Federal Reserve. See Risk Factors Investors should not expect us to redeem the Series D Preferred Stock on the date it becomes redeemable or on any particular date after it becomes redeemable in this prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

Voting Rights

Except as provided below, the holders of the Series D Preferred Stock will have no voting rights.

Whenever dividends on any shares of the Series D Preferred Stock or any other class or series of preferred stock that ranks on parity with the Series D Preferred Stock as to payment of dividends, and upon which similar voting rights have been conferred and are exercisable, shall have not been declared and paid for an amount equal to six or more dividend payments, whether or not for consecutive dividend periods (a Nonpayment), the holders of the Series D Preferred Stock (together with holders of any and all other classes of our authorized preferred stock having equivalent voting rights, whether or not the holders of such preferred stock would be entitled to vote for the election of directors if such default in dividends did not exist) will be entitled to vote as a single class for the election of a total of two additional members of our board of directors (the Preferred Directors), provided that the election of any such directors shall not cause us to violate the corporate governance requirement of the NYSE (or any other exchange on which our securities may be listed) that listed companies must have a majority of independent directors and provided further that our board of directors shall at no time include more than two Preferred Directors. In that event, the number of directors on our board of directors shall automatically increase by two and, at the request of any holder of Series D Preferred Stock, a special meeting of the holders of Series D Preferred Stock and any other class or series of preferred stock that ranks on parity with Series D Preferred Stock as to payment of dividends and for which dividends have not been paid, shall be called for the election of the two directors (unless such request is received less than 90 days before the date fixed for the next annual or special meeting of the shareholders, in which event such election shall be held at such next annual or special meeting of shareholders), followed by such election at each subsequent annual meeting. These voting rights will continue until full dividends have been paid regularly on the shares of the Series D Preferred Stock and any other class or series of preferred stock that ranks on parity with the Series D Preferred Stock as to payment of dividends for at least four consecutive dividend periods following the Nonpayment.

If and when full dividends have been regularly paid for at least four consecutive dividend periods following a Nonpayment on the Series D Preferred Stock and any other class or series of preferred stock that ranks on parity with the Series D Preferred Stock as to payment of dividends, the holders of the Series D Preferred Stock shall be divested of the foregoing voting rights (subject to vesting in the event of each subsequent Nonpayment) and the term of office of each Preferred Director so elected shall terminate and the number of directors on our board of directors shall automatically decrease by two. Any Preferred Director may be removed at any time without cause by the holders of record of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Series D Preferred Stock (together with holders of any and all other classes of our authorized preferred stock having equivalent voting rights, whether or not the holders of such preferred stock would be entitled to vote for the election of directors if such default in dividends did not exist) when they have the voting rights described above. So long as a Nonpayment shall continue, any vacancy in the office of a Preferred Director (other than prior to the initial election of the Preferred Directors) may be filled by the written consent of the Preferred Director remaining in office, or if none remains in office, by a vote of the holders of the outstanding shares of Series D Preferred Stock (together with holders of any and all other class of our authorized preferred stock having equivalent voting rights, whether or not the holders of such preferred stock would be entitled to vote for the election of directors if such default in dividends did not exist) to serve until the next annual meeting of stockholders. The Preferred Directors shall each be entitled to one vote per director on any matter.

If the holders of Series D Preferred Stock become entitled to vote for the election of directors, the Series D Preferred Stock may be considered a class of voting securities under interpretations adopted by the Federal Reserve. As a result, certain holders of Series D Preferred Stock may become subject to regulations under the Bank Holding Company Act and/or certain acquisitions of Series D Preferred Stock may be subject to prior approval by the Federal Reserve.

So long as any shares of Series D Preferred Stock remain outstanding:

the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least 66 ²/₃% of all of the shares of the Series D Preferred Stock and all other parity stock, at the time outstanding, voting as a single class without

Table of Contents

regard to series, shall be required to issue, authorize or increase the authorized amount of, or to issue or authorize any obligation or security convertible into or evidencing the right to purchase, any class or series of stock ranking senior to the Series D Preferred Stock and all other parity stock with respect to payment of dividends or the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of BB&T Corporation; and

the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least 66 ²/₃% of all of the shares of the Series D Preferred Stock at the time outstanding, voting separately as a class, shall be required to amend the provisions of BB&T Corporation's articles of incorporation or the articles of amendment of the Series D Preferred Stock or any other series of preferred stock so as to materially and adversely affect the powers, preferences, privileges or rights of the Series D Preferred Stock, taken as a whole; provided, however, that any increase in the amount of the authorized or issued Series D Preferred Stock or authorized preferred stock or the creation and issuance, or an increase in the authorized or issued amount, of other series of preferred stock ranking equally with and/or junior to the Series D Preferred Stock with respect to the payment of dividends (whether such dividends are cumulative or non-cumulative) and/or the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of BB&T Corporation will not be deemed to adversely affect the powers, preferences, privileges or rights of the Series D Preferred Stock.

The foregoing voting provisions will not apply if, at or prior to the time when the act with respect to which such vote would otherwise be required shall be effected, all outstanding shares of Series D Preferred Stock shall have been redeemed or called for redemption upon proper notice and sufficient funds shall have been set aside by us for the benefit of the holders of the Series D Preferred Stock to effect such redemption.

