



Dear Central Baptist Church,  
Thanks to everyone who called, sent cards and prayed  
for me during my recent illness.

Voilet Mers

We would like to thank Central Baptist Church for the  
generous Christmas gift you gave us. We appreciate  
your thoughtfulness and kindness. This Christmas  
season has been a blessing, as we've celebrated  
together the birth of our Savior. We look forward to  
what the Lord is going to do at Central Baptist Church  
in the coming New Year, and we pray God will richly  
bless each one of you as continue to serve Him.

In Christ,  
The Ancello's

**Giving Report through December 24<sup>th</sup>**

Year to Date Budget Required \$463,159

Year to Date Budget Giving \$413,987

**Budget Shortfall \$49,172**

**2024 Offering Envelopes**

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

**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**

CBC goal \$5,000

Collected \$4,806 as of December 24<sup>th</sup>

**December 2023 thru December 24<sup>th</sup>**

Average Sunday School 123 Average Worship 203

**Ministerial Staff**

Josh Ancello: [josh@centralbaptistparis.com](mailto:josh@centralbaptistparis.com)

Senior Pastor

Jonathan Graves: [jonathancbc2019@outlook.com](mailto:jonathancbc2019@outlook.com)

Associate Pastor of Families & Youth

Church Secretary: [kaye@centralbaptistparis.com](mailto:kaye@centralbaptistparis.com)

Financial Secretary: [cathy@centralbaptistparis.com](mailto:cathy@centralbaptistparis.com)

visit us at [www.centralbaptistparis.com](http://www.centralbaptistparis.com)

Church Connect: [centralbaptistparis.churchtrac.com](http://centralbaptistparis.churchtrac.com)

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829 High Street  
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**Return Service Requested**



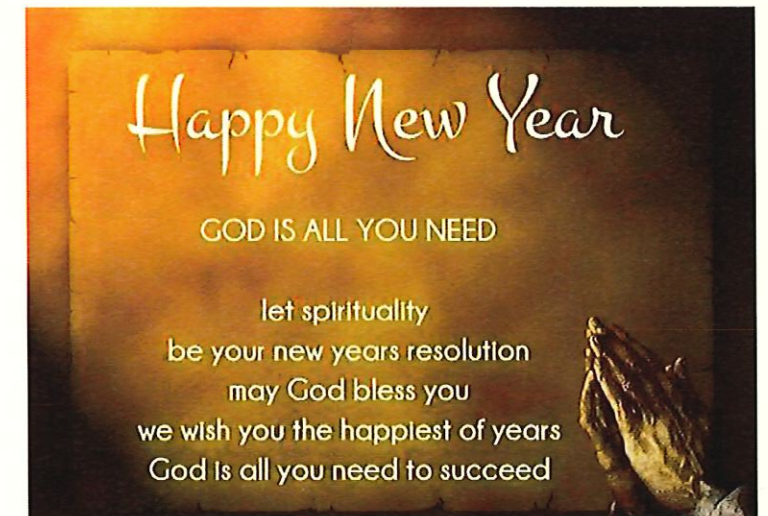
**Messenger**

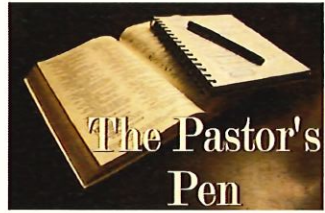
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[www.centralbaptistparis.com](http://www.centralbaptistparis.com)

**January 1, 2024**





Dear Church Family,

Another year is almost behind us and a new one is soon to come. This time of the year tends to be a reflective time, as you look back over the events of the year and think forward to what is to come in the New Year. Every year has its ups and downs, its challenges and its blessings.

The Apostle Paul shared his own personal perspective on how he viewed the past and the present; his words are applicable to us, especially this time of the year. He said in Philippians 3:13-14, “Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

When Paul said he forgets what’s behind, he doesn’t mean that the things of the past are stricken from his memory. Those things are still there. He still remembers them. In fact, he just talked about them in the previous section of chapter 3. Rather, he means that the things of the past must stay where they belong, in the past. Too many people live their lives as if the past were the present. They can’t seem to get past hurtful experiences of yesterday, or painful memories, or even mistakes and personal failures. If we’re honest, we all allow the past to hold us hostage to some extent.

But it doesn’t need to be this way. In Jesus Christ, all things have been made new. He has forgotten our past

failures and sins, and so should we. Learn from the past, grow from the past, but keep the past where it belongs. You are a new creation in Christ, behold, all things have become new. Put your energy into the present and in running the race God has for you. You can’t do that while looking backwards, you must keep your eyes on the prize and the One who is cheering you on as you go. Press toward the goal in this coming New Year. That’s why God called you in Christ Jesus.

Pastor Josh



*Jonny's Corner*

Hello Church Family,

WOW! It is hard to believe that 2024 is here. I am excited to see what God has in plan for CBC this year. Every year people all over this country make New Year’s resolutions. These resolutions, can be a multitude of ideas, or goals, that people are planning on achieving. While many are successful and achieving their goals, there is probably just as many that do not achieve their goal.

While we all have goals to reach and achieve, does your goal involve prayer, reading God’s Word, or to even grow in faith. While I have my own goals that I would like to achieve, there is a resolution I have that does not end, that is to reach the lost with the gospel. While we all work continuously to reach our goals, does any of your goals, or resolutions, involve growing in faith?

