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*Centerpoint* CHURCH

# WELCOME TO STARTING POINT!

*We are so excited that you're interested in knowing more about Centerpoint Church and being a bigger part of our church family!*

*Starting Point is for anyone who is new to our church, is interested in learning more about who we are and what we believe as a church. We'll share our Core Values and explain why they matter so much to us, how they frame everything we do at Centerpoint and what part you can play in living them out as a part of our church family.*

*We are grateful you would entrust us with this next step in your journey. Know that our team is ready to serve and help you however they can along the way. We're excited for you to join our vision of transforming the state of Ohio with the radical love of Jesus!*

Chris & Kristyn VanBuskirk

Lead Pastors



# OUR VISION + OUR MISSION + OUR PURPOSE

We believe all were created in the image of God and are deeply loved by God, and we strive to show people the crazy love of Jesus any way we can. We believe this love and our light are best seen in the night, so we passionately pursue people that are far from God.

## OUR VISION

We exist to transform the state of Ohio with the radical love of Jesus.

## OUR MISSION

We are committed to transforming the forgotten cities of our state by planting and resourcing life-giving churches that will reach people who have lost faith in the local church.

## OUR PURPOSE

When Jesus walked the earth there were frauds, phonies, and hypocrites. There were religious leaders who were only concerned about money, rules, and tradition, but Jesus came and offered something different, something real. This historical account of Jesus' day may sound a lot like where our church culture is today, but we are different. Our desire is to replicate the church Jesus had in mind when He left this earth. A church that loves, a church that listens, a church that offers hope, and a church that in today's culture is Uniquely Different and Passionately Real.

There's nothing better than hearing how Jesus is changing lives through Centerpoint Church. We'd love for you to send us your story at [amen@centerpoint.church](mailto:amen@centerpoint.church).



# STATEMENT OF FAITH

At Centerpoint Church, our Statement of Faith captures the essence of what we believe theologically. It serves as a guide for what we preach, teach, and communicate from the Centerpoint stage. Our Statement of Faith is comprised of several key areas we feel make up the cornerstones of the Christian faith. We believe these areas are essential and non-negotiable for individuals and faith-based communities seeking to live a truly authentic life that reflects the message of Christ. Most of the time people get caught up in the nonessentials and miss the point of why Jesus came and what He did for us. In the essential areas of the faith, we require unity; in the nonessentials, we offer freedom; and in all things, we demonstrate love.

## THE BIBLE

We believe that the entire Bible is fully inspired by God, and was written by ordinary individuals called by God to do so. We believe its content is entirely trustworthy and is our guide for truth, faith and life. We hold a high view of the Scriptures and place great significance on its authority in our lives. [2 Timothy 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:20, 21; Matthew 5:18; John 16:12, 13; Psalm 19:7-11; Psalm 119:105]

## GOD

We believe that there is one God who is the loving Creator of the heavens, the earth and all that's in it. God is eternal and is completely good, knowing all things and having the power to do all things reigning forever in majesty. We believe God exists eternally in a perfectly co-equal community as three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. [Genesis 1:26-27; Deuteronomy 6:4; Colossians 1:15-17; Hebrews 1:8; 2 Corinthians 13:14]

## JESUS

We believe that Jesus was sent by God and born of the Virgin Mary and is mysteriously and wonderfully God in the flesh. He is the perfect reflection of God's heart, character, beauty and love for people. He lived a sinless life and offered Himself as the only perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on the cross. Through faith in Jesus we have been forgiven and brought into a right relationship with God. Jesus died and then rose again from the dead, ascended to heaven and one day will return to judge the world and bring an end to injustice as He restores all things to God's original intent. [Matthew 1:18-25; John 1:14; John 8:40,58; John 11:33; Acts 1:9-11; Romans 5:8-10; Colossians 1:15-17; Hebrews 1:8]



## THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that the Holy Spirit is sent from God to live in all who puts faith in Jesus. The Holy Spirit teaches, comforts, convicts and empowers us, giving each person diverse gifts for serving in the church and serving others in the world on the mission of God. We believe that it is through the Holy Spirit that we have the power to change and develop a holy life and Jesus-like character to be lived out to the fullest here on earth. [John 16:8-11; Acts 1:8-9; 2 Corinthians 3:6; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 5:18]