Registrar

Computershare Trust Company, N.A. will be the registrar, dividend disbursing agent and redemption agent for the Series D Preferred Stock.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

In this prospectus supplement, references to holders of depositary shares mean those who own depositary shares registered in their own names, on the books that we or the depositary maintain for this purpose, and not indirect holders who own beneficial interests in depositary shares registered in street name or issued in book-entry form through DTC. Please review the special considerations that apply to indirect holders described in the Book-Entry Issuance section of this prospectus supplement.

This prospectus supplement summarizes specific terms and provisions of the depositary shares relating to our Series D Preferred Stock. As described above under Description of Series D Preferred Stock, we are issuing fractional interests in shares of preferred stock in the form of depositary shares. Each depositary share will represent a 1/1,000th ownership interest in a share of Series D Preferred Stock, and will be evidenced by a depositary receipt. The shares of Series D Preferred Stock represented by depositary shares will be deposited under a deposit agreement among BB&T Corporation, Computershare Trust Company, N.A. and Computershare Inc., as depositary, and the holders from time to time of the depositary receipts evidencing the depositary shares. Subject to the terms of the deposit agreement, each holder of a depositary share will be entitled, through the depositary, in proportion to the applicable fraction of a share of Series D Preferred Stock represented by such depositary share, to all the rights and preferences of the Series D Preferred Stock represented thereby (including dividend, voting, redemption and liquidation rights).

Immediately following the issuance of the Series D Preferred Stock, we will deposit the Series D Preferred Stock with the depositary, which will then issue the depositary shares to the underwriters. Copies of the forms of deposit agreement and the depositary receipt may be obtained from us upon request and in the manner described in the Where You Can Find More Information section of the accompanying prospectus.

Dividends and Other Distributions

The depositary will distribute any cash dividends or other cash distributions received in respect of the deposited Series D Preferred Stock to the record holders of depositary shares relating to the underlying Series D Preferred Stock in proportion to the number of depositary shares held by the holders. The depositary will distribute any property received by it other than cash to the record holders of depositary shares entitled to those distributions, unless it determines that the distribution cannot be made proportionally among those holders or that it is not feasible to make a distribution. In that event, the depositary may, with our approval, sell the property and distribute the net proceeds from the sale to the holders of the depositary shares in proportion to the number of depositary shares they hold.

Record dates for the payment of dividends and other matters relating to the depositary shares will be the same as the corresponding record dates for the Series D Preferred Stock.

The amounts distributed to holders of depositary shares will be reduced by any amounts required to be withheld by the depositary or by us on account of taxes or other governmental charges.

Redemption of Depositary Shares

If we redeem the Series D Preferred Stock represented by the depositary shares, the depositary shares will be redeemed from the proceeds received by the depositary resulting from the redemption of the Series D Preferred Stock held by the depositary. The redemption price per depositary share will be equal to 1/1,000th of the redemption price per share payable with respect to the Series D Preferred Stock (or \$25 per depositary share), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, without accumulation of any undeclared dividends. Whenever we redeem shares of Series D Preferred Stock held by the depositary, the depositary will redeem, as of the same redemption date, the number of depositary shares representing shares of Series D Preferred Stock so redeemed.

Table of Contents

In case of any redemption of less than all of the outstanding depositary shares, the depositary shares to be redeemed will be selected by the depositary *pro rata* or in such other manner determined by the depositary to be equitable. In any such case, we will redeem depositary shares only in increments of 1,000 shares and any multiple thereof.

Voting the Series D Preferred Stock

When the depositary receives notice of any meeting at which the holders of the Series D Preferred Stock are entitled to vote, the depositary will mail (or otherwise transmit by an authorized method) the information contained in the notice to the record holders of the depositary shares relating to the Series D Preferred Stock. Each record holder of the depositary shares on the record date, which will be the same date as the record date for the Series D Preferred Stock, may instruct the depositary to vote the amount of the Series D Preferred Stock represented by the holder's depositary shares. To the extent possible, the depositary will vote the amount of the Series D Preferred Stock represented by depositary shares in accordance with the instructions it receives. We will agree to take all reasonable actions that the depositary determines are necessary to enable the depositary to vote as instructed. If the depositary does not receive specific instructions from the holders of any depositary shares representing the Series D Preferred Stock, it will vote all depositary shares of that series held by it proportionately with instructions received.

We intend to apply to list the depositary shares on the NYSE. If the application is approved, we expect trading to begin within 30 days of the initial delivery of the depositary shares. We do not expect that there will be any separate public trading market for the shares of the Series D Preferred Stock except as represented by the depositary shares.

Form of Preferred Stock and Depositary Shares

The depositary shares shall be issued in book-entry form through DTC, as described in [Book-Entry Issuance](#) below. The Series D Preferred Stock will be issued in registered form to the depositary as described in [Description of Series D Preferred Stock](#) above.

Table of Contents

BOOK-ENTRY ISSUANCE

DTC will act as securities depository for all of the depository shares. We will issue the depository shares only as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's nominee). We will issue and deposit with DTC one or more fully-registered global certificates for the depository shares representing, in the aggregate, the total number of the depository shares to be sold in this offering.

DTC has advised us that it is a limited purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a banking organization under the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation under the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a clearing agency registered under the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC holds securities that its participants deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the settlement among participants of securities transactions, like transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through electronic computerized book-entry changes in the participants' accounts, eliminating in this manner the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other organizations. DTC is owned by a number of its direct participants and by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. Others, like securities brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies that clear through or maintain custodial relationships with direct participants, either directly or indirectly, are indirect participants and also have access to the DTC system. The rules applicable to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC.

