

CENTRAL BEARDEN

Christ Centered, Community Focused

CHURCH PROFILE

6300 Deane Hill Drive
Knoxville, TN 37919
865.588.0586
centralbearden.org



PURPOSE OF BEING

Central Bearden (CB) exists so that all people may know Jesus Christ as Lord, grow as His disciples, and share His love in word and deed. We encourage people to find and exercise their spiritual gifts. We come together in order to be equipped to go out to serve and reach the world.





Central Bearden, 1964

HISTORY & LEGACY

CB was established in 1894. Now, 130 years later, we are a vibrant church that proclaims and teaches the gospel as we serve our community, nation, and world. We are not creedal. CB adheres to the 1963 BFM and have ordained women into ministry. However, at this time, the church is seeking a male senior pastor. CB has had only four senior pastors in the last 73 years. Our mission partners include the SBC, CBF, TN Baptist Mission Board, TN Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Knox County Association of Baptists, and the Baptist World Alliance. Our worship service is a blend of traditional and contemporary music incorporating a choir and orchestra and a variety of instruments. CB's Preschool Weekday (PSWD) program enrolls around 100 children per year .



COMMITMENT TO MISSIONS

Central Bearden Mission Partner List

Since the 1950s CB's heart has been for missions and ministry, not just in study, but in active participation. Our congregation is already involved in 98 different ministries locally, nationally, and around the world.

A few of these ministries are uniquely CB – Mission of Hope reaching distressed Appalachia, Samaritan ministries serving the HIV/AIDs community, Focus Prison ministry, the Bloom Center greenhouse working with special needs children and adults, and Welcome House providing temporary housing for refugees to Knoxville. A Stephen Ministry for the care and counseling of church members themselves was recently begun at CB as well.



GOVERNANCE PROFILE



Central Bearden Staff, 2024

CB is an autonomous body, operating through democratic processes under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Deacons, male and female, are caregivers for the congregation and minister through service roles. Committees function well to accomplish church directives. CB is a congregation with many well-educated people who are leaders in business and in their communities. This base of strong lay leadership has kept the church ministries functioning well even during our time without a senior pastor.

The senior pastor is expected to be a collaborative leader who operates through a process rather than through directives. The pastor is a shepherd who engages and encourages the staff to use their gifts to serve within a cohesive vision.

[Constitution and Bylaws](#)

[Central Bearden Staff Profile](#)



SPIRITUAL PROFILE

CB is committed to the historic Baptist principles of Bible Freedom, Soul Freedom, Church Freedom, and Religious Freedom. All members of our congregation are encouraged to learn how to share their faith and engage it in everyday living. We have ministerial staff and Sunday Bible study groups for all ages, including over twenty groups for adults.

Though we have some members who identify as conservative or liberal, the majority classify CB as moderate. We honor separation of church and state.





DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

CB is largely Caucasian but is becoming more diverse. Members reside all over Knoxville rather than primarily in nearby residences. A large percentage of members are over age 50, and they are the largest financial contributors. We are welcoming of the Knoxville community as well as welcoming of the demographic changes that are taking place in our community. CB knows that we are called to be light in our community and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

[Demographic Data](#)



WHERE DOES GOD WANT TO TAKE CENTRAL BEARDEN?

We want to work with the larger body of Christ here and around the world to see a movement of the gospel that brings life change, community formation, social justice, and cultural renewal to Knoxville and the world. We hope to maintain dual alignment with the SBC and CBF.

[Survey Data](#)





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WEBSITE

centralbearden.org

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