

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF MINISTRY!!

From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Central Members & Friends,

We continue to be richly blessed by a loving Heavenly Father who expresses His love toward us in so many small ways that are too numerous to count!!! I hope you appreciate all the small things that God is doing for each of us individually and for us collectively as a Body of Believers!! Central has been and continues to be richly blessed by God's grace.

In this quarterly news letter I admonish you to spend time reading and reflecting on all the wonderful things God is doing for our ministry!! We live in a society that is prone to focus on the negative because satan has conditioned society to focus on the negatives instead of the positives!! This negativity started in the garden when satan approached Eve and told her about the tree in the midst of the garden from which God had forbidden her to eat. Notice that he did not remind Eve of all the wonderful and bountiful blessings that God had granted her and Adam. He focused on what she was forbidden by God to have in order to get her to focus on disobeying God.

The next time someone approaches you with negative information. Simply respond to them about all that is

going well in our church and all the beautiful small things that God is doing for Central and you personally!! You will be amazed at how people will stop bringing you negative information and complaints, when they see you expressing an attitude of gratitude!!

It's time for us to make a choice and control how we are going to behave and respond to people and other incidents we encounter. Let's be determined to respond in a way that pleases God instead of a way that satan desires from us!!

I hope you are as excited about our upcoming Centennial worship experience and celebration of God's marvelous Grace toward us as I am!! Take the appropriate time this week to laugh, smile, do something fun, model grace and demonstrate "relationships matter" by doing something special for someone who can't return the favor!!

I love you!!

*Your Brother In Christ!!!
Pastor Perry Stuckey*



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Central Members, it's been a while since our last church newsletter & so many things have happened since then. Probably, the most unique thing that occurred was the trip to the African-American Museum this past November. Friends, as well as Central members, went on this trip and though it was fast-paced, everyone enjoyed the trip, had a good time and learned a great deal about our African-American history. If you attended church during the month of February, a summary of the trip was given each Sunday.

In October, we celebrated Pastor's Appreciation month and also Pastor Stuckey's Second Anniversary. However, we don't have to wait until the month of October to let the pastors and minister(s) know they are appreciated. A simple "thank-you" or a kind gesture goes a long way. This also applies to our deacons or anyone you know who is involved in service for the church; this goes along with what we are being taught this year about building relationships.

During the month of December, the choir had a seasonal concert which was awesome and we had our annual Christmas dinner. A Centennial church calendar for the year 2018 was created with the cost of \$10 per calendar.

Presently, we are in the process of lining up events for our Centennial Celebration in May. Central will have been in existence for 100 years, an entire century! It is only because of God's grace, mercy and patience that we have existed this long and we should all be extremely proud and grateful. Proud, because God has shown favor to allow us to exist as long as we have in spite of and because of. Grateful for God's goodness, love and unrelenting patience. We still have and will always have much work to do as followers and teachers of His word. From Pastor Stuckey's teachings

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on the four cornerstones in 2017 and this year his teaching us how "relationships matter" with God and each other, we should all be focusing on becoming better disciples of His word. Central, we should always remember it is not by accident that we are still here and it is not by accident that Pastor Stuckey became our shepherd. Except for the grace of God and His unmerited favor toward us, things could have been very different. Thanks and praises to God for all that He has done for us and will do!! Central is truly blessed!!

Church Clerk

Missions



Greetings! My name is Richele Conley and I serve as the Missions Leader at Central Baptist Church. This is a very exciting time for the church as we celebrate our 100th anniversary! There are so many areas for church members to serve and be of assistance to those in need. My intent is to give you some insight on what the Missions Ministry is all about.

The Missions Ministry of Central Baptist Church is comprised of individuals who are willing to make a difference in the community. This ministry provides assistance to those who may be experiencing hardships or losses. One of our strong characteristics is modeling grace by being sensitive to the needs of others. Manna Meals is an ongoing program supported by the Missions Ministry that provides nutritious meals to residents in the Kingsport area.

The Missions Ministry has two (2) events planned for the latter part of 2018. Miles for Smiles will be held

September 27-28. Services, such as dental cleanings and x-rays, will be provided at no cost to those individuals who are in need. Sign-up information will be available late summer. The Alzheimer's Walk is scheduled for October 6 at Warriors' Path State Park. This event brings awareness to those who are, or have been, affected by the Alzheimer's disease.

Recently, the Missions Ministry has extended its outreach efforts to the residents of Frank L. Cloud Apartments in Kingsport. We have some exciting ideas in progress for the residents and would be grateful to have you be a part of this effort.

If you are looking for an opportunity to make an impact in our community and change the lives of others, please join us at Central Baptist Church on the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. I would be delighted to have you on board.

*Your Sister in Christ,
Richele Conley, Missions Leader*



Greetings!

On Sunday, May 27, 2018, Central Baptist Church, the first African-American church in Kingsport, Tennessee will commemorate its 100th anniversary. What a blessing! Over the years, our church family has encountered diverse challenges, suffered many illnesses and survived the loss of dear members. But, through it all, the faithful members of Central Baptist Church forged ahead. I commend you, Central family for being faithful to work in the vineyard and minister the Word of God to the Kingsport community, even when the position of pastor was vacant. You kept the doors open, the lights on, and continued to feed the

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flock via the Food Pantry on Wednesdays and Manna Meals every Saturday.

