



CENTRAL BEARDEN

Christ Centered, Community Focused



CHURCH PROFILE



Good churches have much in common: meaningful worship, engaging discipleship, caring community, sharing the gospel. You know the list. But what about great churches? I think great churches “make a difference!” That’s what I love about Central Bearden – this is a church that makes a difference.

I’ve never been part of a church that is so engaged in the lives of its members, in our community, and, incredibly, around the world. Each week our members are showing their care for each other, their community, and all of Knoxville, making this city a better place while participating in God’s dreams for East Tennessee.

We are investing in the lives of our families with friends in downtown Knoxville and a school in Haiti. We support a pastor in Egypt and a church in North Dakota. We share the gospel with our students and we participate each year in a “Jesus Celebration” in Beirut, Lebanon. From Samaritan Ministry to a sewing ministry, from our Weekday Preschool to New York City, from daily hospital visits to Summer Sports camps, this church makes a difference.

Why? Because of the difference God has already made in our lives. Together, we continue to discover more about God, more about ourselves, and more about how we get to be on mission with God.

The following pages will give you a taste of the ways we are privileged to make a difference. I encourage you to try a Bible study group, participate in a prayer session, join us in worship, serve on a mission trip and see what God is doing here, and what God deeply desires to do in your life as well.

Wade Bibb
Senior Pastor

MUSIC & WORSHIP

Worship is communion with God in which believers, by grace, center their mind's attention and heart's affection on the Lord, humbly glorifying God in response to His greatness and His word.

When asked what was the greatest commandment, Jesus replied: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. (Matthew 22:37)



The apostle Paul instructed that we are *to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is our spiritual worship.* (Romans 12:1b)

The Music and Worship Ministry at Central has one primary purpose: inspire this congregation's corporate worship through the singing of psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with thankfulness in our hearts to God. (Colossians 3:16) To that end, Central maintains vocal and instrumental ensembles, which enable participants to fellowship, receive training and discipleship, extend outreach beyond our church walls, and worship together through weekly rehearsals, worship services, and concert events.

While prior experience and training prove helpful, neither is essential to participating fully in each ensemble. Choirs begin with preschoolers, and extend into adulthood, which translates into ample learning experience for the active and committed participant. While the Sanctuary Choir, Worship Band, Central Wind Ensemble, Central Brass are most visible, each choir and instrumental ensemble maintains a weekly rehearsal schedule throughout the church year (September through May).

In addition to weekly worship leadership, the music and worship ensembles present multiple seasonal concerts each year, including A Festival of Carols (during Advent) and A Celebration of Americana (the Sunday before Independence Day). In the recent past, the Sanctuary Choir and Central Winds have partnered with area high school and university choirs for special events. Central also hosts various concert artists throughout the year. Recent guest artists include Tim Zimmerman and the King's Brass, Alatheia, Sandi Patty and Veritas, David Phelps, Laura Story, Sidewalk Prophets, Newsong, Building 429, Dave and Jess Ray, Scot Cameron, Samuel Metzger, Mary McDonald, Heather Sorenson, Al Travis, and various university choirs. We have also hosted other groups, such as Ballet Magnificat, who have a different approach to worship outside of music.



Each summer, the Music and Worship ministry assists with Vacation Bible School (VBS) by leading worship for the children. A praise band is utilized as well as multiple vocalists to help bring the week's theme to life!

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Psalm 150



CHILDREN



CB Kids focuses on loving children towards a relationship with Jesus Christ as we walk alongside parents and children on their spiritual journey. Our events and programs are designed to teach Bible lessons and concepts, share learning experiences and provide a safe, loving environment. We strive to make this ministry one of the first building blocks in a child's spiritual foundation.

During the Sunday Bible Study hour (9am) at Central, our children meet by grade level for a Bible lesson and related activities. Our preschool and children's groups, ages 2 yrs – 5th grade, all have prepared materials to guide the session through loving and caring adult volunteers.

Our littlest friends, birth through 4 years of age, are involved in Preschool Praise during the Worship hour. Children, Kindergarten-5th grades, have the option to attend Kids Celebration, a fun kid-sized worship time in their own space, or they are welcome to remain with their families during the Worship hour in the sanctuary.



Wednesday Night Live starts with dinner (5pm) at the Deane Hill Diner where families can grab dinner together before Bible studies, and lots of other activities. Children have an ongoing 1 ½ hrs of Kids in Action (6-7:30pm), a time that flows between graded children's choirs and missions education. In our graded choirs, children learn the fundamentals of music while singing in a group setting. The choirs lead in worship 2-3 times throughout the school year. During our missions education, girls and boys learn ways to pray, support, and engage in local and global missions through missional Bible lessons and projects.



