



Dear Central Baptist Church,
 Thank you to everyone who prayed, sent cards, came to the funeral and/or visitation for Daddy. The Lord is near to the broken hearted, indeed. Be steadfast in Christ.

Sincerely,
 Kristy, Eric, Sadie and the Barry Robinson Family

Giving Report through December

Year to Date Budget Giving \$371,321
 Year to Date Budget Required \$375,610
 Budget Shortfall \$4,289

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
CBC Goal \$5,000 (Collected \$8,909)

2023 Offering Envelopes

Boxes are in the chapel for you to pick up. They do not have a name or number (only the date).

Trustee Capital Campaign for church repairs
 Collected \$21,385 through December

December 2022

Average Sunday School 108 Average Worship 165

Central Baptist Welcomes New Member
 Sydney Thacker

Ministerial Staff

George Yates: george@centralbaptistparis.com

Interim Pastor

Mickey Ballard: mickey@centralbaptistparis.com

Associate Pastor of Music & Worship

Jonathan Graves: jonathancbc2019@outlook.com

Associate Pastor of Families & Youth

Church Secretary: kaye@centralbaptistparis.com

Financial Secretary: cathy@centralbaptistparis.com

visit us at www.centralbaptistparis.com

Church Connect: centralbaptistparis.churchtrac.com

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859-987-3951 or 859-987-5638

www.centralbaptistparis.com

January 1, 2023



A new day is dawning, a New Year is budding. With each comes new opportunities for all of us. Opportunities in our personal lives and in our spiritual lives as well. Opportunities for better health, strengthening our educational intelligence, improving relationships, making new relationships, opportunities to grow stronger in our belief and faith. The list goes on and on. What opportunities are awaiting you in 2023? What opportunities are you seeking in this New Year?

I trust that you and I each year seek opportunities to serve God stronger than the previous year. Isn't striving to draw closer to God part of the believer's life? How do we draw (Cont'd)

closer to God? Let me list a few, then you can add to the list as you are led by God.

- Renew your commitment to reading a portion of God's word, The Holy Bible, each day. If you already read daily from the Bible, how can you increase your knowledge base this year through Bible reading? How can you help someone else to grow spiritually through scripture reading?
- Serve God by serving others. God blesses and increases your spiritual insight when you serve Him by serving others. What opportunities are you willing to undertake to serve Him better? Will you make a commitment to God to allow Him to stretch you through serving others in 2023?
- Have you allowed things of this world impede your worship and group Bible study attendance this past year? Your attendance is not only to enhance your life. Your attendance encourages and assists others in strengthening their spiritual lives as well. To what extent are you willing to ask God to reveal to you where/how you can increase your relationship with Him through worship and small group Bible study attendance?
- If God shared one thought with you about improving your personal prayer life in 2023, what would He share? Are you open for opportunities to increase/improve your prayer life?
- To what opportunities in 2023 will you avail yourself for ministry outside the walls of the church facility? Local missions and ministry – opportunities within the state of Kentucky – opportunities within the United States – or perhaps a mission venture to another nation?

What will you ask of God to provide you the opportunities that He desires you to take advantage of in 2023? Will you ask Him to give you boldness to listen to His Spirit and then speak out and share for Him?

May we each one engage in careful observation for God's opportunities to be more selfless, obedient, growing, Christ followers in 2023 than any previous year of our life. May God bless you in this Happy New Year of opportunities!

Lovingly,

Pastor George



MICKEY'S MUSINGS

...and a Happy New Year!

Thank you, one and all, for the outpouring of love and generosity you have showered on my family and me. Your cards, goodies, and gifts have humbled us and have warmed our hearts.

About New Year's Resolutions:

I have joined a "Read the Bible Through in 2023" group being hosted by Devon Byrd, one of my dearest friends and mentors from my high school days. (Gotta love Facebook...at times.) The following is the charge he has issued to us. I share it with you so it may encourage you as you set a course for the new year.

Motivation and discipline are often confused. Motivation is the thought, and discipline is the act. While all of us seem to be motivated to read the Bible through in 2023, not all of us have the discipline it takes to do it, so here is a little guide to developing discipline that can be applied in any area of your life, but we can certainly use to get in the habit of reading our Bibles.

1. MAKE A PLAN: "I'm going to read the Bible through in 2023" is not a plan: it's a New Year's

resolution. A plan would be: I'm going to start 1/1/23, every morning (with my coffee), by reading my Bible following the classic reading plan. The plan is specific and clearly indicates what you (or I) plan to do.

2. FOLLOW THROUGH: A plan is no good if you don't enact it and follow through. Prepare yourself, consider your motivation and benefits of reading the Bible through in 2023. Having a support group is an excellent way to help you follow through.
3. NO EXCUSES: Here's where we often fail. If we want an excuse, we can make one. It's a universal skill. Catch yourself if you find that you are making an excuse. "I'm too tired, I'm running late, I'll do it later, skipping one day won't hurt" are all excuses we are likely to make. Just remember that NO EXCUSES is a hard, fast rule.

"Discipleship means 'discipline!' The disciple is that one who has been taught or trained by the Master, who has come with his ignorance, superstition, and sin, to find learning, truth, and forgiveness from the Savior. Without discipline we are not disciples, even though we profess His Name and pass for a follower of the lowly Nazarene. In an undisciplined age when liberty and license have replaced law and loyalty, there is greater need than ever before that we be disciplined to be His disciples." *V. Raymond Edman*

According to theologian and author Donald Whitney, the spiritual disciplines for the purpose of godliness are Bible intake (reading, meditating, hearing), Prayer, Worship, Evangelism, Serving, Stewardship, Fasting, Silence and Solitude, Journaling, and Learning. Admittedly, I am woefully undisciplined in a few of those areas. I will carefully study Dr. Whitney's writings and will devote a portion of my column each month to one of the disciplines he identifies. That is not a resolution; it is a plan. Stay tuned...