## SALVATION

We believe that all people are created with dignity and great value in the image of God and that people were created to live in a thriving relationship with God. However, through our sin (failing to live by God's guidelines and moral standards), we break our intended relationship with God and we experience the sad consequences of that broken relationship, both spiritually and socially. However, because of God's love for us, He sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue us from those consequences. Our broken relationship with God is restored through Jesus' death on the cross, a perfect act of redemption for each of us. Everyone can receive the free gift of forgiveness and are spiritually reborn through repenting (changing our mind and heart) of our sin and placing faith in Jesus alone. [Ephesians 2:8-10; John 1:12; Ephesians 1:7; Romans 3:22-26; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Corinthians 15:1-7]

## THE CHURCH

We believe that the church is comprised of any person, anywhere in the world who puts faith in Jesus. The church itself is people who are empowered by God's Spirit to be part of the mission of God here on earth. The church is one global community, with smaller, local expressions, such as our church community. Each local church expression has a unique personality and we see beauty in this diversity. We believe that the church does not exist for itself, but exists as a community of Christ followers who are here to serve others, as Jesus told us to be His light, love, compassion, kindness and hope to the world around us. [Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:1-47; Ephesians 1:22-23; Ephesians 4:11-13; Ephesians 5:25-30; 1 Corinthians 12:27]

## THE AFTERLIFE

We do believe that life continues after physical death and that there is a heaven and hell. We feel a relationship and commitment to Christ is the only way to heaven and we believe that Jesus will one day return and bring justice and judgment to all things. There are so many metaphors and so much ancient apocalyptic language used in the Scriptures about these mysterious topics, and we approach them with great humility and wonder. [Daniel 12: 2; Matthew 24-25; 1 Corinthians 15:1-25; 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18; Revelation 20-22]



# OUR VALUES + OUR CULTURE + OUR TEAM

## OUR VALUES

Our values help shape our priorities and our priorities keep us focused on the vision God has called us to accomplish. This set of values ultimately stems from the characteristics we see of believers in the early church living out according to Acts 2:42-47. Our desire is to embrace these characteristics that turned seekers into followers, followers into disciples and a church into a movement.

### **We worship with PASSION.**

From our worship to our service, we go all out with Holy Spirit energy. We believe that Jesus gave us His best and our worship should be nothing less.

### **We do life TOGETHER.**

When we connect relationally, we grow spiritually. We are better together and we don't do life alone.

### **We SHOW crazy love.**

We believe the greatest leadership is service to others. Every leader is a servant first. There are many roles to fill, but every role is different, and they are all important.

### **We GIVE Generously.**

Generosity is our privilege because Jesus was first generous towards us. Generosity requires sacrifice and we practice what we preach by giving God our first and our best.

### **We are DISCIPLES.**

When we draw close to God, He draws close to us. We are always learning and growing into the people God created us to be.



## OUR CULTURE

We have values we live by as a church and then we have a culture that is shaped by our team. Culture is defined in the dictionary as the *attitude, characteristics and behavior of any particular group*. In the context of Centerpoint Church, the culture of our team is shaped by the values of our church. If our values are WHO we are as a church, culture is WHAT we do as a team.

**We PRAY first.** Everything we do is birthed out of prayer. We pray together as a team and church family. Prayer really is our first response and not our last resort. On Sundays, we pray together as a team and as a church.

**We pursue EXCELLENCE.** We serve an excellent Creator and our effort is a reflection of His handiwork. No detail was too small for Him and no detail should be too small for us. When we go the extra mile, it shows people we value them enough to reflect the excellent love of our Creator.

**We HONOR up, down, all around.** People don't care how much we know until they know how much we care. When people experience honor through our serving, we show them how much they matter to us and to God. We respect the authority of the leaders God has placed over us, while equally loving the people beside us and behind us.

**We have FUN.** We have been changed from the inside out and that reality should bring us great joy. This joy is something God intended for us to share with the world so share it we will! When we smile, laugh and exude a positive demeanor we give others a glimpse of the joy we can all find with Jesus.

**We MULTIPLY.** Going back to step one, what God started within us, wasn't meant just for us, nor shall it stay with us. Our serving isn't just about a Sunday morning, it's about our entire week. Our stories and lives are meant to multiply.



## OUR TEAM

In Ephesians 4:11-12, the Apostle Paul reminds us that the job of the pastors and leaders in the local church is to *equip the saints for the work of ministry*. In 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, the Apostle Paul then challenges us that *we all have a gift we can use to serve others and build the church*. In other words, the church is not just about the Pastors or Staff doing the work of ministry, but rather equipping others to play their part in a bigger story and vision. This is what our teams do at Centerpoint Church.