Here is a snap shot of our special events: Vacation Bible School, Bible Skills and Drills and Thrills classes, and our summer camps. The list of camps includes Jr. Chef's Academy, Preschool Adventure, Outdoor Explorers Camp, Art Camp and our new Ninja Camp.

For more information about CB Kids check out our website CentralBearden.org/Ministries/Children or contact Carmel Hall at chall@cbcbearden.org.

STUDENTS



Our passion is to lead students, grades 6 through 12, to be changed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to equip them so they can impact their culture, both today and in the future. CB Students does not stop there, we also seek to partner with parents in supporting them as they raise their students in a Biblically focused home.

Sunday School meets each week at 9:00am in graded classes for students to explore what Scripture says through Lifeway's "Explore the Bible". Led by our amazing Youth Ministers, students are challenged to apply Scripture in their lives weekly from what they learn while digging deeper in this small group setting.

Wednesday Nights is when our "Mid/Week" activities occur. We kick off each week at 6:00pm in the Journey Room with a FREE dinner, followed by a time of Worship and Bible Study. We end each week in the R.O.C. (our gym) with some intentional recreation. This time is important as we take a break in the middle of each week to refuel before heading back out into our mission fields.

In addition to our weekly activities, each year is packed with special events and Bible Study opportunities. Every fall and spring we hold an 8-10 week Disciple Group, where students meet in graded/gender based groups to learn how to be disciples of Christ. We also have camps, retreats, conferences, service projects, and plenty of time to hang out with each other. "Parents Plus" is a ministry specifically for the parents of our students where we seek to educate and equip parents to be informed on issues, developmental stages, and planning so we can together raise our students in a faith-based Christian home. We send out a weekly newsletter called "the Weekly", which details everything that parents need to know about Sunday School. Mid/Week activities, special events and schedules. It also includes a page just for parents entitled the "Parents Plus Page." Semi-annually we hold "Parents Plus Forums", a 2-hour topical experience where parents get to hear from a professional on a specific topic and have a Q&A session to provide insight and information on topics that teens are trying to fight through where parents can be supportive.



For more information about these great events or to ask any questions you might have, please check out our website: CentralBearden.org/ministries/students or email us at youthadmin@cbcbearden.org.

COLLEGE & YOUNG ADULTS



Central Bearden Young Adults is a community of faith for all people who are either “young” or “adults.” Because there are many different ways to define “young adult,” we identify this group as those people living in the first third of their life. CB YoPros (young professionals) includes college students, graduate students, 20-somethings, early-30s, single folk, and married folk. We are Christ centered and community focused, participating in Sunday morning Bible studies, fellowship events, retreats, and opportunities to serve locally and with various mission organizations.

CB YoPros is dedicated to living faith-driven lives alongside of one another, offering love and support through the many experiences that come along in our twenties and thirties (even our quarter-life crises).

Regular opportunities to be involved with CB YoPros includes:

- Sunday morning Bible studies for college-aged, 20-somethings, and 30-somethings
- Weekly discipleship groups for college men and women
- Annual retreats for young adults
- Annual retreat for college students
- Monthly fellowship events
- Opportunities to serve both at Central Bearden and beyond, through local partnerships and service experiences in other locations



For more information about CB Young Adults check out our website:

CentralBearden.org/Ministries/College-and-Young-Adults or contact Val Fisk at vfisk@cbcbearden.org



ENCORE ADULTS



**“And if you follow me and obey my decrees and my commands...
I will give you a long life.”
I Kings 3:14**

The Encore Adult Ministry is a lay-led ministry whose purpose is to enhance the lives of adults of all ages in our congregation and in the Knoxville community. The ministry seeks to achieve this goal by providing planned activities and trips, informative programs, continuing education, and encouragement to continue to serve the Lord through the multiple ministries and mission opportunities afforded by Central Bearden.

Good Life Fellowship

This group meets four times per year for a program with invited speakers that cover a wide range of subjects. The program starts at 11am and is followed by lunch at noon.

Special Events

We have several special events each year. There are currently three special events to watch for. They include a Fall Luncheon, Spring Celebration, and a Christmas Luncheon.



Trips

Several times throughout the year, we plan trips to local and distant locations. There are many day trips scheduled during the year and some overnight trips are also offered. In addition, one longer trip is usually taken each year.

Memorial Service Team

Members of this team serve as greeters to assist grieving families and their relatives who attend funeral services conducted at Central Bearden.

For more information about Encore Adults check out our website:

CentralBearden.org/Ministries/Encore or contact Jim Henry at jhenry@cbcbearden.org

DISCIPLESHIP

Adult Faith Formation at Central relies on Bible curriculum from Baptist Way Press, Lifeway, Smith & Helwys, and selected approved relevant courses to meet specific department, class, and individual needs.