As busy as life is for everyone, as believers, we are to stay in the Word. By staying in God’s Word, we get to see how our amazing God has transformed the world, but is still at work transforming believers to become disciples. By staying in God’s Word, does that lead you to prayer, opening a direct line of communication with our Lord Jesus Christ. I encourage everyone, stay in the Word, prioritize quite time in prayer, and watch how God builds your faith and your love for Him. Colossians 2:6-7 says, “Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as our were taught, abounding in Thanksgiving.” (ESV)

Set goals this year to prioritize reading God’s Word, value quite time with God in prayer, and being an example of Christ to your community and to the world. This year, make a goal to grow stronger in your faith, go where God leads, prioritize His Word and prayer, and be in fellowship with a body of believers that hold you accountable, but also encourages you to live for Christ and not the world.

I would like to give a big thank you to the church for the gifts, cards, and love, that has been shown to my family and I over the Christmas season. I know my family and I greatly appreciate everyone and we love you all.

God Bless,  
Jonny

## SENIOR ADULT ACTIVITIES

### Lunch Bunch

- ... meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month.
- January 9<sup>th</sup> at Jerry's

**Boomers & Builders** January 31<sup>st</sup>  
Luncheon 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall

### 2023 Toy Store

Thank you so much to all of you that helped with the toy store! It was greatly appreciated. We were able to serve 30 families and 92 kids. Special thanks to Pastor Josh, for sharing the greatest kid that we can ever receive, our Lord Jesus Christ!  
Thanks Again!  
Ashley Swearingen

### January AWANA Calendar

January 7<sup>th</sup> Regular Club Night  
January 14<sup>th</sup> Regular Club Night (PJ's & Popcorn Night)  
January 21<sup>st</sup> Regular Club Night  
January 28<sup>th</sup> Regular Club Night

### Music Makers

Resumes Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 PM  
Room 205 K-5th Grade  
Go, Go Jonah Musical

## Mission Moments

WMU did not meet in December, our January meeting will be January 17th at 1 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Start the New Year right by learning about and praying for missionaries.

Our Lottie Moon goal for CBC was \$5,000 as of December 24th we had collected \$4,806.

Life House was really busy the month of December, every week we had 17-25 shoppers. Because we are so busy on Tuesdays, we are not able to keep up all the work that goes into keeping the Life House going. After the first of the year, we are going to have a work day on Thursdays. More information will be given out later. A great big thank you for all of your prayers and support of the Life House is so much appreciated.

Judy Jones, WMU Director and  
The Life House Committee

### Central Baptist Welcomes New Members

Laney Warner  
Conner Baxter

### In Loving Memory of CBC Members that were called home in 2023

Jean Argo, Alma Rutherford,  
Ralph Wallace & Virgaleen Worthington

**Church Office will be closed January 1<sup>st</sup>**

## Date Night

### Chili Supper/Movie

On Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> the Men's Sunday School Class is hosting a date night here at the church for men of all ages to take the love of your life out on a cheap date. The evening will begin at 5:30 in the fellowship hall with a Chili supper featuring chili prepared by the members of the Men's Sunday School class. This will be followed by the showing of the movie, "The Blind" in the sanctuary.


There is a sign-up sheet on the registration counter or you can email the church office to register. Please indicate if childcare would be helpful for you to attend.



### Date Night Chili Supper and a Movie "The Blind"

Saturday, Jan. 6th  
Dinner at 5:30  
Fellowship Hall  
Movie at 6:30  
Sanctuary



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Years Day OFFICE CLOSED	2 11-7 Life House Ministry	3 10 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Wednesday Night Ministries Youth	4	5	6 5:30 Date Night Chili Supper & Movie
7 6 PM AWANA Prayer time in chapel 6:00 PM Youth Praise Band/Worship Service	8 9 AM Willing Hands Quilters	9 11-7 Life House Ministry 11 AM Lunch Bunch @ Jerry's	10 10 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Wednesday Night Ministries Youth	11	12	13
14 4:30 PM Church Council Meeting 6 PM AWANA Prayer time in chapel 6:00 PM Youth Praise Band/Worship Service	15 9 AM Willing Hands Quilters	16 11-7 Life House Ministry	17 10 AM Staff Meeting 1 PM WMU 6:30 PM Music Makers 6:30 PM Wednesday Night Ministries Youth	18	19	20
21 6 PM AWANA Prayer time in chapel 6:00 PM Youth Praise Band/Worship Service	22 9 AM Willing Hands Quilters	23 11-7 Life House Ministry	24 10 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Music Makers 6:30 PM Wednesday Night Ministries Youth	25  <i>Newspaper</i>	26	27
28 6 PM AWANA Prayer time in chapel 6:00 PM Youth Praise Band/Worship Service	29 9 AM Willing Hands Quilters	30 11-7 Life House Ministry	31 10 AM Staff Meeting 11:30 Boomers & Builders Luncheon 6:30 PM Music Makers 6:30 PM Wednesday Night Ministries Youth			

**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 – Youth Praise Band
- 6:00 PM - AWANA
- 6:30 PM – Worship Service

**Wednesday:**

- 6:30 PM – REV 3 Ministries (Youth)
- 6:30 PM – Wednesday Night Ministries
- 6:30 PM - Music Makers

Church Connect can be activated by visiting

[www.centralbaptistparis.churchtrac.com/connect](http://www.centralbaptistparis.churchtrac.com/connect). You can also scan the QR code below with your phone’s camera to be directed to the link.



CHURCH CONNECT