



2016 Digest of Reports

CENTRAL CHURCH

Annual Business Meeting | December 4, 2016

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Facility Board and Deacon Ministry Team will provide verbal reports.

Letter from the Pastor

Greetings Central Family!

2016 has been an exceptional year, from many standpoints. While we have not seen numerical growth, we have seen spiritual growth, and we have added new families and members to the church. The lack of numerical growth has been a result of losses, mostly due to members moving away from the area. Such losses are a normal part of church life.

During this year, my focus has been on leading Central to a better state of church health. I have been using devotions with the Advisory Board to challenge their thinking about Central. The book I have been using, *Autopsy of a Deceased Church*, is sobering. As we have looked at the various facets of church health, we realized that in some categories, Central is unhealthy. With the approval of the Advisory Board we tackled one of the major areas where we fall short, outreach. God blessed us with opportunities to make a difference, and we stepped up to the plate in faith. Now, not all the events would be classified as resounding successes. However, we must be careful to not base our evaluation of these events upon our personal observations. Only the Lord knows what we have truly accomplished. Our goal of reaching out was accomplished. I am looking forward to 2017, where I am planning on a couple even bigger outreach attempts.

I have been personally challenged to stop trying to fix everything that I perceive is **wrong** in my life and even here at Central. The Bible doesn't promise me strength so that I can go around and play superhero and fix the problems of the world. The Bible promises me strength to walk through the problems. My goal for the coming year is to see Jesus become the focus of my life in an even more personal and powerful way. I will be seeking this in all that I do, including my sermons and the lessons I teach for Bible studies. As a church, the best solution for the problems we face is not to try and seek the solution to the problems, but to seek to grow closer to Jesus Christ. I'm not saying we will ignore problems; rather, we will focus on Jesus and then seek His solutions to our problems and issues that we face.

One thing of note is that starting in January, Central will offer two services on Wednesday for Bible Study and Prayer. One will be at 10:30 AM, the other will be at 7:00 PM. This additional service is being offered so that our more mature members won't have to drive at night to attend the mid-week service. These services will both have the same lesson taught, so if someone misses one of the services they can attend the other service without missing anything.

Pray for me, please, as I seek to lead Central. Pray for the Advisory Board as they seek the Lord's will for the direction of our church. Pray for the Facility Board as they work to maintain and improve the physical facility in order to improve our ability to reach the community with the gospel message. Pray for one another, that each of us would draw closer to Jesus in the coming year.

Pastor Alan Kinder

Pastor's Report

Preaching & Teaching Ministry

- Sunday Mornings
 - Cure for the Common Church
 - What We're OK With
 - Living in Crisis Mode
 - Reaching Out
 - Thanksgiving Series
 - Advent Series
- Wednesday Evenings
 - Search for Truth
 - Colossians
 - Beatitudes—Attitudes for Life
 - Worldviews 201

Visitation Ministry

- Hospital visits ~ attempted to visit everyone who entered the hospital or had surgery
- Home visits ~ mainly for celebration of communion
- Phone calls ~ numerous phone contacts with our shut-ins and visitors
- Visitor follow-up ~ letters sent to every visitor that left a viable address
- Membership updates
 - Adrian Smith
 - Jessica Miller
 - Don & Sandy Kessinger
 - Brenda Freaney

Miscellaneous Items

- Resigned as a police chaplain due to time constraints
- Continuing education in pursuit of Bachelor's degree through Randall University
 - Currently need to complete six semester hours for my degree to be completed
- Providing Bible study to Truman Farm Villas once each month
- Completed a complete church website makeover
- Elected as the Assistant Moderator for the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists

Statistics

- Average attendance ~ 55, same as last year
 - Monthly averages were actually up in 7 out of 11 previous months
- Outreach events
 - Celebrate Grandview ~ estimate between 150 and 200 people in attendance
 - Blank Pages concert ~ estimate of 25-30 people in attendance
 - Fill the GAP 5K support ~ estimate of over 100 people served with water/snacks
 - VBS ~ attendance was up this year

Advisory Board Report

The Advisory Board meetings are opened each month with a word of prayer and a devotion from Alan. His devotions this year have challenged us as members to think about the ministry of Central church and how we are working to achieve our mission statement. It has helped us to identify pitfalls that many churches fall into that can hinder a ministry, with the ultimate goal of making ourselves ready for the Lord to work in and among us.