Pastor Stuckey and I joined the Central Baptist Church family three years ago. Our time here is definitely an assignment from God. I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of this devoted fellowship of believers. All of you are very important to me and the love we share is genuine. With each year, I feel our bond as a church family becomes stronger and we grow closer. It's a blessing to see what we as a church body have been able to accomplish under the leadership of my husband and our pastor, Perry Stuckey. Here are a few highlights:

Renovations

- *Stokely Hall has been renovated to serve as a multipurpose room for our congregation. It is used to host receptions, tutoring sessions, Bible study, movie nights and Super Bowl parties.*
- *The Parlor has also been renovated. It serves as the Pastor's study, holds Sunday School classes and provides accommodations for our guest ministers and bridal parties.*
- *The Hope Office has been renovated to provide assistance to college-bound students and storage for the Food Pantry.*
- *The Animation Ministry modified two rooms to share God's Word with the youth by using the art of puppetry.*

Classes and Prayer

- *Pastor Stuckey implemented and teaches our New Members Class. He provides foundational truths to new members to solidify their salvation in Christ and assists them in identifying which areas of ministry they will serve.*
- *Pastor Stuckey teaches Bible study on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. He broadens our understanding of the Bible and encourages practical application of biblical principles to our daily lives. Pastor*

Pearson & Minister Zimmerman also serve as teachers when he's unavailable

- *Pastor Stuckey leads the congregation in Intercessory Prayer on Sunday mornings from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. During this time, he covers his flock and emulates Christ's selfless character and practice of praying on behalf of others.*

Materials

- *A new 22-passenger van was purchased to transport members and mentees to and from the church.*
- *New microphones, monitors and the media system for the Animation Ministry were purchased to enhance the ministry experience for children and the congregation at large.*

I praise God for all of the initiatives He has led us to undertake and the various ways He has enabled us to grow. But, our Women's Ministry has truly been a blessing to me personally. We have shared fun times of fellowship, wonderful times of worship and powerful times of prayer. I am especially thankful for the anointed experiences we have had together, such as the workshops at last year's Women's Retreat with Minister Jacque White as the speaker; the Priscilla Shirer Conference in Knoxville; and studying "Kingdom Woman" by Dr. Anthony Evans and his daughter Chrystal Evans Hurst. This in-depth study is setting captives free and tearing down walls brick by brick. Satan comes to steal, kill and destroy, but, Christ came to liberate us from the bondage, limitations and deceptions of the enemy so we could fulfill our destiny and experience life more abundantly.

We have a lot to celebrate! The Lord is doing great things in us, for us and through us. As we carry on the Central Baptist Church legacy by rolling up our sleeves and staying on our knees, we will continue to be that beacon of light in the Kingsport community that was founded 100 years ago...To God be the glory! Happy Centennial, Central!

*Love Always,
Vivian Dorn Stuckey*

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Central Baptist Church Outreach Bus Ministry.

Our Bus Ministry is a ministry that is pursuing the will of God.

“ And the Lord said unto his servant, go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.” – Luke 14:23

The purpose of our Bus Ministry is to change lives by going where the “harvest is plentiful and the laborers are few”. We believe that we can change lives by taking the love of God into our communities, meeting people where they are and sharing with others what God has shared with us, which is, “Christ in us, the hope of glory.”

Our goal is to bring others into the Lord's house and partner with them in worship and praise to the glory of God. The Bus is not only a means to bring people to Church, but also a means to take the Church to the people. Our bus is used also for taking clothes and other items into the community to donate.

Other plans include taking our music ministry and evangelistic team into the community to minister through song, praise and the preaching of the gospel.

As our Bus Ministry grows, a question you may have is, what can be expected? We can expect changes as new people come into our Church with different needs. We can expect children that need to know that they are loved. We can expect to see changes that may make us uncomfortable, but we are called to model grace and in doing so, we let the love of Christ come through us .

Another question, what are the benefits? Souls will be saved, lives will be transformed, and the Lord will add to the Church if we are obedient to His Word. We will have the opportunity to build relationships; there will be more baptisms, and more New Members classes, and more workers in the Kingdom.

Bus Schedule:

Sunday School pick up. 9:30

Cloud Apartments Complex: 10:15 for morning worship

All others in need of transportation please call the Church. (423) 245-6978

So please pray for our Bus Ministry, and ask the Lord to show you what you can do to help make this ministry better.

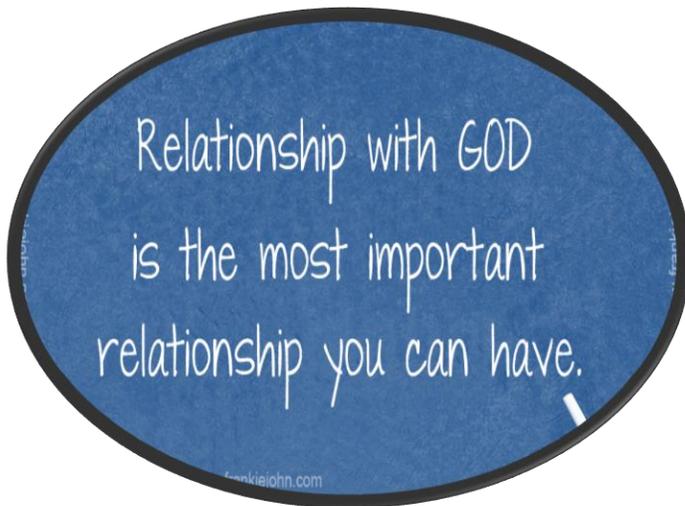
Billy Pearson

Administrative Pastor



John 13:34-35 New International Version (NIV)

³⁴ "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."



A LITTLE HUMOR!!



"I said I was on fire..... for the Lord!"



Actual Announcements from Church Bulletins

Thursday night – potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and the community.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands."

Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, superb entertainment, and gracious hostility.

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"Pssst!...Two passes...Best prices."