**CENTERPOINT KIDS** connects kids to kids and kids to Jesus. We create intentional, age-appropriate environments that allow our kids to meet Jesus and meet new friends. Our kids' environments have a time for corporate worship, a large group setting, then a small group environment with age appropriate environments to help kids connect and grow.

Nursery + PreSchool + Elementary + Clubhouse

**CREATIVE TEAM** creates environments, captures moments and communicates who we are so people can ultimately see who Jesus wants to become in their life.

Events + Communication + Photography + Social Media + Video

**GUEST SERVICES** helps guests feel like friends and friends feel like family by owning the whole guest experience beginning in the parking lot and continuing throughout every area of the building.

Greeting + Hosts + Check-in + Ushers

**OPERATIONS** provides logistical support and operational assistance to all area ministries to help execute the vision of our church in a practical way.

Facilities + Safety + Team Central + Admin

**SMALL GROUPS** help us to do life together beyond Sundays with our Small Group Hosts ensuring that everyone is known, loved and cared for.

Small Group Hosts

**WORSHIP AND PRODUCTION** create an atmosphere of worship where guests can uncross their arms, open their hearts and encounter the presence of Jesus.

Worship + Audio + Video + Lighting + Stage Crew

**ONLINE CAMPUS** the virtual front door for our church that creates community for those who connect and engage with church online.

Online Hosts + Follow-up team



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## GENERAL INFORMATION

*Where did the name Centerpoint come from?*

James 4:8 tells us to *draw close to God and He will draw close to us*. Life sends us in a continuous circular motion, forcing us to go around and around as we sort through the clutter of a fallen world. It is only when we give our entire life to Jesus, and are edified by a body of believers, that we can break through the circle and find our Centerpoint with God.

*What denomination is Centerpoint?*

We are part of an organization called the Association of Related Churches (ARC). The ARC provides support, guidance and resources to launch and grow life-giving churches. We believe the local church is the hope of the world, and we are committed to supporting those who feel called to create life-giving churches like Centerpoint around the world. We partner with the ARC both relationally and financially. We contribute financially to their mission of supporting church planters across the country. We partner relationally by providing coaching and support to individuals who are planting or have already planted churches.

*Does Centerpoint do weddings?*

Yes, our staff pastors will officiate weddings. To inquire about having a pastor perform your wedding, you may contact the pastoral staff or email [info@centerpoint.church](mailto:info@centerpoint.church).

*How can I get baptized?*

We believe baptism is an outward expression of the inward commitment one has made to follow Jesus. We plan baptisms throughout the year, typically every other month. You can sign up at [mycp.church](http://mycp.church). Children who are in first grade may be baptized after a staff has a conversation with the child and parent to ensure his/her understanding of baptism.

*How can I contact the church?*

Web: [centerpoint.church](http://centerpoint.church)

Email: [info@centerpoint.church](mailto:info@centerpoint.church)

Mailing: 144 Consumer Center Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601

Social Media Platforms: Facebook, Instagram

## OUTREACH MINISTRY

*What does Centerpoint do in our community?*

When you give at Centerpoint we give back with 10% of everything given going back to support church planting, outreach efforts and initiatives in our backyard and around the world.. At Centerpoint, we believe in showing crazy love locally and globally.



## CENTERPOINT KIDS

*What is Centerpoint Kids?*

Centerpoint Kids is for children six weeks old through 5th grade. Centerpoint Kids has its own worship experience during the main experience where they will focus on helping kids connect with Jesus and other kids.

*Will my child be safe?*

We are committed to your child's safety. All of our adult Centerpoint Kids volunteers pass a background check before serving, and we have a safety team in place to restrict access to our classrooms. We use a security tag system for registration for check-in and pick-up, and a text-paging system for parents in case we need to reach you during the worship experience.

*What do you teach the kids?*

We teach basic Biblical truths to all children. We use the Orange Curriculum designed to engage kids at all levels.

*Do you do child dedications?*

Of course! For more information, send an email to our Centerpoint Kids team at [kids@centerpoint.church](mailto:kids@centerpoint.church).

## FINANCIAL INFO

*Can I see the church's financials?*

Yes! Our finances are audited annually and you may request a copy of our annual report from our Executive Pastor by emailing [matt@centerpoint.church](mailto:matt@centerpoint.church).