We spend the first part of our monthly meetings reviewing both financial and pastor's reports. The Lord continues to bless Central financially which makes the monthly review process easier as well as the many dedicated workers who are very conscientious of our budget. Our 2016 business has also included developing a new policy on facility usage and amending our constitution to include yearly observance of the Foot washing ordinance.

We have also reviewed three applications for the youth pastor position that was posted last year. One of the applicants accepted a position at a church he had formerly attended and the other two applicants, after review, did not meet our qualifications. Please continue to pray that the Lord would send us a qualified applicant with a heart to serve at our church.

Alan had asked the board to take a "Good to Great" survey in 2016 that was designed to identify strengths and weaknesses in ministry areas. From the results of that survey, we targeted community outreach as an area that we as a board wanted to focus on for 2016. We committed to praying for opportunities that we could reach out into the community of Grandview. The board has had numerous discussions as to how we can be more effective at reaching and effecting the lives of people outside our doors. We were presented with three opportunities to step outside of what we normally would have taken on as community outreach projects in 2016. We hosted the "Celebrate Grandview" event in July, the Blank Pages concert in August, and supplied snacks and water for the "Fill the Gap" run in October. Through each of these events we hoped to let the community around us know a little bit more about who we are and that we care about them and the community of Grandview. Our goal was to be able to show them the love of Jesus and what a difference he can make in their lives.

Thank you for allowing us to serve as your Advisory Board for the year of 2016. We believe that the Lord has great plans for Central in 2017 and ask for your prayers as we seek his wisdom and direction.

-Amy Smith

2017 Nominating Committee Report

The Advisory Board serves as the Nominating Committee. Every position has been reviewed. All terms are for one year, except as noted. All nominees have been contacted to verify they are willing to serve if elected. Nominations may be made from the floor. Nominees should be contacted before being nominated.

<u>Term</u>	<u>Current Officeholder</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Nominee</u>
Advisory Board			
	2020 Bill Weeks		
	2019 Brett Daire		
	2018 Amy Smith		
	2017 Gary Breshears		
	2016 Luis Guzman	2021	Luis Guzman
Facilities Board			
	2020 Max Breshears		
	2019 Lyndell Harrington		
	2018 Tim Smith		
	2017 Nancy Branham		
	2016 Mathew Williams	2021	Mathew Williams
Treasurer			
	2017 Gary Breshears		
Assistant Treasurer			
	2017 Anna Breshears		
Clerk			
	2020 Krystal Williams		
Assistant Clerk			
	Anna Breshears		Anna Breshears
Nursery Coordinator			
	Nicole Breshears		Nicole Breshears
Worship Leader			
	Bill Weeks		Bill Weeks
Assistant Worship Leader			
	Kay Andrew		Kay Andrew
Pianist			
	Rosalind Harrington		Rosalind Harrington