Clearstream has advised us that it is incorporated under the laws of Luxembourg as a professional depository. Clearstream holds securities for its participants and facilitates the clearance and settlement of securities transactions between its participants through electronic book-entry transfers between their accounts. Clearstream provides its participants with, among other things, services for safekeeping, administration, clearance and settlement of internationally traded securities and securities lending and borrowing. Clearstream interfaces with domestic securities markets in several countries through established depository and custodial relationships. As a professional depository, Clearstream is subject to regulation by the Luxembourg Commission for the Supervision of the Financial Sector, also known as the *Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier*. Clearstream participants are recognized financial institutions around the world, including underwriters, securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other organizations. Clearstream's participants in the U.S. are limited to securities brokers and dealers and banks. Indirect access to Clearstream is also available to other institutions such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with Clearstream participants. Distributions with respect to interests in global securities held through Clearstream will be credited to cash accounts of its customers in accordance with its rules and procedures, to the extent received by the U.S. depository for Clearstream.

Euroclear has advised us that it was created in 1968 to hold securities for its participants and to clear and settle transactions between Euroclear participants through simultaneous electronic book-entry delivery against payment, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of certificates and any risk from lack of simultaneous transfers of securities and cash. Euroclear provides various other services, including securities lending and borrowing, and interfaces with domestic markets in several countries. Euroclear is operated by Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. (the Euroclear operator) under contract with Euroclear plc, a U.K. corporation. Euroclear participants include banks, including central banks, securities brokers and dealers and other professional financial intermediaries. Indirect access to Euroclear is also available to other firms that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Euroclear participant, either directly or indirectly.

Purchases of depository shares within the DTC system must be made by or through direct participants, who will receive a credit for the depository shares on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each depository share is in turn to be recorded on the direct and indirect participants' records. DTC will not send written confirmation to beneficial owners of their purchases, but beneficial owners are expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transactions, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from

Table of Contents

the direct or indirect participants through which the beneficial owners purchased depositary shares. Transfers of ownership interests in the depositary shares are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of participants acting on behalf of beneficial owners. Beneficial owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in depositary shares, unless the book-entry system for the depositary shares is discontinued. Interests held through Clearstream and Euroclear will be recorded on DTC's books as being held by the U.S. depositary for each of Clearstream and Euroclear, which U.S. depositaries will in turn hold interests on behalf of their participants' customers' securities accounts.

DTC has no knowledge of the actual beneficial owners of the depositary shares. DTC's records reflect only the identity of the direct participants to whose accounts the depositary shares are credited, which may or may not be the beneficial owners. The participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to direct participants, by direct participants to indirect participants, and by direct participants and indirect participants to beneficial owners and the voting rights of direct participants, indirect participants and beneficial owners, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as is in effect from time to time, will be governed by arrangements among them.

We will send redemption notices to Cede & Co. as the registered holder of the depositary shares. If less than all of these depositary shares are redeemed, DTC's current practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each direct participant to be redeemed.

Although voting on the depositary shares is limited to the holders of record of the depositary shares, in those instances in which a vote is required, neither DTC nor Cede & Co. will itself consent or vote on depositary shares. Under its usual procedures, DTC would mail an omnibus proxy to us as soon as possible after the record date. The omnibus proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to direct participants for whose accounts the depositary shares are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the omnibus proxy).

We will make distribution payments on the depositary shares to DTC. DTC's practice is to credit direct participants' accounts on the relevant payment date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records unless DTC has reason to believe that it will not receive payments on the payment date. Standing instructions and customary practices will govern payments from participants to beneficial owners. Subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements, participants, and neither DTC nor we, will be responsible for the payment. We and any paying agent will be responsible for payment of distributions to DTC. Direct and indirect participants are responsible for the disbursement of the payments to the beneficial owners.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as securities depositary on any of the depositary shares at any time by giving reasonable notice to us. If a successor securities depositary is not obtained, final depositary shares certificates must be printed and delivered. We may at our option decide to discontinue the use of the system of book-entry transfers through DTC (or a successor depositary). After an event of default, the holders of a majority in liquidation preference or aggregate principal amount of depositary shares may discontinue the system of book-entry transfers through DTC. In this case, final certificates for the depositary shares will be printed and delivered.

We have obtained the information in this section about DTC and DTC's book-entry system from sources that we believe to be accurate, but we assume no responsibility for the accuracy of the information. We have no responsibility for the performance by DTC or its participants of their respective obligations as described in this prospectus supplement or under the rules and procedures governing their respective operations.

Beneficial owner refers to the ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each depositary share.

Table of Contents

Direct participants refers to securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other organizations who, with the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., own DTC. Purchases of depositary shares within the DTC system must be made by or through direct participants who will receive a credit for the depositary shares on DTC's records.

Indirect participants refers to others, like securities brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies that clear through or maintain custodial relationships with direct participants, either directly or indirectly, and who also have access to the DTC system.