*What Financial Accountability is in place?*

In addition to spiritual mentorship and oversight from the ARC, Centerpoint has a Board of Directors. The Board oversees the spiritual direction of the church, offers counsel on major decisions, approves the annual budget, and oversees the financial health of the church. We typically have between 4-6 people on this team.

## GETTING INVOLVED

*How do I connect at Centerpoint?*

Join a group. Our hope is that you can find a group of people who you can connect with, do life together, and grow spiritually in your personal journey. We want to help you find a group that will meet your needs.

Join a team. Serving is more than showing up and completing a task. Serving at Centerpoint helps fulfill the vision so we can introduce more people to Jesus. Our serve teams are also a great place to connect relationally as we have leaders who will care for you and equip you in your gifts.



*How do I give to Centerpoint?*

During all of our worship experiences, we have a dedicated time to give generously. We also have online options as well that can be found at [mycp.church/give](http://mycp.church/give).

## **SERVE TEAM VOLUNTEERS**

*Where should I park?*

We have a designated Team parking lot. It is important to us to ensure that our guests have the best parking opportunities.

*What should I wear?*

Some areas, including Centerpoint Kids, require a team t-shirt. Other areas ask that you dress appropriately in our context. If you serve outside, we ask that you dress for the weather.

*Do I get a nametag?*

We want all guests to know who is a volunteer, so we'll provide you with a team lanyard that you can write your name on.

*How often do I volunteer?*

Each team or area has different rotations and expectations. You'll learn more once you connect on the team.

*What if I am interested in leadership?*

We encourage everyone to maximize the potential God has within them. If you are interested in more leadership, let your leader know and we can talk about opportunities.

*What if I want to find a new volunteer opportunity?*

If you're interested in finding a new team, let your leader know and we'll help you discover what is next.

*What if I have a scheduling conflict?*

We use a system called Planning Center for our scheduling. You'll be scheduled a month out. We understand life happens and you may need to cancel your serve request. We ask that you let your leader know and that you do your best to find a replacement.

*Do I sit in the worship experience when I serve?*

We want every volunteer to attend at least one experience each week. Specific times and expectations will be given once you find your team.



# JOINING THE CENTERPOINT FAMILY BY BECOMING A MEMBER

*“Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.”*

*Psalm 92:13 NKJV*

We believe that being planted in a local church, the house of God, is more beneficial to your life than you would ever imagine. In fact, God promises us that we will flourish if we choose to plant our lives in the house of God. In God’s house, we find community, encouragement, inspiration, and preparation for everything that life brings. Our hope is that you grow here, that you find life here, that you find meaningful relationships here, and that your faith is encouraged here at Centerpoint Church.

While we will do our best to create an environment where this happens, there is also a mutual responsibility on your part to commit to joining the Centerpoint Church family. The word *planted* used in Psalm 92 means to take root, to connect, and to be established.

Joining a church family is about connecting to the vision and people of the church. We would love for you to make a commitment to be part of Centerpoint Church.

Here is what it looks like to be planted at Centerpoint Church and to become a member.

## **1. I WILL PROTECT THE UNITY OF MY CHURCH BY:**

- acting in love toward other members
- supporting church leadership
- refusing to gossip

“So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together.” Romans 14:19

“Have a sincere love for other believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart.”  
1 Peter 1:22

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs.” Ephesians 4:29

“Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.” Hebrews 13:17



## **2. I WILL SHARE IN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MY CHURCH BY:**

- praying for its health and growth
- inviting the unchurched to attend
- warmly welcoming those who visit

“To the church...we always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers.” 1 Thessalonians 1:1-2

“Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come in, so that the house will be full.”  
Luke 14:23

“So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified.”Romans 15:7

## **3. I WILL SERVE THE MINISTRY OF MY CHURCH BY:**

- discovering my gifts and talents
- using my God-given gifts to make a difference in the lives of others
- developing a servant’s heart

“Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you.” 1 Peter 4:10

“So Christ Himself gave...pastors and teachers, to equip His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.” Ephesians 4:11-12

“Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus... taking the form of a bondservant.”  
Philippians 2:4-5, 7

## **4. I WILL SUPPORT THE INFLUENCE OF MY CHURCH BY:**

- attending church and small groups faithfully
- living a Godly life
- giving regularly

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” Acts 2:42

“Let us not neglect our meeting together...but encourage one another.”  
Hebrews 10:25

“But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the Gospel of Christ.”  
Philippians 1:27