Term Current Officeholder

Term Nominee

Sunday School Superintendent

Position Eliminated

Assistant Sunday School Superintendent

Position Eliminated

Toddler Church Coordinator

Wynona Dodd

Sharon Kinder

Wednesday Evening Youth Activities Coordinator

Amy Smith

Amy Smith

Ushers and Greeters

Edwin Bowden ~ Head Usher

Edwin Bowden

Brett Daire ~ Greeter Coordinator

Brett Daire

Social Committee

Anna Breshears

Anna Breshears

Nicole Breshears

Nicole Breshears

Joyce Noah

Sandy Kessinger

Audio-Visual Specialist Coordinator

Brett Daire

Brett Daire

Security Coordinator

New Position

Luis Guzman

Master Schedule Coordinator

Brett Daire

Brett Daire

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Treasurer's Report

See separate pages for the Treasurer's Financial Statements

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2017 Proposed Budget

2016 FINANCIALS / 2017 BUDGET

	2016 YTD TOTAL	2016 YTD BUDGET	OVER (UNDER)	2016 ANNUAL BUDGET	AVG. ACTUAL	AVG. BUDGET	2017 PROPOS. BUDGET	AVG. WEEK
INCOME								
Offerings	102,638	103,601	-963	122,437	2,333	2,355	123,270	2371
EXPENSES								
Pastoral Ministry								
Pastor's Salary	28,975	28,975	0	34,243	674	659	40,963	788
Pastor's Housing	18,250	18,531	-281	21,900	424	421	14,580	280
Pastor's Retirement	2,000	2,031	-31	2,400	47	46	3,000	58
Pastor's Expense Reimb.	530	423	107	500	12	10	500	10
Guest Speakers/Revival	173	423	-250	500	4	10	500	10
Conventions/Seminars	1,256	1,269	-13	1,500	29	29	2,000	38
Worship	662	423	239	500	15	10	500	10
Educational Ministry								
Sunday School	1,914	1,692	222	2,000	45	38	2,000	38
Children's Programs	241	508	-267	600	6	12	600	12
Wed. Night Program	363	423	-60	500	8	10	500	10
Sr. Youth Ministry	1,743	1,692	51	2,000	41	38	2,000	38
Music/Multi Media Ministry	1,137	846	291	1,000	26	19	1,000	19
VBS	1,809	1,692	117	2,000	42	38	2,000	38
General Ministry								
Office	1,080	2,115	-1,035	2,500	25	48	2,000	38
Kitchen/Fellowship	530	846	-316	1,000	12	19	1,000	19
Advertising	325	423	-98	500	8	10	500	10
Miscellaneous	1,236	846	390	1,000	29	19	1,000	19
Property & Equipment								
Maintenance/Repair	2,396	3,808	-1,412	4,500	56	87	4,500	87
Grounds Maintenance	3,079	3,385	-306	4,000	72	77	4,000	77
Utilities	9,072	8,462	610	10,000	211	192	10,000	192
Insurance	4,417	4,400	17	5,200	103	100	6,000	115
Janitorial	3,945	4,485	-540	5,300	92	102	5,300	102
Capital Improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Outreach Ministry								
Coop (10%)	10,264	10,360	-96	12,244	239	235	12,327	237
Scholarship	500	423	77	500	12	10	500	10
GAP	1,083	1,269	-186	1,500	25	29	1,500	29
Missions/Other Missions	2,866	2,538	328	3,000	67	58	3,000	58
Community Outreach	2,802	1,058	1,744	1,250	65	24	1,500	29
Women's Ministry	0	127	-127	150	0	3	0	0
Men's Ministry	0	127	-127	150	0	3	0	0
Total Budget Expenses	102,648	103,601	-953	122,437	2,387	2,355	123,270	2371

Sunday School Report

I would like to extend a thank you to those filling teaching positions this year; Wynona Dodd, Nicole Breshears, Brett Daire, Michelle Weeks, Tim & Amy Smith, Larry Starnes and Edwin Bowden. I am sad to say this will be Wynona's last year teaching, as she will retire at the end of the year. A special thank you to her for all the years of dedication to our toddlers, she truly has been our "toddler whisperer." All the children's classes, teens and the Faith Builders continue to use the D6 material published by Randall House (which is our Free Will Baptist publishing company). This curriculum allows all age groups to study the same topic/subject in an age appropriate manner which allows siblings, parents and even grandparents to be able to discuss what was learned in class on any given Sunday. I believe this is an attribute that enhances our Sunday School experience. The Encourager's class has been studying how **Christians should respond to culture**. Our average attendance for Sunday School during 2016 has been 32.

Submitted,

Sharon Kinder

Music Ministry Report

“Shout for joy to God all the earth; sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!” Ps 66:1-2

We have praised God with a mighty voice this year, lifting high the Son through our worship at Central FWB Church. As we worship, we seek to cast out sin and draw close to God so that we might be receptive to hearing His voice.