Sunday Morning Bible Studies

Central consists of 25 Sunday Morning Bible Studies that range from College to Senior Adult. We have recently broken this area down into smaller groups to focus better on the specific needs of each age group: Young Adults, Median Adults, Senior Adults, and Singles. These bible studies are led by teachers who care for the spiritual growth of the groups that they lead, as well as the physical needs of members that are particular to each class. Many of our classes are heavily involved in ministries in the Central and Knoxville community.

Weekday Bible Studies

We are blessed to have a number of individuals who teach weekday bible studies throughout the week. Topics range from conservative to moderate, which helps transform these Bible study times into an interactive time of presentation, discussion, and learning in a spirit of mutual respect.

Special Events and Studies

Central co-hosts the church wide Fall Festival each year in which a number of our Sunday Morning Bible Studies and Ministries take part. This event is hosted by multiple ministries here at Central and is a gift we give to the community each year. We also host various specialized studies on Wednesday nights (after the dinner). Childcare is also available during these specialized studies.

For more information about Discipleship Groups and Bible Studies offered, check out our website: CentralBearden.org/Groups or contact Ashley Nelkin at anelkin@cbcbearden.org



MISSIONS

Central's Mission Priority - "every congregation is a world - missions strategy center. God can impact the world through one church if it adjusts itself to God's activity." Henry Blackaby

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only son..." The world is God's priority and we who are in Christ are ministers of reconciliation and ambassadors for Christ. We are salt and light. We are a 'Priesthood of Believers'. We are all ministers, members of the Body of Christ and His hands and feet as missionaries at home, at work, at play, in our neighborhood, city, state, nation, and world.

As a church, we strategize, and we encourage, train, and equip persons to GO and answer God's calling for their lives.

Central Baptist began as a mission to what was then the uttermost part of west Knoxville. The church has a history of sacrificing it's own facility and internal concerns to facilitate missions and church growth in other states and countries.

We have ongoing, missional relationships with Poland, the Middle East, Haiti, Africa, Ireland, South and Central America, Appalachia, New York, and numerous other pastors, churches, and missionaries around the world. We train, equip, and send short-term and long-term volunteers and vocational missionaries as God opens doors and calls us.

Even as we are sending persons and other resources to the remotest parts of the world, the remotest peoples of the world have come to Knoxville. We partner with the Southern Baptist Convention, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, The Knox County Baptist Association, Baptist World Alliance, Knoxville Internationals Network, Bridge Refugee Services, Compassion Coalition, other local congregations and agencies to be the hands and feet of Christ to reach out and touch the pain in our city and in our world. Our ultimate goal is to be the love of Christ made flesh in the lives of all our neighbors, and that all would come to have a real and personal faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord, Savior, and Friend.

For more information and ways you can get involved in missions, check out our website: CentralBearden.org/Missions or contact Tim Earl at tearl@cbcbearden.org

RECREATION



the R.O.C.

RECREATION OUTREACH CENTER

use the gymnasium, racquetball court, Ninja Gym the spacious game room, the walking track and the cardio/weight room. There are also several options each week for exercise classes such as Pilates, Keola Fit, Beauty Hunters, ball exercise, and calisthenics. Check out our Recreation page on the website for more information on classes, schedules and events.

Central Bearden's Recreation Ministry offers many ways of bringing people together for Christ-centered, fun-filled activities and sports for all ages. We offer a variety of facility choices to help improve your fitness while enjoying fellowship at our Recreation Outreach Center (ROC). Members and non-members alike



A key focus of the Recreation Ministry is to utilize sports as both an outreach tool and as a model to teach the lifelong values of endurance, teamwork, discipline and sportsmanship. Along with adult basketball leagues, the Recreation ministry provides a Ninja Gym, Kidz Day Out, and family fun nights. These programs not only minister to our church's families and their children, but also to our community's non-CB children. Regardless of experience or abilities, the Recreation Outreach Ministry provides the community many excellent avenues to exercise the body as well as build character and relationships.

For more information about the ROC and ministries offered, check out our website CentralBearden.org/Ministries/Recreation or contact Josh Hickey at jhickey@cbcbearden.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

What is the church's name?

Our charter reads Central Baptist Church of Bearden. Over time we have referred to ourselves as Central Baptist Bearden. We have branded ourselves and officially refer to the church as Central Bearden.

When was Central Bearden Founded?

Spring 1894

What faith based organizations is Central Bearden aligned with?

Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF), Baptist World Alliance (BWA)

What is the church budget?

Our budget year runs from October - September. Our 2018-2019 budget is \$3,150,761

What is the church membership and attendance?

Our membership as of April 2019 is 2,900.

Our average Sunday morning worship attendance as of Spring 2019 is 740

What is Sunday Worship like?

Central has Sunday School at 9:00am and a blended style worship service at 10:30am

What is Central's faith and doctrinal statement?

Our statement of faith is the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message





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