Table of Contents**CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

The following is a summary of the principal U.S. federal income tax consequences relevant to the purchase, ownership and disposition of the depositary shares. The following summary is based upon current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) regulations and judicial or administrative authority, all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect. State, local and foreign tax consequences are not summarized, nor are tax consequences to special classes of investors including, but not limited to, tax-exempt organizations, insurance companies, banks or other financial institutions, partnerships or other entities classified as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes, dealers in securities or currencies, regulated investment companies, real estate investment trusts, persons whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar, U.S. expatriates, persons liable for the alternative minimum tax, traders in securities that elect to use a mark-to-market method of accounting for their securities holdings, and persons that will hold the depositary shares as a position in a hedging transaction, straddle, conversion transaction or other risk reduction transaction. Tax consequences may vary depending upon the particular status of an investor. The summary is limited to taxpayers who will hold the depositary shares as capital assets and who purchase the depositary shares in the initial offering at the initial offering price. Each potential investor should consult with its own tax adviser as to the U.S. federal, state, local, foreign and any other tax consequences of the purchase, ownership, conversion and disposition of the depositary shares.

Beneficial owners of depositary shares will be treated as owners of the underlying Series D Preferred Stock for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

U.S. Holders

The discussion in this section is addressed to a U.S. holder, which for this purpose means a beneficial owner of depositary shares that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (1) an individual citizen or resident of the United States, (2) a corporation (or other entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal tax purposes) created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or of any state thereof or the District of Columbia, (3) an estate the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source, or (4) a trust if (i) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over its administration and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all of its substantial decisions or (ii) it has a valid election in effect under applicable Treasury regulations to be treated as a United States person.

Dividends. Distributions with respect to the depositary shares will be taxable as dividend income when paid to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes. To the extent that the amount of a distribution with respect to the depositary shares exceeds our current and accumulated earnings and profits, such distribution will be treated first as a tax-free return of capital to the extent of the U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in such depositary shares, and thereafter as capital gain.

Subject to certain exceptions for short-term and hedged positions, distributions constituting dividend income received by an individual U.S. holder in respect of the depositary shares before January 1, 2013 will generally represent qualified dividend income, which will be subject to taxation at a maximum rate of 15% (or a lower rate for individuals in certain tax brackets). In addition, subject to similar exceptions for short-term and hedged positions, distributions on the depositary shares constituting dividend income paid to holders that are U.S. corporations will generally qualify for the 70% dividends-received deduction. A U.S. holder should consult its own tax advisers regarding the availability of the reduced dividend tax rate and the dividends-received deduction in the light of its particular circumstances.

Dispositions. A U.S. holder will generally recognize capital gain or loss on a sale or exchange of the depositary shares equal to the difference between the amount realized upon the sale or exchange and such U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in the shares sold or exchanged. Such capital gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. holder's holding period for the shares sold or exchanged is more than one year.

Long-term

Table of Contents

capital gains of noncorporate taxpayers are generally taxed at a lower maximum marginal tax rate than the maximum marginal tax rate applicable to ordinary income. The deductibility of net capital losses is subject to limitations.

Information reporting and backup withholding on U.S. holders. Certain U.S. holders may be subject to backup withholding with respect to the payment of dividends on the depositary shares and to certain payments of proceeds on the sale or redemption of the depositary shares unless such U.S. holders provide proof of an applicable exemption or a correct taxpayer identification number, and otherwise comply with applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules.

Any amount withheld under the backup withholding rules from a payment to a U.S. holder is allowable as a credit against such holder's U.S. federal income tax, which may entitle the U.S. holder to a refund, provided that the U.S. holder provides the required information to the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") in a timely manner. Moreover, certain penalties may be imposed by the IRS on a U.S. holder who is required to furnish information but does not do so in the proper manner.

Information returns will generally be filed with the IRS in connection with the payment of dividends on the depositary shares to non-corporate U.S. holders and certain payments of proceeds to non-corporate U.S. holders on the sale or redemption of the depositary shares.

Recent Legislation Affecting U.S. Holders. For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2012, a U.S. holder that is an individual or estate, or a trust that does not fall into a special class of trusts that is exempt from such tax, will be subject to a 3.8% Medicare tax on the lesser of (1) the U.S. holder's net investment income for the relevant taxable year and (2) the excess of the U.S. holder's modified adjusted gross income for the taxable year over a certain threshold (which in the case of individuals will be between \$125,000 and \$250,000, depending on the individual's circumstances). A holder's net investment income will generally include its dividend income and its net gains from the disposition of depositary shares, unless such dividend income or net gains are derived in the ordinary course of the conduct of a trade or business (other than a trade or business that consists of certain passive or trading activities). If you are a U.S. holder that is an individual, estate, or trust, you are urged to consult your tax advisors regarding the applicability of the Medicare tax to your income and gains in respect of your investment in the depositary shares.

Non-U.S. Holders

The discussion in this section is addressed to non-U.S. holders of the depositary shares. For this purpose, a non-U.S. holder is a beneficial owner of depositary shares other than a U.S. holder or partnership.

Dividends. Generally, dividends paid to a non-U.S. holder with respect to the depositary shares will be subject to U.S. federal income and withholding tax at a 30% rate, or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty (provided the non-U.S. holder furnishes the payor with a properly completed IRS Form W-8BEN certifying that such holder is eligible for treaty benefits), unless the dividends are effectively connected with a trade or business carried on by the non-U.S. holder within the United States and, if a tax treaty applies, are attributable to a U.S. permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. holder (and the non-U.S. holder provides the payor with a properly completed IRS Form W-8ECI). Dividends that are effectively connected with such trade or business (and, if a tax treaty applies, are attributable to a U.S. permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. holder) will generally be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net basis at applicable individual or corporate rates and, in the case of a non-U.S. holder that is a corporation, may be subject to a branch profits tax at a 30% rate or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty.