Our worship service has been modified in small but important ways this year. Every Sunday, Deacon Tim Smith brings a message to challenge us to spiritual growth. We have also sought to encourage greater participation in the worship service by increasing the size of the worship team and incorporating special music from individuals and groups. We are blessed to have such enthusiastic participation from both our adult choir and the children’s choir this year.

During the Easter service, the adult choir glorified Jesus Christ by presenting music from the “Crown Him” choral program. This program was presented in conjunction with our breakfast and egg-hunting activities. A big thank you goes to all the individuals who worked so hard to fill eggs, cook breakfast, and sing in the choir so that we can reach out with the love of Jesus to friends, family, and members of the community. Unfortunately, many of our hand-made Easter egg signs were destroyed by inclement weather this year, so we will need plenty of volunteers to restock our supply and to help us generate publicity for next year’s event.

We have many exciting activities planned for Christmas this year, including an adult choir program entitled “On This Very Night” featuring energetic music and amazing soloists on December 11. Preparations are also under way for our children’s Christmas program on December 18 which will include skits and music as well as a call to action as we donate children’s shoes to a local charity. We are also planning Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services to celebrate the true meaning of the season.

The Lord continues to work in the hearts and lives of the children that attend our services. Singing is a simple way to express praise and adoration for what Jesus has done, and our children have embraced this activity. This year’s Cave Quest VBS program introduced many new songs for us to use as we praise God, and we have combined music from this program with popular contemporary Christian music for our Truth Seekers Wednesday evening services. Please stop by the kids Wednesday evening service to participate in fervent worship and witness the mighty work that God has undertaken in the spiritual lives of our children.

Let us continue to raise our voices with a mighty shout as we draw close to God. It is a privilege to join with other Christians as we pray, worship, and serve Jesus Christ.

Bill Weeks

Vacation Bible School

We had a terrific year at CaveQuest VBS 2016! We had a strong turnout of both adult/teen helpers along with an average of 50 children each evening. The kids heard a strong message of Jesus' love and how that gives us power, hope, courage, and direction. We received an offering each evening and that was used to support Joel and Naomi and their missions effort in the Caribbean. We even got to skype with them from the mission field on the last night of VBS. We also had a guest speaker from Burr Oakes Nature Center that talked about cave life in Missouri and all the miraculous creatures and formations that the Lord has put there. We wrapped up the week with a barbecue and water night with both kids and parents. The Lord took our efforts and multiplied them and we saw a lot of kids excited about Jesus!

-Amy Smith/ Krystal & Mathew Williams

TruthSeekers

First and second quarters of this year TruthSeekers continued with our missions focus from 2015. Our lessons, memory verses and snacks all served to introduce the kids to various FWB missionaries around the world. As a group, we wanted to do something to raise support for our own Central Missionaries, Joel and Naomi McGill. We held a spaghetti dinner to raise money to support their current missions project in the Caribbean. As we resumed TruthSeekers at the start of the school year, our group has grown and averaged about 14 kids each Wednesday, with several weeks having greater than 20 kids. We decided to split into 3 groups for our lessons after a time of music fellowship with Bill and Michelle. Krystal oversees the preschool group, Nicole and Sharon are co-teaching the K-3rd graders, and Bill and I have been teaching the 4-8th graders. Krystal does a great job keeping up with these little ones, even after a day already spent at school. Nicole and Sharon's group have been studying a different part of the armor of God each week. They do a terrific job of introducing the piece of armor in both story form and follow it up with a special snack/craft that also demonstrates the armor. The older group has been focusing on our prayer. We have been working on our individual quiet times at home and developing habits of bringing things to the Lord throughout the day. We have recently started a unit on our personal relationships and loving all people and what that looks like. Please pray for these young ones that their hearts would continue to be open to the Lord's voice as we share with them each week. Thank you to all who are involved for your dedication and commitment to being at church every Wednesday.

-Amy Smith