Hello Church Family,

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe that 2022 is over and 2023 is already here. I am excited to see what God has in store for CBC this year. As we are searching for a new lead pastor, please keep the search team in your prayers. They have been working diligently seeking that man that God has called to CBC, and in God's time, he will be revealed to them. Thank you to the search team for all your time and effort in the search process.

To the church, be encouraging to one another. We may not have a lead pastor yet, but God is still at work here at CBC. I pray that the gospel is shared more than it ever has this year at CBC. I pray that members will have an excitement to serve in one of the ministries here at CBC. I pray that the church will be encouraged by the number of baptisms in 2022, and pray that more baptisms are yet to come. I pray that we see a revival in the church and in the community of Paris. That souls will be saved, that God's love will be shown, that God's church will be excited to be an example of Him to everyone around.

We need to be excited for a new year and for many more opportunities to share the gospel. As we move forward in 2023, let's strive to prioritize Christ, this includes me. We may not always agree with one another, but we can still show Christ's love to one another. Let's prioritize being a light in a dark world, let's prioritize reading God's Word, let's prioritize prayer in our lives, and let's prioritize reaching the lost with the gospel. Let's be excited about the many opportunities God has put before us to serve in His ministry, and to share the same love He showed us on the cross.

January is a pretty calm month for the student and the children's ministry. A \$75 deposit is due for both children and youth camp on January 15th. If you like music, Winter Jam is coming to Lexington on January 27th. The cost to go is \$50 and that is also due January 15th. If you have any questions, please contact the church office, or myself.

I would also like to thank everyone for the Christmas cards and gifts. I greatly appreciate the love that the church has shown me and my family, we are forever thankful for your love and encouragement!

God Bless,
Jonny

January AWANA Calendar

January 8 th	Regular Club Night
January 15 th	Regular Club Night (Joyful Noise Night)
January 22 nd	Regular Club Night
January 29 th	Regular Club Night

Ephesians: Who we Are in Christ

On Sunday evening January 22 we will begin a new churchwide small group Bible study. There will be several groups from which to choose. If you cannot attend a Sunday evening group, we plan to have offerings other times during the week. Watch for group sign-up sheets beginning January 1.

This churchwide study is a six-week study covering the book of Ephesians.

We live in a broken world, seen in suffering, violence, poverty, pain, and death around us. Brokenness leads us to search for a way to make life work. Our Calling and identification with Christ leads us to be unified with others, to live lives of holiness, and to persevere in our faith despite life's obstacles. Through Paul's letter to the church in Ephesus, we find out who we are in Christ.

WMU Mission Moments

Our Lottie Moon Christmas Goal was \$5,000, we have collected as of December 25th \$8,609. Please be in prayer for our international missionaries.

Life House Pregnancy Center report for the year: 12 visitors, 22 children, 123 sets of clothing, 40 packages of wipes, 45 packages of diapers, 15 blankets, 22 bibs, 7 towels, 8 toys, and 9 pieces of baby equipment. We also bought formula and special bottles for babies with cleft lip.

We participated in the Health Department Drive by Baby Shower and handed out 24 packages of diapers, wipes, blankets and bibs.

We would like to thank everyone who has donated, worked and prayed for our Life House Pregnancy Center. You all are the absolute best!

Pastor Search Committee Update


The pastor search committee has received approximately 55 new resumes from those interested in the job of pastor at Central Baptist. We have a renewed sense of purpose and look forward to what God has in store for our church. We are in the process of going through these resumes, prayerfully considering each one and have met twice in December. We have no idea when we may be able to present a candidate to the church but are prepared to stay the course we ask for your continued support and prayers.

In Loving Memory of CBC Members that were called home in 2022

Nancy Watts, George Wheeler, Virginia Watson, Ernie Trospen, Dave Vaughn, Leroy Morrison & Ruth Bailey, Hallie Earlywine

January 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day	2 Office Closed in observance of New Year's Day	3	4 10 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Prayer Meeting	5	6	7
8 12:15 Deacon's Meeting 6 PM Youth 6 PM AWANA, Youth Prayer time in chapel	9 AM Willing Hands Quilters	10	11 1:30 PM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Prayer Meeting & Music Makers	12	13	14
15 4:30 PM Church Council Meeting 6 PM Youth 6 PM AWANA, Youth Prayer time in chapel	16 9 AM Willing Hands Quilters	17 11AM-2PM 5PM-8PM Life House Ministry 813 High Street	18 1 :30 PM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Prayer Meeting & Music Makers	19	20	21
22 6 PM AWANA, Youth Prayer time in chapel 6 PM Youth 6:30 PM Bible Study	23 9 AM Willing Hands Quilters	24	25 1 :30 PM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Prayer Meeting & Music Makers	26 	27 Winter Jam	28
29 6 PM AWANA, Youth, Prayer time in chapel 6 PM Youth 6:30 PM Bible Study	30 9 AM Willing Hands Quilters	31				

Our Ministries Opportunities

Sunday:

- 9:30 AM – Sunday School for ALL Ages
- 10:45 AM – Worship and Children's Church
- 6:00 PM – Prayer time in chapel
- 6:00 PM – REV 3 Ministries (Youth)
- 6:00 PM - AWANA (January 8th)
- 6:30 PM – Worship Service

Wednesday:

- 6:30 PM – REV 3 Ministries (Youth)
- 6:30 PM – Prayer Meeting
- 6:30 PM - Music Makers (January 11th)

Church Connect can be activated by visiting www.centralbaptistparis.churchtrac.com/connect. You can also scan the QR code below with your phone's camera to be directed to the link.