A non-U.S. holder eligible for a reduced rate of U.S. withholding tax pursuant to an applicable income tax treaty may obtain a refund of any excess amounts withheld by filing an appropriate claim for refund with the IRS.

Table of Contents

Dispositions. A non-U.S. holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax on gain realized on the sale, exchange or redemption of the depositary shares so long as:

the gain is not effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. holder (or if a tax treaty applies, the gain is not attributable to a U.S. permanent establishment maintained by such non-U.S. holder);

in the case of a nonresident alien individual, such non-U.S. holder is not present in the United States for 183 or more days in the taxable year of the sale or disposition (or else the gain may be subject to tax if certain other conditions are met); and

we have not been a U.S. real property holding corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes during the shorter of the non-U.S. holder's holding period or the five-year period ending on the date of disposition of the depositary shares, or certain other conditions are met. We do not believe that we currently are a U.S. real property holding corporation or that we will become one in the future.

Information reporting and backup withholding on non-U.S. holders. Payment of dividends and the tax withheld with respect thereto are subject to information reporting requirements. These information reporting requirements apply regardless of whether withholding was reduced or eliminated by an applicable income tax treaty, or withholding was not required because the dividends were effectively connected with a trade or business in the United States conducted by the non-U.S. holder. Copies of the information returns reporting such dividends and withholding may also be made available by the IRS under the provisions of an applicable income tax treaty or agreement to the tax authorities in the country in which the non-U.S. holder resides. U.S. backup withholding will generally apply on payment of dividends to non-U.S. holders unless such non-U.S. holders furnish to the payor an IRS Form W-8BEN (or other applicable form) certifying as to their non-U.S. status, or such non-U.S. holders otherwise establish an exemption.

Payment by a U.S. office of a broker of the proceeds of a sale of the depositary shares is subject to both backup withholding and information reporting unless the non-U.S. holder, or beneficial owner thereof, as applicable, certifies that it is a non-U.S. holder on IRS Form W-8BEN (or other applicable form), or otherwise establishes an exemption. Subject to certain limited exceptions, backup withholding and information reporting generally will not apply to a payment of proceeds from the sale of the depositary shares if such sale is effected through a foreign office of a broker.

Recent legislation relating to foreign accounts. Recently enacted legislation generally will impose a 30% withholding tax on dividend income and the gross proceeds of a disposition of the depositary shares paid to certain foreign entities. Under guidance issued by Treasury and the IRS, this legislation will apply to dividends paid on depositary shares after December 31, 2013, and to gross proceeds from dispositions of depositary shares after December 31, 2014. Generally, if a foreign financial entity enters into an agreement with the U.S. government to collect and provide to the U.S. tax authorities substantial information regarding U.S. account holders of such institution, then this withholding tax would not be applicable. Similarly, if a non-financial foreign entity provides the withholding agent with a certification identifying the substantial U.S. owners of the entity, then this withholding tax would generally be waived. You should consult your tax advisor regarding the potential application and impact of these new requirements based on your particular circumstances.

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, BB&T Capital Markets, a division of Scott & Stringfellow, LLC, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC are acting as representatives of the underwriters named below. Under the terms and subject to the conditions contained in an underwriting agreement, dated the date of this prospectus supplement, each of the underwriters has severally agreed to purchase from us, and we have agreed to sell to that underwriter, the number of depositary shares listed next to its name in the following table:

Name	Number of Depositary Shares
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated	
BB&T Capital Markets, a division of Scott & Stringfellow, LLC	
Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.	
Wells Fargo Securities, LLC	
Citigroup Global Markets Inc.	
Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated	
UBS Securities LLC	

Total

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriters to pay for and accept delivery of the depositary shares offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are subject to the approval of certain legal matters by their counsel and to certain other conditions. The underwriters reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify offers to the public and to reject orders in whole or in part. The underwriters are obligated to take and pay for all of the depositary shares offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus if any shares are taken. If an underwriter defaults, the underwriting agreement provides that the purchase commitments of the non-defaulting underwriters may be increased or the underwriting agreement may be terminated.

We have agreed for a period from the date of this prospectus supplement through and including the date 30 days after the date hereof that we will not, without the prior written consent of the representatives, offer, sell, contract to sell or otherwise dispose of any of our securities that are substantially similar to the Series D Preferred Stock or the depositary shares, including any securities that are convertible into or exchangeable for, or that represent rights to receive, Series D Preferred Stock, depositary shares or substantially similar securities.

The underwriters propose to offer some of the depositary shares directly to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and may offer some of the depositary shares to dealers at the public offering price less a concession not to exceed \$ _____ per depositary share. The underwriters may allow, and such dealers may reallow, a concession not in excess of \$ _____ per depositary share on sales to other dealers. After the initial offering of the depositary shares to the public, the representatives may change the public offering price, concession and discount.

We have granted to the underwriters an option, exercisable for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase up to an aggregate of _____ additional depositary shares at the public offering price listed on the cover of this prospectus supplement, less underwriting discounts and commissions. The underwriters may exercise this option solely to cover any over-allotments. To the extent the option is exercised, each underwriter will become obligated, subject to certain conditions, to purchase approximately the same percentage of the additional depositary shares as the number listed next to the underwriter's name in the preceding table bears to the total number of depositary shares listed next to the names of all underwriters in the preceding table.

Table of Contents

The following table shows the underwriting discounts and commissions that we are to pay to the underwriters in connection with this offering.

Per depositary share ⁽¹⁾	Paid by BB&T Corporation
	\$

- (1) Reflects depositary shares sold to institutional investors, for which the underwriters received an underwriting discount of \$ per share, and depositary shares sold to retail investors, for which the underwriters received an underwriting discount of \$ per share.

The expenses of the offering, not including the underwriting discounts and commissions, are estimated to be approximately \$ and are payable by us.

Prior to this offering, there has been no public market for the depositary shares. We do not expect that there will be any separate public trading market for the shares of the Series D Preferred Stock except as represented by the depositary shares. We intend to apply to list the depositary shares on the NYSE under the symbol BBT PrD. If the application is approved, we expect trading of the depositary shares on the NYSE to begin within the 30-day period after the initial delivery of the depositary shares.

To facilitate the offering of the depositary shares, the underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the depositary shares. Specifically, the underwriters may sell more depositary shares than they are obligated to purchase under the underwriting agreement, creating a short position. A short position may involve either covered short sales or naked short sales. Covered short sales are sales made in an amount not greater than the underwriters' over-allotment option to purchase additional depositary shares as described above. The underwriters may close out any covered short position by either exercising their over-allotment option or purchasing depositary shares in the open market. In determining the source of shares to close the covered short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of depositary shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase depositary shares from us through the over-allotment option. Naked short sales are sales in excess of the over-allotment option. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing depositary shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the depositary shares in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. As an additional means of facilitating the offering, the underwriters may bid for, and purchase, depositary shares in the open market to stabilize the price of the depositary shares. These activities may raise or maintain the market price of the depositary shares above independent market levels or prevent or retard a decline in the market price of the depositary shares. The underwriters are not required to engage in these activities, and may end any of these activities at any time.

The underwriters may also impose a penalty bid. This occurs when a particular underwriter repays to the underwriters a portion of the underwriting discount received by it because the representatives have repurchased depositary shares sold by or for the account of such underwriter in stabilizing or short covering transactions.

In general, purchases of a security for the purpose of stabilizing or reducing a syndicate short position could cause the price of the security to be higher than it might otherwise be in the absence of such purchases.

Neither we nor the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the depositary shares. In addition, neither we nor the underwriters make any representation that the underwriters will engage in such transactions or that such transactions will not be discontinued without notice, once they are commenced.

We have agreed to indemnify the several underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. If we are unable to provide this indemnification, we will contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make in respect of those liabilities.

Table of Contents

The underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include securities trading, commercial and investment banking, financial advisory, investment management, investment research, principal investment, hedging, financing and brokerage activities. Certain of the underwriters and certain of their respective affiliates have performed banking, investment banking, custodial and advisory services for us and our affiliates, from time to time, for which they have received customary fees and expenses. The underwriters may, from time to time, engage in transactions with and perform services for us in the ordinary course of their business.

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates have made or held, and may in the future make or hold, a broad array of investments including serving as counterparties to certain derivative and hedging arrangements, and may have actively traded, and, in the future may actively trade, debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities), and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and may have in the past and at any time in the future hold long and short positions in such securities and instruments. Such investment and securities activities may have involved, and in the future may involve, our securities and instruments. Certain of the underwriters or their affiliates that have a lending relationship with us routinely hedge their credit exposure to us consistent with their customary risk management policies. Typically, such underwriters and their affiliates would hedge such exposure by entering into transactions which consist of either the purchase of credit default swaps or the creation of short positions in our securities. The underwriters and their affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

Selling Restrictions

European Economic Area

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a Relevant Member State), each underwriter has represented and agreed that with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the Relevant Implementation Date) it has not made and will not make an offer of depositary shares to the public in that Relevant Member State prior to the publication of a prospectus in relation to the depositary shares which has been approved by the competent authority in that Relevant Member State or, where appropriate, approved in another Relevant Member State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant Member State, all in accordance with the Prospectus Directive, except that it may, with effect from and including the Relevant Implementation Date, make an offer of depositary shares to the public in that Relevant Member State at any time:

- (a) to legal entities which are authorized or regulated to operate in the financial markets or, if not so authorized or regulated, whose corporate purpose is solely to invest in securities;
- (b) to any legal entity which has two or more of (1) an average of at least 250 employees during the last financial year; (2) a total balance sheet of more than 43,000,000 and (3) an annual net turnover of more than 50,000,000, as shown in its last annual or consolidated accounts;
- (c) to fewer than 100 or, if the Relevant Member State has implemented the relevant provision of the 2010 PD Amending Directive, 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive) subject to obtaining the prior consent of the representatives for any such offer; or
- (d) in any other circumstances which do not require the publication by BB&T Corporation of a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an offer of depositary shares to the public in relation to any depositary shares in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the depositary shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the depositary shares, as the same may be varied in that Relevant Member

Table of Contents

State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Relevant Member State, the expression "Prospectus Directive" means Directive 2010/73/EC (including the 2010 PD Amending Directive, to the extent implemented in the Relevant Member State) and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State, and the expression "2010 PD Amending Directive" means Directive 2010/73/EU.

United Kingdom

In the United Kingdom, this document is being distributed only to, and is directed only at, and any offer subsequently made may only be directed at persons who are "qualified investors" (as defined in the Prospectus Directive) (i) who have professional experience in matters relating to investments falling within Article 19 (5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the "Order") and/or (ii) who are high net worth companies (or persons to whom it may otherwise be lawfully communicated) falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (all such persons together being referred to as "relevant persons"). This document must not be acted on or relied on in the United Kingdom by persons who are not relevant persons. In the United Kingdom, any investment or investment activity to which this document relates is only available to, and will be engaged in with, relevant persons.

Hong Kong

The depositary shares may not be offered or sold by means of any document other than (i) in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), or (ii) to "professional investors" within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap.571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder, or (iii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a "prospectus" within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), and no advertisement, invitation or document relating to the depositary shares may be issued or may be in the possession of any person for the purpose of issue (in each case whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere), which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public in Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to depositary shares which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to "professional investors" within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder.

Singapore

This prospectus supplement has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus supplement and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the depositary shares may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the depositary shares be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore, or the SFA, (ii) to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA.

Where the depositary shares are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 by a relevant person which is: (a) a corporation (which is not an accredited investor) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or (b) a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary is an accredited investor, shares, debentures and units of shares and debentures of that corporation or the beneficiaries rights and interest in that trust shall not be transferable for 6 months after that corporation or that trust has acquired the depositary shares under Section 275 except: (1) to an institutional investor under

Table of Contents

Section 274 of the SFA or to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA; (2) where no consideration is given for the transfer; or (3) by operation of law.

Japan

The depositary shares have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law of Japan (the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law) and each underwriter has agreed that it will not offer or sell any depositary shares, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan), or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to a resident of Japan, except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, and otherwise in compliance with, the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law and any other applicable laws, regulations and ministerial guidelines of Japan.

Conflicts of Interest

Our affiliate, BB&T Capital Markets, a division of Scott & Stringfellow, LLC, is a member of FINRA and is participating in the distribution of the depositary shares. The distribution arrangements for this offering comply with the requirements of FINRA Rule 5121, regarding a FINRA member firm's participation in the distribution of securities of an affiliate. In accordance with Rule 5121, no FINRA member firm that has a conflict of interest under Rule 5121 may make sales in this offering to any discretionary account without the prior approval of the customer. Our affiliates, including BB&T Capital Markets, a division of Scott & Stringfellow, LLC, may use this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in connection with offers and sales of the depositary shares in the secondary market. These affiliates may act as principal or agent in those transactions. Secondary market sales will be made at prices related to market prices at the time of sale.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters will be passed upon for us by Robert J. Johnson Jr., Esq., Executive Vice President, General Counsel, Secretary and Chief Corporate Governance Officer of BB&T Corporation, and Squire Sanders (US) LLP, Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Johnson will rely upon the opinion of Squire Sanders (US) LLP as to matters of New York law. Mr. Johnson owns shares of our common stock and holds options to purchase additional shares of our common stock. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the underwriters by O Melveny & Myers LLP, New York, New York.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting) incorporated in this prospectus supplement by reference to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

S-37

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

BB&T Corporation

SENIOR DEBT SECURITIES

SUBORDINATED DEBT SECURITIES

COMMON STOCK

PREFERRED STOCK

DEPOSITARY SHARES

DEBT WARRANTS

EQUITY WARRANTS

STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS

STOCK PURCHASE UNITS

UNITS

These securities may be offered and sold from time to time by us, and also may be offered and sold by one or more selling securityholders to be identified in the future. We will provide the specific terms of these securities in supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in securities described in the applicable prospectus supplement. This prospectus may not be used to sell securities unless accompanied by the applicable prospectus supplement and a pricing supplement, if any.

These securities are unsecured and are not savings accounts, deposits or other obligations of any of our bank or nonbank subsidiaries. These securities are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol BBT. Our principal executive offices are located at 200 West Second Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101. Our telephone number is (336) 733-2000.

Investing in these securities involves risks. See Risk Factors Related to BB&T's Business in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010, and in other documents that we subsequently file with the Securities and Exchange Commission which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Additional risk factors may also be set forth in any applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is July 13, 2011.

Table of Contents

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT INFORMATION PRESENTED IN THIS PROSPECTUS AND THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

We may provide information to you about the securities we are offering in three separate documents that progressively provide more detail:

 this prospectus, which provides general information, some of which may not apply to your securities;

 an accompanying prospectus supplement, which describes the terms of the securities, some of which may not apply to your securities; and

 if necessary, a pricing supplement, which describes the specific terms of your securities.

If the terms of your securities vary among the pricing supplement, the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in the following order of priority:

 the pricing supplement, if any;

 the prospectus supplement; and

 this prospectus.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement or pricing supplement, neither we nor the underwriters have taken any action that would permit us to publicly sell these securities in any jurisdiction outside the United States. If you are an investor outside the United States, you should inform yourself about and comply with any restrictions as to the offering and sale of the securities and the distribution of this prospectus.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>About This Prospectus</u>	2
<u>Forward-Looking Statements</u>	2
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	3
<u>Consolidated Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	4
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	4
<u>Validity of Securities</u>	4
<u>Experts</u>	4

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, utilizing a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may offer and sell any combination of the securities identified in this prospectus. Each time we offer and sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain information about the terms of the offering and the securities being offered and, if necessary, a pricing supplement that will contain the specific terms of your securities. The prospectus supplement and, if necessary, the pricing supplement, may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. Any information contained in this prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded by any inconsistent information contained in a prospectus supplement or a pricing supplement. You should read carefully this prospectus and any prospectus supplement and pricing supplement, together with the additional information described below under **Where You Can Find More Information**.

Unless otherwise indicated or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this prospectus to **BB&T**, **we**, **us**, **our** or similar references mean BB&T Corporation.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, including information incorporated by reference herein, contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. Such forward-looking statements may relate to our financial condition, results of operations, business plans and future performance that are based on the beliefs and assumptions of our management and the information available to our management at the time that these disclosures were prepared. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict and may be beyond our control. Words such as **anticipates**, **believes**, **estimates**, **expects**, **forecasts**, **intends**, **plans**, **projects**, **may**, **will**, similar expressions are intended to identify these forward-looking statements. Such statements are subject to factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from anticipated results. Such factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

general economic or business conditions, either nationally or regionally, may be less favorable than expected, resulting in, among other things, a deterioration in credit quality and/or a reduced demand for credit or other services;

changes in the interest rate environment may reduce net interest margins and/or the volumes and values of loans made or held as well as the value of other financial assets held;

competitive pressures among depository and other financial institutions may increase significantly;

legislative or regulatory changes, including changes resulting from the adoption and implementation of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 and changes in accounting standards, may adversely affect the businesses in which we are engaged;

local, state or federal taxing authorities may take tax positions that are adverse to us;

reduction in our credit ratings;

adverse changes may occur in the securities markets;

our competitors may have greater financial resources and develop products that enable them to compete more successfully than us and may be subject to different regulatory standards than us;

costs or difficulties related to the integration of our businesses and our merger partners may be greater than expected;

Table of Contents

unpredictable natural or other disasters could have an adverse effect on us in that such events could materially disrupt our operations or the ability or willingness of our customers to access the financial services offered by us;

expected cost savings associated with completed mergers and acquisitions may not be fully realized or realized within the expected time frames; and

deposit attrition, customer loss and/or revenue loss following completed mergers and acquisitions may be greater than expected. These and other risk factors are more fully described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010 under the section entitled "Risk Factors Related to BB&T's Business" and from time to time in other filings with the SEC. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this prospectus. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, any forward-looking statements. Except to the extent required by applicable law or regulation, we undertake no obligation to revise or update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

The registration statement that we have filed with the SEC under the Securities Act to register the securities offered by this prospectus includes exhibits, schedules and additional relevant information about us. The rules and regulations of the SEC allow us to omit from this prospectus certain information that is included in the registration statement.

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Exchange Act. You may read and copy any of these documents at the SEC's Public Reference Room located at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Information regarding the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains a website that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding registrants that file electronically with the SEC. The address of the SEC's website is <http://www.sec.gov>. Our SEC filings also are available through the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference into this prospectus information in other documents we file with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. Information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus. The following documents filed with the SEC are incorporated by reference:

- (1) our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010;
- (2) our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2011;
- (3) our current reports on Form 8-K filed on January 4, 2011, February 23, 2011, March 7, 2011, March 18, 2011, April 28, 2011, April 29, 2011 and July 1, 2011; and
- (4) the description of our common stock, par value \$5.00 per share, contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on September 4, 1991.

All future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the termination of the offering of the securities are incorporated by reference in this prospectus (other than information in such future filings deemed, under SEC rules or otherwise, not to have been filed with the SEC). Information filed with the SEC after the date of this prospectus will automatically update and supersede information contained in or previously incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

Table of Contents

We will provide without charge to each person (including any beneficial owner) to whom a prospectus is delivered, on the written or oral request of any such person, a copy of any or all of these filings (other than the exhibits to such documents, unless that exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference in that filing). Requests should be directed to: BB&T Corporation, 150 South Stratford Road, Suite 300, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27104, Attention: Investor Relations, Telephone: (336) 733-3058.

CONSOLIDATED RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The consolidated ratios of earnings to fixed charges for us and our subsidiaries for the periods indicated below were as follows:

	For the Three Months		For the Years Ended December 31,				
	Ended March 31, 2011	2010	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Earnings to fixed charges:							
Including interest on deposits:	1.68x	1.50x	1.50x	1.40x	1.67x	1.63x	1.76x
Excluding interest on deposits:	2.18x	2.10x	1.99x	1.92x	2.77x	2.77x	3.25x

For purposes of computing these ratios, earnings represent income from continuing operations before extraordinary items and cumulative effects of changes in accounting principles plus income taxes and fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest). Fixed charges, excluding interest on deposits, represent interest (other than on deposits, but including capitalized interest), one-third of rents (the proportion representative of the interest factor) and all amortization of debt issuance costs. Fixed charges, including interest on deposits, represent all interest, one-third of rents (the proportion representative of the interest factor) and all amortization of debt issuance costs.

As of the date of this prospectus, we have no preferred stock outstanding.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities offered by this prospectus as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of any securities by selling securityholders.

VALIDITY OF SECURITIES

The validity of the securities may be passed upon for us by Robert J. Johnson, Jr., Executive Vice President, General Counsel, Secretary and Chief Corporate Governance Officer of BB&T, Squire, Sanders & Dempsey (US) LLP, Cleveland, Ohio, or by counsel named in the applicable prospectus supplement, and for any underwriters or agents by counsel selected by such underwriters or agents.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting) incorporated in this prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

Table of Contents

BB&T CORPORATION
Depository Shares,
Each Representing a 1/1,000th Interest in a Share of
Series D Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

Joint Book-Running Managers

BofA Merrill Lynch

BB&T Capital Markets

Deutsche Bank Securities

Wells Fargo Securities

Lead Managers

Citigroup

Stifel Nicolaus Weisel

UBS Investment Bank

April , 2012